

The Commentator

Official Undergraduate Newspaper of Yeshiva College

May 18, 1992/ 15 Iyar, 5752

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY, NEW YORK, NY

Volume LVII, No. 1

Students Boycott Caf

by Sender Cohen



Students protest meal plan increase

Responding to the Food Services Committee's decision to raise the Dining Card meal plan from \$1,000 to \$1,300 next year, YCSC staged a boycott of the Cafeteria and Minimart on Tuesday, April 14. Despite the fact that the lunch menu featured scallops, arguably the cafeteria's most popular meal, almost all students sought nourishment at other local establishments. YCSC arranged special discounts at the local restaurants, and one of them, The Yum Yum Shoppe, reported a 25% jump in revenues.

The boycott was planned two nights before its implementation at a joint meeting of the incoming and outgoing YCSC boards. The following morning, YCSC President David Kay and President-Elect Avi Steinlauf met with Chairman of the Food Services Committee Dean Norman Rosenfeld to discuss the impending price hike. Rosenfeld pointed out that since the motion had already been passed by his subcommittee, the final decision on the implementation of the plan rested with the Executive Vice President, Dr. Egon Brenner.

Later that night, at a meeting which included current members of YCSC, next year's YCSC, and the Student Food Services Committee, the decision to boycott was finalized. Signs were quickly printed and distributed early Tuesday morning. At 9:30 that morning, Kay and Steinlauf met with Brenner, who asserted that \$1,300 was reasonable, adding that the issue was now in Dr. Sheldon Socol's hands. Kay and Steinlauf pursued the issue, and phoned Dr. Socol, but he did not return their calls.

Kay noted that the administration's Executive Council normally meets regarding motions that have been passed by committees, yet it appears that this issue bypassed the Council and was sent directly to Socol. Kay theorized that the proposal was probably rushed, in order to meet a deadline for sending out tuition material pertinent to Fall registration.

Student volunteers maintained the boycott by standing outside the cafeteria and apprising potential customers of the situation though they did not in any way

impede those who still wanted to eat there. A mere fifteen YC students ate at the cafeteria for lunch and dinner, and many of those that did, said they simply wanted to finish off the remaining balance on their cards, or claimed that they were low on cash. Many University employees honored the boycott, however some prominent members of the Administration crossed the picket lines. Most MTA students did not honor the boycott, despite warnings that they may soon be handed a mandatory meal plan of their own.

Student Food Services Committee member Danny Faizakoff pointed out that the boycott held two years ago helped reduce the then newly-created meal plan from the suggested \$2,300 to \$1,000; Faizakoff hopes that the recent boycott will be as successful.

In addition to the boycott, YCSC, SSSBSA and SCWSC sent out their first ever joint mass mailing. The letter informed parents of the University's planned increase of the mandatory meal plan fees and provided them with Dean Rosenfeld's office number. Approximately fifty parents called the Dean's office to express their concern.

Rosenfeld sent letters to the parents who called, outlining the Administration's position on the proposed increase. He indicated that Birchfield Food Systems, a food services consulting firm used by YU, has found that "compared to other universities in New York and the Northeast, the food prices at Yeshiva are reasonable and the portion sizes are large." Moreover, the letter noted that the head of the consulting firm indicated that "student's complaints regarding food services quality and prices is typical of college campuses regardless of the quality of the particular food service operation." Rosenfeld claimed that the planned increase to \$1,300 is extremely conservative given "the current average student's annual food related expenses which are currently estimated to be approximately \$3,000." The letter did not say how that figure was reached.

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Gorbachev Honored At University Banquet

by Michael Eisenberg

Ex-Soviet Premier Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev delivered an address extolling democratic values and condemning anti-Semitism, upon receiving the first ever Benjamin N. Cardozo Democracy Award. President Norman Lamm presented Gorbachev with the Award at a May 13 banquet honoring the former President. The banquet, held in the ornate Pierre hotel on Manhattan's East Side and attended by over 700 guests and members of the press, raised over \$2 million. Gorbachev reportedly received \$100,000 for his address. Also honored was music mogul Charles Koppelman, chairman of EMI Music.

The Democracy Award hailed Gorbachev for risking "his career, his reputation, his freedom and, indeed his life to bring democracy and liberty to the republics of the former Soviet Union." Accepting the Award, the ex-Premier asserted, "From a humanistic viewpoint any nationalism is untenable and unacceptable in democratic countries."

Highlighting nationalism as the underlying cause of anti-Semitism, Gorbachev stated "I resolutely reject and condemn anti-Semitism which is one of the worst manifestations of nationalistic chauvinism." The former Premier received a resounding applause for his denunciation.



Former Soviet Premier Mikhail Gorbachev with wife Raisa, leaving the Cardozo Dinner. Inset: President Lamm presents Gorbachev with Democracy Award

Returning to the main theme of his speech: democracy and democratic principles, Gorbachev remarked that all of the unofficial barriers to Jewish emigration have been removed. Moreover, he stated that many Soviet Jews had in fact chosen to resettle elsewhere. However, Gorbachev expressed his regrets that "people for whom Russia is their country and who have done a lot for the country and whose country needs them" have decided to leave.

YC Junior David Rozenson, who himself emigrated from the Soviet Union thirteen years ago, candidly stated, "Gorbachev is a person who was pressured by many sides, most notably Reagan." Rozenson, who attended the dinner, emphasized that the "[presentation of the] Democracy Award is not because he initiated the exodus but because he didn't impede it. He [Gorbachev]

remarked that he was upset that Soviet Jews were leaving and that they [the former Soviet Union] were losing them."

Proclaiming that it was the special responsibility of all those countries committed to democracy and democratic principles to react with deeds and not words, Gorbachev referred to the Holocaust as one of the most terrible crimes of World War II. Rozenson commented that this took on added significance given the recent rise of Pamyat and other nationalistic neo-Nazi organizations within the former Soviet Union.

Lamm complemented Gorbachev on being "wise enough to see that confrontation would lead to perdition." And, noting that under Gorbachev's stewardship the doors to the Soviet Union opened, Lamm proclaimed that Gorbachev's liberation of Soviet Jews will lead toward a "happier future for all our people."

Dissatisfied Russian Students To Leave YU

by Jamin Koslowe

Citing an overwhelming dual curriculum, a lack of attention to their personal problems, and religious pressures, 13 of the 26 new Russian immigrants currently enrolled in YU may not return next year. At least six in YC have been accepted and will be transferring to other universities; several others have transfer applications pending.

The Administration only recently sensed the severity of the discontent among the Russian students because of their prior reluctance to voice frustration with YU. In response, administrators and faculty met with student representatives on Thursday, May 7, to discuss the problem.

David Rozenson, a YC junior who arrived from Russia thirteen years ago, and who is a

coordinator of the Philanthropy Society's programs for Russians, has been aware of the dissatisfaction for some time. Explaining the Russians' reluctance to make their grievances known, he said, "it is a Russian mentality to distrust anyone in an administration."

Rozenson related the story of a Russian student who last year approached Rabbi Don Well, former Dean of IBC and JSS, to inquire about the possibility of transferring out of YU. Due to a misunderstanding, the student thought that Dean Well had threatened to fail him in all Judaic subjects, should he try to leave YU. The student then communicated this episode to all his friends. Despite numerous assurances to the contrary, "some of the Russians still believe they'll be flunked if they tell anyone they're leaving," said Rozenson.

Most of the departing Russians, and many of those who are considering leaving, have not yet informed faculty or administrators of their intentions.

23 year-old Igor Rudoy, one of the Russian students leaving YU, served two years in the Russian Army and went to college in Russia for three years. He was attracted to YU for its Jewish atmosphere and small classes. However, he became frustrated when he learned how much of his study time was devoted to Judaic studies. "I didn't realize that Jewish studies would be 1/4 of my GPA.... If I had known, I wouldn't have come here; I was never told."

Rudoy works at two part-time jobs and finds little time for a heavy dual curriculum. He also complains about rabbis who have occasionally caused him to feel

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From The Editors' Desk

Armchair Zionism

Our mindsets reflect the attitudes and character of the society we live in. America, the world's most leisure-oriented society and a center of materialistic desires, fosters within us a perceptible unawareness of, and disinterest in the important topics of our times. We spend our time focusing on petty matters which obscure truly important issues. This criticism pointedly indicts the Yeshiva University community and its attitudes toward the State of Israel and Zionism.

We just celebrated (some of us at least) Yom Haatzmaut and now stand on the threshold of unified Jerusalem's twenty-fifth anniversary (see pages 8-9). Even as we witness the ingathering of our brethren and other metahistorical events, we continue to ignore the salient issues and concentrate instead on increasingly trivial points.

We have become a colony of "armchair Zionists". We complain about unfair media coverage, repugnant four letter expletives, and verbal barbs fired by politicians world-wide. However, none of this moves us sufficiently to take the time or energy to actively defend our views. Empty exchanges are not enough, especially when the sermonized believe that they have fulfilled their duty to the Jewish people by simply listening. We merely return to our armchairs and remote controls to watch yet another anti-Semitic Network news anchor.

On the other extreme, our attention centers on completely inane matters. We debate the most pressing issues of our time: whether or not to say tachanun on Yom Haatzmaut; should we recite hallel with or without a bracha, at night or only during the day; and most importantly, should we shave?!

"You're an Apikores!"

"You're entire Yiddishkeit is Yom Haatzmaut!"

The aforementioned quotes are not hypothetical. Exchanging these abrasive slurs, two individuals quibbled over the main Beit Midrash's minhag to say tachanun on Yom Haatzmaut. Long after the heated argument ended, the individuals could still be heard muttering about each other's positions.

Extremism and zealotry are rampant on these issues and others of similar inconsequence. We loll around

wasting our collective energies, bickering over the most trivial matters, and completely overlooking the real issues.

We should channel our vigor into more constructive activities and discussions, instead of expending our limited strength on exalting relatively minor events and topics. Before retreating into the comforts of our recliners and blasting the ineptness of the Israeli government, we should put our convictions to the test. We must earn the right to express our opinions; just caring enough to criticize does not suffice.

Our verve and enthusiasm hibernate at the mere thought of any demonstrative and substantive support for Israel, or, God forbid, aliya. Even those events which do draw large support degenerate into mere social scenes and lose their purpose, failing to leave any lasting impact. We should travel to Israel more frequently, foregoing the semi-annual sun and fun Florida excursion in favor of some Zionist fervor and activity. Bombshell January 15, 1991 trips are important, but only when buttressed by an ongoing commitment.

What we are suggesting is the refocusing of our entire outlook; eschewing trivialities and highlighting the significant issues by placing them foremost on our agendas.

The seeds of this revitalization, like many revolutionary ideas of the past, must be sowed on university campuses. These gardens (Tenzer or otherwise) of eclectic and energetic youth create the visions of the future. And what better campuses than our own, presently home to roughly 1,700 slothful couch-potatoes.

The American Jewish community looks to YU, and especially its students, as beacons of Zionist Orthodoxy. Our passivity and pettiness obfuscate the preeminent issues of our generation and only accentuate the meaningless points of contention and conflict which have become the foci of our concerns.

Let us not be remembered as the generation who reclined on the Lazy Boy of triviality, but instead as the ones who awoke to discover the true meaning of Zionist activism. "libi b'mizrach v'anochi b'sof maarav." While we unfortunately remain in the West, our hearts and attentions must be centered in the East.

Michael & Michael

Fall/Winter 1987: During club hour I had gone into the shower and in my absence, my roommate had come and gone, locking the door behind him. When I returned and found the door locked, I went next door and called security. They said it would take half an hour to send a guard to open it. Unfortunately, my midterm was scheduled to begin in fifteen minutes. I thought all was lost, until I heard the buzz of a walkie talkie and saw Jeff Socol and a few maintenance workers who had come to fix something on the floor. I asked Mr. Socol if he had a key to my room and he said that he did. I asked him to unlock my door. He refused. I explained that my ID was inside and that I would show it to him if he would only open my door and I explained that

Steamed About Socol

To the Editor:

Thank you for coming forward and exposing the facilities mismanagement that occurs at Yeshiva University. The story about the counter-productive activities of Jeffery Socol was long overdue. Although much of the work that he does is certainly beneficial to the institution, his manner and unevenness may outweigh those pluses. Allow me to add two anecdotes to your anthology of horror stories:

Parting Thoughts

Jay Bailey, Editor Emeritus

Listening to reports from friends who bravely spent a year in the Israeli Army, I have concluded that our work this year as a Commentator staff closely resembled a military campaign. First, we established our mission, focusing on crucial situations and filtering out distractions. We then pursued each target (sometimes using what may be called "unconventional warfare"), and finally, we regrouped to assess our effectiveness. Each issue left us both exhausted and full of adrenalin (was it shell shock?).

In our dealings with many of YU's inhabitants, some were eager to offer help, others quick to refuse. Like many other good military forces, we took it as our aim to make the territory a better place to live, to combat injustice and oppression, and to assist the society in developing and healing itself. I looked many a time through the crosshairs and, not surprisingly, received a volley of return-fire.

I cannot, unfortunately, deny that there were innocent bystanders caught — and, sometimes, injured — amid the crossfire.

Most importantly, this platoon of insanely dedicated, bleary-eyed minute-men came away from each sortie armed with invaluable experience that will help define our convictions and behaviors in the future. We have our memories, both pleasant and disconcerting, upon which we continually reflect, assessing their effects.

My decision to employ military imagery in this piece was deliberate. Unfortunately, the Administration-Student relationship has deteriorated to the point where every boardroom

becomes a battlefield, every decision a tactic.

So let's take off the fatigues. We are all tired, not a few are in some way wounded. If we cannot co-exist with the people within Yeshiva, how can we hope to function with the people on the "outside"? There are enough conflicts inherent and unresolvable within our unique and somewhat nebulous ideology; creating more only spreads our defenses too thin.

I was in a truly enlightening position this year, allowing me "off-the-record" discussions from both sides of many a feud. I learned one fundamental lesson: too much of the conflict on this campus is simply the result of each side trying to maintain a degree of control or dominance. What a silly priority for people working toward mutual goals. I beg next year's warriors — administrators and students alike — to beat their swords into ploughshares, to cultivate the earth of Contemporary Judaism; tend to the orchards of Centrist Orthodoxy and its fruits will be your reward. Progress is waiting to be made; we can do it efficiently as a team but ineffectively as adversaries.

Albert Einstein said it best in his *Notes on Pacifism*:

"Peace cannot be kept by force. It can only be achieved by understanding."

It is my hope that harmony will permeate and brighten our University, reflect like a wave of light to the Jewish community at large, and culminate soon as we join together in the ultimate harmony in Jerusalem.

Nir'eh, and L'hitraot.

it was imperative that I get in because my midterm was starting in ten minutes. Not only did he refuse to unlock my door, he refused to even call on the walkie talkie to tell the guard to hurry up. He suggested that I go out into the snow in the shorts, tee shirt and thongs I was wearing so I wouldn't miss my test. Needless to say, the guard came forty-five minutes later and I came late to the test.

December 1990: In serving as SOY Treasurer, I had the unfortunate opportunity to experience another encounter with Jeff Socol. In the process of running the Chaggiga we had filled out all of the necessary paperwork so that housekeeping could clear the Bais Medrash and maintenance could set up the electronic equipment necessary for the band. When we put a student desk in the entrance way between the BM and the lobby to collect admission, we were told that our paperwork didn't cover it. Mr. Socol was very curt and refused to let us have the desk there or provide us any alternative. Consequently, we were unable to stop everyone from coming in and a lot of money was lost.

This is not meant as an indictment of the entire facilities management staff or all of the actions of Jeff Socol. However, when looking at the situation the negatives seem to outweigh the positives. If it isn't time for a change in

leadership, perhaps the leaders should be taught how to be more personable.

Neil Torczyner
YC '92

Save 'Reb' Now!

To the Editors:

Once again, the students of YU are unjustly being deprived of a resource which they vitally need and richly deserve: quality educators. Last week Dr. Maurice Wohlgernter, adjunct Professor of English (more affectionately known to his students as "The Reb,") entered his classrooms without his usual enthusiasm. He announced to his disheartened students that he would unfortunately not be returning to teach at YC next year. He explained that he was being "let go" by the powers that be.

Dr. Wohlgernter's vigorous and enthusiastic approach to teaching has enriched the secular lives of countless students, and has motivated them to learn and think for themselves. Deeply and personally concerned with each and every one of his students, "The Reb"

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CAMPUS NEWS

New Bodega Opens

Two weeks ago, a Hispanic grocery store, or "bodega", opened on Amsterdam Avenue between 186th and 187th Street. Valentine Beltre the owner, and his two daughters, will run the store, selling both kosher and non-kosher foods, as well as produce and non-kosher meats.

Beltre's decision to open the bodega, his second, in a predominantly Jewish shopping area instead of in a more Hispanic location has puzzled many YU students who have seen the shop. Beltre explained that "the public needed the store" because there are no other bodegas in the immediate vicinity. Additionally, the store is a short walk from the home Beltre has lived in for eighteen years. Beltre and his family also own a video store in Mount Vernon, New York.

-- Michael Dyckman



Dr. James Buchanan

Nobel Laureate Discusses Socialism

Nobel Laureate and George Mason University professor Dr. James Buchanan addressed approximately 60 students and faculty members on Thursday night, April 30, on "Production Without Consumption: The Impossible Socialist Idyll." Buchanan, who delivered the speech as the Alexander Brody Distinguished Service Lectureship, was awarded the Nobel Prize for Economics in 1986.

He explained that socialism failed because the separation of production from consumption leads to individual attempts to cheat the system, forcing government to move closer to a market economy. While calling his explanation of socialism's downfall "embarrassingly simple," he claimed that because economists consistently focus on other issues of socialism, attention has been diverted from the obvious problem. Responding to questions from the audience, he also admitted that his model required some qualifications. For example, in a small, highly idealistic environment such as a kibbutz, individuals do not often attempt to circumvent the system.

--Joel Haber



Zevi Adler displays winning bridge; Another bridge collapses under pressure

YU Bridges Falling Down

Inviting people to "help break the bridges", the Physics Club held the wood-shattering conclusion to their bridge building contest on Tuesday, April 14 in the Belfer Hall 11th floor Physics lab. Approximately 40 students and faculty gathered to watch a press destroy the various contest entries, under the supervision of physics professor Dr. Gabriel Cwiliich.

Participants were required to build a bridge of popsicle sticks and Elmer's glue weighing under 500 grams and measuring at least 10 cm. wide and 50 cm. long. After weighing in, the bridges were set on a large scale. Supported by their ends, they were placed under a metal rod which applied pressure to the center of the bridge until it cracked



photos: M. Kellman

under the strain. Dividing the weight which the bridge supported by the bridge's weight yielded each entry's score.

According to Shaye Moskowitz, one of the events organizers, "people like building and destroying things, so we thought it would be a good idea." After distributing 40 packages of popsicle sticks and sets of rules, the club received 15 applicants for the contest. Entries ranged from artistic, architectural masterpieces to blocky messes of glue and wood.

One of Zevi Adler's two entries won the first prize of two Mets or Yankees tickets, and second prize - two CD's or 3 cassettes - went to RGK Consulting.

-- Michael Z. Kellman

Tec Delivers Yom Hashoa Lecture

On Wednesday evening, April 29th, approximately 600 people packed Belfer Hall's Weissberg Commons for the Yom Hashoa Memorial Program to hear Dr. Nechama Tec, a Holocaust survivor and professor of Sociology at the University of Connecticut at Stamford.

Jennifer Cole, chairperson of the Zachor club, introduced the program, emphasizing the obligation to remember. She asserted, "When an individual is murdered, it is a crime; when millions are murdered, it is a statistic." She stressed the need to look beyond the statistic and to remember the individuals.

Dr. Tec then delivered the keynote address. In all her works of literature, Dr. Tec has focused on the positive aspects of the Holocaust -- the rare, extraordinary acts of compassion, altruism, and particularly, survival. With a mild Polish accent, Dr. Tec recounted the "miraculous" story of her family's survival.

Tec was born in Lublin, a community of 40,000 Jews. She, her sister and parents were 4 of 150 Jewish survivors of that once vibrant community. Her parents heeded the words of a "prophet of doom," a woman who described the horrors of the death camps, and decided to pay a Christian family to hide them

from Nazi persecution. While the girls posed as orphaned relatives of the family, the parents hid in their house.

Dr. Tec attributed her family's survival to "luck and something else." In addition to the elusive entity of luck, Tec maintained that survivors needed awareness, mutual help and care, and foresight. She contended that her experiences were a lesson in survival for mankind.

After the address, several YC and SCW students recited readings and conducted a candle-lighting ceremony. The program concluded with a powerful rendition of "Kel Malei Rachamim" by Yossie Rose. Student reactions varied. While some students appreciated Dr. Tec's emphasis of positive themes, others felt her address was lacking in emotional power, and "didn't really move people." Some students also expressed discomfort with Dr. Tec's self-professed lack of religious belief. One student commented, "I think a Yeshiva should try to bring in religious speakers to deal with an issue as important to our faith as the Holocaust."

The events organizers were especially pleased with the strong turnout and hoped for similar attendance at future events.

--Joshua Hain

Senator's Aide Talks Politics

Special Assistant to Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, Dr. David Luchins, delivered a March 17 address entitled "Priorities, Politics and Pollard: Dialogue with a Jewish Liberal Democrat." The lecture, attended by sixty students, discussed Senator Moynihan's disapproval of the Gulf War. The Senator based his opinion on his understanding that President Bush had struck a deal with Saudi Arabia that would ultimately upset the balance of power in the Middle East and threaten Israeli security. However, Luchins added that many elements of this executive order remain classified. Later, he commented on Jonathan Pollard's unfortunate situation, and reminded students that he had in fact endangered American covert operations by passing on "raw" material to the Israelis.

Mitsui Forum Focuses on Israeli Economy

On Monday night, May 4, SSSB and Mitsui-USA hosted a forum entitled "Israel in the World Economy: Problems and Opportunities," featuring Mr. Kenneth Bialkin, Esq., a partner in the law firm Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom, and Shlomo Harel, Head of Israel's Economics Mission to North America.

Mr. Bialkin outlined the problems facing Israel's economy today. Particularly alarming, he said, are growth statistics: while the Gross Domestic Product of most countries around the world has increased, Israel's GDP has not grown significantly since 1973, noting that in 1990 Israel's GDP was a meager \$50 billion.

Israel's \$4 billion trade deficit, due in large measure to the Arab boycott, is another particularly pressing problem. Companies around the world fear doing business with Israeli companies because of repercussions from Arab nations.

In contrast, Mr. Harel focused on the solutions and opportunities inherent in the problems Bialkin outlined. Highlighting the proliferation of government enterprises, Harel stressed that Israel must swiftly move to a free market economy and privatization. To date, approximately \$1 billion worth of previously government-owned corporations have been privatized, including 25% of the national phone company, Bezek. Also, he explained, that foreign companies are recognizing the "brain gain" - the pool of highly educated, skilled labor available in Israel - and are starting to take advantage of it. These companies, particularly computer companies like IBM and Intel, are beginning to branch into Israel by opening subsidiaries. Harel claims that "our future lies in the high-tech industries that are investing in Israel."

The forum drew an unusually large crowd, attracting 70 SSSB and YC students.

--Avi Frohlich

New Revel Dean Discloses Plans Calls For Greater Sense Of Community

by Michael Eisenberg

The Bernard Revel Graduate School has undergone numerous changes since the announcement of its impending restructuring. Dr. Arthur Hyman has been installed as the new dean, and the course offerings and structure have been altered. Consequently, in the aftermath of the "Revel crisis", the Commentator conducted an interview with Dean Hyman, eliciting his views on the future of various facets of BRGS.

Commentator: BRGS has never actively recruited in the past. What are your plans in this area?

Hyman: Recruitment is one of our first priorities; we must actively recruit students. We organized an open house for this purpose and have placed two advertisements announcing the open house as well as three advertisements announcing registration.

C: Do you plan to offer fellowships as is the policy at other graduate schools?

Hyman: Money raising is not within my immediate province. However, on my own agenda, securing fellowship funds is the highest priority. As time goes on we must be competitive with

other institutions.

C: What are some of the general structural changes that have been instituted?

Hyman: We had a faculty meeting and already revised the M.A. program. The M.S. will be phased out as of next year. The general requirements of ten courses will remain and there will be written standardized departmental exams twice a year and there will be no thesis. We will require a sample of written work for entry into the Ph.D. program.

C: What attitude will you take toward the B.A./M.A. program?

Hyman: We want to make our undergraduates more aware of the B.A./M.A. program which is extremely attractive. There will be a definite time limit to complete the degree and the course requirements will be more clearly outlined.

C: Will you attempt to foster cross-registration with YC?

Hyman: I would encourage undergraduates to avail themselves of Revel courses as electives.

C: Some students have complained about the lack of courses available in Medieval Jewish History in light of the number of majors in that department.

Hyman: I've put together what I believe is an attractive and reasonable program under the circumstances; I hope we can build on it if the student response is what we hope it will be. I'm quite aware of the needs of the department and we will be responsive to the students.

C: What do you plan to do to foster better communication between students and the Administration after this year of tension-filled confrontations?

Hyman: I view Revel as a community of scholar teachers and students, and I emphasize community. I met with a group of students to foster student, faculty and administration communication. We agreed to setup a student committee of five representatives to consult with.

We passed through the crisis and the crisis is over, I would not replay it. What we'll have to do is create this sense of community, become more peaceful and make sure bitterness goes away. We should all dedicate ourselves to what we're here for, to study and teach.

I'm very impressed with Dr. Lamm's effort to put Revel on a viable basis very quickly. I'm very gratified by the community response, academic response and individual response. Communities have shown solidarity, and unsolicited contributions have come in.

I'm very upbeat about the school. The reason I'm doing it is because of commitment to Revel and what it stands for: higher Jewish learning in a traditional Jewish framework. Our faculty, person for person, is probably better than any other in the United States. We have a student body steeped in traditional Jewish learning, and a Board and president that are committed. This is our strength.



Students dance at Yom Haatzmaut chagiga

Record Crowd Enjoys Chagiga

Over one thousand YC and SCW students showed their support for Israel at the Yom Ha'Atzmaut Chagiga sponsored by the Aliyah Club in conjunction with Bnei Akiva.

Vice President of YU Rabbi Dr. Israel Miller addressed the students about the significance of Yom Hashoa preceding Yom Ha'Atzmaut, focusing his message on those who gave their lives for Israel. Rav Meir Goldvicht followed, speaking in Hebrew and emphasizing the importance of the Hebrew month of Iyar to the Jewish people.

Neshama Orchestra provided musical entertainment while Time Out sold falafel and chips. The singing and dancing continued until 1:00 am.

—Ben Sugarman

Moss To Leave

At the end of this semester, YU will bid farewell to Dr. Robert Moss of the Biology department. Moss has been a full-time assistant professor at YU for the past four years.

Citing financial considerations as the key factor in his decision to leave, Moss said, "I'm definitely sad that things have to be determined by money. I would have loved to have stayed here." Dr. Moss will be teaching next year at Wofford College in South Carolina, where, he says, the administration appreciates the faculty more than YU's does. At YU, he said, "the Administration doesn't really consider their faculty as important as it is."

—Michael Schachter

Female Student Mugged

On the afternoon of April 26, a female BRGS student passing in front of Furst Hall had her necklace ripped from her neck. The victim recalled that "as I was walking toward Amsterdam Avenue I sensed a Hispanic man staring very intently at me." Soon after, she continued, the stranger "approached me, ripped off my valuable necklace, and ran off toward Audobon." Immediately, a YU student who witnessed the crime notified a Burns Security Guard posted nearby in front of Parking Lot "B". The witness was appalled that upon reporting the incident and requesting that the guard pursue the mugger, the guard refused to leave his "post".

—Gideon Shloush

Max Stern Scholarship To Continue

by Adam J. Anhang

In an attempt to squelch rumors that the Max Stern Scholarship (MSS) program will lapse next year due to a lack of funds, Associate Dean Michael Hecht stated, "There is institutional commitment at the very highest levels to the Stern, Burns, and Belkin scholarships....There is absolutely no possibility that academic merit scholarships at YU will be curtailed."

Established as a ten year pilot program, the MSS awards are funded with a bequest by the late Max Stern, and are perpetuated by his son, Leonard Stern. With the endowment up for review by the Stern family in 1993, there is concern that the family will choose not to renew the scholarships. Leonard Stern was unavailable for comment.

If the Stern family chooses not to renew the scholarship, it is unclear where new funds for the MSS could be found.

Nevertheless, according to Hecht, "there is no doubt that the Stern scholarship will be continued. If need be, university funds or monies from the general scholarship trust will be tapped." Indeed, the Belkin scholarships, which disburse far more dollars each year than the MSS's do, are completely underwritten by the general scholarship fund.

There is no question that YU benefits immeasurably from the MSS program. "Top students who wouldn't even have considered YU now take a second look at us because of the MSS," explained Associate Director of Admissions Michael Kranzler. Hecht correlated Kranzler's statements with statistics: of the approximately ten Max Stern Scholars who attend YC each year, roughly four of them would likely have matriculated at another college had it not been for the award. "Moreover," said Hecht, "the MSS allows us to compete with the Ivy League for top students; when we go head to head with top schools like Princeton, we tend to win more than we lose [in terms of attracting students]." In addition, Stern Scholars enhance YU's public profile by raising average SAT scores, and by attracting positive media coverage.

Despite tuition increases from approximately \$6,000 to \$11,000 since the scholarship's inception, the MSS's annual stipend has remained at \$5,000. Explaining that the MSS would not be made even more effective by increasing the dollar value, Hecht cited the MSS's prestige, not money, as its key attraction. In addition, said Hecht, "The Stern Scholarship allows prestige-oriented parents to send their children to Yeshiva over Ivy League colleges. And based on the cursing I get from the parents whose kids didn't get the award, the MSS has not lost its cachet." Even Kranzler seems slightly astonished at the prestige of the MSS: "At college nights, I have parents of tenth grade students asking which courses their kids should be taking to have the best shot at winning an MSS."



Photo: M. Eisenberg

Model Seder For Russian Kollelniks

Ten new Russian immigrants and their families participated in a model seder on April 12, marking the formal culmination of their three month stint in the Kollel L'nei Chorin program. Founded by former YCPS President Danny Wolff and funded by the "Small Change for Big Changes" campaign, the program provided the kollelniks with a \$100 stipend to attend their three weekly classes in Torah, Halacha and Hebrew. Tzvi Bornstein led the model seder, leading the kollelniks step by step through the Hagada and teaching them to conduct their own Pesach seder. Philanthropy Society member Jason Schwartz commented, "I think the goal of this project is to target heads of households, in the hope that we can save not only them, but an entire family -- for generations."

—Michael Eisenberg

Controversial Elections Prompt Large Turnout

by Avigdor Butler

This year's YCSC elections featured some interesting innovations. According to David Kay, President of YCSC and organizer of the Election Committee, the changes were made to save time, money, and to give the newly elected officials a "jump-start on the year."

One such change was the ranking system employed for electing the presidential candidates. Instead of simply choosing one of the three candidates, voters indicated their first, second, and third choices. If none of the candidates received more than 50% of the first place votes, second place votes were also taken into consideration. Kay remarked, "I didn't change the format. It's the same format that has been used here year after year." However, he continued, "we've never had three people running for an executive committee position while I've been here."

Voter turnout for this year's selections was remarkably high. 77% of the student body (651 out of 850 students) voted in the election. According to Dov Kesselman and Marty Goldberg, Chairmen of the Election Committee, students not on campus for the voting phoned for absentee ballots, indicating strong student interest.

One reason for the large turnout was the controversy surrounding Herzfeld's campaign. His platform included a proposal to allow women to visit men's dorm rooms. As Herzfeld pointed out, "When I spoke to someone, I was able to convince them [to vote for me]. At one point I thought I had 70% of the vote. When I see people they say, 'that's not my President, you're my President.'"

Some students maintained that Herzfeld's provocative platform reduced Schreiber's chances of winning by discouraging MYP students from voting for either of the two JSS candidates, leaving most of the votes for the only MYP candidate, Avi Steinlauf. Herzfeld commented, "What upset me the most about the election is that I may have hurt Carey Schreiber's candidacy."

In an unusual step, Rabbi Yosef Blau delivered a short speech after ma'ariv the night before the election in the main Beit Midrash. He stated that rarely has he shared his thoughts on an election. "I am very careful not to be political," he recalls saying. "Often elections don't touch directly on the issues of the nature of this Yeshiva," he continued, "but when a high risk campaign is introduced, it behooves students who have particular opinions about it to express them not by kvetching, but through the ballot box." Rabbi Blau stressed that he never told students which candidate they should or should not vote for. However, he did admit that, "if a student had drawn the conclusion that I was not thrilled about women being in the dormitory, I would not be surprised."

Herzfeld acknowledged that "Rabbi Blau should have a certain say in the elections," but objected to the fact that Rabbi Blau did not approach him before speaking in the Beit Midrash.

Steinlauf contends that he was elected because he was the best candidate, and while Herzfeld's proposals may have caused a shift of votes, it wasn't significant. Steinlauf also denied the implication that he won because he was the only MYP student, noting that "some of Carey's issues were 'more yeshivish' than mine."

SSSB Dinner A Smashing Success

by Adam J. Anhang

On Monday, May 11, businesspeople, students, faculty, and Administration gathered at New York's Marriott Marquis hotel for the annual SSSB dinner. Chaired by Nomi Dalfen and Shmuel Hook, the dinner was hosted by the Joint Business Society, the Mildred Schlessberg Accounting Society, and SSSBSA. The dinner honored SSSB's Class of '92.

Ms. Marcy Syms, a SSSB Trustee, and Dr. Harold Nierenberg, Dean of SSSB, both greeted the larger-than-average turnout. Midtown campus Valedictorian Sheryl Glazer, and Uptown campus Valedictorian Yehuda Novick, expressed their appreciation to SSSB's faculty and administration.

In his keynote address, Mr. Frank Lourenso, Executive Vice-President of Chemical Bank, recalled some of the entrepreneurial success stories of small and mid-size Chemical clients. Advising students that dreams are achieved only by those who constantly strive for success, Lourenso alluded to the visions of

successful businesspeople Ralph Lauren and the Lauder family.

Special awards were given to school benefactors Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Burns, while former SSSB Dean Michael Schiff was given an award of appreciation for his service. Also recognized was Professor Marc Epstein, who is leaving SSSB next year for Harvard Business School.

Noting that the dinner was fully funded by students, organizations like the Presidents' Circle and the various Student Councils, SSSBSA Presidents Laizer Kornwasser and Malka Raul deemed the evening a "smashing success." Explaining that the dinner is designed to strengthen the bond between SSSB and the business community, Kornwasser cited the strong executive turnout as evidence of SSSB's ever-improving profile in the business world. With finance, marketing, and accounting firms in attendance, along with the presence of various government agencies, the evening provided students with a chance to network for both summer and full-time positions.

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Undergraduate Disciplinary Council Formed

by Michael Eisenberg

Creating a framework to discipline students and faculty involved in campus unrest, and responding to State law and a Board of Trustees mandate, the Administration, in a draft document, has conferred jurisdiction "over allegations of violations of the Rules and Regulations made against" an undergraduate student to a newly created University Undergraduate Council.

The council, headed by Executive Vice President Dr. Egon Brenner, and composed of five members of the Executive Council of the University (Dr. Ruth Bevan, Dr. Carl Feit, Dr. Sheldon Gelman, Dr. Jeffrey Gurock, Mr. Jack Nussbaum) and two students (Student Council Presidents David J. Kay and Susan Schlusel) will rule on the accused's culpability and then pass its decisions on to the appropriate authorities for determination of punishment. According to the original document which set up the Council's procedures (as of press time the Council's members are still awaiting issuance of the revised document), the Council will

not employ the standard rules of evidence used in court systems.

"Neither the Respondent nor the University shall be represented by counsel," and majority vote will determine the outcome. Additionally, no statute of limitations exists, prompting some students to suggest that the Council will be used by the Administration to prosecute those who participated in the Revel protests.

Dean of Students Efreim Nulman denied that there are any such intentions. "My understanding is that they will not be pursuing any past incidents and that they only established rules and procedures," said Nulman.

YCSC President David Kay expressed concern over the council's explicit and implicit role. "I hope that the Council will never convene to discuss such matters," said Kay. "However, I fear that the Administration will use the Council as a tool to deter future student protests and demonstrations. Students need to be free to express their views in the most powerful way they can, but the pall cast by the council's mere existence may preclude that."

Dwindling Alumni Dues May Lower YCSC Funding

by Gideon Shloush

According to the office of Alumni Affairs, the number of alumni paying dues dropped by 130 people this year. The decline in YC Alumni Association membership could mean a decrease in funding for many YCSC clubs and events.

In recent years, the Alumni Association has allocated \$15,000-\$20,000 annually to YCSC, earmarked for specific uses. This year, President Manny Adler (YC '76) appropriated \$16,000, explaining that the biggest beneficiaries of Alumni support this year were The Commentator and the Yeshiva College Dramatics Society. Association funds also help sponsor the Senior Dinner, the SSSB Dinner, the yearbook, and various club journals.

Director of Alumni Affairs Tobie Weiss could not explain the recent drop in membership. Weiss expressed skepticism regarding future Alumni support for YCSC, "we don't know if we can commit ourselves to such high numbers in the future."

YCSC Treasurer Judah Kaplan warned that next year's YCSC "will have to be a lot more frugal throughout the year," in the event that they receive less funds from alumni.

President of YCSC David Kay noted, "I think all YU students should be grateful to the Alumni Association for allowing us to further provide services and activities to the students of YC," adding that he hoped the funding will continue in the future.

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Russians continued from p.1

uncomfortable by pushing him too quickly towards religious observance. He cited incidents of rabbis telling him that his payot were not long enough, or that his kippa was not correctly positioned.

Rudoy suggested that YU could be more accommodating to Russian students by modifying its programs for them. He proposed they be required to take only two or three hours of Judaic studies per day (instead of the current four hour program), and allowing first-year students to pass-fail their JSS courses.

However, Tzvi Berman, a second year student and President of the Russian Club, disagreed with Rudoy's proposed changes. "It is very possible for Russians to succeed at YU," argued Berman, noting that he and several friends have been able to maintain high GPA's in both JSS and YC. Berman, who has become religiously observant, stated that cutting hours from the Judaic studies and letting Russians P-F their JSS courses would only encourage laziness. He suggested that Russians take a lighter load of secular courses to cope with the dual program.

Rabbi Yosef Blau recognizes the difficulty some Russians are having at YU. "They have to take a dual program, being disadvantaged in both [programs], while at the same time having to earn money." Rabbi Blau maintained that "we must determine what are realistic expectations of religiosity from these Russians." He explained that while it is unrealistic to expect the Russians to suddenly conform to religious observance, it is difficult to make exceptions while they are living in the dorms.

Director of Sephardic Studies, Rabbi Mitchell Serels, who has been acting as a temporary liaison for the Russian students, echoed similar concerns. He asserted that the current JSS program for Russians is "too much at once; they need more philosophical guidance."

Some suggest that JSS is no longer equipped to deal with students lacking a background in Jewish Studies. Unlike twenty years ago, JSS is now comprised primarily of students who possess such a background. Despite the changed demographics, Rabbi Michael Shmidman, Dean of IBC and JSS, insists that YU can meet the needs of students with no Jewish background. "We still take people with no background...as long as the commitment is real."

At the Thursday meeting, called by Associate Director of Admissions Michael Kranzler, Rozenson, Rudoy, Berman and other student leaders discussed the issue with Dean Shmidman, Rabbi Serels, Rabbi Blau, Rabbi Louis Bernstein, and Dean of Students Efreim Nulman.

Several of the participants addressed the need for more "internal kiruv" on campus, noting how much time and effort YU expends on kiruv outside the University. Rabbi Bernstein stressed the need for YU to alleviate the financial pressures now facing Russian students so as to eliminate their need to work part time. Rabbi Bernstein also suggested that one teacher be assigned to the Russians for all their Judaic Studies classes. Another proposal advanced concerned the hiring of a liaison for the Russians who would serve as a "Russian Rabbi Serels."

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1967: Expression Of Divine Will

by Rabbi Mordechai Willig

Shavuot 5727, about 5:00 in the morning in Heichal Shlomo, Yerushalayim. All of the Kerem B'Yavneh talmidim who were not in the army had spent the night learning Torah in the traditional mishmar. Exactly one week before, the Old City came under Jewish control for the first time in nearly 1900 years. At dawn, after a frantic effort to clear mines and other obstacles, the Kosel Hama'aravi was opened to the Jewish public for the first time in 19 years.

The last month had been an historic one, and the hand of Hashem was apparent for all to see and for all to feel. The Israeli government, for reasons still unknown, moved the then annual Yom Ha'atzmaut military parade from Tel Aviv to Yerushalayim. The Arab world, led by Egypt's Nasser, blockaded the shipping route to Eilat, amassed troops at all of Israel's borders, and threatened to drive the Jews into the sea.

The American talmidim in Kerem B'Yavneh were subjected to varying degrees of pressure to leave the country by terrified parents and relatives. (The situation was not unlike that of last year's Gulf War.) Yet, with one medical exception, nobody left. While most of the Israeli talmidim were mobilized, we dug trenches and learned Torah.

The Israeli Air Force began the Six Day War with a pre-emptive strike which destroyed the entire Egyptian Air Force on the ground. A desperate Nasser assured King Hussein of Jordan that Israel was being routed. The normally cautious King believed him and attacked Israel. In three miraculous days, Israeli forces reached the Suez Canal and the Jordan River, entering Yerushalayim on 28 Iyar. The charged emotional atmosphere of that moment, which was

recorded and broadcast worldwide, is perhaps unparalleled in recent Jewish history.

A week later, after a mishmar, shacharis k'vasikin, and Kriasha-Torah, we stepped onto Rechov King George. To our amazement, the street was completely filled at 5 A.M. We walked past the old border, into what was No Man's Land. Police barricades were used for crowd control, allowing only so many people at a time to enter the narrow safe zone. Suddenly, a voice cried out and led us in song.

Somachti b'omrim li bais Hashem nailaich

It was the voice of Rav Yeshayahu Hadari, a former mashgiach ruchani in Kerem B'Yavneh, now in Yeshivat Hakotel. I have not heard the tune, almost a chant, in 25 years, but it remains seared in my memory. All the talmidim, and most of the other people in our group, joined in unison.

Omdos hayu raglainu bish'arayich Yerushalayim

Just two months earlier, the Yeshiva's tiyul guide, Zev Vilnai, had described all the gates of the city to us from afar. We never dreamt we would be entering through them so soon. As we approached Sha'ar Yafo, the song turned into a dance. As soon as a police barricade was removed, we danced to the tune and the p'sukim until we reached the next barricade and had to pause.

Yerushalayim Hab'nuyia k'ir shechubra la yachdav

The scene was unforgettable. Jews of all persuasions danced shoulder to shoulder into the Old City. On one side of me was a man in a streimel and white stockings. On the other was a non-observant Jew with a camera. Incredibly, all barriers disappeared. I saw with my own eyes the fulfillment of Chazal's

words on the pasuk we were singing - *shen'asu chaverim ze la'ze*. Through Yerushalayim, they became friends with each other.

Shesham alu sh'vatim l'hodos l'shem Hashem

We danced and sang our way down to the Kosel. Every tribe of Israel was represented in force. Some 250,000 Jews came on that day of Shavuot. One couldn't help but think of the once and future aliya l'regel the pasuk described. As we approached the Wall, we were all overcome by a feeling of gratitude for the momentous events we were privileged to witness - *l'hodos l'shem Hashem. Sha'alu sh'lom Yerushalayim*

We davened Musaf, a t'fila which describes the Avoda in the Bais Hamikdash and prays for its return, in the shadow of Har Habayis. We poured out our hearts. For the first time in our lives and the lives of most people there, we were as close as one may come to the site of the Bais Hamikdash. We hoped and prayed for its imminent rebuilding - *U'nei Baischa K'vatichila.*

Yehi shalom b'chailaich

As we returned through the shuk, the local Arabs stared and cowered. We felt no fear then, or when we toured Shechem and Chevron a week later. A resurgence of t'shuva swept the land. The non-Jewish community hailed the Israelis as heroes, and Jewish pride swelled in Europe and America. A great sense of anticipation filled the Jewish world. Unfortunately, the watershed of June 1967 did not bring the final redemption or ever-lasting peace. Now, 25 years later, we still thank Hashem for the return of Yerushalayim, Yehuda and Shomron. And having tasted just a bit of "Mashiach Zeiten," we are inspired to pray for a complete Geula.

U'nei Yerushalayim Ir Hakodesh-Bimhaira B'yamainu Amen.

The sounds of silence. On June 7, 1967, a single shofar's cry stilled the raging blasts of enemy mortars which were terrorizing the Old City of Jerusalem. For the first time in nearly twenty centuries, the sounds of war were replaced with shouts of "Jerusalem is ours! Jerusalem is ours!"

Unfortunately, even as we mark the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of its reunification, the City of Peace is not truly ours. We must seize this moment in history to reflect upon the events that shaped our city, and we must forever guard the Holy City from those who would attack her. Although bullets are no longer fired upon her ancient walls, the pens of diplomats and national leaders have engaged each other on the fields of world opinion and global politics, and Jerusalem has been caught in the crossfire. It is on Jerusalem's Twenty-Fifth Anniversary that we pray for the calm of peace, and hope that Jerusalem remains eternally secure.



whatever we can to help build a "Golden Jerusalem." Indeed, the Midrash Tanchuma on Parshat Noach states that Jerusalem is not to be considered fully rebuilt until the gathering of the Jewish people takes place. Absorbing immigration and rebuilding the Land of Israel go hand in hand in the eyes of the Midrash. Not surprisingly, these are two of the greatest challenges presently confronting us as a nation.

Yom Yerushalayim (Jerusalem Day) therefore presents us with far more than just a chance to watch fireworks or have a party. It should serve as a reminder of how far the Jewish people have come in the past 25 years, and how far we have yet to go. Thank God, Jerusalem itself has been reunited - now we must complete the process of reuniting all our people with the Holy City and the Holy Land. The challenge is great - but so is the opportunity. Let us rise to the occasion.



Reflections Of A Young Child

by Rav Meir Goldvicht translated by Michael Z. Kellman

The following is a translation of an interview. We attempted to preserve Rav Goldvicht's original oratorical style.

Around the time of the Six Day War, both during the war and afterwards, I was a boy in elementary school in Jerusalem. I wanted to relate some of my experiences as a young boy in the early years of elementary school; how I saw the great days that Am Yisrael merited.

First, the era before the war was a period, as I am sure everyone knows, filled with great tension, since it was not known then how things would turn out. As for me, a child who lived in the neighborhood of Sha'arei Chesed, [in Jerusalem], the happenings took on a greater stature, a greater form; since a minute's walk from my house was the place where all the artillery, all the mortars were fired on the Old City. They were in Gan Sacher and the place which is known today as the Wolfson complex, which was then a plowed field without buildings. And as a child, I remember circling among the soldiers and on the one hand seeing the tension in their faces, and on the other, seeing the joy and the sense of assurance that this too would pass with God's help.

The event that unnerved me more than any other from the time of the war occurred around the beginning of the war. My father z"l was with the liberators of the Kotel and afterwards with the deliverers of the area in the direction of Kever Rachel. He prayed the first Mincha there and then proceeded to Ma'arat HaMachpela. But at that time, he was a soldier in a Jerusalem platoon.

Home for a short visit, he had to take something to Bayit VaGan. I asked him if I could join him, and he agreed. We arrived at the area of Bayit Vagan near a yeshiva called Marom Zion, and I suddenly saw a playing field with 10,000 coffins in it. I asked my father, "What is this? What is this for?" He was silent for a moment. After a minute, he responded to me and said, "They prepared this in case, God forbid, there are many killed in Jerusalem." I asked him, "Are so many going to be killed in Jerusalem that they prepared so many coffins?" He was silent and did not answer me.

This event frightened me more and shook me more than the war itself. Because they shot the artillery on the Old City from the exact place where we lived, every shell which came from our side, as children, we could recognize. First, we heard the shell leave the gun, then we heard it as it flew, and then as it landed. And when the shells came from the Jordanian side, we heard only the sound of the shells flying through the air and the sound of the landing; we never heard them leave the chamber. From this, we knew how to differentiate and distinguish between our shells and their shells; but this did not frighten me. Rather, as a child, what touched me, what especially unnerved me, was those same 10,000 coffins which, thank God, we never had to use.

Something else affected me a great deal. On the other side of our house, also one minute's walk away, was a

school, the Rechavia Gymnasium Evelyn De Rothchild. This is where the army was centered, and where the officers who prepared the entry to the Old City were located. On Wednesday, the afternoon of the twenty eighth of Iyar 5727, I remember that Rav Goren came there and announced that they were approaching the Old City, and soon the Kotel would be freed. He was on his way to the house of Rav Tzvi Yehuda Kook zt'l and the Nazir, Rav Dovid HaCohen, the outstanding talmid of Rav Avraham Yitzchak Kook zt'l, to take them to the Kotel. This statement spread around the whole neighborhood, and immediately the rabbis of the neighborhood, g'dolei hador, came to him and gave him the shofar of "the Gra's" sshul. They said to him, "You will blow this at the Kotel." The event was incredibly moving. As a child, I remember the tears that were in my eyes

when I heard this conversation. This was the event I saw which moved me the most.

The event which brought me to the greatest joy as a child was the walk up to the Kotel on Shavuot via Har Zion, when tens of thousands of Am Yisrael scrambled to the Kotel. The instantaneous release of the collective pent up tension and the opportunity to return to our normal lives made me very happy.

However, there is one thing which I was very careful of and am always careful to be aware of every time I come to the Kotel. I remember the 181 soldiers of the Israeli Defense Forces who sacrificed their lives for the freedom of Jerusalem and the holy places. And each time, I recite chapters of Tehilim in their memory, so as not to forget for a moment that this same great joy which

continued on page 13

Senator Supports Unified Jerusalem

Dear Friends, I am delighted to extend greetings to the readers of the Commentator on the occasion of Israeli Independence Day and the 25th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem.

The bonds between the United States and Israel are based on shared democratic values. Israel will be holding its 13th national election this June - the 13th fully free and fair election in the entire history of the Middle East. For this reason alone, all Americans should join in saluting Israel on the 44th Anniversary of her hard earned independence.

At the same time, the 25th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem is an appropriate time to once again address the absurdity of our longstanding refusal to acknowledge Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. In March 1990, both Houses of Congress overwhelmingly passed my resolution calling on the Administration to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. Sadly, the Administration's only response was to support United Nations Security Council Resolution 681 declaring Jerusalem to be "occupied Palestinian territory."

This, of course, is an historic absurdity and an affront to both the State of Israel and common sense.

For more than three millennia, ever since King David declared it the capital of his Jewish Kingdom and bought the land on which his son Solomon would build his temple, Jerusalem has been the spiritual and cultural focal point of Jewish history. Yet Jerusalem's significance to the Jew goes back even further, for Jewish tradition states that Solomon's Temple was built on the very spot where Abraham was prepared to sacrifice his son Isaac and where Jacob, the third of the Patriarchs,

dreamt of a ladder connecting Heaven and Earth.

When the Babylonian armies destroyed Jerusalem in the year 586 BC the exiled Jews sat by the waters of Babylon and swore:

"If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, may my right hand forget its cunning - may my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth, if I do not recall Jerusalem above my greatest joy."

For 2,600 years, Jerusalem has not been forgotten. The devout Jew prays six times a day - thrice in his daily prayers and thrice in the grace after meals - for the city of Jerusalem. No religious ceremony is complete without mention of the Holy City. And twice a year, at the conclusion of the Passover Seder and the Day of Atonement Services, all assembled repeat one of mankind's shortest and oldest prayers, "Next year in Jerusalem."

Not only is Jerusalem central to Jewish prayer and religious practice, but Jews throughout the centuries have risked their very lives to be able to live in, or at least visit, their Holy City. Conquering armies came and went - Roman, Byzantine, Arab, Crusader, Mongol and Turk - but the Jewish community, despite deprivation and persecution, remained in Jerusalem. Indeed, the first authoritative Turkish census of the City, in 1844, discovered that 7,120 of Jerusalem's 12,510 inhabitants were Jewish - and this before there was a "west" or "new" Jerusalem. Thus even the Old City of Jerusalem had a Jewish majority well over a century ago!

American foreign policy and the cause of justice would be well served by an unequivocal United States government policy statement reflecting these historical realities.

Senator Moynihan (D-New York) is the Senior Senator from New York State and a former United States Ambassador to the United Nations.

Sincerely,
Daniel Patrick Moynihan
Daniel Patrick Moynihan

Our Reunification with Jerusalem

by Michael Freund

That this coming May 31st is being billed as the 25th Anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem is a misnomer. The real cause for celebration is not so much that Jerusalem has reunited with itself, but that we, the Jewish people, are reuniting with Jerusalem. This is the 25th anniversary of the beginning of our reunification with all of Jerusalem.

For people of our generation, who have grown up knowing only a Jerusalem that is one, it is inconceivable to imagine that the Western Wall was once off limits to Jews. And yet, during the Jordanian occupation from 1948 to 1967, Jews were barred from neighborhoods such as Abu Tor, the Old City and Kfar Shiloah. For 19 years, Jews were unable to visit their holy places in the city, and dozens of synagogues were systematically destroyed by the Jordanians. Jews were forced to love Jerusalem from afar, and

to pray towards her, rather than from within her.

All that seems like ancient history now, as the streets of Jerusalem are once again teeming with Jews. But it is worth recalling that a beautiful city, like a beautiful relationship, must be built over time. It requires tireless efforts and intense involvement. Our reunification with Jerusalem did not simply happen 25 years ago on a certain date - that was only the start. It is an ongoing process which we are witnessing even now.

Rabbi Naftali of Ropshitz once asked why the verse in the Grace After Meals is phrased in the present tense as "Blessed are you, O Lord, our God, who builds Jerusalem in His mercy" and not in the future tense as "who will build." He answered by saying that God is constantly building Jerusalem and that each of us as Jews has the opportunity to take part in this building through our good deeds.

That many of us take this opportunity for granted became evident to me several years ago, before the fall of Communism, when I visited the Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw with my father. The

Museum tour guide, who appeared to be Polish, led us through the exhibits and explained their significance with a passion that was as deep as it was unusual. When we finally mustered up the courage and the chutzpa to ask her about her heritage, tears welled up in her eyes and she told us: "My grandmother was Jewish, but as for myself, I must see Golden Jerusalem, I must be in Golden Jerusalem." It was as if her very identity as a Jew was connected in some way to this city, a place which she had never seen nor visited.

My encounter in Warsaw left a deep impression on me, and each time I visit Jerusalem, I am reminded of it. For while it is obvious from the liturgy and from our history that Jerusalem has always had a mystical magnetism, it was very moving to be confronted with it face to face. Even after two millennia of wandering in the Diaspora, this Polish Jewish Girl still felt Jerusalem tugging at her heart.

We owe it to her, and to the thousands of others like her from Ethiopia and from the former Soviet Union, to do

Michael Freund is Assistant to the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations.

Black-Jewish Relations: The Lessons of Crown Heights

"In 1991, for the first time in recent memory, a mob's cries of 'Kill the Jew' echoed on an American street. The awful threat embodied in those words was soon realized: Yankel Rosenbaum, a 29-year-old Jewish scholar, was stabbed by a group of young rioters during unrest in Brooklyn's Crown Heights on the night of August 19, following the tragic accidental death of a black child in an automobile mishap. Rosenbaum died later in a local hospital.

The Crown Heights outburst, with its dozens of assaults and acts of vandalism, was the most dramatic and disturbing eruption of anti-Semitic violence in America in many years. These attacks were among the most noteworthy of the anti-Semitic incidents reported to ADL during 1991 - the fifth straight year of increased anti-Jewish acts nationwide."

-ADL Audit of Anti-Semitic Events, 1991

Who Was To Blame?

In an exclusive interview, Commentator Features Editor Robert B. Fagin discussed the incident of violence in Crown Heights with Franklyn Snitow, Esq. of the law firm of Snitow and Pauley.

The Commentator: Would you briefly describe the legal action that you are contemplating on behalf of the Rosenbaum family?

Mr. Snitow: Let me just clear up that my law firm does not represent Mr. Yankel Rosenbaum or the Estate of Yankel Rosenbaum individually. We represent the Crown Heights Community and have been retained by the Crown Heights Emergency Committee in connection with the pogrom that occurred in August of 1991. In that connection we have been asked to investigate and are investigating the possibility of bringing a lawsuit against various civil rights violations under the federal civil rights laws as well as bringing an action for various state tort claims. That type of lawsuit could be brought in either a federal or state court and would basically allege government discrimination by both individuals and, possibly, members of city government in connection with the Crown Heights matter.

What do you hope to gain by the legal action?

The objective is to bring to a judicial forum the denial of civil rights by both individuals, members of the city government and the city government itself on the basis of racial animus. Hopefully, there would be the possibility of money judgment as well as injunctive relief. I believe it is necessary, and the members of the community believe it would be necessary if the basis for the actions

Mr. Snitow is a lawyer representing the Crown Heights community.

Crown Heights: It Will Happen Again

by Kenneth S. Stern

One thing about Crown Heights is certain. Sooner or later, there will be more deaths. More chants of "Heil Hitler" and "Get the Jews."

How do I know? Yankel Rosenbaum was killed in August, 1991 simply because he was a Jew, attacked by thugs seeking revenge for the accidental death of a young African American boy. That was not, as many prefer to believe, the beginning of the story.

In 1975, when a Jew was murdered during a robbery in Crown Heights, his funeral was disrupted by schoolchildren and others who shouted "Heil Hitler! Hitler was right!" "Get the Jews!" was the message preached by Reverend Herbert Daughtry in Crown Heights in 1978. A van roamed the streets that year with a loudspeaker, screaming "We're gonna burn down the Hasidic homes, we won't let the Hasidic Jews rape our women!"

Overt anti-Semitism was heard in the streets of Crown Heights in the 1980s, too. However, so was racism, from some members of the Crown Heights Jewish community. Just weeks ago, in the aftermath of the terrible murder of a Hasidic woman, shouts of "Go back to Africa" echoed in Crown Heights as well.

Why did the anti-Semitic riots of last summer in Crown Heights happen? Some will point fingers at Blacks, others at Jews. The Blacks or the Jews, depending on who

Kenneth Stern is a program specialist on anti-Semitism and extremism for The American Jewish Committee.

is speaking, get special favors and services. Listen to the chants beyond the Hitler quotes from last summer. "Whose streets?" the marchers asked. "Our streets!" they answered. "We're not living in their neighborhood", a black resident said. "They're living in our neighborhood." There is something seriously dysfunctional here. Those who allocate exclusive blame to one group or the other, or blindly complain about some *deus ex machina* anti-Semitic virus, miss the larger point.

Walk through the streets of Crown Heights and watch Blacks and Jews relate. For the most part, they don't. Each passes the other as if in a science fiction film - two parallel universes sharing the same space. The void between the two worlds is filled with stereotypes. I've heard Blacks complain that the Jews are disrespectful. Why? Because, during the Caribbean Day Parade, Lubavitch men turned their backs. It comes as a revelation that Hasidic men are prohibited by their religious beliefs from looking at scantily-clad women. "Look at how the Hasidic women dress", I explain, "with long dresses, with long sleeves, with wigs. Of course they turn their backs - the Caribbean Day Parade includes women who are sensually dressed." It should not be my job to explain this.

I've also seen the look of disbelief on the faces of Jewish residents in Crown Heights, who didn't understand why a long-time black resident would find it disturbing to be challenged by a Lubavitch security patrol on the way to his house. Whose streets? Our streets.

Crown Heights may be unique, but its problems are not. The tensions there were not caused by the hatemongers - although

they helped turn hate into violence punctuated with bone-chilling anti-Semitic rhetoric. Crown Heights occurred because we, as a society, put little value in teaching intergroup relations as a basic part of American citizenship.

That may sound trite, but think about it. More people have died throughout history from divisiveness and from finding reasons to hate each other than from any other cause. It is happening today in Slovenia and Croatia. In Azerbaijan and Estonia. In Moscow and Kiev. In Louisiana. Intergroup hatred is the oldest human malady, and anti-Semitism - its most frequent means of expression.

We ascribe importance to teaching every American child to read, to think, to write, to add, to subtract, and to multiply. We even have school programs to teach youngsters how to put on a condom properly, and national programs to teach children to reject the quick fix of drugs. As Jews, we frequently support such programs. Are we satisfied that our society does not see the teaching of communal literacy as an essential goal; let alone as a secondary subject on a par with drug and disease avoidance? Why are we content if a school curriculum gives a few lessons about the Holocaust, or allows an outside program to spend a few hours here and there teaching about how to reject hate and hatemongers, racism and anti-Semitism? Would we be satisfied if reading or math were given the same ad hoc, add-on-attention-if-convenient treatment in our schools?

Would anyone else be satisfied if the city's response to a devastating fire in Crown Heights, or any neighborhood, were "we'll send a fire truck around, if we have one?"

Fire is a known danger. That is why we have laws that mandate fire hydrants, sprinklers, smoke alarms, room occupancy, and fire inspections. Tax money is spent to prevent the known danger of fire. Intergroup hatred is also a known danger. Yet, we have not become sophisticated enough about anti-Semitism and bigotry to demand that our government treat it in the same way. We're just happy when the mop-up crew comes after the fact, and then, after a few heartfelt words, goes away.

There are some good stories in Crown Heights. There were black neighbors who stood in front of Jewish homes, protecting them from marauding gangs during the first few days. People like Richard Greene (who started a Lubavitch-African American basketball game), and institutions like the Brooklyn Children's Museum (which teaches Black youngsters about Jewish history and young Jews about Black history) found ways to channel hate into opportunity, isolation into connection. People like Michael Meyers, of the New York Civil Rights Coalition, kept yelling how important it was for black leaders to condemn anti-Semitism. (Many, including Hazel Dukes of the NAACP, Dennis Walcott of the Urban League, and Roscoe Brown of 100 Black Men, did, only to have the mainstream media ignore their statements while highlighting the caustic words of Al Sharpton.) Leaders from the Lubavitch community, such as Baruch Bush, spoke eloquently of the need to bring Blacks and Jews together for the betterment of the entire neighborhood. Recently, the Lubavitch community was one of the strongest Jewish voices opposing the repatriation of Haitian boat people, many of whom are related to black residents of Crown Heights. Just weeks ago, the two communities worked together, with the police, to find the suspect who allegedly killed a young Hasidic mother.

As important as these positive notes are, none are systemic, and none will end

exist to bring to a judicial forum the questions of discrimination against Jews by the City of New York and by private individuals.

By the "community," what do you mean?

When I refer to the "community" I refer to the Jewish community which resides in Crown Heights. In that connection, that community happens to be mostly Hasidim, although there are other Jews who reside in that community. I should also state that based on the investigation that we've done thus far it's clear that this was not directed at Hasidim individually. The cry that filled the streets in Crown Heights was "Kill the Jews." Not kill the Hasidim - it was "Kill the Jews" and there can be little doubt that that conduct was directed against Jews based upon their religious and ethnic background and practices.

Do you think that the legal action will have any negative effect on the Jewish community?

Obviously responsible lawyers as well as responsible members of the community recognize that there can be people who will react in a negative fashion towards any exposure of discrimination by one ethnic group against another ethnic group, or by city officials against one ethnic group. However, I think that the question raises very serious issues where an ethnic group in the city has to be concerned that by pursuing peaceful litigation it might engender a negative reaction by other community members of the city or citizens of the city or by governmental officials. I trust that would not be the reaction. In fact, I think that to suggest that one ethnic group would react in a physical or violent manner towards a peaceful, judicial resolution of the dispute, is really suggestive of a negative view of that ethnic group. I think that to suggest that because people are confronted with litigation which we believe to be valid, it will engender a negative response, really states that the people against whom the action is brought or other members of that community would not be prepared to peacefully pursue peaceful litigation.

What type of response from the non-Jewish community do you expect?

I don't think that you can generalize in terms of a community. I think there will be

communal illiteracy in Crown Heights. That is a job that the Black and Jewish communities in that neighborhood cannot do alone. Nor should they be expected to - any more than one would expect them to provide their own fire protection.

Communal illiteracy allows hate and ignorance, anti-Semitism and racism to grow and blossom into deadly violence. Just like in the 1970s and the 1980s, in Crown Heights in the fall of 1991, once the glare of media attention focused elsewhere, the politicians and their good words disappeared. They left behind, unattended and unaltered, the conditions that make another tragedy inevitable: people inhabiting the same space and an absence of sufficient skills to understand each other and live well together, let alone reject appeals to hate.

If we are to be effective countering anti-Semitism and bigotry of all kinds, we must react to last summer's anti-Semitic horror similar to the way, earlier in this century, people reacted to the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire. That horror, in which many young workers died, was not seen as an unfortunate accident but as a clarion call for change in government's policies regarding working conditions and fire hazards.

Today, while another Yankel Rosenbaum, unsuspecting, walks the Streets of Crown Heights, we must not only condemn anti-Semitism, but demand that our society see the teaching of good intergroup relations skills (how to cherish one's background, and rejoice in America's diversity rather than use it as an opportunity for hate) as something that it owes all its citizens through lasting and funded programs.

The tragedy of last summer's riots was spread all over the news. The continuing tragedy, hardly ever mentioned, is that we

those people who will understand and appreciate that much in the vein of civil rights actions in the 60s, we are, on behalf of the Crown Heights community, pursuing the very same fundamental rights which have been exercised on behalf of Black people, women and every other minority group in this country. I don't think that necessarily anybody should view our pursuit - that is the Jewish community's pursuit - of equal rights in a court room as a basis for a negative response. However, I imagine that within any group of citizens there are those who will decide that the judicial process is not the appropriate way and that they can, in essence, act out their frustration or violence.

Describe the difficulties that you encountered with NYC officials in regard to this case, specifically the issue of the tapes of the Emergency Medical Services and the police.

We went into court and asked to be provided with critical tape recordings for the period from August 19th until September 30. The first week was the initial week of the pogrom and I do not use the terms "riot" or "civil disturbance" because it must be understood that this was in fact a pogrom. It was directed at Jews for being Jews. The media, in almost every pronouncement, always attaches the unfortunate death of the Cato child to the killing of Yankel Rosenbaum or to the August 19 pogrom. I think that any family and group of citizens recognizes that that poor child died as a result of a very unfortunate accident. Clearly, nobody has ever established that that was intentional or directed at that child because that child was Black. On the other hand, there is no question that the events of August 19 and afterwards were directed at Jews as Jews. And when we went and asked the City for the tapes, initially the response was a consent order, a temporary restraining order in which the City consented to the maintenance of the tapes. Thereafter, the City resisted our efforts claiming that it would incur tremendous expenses, tremendous loss. We ultimately were able to determine that we were talking about I believe \$17,000 in potential loss. And while I am very sensitive to the fiscal constraints that are now imposed on the City, the claim that master tapes could not be preserved because of a possible loss of a relatively minor amount of money in a City which has a budget of billions of dollars, so that the potential victim or a potential class that might comprise the plaintiffs in this action could conduct the appropriate investigation, was an astounding revelation.

What do you think the source of the hesitation on the part of the police department is?

I wasn't talking about the police department. Very frankly, I was talking at that point to the corporation counsel himself. I don't want to attribute or ascribe more to them until we've had an opportunity to examine the tapes themselves. What I do attribute to them is a lack of sensitivity and, very frankly, an institutional prejudice. I was reminded of the character of the Southern sheriff in the Heat of the Night. In the first instance, the response was so inappropriate at the time of the pogrom. It was as though one could say, the sheriff said, "The clan rides tonight but the police are going to be out fishing at the time it

still do not even consider the provision of these skills as something the government owes us as taxpayers. One of the few city agencies that had a role in combatting the hatred in Crown Heights in 1991 was the grossly underfunded New York City Human Rights Commission. In 1992 the Commission's budget is supposed to be cut. Are we satisfied that fire hydrants, streetlights, road paving, and snow removal are all ascribed more importance than fighting anti-Semitism?

We all have an obligation to prevent yet another repetition of the Crown Heights horror. Condemning anti-Semitism is easy. Getting society to see fighting bigotry as a priority is not. Yet, that is what we must do - start speaking in the new vocabulary of societal duty.

occurs." There was just never a follow up in terms of the appropriate investigation of the original cause of this pogrom. Nobody who was responsible for inciting the riots was ever arrested. I'm not talking about individual acts of violence, but those who were responsible for the acts of violence, for inciting, for organizing this.

Who instigated the riot?

At this point, I'd rather not use names, but I am very much aware that this was not a spontaneous act, and surely by the second and third night there does not seem to have been any organized effort to identify those persons who were responsible for inciting the riot. It just did not get the response.

Was it an organized effort - or was it a spontaneous happening?

Surely spontaneous occurrences don't last over days. Also, we have information that there were chain telephone calls made throughout the Brooklyn community saying "Tonight take the streets - get the Jews."

And who started those chains?

At this point, I am not able to divulge that, but I am able to say to you that I am in possession of a sign with a Nazi swastika and the legend "Kill the Jews." That sign was not the product of something that was not organized. This was a regular, organized event, and yet there was no meaningful response until very late in the day by the City of New York. It took the mayor two weeks to declare this a biased incident.

Do you believe that the mayor or the police, or both, mishandled this situation?

That is what we are investigating at this time. My preliminary conclusion at this point is that the conduct of the City went beyond a negligent mishandling, as it were. I believe very sincerely and very strongly that there were determinations that were simply not attributed to mishandling.

Do you believe that any of the non-action was deliberate?

I believe that it was intentional. I believe that clearly. I have heard the theory that when riots occur, we should try to contain the riot, but I suggest to you that if other than with Jews - if an ethnic group, for example, a group of marauding whites entered a Black neighborhood, would it be appropriate for the City to sit back night after night and allow that action on the theory of containment? It was not simply just a spontaneous act of violence because a crowd was frustrated, and unhappy and therefore came into a neighborhood. For instance, if someone was improperly incarcerated at Foley Square or on Centre Street or in Brooklyn and a riot ensued, because in essence people congregate at the site of the jail, and started to immediately riot and become violent and ran through the streets, a concept of containment might make sense. However, when people enter a neighborhood for the purpose of acting violently toward a particular ethnic group, that no longer warrants a response of containment. Responsible city officials have an absolute obligation to act once they notice racial or ethnic violence.

What do you think the source of the anti-Semitism that was witnessed in Crown Heights is?

I don't know that as an attorney I am truly competent to answer a question on such a vastly complicated issue. I can tell you that in a recent article in The Observer, Prof. Aaron Twersky commented on the proper halachic response to acts of anti-Semitism, and in that, quotes a responsible member of the Crown Heights community who indicated that it was an act of frustration, borne out of frustration and a special sensitivity as a result of the recent vilification of Prof. Jeffries. That member of the community said there was a tremendous feeling of frustration. Well, the fact of the matter is that may very well be so, although I am not prepared to accept that as an excuse for the murder of Yankel Rosenbaum or for the acts of violence, property damage, and personal injury to members of the community. But I'd also like to say that in that very same article there was a recognition by counsel that it has made the best efforts in the best interests of the Jewish community to support the legitimate plans of ethnic minorities, in the cities that we share, to improve their situation. In order to relieve the understandable frustration that minority communities who are excluded from job opportunities and have all types of barriers put in their stead, we have to support them to reduce the frustration level. But those causes can simply not be accepted as explanations to act out against Jews. It just is not an acceptable response.

What do you think about the reaction of Black leaders?

Let me explain to you why I don't believe there was a commensurate human outcry to that which would have come in response to a similar act of prejudice against a Black person. I think that we have been sensitized through the media, and recognition of legitimate grievances of prejudice, to that type of white on black negative conduct - prejudice, acts of discrimination. I don't think the same sensitivity is felt because I don't think we have been sensitized or made to recognize that it hurts equally as much.

Are you satisfied with the reaction of the Jewish community?

I am not sure that the original reaction was sufficiently striving. I'm not sure they sufficiently came to grips with the true nature of the pogrom. One major Jewish leader came to apologize. He had not recognized quickly enough the nature of what was happening. Again, going back to the article in the Observer, it's clear that professionals - who are certainly no apologists - quickly reacted to the organized Jewish community, but that same reaction was not forthcoming, and that same outrage of protest was not forthcoming when Hasidim were being attacked. I recognize that in the mainstream Orthodox community, as well as in the non-religious community, there is often, sadly enough, a prejudice that arises against anybody whose *payos* (sideburns) are a little bit different than ours, whose method of prayer is a little different than ours and therefore we don't have the same sensitivity.

What could be done to remedy this and other forms of anti-Semitism? In other words, how can

continued on p. 15

Black Community Speaks Out

"The President Beatrice Byrd of the Brooklyn Branch NAACP Officers, Executive Committee and members express their deepest sympathy to the Cato family on the shocking loss of their son and pray for speedy and full recovery of Angela.

During this period of grief and high emotion, we call upon our Brooklyn residents and all New Yorkers to act in a manner that is likely to bring calm and at the same time justice. We are advocating that we utilize the legal remedies available to ensure that those responsible for any

This has been taken from a statement released by the NAACP on August 22, 1991.

wrong doing or civil rights violations will be dealt with to the fullest extent of the law.

Our Brooklyn branch office located at 1397 Fulton Street, will be open for witnesses who saw the incident to come forward with information. We will have NAACP legal resources available to respond to this and any other information regarding discriminatory treatment.

We call upon Mr. Charles D. Hynes, Brooklyn District Attorney to use his office to see that the Grand Jury quickly and thoroughly determines any criminal responsibility. Again, we call upon our neighbors to exercise control and calm."

RESPONSA

Continued from page 3

'The Reb' continued

remains a bastion of quality education here at YU, one which will be sorely missed. Once again, the Administration's fear of free thought, and anyone who strays from the "traditional" has provoked their actions to cut off the "threat" and "protect" the students and the department. The only thing being protected, however, is the assurance that if the barrage on our valued educators continues, we will surely receive an education far from exceptional while attending classes that will be far from enlightening. We the students are confused and disappointed with this approach to education and the threat to those who seek to expand otherwise sheltered minds.

Jay Bailey Howard Goldfischer
Daniel Faizakoff Stephen Davidson
Jeremy Leibowitz Howard Katz
Michael Hermelin Adam Miller
Joel Tennenberg

Tune Out: Justice, Tune In: Travesty

To the Editor,

When I think of University, I think of an institution which is a paradigm of justice and democracy. Generally, I think that Yeshiva University, in both its religious and secular areas, demonstrates these two principles. It is the responsibility of the students as well as the administration to see that justice is carried out. Unfortunately, I see a flaw in the student body. Specifically, I am referring to Yeshiva University's radio station, WYUR 64 A.M. and its governing board. The flaw that I am referring to is, unscrupulous and unjust behavior.

These past two years, I have hosted with my co-disc jockey, Rebecca Ehrenpreis, a radio program on WYUR. It is, as my listeners can attest, a quality radio program featuring classic and contemporary rock and roll music with comedy and commentary. As a student of Yeshiva University who's philosophy is, "Torah U'Madda," we have attempted to reflect its meaning by creating a show that synthesizes contemporary music with Judaism. Whether it be the discussion of Peter Himmelman, a contemporary Orthodox Jewish rock artist, whose songs explore Jewish themes, or the creation of a special Yom HaShoah program, we've incorporated the "Torah U'Madda" philosophy into our radio show.

We are hardworking and dedicated members of the radio station. Last year, my co-D.J. and I were one of the very few who secured sponsors for WYUR for its continued operation, and we spent much time organizing the record library.

In addition, we are experienced in the area of radio programming being that we both interned for a show "Jewish Horizons" on New York's Jewish radio station, WEVD-A.M. Rebecca has just

been accepted for an internship for WNEW-radio this summer. She has been professionally trained in the theater arts for four years and has had many leading roles in theatrical productions.

During the course of the school year, the original governing board decided to resign and appointed a new station manager, Akiva Fuld. The WYUR Constitution states that, members of the board are chosen based upon seniority, experience, and capability.

We find, after approximately eight weeks at Yeshiva University, Mr. Fuld, a lower freshman, with no prior experience in the field of the radio, as station manger [sic]. Mr. Fuld then proceeded to choose his "qualified board," or rather his friends, most of whose experience with radio consist of turning their personal stereos on and off. Mr. Fuld, as well as the Student Council Presidents, decided that the board consisted of "well qualified" people, (one of the top three in charge of the board was dismissed from school.) As we were entitled to governing board positions by virtue of our seniority, qualification and capability, Mr. Fuld assured Rebecca and I governing board positions.

Besides appreciating my co d.j.'s media talent, he also seemed to appreciate her on a personal level. On two occasions Mr. Fuld asked out my friend. The first time, she politely said that she was busy. The second time, she also politely declined, explaining that she was, "seeing someone". The following night, Mr. Fuld, called Rebecca and told her that she and I would no longer be on the board! How coincidental! Federal law prohibits this type of behavior, and there are agencies that defend women who are victimized in this matter. When we proceeded to go to the Student Council President, she initially mocked us, saying, "This is not Anita Hill." (Exactly so, this is Yeshiva University, and not supposed to occur.) She convinced us not to go to the administration and assured us that she'd handle it herself. She later tried to assuage and tone us down by giving us one half of a vote each on the governing board, claiming that there was not enough room for two additional votes. (The issue is now being investigated by Dean Nulman's and Zeldra Braun's offices.) In the meantime, we were waiting to raise the issue at a governing board meeting, but we were deliberately never invited. In addition, because one member was dismissed from school, there was obviously another seat on the board, and the Student Council President told us that she would see what she could do. However, no attempt was made.

To add insult to injury, one board member, Mark Weissman, falsely accused us of committing various acts of negligence. I'd like to mention that we were deemed most responsible. Mr. Weissman, (a peer of Mr. Fuld), pettily and falsely accused us of "dealphabetizing" the record library, an impossibility because I almost always exclusively used my own extensive tape and CD collection which I bring to the station each week. He erroneously impugned negligence on our part for

leaving the radio station doors opened after the completion of our show for the evening. It is true that the doors were left opened because the previous week, we were reprimanded for locking the door, unintentionally preventing the d.j.s after us from entering the station. Mr. Weissman, then denied that there is a show after us, which of course is also a blatant lie, and can be confirmed by asking Mr. Fuld.

Zevi Adler, another member of the board, charged us for "always coming late," when in fact we were late one time in two years and never missed a program (which is rare since many radio hosts show up haphazardly.) Mr. Fuld then dismissed us from the governing board and from our positions as disc jockeys this past week, without confirming any of the grievances. The Stern Student Council President agreed with Mr. Fuld and advocated our dismissal.

Mr. Fuld confessed that he was upset with us for assessing him with misconduct (in Rebecca's refusal to date him.) I am sorry that the truth of the situation offends him. I am glad that he feels some sort of grief, but if anything, he should feel remorseful, ashamed, and embarrassed.

It seems as though, Mr. Fuld's lack of seniority, experience, and capability is the least of his problems. His immoral and unethical conduct is reprehensible. I have faith that Yeshiva University as a paradigm of justice, will see that in fact, justice prevails, and that usurpation and gross manipulation of power will be remedied.

Renee Glickman
SCW '94
Rebecca Ehrenpreis
SCW '94

Fuld Responds

To the Editor,

As the Commentator is an open forum for students to verbalize their grievances and for others to bring justification to their actions, I would like to justify my actions in regard to those listed above. To begin with, the joint action of my colleagues and myself, of dismissing both Rebecca Ehrenpreis and Renee Glickman, stems from a misunderstanding. My predecessor asked these two ladies, in November of '91, to help him keep in contact with various record labels. Therefore they assumed that any upcoming openings in the governing board of WYUR was sure to be theirs. This was not to be.

This year, as in the past, the outgoing governing board handed over the baton to the incoming board. The positions that were held till this point were handed over to Shlomo Orrin, Dafna Kalish and myself. Due to unforeseen circumstances Shlomo Orrin has left this school; therefore, together with Josh Eliovson, I asked Jordan Katz to assume the position. Prior to this, I had the misfortune of being turned down for a date with Miss Ehrenpreis, twice. While I was trying to put the board together I approached Misses Ehrenpreis and Glickman and asked them if they would be willing to work alongside Miss Kalish keeping in contact with the record labels. To this I received a response of experience and rights of seniority. To

the question of seniority I responded that when the station manager is the youngest person on the board the question is mute. On the point about experience I did some research to find that both parties had similar if not identical forms and amounts of experience. Above all else the main point is that the appointment of Miss Kalish to her present position was not in my hands. Unfortunately both Rebecca and Renee erroneously assumed that the reason for their failure to obtain the board position was that I felt shafted, and therefore showed favoritism towards Miss Kalish.

At this time I had spoken to Susan Schlüssel and was told to put both ladies on the board holding one vote between them. I did so reluctantly and later found out that Miss Schlüssel had been informed that I was a liar and Rebecca and Renee requested that any of the ongoings in WYUR should be told to them by Miss Schlüssel. When I asked them if this was so, I was told that Miss Schlüssel, the only one to stand up for them, was a liar. When I confronted them with accusations made by both my assistant, Mark Weissman and our acting promotional director, Zevi Adler, I was told that they as well were liars.

Due to an inability to work with others and complaints I have received from various board members including almost burning out the equipment, as was done by someone else earlier in the semester, and leaving the CD player and turn table on after their show I had asked Miss Schlüssel if it was proper to remove them from the station. She told me that it was a just move after she had spoken to other members of the board and a vote was conducted.

I would like to also state that as people I find nothing wrong with either Becky or Renee, however, I have found them to be unsuited for a job with WYUR.

Akiva Fuld
Station Manager WYUR
Y.C. '95

P.S. I would also like to make a public apology for any inappropriate conduct.

SCWSC Pres. Responds

To the Editor,

I am writing this letter in response to Renee Glickman's letter to the editor on behalf of herself and Becky Ehrenpreis. It is unfortunate that both Glickman and Ehrenpreis feel that they have been the victims of an injustice and feel the need to put the blame on myself and members of the WYUR Governing Board.

For the past six months I have been trying to resolve this conflict between Glickman and Ehrenpreis, and Akiva Fuld. It has not been pleasant or easy. However, as Student Council President I have, and will continue to, act in the best interests of the Student Body and as fairly as possible. Student Council funds were heavily invested in repairing and replacing damaged equipment belonging to WYUR. It is appropriate that I try to avoid the problem of having to spend additional Student Council funds on this equipment. I have been told, through first hand witnesses, that Glickman and Ehrenpreis have on

numerous occasions almost blown out the WYUR board, which would have caused the impairment of the radio station and incurred further costs for repairs. These witnesses were not only credible in my eyes, but in the eyes of many of the other student leaders.

As I was not present at any of these incidents, I have acted to the best of my abilities and with fair judgement. I am sorry that Glickman and Ehrenpreis feel the way they do, but my job as Student Council President is not only to defend them, but to act in the best interest of the Stern College Student Body, which I feel I have done.

I find fault with many of the other arguments that Glickman brings in her letter, however I do not feel this is the appropriate time or place to go into lengthy debates or rebuttals.

I would like to wish Ehrenpreis and Glickman the best of luck in their two years remaining at Stern College and I hope that they will use their tremendous energy in the many other clubs and projects available to them.

Sincerely,
Susan Schlusell
SCWSC President 1991-92

Unattentiveness spreads to Ferkauf

To the editor:

Recent years have seen a growing number of Yeshiva University undergraduate students applying to Ferkauf [Graduate School of Psychology]. We, the students at Ferkauf, want to give you a realistic picture of the current state of affairs in our school. The following is a personal account written by David Granoff, a student who is an elected member of the student government. His views are supported by the majority of the student body.

"Having been part of an ongoing movement to effect change at Ferkauf, and after exhausting all efforts to be heard by the faculty, the Dean, and the Y.U. administration, I thought it was time to commit some thoughts to writing. This could either be construed as narcissistic indulgence or an attempt to better understand the systemic and personal forces at work in this disturbed (from my perspective) community. In either case, here goes.

It was about a year ago that the Clinical Ph.D. program, the meat and potatoes of any self-respecting graduate program, was terminated. This edict, handed down by Egon Brenner, Vice President of Yeshiva University, stated that the decision was a "done deal", the students had no say in the matter, and oh, by the way, tuition is going to again increase in the 10-13% range. This tuition raise seems to be a yearly occurrence which, at this point, loans can no longer cover.

The action of Egon Brenner evoked outrage from some students, while others appeared to resist speaking out. Perhaps they feared speaking their mind, lest their education be sabotaged by the powers that be. Considering the paranoid (my word for guarded, wary, secretive, and unsupportive) environment cultivated at Ferkauf these past two years, this thinking would not surprise me.

In any event, some students did attempt to have their voices heard. Some of us believed that we were consumers who deserved to get a reasonable value for our ever increasing tuition dollar. Regardless, of the fact that most of the money that we pay to the Yeshiva is not spent on Ferkauf (almost 60%), the brochure said that we were coming to an institution that had great concern for the student body. As a matter of fact one sentence stated that the faculty often stayed until 10 O'clock at night to work with the students. It's funny, but this year I have been around past six on occasion, and the offices and halls are always bare. Many of my fellow students complain that their advisor will not return their phone calls, will not meet with them, or even worse will not agree to be their advisor in the first place. Shouldn't \$13,000 entitle students to an available advisor? Or was the brochure merely fibbing?

I do not believe an education is built on information alone. There must be an environment that fosters creative thought and supports the learning process. This environment is not created when clinical faculty are afraid of losing their jobs. In the past year I have had more than one professor tell me that s(he) supported student activism and encouraged what we were doing, "but don't tell anybody." They did not feel free to speak their mind due to a fear of serious repercussions. This fear was proven to be justified by the firing (or not-re-hiring, contractual stalemate, egos clashing), of Dr. Beebe, a highly valued and nationally renowned scholar in Clinical Psychology, who is committed to and respected by her students.

It is clear that the orientation of the program is changing from clinical to behavioral/health. We were explicitly told by Dean Melamed that the orientation of the program would change. I bet they think they could sell us a bridge (along with the three non-clinical faculty they just hired). The thing that gets me is not so much that the orientation of the program is changing—it is the utter disregard for the students at this institution. Even if the dean were right about the changing directions in the field, her bald face lies directly to our faces are outrageous. Is this how we are supposed to treat our patients? Is it therapeutic to lie to our patients? Somewhere, perhaps here, I learned that denial is the most primitive and potentially destructive defense mechanism.

We are at an institution that has little regard for human dignity. Students' rights are not taken into consideration unless they scream to make them heard—and often not even then. Whenever I or other student government members talk to either Dean Melamed or the clinical director, Dr. Siegal, about student complaints, their first response is inevitably that things are the way they are for many good reasons—none of which include the students' well being.

I hope to graduate from this place in one year. Despite my tone, I have learned much at Ferkauf. I do believe, however, that I could have learned a great deal more in a more supportive academic environment. At this point, the bulk of my academic education is behind me. I can not change that. What I am concerned about now is speaking my mind. Maybe someday I will be able to do that without being afraid. Or maybe it is appropriate to be frightened when

one takes a stand. But right now, even though I am fearful of making enemies, I am even more fearful that if I do not say what is on my mind, I will not be able to look at myself in the mirror in the morning."

We hope that this letter has enlightened the reader to the issue at hand.

Concerned Students at Ferkauf
Ferkauf Graduate School of Psychology

Ed. Note: The names of those responsible for this letter have been withheld upon request. While The Commentator does not accept anonymous letters, we do consider withholding a name if we feel the occasion warrants it.

Boycott

Continued from page 1

Kay strongly disagreed with the Dean's assessment, arguing that "[the \$300 increase] is entirely arbitrary; they are just picking random numbers and deciding whether they like them or not. There is no formula." While emphasizing that he does not believe that a mandatory meal plan is the answer to the Cafeteria's financial woes, Kay argued that if a meal plan must exist, its cost should be decided intelligently. Kay proposed tying the meal plan's increases to tuition increases, which are approximately 7% to 10% per annum.

Reflections

Continued from page 9

we feel was borne of the mourning and adversity of the soldiers of the Israeli Defense Forces. May we merit to have our eyes see the return of God to Zion soon.

In reference to the third story in which I described the great joy which I felt as a boy walking to the Kotel, I would like to add and to conclude by saying that in walking with my father, hand in hand, from the Western City to the Eastern City, to the Kotel, and especially as we entered the Old City; I felt how his thoughts were focused constantly on those who fell, on the great difficulty with which we conquered the Old City and on the great and incredible emotion that overcame him on this, the first time that he returned to the Old City, as a boy who was born there who had been forced to abandon the Old City.

These three points: The event which unnerved me more than any other, the event that affected me emotionally more than any other, and the event which made me rejoice more than any other—these are the things which accompany me all the time, they give me a greater depth of understanding into the great miracle which God did for us in the liberation of Jerusalem, the holy places and all other parts of Israel.

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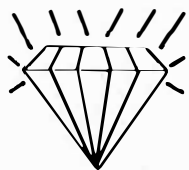
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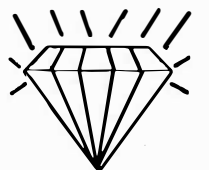
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Sports Editor Says Goodbye

by Eric Melzer

As I reflect on my past two years as Sports Editor of The Commentator, I recall the many fun memories which will accompany me as I leave Yeshiva University. I have seen a lot in my four years at YU such as star basketball players, ranging from Ayal Hod and Yudi Teichman to Eric Davis and Jon Rosner to Daniel Aaron and Donny Furst. I saw the Macs in turmoil from "Halpert must go" to the five point overtime thriller vs. Mt. Saint Vincent last December.

However, I would like to leave you with some criticism. I feel that besides basketball, the students show a large degree of apathy towards the other collegiate sports. Perhaps we do not have enough major sports at Yeshiva. In

my opinion, the department should expand to add baseball, hockey and football either outright or as replacements for sports which have little or no fan interest, such as fencing. As outgoing Intramural Basketball Commissioner, I take tremendous pride in the enthusiasm displayed by all players. I truly can say that I enjoyed running the league; best of luck to whoever runs it next year.

I credit Athletic Director Dr. Julius Shevlin and Assistant Athletic Director Mr. Stanley Watson for doing two of the finest jobs of any Yeshiva University administrators. I will miss working for the Commentator and for the Athletic Department. I need not wish good luck to the new sports editors, Yoni Epstein and Michael Glass, because I am one hundred percent certain that they will do a terrific job.

Snitow

continued from page 11

a Crown Heights of the future be avoided?

I'm not sure that I have the wisdom to reply. I know that we as a people live, at times, as a nation alone, and those who live in a certain separate fashion become a target because they are different - as all minorities become targets of other groups. We are simply in that position, and I am not sure that I can give you the answer as to how that problem can be avoided. But I know this: I really believe that action taken by this community, if and when it is taken, is not necessarily aimed at gaining equality - or God forbid assimilation - a condition grounded in a belief that we are the same, or even that our rights can always necessarily be equal. Because the Hasidim in Crown Heights live in their own society, their

practices are in many respects different. I think the objective of such a lawsuit is not necessarily to gain equality but in some fashion to prevent and make clear to the communities which surround us that we are not fair game in every way for any group that wants to act out against Jews because they are Jews.

Finally, one last question: What is your definition of justice?

My definition of justice in an imperfect society that we live in is to be provided the governmental services to which we are entitled; to be free of racial animus and to be free of decision making on the basis of ethnic animus, and to be allowed to not be melted in this great melting pot - to be allowed to maintain our integrity as Jews and to function free of the fear of visible violence, emotional violence and discrimination.

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YESHIVA SPORTS



Intramural Playoffs

By Daniel Gelbtuch

The Spring basketball intramural playoffs commenced Monday evening, May 4, with a first round triple header featuring the 2nd through 7th seed matchups. The #1 seeded Mavericks received a first round bye to Tuesday's Semi-final round.

Hornets: 55 Nets: 42

The Hornets, coached by the injured Jonny Shore, were plagued early on by poor shooting and the foul trouble of team leaders Brent Levinson & Motty Schiff. The Nets Yoni Epstein started out on fire with 12 first half points. However, the Hornets tied it up at halftime, 22-22, behind the leadership of Brian Kardon, and 12 first half points from Schiff. Despite picking up his fourth foul early on in the second half, Levinson continued to play solid defense and even poured in 12 points down the stretch. With 9 minutes to play, the Hornets started to pull away with superb inside play from Schiff & Yoav Citron, who contained Epstein and Matt Klein. Schiff led all scorers with 25 points, while Epstein led the Nets with a quiet 19 points.

Heat: 68 Bullets: 53

The Bullets, without Captain Dan Goldberg, controlled the tempo early in the first half, and it appeared that they were on their way to victory. However, the Heat, behind the long distance marksmanship of Jeffrey Gruber, were able to close the Bullet lead to one by halftime. Gruber connected for 4 treys in the first half and added 2 more in the second half, finishing with 20 points on 6 for 9 shooting from downtown. The Heat went on a 12-1 run to start the second half and never looked back. They were sparked by the up-tempo leadership of Jeremy Bandler, who dished out 10 assists, and by the strong inside play of Ari Silbiger and Avi Savitsky who combined for 28 points. Captain Moshe Zwebner also chipped in with 10 second half points. The Heat were able to fend off a late Bullets' surge, which cut the lead to 6 with 2:36 left. However, the Bullets could not find the basket down the stretch, despite the valiant efforts of Israel Wallach, who led all scorers with 23 points. The Heat, however, will have to do without their star center, Ari Silbiger, who tore ligaments in his left ankle and will miss

the rest of the playoffs.

Kings: 50 Magic: 38

The Kings, led by Yehuda Appel's outstanding shooting and low post defense, capitalized on the Magic's horrible shooting, and jumped to a 29-16 halftime lead. Appel was unstoppable, connecting for 17 of his game high 25 points in the first half. More importantly, the Kings were able to contain Magic star center, Moshe Benarroch, holding him to 7 points. Still, the Magic kept things close and cut the Kings' lead to 6 with 1:30 to go. Forward Burton Katz led the Magic with 9 points and Adam Samber finished with 8. Neil Bromberg chipped in 9 points for the victorious Kings, who will face the Hornets in the Semi-finals.

THE FINAL FOUR

Heat: 59 Mavericks: 38

The Heat overcame the loss of star center Ari Silbiger and shocked the #1 seeded Mavericks. Jeremy Bandler led the Heat, scoring 15 of his 19 points in the first half as they jumped out to an early 30-17 lead. However, the story of the game was Avi Savitsky who scored a game high 24 points and ruled the boards. The Mavericks just couldn't find the basket, and never had a chance. The Heat were able to shut down the Maverick's perimeter game with solid defense, and were able to hold leading scorers Sam Maryles and Jason Horowitz to 8 and 5 points respectively.

Hornets: 46 Kings: 35

The Hornets jumped out to a 12-4 lead behind exceptional outside shooting from all 5 starters. However, the Kings kept it close with low post scoring from Eric Melzer and Yehuda Appel. With 5:36 left in the first half, Brian Kardon led the Hornets on a 11-2 run. With a 9 point halftime lead, the Hornets never looked back, quickly establishing a comfortable lead in a tumultuous second half and cruising to victory. Yoav Citron and Brent Levinson paced the Hornets with 12 and 13 points respectively, and Saul Fiedler led the Kings with 8 acrobatic points. The championship game will take place on Sunday Night, with Shore's heavily favored Hornets meeting Zwebner's Heat.

The Hornets defeated the Heat to claim the Intramural Championship.

Golf Macs Finish 0 For Season

Commentator Sports Staff

The Yeshiva Golf Team ended its season the way it began -- winless. The team's record for the year was a hapless 0-3.

On April 7th, Y.U. travelled to Richmond County Golf Course in Staten Island to challenge both Wagner and Ramapo Colleges. On April 9th, a shorthanded Yeshiva team hosted Wagner at Pelham Splitrock. Both matches exposed the team's weaknesses, as Yeshiva was defeated handily. Captain Craig Kornbluth, the leading candidate for this year's Coach's Award, was the team's lone bright spot, sporting Y.U.'s best score in each tournament.

Despite the team's poor record,

rookie coach Stanley Watson does not see the season as a total washout. Watson observed that "certain players are putting much effort into improving their game. Unfortunately, others are apathetic." By applying the experience that he has gained this year, Watson has come up with ways to improve the performance of next year's team. For example, he plans to institute a new tryout system next year to insure that only committed players participate in future seasons. The team's returning members hope to follow Watson's example and use this season as a building block for the future.

A tentative intra-squad scrimmage is scheduled for May 17.

Tennis Team Ends Mixed Season

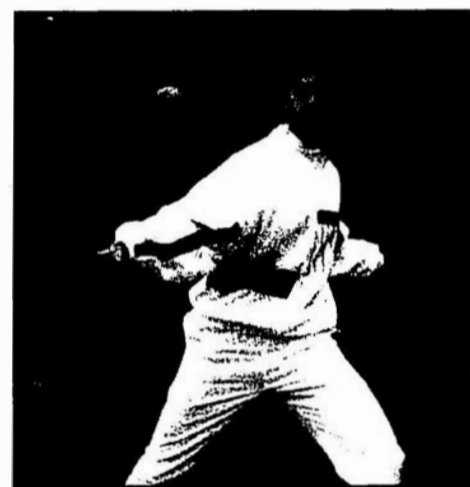
Commentator Sports Staff

The Yeshiva Tennis Team's three match winning streak came to a sudden halt at the hands of Steven's Tech, the I.A.C. division champs. Yeshiva's best proved no match for the Ducks, and the result was a disappointing and tiring shutout.

On April 29th, the team travelled to New Jersey Tech to play a match rescheduled from Erev Pesach. The players appeared too relaxed, and most lost their individual matches in straight sets. Captain Brian Kalb provided the team's only highlight of the day. Down 6-1, 5-1, and just one game away from losing the match, Kalb began what may go down as the greatest comeback in YU Tennis history. Kalb suddenly regained his top form and struck back, winning

the next six games, taking the second set 7-5 and the third 6-4 in a grueling match which lasted over 2 hours.

On May 4th, YU met York College in the season finale. David Boim helped end the season with a bang, dominating his opponent 6-2, 6-1. Kalb triumphed again 6-2, 6-0, and Avi Baumol battled back to win his match 3-6, 6-1, 6-3. Ari Zaionz also played exceptionally well, winning 6-3, 6-3. The captain duo of Boim and Kalb helped clinch the meet by overwhelming York in doubles competition 10-0. The match marked the end of a successful season which saw Yeshiva finish 5 and 3, and place third overall in the conference. It also marked the end of Boim's legendary tennis career for Yeshiva.



Captain Brian Kalb returning a forehand on route to victory

The Commentator
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