

Due to a technical mishap, publication of this issue was delayed

The Commentator

Official Undergraduate Newspaper of Yeshiva College

We hope that you'll enjoy it even more now that finals are over.

January 5, 1993/ 12 Tevet 5753

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY, NEW YORK, NY

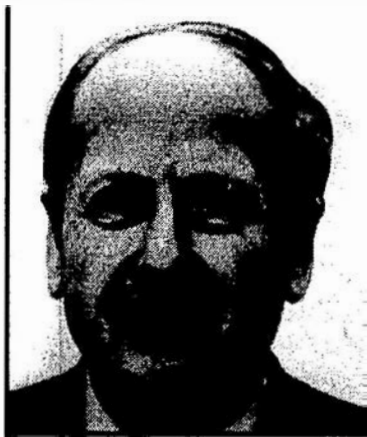
Volume LVII, No. 7

Exec. V.P. Brenner Announces Retirement

by Jamin Koslowe

YU Executive Vice President Dr. Egon Brenner has announced his intentions to retire, for personal reasons, at the end of the academic year. Brenner's plan to leave the post he has held for twelve years was a surprise to many. YC Dean Dr. Norman Rosenfeld admitted he was "shocked to learn about the retirement," adding that Brenner will be a "hard act to follow."

The announcement was made at last Tuesday's dean's meeting. Efforts to find a replacement for Brenner, who was appointed to his current position on February 23, 1981



Retiring Executive V.P. Egon Brenner

by YU President Dr. Norman Lamm, have not yet begun.

Director of Public Relations Sam Hartstein stated that "standard operating procedure will be followed" in the forthcoming search for Brenner's replacement. According to Hartstein, the Administration will "determine who is available, form a search committee, and hire a replacement."

Due to the New Year's holiday, *The Commentator* was unable to contact Dr. Brenner before deadline.

1199 Contract Talks Progress

Student Fears of a Strike Prove Unfounded

by Adam J. Anhang

After months of bargaining, the ongoing contract negotiations between Local 1199 and the YU Administration are showing signs of progress. YU Labor Counsel Gerald Bodner recently claimed that "a substantial number of issues have been resolved" while Director of Supporting Services and Personnel Jeffrey Rosengarten called the talks "even-tempered" and "business-like." Additionally, 1199 Organizer Edgar Aracena Brador expressed optimism that a deal could be struck during the next round of negotiations which are slated for Thursday, January 7.

Citing the delicacy of the negotiations, both sides were unwilling to discuss the fine details of recent bargaining rounds. In declining to comment on specific issues, Bodner said that it is hard to determine "what exactly has been agreed upon because even though we've initialled certain language [terms of the contract]," the negotiations are still underway and "...don't lend themselves to outside observation." Commented Rosengarten, "the little pieces don't go into effect without a contract...no one wants to upset the apple cart, and that includes us."

Nevertheless, according to Aracena, the two sides have moved closer on salary increases. Union members on both the Joel Jablonski and Midtown Campuses are demanding the same wage increases granted to Albert Einstein College of Medicine (AECOM) 1199 members in

their contract: a \$500 bonus in the first year along with a 3% wage increase, followed by an increase of 3% in the second year and a 4% increase in the third year. The Administration, according to Aracena, has countered with a bonus offer of \$250 each year for two years. Similarly, while the Administration has agreed to annual increases of 3%, 3%, and 4% for three years, the timing of the increases would be delayed: instead of a full 3% increase at the beginning of the year, workers would be granted 2 semi-annual increases of 1.5%. The same deferral policy would also be applied in the second and third years. In effect, the Administration is offering 1199 the same nominal wage increases as were granted AECOM workers, but workers would receive the increases over a longer period of time.

While Aracena was pleased with the progress, he deemed the counter-offer "insufficient" and stated that workers will only settle for the same deal reached with AECOM 1199 members.

Progress has also been made, according to Aracena, on the issue of health and safety on the

job. Previously, the union had demanded that a separate health and safety committee be created with both Administration and worker representation. "In the spirit of good faith," said Aracena, "the union agreed that the Labor-Management Committee could address health and safety issues" as long as it did so on a regular basis.

However, the union claims that little progress has been made in the areas of job security and education. In particular, the union wants YU to contribute \$70,000 annually to a "training and upgrading fund" which would be distributed to workers seeking to improve their education or training. The fund, explained Aracena, is essential to upgrade the workers' skill because even though the present contract allows workers to take courses at YU tuition-free (providing the courses are not already closed out to paying students), many workers are interested in obtaining licensing for technical skills, a course of study not offered at YU. In addition, female staff members working at the uptown campus find it

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General Colin Powell and President Lamm participate in the processional at the Chanuka Dinner

Chanuka Dinner Honors Joint Chiefs' Chair and Israeli Pres.

1199 Protests Outside Gala Event

by Michael Z. Kellman

Yeshiva University honored Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Colin L. Powell and His Excellency Chaim Herzog, President of the State of Israel, at the annual Chanuka dinner and convocation on December 20, at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel. Over 600 benefactors and "friends of YU" attended the gala event.

Taking advantage of the high-profile guests attending the dinner, approximately 50 members of the Local 1199 union of Yeshiva University peacefully protested outside the

hotel, calling attention to their current contract negotiations with the YU administration. Marching with placards and shouting slogans, the workers also passed out leaflets wishing the guests of the dinner a happy holiday.

Claiming to be involved in "negotiating a better tomorrow for everyone," the protestors asked for "educational opportunities for us and our children, a fair wage increase," and pay for all religious holidays.

Powell received an honorary doctorate of humane letters and was the main speaker at the

convocation. In his remarks, he stressed his own connection to Judaism and Israel and highlighted the traditional alliance America has maintained with the Jewish state. Demonstrating his knowledge of a "bissel Yiddish," Powell described his happiness at being back in New York, his hometown, and the place where he got his first dose of Judaism, at a furniture store on the lower East Side where he worked as a young man.

President Herzog, the dinner's keynote speaker, received YU's first Second Century award for his service to Israel as a soldier, statesman,

and president. He was introduced by a film which detailed his exploits from his tenure as representative to the United Nations to his travels around the world as president.

This year's dinner also marked the first time that student leaders were officially invited to the dinner. Each student leader who participated in the program received an invitation, courtesy of President Norman Lamm, and was requested to volunteer to help with the program. Approximately 30 student leaders took an active role, robing and escorting honored guests into the main ballroom.



1199 workers protest outside chanuka dinner

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Part 4 of Our Series on Faculty-Administration Relations-- Poll and Retrospective pages 6-7

Expanded Sports Section pages 10-12

Replacing Requirement Incompetence

The Russian Department has been revitalized by the replacement of an ineffective instructor, a decision we wholeheartedly commend. The humanities/language requirement, recently strengthened by the addition of Japanese language courses, deserves better than to have a poor professor severely weaken it by allowing students a "way-out" through an "easy A class".

The Administration must make similar changes elsewhere to ensure that other requirements are not diluted and that students are not forced to sit through worthless classes. Recently reestablished relations between Administrators and student leaders should be taken as an opportunity to reevaluate those courses and professors, which most students are obliged to take. Forcing a large group of students to squander an entire three credit time-slot sitting through an incompetently taught class whose sole purpose is to fulfill a requirement is both wasteful and unfair.

The Absence Of Unity

In our feudal yeshiva, it is rare that we have an opportunity to unite the entire yeshiva in a torah atmosphere. We have three schools, two batei midrash, and many diverse shiurim, all of which contribute to an atmosphere of disunity. However, twice a year, the student councils of all three Jewish Studies divisions afford us the opportunity to come together as a yeshiva. We refer, of course, to the Chanuka and Purim chagigot.

Unfortunately, this year's Chanuka chagiga could not realize its goal of unity. While many talmidim from MYP, IBC, and JSS participated, most rebbeim did not avail themselves of the opportunity. Although a couple of rebbeim from the Jewish Studies programs attended, they were a clear minority. Those rebbeim who attended enhanced the chagiga as a whole, and for their respective talmidim in particular. However, most talmidim spent the evening wondering if their rebbe would come. Signs announcing the chagiga were posted weeks before Chanuka and there was ample time to plan to attend this very important annual event. We hope this situation will be rectified by Purim.

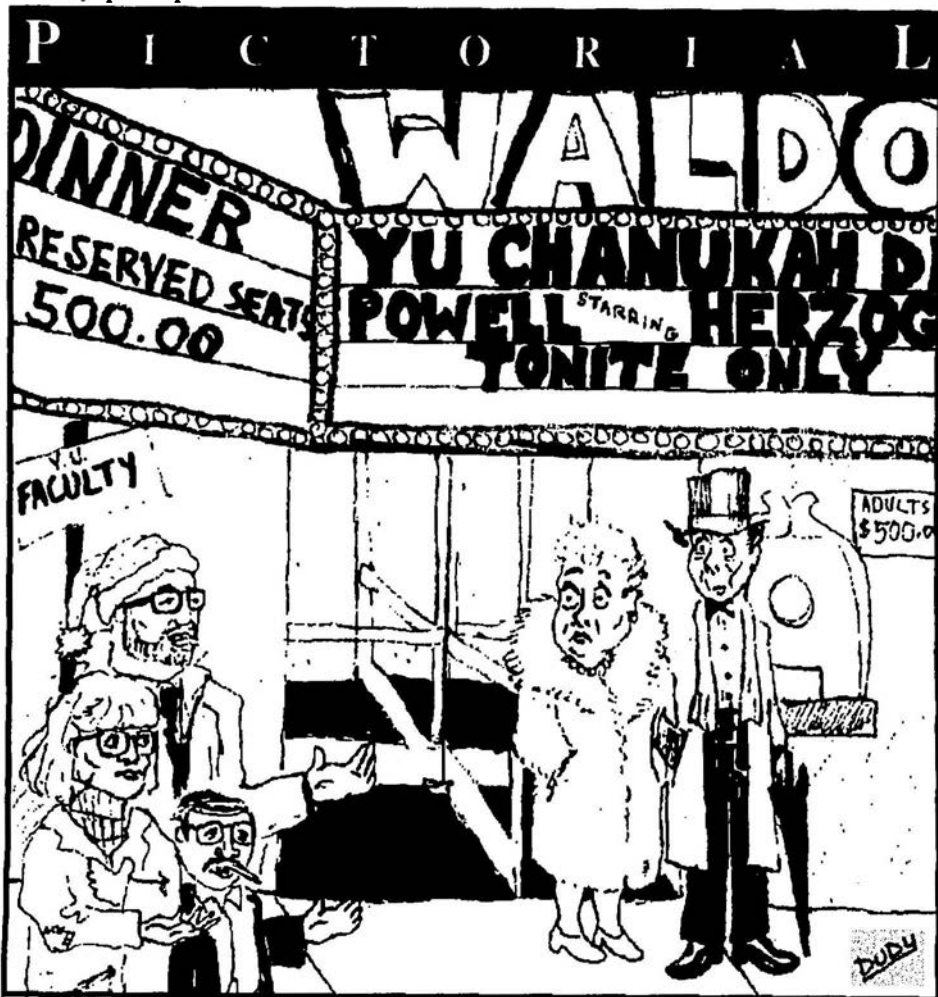
Registration Hassle: Bible Closeout

Once again, MYP students suffered through their semi-annual fight to register for a Bible course. While many other YC courses close out early during registration week, Bible courses are unique because almost all MYP students must take a Bible course every semester to graduate.

Rabbi Allan Schwartz's Bible class closed out within the first two hours of registration, and three others closed the next day. By the final day of registration, six of the eight Thursday Bible courses were closed out. Those who had taken the remaining open courses previously, or simply did not want to take one of these open classes, were forced to waste hours chasing the Dean and his coveted signature to "open" a course for them.

Capping Bible courses at an artificially low number of students, with the intent of opening the course for twenty more students, is simply unfair. After a course has closed, students are no longer given preference based on standing; instead, they are allowed to enter the closed courses on a first-come-first-serve basis. An energetic freshman might prevail over a junior in a foot-race for the Dean's signature.

Students should not have to beg and barter with the Dean to take a required course. Raising the cap for Bible close-outs would alleviate some of the registration hassles many YC students experience; however, such a policy would only treat the Bible Department's problems without offering a cure. The real problem is that the Bible Department is understaffed, and offers little diversity of courses. The University must hire additional Bible professors to pick up the slack.



The Commentator

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RESPONSA

Stinging the Hyper-Sensitive

To the Editor,

While we are normally passive readers of *The Commentator*, one particular letter - that of Mr. Seth Berkowitz - so irked and aggravated us that we could no longer keep still. "In the pursuit of truth," all distortions must be exposed.

Berkowitz attended a speech by Mr. Katz, former advisor to Menachem Begin. Someone in the audience then rebukes Berkowitz for his half-baked questions posed to Mr. Katz. Poor Mr. Berkowitz, now deeply wounded, feels the urge to complain to *The Commentator*. But as he cannot fight his own battles, Mr. Berkowitz musters the innocent Dr. Blank to help him in his fledgling self-pitying crusade. By quoting her, he audaciously aims to silence solid attacks on his dogmatic, politically slanted positions - an obvious distortion of Dr. Blank's original intent. In her now famous letter, Dr. Blank bravely defends complete freedom of speech in the pursuit of truth. If these rights empower students to criticize a public figure, such as Rabbi Weiss, as Dr. Blank maintains, then surely they allow for the criticism

of a wallowing, insecure student, like Berk. Moreover, the ideal of freedom of speech must not be reinterpreted as a sanction for students to cough up 'clunky' and 'inelegant' questions which they themselves do not even understand. Sloppy formulations aside, the reflections that one articulates in a public forum are hardly immune from public reprobation, even at the expense of one's fragile ego.

Yet the slapdash content of the letter pales in comparison to the vindictive style in which it was couched. Presumably, the hyper-sensitive Berkowitz fails to appreciate the "pure and steadfast spirit" animating those of 'tanned' persuasion. By rashly disparaging his 'attacker' as being a "tanned member" Berkowitz shows his true colors. As we, the writers of this letter, both possess deeper and more attractive pigmentation than the albino-man 'Archie Bunker' Berkowitz, we are incensed and outraged by his cacophonous, gutter-like talk.

Hopefully, this letter won't engender another outpouring by Berkowitz "to rehabilitate his easily bruised pride" through readers' sympathy. For the sake of "human dignity" and our paper's integrity, Berkowitz must realize that freedom of speech has reached its limit.

Alejandro Sztuden '93
David Flatto '93

Responsa continued on next page

The Commentator wishes a sincere goodbye to outgoing board members Stephen Buch and Stephen "Shtuf" Davidson

Berkowitz's Selective Sensitivity

To the Editor:

As a fellow member of the audience at Shmuel Katz's lecture, I would like to declare my total empathy with Seth Berkowitz's complaints of the treatment he received at the hands of one "tanned member of the audience." I would also like to echo his call for "the pursuit of truth and collegiality" at Yeshiva.

However, I fail to understand how the public indictment of the offender (i.e. in a Letter to the Editor) serves to promote the pursuit of truth and collegiality; on the contrary, it served as a springboard for Mr. Berkowitz to "regale" us with "the most one sided presentation" of Shmuel Katz's speech imaginable, and with a highly insulting description of the entire audience. Berkowitz's description readily conjures up the image of a pack of imbecilic Yehsha-sheep, ready to burst into a spontaneous chorus of "Rightists good, Leftists bad!" Collective presumptions of this sort are quite distant, in my mind, from the pursuit of truth.

Similarly, Mr. Berkowitz neglected to mention the overwhelmingly irritated and even hostile response of the audience to the tanned gentleman's suggestions that Berkowitz had been sent by Meretz. Clearly, the group of people who had come to hear Shmuel Katz was one which was highly concerned with the values of truth and collegiality. Proper human sensitivity requires that one exercise extreme caution when voicing offensive accusations about his fellow individual/Jew; I find Mr. Berkowitz's selective application of this sensitivity somewhat disturbing.

While I believe Mr. Berkowitz's feelings of hurt to be thoroughly justified, I would like to recommend that he deal directly with his offender - personally - and refrain, in the future, from following the "Creizman Precedent" of transforming a personal offense into a forum for unnecessary inaccuracy at best and unacceptable vilification at worst.

By the way, what's so terrible about a Meretz representative coming to a Shmuel Katz lecture?

Raffi Levinson
YC '93

Mada: Not For Everyone

To the editor,

In Michael Z. Kellman's impassioned plea for "Mada Le'Shma", he vilified the group of students who use various programs to quickly finish undergraduate work at YU. (I myself am part of this group, as this is my first year at YU and I hope to finish by the end of the next). Allow me to defend this group of scoundrels.

Mr. Kellman assumes that there are, or should be, two types of people. The first type is a person who places no value on secular studies. He should go to a yeshiva and not come to YU. The other type is a person who values his secular education. He should come to Yeshiva University.

But isn't it possible that a person would not be interested in Mada but still have to attend college? For example, there are people who want to learn their profession, and are not really interested in a liberal arts education (he's not alone - neither are the rest of the world's universities). But to get into grad school, he has to go to college. So he goes to college. And if he wants to learn while he's at it, he goes to YU. Why should he put in eight semesters here if he can theoretically do it in four?

Another possibility is someone who plans to go into *Chinuch* or *Rabonus*. If he had his way he would do just what Mr. Kellman recommends - go to a yeshiva. Unfortunately, his parents are forcing him to go to college, so he comes to YU. Why should he prolong this unpleasant (for him, at least) experience any longer than necessary?

There are many variations of circumstances surrounding this hypothetical student who engages in "shenanigans" to get through college quickly. But the point, I think, is clear. Not everyone is interested in Mada, certainly not Mada Le'Shma.

Chaim Gottesman
YC '94

Balancing Halacha and Democracy

To the Editor,

It is easy to view the incident regarding the "Dybbuk" poster as petty, even amusing. Upon taking a closer look at the course of events, however, one may find there is more to this case than meets the eye (in the figurative sense).

Let us assume for the moment that had the poster clearly contained partial nudity, or even been verified to have done so, it would have been inappropriate material for the bulletin boards of Y.U. (It is not my intent now to challenge the unwritten rule against nudity of any form, even artistic, in public areas of this institution. Although it is certainly not agreed upon universally by Y.U. students, there is certainly a case to be made for those claiming they should not have to see it if they so desire.)

The above argument is a heated one itself, but irrelevant for our purposes. The category of a poster that "clearly contained nudity or has been verified to have done so" is one in which the poster at hand is simply not included. As reported in the December 15 issue of *The Commentator*, different sources credited the poster's designer with two different responses to the claim of nudity. The Dramatics instructor of SCW insisted the poster did not contain nudity. Most importantly, large debate ensued among its viewers as to its contents. Surely this was not a black-and-white case.

Having viewed the poster myself, I understand both points of view concerning the alleged nudity. The issue, however, has been distorted. The emphasis should be placed not on the potential nudity, but on the very existence of two viewpoints. The poster contained nudity in the eyes of some,

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From The Editor's Desk



Spark Your Initiative: Don't Be Extinguished

"Only strong personalities can endure history; the weak are extinguished by it."
- Friedrich Nietzsche, *The Use and Abuse of History*.

I spent Shabbat December 26, in Orlando, Florida at a Southern Region N.C.S.Y convention. Over two-hundred kids, aged 13-18, attended. I connected with a number of them and we agreed to keep in touch. However, the kids with whom I did not establish any firm communication have become but a buried memory to be exhumed for the next shabbaton. That is, all the kids except for one.

One Junior from the Hebrew Academy of Houston sticks out in my mind.

When we advisors arrived from New York on Thursday, we were handed a schedule for the shabbaton. Among the planned activities was one entitled "Social Action Presentation", slotted for Friday afternoon.

Singlehandedly, and without anyone's urging, this NCSYer had envisioned, researched, collated, and wrote an impressive presentation on the Southern media bias against Israel (It was similar to a CAMERA report). The presentation included color-coded sheets, tips, examples, news clippings, and a form letter to send to one's congressman. This high school Junior did this on his own; nobody helped him and nobody gave him the idea. He simply spotted a problem and set about addressing it.

Ladies and Gentlemen, allow me to introduce you to a foreign word: Initiative.

Initiative, according to Webster's Dictionary, is "The power or the ability to begin or follow through with a plan or task." When will we grab the bull by the horns at no one's behest? When will we seize control of our own destiny? When will we stand up in the face of injustice, as this young man chose to? When will we cease muddling through life and decide to make something of ourselves...

It often appears that we languish here in the YU current, being swept along by today's pressing needs. If we are assigned a paper, we wait till two days before the deadline to begin working on it. If there is a rally, we'll attend if it is convenient, but we would never go to the United Nations or arrange some protest on our own.

Presently, Israel faces growing international pressure because of the Palestinians stuck on Lebanese soil. Despite an Israeli step towards resolution, the Lebanese were not forthcoming with the other half; yet, Israel was still excoriated in the media. Did we stand up and cry foul?

On a more local note, how many of you have been pleased or upset with something you read on these pages. I'm sure many of you must have felt that way at one time or another. Did you pick up a pen and write a letter to express your individual (whoops! There's that dirty word again) feelings on the matter.

Are you the student who completes the assignment (if that much) and not a stitch more? Do you burn with intellectual curiosity or does the thought of taking some intellectual initiative shock your very constitution?

The bumpy, disjointed style of this Editor's piece mirrors the fiery spark and impetuous instinct which is the fuel of initiative.

But wait! Think! We all blow through here and never stop to ask: In these years, while I am still a vibrant energetic young student, can I find a way to take initiative and do something by myself or in conjunction with others?

Ask yourself: Will I act like most YU students and go with the flow or will I buck the traditional lethargic stereotype? Will you too be extinguished??

MAE

YUSSR is Not YU

To the Editor,

After receiving a number of complaints concerning *The Commentator's* article entitled, "YUSSR Camper to Enroll in YU", I feel it is of great importance to clarify YUSSR's official stand on this delicate matter. The goal of YUSSR is to bring the word of Torah to the Jews of the former Soviet Union and to educate them in their long-denied heritage. This ambitious project is accomplished through the innovative programming

of YUSSR's staff, and is carried out in camps and schools throughout the former Soviet Union.

Though we encourage formal Jewish education, it is not YUSSR's goal to enroll these Jews in YU, nor is it within our capacity to fund a project such as the one proposed by Rabbi Ferrell. Stated more clearly, the effort to enroll Daniel Shevelev in YU is the exclusive project of Rabbi Ferrell and not of YUSSR. We applaud this valiant effort to bring Daniel, but under no circumstances can YUSSR claim responsibility for this remarkable enterprise.

Adam Splaver
Assistant Director, YUSSR
YC '93

CAMPUS NEWS

CALENDAR EVENTS

Friday-Saturday, January 8-9, 1993:
JJC Residence Halls Shabbat Program

"Jewish Medical Ethics: Past, Present, and Future"
Dr. Richard Weiss, Speaker

Sunday, January 24, 1993:

Men's Basketball
vs. Barry University
Away (Florida), 7:30 PM

Monday, January 25, 1993:

Men's Basketball
vs. Miami Christian
Away (Florida), 6:00 PM

Wednesday, January 27, 1993:

Men's Basketball
vs. New Jersey Tech
MSAC, 8:00 PM

Friday-Saturday, January 29-30, 1993:

JJC Residence Halls Shabbat Program
Dr. Israel Miller, YU Senior Vice President, Speaker

Saturday, January 30, 1993:

Men's Basketball
vs. Mt. St. Vincent
Away, 8:15 PM

Monday, February 1, 1993:

Men's Basketball
vs. SUNY Maritime
MSAC, 8:00 PM

Monday-Thursday, February 1-March 4, 1993:

SOY Seforim Sale
Belfer Hall, Room 502

Wednesday, February 3, 1993:

Men's Volleyball
vs. York College
MSAC, 7:30 PM

Wednesday, February 3, 1993:

Men's Basketball
vs. New York University
Away, 8:00 PM

Sunday, February 7, 1993:

Men's Fencing
vs. Boston College
Away (Boston), 2:00 PM

Monday, February 8, 1993:

Men's Basketball
vs. Stevens Tech
Away, 8:00 PM

Tuesday, February 9, 1993:

Men's Fencing
vs. Bard & New Jersey Tech
Away (Bard), 7:00 PM

College Republicans Bash Clinton on TV

Over 20 students from YC, SCW, Cardozo Law School, and YC alumni attended the Rush Limbaugh Show on Tuesday, December 15. The show, in which the students participated, focused criticism on President-elect Bill Clinton's recently held economic conference, which Limbaugh dubbed a "toffee pull." The event, sponsored by the College Republicans, was held at an independent taping studio located at 515 W. 57th St.

Jeff Stier, Chairman of the College Republicans at Yeshiva College, gave out tickets to students on a first-come-first-serve basis. "The event was intended to energize the students and to increase awareness for the College Republicans in YU," Stier commented. "It was also aimed to encourage the active involvement of students in the upcoming Rudolph Giuliani New York mayoral campaign."

Stier was extremely satisfied with the success of the event and stated that there were not enough tickets available for the number of students interested in attending. In addition, the show's producer invited Yeshiva University back for a "YUNight" in which Yeshiva University students and alumni would comprise the entire audience.

--Ari Rosenstein

Chanukah Concert Showcases Talented Students and Alumni

More than 1000 people packed Lamport Auditorium on Thursday, December 17, for the annual Chanukah concert, featuring Yerachmiel Begun and the Miami Boys Choir. The event, co-sponsored by YCSC and SCWSC, also featured opening acts by Kol Achai, the YU a capella choir led by YC senior Rafi Saar, a solo by YC senior Andrew Lanter and two songs by an a capella group named "Bitachon," who count several YU alumni among their members.

The concert, which annually attracts well known Jewish music personalities to YU, was organized this year by YCSC Vice-President Abraham Cohen. Ticket prices, ranging from \$18 to \$45, reflected the high cost that the musical groups charged and were used mostly to pay the acts, since the event was not a fundraiser. Its purpose, according to Cohen, is to "bring pride and school spirit to the University. Because of the event's popularity, it enables the school to come together."

As in previous years, groups of developmentally-disabled children and adults were brought by students of the University, and enjoyed the concert as well. Profits from the sales of food and refreshments went to the Yeshiva University Philanthropy Society. One student, Jeff Wilks remarked, "I had a great time, and the YU guys performing added to the ruach."

--David Rozenon



(l-r) R. Shmidman, R. Lamm, R. Goldwicht dancing in the Beis Midrash

Schwartz's Chagiga Shiur Calls for Kiruv

The spirited and annual Chanuka Chagiga held in the main Beis Medrash on the night of December 21, featured a shiur by Rabbi Allen Schwartz, and the traditional singing and dancing.

Rabbi Schwartz interpreted Beis Hillel's statement that one should add candles every night of Chanuka in order to ascend in holiness, as a call for every Jew to perform Kiruv. Rabbi Schwartz explained that we have to ascend in holiness by adding to our ranks with grassroots programs like "Just One Shabbos". Rabbi Schwartz added that "we have an obligation as those who learn Torah to do Kiruv." YC Senior Steven Burg commented that "Rabbi Schwartz's call for Kiruv Rechokim was well delivered, and possibly next year the yeshiva should bring in some irreligious Jews to experience the Chagiga."

Around 9:15, the Neginah Orchestra, directed by Arie Pollack, began playing in the Beis Medrash which was filled with students and Rebbeim, including Rav Meir Goldwicht, Rav Blau and others. Benjy Taragin claimed that "the *achdus* of this chagiga was unparalleled by any other that I have seen."

--Lavi Greenspan

Belfer Chanuka Celebration Enjoys Record Turnout

Enjoying the largest turnout since its inception four years ago, the Annual Gala Chanuka Celebration for the Jews of Eastern Europe attracted over 500 people to Weissberg Commons on Sunday morning, December 20th.

Whereas in previous years the event centered on the Washington Heights area, this year's celebration targeted the entire Jewish community. Sponsored by the Philanthropy Society, the Torah Activities Committee of SCW, the JSS student council, and the Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington Heights-Inwood, the program featured a concert given by Shlomo Carlebach, who was accompanied by the Y's Guys Band.

Dr. Herbert Dobrinsky, Vice President for University Affairs, welcomed the crowd and was followed by Rabbi Hershel Reichman, Rosh Yeshiva in RIETS, who explained the miracle of Chanuka and pointed to its modern day ramifications. In addition to the lively singing and dancing, a

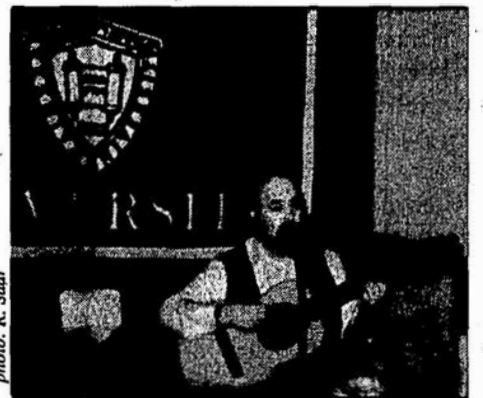
Former Columbia Dean Receives Kukin Chair

The Sy Syms School of Business has announced that Dr. Clarence Walton will be the recipient of this year's "Dr. Ira and Mrs. Doris Kukin distinguished professorship" award. Dean of SSSB Dr. Harold Nierenberg invited Dr. Walton to lecture on corporate social responsibility and business ethics, calling Walton "the father of these fields." The Kukin endowment is awarded annually to a distinguished professor who otherwise the University would not have been able to afford, and its goal is to "enhance the students' education," according to Nierenberg.

During Dr. Walton's distinguished career, he has served as Dean of Columbia School of Business, Dean of Duquesne School of Business, President of Catholic University, and professor at Villanova University. He is now semi-retired, but still very active in the field of business ethics, according to Nierenberg.

Nierenberg explained that the course will focus on the role of business in the larger society, adding that he chose Dr. Walton because he is an authority in a field that should interest the general student body. Nierenberg suggested that last year's Kukin Professor, Dr. Burton Malkiel, appealed to a narrow group of business students; this year, said Nierenberg, he wanted to give all students the chance to learn from a distinguished scholar.

--Ari Listowsky



Carlebach entertains immigrants at Chagiga

special program was offered to over 150 children who had the opportunity to design Yarmulkes and create Menoras and engage in other such activities. Complimentary menoras were distributed after the program.

"We planned this event for the Jews of Eastern Europe to help them realize that they are a part of such a large extended family, to celebrate their freedom, and to demonstrate that Judaism is not only history, but that it is alive and flourishing," said YC senior David Rozenon, who organized the event together with Gil Elmaleh and other YC and SCW volunteers.

One of the program's participants, Michael Vaystub, who recently emigrated from Saratov (a town near Moscow) and who currently lives in Washington Heights, explained that he brought his wife and grandchildren to the program because he wanted them to experience the "Yiddishkeit."

--Martin Goldberg

Rav Goldwicht To Stay One More Year

Last Minute Developments Cited

by Michael Z. Kellman

In a complete reversal of his plans, Rav Meir Goldwicht, a Rosh Yeshiva in MYP, has announced that he will stay in America and YU for the coming year. One of the more popular rebbeim in YU, Rav Goldwicht teaches over 180 students in his three classes. This number includes almost one quarter of all IBC students.

Rav Goldwicht, who had intended to return to his native country of Israel to become the Rosh Yeshiva at Jerusalem's Beit Midrash LaTora (B.M.T.), cited "last minute developments" as the reason for the deviation from his scheduled departure.

In an exclusive interview with *The Commentator*, Rav Goldwicht explained that, "After it was agreed and finalized that I would become Rosh Yeshiva at B.M.T. next academic year, and after a letter including this information was sent to the principals of high schools; last minute developments, that were not of my doing, introduced changes from the original agreement."

According to Rav Goldwicht, "These changes were unacceptable to me because they would not allow the materialization of the educational plans that I had envisioned implementing for the good of the institution. I consulted *Mori VeRabi Shlita* and he was *posek* for me that I should not assume this position at B.M.T. Rather, I should remain at YU, a school with a very high reputation,

and where I will be able to grow and teach Torah and *Yirat Hashem* under favorable conditions."

Despite the preparations which he and his family had already made to return to Israel, which included starting to enroll his children in school, Rav Goldwicht decided to take the advice of his rav and stay. While he regrets the lost opportunity to make a new connection between YU and B.M.T., which this job would have given him, he stressed the positive aspects of his decision and looks forward to teaching his shiurim at YU for one more year.

Students from his classes in MYP, IBC, and Stern College reacted to the news this week, after Rav Goldwicht made announcements in his shiurim about the change. Igal Carmi, a SSSB junior in Rav Goldwicht's IBC shiur, expressed his regret at the reversal, stating, "Taking B.M.T. would definitely have been a shift in his career and...exciting and new for him." Yet, he confessed his happiness that Rav Goldwicht is not leaving, explaining, "Since I have one year left here, I am glad that he will be staying the extra year; now, we will be going to Israel together."

Nava Bardash, a SCW senior, spoke highly of Rav Goldwicht's class, claiming that it "brings a little Israel to Stern." She said that she "feels bad for B.M.T." but asserted that "YU is definitely benefitting." According to Bardash, "he

continued on page 8

Allswang Stresses Need To Prepare for Aliyah

by Ami Hordes

In an attempt to teach hopeful olim "what we have to do to get ourselves there," Ronnie Allswang, the National Director of Tehilla, kicked off the first of a series of "tachlis aliyah workshops" sponsored by Bnei Akiva, Tehilla, and the Aliyah Club. Accordingly, the December 15th address focused on aliyah preparations which one has to make while still in the United States.

On an educational and vocational note, Allswang discouraged choosing a college major solely because people say that a certain profession is "good for Israel." "Do any major you want," he urged, because "you want to be professionally happy."

As for mental preparations, Allswang declared, "you must be loose enough to 'think Israeli.' For example, let *protectzia* (pull/contacts) be your friend." While that term may have a negative connotation in America, Allswang argued, since it is a key to society in Israel, hopeful olim need to grow comfortable with it. Such networking is so important according to Allswang, that students should seriously consider graduate school in Israel, just because it provides an opportunity to interact with those professors. Additionally, he asserted that "everyone has connections - even if they think they don't," and he

recommended that all in attendance immediately begin to compile a list of people they know who live in Israel.

Finally, Allswang stressed that personal preparation is necessary. He maintained that students should not let their unmarried status hinder their aliyah. In fact, these workshops target college students - who represent a large number of potential olim - not only because many become attached to the land during their years in yeshiva, but also because it is less complicated for them to make aliyah. As Allswang pointed out, "the younger you go, the less complex the problems will be. The more you have, the more difficult it will be [to make aliyah]." Allswang also encouraged those who are serious about aliyah to inform their families soon, although he lamented that he has yet to heed this advice.

Throughout the one hour talk, Allswang responded to audience questions, and afterwards, personal information sheets were handed out to help connect many olim, eager to help others make aliyah, with the workshop's student participants. The next workshop will take place early next semester.

According to Rosh Bogrim of Bnei Akiva David Beker, who introduced Allswang, this first meeting was "merely introductory. Once we get feedback from the participants, we can focus [future workshops] on their needs."

Professor Patricia McQueen: Carpets, Calculations and Fairy Tales

by Adam J. Anhang

New SSSB accounting instructor Patricia McQueen has her hands full: she's teaching both introductory and managerial accounting at SSSB, and has just defended her doctoral dissertation at New York University. Nevertheless, when not commuting between NYU and YU, Professor McQueen has found time to settle into her new office on the fourth floor of Belfer.

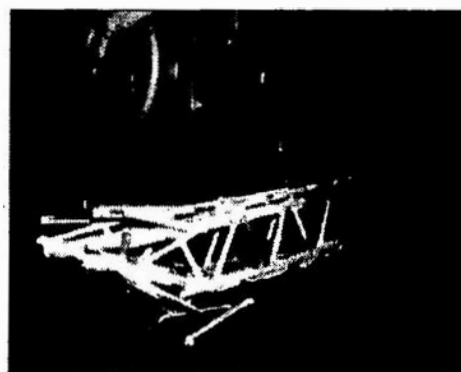
McQueen initially sent her resume to SSSB on the advice of SSSB ex-Dean Michael Schiff, with whom she currently shares an office at NYU. With a BA in mathematics from the College of Saint Elizabeth, an MBA from NYU, and 13 years of business experience in the private sector, McQueen is well suited to the task of teaching accounting. No stranger to the classroom, McQueen has taught both undergraduate and graduate level courses for 6 years at Fordham University and NYU. In fact, Fordham MBA students saw fit to bestow "the Crown Award for Faculty Excellence" upon McQueen in 1990; according to McQueen, this honor was "quite a coup for the accounting department, given that it had previously only been awarded to finance professors."

Of her 9 years working at New Jersey Bell, McQueen cites a stint as a supervisor in a line position at central switching headquarters as her most challenging assignment. Because she was the only woman in the department, and because she arrived from an outside Bell district, McQueen's co-

workers "weren't exactly thrilled that she got the job." Nevertheless, once McQueen had proven herself on the job, her co-workers granted her the ultimate honor: they addressed her as "Butterfly McQueen" (as in the actress from "Gone With The Wind"). Playing along with the hazing, McQueen gamely signed internal correspondence with that moniker.

Outside of academics, McQueen, who always had an interest in weaving, took several courses in the area at New York's Cooper-Hewitt Museum (an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institute). She turned out to be so talented that she was hired by her instructor to work in the instructor's carpet business. After building her own contact network, McQueen spent a year developing her own business, specializing in the hand restoration of museum quality contemporary and antique carpets. She quit the business "because at Bell, I was used to working with a large department of 50-100 people; when I was in the carpet business, I spent long hours working alone in my apartment. The solitude nearly drove me crazy!"

McQueen believes that the most difficult challenge in teaching accounting lies in demonstrating to students that accounting can be fascinating. To that end, she goes out of her way to combat student disinterest by introducing case studies and anecdotes from her work experience. "After all," said McQueen, "accounting tells a story - just like a fairy tale. And how can a fairy tale be boring?"



Caving in to the pressure, one entry collapses under the press.

Linzer Defeats One Entry To Claim Bridge Contest

On Monday evening, December 14, students gathered in the physics laboratory to witness the "smashing" conclusion of the Bridgeman II contest. Sponsored by the Physics Club and the Engineering Society, the competition called for students to build bridges using

only popsicle sticks and their own creativity.

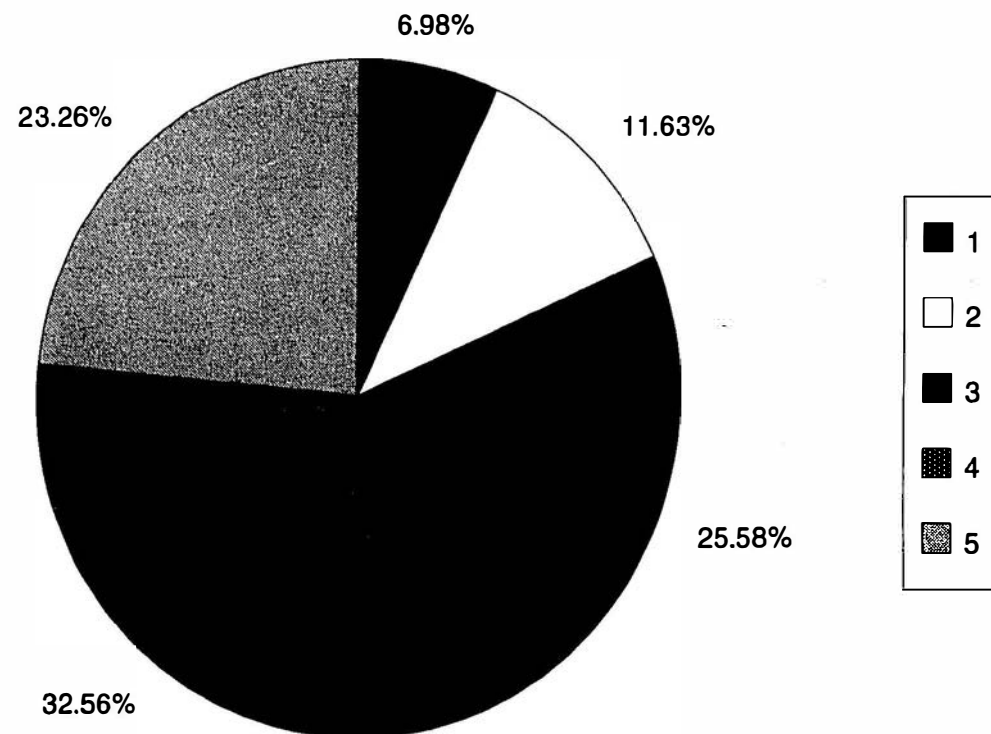
YC Junior Menachem Linzer, a pre-engineering major, won the contest when his 372 gram bridge withstood 205 pounds of pressure before it was crushed. A happy Linzer commented "it's in my blood, I've been doing it for years." His prize will be a forty dollar gift certificate toward next semester's SOY Seforim Sale.

The only prerequisite to enter Bridgeman II was a bridge with the minimum measurements of 50 cm. in length, 10 cm. in width, and 5 cm. in height, with a maximum weight of half a kilogram. The bridge which had the highest ratio of weight (pressure) before shattering, divided by the weight of the bridge itself won. Assistant Professor of Physics Dr. Gabriel Cwilich, who helped arrange Bridgeman II, judged the competition.

Although nearly 30 "bridge kits" were sold, only two bridges were actually submitted, compared to the 15 entries last year. Students cited various reasons for not completing their bridges on time; some mentioned that they had too much schoolwork, while others cited "girl priorities."

—Yisroel Holczer

Yeshiva University should adhere to American Association of University Professors policies regarding tenure.



High Court Will Hear Appeal of YUFA Case

by Yitzhak Twersky

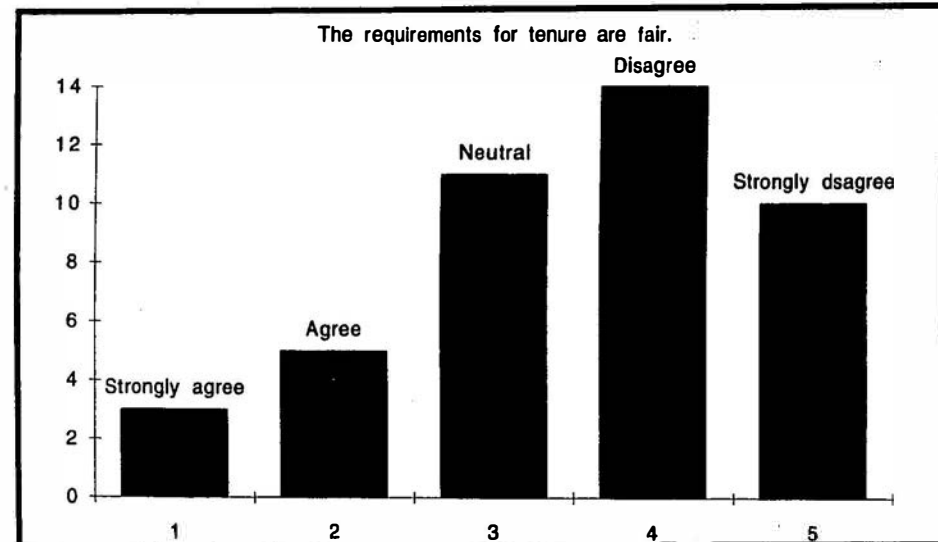
Reprinted from *The Commentator*, Wednesday, February 28, 1979:

February 21- The Supreme Court has agreed to review the refusal of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, in New York, to recognize the Yeshiva University Faculty Association as a bargaining unit representing the university's full-time faculty members.

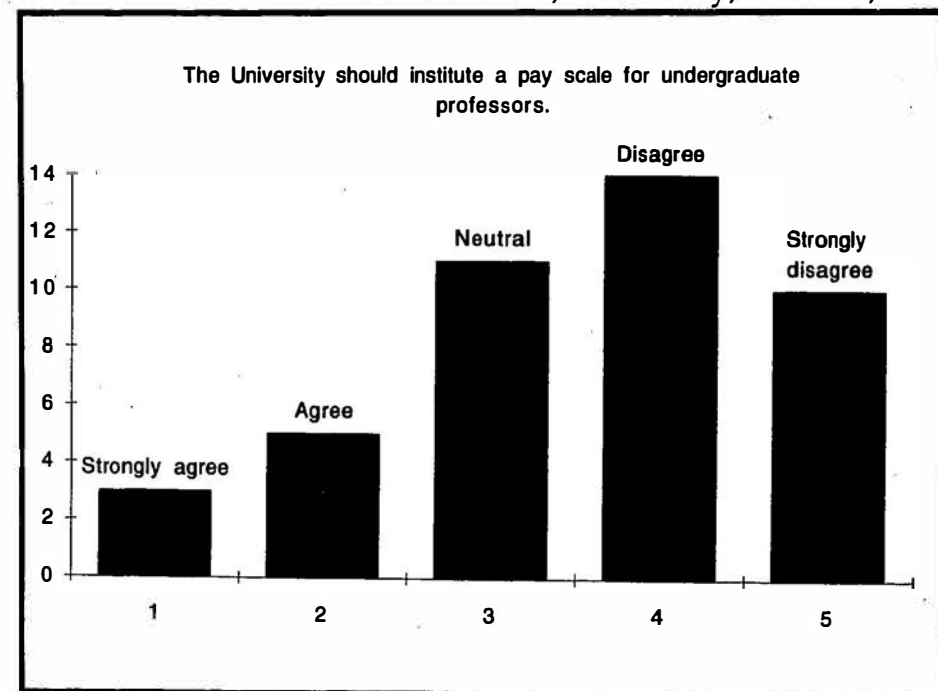
Today's action by the Court, brought by the National Labor Relations Board, stems from YUFA's 1975 application to the NLRB for certification as a unit entitled to bargain with the University. The Court has yet to make an actual decision on the merits of the case. The case is not expected to be heard till October at the earliest, with a decision expected several months afterwards.

The National Labor Relations Board, in asking the Court to review the case, told the Justices that the lower court's reasoning that the faculty are managerial workers, would deprive most other faculties of other universities of their right to organize.

The University administration contends that a faculty union would create an atmosphere inconducive to Yeshiva University. The faculty union wants to bargain with the university on three basic issues: retirement, tenure, and salaries.



"The faculty at Yeshiva, according to the [Supreme] Court, largely holds the power to determine admissions standards, graduation requirements, grading systems, and budget allotments...." -- *The Commentator*, Wednesday, March 12, 1980:



"Where asked if 'professors perceive their salaries to be below the national norm,' one professor wrote 'you'd better believe it', while another replied that 'that this not merely a matter of perception; it is a fact.'" -- *The Commentator*, January 5, 1993

We would like to thank Dr. Marilyn Schneider for her tireless assistance in preparing this poll.

Faculty Perceptions: A-Polling's Results

Part four in a series on Faculty - Administration Relations

by Robert B. Fagin and Sender Cohen

Recently, opinions were polled to acquaint the student body and alumni with various aspects of Faculty - Administration relations, and to identify the differences of opinion that exist between them. The results of the poll reflected the view of many faculty members that a number of the administrative policies could be improved upon, such as those dealing with sabbaticals and attendance at academic conferences.

For example, 61% of the faculty responding to the poll disagreed to some extent with the statement that "Undergraduate professors are encouraged to attend academic conferences." However, according to Dean Norman Rosenfeld, "Over the past several years, all the faculty that have applied to attend academic conferences in the U.S. in order to present a paper have been granted the means to do so. All professors presenting papers are encouraged and supported." Moreover, Rosenfeld pointed out that over a half dozen Yeshiva faculty members are being sent to an academic conference in Israel this year.

In terms of sabbaticals, 59% of the faculty polled disagreed to some extent with the statement that "the administration encourages a sabbatical every seven years for each faculty member." Yet, Rosenfeld stated that "We are one of the few universities now giving one semester, full-paid sabbaticals. At Brooklyn College this year, where the faculty is many times the size of YC's, only one professor has been granted a one semester, paid sabbatical, whereas at YC, a number have been."

Additionally, there were certain areas where the faculty felt that the University's policies are satisfactory. For example, most professors tended to agree with the statement: "The requirements for promotion are fair."

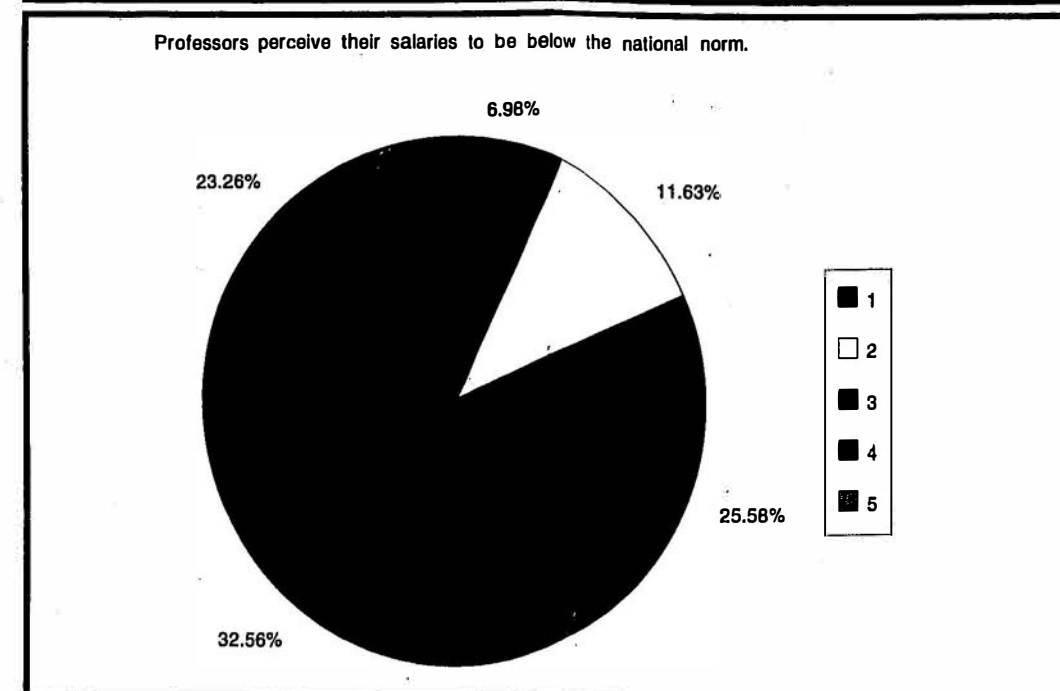
Perhaps the most revealing aspects of the poll were the comments written by faculty members. When asked if "professors perceive their salaries to be below the national norm," one professor wrote "you'd better believe it," while another replied that "this not merely a matter of perception; it is a fact."

Administration officials acknowledged the salary problem. One administrator noted that when the University began its \$400 million "Second Century" campaign, raising funds to improve faculty salaries was high on the agenda, but that the current recession has impeded the university's efforts.

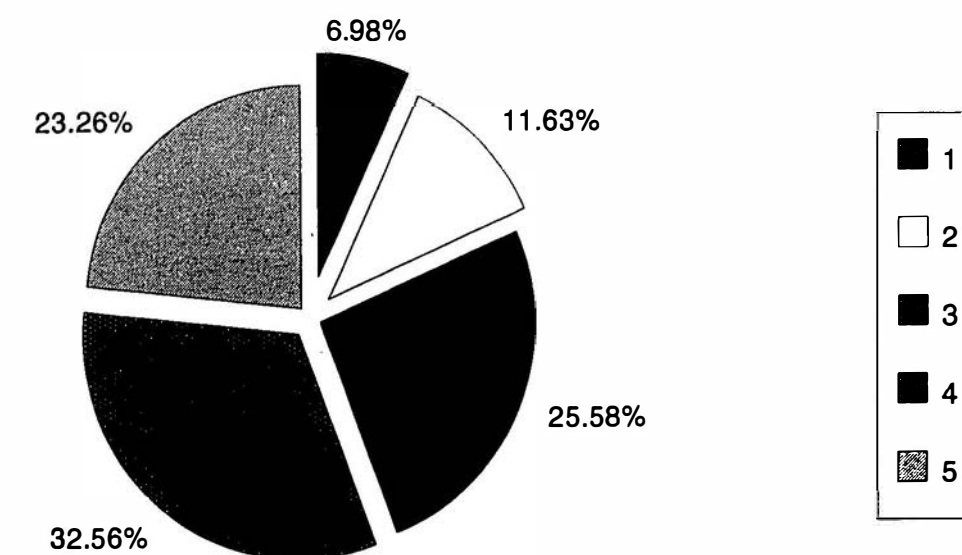
Though the overall attitude toward the tenure process was favorable, a vocal minority expressed some dissatisfaction with it, claiming that the requirements for tenure are not stated anywhere, and that answering questions about tenure procedures might be difficult since the tenure requirements "have not [been] seen."

Though no poll can present a full understanding of the differences between the faculty and the administration, this one has made clear that their relationship is strained, to say the least.

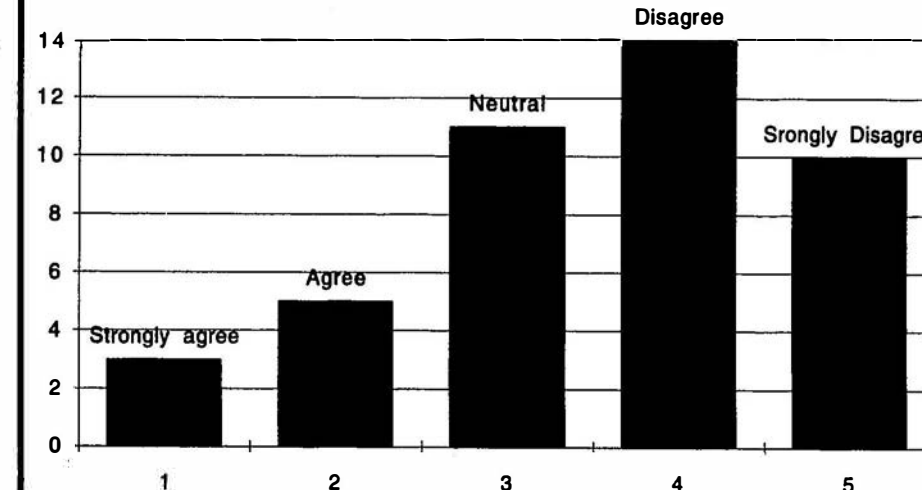
Questions were answered on a scale of one to five, with one representing "Strongly Agree", two representing "Agree", three representing "Neutral", four representing "Disagree", and five representing "Strongly Disagree".



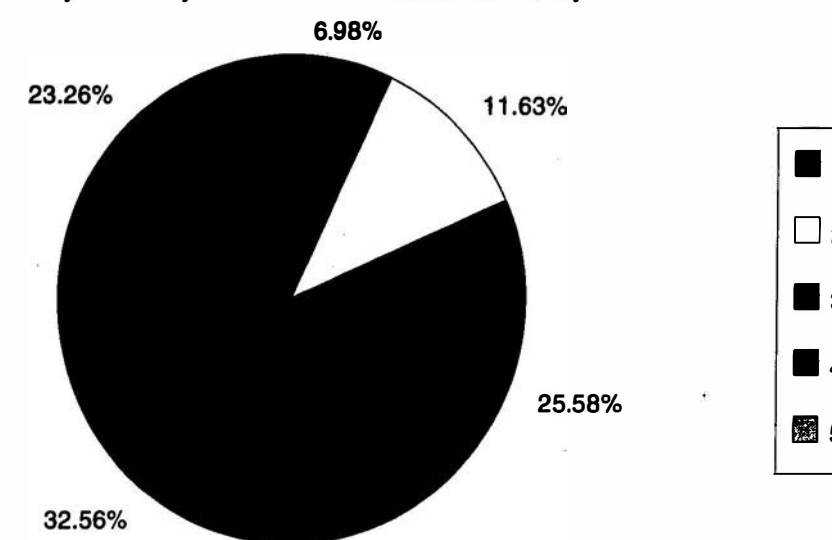
Heavy teaching loads discourage effective research by undergraduate faculty members.



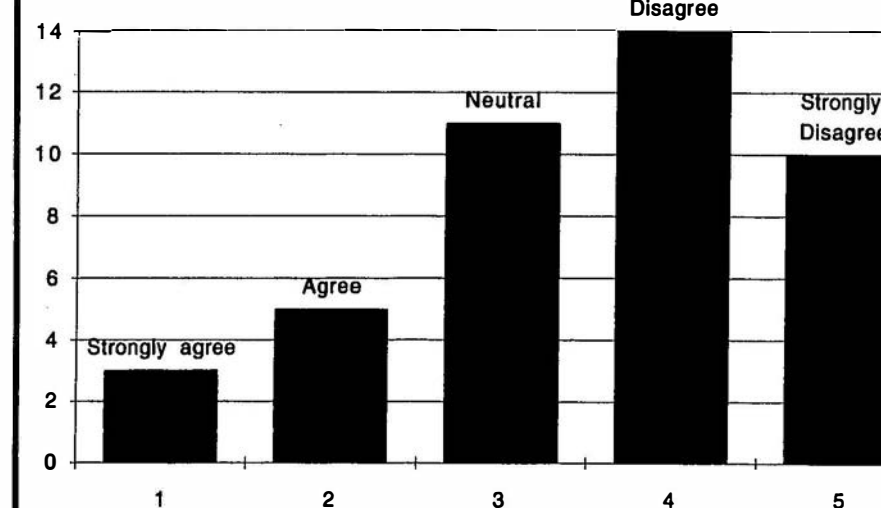
The Dean encourages the development of new courses by the undergraduate faculty.



Faculty feel they teach at an excellent university.



Students feel they are enrolled in an excellent university.



US High Court Designates YU Faculty as Managers

Commentator Staff

Reprinted from *The Commentator*, Wednesday, March 12, 1980:

On February 20, 1980, the United States Supreme Court announced its decision in the Yeshiva University Faculty Association (YUFA) case. The Court found that the members of YUFA are considered managerial professionals and therefore cannot be protected by the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA). This 5-4 decision was an affirmation of the decision given in the Court of Appeals of the Second Circuit on July 31, 1978.

The issue in the case YUFA v. YU, was whether the faculty is instrumental in making managerial decisions at Yeshiva. According to the NLRA, professional employees can form a union protected by law since the decisions they make in the execution of their jobs are in their own interest. They must be expected to exercise "independent professional judgement" if they want their union to be protected. In Yeshiva's case, the Supreme Court found that the faculty interests as they are reflected in their decisions cannot be separated from the University's.

The faculty at Yeshiva, according to the Court, largely holds the power to determine admissions standards, graduation requirements, grading systems, and budget allotments....

President's Circle Gives Financial Boost To Shabbos in Yeshiva

by Ari Listowsky

The President's Circle recently earmarked \$3500 to enhance the Shabbos atmosphere at YC. Director of Residence Halls Rabbi Joshua Chaifetz, who is in charge of distributing the money, explained that the money is being used to give Shabbos in YU more of a "yeshiva experience." Rabbi Chaifetz is currently requesting that the President's Circle continue their support of the "Shabbos in Yeshiva program."

Rabbi Chaifetz explained that before the beginning of the school year, many students expressed a desire for incentives to stay in YU for Shabbos in order to "enhance the spirituality of the yeshiva." The President's Circle's contribution has made several suggested improvements possible. While Shabbos meals cost only \$15 for students, they cost \$45 per person for outsiders, including Rebbeim and their families. Rabbi Chaifetz explained that the funds have been used to subsidize meals for Rebbeim and guests unable to pay for the full price of the meal tickets. Additionally, they have purchased more and better food for the Friday night tisch, a new challah plate and cover, new serving utensils, and new tablecloths.

The money will also be used to subsidize Shabbatonim. Earlier this year, Or Yerushalayim and BMT organized Shabbatonim at YU. Other shabbatonim have been scheduled for the spring semester. Rabbi Chaifetz credited advance planning and the additional money for the success of these programs.

According to Rabbi Chaifetz, "there is no question that [the Shabbos atmosphere] has been greatly enhanced by the money and help of the Circle."

In addition to the money, Rabbi Chaifetz credited Shabbos meal manager Shai Abisch and Student Chairman of the Shabbos Program Benjy Fox for helping gauge the number of students staying in on Shabbos. The average number of students staying in on Shabbos has increased from 60 to 85. Rabbi Chaifetz stated that the larger number of students has allowed the cafeteria to provide better food and service in general.

Fox agreed that there has been a marked improvement in the quality of the cafeteria's service, but stressed that students must contribute to help create a complete Shabbos experience. "Important things such as zemiros were lacking in the past," he explained, "but now we have nice zemiros every Shabbos and there is no shortage of divrei Torah." Fox maintained that most students do not stay for Shabbos simply because they do not know what an "enjoyable experience [it is]." He cited the recent severe storm which forced many students to stay in YU for Shabbos, noting that most students were "pleasantly surprised by the quality of a Shabbos in yeshiva."

Shalom Lamm (YC '81), a member of the President's Circle, commented that if the desired effect of an enhanced Shabbos atmosphere is achieved, further such grants will follow. According to Lamm, the Board of the President's Circle did not want to allow a lack of funds to hinder the yeshiva spirit at YU.

Student Leaders Called To "Emergency" Meeting

Rosengarten Calls It A "Courtesy"

continued from page 1

difficult to schedule work around an SCW course.

In related news, the Office of the Dean of Students summoned student leaders to a December 31 "emergency" meeting with Rosengarten to discuss the possibility of a strike by 1199. The perceived urgency of the meeting alarmed students, and rumors quickly spread that an 1199 strike was imminent.

Rosengarten quickly quashed these rumors and asserted that the "...meeting was routine... It was a courtesy extended to students. The urgency was only because of reading week, finals, and vacations." Student leaders reported that the meeting merely reviewed the effects of the one day AECOM strike on October 5, and covered the possibility of hiring students in the areas of food

services and clerical positions in the event of a strike. Later in the day, the Office of the Dean of Students down-played the urgency of their initial request. Explaining the reason for the meeting, Bodner maintained that the University "has an obligation to students to be fully prepared for the worst case scenario. I have no reason to believe that a strike is imminent, nor has there even been a call [by the union] for a strike vote."

While Aracena would not rule out the possibility of a strike, he believes that "a deal can be made... It's up to management to dictate what the union's next move will be." However, some workers, frustrated by a perceived lack of progress in the negotiations, have privately demanded an immediate strike to "show YU that the union means business." Aracena is cognizant of these complaints, but maintains that "cooler heads always prevail."

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REFLECTIONS: Dov Chelst

Welcome to the Real World

Late at night, listening to neighborhood gunshots, an opinion presented in Michael Kellman's editorial stuck in my mind like a piece of broken glass: "we need to rush and...get out of college...and get going with real life." An argumentative voice inside my head wanted to tear it to shreds. How dare you tell me that I'm not in real life. Where the heck am I, you silly buffalo? Where should I be "getting on" to?

A popular myth abounds that the college student lives secluded from "real life." Yet, what about my life is unreal? If you mug me, do I not cough up my cash? If my girlfriend stomps on my feelings, do I not mope and cry? Am I not fed with the same slop, wounded by the same bullet, bedridden by the same virus, chilled by the same winter as a "real" person? Moreover, I even watch the same television!! I'm in tune.

Perhaps, you say, that "real life" implies an involvement in society. Well, look at me; I'm involved. College students rally for political and social causes all the time. Furthermore, we're involved in NCSY, Project Sages, and philanthropy societies that actively improve the world. How can a moose like you call me divorced from reality?

"Ah! But, in 'real life' you have more responsibility," retorts the real lifer. I ask, "what kind of responsibility?" Of course, he means fiscal responsibility. After college, I must get a job and support myself (and my family!?!). Yet, my education heightens my sense of other responsibilities. Would I rather rush through college, skip the rallies, speeches and demonstrations, and remain ignorant of my political power and responsibility? Would I zealously sacrifice a heightened understanding of my moral obligations to society, myself and G-d, before the elusive god of "real life?"

Maybe a parent-weary student rushes to "real life" as a haven of greater independence. For more than a decade, he has longed for release from the

financial umbilical cord. He has yearned to be on his own and to "make his own decisions." Once there, he can vegetate in his boxer shorts on a couch in front of the television without anyone nagging him to put on PBS. However, of what use is financial independence to an intellectual dependent? He will spend his money and time according to another's design, never having learned to think for himself: a wage-earning puppet manipulated by countless businessmen and politicians, a ventriloquist's dummy spouting another's words. However, I, the college Pinocchio, will clip more than just the financial rope, and skip solely to my own heart's music.

Nonetheless, despite all of my arguments, the buffalo's words ring true. "Real life" holds many things in store for a college student, such as disappointments. How can a depressing "C" on an exam, or even on a final, compare to a camel who ruminates on a wasted decade? What suicidal thoughts occupy his mind when he realizes that his pancake-and-maple-syrup dreams have turned into cold oatmeal and gristle? Worse still, were he to hobble dejectedly out of his second-story window, his wife wouldn't even get a 4.0!

Is that what a heedless college student rushes towards: a harsh, "real life" full of failures and disappointments? Do we all long to shiver in the biting cold of an isolated existence where seeing friends becomes a rare, rather than an everyday, experience? I, for one, will wait a while in my warm and cozy dormitory, where my death would give my roommate a 4.0, where I can rally for political causes, where I can laugh at all the moose marionettes out there, where I can still eat my pancakes and look out at the real world through a bullet-proof plexiglass window, calmly ignoring the gunfire down below.

RESPONSA

continued from page 3

Totalitarian Halacha

while not so to others. In light of this, the question I must ask is the following: does any individual or group in Y.U. have the right to remove other people's literature, advertisements, posters, etc. simply because it is his/their opinion they are inappropriate? I should certainly hope not.

Those in favor of the removal of the posters are quick to point out the potential issurim involved. Like the question of artistic nudity, that is not the issue; there was no clear-cut violation of any issur. The issue is a totalitarian decision, made by a select group of individuals, to remove a sign they decided was improper.

If this is to be allowed in Y.U. without any questioning or concern, I wonder what is to stop anyone from removing any given sign he deems improper or inappropriate. Just as some may feel the

picture in the "Dybbuk" poster is unbecoming of a yeshiva, others may feel the mussar of the "Middah of the Month" signs do not have a place in a university. I personally do not object to either, but as shown by the "Dybbuk" poster, what does not offend some may offend others.

The balance of halacha with democratic process can be challenging, particularly when the two seem to conflict. However, individuals must not be allowed to decide on their own what is in the best interests of the student body without any prior consultation of that group or its representatives. In our case of the "Dybbuk" poster, one cannot maintain that the halacha was definitely compromised; unfortunately, the same cannot be said of the democratic process.

Sid Singer
(Muss Hall)
Y.C. '95

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Students Call YU "Fortunate" for Retaining Goldwicht

continued from page 5

has an amazing *hashpaa* on girls." She also pointed out that Rav Goldwicht "only began teaching in Stern this past semester," and now SCW students will have a chance to learn from him for another year.

Reactions in his MYP shiur also ranged from elation at the prospect of another year in his shiur to disappointment at the lost opportunity. David Hatamoff, a student who has been in Rav Goldwicht's shiur for three

years, articulated his mixed emotions, "Now that it happened," he stated, "YU is fortunate to have him for another year." However, Hatamoff still admitted that he was saddened by the "politics" which prevented Rav Goldwicht's move to B.M.T. Nevertheless, he is confident that Rav Goldwicht would have no problem finding a position when he eventually leaves YU: "In the future, any other Yeshiva in Israel would be fortunate to get him," Hatamoff declared.

Upon discovering that Rav Goldwicht had decided to stay another year, the YU Admissions office immediately solicited his help to recruit in Israel over vacation. Previously, Admissions had decided to send Rav Hershel Schachter, Rav Mordechai Willig, and Rav Michael Rosensweig to Yeshivot in Israel to speak to students and encourage them to attend YU. When Rav Goldwicht's new plans came to light, they quickly obtained a ticket for him as well.

"A Good Guy in a Tough Business" Fishof Tells How to Get Ahead in the World of Sports

by Yisroel Holczer

Preaching that the best way to break into the sports business world is to "somehow hook a client," sports agent and producer David Fishof delivered a lecture on Tuesday evening, December 22, entitled, "How to Succeed in the Entertainment and Professional Sports Industries". Fishof, a 36 year old graduate of Breuer's Yeshiva and Baruch College, claimed that this approach is far better than attempting to enter the sports industry by taking graduate courses.

The agent, who represents superstars such as Phil Simms, Mark Bavaro, Lou Piniella, Dave Magadan, and Randy Meyers, addressed over 100 students who gathered on Belfer Hall's fifth floor. The speech followed a SSSB sponsored dinner for Fishof and YU's athletics teams' coaches and captains, as well as select student leaders.

SSSB Senior Effy Zinkin, who has worked as an intern for David Fishof Productions for the past nine months, introduced Fishof as "the only Orthodox Jew at this level of sports." Fishof was then introduced by CBS's Emmy-winning ex-weatherman "Mr. G," who plugged Fishof's book, "Putting it on the Line", and remarked that Fishof is "a good guy in a tough business."

Fishof insisted that an agent should begin by representing a minor league baseball player. He conceded that even in the unlikely event that the player becomes a star, the agent will not make significant money until the player has completed approximately four years in the majors. The winner, maintained Fishof, is the player with the best contract -- not the best statistics -- and the agent's sole agenda is to get the highest paying contract for his players.

Fishof described four facets of negotiating a contract: information on the player and his statistics; the needs of the ball-clubs involved; determining figures for arbitration; and knowing how to handle pressure and intimidate owners. The media is then often utilized in contract negotiations through story leaks and information planting. Another way agents help their players, said Fishof, is by encouraging them to do antics such as jumping into the stands and waving towels in front of the home crowd. Fishof maintained that such behavior will increase a player's "point of identity" with the public, and will help him secure more endorsements and commercials.

Fishof, who began his career in the sports business by booking players for appearances in camps throughout the Catskill Mountains, is no more traditional than the players he represents. He once made a deal by throwing darts, and secured a contract for \$50,000 more than the player he was representing had asked for. Perhaps his best story was about a team that attempted to reach him at his residence on Shabbos to discuss a free agent's contract. The phone rang off the hook all of Friday night and straight through Shabbos. Apparently, the team thought that Fishof was refusing to answer the phone because he was disgusted with their offer. Subsequently, when he picked up the phone Saturday night, the team was so relieved that they agreed to pay the salary Fishof was asking for.

During the two hour talk, Fishof told several amazing and humorous stories, showed a video, and fielded questions from the audience. SSSB Assistant Dean Ira Jaskoll enjoyed Fishof's presentation, and stated, "it's wonderful that he's religious and able to do this."

Macs Salvage Win in Final Seconds

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enabled the Maccabees to take a 34-25 lead into the locker room. Ben Ami had a great half both defensively and offensively, going 4 for 4 from the field.

The Macs, hoping to keep the crowd in the game, opened the second half with their pesky trap on defense; however, the game once again settled into a lull as they were unable to take full control of it. The game (that at times seemed itself to last eight days) produced some drama in the final minutes. St. Joseph's second three pointer of the night closed the gap to 50-48 with 4 minutes left. After the teams traded baskets and free throws, the Macs clung to a three

point lead with 1:50 to go. When Daniel Aaron missed a layup, and St. Joseph's hit one of two from the line, the lead again was only two. A Ben Ami drive made it 56-52 with time winding down. A frantic St. Joseph team rushed up court and scored to again cut the lead to two with only 0:07 showing on the clock. The Macs were able to inbound the ball despite heavy pressure, and the visitors were forced to foul Donny Furst. Furst calmly sank both ends of a one and one to seal the victory 58-54. Daniel Aaron led all scorers with 28 points, while Erez Ben Ami chipped in 12. It was certainly no "Nes Gadol," but with the win the Macs improved to 6 and 3.

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We hope you will enjoy this special final's week edition of the Commentator. Have a good vacation.

We urge you to send us your letters and op-eds. Just drop them in our Furst Hall mailbox, located to the left of the elevators. Anonymous letters will not be printed.

Superhoops Fever Hits YU

by David Wagner

With the fall semester over, one of the most anticipated competitions held at YU is just beginning. The Schick Superhoops 3 on 3 competition is an exciting, three-tiered event that takes intramural basketball to its highest level. More than 250,000 students at 800 campuses across the country participate in the tournament, which is in its ninth year.

At YU, it has brought together some of the schools most talented basketball players. A squad which is considered one of the frontrunners is "The Chop", with Yoav Citron, Burton Katz, Brent "Tweed" Levinson, and Jeremy Bandler (who was on last year's winning team). Other top contenders also have interesting names, such as: "The Runaway Train", "Matt Klein's Team", "Good Guys", "Rock the House", and "Horo's Team". They are all looking to take the campus crown and advance to the city-wide, regional finals at Columbia University. With the first round of play almost completed, the winner will not be determined until the Spring semester.

The following is a recap of the initial round.

"Matt Klein's Team" (70) over "Not Exactly the Macs." (20)

In this opening match, strong defense and the incredible scoring power of Klein's team simply dominated from the outset.

"Runaway Train" (47) defeats "The Frenchies." (19)

Here we were able to see just how good the "train" really is. Avi Savitsky, Noam Cohen, Sam Maryles, and Moshe Benaroch were able to combat the physical play of "the Frenchies" and

controlled every facet of the game. Many experts see this team as a strong candidate to go all the way.

"Good Guys" (48) squeak past "Run and Gun." (47)

In perhaps one of the best 3on3 games played in Yeshiva history, the "Good Guys": Avi Roth, Rannan Well, Don Ghermazian, and Avraham Cohen, found themselves behind early and forced to play catch up. Through strong defense in the second half, the "Guys" let their talent emerge, and were victorious thanks to an incredible finish. Stanley Watson, the referee and general basketball maven, said that it was one of the most exciting half court games that he could remember.

Other teams that were successful and able to advance to the next round include: "Shaz", "Horo's Team", "Earwax", "DD's Team", "Attitude", and "Who Cares". One other game of note took place between the favored "Chop" and the "Bochrim". The game was a physical one from the outset, and was marred by continuous arguing between the players and referees. At one point, the game got so out of hand that captains Brent Levinson and Kalman Topp, with consent from the officials, decided to replay the game some time in the Spring. Topp afterwards remarked, "This one was physical and I pity anyone who had to ref this game."

The first few games have proven to be extremely entertaining and all participants are looking forward to their continuation in the Spring. At the conclusion of the YU tournament, the winning team competes at one of 22 Schick Super Hoops Regional Tournaments against up to 50 other schools. The top male and female team from each regional tournament are then able to fulfill their dreams and advance to the Schick Super Hoops Divisional Championships in an NBA arena.

The winners receive their prizes at a halftime ceremony. Prizes include Super Hoop plaques, Reebok sneakers, and NBA licensed outfits. In addition, all participants in the challenge are entered in a random drawing to win a fantasy game against a team of NBA legends. Good luck to all those participating.

Bulls Emerge Victorious After Tightly-Fought Playoffs

by Daniel Gelbtuch

Bulls: 52 Heat: 48 (OT)

The Bulls, despite the loss of star swingman Rock Harow, were able to eke out a victory in overtime over the shorthanded Heat. The Heat, who missed both Burton Katz and shooting star Sam Maryles, were able to hang on behind the sharpshooting of Avi Gable (18) and Noam Cohen (14). However, Shore's Bulls, powered by Chaim Schiff's 17 points prevailed in the overtime period by outscoring the weary Heat 8-4 to advance to the semifinal round.

Celtics: 50 Jazz: 44 (OT)

The second game of Monday night's playoff doubleheader featured yet another exciting overtime finale. The Celtics, led by the unstoppable Brian Kardon (16) and brute forward Ofer Naor (13) were able to counter the Jazz's balanced scoring attack. The Jazz, down 40-38, sent the game into overtime when Ari Silbiger (13) put in an offensive rebound with two seconds to go in regulation. However, the key to the Celtics' victory was Brian Kardon's stellar defense on Jazz star Neil Bromberg, as Kardon held him to only one point in the overtime, and nine overall.

Bulls: 52 Suns: 39

The first game of Tuesday night's semifinal doubleheader featured a lopsided Bulls victory over the Suns. The Bulls opened a 24-15 halftime lead over the Suns behind the inside dominance of Yoav Citron (19) and the

superb all-around leadership of Chaim Schiff (11). Meanwhile, the Bulls' defense was able to contain Matthew Klein, the league's top scorer, and hold him to a season low of nine points. Ilan Kranz, in a valiant effort, led the suns with 16 points.

Sonics: 53 Celtics: 44

The Sonics, sparked by the all-out hustle of supersub Brian Galbut (9) and the shooting of Avi Roth (20) were able to defeat the Celtics, a team that had beaten them twice during the regular season. Jason Horowitz (16) and Brian Kardon (11) were unable to carry the Celtics to victory due primarily to the swarming Sonic defense, led by Seth Cohen, Jeremy Bandler, and Zalman Witkin.

Bulls: 50 Sonics: 47

The Championship game provided an exciting match-up that went down to the wire—with Johnny "Repeat" Shore's Bulls taking the crown. The Bulls, despite the continued absence of Rock Harow, were able to come from behind and defeat the Sonics.

The Sonics jumped out to an early first half lead powered by the run and gun shooting of Avi Roth and Jeremy Bandler, who combined for 19 points in the first half. However, Chaim Schiff's (19) superb shooting was able to cut the Sonic lead to one at the half.

In the second half, the Roth-Bandler tandem was effectively silenced, and the Bulls, behind two clutch treys by Shore, coupled with the solid play of Citron (14) and Schiff, were able to win the game and take home the championship.

Anyone interested in writing Sports for *The Commentator* should please contact us. New positions are opening up for this semester.

Wrestling Macs Rely on All-Around Strengths, not Stars

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complement his moves, he will surprise a lot of people."

Michael "Ripper" Ripstein (167 lbs.): Record 0-3. Having slimmed down through an off-season training program, which included several hours of swimming daily, Ripper was expected to have a great season. Yet, other commitments have forced him to miss most practices and he has even considered ending his wrestling career at some points this season. However, since winning the "wrestle-off" for his weight class, he has rejoined the program. Still, the missed practices may eventually catch up with him.

Matt Klein (167 lbs.): Record 0-1. As a black belt in the martial arts, Klein has an excellent sense of balance and position. Even from a standing position, he is a threat to throw his opponents using a variety of judo maneuvers. Yet, down on the mat, Klein seems to have trouble. If he can perfect a few moves from the

top and bottom positions, Klein will prove to be a truly formidable wrestler.

Sol Genet (177 lbs.): Record 0-4. This rookie's win-loss record is deceptive. As the only newcomer to break into the starting lineup, Genet has shown signs of improvement with each match. His conditioning is significantly better than it was at the beginning of the season and he is adding many moves to his expanding arsenal. Nobody seems particularly concerned about the winless streak and according to Coach Switzer, "Genet does not miss practice and works hard. He realizes he has a lot to learn and is willing to learn it. One day he will go out [to wrestle] and it will all click for him. He can be unstoppable." Predicts Zinkin: "You may be looking at the Mac captain of '95."

Ari Silverman (177 lbs.): Record 0-1. An early admissions freshman with high school wrestling experience, Silverman is redshirting this season. Having come up through the ranks of MTA, he is familiar with the Macs wrestling style.

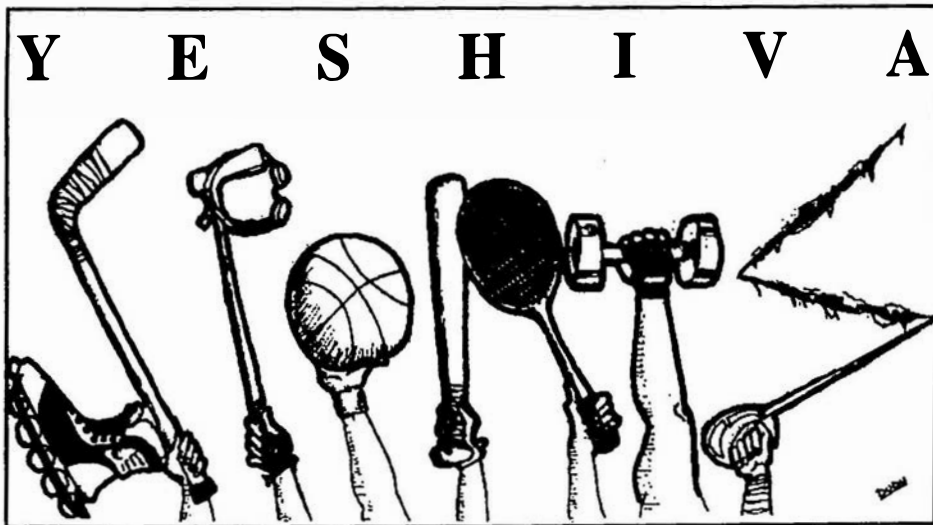
He has potential but will need to add bulk before he can truly be competitive at the college level.

Sol Bitton (190 lbs.): Record 2-3. Having returned to the team after spending a year abroad in Israel, Bitton seems to lack a killer instinct. Compounding the problem is the quality of opponents which he has faced. This season, the 190lb. weight class has been exceptionally deep and Bitton is paying the price. The beneficiary of two forfeits, his three losses have come via pins. The general consensus on the team is that with a little more fine tuning and work, Bitton can still turn his season around.

Teddy Pearlman (Hwt.): Record 2-2. Exceptionally quick for a heavyweight, Pearlman usually gets the first take down over consistently heavier opponents using his quickness to more than compensate for his lack of size. According to an old wrestling adage, "Wrestling is 10% skill and 90% will" and Pearlman has a wealth of both.

However, Pearlman may be lacking stamina. If he can increase his staying power to the point where he ends a match at the pace he starts, he will rarely lose.

As a team, the wrestling Macs no longer have any of the superstars of past years' teams (such as Andy Garfunkel, David Edelcreek, and Brian Ostrow). However, they are more solid top to bottom than any other Mac squad in recent memory. The middle weight classes are packed with veterans and team leaders who can be depended on to produce. The upper and lower weight classes are slightly weaker, but are nonetheless capable of winning any given match. This favorable combination puts them in an excellent position to be victorious at any meet. After intersession, we anticipate an entertaining, exciting, and victorious second half of the season.



Y E S H I V A Rookies Shine in Fencing Loss to Drew Univ.

by Nossional Kleinfeldt

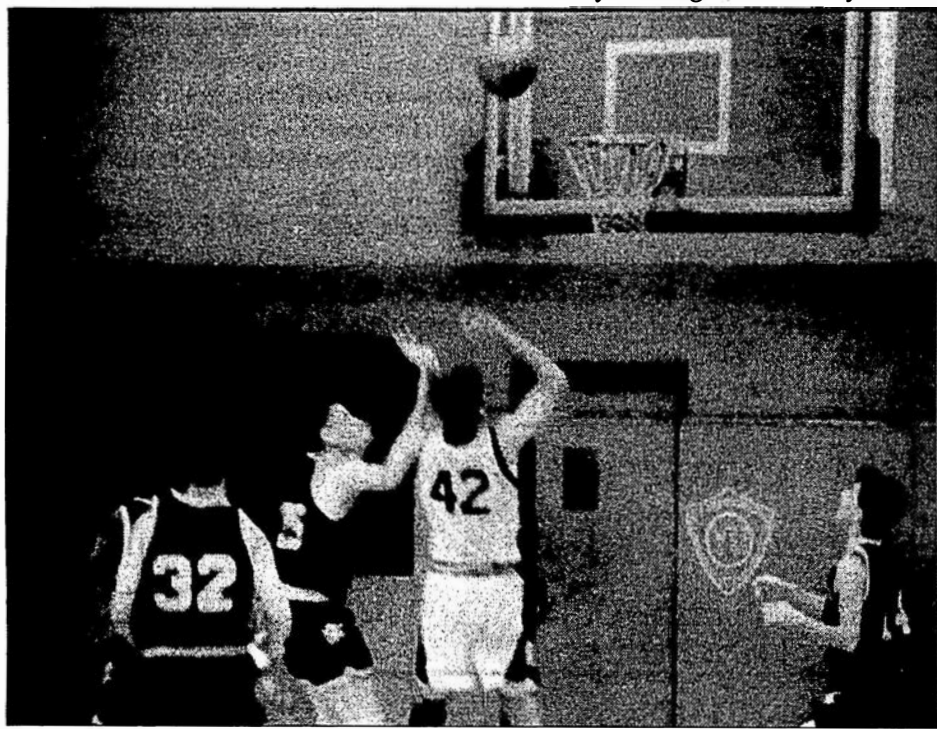
In a hard fought meet, YU's fencing team was trounced 20-7 by Drew University on December 8. The defeat at home, which drew approximately 20 vocal fans, was the Taubermen's second of the year.

After lackluster performances against Hunter, both the foil and the sabres squads redeemed themselves with respectable showings against Drew. The two teams each finished with 3-6 records, as foil rookie Shaun Azari scored his first career victory. Quick beats and fleshes enabled

Captain Adam Balkany to contribute the other two foil victories. The night, however, belonged to rookie sabreman Avi Greenbaum, who put in a strong 2-1 showing thanks to better use of the strip and swift parries. Veteran Elliot Cohen also contributed one victory.

Although the epee squad shone against Hunter, providing six of Yeshiva's victories, it was only able to muster one win against Drew. Claiming the lone victory was squad leader Adam Anhang, who overcame a 4-3 deficit to defeat 6'7" senior James Madison, 5-4. The defeat spoiled Madison's perfect record, as he had entered the YU meet with a record of 21-0.

The fencing season gets underway in earnest next semester as the Taubermen compete in a tri-meet against Bard and New Jersey Tech on February 9, and take on Brooklyn College on February 11.



Macs Center Daniel Aaron going up for a rebound against Steven's Tech

Unmiraculous Macs Overcome Well Coached St. Josephs

by Michael Glass

It an effort which was certainly not "miraculous," the Yeshiva Maccabees prevailed over St. Josephs, 58-54 on December 23rd -- the fifth night of Chanuka. In a reversal of the familiar holiday theme, these Maccabees were the bigger of the two factions, and were also the favorites. The 5-3 Macs were coming off a road win at New York Poly-Tech and expected a strong showing in front of their partisan crowd on the festive occasion. Perhaps the usually raucous Macs fans, as well as some team members, had celebrated with too much Antiochus cabbage soup, the previous night's cafeteria special. The game got off to a rather lifeless start, and the fans remained quiet. The Macs

were able to employ an effective trapping defense, creating many turnovers which led to fast break points. Despite their lack of height, the well coached St Joseph's hung tough with the Macs, without scoring any points from the outside. The taller Macs failed to dominate the inside as they should have, and allowed the "St. Josephs" to keep it close. The MSAC was virtually silent throughout the tedious first 15 minutes, as there was no appearance from "encino man," and "We want Stepner" was the loudest chant. The last 3 minutes of the first half finally gave the faithful something to cheer about as the Macs' defense stepped up the pressure, and Erez Ben Ami's hustling play helped create some easy baskets. The spurt

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Wrestlers Reevaluated after One Semester

by Michael Glass

The wrestling Macs have reached the midpoint of their season. The team record stands at 2-2, with both losses coming against Division II caliber teams. The next scheduled match is not until February, but the team's workouts and drills continue unremittingly. Accordingly, *The Commentator* has taken this respite to review the individual efforts of the team members. A wrestler's individual evaluation includes all matches, exhibitions, and tournaments.

Michael "Hank" Aberman (118 lbs.): Record 2-1. Before the season commenced, Aberman sustained a knee injury. At first, the team was able to cover up the injury by having Aberman accept two forfeits. However, when he was finally forced to test the knee, Aberman was outpointed by his opponent and reinjured the knee. A frustrated Aberman complained, "It's unfair not being able to wrestle at full strength for an entire season." With proper rehabilitation, Aberman, who is stronger than most in his weight class, will surely make a successful return to the ring.

(126 lbs.) This slot is a problematic area for the Macs. Without anyone to fill this position, they have been forced to forfeit in every match this year. Co-Captain Barry Bessler, hoping that some new recruits will register for next semester, claimed, "Every semester we review all the basics. Anyone new would not be lost."

Effy Zinkin (134 lbs.): Record 5-2. Co-Captain Zinkin has amassed more victories than any other Mac as he has wrestled his way to several tough victories with unparalleled determination. Ironically, while he is known for detesting matches that go the distance, all of Zinkin's meets have gone the full seven minutes. According to Coach Ellman, "This season, it has all come together for Effy. He has become an extremely smart wrestler. He has cut down on any unnecessary movements and therefore can wrestle longer and more effectively." Zinkin was also the only YU wrestler to win a Gold medal at the South Queens Club Wrestling Tournament. He accomplished this feat once before, in 1990.

Barry Bessler (142 lbs.): Record 4-0. Co-Captain Bessler is the sole undefeated wrestler on the team this season. He has excellent "mat presence" and tends to come out on top in (what appears to the rest of us as) roll-arounds. He has

consistently outclassed his opponents with technically perfect moves. He attributes his skills to the time he has spent teaching techniques to the new wrestlers, on both the college and high school teams. "When I first started out, the veterans took me under their wings," explained Bessler. "Now that I am in a position to help, I am extending that same courtesy."

Daniel Sentell (142 lbs.): Record 1-3. Sentell is one of the few rookies to have survived the mental and physical rigors of wrestling. He has taken his lumps, as any rookie will, yet he has come back strong time and time again. He seized his first career victory in an exhibition match against St. John's and continues to show devotion to the sport. He should become one of this team's future leaders.

Seth Gerszberg (150 lbs.): Record 3-1. Unquestionably the Macs most entertaining wrestler, Gerszberg seems to feed off of the crowds' reaction. His first three matches featured his patented "lift and slam." Even more impressive are the three pins that accompanied each slam. Gerszberg is an experienced veteran of six years; yet, he rarely relies on his skills because brute force and adrenaline generally overwhelm his opponents. He just seems to go out and "have fun."

Josh Bernheim (158 lbs.): Record 2-1. In complete contrast to Gerszberg, Bernheim - who also possesses a disproportionate amount of strength in relation to his opponents - relies almost completely on finesse. He is possibly the only member of the team who possesses the ability to "chain-wrestle." Chain-wrestling is a term used to describe a ceaseless fluidity of motion where every move is carefully done to set up the next. However, Bernheim injured his shoulder while grappling with an opponent from Farmingdale and was unable to wrestle against Upsala. If the injury prevents him from returning for the second half of the season, the team will be in dire straits. One of the team's most consistent wrestlers, Bernheim is an integral part of its core and has been sorely missed.

Perry Landesberg (158 lbs.): Record 0-2. Landesberg is having a tough rookie season and has been pinned before the start of the third period in both of his matches. While obviously strong, Landesberg must improve his techniques and learn to fight while on his back. Bessler predicts, "As soon as Landesberg learns how to let his power

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