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Israeli Prime Minister Set To Visit YU in March

by Michael Eisenberg

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin is tentatively scheduled to address the entire student body on Thursday March 18, during the New York leg of his U.S. trip. The public address, provisionally slated for 11:00 AM in Lamport Auditorium, will be followed by a 12:15 PM luncheon with members of the Board of Trustees and possibly with the student leadership. According to sources in the Office of Development, only members of the Board and VIP's will be at the luncheon.

Senior Vice President Rabbi Dr. Israel Miller, himself a veteran of American-Israeli politics, stressed that the appearance is not firm. "He's had dates changed in the past because the President [of the United States] could not see him at certain times." Rabbi Miller

was informed of the Rabin address on Monday morning and was asked to help arrange a student assembly with the Israeli Prime Minister. The Office of Development is proceeding as if the visit is firm.

Dean of Students Efreim Nulman recalled the visit by former Soviet refugee Natan Scharansky several years ago, and stated, "It's tentative, but if students are able to hear him it's fantastic, and terrific for the students and the spirit of the University." "And," Nulman continued, "it conveys to the Israeli government that we support them."

Chief of Security Don Sommers said that he has not had a meeting about security arrangements yet. He added, "There will be State Department officials and other officials here. We'll take care of whatever arises. It's no problem; we have had other big names here in the past."



Dean Michael Shmidman,
Chairman of new committee

New Committee Formed to Evaluate Israel Program

by Sender Cohen

As part of its attempt to deal with declining enrollment at Yeshiva College, the report issued by the Task Force on Admissions, which was created by President Norman Lamm, recommended an evaluation of certain aspects of the Joint Israel Program (JIP), in order to determine which, if any, can be improved upon.

The JIP, which was originally created by Dr. Miller, is utilized by the University to coordinate between the undergraduate colleges and the yeshivot in Israel, and to grant credit for study in Israel. In recent years, there has been a tremendous increase in the number of students participating in the Program and attending Israeli yeshivot in general. In the

current academic year, there are 260 men and 190 women enrolled in the JIP. Dr. Miller pointed out that the University uses the JIP and the Israel office to encourage students coming back to America to return to YU, because "we offer them continuity and some of the ambience they have in Eretz Yisrael."

Since the creation of the JIP, Yeshiva University has maintained a committee chaired by Dr. Miller, which oversees the Israel operations. This Israel Committee evaluates the JIP, removes and adds schools to the program, works on recruitment methods in Israel, and determines areas of concern for the Israel office. Rabbi George Finklestein, a member of the committee and principal of Yeshiva University High School for Boys (MTA), noted that "the committee, over the years has done a great deal of very important work on behalf of YU, and YU enjoys a very warm and cooperative relationship with yeshivot on the Program. . . These yeshivot work to make their American students understand the importance of continuing at Yeshiva University."

Acting on its own recommendation, the Task Force on Admissions has created a new committee, chaired by JSS Dean Michael Shmidman, to evaluate the JIP and the Israel office, and specifically, to determine what

can be done to improve recruitment of students learning in Israel.

Some confusion existed among members of the original Israel Committee as to why exactly a second committee was formed, and more than one member speculated that it was done as an attempt to circumvent the first. However, Dean Shmidman emphasized that in no way is his committee intended to encroach on the province of the Israel committee, nor will it evaluate the yeshivot. Rather, it is intended to make suggestions in areas such as the utilization of alumni in Israel for recruitment, and determination of staffing and support for the Israel office. Due to his experience in personnel matters, Director of Supporting Services Jeffrey Rosengarten was placed on the second committee. Rosengarten stated that he was placed on the second committee "not to conduct an evaluation, but to help establish the tools for an evaluation."

Some Israel committee members questioned the omission of Mashgiach Ruchani Rabbi Yosef Blau from the original list of members of the second committee, as he has extensive knowledge of, and relationships with, the yeshivot. Yet, Shmidman emphasized that it was an oversight, and as soon as he realized the mistake, he asked Rabbi Blau to join the committee. Dean Shmidman also said that the charge of his committee is to recommend changes to the President, who may or may not ask the Israel committee to implement them.

Rabbi Miller is not serving on the second committee, but both he and Dean Shmidman emphasized that Shmidman had offered him a seat on it. Miller declined, but offered his assistance if it should be needed.

-with contributing research by Michael Eisenberg

University Deficit Prompts Administration Plan to Raise Tuition

by Adam J. Anhang

With yet another multi-million dollar budget deficit looming in 1993, YU will increase YC and SCW tuition next year to bridge the gap.

YU administrators were reluctant to speculate as to the exact percentage increase in tuition. Explaining that "that kind of thinking [about tuition] has just begun," YU Director of Finance Bernard Pittinsky would only state that he "sees an increase in tuition for next year, as we can't reduce costs to completely obviate an increase in tuition." YU Director of Project Planning Aryeh Furst believes, however, that based on a three-year trend of declining tuition increases (tuition increased 10% three years ago, 8.6% two years ago, and 6.2% last year), he "tends to believe that the tuition increase next year will be less than it was this year."

"Creative Approaches"

In an internal memo authored by Vice President for Financial Affairs Sheldon Socol, staff who have input into the tuition setting process were encouraged to think of ways to

raise tuition. Listed in the memo were several examples of these "creative approaches," including higher tuitions for two and three year students (as opposed to four year students), and discounts for children of alumni. Also listed was the possibility of a one-time increase for Fall 1993's incoming students, coupled with a tuition freeze for those students until they graduate.

If implemented, some of these examples might actually be illegal under federal discrimination laws. Pittinsky is well aware of this problem, and stressed that "the memo instructed people involved in the tuition setting process to think creatively. . . The memo just contained some examples to encourage people to think in different ways. The ideas did not pass a legal review in any way. . . We've got to be careful about discriminatory practices that might knock us out of the box for federal aid."

While Furst stated that "we're just beginning to give serious thought to any of these ideas," he did speculate that a pre-payment package might be the most viable option. Under

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Five Departments Looking for Full-Time Faculty

by Michael Eisenberg

Yeshiva College has commenced a search for five new full-time faculty members. The Academic Deans, members of the faculty, and students from the respective departments, are slated to interview a number of candidates. And according to Dean Norman Rosenfeld, he has been deluged by curriculum vitae from professors, eager to fill the positions in the Economics, Math, Philosophy, Political Science, and Psychology Departments.

Last Friday, Professor Bartkey from Purdue University interviewed for the position in American Studies soon to be vacated by Dr. Blanche Blank, who is retiring at the end of the year. Bartkey delivered an hour-long lecture about the changing role of the Chief Executive. According to JSSC President Ben Menasha, one of six students and a handful

of faculty and administrators who attended the lecture, "Personally, I found him to be rather cold and aloof, and although he was knowledgeable about the field, he was unable to bring across his persona and excite the audience."

Daniel Baron, a Political Science major who interviewed Bartkey, said, "I'm honored to be on the committee and I am glad that the University is taking steps to involve students in the process of selecting new professors, because, after all, the students are the ones most affected by the decision." Baron was not notified about the Friday interview and only found out incidentally during one of his classes. Assistant to the Dean David Rosenberg maintained that, according to his understanding, Baron was supposed to be notified by Dean Rosenfeld, and that there had apparently been a mixup.

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Going The Extra Mile

Universities are defined and characterized by their professors. This constituency facilitates and inspires the spirit of academics and collegiality which promotes higher learning, individual growth, and development.

While YU boasts many committed and qualified faculty members, there are a handful of professors who go well beyond the proverbial extra mile, stimulating their students and completing their education both in and out of the classroom. They pique their students' intellectual creativity and curiosity in all areas of learning, not merely in their given subject matters. Devoting countless hours to extra-curricular activities such as the Senate, meetings with students after class, and devising innovative and interesting projects, they aid the University and its students immeasurably. Additionally, the faculty members who take the time to write scores of personal recommendations enhance the reputation of the school and our students.

As the Administration continues its search for five new full-time professors, we hope that they will recognize that excellence is not only defined by scholarship and classroom performance. Rather, those attributes combined with a sincere devotion to students and the will to participate in their charges' development outside the classroom separate the good from the truly distinguished.

Astonishing Lack of Attendance

Students at almost any university cherish the opportunity to hear from the university's president or provost. YU students are no different, especially given the fact that President Lamm is also the Rosh Yeshiva.

Therefore, we cannot understand why only 11 students signed up for the February 13 SOY, IBC, JSS shabbaton featuring Rabbis Lamm, Goldwicht and Schachter. Much of the blame falls on the schedulers, Rabbi Cheifetz and the Student Councils, for not taking into account a very large NCSY regional convention, a Sha'alvim reunion, and an AIPAC shabbaton at SCW, which all took place the same weekend. However, that does not adequately excuse the poor registration for the shabbaton. For one reason or another, matters have reached a point where students no longer make the effort to hear President Lamm speak, a phenomenon we cannot condone or comprehend. We only hope that the scheduling and the unfortunate situation will both improve.

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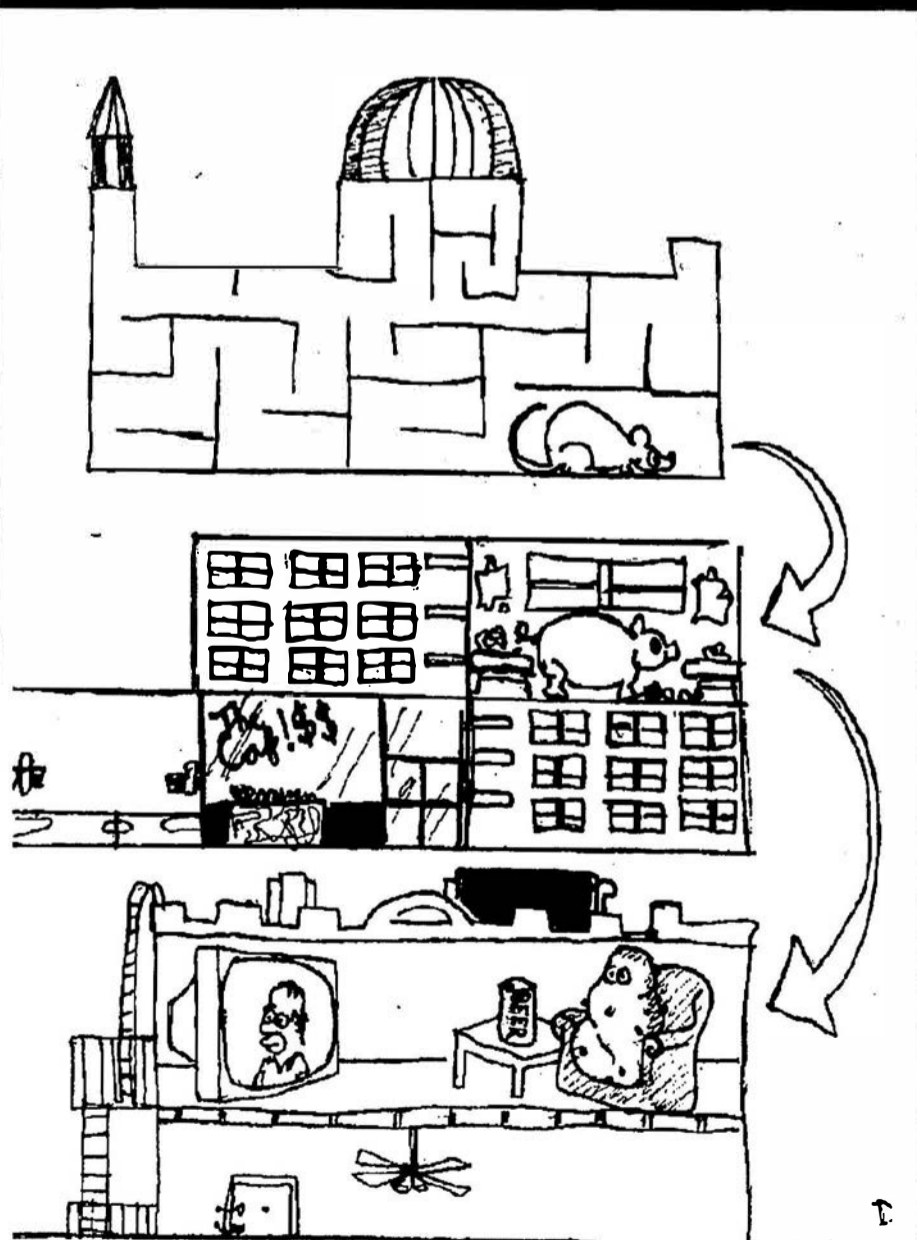
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RESPONSA

P I C T O R I A L



Dudy

The evolution of housing at YU

Jewish Beliefs are not Monolithic

Essentially, each individual has CHOICES. Once another individual expresses an opinion, the obvious course of a reasonable person is to respectfully listen to and consider it. If I decide that the other argument is more compelling and convincing than my own, it is logical that I would change my opinion. Alternately, we can RESPECTFULLY agree to disagree, or, some form of COMPROMISE can be reached.

To the Editor,

The purpose of this letter is to react to a widespread close-minded attitude and mindset. It is not my intention to attack a specific person or a specific issue. It is my carefully considered opinion that we should all take one step back to enable us to take a careful look at events that have recently transpired, and attitudes that are prevalent in our university. For just one moment, let's put our passion aside and take a careful look at the process by which important issues are zealously debated. There should be no problem with people voicing their opinions and demonstrating the logic behind them. However, the important element that gets lost in the process is the need to RESPECT and have CONSIDERATION for others.

It is important that a forum, in this case *The Commentator*, exist for people to express themselves. Everyone is entitled to an opinion. Whether I agree or disagree with your opinion is irrelevant; I respect that you have that opinion. However, were I to deny you your opinion, I could be labeled as intellectually dishonest. That is not to say that were I to listen to you and not agree with your opinion that I could also be labeled as intellectually dishonest. NO! I simply have a different opinion, one which is just as deserving of respect and consideration as is yours.

Do not tell me that Jewish beliefs are monolithic; that your way is the only way to lead my life as a Torah Jew. Do not tell me that your opinion is the only opinion! In the same manner that you feel comfortable with what you do, I feel comfortable with what I do. I do not try to force my ideas upon you nor should you want to force your ideas upon me.

There are many important issues which concern all of us. It is important that we discuss them. It is important that we are open to change, and listen to and debate these issues. However, in the process, let's refrain from *ad hominem* attacks. If you need to do this in order to prove your point, it will assuredly detract from your main point. It will alienate the very people toward whom you profess your concerns. There is a Gemarah which says, "*Kishem She'ain partzufei hem shel anashim domot, kach ain dayotai hem shel anashim domot.*"

On this the Vilna Gaon says, "Just like one cannot say your face is different than mine, therefore it is not a face," so too, one cannot say your opinion is different from mine and therefore not an opinion! Let your argument stand for itself, for indeed that is its purpose.

Carey Schreiber
YC '93

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Op Ed: Ruby Spolter

This Essay Was Not Approved by The Dean

A friend of mine once told me that every student at Y.U. graduates either by "beating the system," or having been "beaten by it." This depressing view of our institution is prevalent throughout the campus. It is incumbent upon us to determine why. At the end of last semester, the population of Yeshiva College participated in the bi-annual event commonly known as "Registration." In "Registration," hordes of students find themselves closed out of any number of courses due to unrealistic course scheduling. These students, desiring to take those closed courses, make a beeline to the one person who can help: The Dean. Each student must, and often does, find some compelling reason why he has to be in a course, drop a course, or fulfill a requirement with the summer credits he took at his local Community College for Morons. Why does this pathetic parade in and out of The Dean's office occur? Because the Dean and Associate Dean encourage it.

Currently, there are a number of actions that must have the approval of one of the Deans before they can take place. We've all had to get the Deans' permission for something or other during our stay here at Y.U. But what about some of the more obscure actions that require the Deans' approval? For example, do you want to quit school? Well, the Dean had better approve it or you're stuck in Y.U., like it or not. Pretty soon, instead of asking for I.D.'s, security will ask for "permission from the Dean" before letting a student enter a building.

Think I'm kidding? Well, here's a short list of forms that I found, which require the signature of a Dean:

1. Request for Waiver of Prerequisite
2. Leave of Absence for Undergraduate Students
3. Application for Directed Study
4. Yeshiva University Request form
5. Application for Honorable Dismissal
6. Request For Change of School of Jewish Studies
7. Undergraduate Request For Outside Courses
8. Application for Independent Study
9. Application for Permission to Receive a Tentative Grade
10. Thesis Proposal By Applicant for Summa Cum Laude.
11. Undergraduate Request for Permission to Take a Graduate Course
12. Application for Honors Work
13. Application for Joint Bachelors/ Masters Program

In addition, let's not forget the ever-popular:

14. Permission to enter a closed course
15. Permission to enter a course after the deadline (everyone always

has a good reason)

16. Permission to drop a course without a "W" after the deadline

Obviously, there are glaring problems with the current system. Often, the Deans are bombarded with ridiculous requests, making them more prone to refuse students who come with serious, and legitimate problems. Additionally, if you know one of the Deans, your chances of approval increase dramatically. If a Dean is away or sick, all registration problems remain unresolved until he returns. This is an inequitable and unnecessary burden placed on students. Finally, the Deans are really busy men. Their job should be to create school scheduling, interview prospective teachers and maintain the overall operation of Yeshiva College. Instead, they spend much of their time listening to student requests which they shouldn't be dealing with, and which only make the other, more important, aspects of their job more difficult. The Office of the Dean has been reduced to that of The Office of Registration Approval. Clearly, things have to change.

If you want students to stop coming to the office begging to be let into courses there must be some realistic scheduling. Having far too few Bible courses which perennially close on the second day of registration benefits no one. Also, the number of requests which must have the Dean's signature is ridiculous. Honors work or outside classes should be approved by the head of a department, who better know the requirements of specific courses, without consultation from the Deans. Additionally, the Assistant to the Dean must have the ability to approve at least simple forms, such as taking graduate courses for undergraduate credit, and take some work from overburdened deans. Finally, to prevent students from procrastinating until the last day before a deadline, students with legitimate requests should be required to submit their forms in writing. This would give the Deans the opportunity to review every case impartially and decide whether it warrants his approval. For students who question the Dean's decision, a specific time could then be designated for the students to make an appointment to talk to the Dean in person.

While these changes certainly won't solve every problem, a more efficient process will reduce registration problems both for the students and the Deans immensely. Then, perhaps students will make an effort to obtain an education the old fashioned way, rather than trying to "beat the system" by scamming one at the Dean's Office.

From The Editor's Desk



THE WALLS ARE CLOSING IN

"Words cannot sufficiently express our dismay, disgust and disappointment to those responsible for this scandalous, sinful and shameful treason before Hashem Yisborach." Yated Ne'eman 10/30/92, p. 32

What happened? Did a Jew give over another Jew to the authorities? Was somebody killed? Did somebody commit a public chillul Hashem? Hardly.

This caustic condemnation excoriated the Queens Women of Satmer for inviting YU President Dr. Norman Lamm to speak at their Bikur Cholim Tea Party. The advertisement, placed in Yated Ne'eman by the Administration of Congregation Yetev Lev of Satmer, implores followers, in the name of the Satmerer Rebbe, "not to join hands, Heaven forbid, with the wicked and destructive forces in Judaism, and not to support in any manner such atrocious abominations and activities on behalf of the Satmerer community, particularly for the tea party, at which the prominent Zionist Rabbi and Mizrahi leader was the guest speaker."

Atrocious and abominable are words I associate with idol worship and murder, not with Zionism and the Mizrahi, and least of all, with Zionism, YU, and the President who represents us to the world. *A hit from the Right.*

While still reeling from this and other vituperative attacks from the Right, the walls are closing in from the Left. We are being swallowed up by two constituencies, each of which is terribly dangerous to the continuation of orthodoxy and our derech hachaim. I refer of course to Conservative, Reform and Reconstructionist brands of Judaism (Cultural Jews) on the one hand, and gentiles on the other.

In our convenience-conscious American society, children of Orthodox parents are turning away from the perceived strictures of orthodoxy, to the more convenient cultural associations of Conservative and Reform Judaism. The allure of the great American society is too great for many "modern Jews" to withstand. Orthodoxy sometimes precludes activities and associations enjoyed by non-observant members of a similar socio-economic clique.

While in the 1920's and 1930's YU and Centrist Orthodoxy (or its predecessor) lost their best and brightest to the Jewish Theological Seminary, we are now losing many non-ideological, convenience oriented Orthodox Jews to an amorphous abyss which lies somewhere between professed orthodoxy and unaffiliated. In a book of essays edited by Rabbi Bulka, and entitled *Modern Orthodoxy*, one of the authors asks whether the appellation "modern" falls on the term orthodoxy or the word Jew. Unquestionably, there is room for such

a query. *We are being watered down, severely.*

While other branches of Judaism are draining our pool, the hungry jaws of intermarriage are devouring us from without. Jews are marrying out of the fold at an alarming rate, 52%, according to a now famous survey. Chanuka bushes, and church-and-synagogue-going-families are becoming increasingly commonplace, especially outside New York. Do you want a rude awakening? Read the marriage announcement pages of the New York Times. "Levy to Wed O'Connor"; "Accountant Goldberg 32, Marries Baker 34."

We are under attack. True Modern or Centrist Orthodoxy, whose dogma should be and is an unyielding commitment to halacha within the context of modern society, is fast becoming an endangered species. Compromise and fanaticism have replaced centrism, thoughtful commitment, and dedication to normative halacha.

We and our forbearers have charged ourselves with the task of affecting an uncaring, materialistic, and largely secularist world in general, and Jewish community in particular.

THIS IS NOT A CALL TO TAME THE HEATHENS. We must always respect others and treat them and their beliefs with utmost dignity. Neither impetuous tirades, nor blistering diatribes, nor even seemingly innocuous righteous indignation fortify our position or convince other Jews of its correctness. We should never resort to the harangue practiced by the right, but, by the same token, we must forcefully, yet respectfully, say: "we will never concede to the left."

Where can we begin? First, we must reaffirm our own beliefs, insuring that our commitment to Torah and Torah values is consistent and constant. Secondly, we cannot sit back and allow our leaders to be castigated, even if it is done by radical sects. That does not mean we should strike back with vitriol of our own. Rather, in a soft-spoken and respectful manner befitting b'nei and b'not Torah, we must indicate that our deeply rooted ideological convictions lead us on the shvil hazahav.

I am convinced of the correctness of the Man of Faith in the Modern World approach. Assumedly, we are all, in some measure, convinced of its veracity and authenticity, otherwise we would not be here. We must recommit and rededicate ourselves to the principles we ascribe to. Centrist Orthodoxy, Zionism, Halacha, and all else that Satmer or the convenience conscious individual deplores, are our living credos. Let us insure not only our survival, but the flourishing of our community and ideals.

MAE

Corrections: In last issue's article entitled "Students Find Unusual Bacteria in Cafeteria and Pool," *The Commentator* identified a cafeteria worker as "Eric." We would like to clarify that "Eric" was a pseudonym created to protect the employee's anonymity.

In the article, "Masmid '92 Finally Arrives," we incorrectly identified the publisher of this year's yearbook as Thorton Studios. Masmid '93 will be published by Taylor Publishing.



Chief Union Negotiator Edgar Aracena Brador

1199, YU Sign Contract After Three Months of Negotiation

by Adam J. Anhang

After three months of negotiations, Local 1199 and the YU Administration have signed a new labor contract. The contract, which is effective retroactively to October 1, 1992, and runs through September 30, 1995, ends a tense period during which some frustrated 1199 workers called for a strike to "close down YU." The contract was approved by 74% of 1199 members.

Representing the Joel Jablonski Campus (JJC), SCW, and Cardozo School of Law employees, 1199 organizer Edgar Aracena Brador expressed satisfaction with the deal. "The union finally reached parity with AECOM workers, and in some cases, even better language than some other 1199 workers in the city," said Aracena. Director of Personnel and Supporting Service Administration Jeffrey Rosengarten could not be reached for comment.

Contract Highlights

The contract provides a \$250 bonus payable to employees on February 25, 1993. Workers will receive wage increases of 3% on March 15, 1993, 3% on October 1, 1993, and 4% on January 1, 1995. Management will continue to fund medical benefits and contributions to the union's pension plan. Additionally, management will contribute 0.3% of the gross payroll annually to an 1199-administered child-care fund. Finally, the pension plan itself has been modified: previously, to receive pension benefits, workers had to be 65 years of age to retire. Under the new contract, effective 1995, workers with 25 years of service to YU will be able to retire at age 62 with full pension benefits.

Training and Upgrading Fund

Agreement was also reached on the creation of a continuing education fund for employees. 1199 had demanded the fund because even though 1199 workers are able to take classes at YC and SCW free of charge, YC and SCW do not offer sought-after courses of study in areas such as technical skill licensing. In addition, uptown campus female workers find it difficult, if not impossible, to coordinate classes at SCW with their

work schedules. Effective July 1994, 1199 workers participating in outside continuing education programs will be able to apply for tuition reimbursement from an 1199-administered training and upgrading fund, to which YU will contribute .5% of gross payroll annually, or approximately \$35,000. (During negotiations, the union had demanded contributions of 1% of gross payroll, or \$70,000 annually.)

Shabbat and Holidays Included

During the negotiations, an especially sore point among Jewish 1199 employees was the Administration's insistence that the contract not include explicit provisions for employees needing to leave early on Friday for Shabbat during the winter months. Instead, the Administration stated that it would deal with these workers on a case-by-case basis, as necessary. The new contract contains a clause alleviating this problem: "When operationally feasible to the Employer, an Employee's request to leave at 1:00 pm on Friday, during the months of November through February, in order to observe Shabbat, will be fairly considered. If granted by the Employer, the time shall be made up at a mutually agreeable time."

Under the present contract, employees receive eight paid days off per year for the Jewish holidays. Many employees are frustrated that the contract does not compensate them for any additional days that the University closes for Jewish holidays beyond those eight days. (For example, in 1992-1993, the University is closed for thirteen days due to Jewish holidays, yet workers are only paid for eight of those days.)

Employee Reactions

Overall, union members expressed satisfaction with the deal. Union delegate and Registrar Secretary Pam Moskowitz pointed out that "obviously, 1199 didn't get everything we would have liked to have gotten...but that's life." Moskowitz cited the training and upgrading fund as the union's most significant achievement in the negotiations; she promises that 1199 will address the Jewish holidays problem in the next round of contract talks, slated for 1995.

Marketing Firm Continues Admissions Study Conducts Focus Groups to Gather Information

by Eric Creizman

As part of its ongoing study of YU admissions' markets, the marketing firm of Martilla and Kiley has been conducting focus group sessions with faculty, administration, students, and student leaders, in order to better gather information.

The most recent "focus group" meeting was held on Monday night, February 15, in Belfer Hall room 1214 at which, firm principals John Martilla and Natalie Wigotsky listened to a group of randomly selected students air their grievances with YU student life.

As with other meetings, Martilla and Kiley's representatives insisted that the discussions remain confidential. Assistant to the Dean of Students Rabbi Jeffrey Chaitoff prohibited Commentator journalists from attending the dinner "because it would make the other students uncomfortable about expressing their opinions." Wigotsky discouraged any coverage of the story, insisting that "it would not be fair [to the participating students] to cover it [the meeting]." Both Chaitoff and Wigotsky, however, indicated that the meeting was productive.

Participating students represented a "good mix" of YC students, said attendee Yisroel Holczer. Students from every Jewish studies program and from all four classes were represented. Students griped about administrative practices, student social life, and the religious environment throughout the two-hour session.

While one student lamented that the other students "missed the point of the entire meeting," junior A.J. Schreiber felt that the meeting didn't go far enough. "This was a forum for students to present their problems, but these problems weren't used as a reference for solutions but as a tool to mask the deficiencies in

YU recruitment campaigns."

At the meeting, students were asked about the religious nature and size of their high school, and whether the high school encouraged students to attend YU. They were also asked whether the diversity of students at YU was a strength or weakness. Most of the students at the meeting believed that students' religious diversity results in strained relations between YP students and IBC and JSS students. Additionally, many students who attended yeshiva in Israel discussed whether their Israeli experiences influenced their decision to attend YU.

Several students from Modern Orthodox high schools maintained that they were losing their Jewish commitment as a result of the YU environment; some claimed that a general lack of enthusiasm was causing them to miss minyanim. Others complained that YU's hashkafa was slowly but surely shifting to a stricter, more right-wing orthodox Jewish outlook. Still other students expressed frustration with their poor working relationships with YC deans.

The meeting concluded with student proposals for a YU marketing plan. The students reached a consensus that YU's chief attraction is the close friendships students foster at the University. One proposal which generated much discussion was a suggestion to create a fourth Jewish studies division for students possessing a very limited background knowledge of Judaism.

Martilla and Kiley are currently devising a survey of all YC students which will be distributed within the next three weeks. Said senior David Rozenson, "I think that the entire survey [both the focus meetings and the poll] is a very important beginning, and should be taken seriously by all students."

Cafeteria Servers Begin Wearing Gloves to Impart Image of Cleanliness

by Ari Rosenstein

In an effort to improve Food Service's image, cafeteria employees serving food have begun wearing plastic gloves at all times—even though they are not required to do so under state law. The move follows a recent Commentator article ("Biology Students Find Unusual Bacteria in Cafeteria and Pool," February 10, 1993), which focused on higher than normal levels of bacteria on cafeteria work areas. While the dining hall has never been cited for violations by the Health Department, according to Jake Lieberman, Director of Food Services, servers are wearing the gloves to impart the impression of cleanliness.

Contrary to popular belief, cafeteria glove use should be kept to a minimum, as rubber gloves accumulate dirt and bacteria that cannot be easily removed. Washing bare hands regularly throughout the day, Nadav Greenspan, Head Meat Chef, at the Furman Dining

Hall explained, is in fact a more effective method of controlling bacteria.

Greenspan added that all employees are shown a video on proper sanitary procedures when hired, and are reminded daily of sanitary considerations. Special soap, "Bacto-Wash - Bacteriostatic Liquid Hand Soap," is used frequently by cafeteria workers, and cleaning and disinfecting sprays for the counters are applied on a regular basis throughout the day.

While Greenspan requires employees to wear gloves when handling cold meat, the New York City Health Code, section 81.05, requires that "Food shall not be touched by hand, unless, in the opinion of the Department, manual contact is unavoidable, in which case the hands of the foodhandler shall be washed frequently during the operation and shall be kept clean at all times." Greenspan noted that gloves are not mentioned in the Health Code and are therefore not required by state law.

Pittinsky Explains Tuition Increase Process, Lists Five Factors

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this plan, incoming students would pre-pay up to four years of tuition at the current annual tuition level. Furst acknowledges, however, that a pre-payment package is of use only to wealthy families who can afford to pay three or four years of tuition in one lump sum; Furst notes that these people are probably able to afford the tuition increases anyhow, and consequently, "a pre-payment plan really doesn't help the middle class" -- YU's main constituency.

Tuition Setting Process Explained

Asked to explain how tuition increases are determined, Pittinsky cited five factors, in no particular order, that influence YU's tuition setting process. First, tuition increases reflect YU's best estimate of whether operating costs will increase, and if so, to what degree. Second, percentage increases at competitive New York/eastern seaboard schools such as NYU, Hofstra, and Delphi are reviewed (NYU plans to raise tuition by approximately 5.5% next year; Hofstra, by 8%; and Delphi, by 7-10%). Third, the possible diminution of federal and state aid, particularly the Pell and TAP grant programs, is considered. Fourth, YU considers "market saturation"; Pittinsky acknowledged that "the university realizes that we're fast approaching a pace in tuition increases which the market won't accept." Finally, the general state of the economy, with its resulting impact on YU families, is also taken into consideration.

Asked about the process itself, Pittinsky stated that tuition increase

calculations are "less precise arithmetic or accounting/finance. . . than a lot of 'feel' that goes into the equation." Ultimately, Vice-President of Finance Socol presents several financial scenarios based on different tuition levels to the Board of Trustees, which makes the final decision.

Increased Financial Aid

YU Senior Associate Director of Student Finances Neal Harris was quick to point out, however, that financial aid has, in the past, always increased at the same pace as tuition; Pittinsky pledged that this policy would continue in the future. Moreover, said Harris, ". . . providing people apply on time, we will do our



Director of Project Planning Aryeh Furst

best to meet everyone's financial need through a combination of grants, loans, and work study, to the extent that they are eligible under federal guidelines."

Added Furst, "No one should be frightened by the full tuition price... we have a somewhat liberal financial aid policy."

Federal and State Governments Slash Financial Aid to Students

by Adam Anhang

The financial aid office will come under increased pressure next year, as both federal and state student aid funding comes under budgetary attack.

While federal statutes set the maximum amount of a Pell grant to \$3700 per student under the Bush Administration, 1992's Congress only funded the program to a maximum grant of \$2300 per student.

Compounding the aid problem, the proposed 1993-1994 New York state budget cuts the maximum state TAP grant per student by \$200, to \$3375 for

incoming students (students already receiving TAP aid will continue to receive grants at the levels in effect when they entered college.) In the long run, New York state plans to eliminate TAP grants altogether.

The proposed budget also eliminates funding for the Liberty, Regents, Empire State, and Empire State Challenger merit scholarships. Under a grandfather clause, current Empire State scholars will continue to receive scholarships until graduation; funding will be immediately cut off, however, for Empire State Challenger scholarships.

Student Reaction

Students were generally outraged to hear of the projected increases. "It's getting to be an annual event," said YC Senior Avi Speiser, ". . . every year they raise it [tuition] several hundred dollars more." YC Senior Jeremy Bandler was particularly irked that YU considers NYU to be a school of comparable quality, saying that "...once YU raises the quality of its academics and services, then they'll have the right to compare themselves with NYU and increase tuition accordingly." Still another student suggested that YU "stop painting the streets [the pedestrian mall] twice a year and reallocate the money to better use."

Tuition increases will likely be determined and published by April 1.

University-Wide Admissions Director Sought

Kranzler: New Director to Concentrate Mostly on Grad Schools

by Ryan S. Karben

YU has undertaken a search for a university-wide director of admissions to "strengthen" admissions and recruitment operations. The move has been under consideration for some time and, according to Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Egon Brenner, should not be viewed as a vote of non-confidence in those currently involved in the admissions process.

Brenner says that while the position's exact job description has not yet been written, the new director will be responsible for "establishing uniform admissions procedures throughout the university and supervising same." Asked to elaborate on the position's responsibilities, Brenner responded, "I don't know. I don't know how it will work. I don't know if a lot of thought has been given [to what the responsibilities will be]."

The idea was discussed approximately one year ago with the academic deans of the various schools that operate under the YU umbrella.

YC/SCW Associate Director of Admissions Michael Kranzler, who has earned high marks from administrators and students for his innovative and aggressive recruitment style, was not involved in the decision. The final decision to create the position was made by YU President Dr. Norman Lamm in conjunction with the University Vice-Presidents.

Kranzler says that he does not anticipate that the existence of the new position will have a tremendous impact on current admissions procedures. "My understanding," Kranzler said, "is that this person will essentially be involved in the graduate schools' admissions operations. If done properly, [the move] can have a constructive role."

Present Enrollment Irrelevant

Brenner insists that the current assessment of YU enrollment has nothing to do with the creation of the new position. In fact, said Brenner, "Michael Kranzler does a fine job. I am very happy with his performance and I hope

this [hiring of a university-wide official] will enable him to do an even better job." Brenner cited the hiring of an additional recruitment officer in Israel and the search for another admissions officer for YC/SCW as examples of how the undergraduate admissions and recruitment operations are being strengthened. "I don't wait for task forces," he said.

The school recently placed an advertisement for the position in the Chronicle of Higher Education and distributed a flyer seeking applicants for the position at a convention of admissions specialists. A "competitive" salary is being offered.

For his part, Kranzler is not worried that the incoming director will adversely impact the innovative projects his office has undertaken. "I am very excited about the Model United Nations, basketball and community shabbaton programs in which we have been involved. We have received very positive feedback. I look forward to the coming months with confidence."

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CAMPUS NEWS

CALENDAR EVENTS

Wednesday, February 24, 1993:
Alexander Brody Distinguished Service Lectureship in Economics:
Dr. Gregory N. Mankiw, Speaker
"The Challenge of Economic Policy"
Furst 535, 6:30 PM

Thursday, February 25, 1993:
Macs Basketball
IAC Playoffs, MSAC

Thursday, February 25, 1993:
Yeshiva Fencing
vs. St. John's
Away, 7:30 PM

Friday-Saturday, February 26-27, 1993:
Sigma Delta Rho/Chemistry Club Shabbaton
SCW

JJC Residence Halls Shabbat Program:
Rabbi Mordechai Cohen, Speaker
"The Presence of the Shechinah in the Mishkan"

Sunday-Tuesday, February 28-March 2, 1993:
YU Network Model United Nations
Meadowlands Hilton

Monday, March 1, 1993:
Men's Tennis
vs. Pratt Institute
Away, 5:00 PM

Men's Volleyball
vs. Mt. St. Vincent
Away, 7:30 PM

SSSB Dean's Forum
Mr. Chaim Edelstein, CEO of Abraham & Straus
Midtown 418, 8:30 PM

Monday-Tuesday, March 1-2:
Blood Drive
Morg Lounge,
March 1: 12:30 PM-6:00 PM
March 2: 9:00 AM-2:30 PM

Tuesday, March 2, 1993:
Dorm Talks,
Rabbi Y. Blau, Moderator
Morg Lounge, 8:00 PM

Wednesday, March 3, 1993:
Men's Volleyball
vs. Lehman College
Away, 7:30 PM

Philanthropy Society Purim Party
Morg Lounge, 4:30 PM

College Republicans
Rush Limbaugh TV Show
Reservations: Jonathan Greenspun
212-927-4212
515 W. 57 St., 5:00 PM

English Honors Society
Movie Night: "Wings of Desire"
Furst 535, 7:45 PM

Friday, March 5, 1993:
Chemistry Club Field Trip
Indian Point II Nuclear Facility
Buses Depart Bookstore at 9:30 AM

Wednesday, March 10, 1993:
Psychology Club Seminar
Personality Evaluations
Midtown, 8:00 PM

Men's Tennis
vs. Stevens Tech
Home, 3:00 PM

Location of Chagiga Still Undecided

by Ami Hordes

While the final location of the annual Purim chagiga is still a mystery, only a few possibilities remain, according to SOY President Hillel Scheinfeld. Potential sites were discussed at a meeting two weeks ago, which was attended by Director of Supporting Services Jeffrey Rosengarten, Dean of Students Efreim Nulman, Assistant to the Dean of Students Rabbi Jeffrey Chaitoff, Chagiga Chairman Lavi Greenspan, student representative Gedalyah Berger, and Scheinfeld.

At the meeting, Scheinfeld presented his "split chagiga" proposal, in which the men would stay in the Beit Midrash while the women would move to Belfer Commons. According to Scheinfeld, Rosengarten immediately rejected this suggestion, claiming that because this year's chagiga will be on a Saturday night, it would be difficult to obtain the additional security and housekeeping necessary for a split chagiga. Several calls to Rosengarten's office were not returned.

As an alternative, Rosengarten proposed a joint chagiga in the MSAC, but Scheinfeld opposed that since "the gym [does not have] a ruchanit" atmosphere, and --because of the MSAC's high ceiling-- "the band would sound terrible in there." Last week, Scheinfeld proposed to have a joint-but-separate chagiga in Tannenbaum, in which the men would stay in the Beit Midrash and the women would move downstairs to the MTA gym, while speakers pipe the music into the gym from upstairs. This was rejected by Rosengarten for safety reasons, according to Scheinfeld.

In an attempt to revive his original "split" proposal, Scheinfeld got Vice President Dr. Israel Miller to speak with Rosengarten on his behalf, but their meeting proved fruitless.

Another potential site for a joint chagiga--the Cafeteria--was being evaluated by Rosengarten, but has since been rejected.

Library Floor Dedicated in Memory of Former Rosh Yeshiva

by Ari Rosenstein

In a commemorative ceremony, Floor 5A of the Gottesman Library was dedicated to the memory of Rabbi Leib Hersh Fromer, one time head of the *Hachmei Lublin* Yeshiva. Noted Israeli politician Abba Eban, Park East Synagogue Spiritual Leader Rabbi Arthur Schneier, and YU President Rabbi Dr. Norman Lamm were among those who attended the dedication ceremony, which was held on December 23, 1992.

Rabbi Fromer was a renowned *posek* in Eastern Europe in the early 1900's, most famous for his book of responsa, *Eref Tzvi*, which was recently reprinted. He also served as the Rosh Yeshiva of the *Hachmei Lublin* Yeshiva in 1939, and was a leader of Eastern European Jewry until his death in the Majdanek death camp during the Holocaust.

Leon and Gina Fromer, Rabbi Fromer's brother and sister-in-law, endowed the floor in his memory. A plaque reads:

SSSB Students to Provide Free Assistance for Filing Income Taxes

Eighteen YU students voluntarily underwent professional training on how to prepare individual income tax returns. The training was part of a larger program in which the students will eventually provide free assistance to people unable to file their own tax forms.

SSSB President Ofer Naor, who initiated the program, explained that the program would "help those students interested get a head start on their future, while improving relations between YU and the Washington Heights community."

The volunteers were taught by members of the New York State Society of Certified Public Accountants, during

"This floor is dedicated in memory of Rabbi Leib Hersh Fromer, *zt'l*, Dean of the famed *Yeshiva Hachmei Lublin* and a revered Torah scholar and world-renowned authority on Halakha, who perished at Majdanek during the Holocaust. May the legacy of learning he left behind be a blessing for the ages. Endowed through the generosity of Leon and Gina Fromer."

Dean of Libraries Pearl Berger was delighted by the dedication. "It is certainly appropriate for a floor of the Gottesman Library filled with sefarim to be named after a man like him," she stated. "I am very pleased."

Ceremony guests were greeted by Mrs. Berger, Rabbi Schneier, and Rabbi Solomon Trail, a member of the Board of Trustees. Dr. Herbert C. Dobrinsky, Vice President for University Affairs, presided over the ceremony, and a memorial prayer was sung by Cantor Daniel Benlolo of the Belz School of Music.

Leon Fromer was unable to attend the dedication due to illness.

two three-hour sessions at the MetLife building in downtown Manhattan. There was no charge for the training program, which began February 16. Although the program was originally intended primarily for Washington Heights residents, the program has been expanded to several areas throughout Manhattan.

--Reuben Levy

Rosenberg To Leave After This Semester

Assistant to the Dean at Yeshiva College Mr. David Rosenberg, intends to leave his position before the beginning of next semester. Meanwhile, The Dean's office has begun its search for a replacement.

Rosenberg, who has worked at YU for six years and at YC for 4, explained, "I feel it's time to move on. There is no real potential for growth. I've gone as high and far as I can at this position." He is looking to move to a larger university, but is not limiting himself to that. Rosenberg said that without a Ph.D., he is not sure how much further he can progress on a University's academic side. However, he stated, "I would like to go back to student affairs, like when I was back in Buffalo."

--Michael Eisenberg

Visitor Overdoses on Heroine in Furst Hall

Hatzolah Rushes Victim to Hospital

Sirens interrupted the sounds of Torah on Monday as Hatzolah rushed to save a man who overdosed on heroin in the main floor bathroom in Furst Hall. Security found the man unresponsive and seated on the toilet, with a hypodermic needle lying on the floor next to him, and proceeded to call Hatzolah. Emergency Medical

Technician (EMT) Jeremy Strauss said that when they got to the man, "he had a light heartbeat and was barely breathing." Hatzolah rushed him to Columbia Presbyterian Hospital where the drug Narcan was administered and the patient regained consciousness. This particular drug only revives people who have overdosed on heroin. After he woke up, he had no idea who he was, where he was, or that he had overdosed. Security said that all they know about the man is that his last name is Fishman and that he has no association with YU in any capacity.

--Sender Cohen

Student-Administration Retreat II Scheduled for March 19

by Gene Alperovich

Student leaders and university administrators are currently laying the groundwork for a second retreat to discuss issues of concern to the undergraduate Yeshiva University community. The first retreat, held in Tenafly, New Jersey on November 30, 1992, was lauded by both students and administrators alike, and has produced a flurry of committees aimed at giving students a greater role in various administrative decisions. The follow-up retreat, scheduled for March 19, 1993, will be held at the Uptown Campus and like its predecessor, will be mediated by management consultant Dr. Gene Buchini.

The Steering Committee, a seven-person body which planned the first retreat and is planning the second as well, maintained that the specific agenda for March 19th has not yet been concretized. Dean of Students Efreim Nulman stated that while he has "ideas and assumptions" regarding the next retreat, a formal agenda will not be determined until after the Steering Committee meets on February 26th. YCSC President Avi Steinaluf said that although it is premature "to tell exactly

what will be focused on," student leaders, in a February 9th meeting, suggested that student input into University resource allocation, and the role of *the Commentator* in student life are appropriate topics of discussion.

JSSC President Ben Menasha also stated that the March 19th agenda will focus heavily on the developments which arose from the first retreat, explaining that "whatever is established between now and March 19th will be confirmed at this retreat. . . The purpose of the next retreat is to bring all the parts together and to bring new issues to the table that still haven't been addressed."

SCWSC President Adeeva Laya Graubard, another member of the Steering Committee, expressed satisfaction with the progress of many of the committees, and the "increased [student] involvement in certain areas of processes" throughout the University. However, stressed Menasha, the recommendations of all of the committees may not be implemented immediately; he cautioned, "You can recommend all you want but sometimes just because you ask for it, it doesn't mean you'll get it. Together you come to a consensus."

YC to Offer Summer School Courses in Chem. and Physics

by David Kelsey

For the first time since the late 1980's, Yeshiva College will be offering summer courses this year. Providing that at least eight students register for each course, YC will offer General Chemistry I and II, and Physics 1031 and 1032. The courses will be divided into two five-week periods, for a total of ten credits in General Chemistry I and II, and 10 credits in Physics 1031 and 1032.

Health Science Advisor Dr. Weisbrot provided the impetus for the reinstatement of a summer program. The summer courses are targeted at pre-med students returning from Israel who would likely take these courses at another college during the summer. Medical schools prefer that applicants take their

science courses with their full-time faculty at their full-time school. Explained YC Dean Norman Rosenfeld, "At many schools, the summer faculty may not be the regular faculty." Consequently, regular YU professors Viswanathan and Cwilich will be teaching the chemistry and physics courses this summer.

Tuition for the physics courses will be \$2500, while chemistry tuition will be set at \$3100, plus registration and lab fees. Neither dormitory housing nor scholarships will be provided.

Optimistic about the program, Rosenfeld promises that "if the summer courses are a success, they will continue in the future, and will be expanded to include required courses in other disciplines."

SOY SHABBATON POSTPONED, NOT CANCELED

by Moshe Kinderlehrer

The SOY shabbaton featuring YU President Dr. Norman Lamm, scheduled for February 13, was postponed due to insufficient student registration. The shabbaton, which was to have been headlined by a tisch on Friday night with President Lamm, and Roshei Hayeshiva Rabbi Charlop and Rav Goldwicht, will be rescheduled for an upcoming shabbat.

SOY President Hillel Scheinfeld attributed the forced postponement to "a little bit of miscommunication" between SOY and various other groups, such as NCSY and Yeshivat Sha'alvim, all of which had scheduled events for that

same shabbat. These events, he claimed, drew away a large number of the students who, perhaps, would have attended the SOY shabbaton otherwise.

Director of Residence Halls Rabbi Joshua Cheifetz described the postponement as something "unusual and atypical" for the student body at YU, and denied that it had anything to do with a general lack of student interest in such events. Moreover, he pointed out that other events have already been scheduled for future weekends, such as the one planned for Shabbat Zachor.

The shabbaton with Rabbi Lamm will probably take place soon after Pesach, but an exact date has yet to be set.



Photo: Rafi Sauer

Rabbi Tendler addresses a standing room only crowd at his recent lecture

TENDLER SPEAKS OUT ON AIDS

*"Console, but don't condone
homosexual AIDS victims"*

by Jamin Koslowe

Calling AIDS the "greatest plague to affect mankind since [God] made this world," Rosh Yeshiva and Biology Professor Rabbi Dr. Moshe Tendler addressed a packed Rubin Shul this past Wednesday night on the pressing topic.

The speech, entitled "Things the Orthodox Should Know About AIDS," was Rabbi Tendler's first ever public speech on the AIDS epidemic. The lecture was jointly sponsored by the new Student Political Action Committee and SOY.

Rabbi Tendler began by stressing the severity of AIDS, citing statistics which predict that as many as 200 million people will be infected with the HIV virus by the year 2000, including 10 million children who will be born with the disease. He then distinguished between "innocent victims" of AIDS, such as hemophiliacs, transfusion recipients, and children, and "non-innocent victims," such as homosexuals, bisexuals, and IV drug users.

Rabbi Tendler then analyzed the seemingly "incongruous stance of the Torah" towards homosexual AIDS victims. On one hand, he cited verses from the Torah which explicitly prohibit male homosexuality for Jews and non-Jews alike, calling it an abomination punishable by death in a Jewish court. On the other hand, Rabbi Tendler cited Biblical and Halachic sources which command us to "risk our lives" to save these "non-innocent victims."

Rabbi Tendler explained that the Torah view would be to "console, but not condone" the homosexual victims of AIDS. Accordingly, Rabbi Tendler maintained that Jewish doctors must operate on and treat AIDS patients, but should give them some Mussar as well. However, Rabbi Tendler stressed that AIDS patients must inform doctors of their condition, so the doctors can take extra precautions.

ANNUAL SY SYMS DINNER TO TAKE ON NEW FORMAT FOR 1993

by Eyal Feiler

In an effort to attract more students, the committee planning the Sy Syms School of Business annual dinner has implemented cost-cutting measures for this year's event. The dinner, scheduled for May 10, will be held in a Manhattan art gallery, rather than a hotel, as has been the practice in previous years. In addition, the dinner will be served buffet style, rather than sit-down. The planning committee is hoping that the lower cost of the dinner will encourage more students to attend.

According to SSSB President Ofer Naor, the cost of the dinner will be between \$15-\$20, as opposed to last year's price of \$55. Naor stated that "although one of the [dinner's] main goals is to help students find a job, the dinner is an opportunity for SSSB students to meet and impress recruiters, publicize our school, and boost our school spirit."

The dinner is being co-chaired by

Aliza Zdanowitz, Vice-President of the SSSB Midtown Accounting Society, and SSSB Junior Rona Gross. According to Zdanowitz, one of the reasons for her decision to co-chair the dinner is to "make students proud to attend the Sy Syms School of Business." Zdanowitz added that "some of my friends were able to obtain jobs thanks to the networking they did at last year's dinner."

SSSB Assistant Dean Ira Jaskoll, who is overseeing the dinner arrangements, is pleased with the new format since "it will give students more opportunities to network with the recruiters and alumni at the dinner." Jaskoll emphasized that the dinner is not exclusively for SSSB students: "YC students are encouraged to attend in order to learn about various industries, and take part in this beautiful event." Naor maintained that "students who attend the dinner will have an edge over those that don't, since recruiters are being paid to remember" those who come.

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Ethiopian Olim Facing Challenges in New Home

by Barbara Ribakove Gordon

In May 1991 - in an extraordinary 36-hour period eerily reminiscent of the Exodus from Egypt - 14,500 Ethiopian Jews crossed the Red Sea and entered the Promised Land. They arrived, as one of the Operation Solomon pilots said, "with nothing in their hands except their children." They had left all their meager possessions behind, in the full and perfect faith that when they reached Israel, their needs would be met.

What are those needs and to what extent have they been met almost two years later?

"They had left all their meager possessions behind, in the full and perfect faith that when they reached Israel, their needs would be met."

The needs fall generally into two categories: practical, which includes housing, jobs, education, health care -- and spiritual, which includes independence, absorption, cultural preservation and spiritual nourishment.

On the practical side, great efforts have been made to give the Ethiopians in Israel the basic essentials -- but there is still a long way to go. HOUSING: Like the Ethiopians who arrived in 1984/85 after Operation Moses, the Operation Solomon olim were first housed in hotels. Fortunately, the lessons of Operation Moses have been learned: hotel living is disastrous for Ethiopian families, whose structure is based on the functions each family member performs. In a hotel environment, women cannot cook, men cannot make repairs, children can do no chores -- and the functionless Ethiopian family is seriously threatened. The Israeli response to the need to rapidly move the Ethiopians out of the hotels was to provide hundreds of caravan (trailer) homes, set up in instant communities. The caravans were usually placed in the desert, on the rocky coast, or at the edge of otherwise weak towns. The caravans themselves are modern and functional, but extremely small. Their locations

"Ethiopians may come from another world, but they are intelligent, competent people who... want to build a decent life."

often mean that the immigrants have very limited access to jobs and transportation, and that children are bussed miles away to schools their parents never see. Additionally, their contact with other Israelis is virtually nil -- and nearby communities suddenly find themselves responsible for a thousand or so non-Hebrew speaking and illiterate Jews from another world. Even with great good will and intelligence on both sides, the situation is extremely difficult. Every effort is being made to provide additional

inexpensive rental apartments and exceptionally favorable mortgages, but many authorities fear that the caravan sites may still be occupied five years



Morasha Summer Program participant Cheryl Joy Rothman visiting with new Ethiopian Olim

from now. Answering one visitor's fear that they might be permanent, however, a knowledgeable expert replied, "Look on the bright side: the caravans are already falling apart -- they won't last longer than five years!"

Some questions have arisen about why some Ethiopians have been reluctant to accept apartments offered to them, or the mortgages the government has gone to great pains to make available. In the first instance, the apartments are often available because nobody wants them, located as they are in isolated communities with high unemployment and poor transportation. Ethiopians may come from another world, but they are intelligent, competent people who -- like everybody

"Although efforts are frequently made to help Ethiopians earn a living through craft work in Israel, few can hope to survive by producing hand-made cloth, simple clay figures, or embroidery."

else -- want to live where they can find work, build a decent life and (crucial to the tight-knit Ethiopian family structure) get transportation to other areas where their relatives live.

Mortgages are another story. In Ethiopia, villagers did not live in a cash economy, and the idea of signing onto a long-term loan, requiring cash payments on a regular basis, is extremely unfamiliar and frightening. It is especially frightening to those who have not been able to find work and have a perfectly realistic fear of not being able to meet this awesome-seeming responsibility.

Jobs

Ethiopian Jews traditionally eked out a living by farming (using a wooden plow pulled by a couple of half-starved oxen) and craft work, including weaving and metalwork for men and pottery-making for women. The latter craft,

considered despicable by non-Jews, were relegated to the Beta Israel (Ethiopian Jews). Although efforts are frequently made to help Ethiopians earn a living

through craft work in Israel, few can hope to survive by producing hand-made cloth, simple clay figures, or embroidery. Most must be trained to do other work.

After Operation Moses, many older men (above 35) found jobs in factories -- but some of the factories later closed, leaving the men idle. Efforts to train younger men for jobs in construction have met with very limited success, as Ethiopian Jews have a cultural resistance to work which was once forced upon them in Ethiopia, where Jews were conscripted into construction gangs to build castles many miles from their homes, separating them from their families. Other cultural biases leave the immigrants reluctant to take on jobs which would have been regarded with contempt in Ethiopia. But as these built-in biases are identified by anthropologists, efforts are underway to change them through education, and meetings with respected Israelis working in these fields, etc.

A number of training programs have been quite successful in bringing young Ethiopians into the job market. In one program, funded in large part by the North American Conference on Ethiopian Jewry (NACOEJ), young Ethiopian women, recently graduated from Youth Aliyah high schools, attend a two-year residential course from which they emerge with certificates as para-professional early childhood workers, or as assistants in geriatric health care.

"Many ... extraordinary students came out of Ethiopia barefoot and starving. Today, they are taking degrees and entering great careers."

Every graduate of this program is employed, and the arrival of others is eagerly awaited by prospective employers who have been impressed with the women's cultural reverence for the aged and affection for children, as well as their professional skills. Programs sponsored by organizations

such as ORT and various ministries have trained young men as engineers. Ethiopians are making careers in office work, the tourist industry, driving, and many other fields. But employment for uneducated adult men remains a major problem.

Health Care

Ethiopians arrived in Israel with many medical conditions that went untreated in Ethiopia. Life-threatening problems and contagious diseases received prompt, effective attention in Israel. But Israel's medical establishment has been overwhelmed by the massive influx of olim (Russian and Eastern Europeans also bring neglected medical problems), resulting in long waiting lists for treatment for many serious disorders.

"Weak schools in weak communities, inundated with great numbers of immigrant children, are floundering."

Some olim, for example, were told they would have to wait up to two years for cataract surgery -- even though they would remain totally blind in the interim. Efforts by volunteer American physicians have helped ease the situation in some areas; for example, thanks to NACOEJ's Project Vision, the waiting time for cataract operations in northern Israel has been reduced to six weeks. It should be added, that fears that olim from Africa would be responsible for epidemics of one sort or another have all proved unfounded.

Interestingly, however, many Ethiopian children who have recently arrived suffer from hidden malnutrition. Their diet in Ethiopia consisted largely of injera, a pancake bread made of tef. In Israel, new arrivals continue to make injera, but since tef -- a grain unique to Ethiopia and highly nutritious -- is unavailable, they use white flour instead. Children whose main source of nutrition is white flour injera can be in considerable trouble. Gradually, of course (and more rapidly if aided by classes in recognizing, buying and preparing Israeli foods), old food patterns give way to new ones, and families learn to eat better.

Special Mortgages Offered to Ethiopian Immigrants

Michal Vindelmann

(Reprinted from Jerusalem Post February 16, 1993)

As of next week, Ethiopian immigrants will be able to purchase housing with government mortgages, on the open market, wherever they choose, as part of an unprecedented government project to help these olim move out of public housing and turn them into home owners.

The project, formulated by the housing, finance, and absorption ministers, which will enable immigrants to take mortgages of unprecedented size, totalling NIS 240,000 to NIS 300,000, depending on the size of the family.

The mortgages will cover 99 percent of the apartments value, 85 percent of which will be given as a grant and the rest to be paid by the immigrants over a period of 20 years, in monthly installments not exceeding NIS 120.

The size and terms of the mortgages will permit many Ethiopian immigrant families, some of whom have been in absorption centers for nearly a decade, to finance apartments wherever they want to live.

The project will begin with a pilot group of Ethiopian immigrant families from three caravan sites -- in Kadouri, Neveh Carmel and either Mabu'im or Hulda -- and two absorption centers to be decided on within the next few days. Altogether there are 3,000 Ethiopian families eligible to join the program, including the veteran olim, who will be able to leave their government housing and buy their own flats.

The government ministries regard the mortgage project as a one-time opportunity for Ethiopian olim to "advance" decades from an economic point of view. The Knesset finance committee has already approved funding to cover the first 800 mortgages. Israeli and international foundations have agreed to put up the money for financing other expenses like property taxes and other taxes involved in purchasing real estate.

The organizers of the project have prepared teams of lawyers and advisors who will accompany the immigrants through every stage of the purchase, and the Realtors Association has volunteered to help them find apartments. Ethiopian immigrant soldiers, together with immigrant students will help as well, to prevent their fellow-immigrants from falling prey to scoundrels and crooks.

The housing and absorption ministers decided that the project is to last six months, not including the initial running-in period beginning next week.

Education

Ethiopians have made enormous educational strides in Israel. At the top levels, their performance is nothing less than astonishing. Every year sees some 400 or so Ethiopian students in colleges, universities, and technical schools. A number have graduated from Technion, one as an aerospace engineer. Graduates from Hebrew, Bar Ilan, Tel Aviv, and Haifa Universities are working as social workers, registered nurses, chemists, computer specialists, and more. One young man is currently taking his master's degree in linguistics. The first medical student and the first pre-med student are currently enrolled. Teachers are in training. A number of young men are studying in Hesder Yeshivot. Many of these extraordinary students came out of Ethiopia barefoot and starving. Today, they are taking degrees and entering great careers.

Unfortunately, there is reason to fear that fewer and fewer Ethiopian youngsters coming up through the Israeli school system will have the opportunity to realize their great potential. Under enormous budgetary pressures, overcrowded and underfunded Israeli elementary schools have cut back their school days to four hours a day. Additionally, classes of 40 children are common. Weak schools in weak communities, inundated with great numbers of immigrant children, are floundering. And the Ethiopian children -- of whom teachers used to boast that they made up two academic years in one, surpassing their Sabra classmates -- are no longer leaping ahead, but falling behind.

An obvious solution is to provide more hours of schooling. Four hours a day are not enough for any child. While middle class Israelis fill the gap by paying for after-school programs in everything from science, to music and art; and Russian parents, usually well educated, can help their children with math, science, and the arts, Ethiopian families often cannot help their children move ahead in school.

A number of solutions are being tried. "Army girls" are sent to many caravan sites to help children with their homework -- but "army girls" are themselves untrained as teachers. After-

school programs are offered in some communities, and donated funds can enable Ethiopian children to participate. NACOEJ is currently providing after-school programming in four schools to which Ethiopian children from the Hulda caravan site are bussed. Pre-school programs, often funded by American organizations, are operating in some communities. But all these programs need to be replicated in many more communities if the Ethiopian youngsters -- bright, hard-working and eager to learn -- are to have a fair chance at a decent education in primary schools.

At the high school level, most Ethiopian youngsters leave home for Youth Aliyah boarding schools. Ethiopian families simply cannot afford the \$1000 to \$2000 a year it costs to send a child to a local high school (Costs include school fees, books, transportation, clothing, food, etc.). Youth Aliyah offers a cost-free alternative, and in the case of the best schools, a good education. Unfortunately, not all schools offer that,



Habtam, Israel's youngest liver transplant patient, held by his father at Hadassah Hospital, Jerusalem

and few seem to make much effort to place Ethiopian children on the track toward an academic degree. Rather, most are routed to vocational training.

"Sadly, some Ethiopian youngsters growing up in Israel are becoming not only separate from the traditions of their parents, but ashamed of them."

Ironically, it seems likely that most Ethiopian college graduates will be those who got most of their education in Ethiopia. Those coming up through the Israeli school system are less likely to make it to college.

In the area of the Ethiopians' spiritual needs, far less attention has been paid. Many of these proud and independent people have -- through force of circumstance -- lost their faith in their ability to support themselves. This is not surprising since those who arrived in Operation Solomon had previously spent a year in Addis Ababa, living on a dole handed out at the Israeli embassy; then, on arrival in Israel, spent another year of idleness in absorption centers -- and finally are facing a vast cultural gap

and massive unemployment. Independence for them remains a goal, not a reality.

Success in absorption depends largely on the age group to which Ethiopians belong. Older people (in Ethiopia, you are "older" at 35) tend not to integrate, but speak Amaharic or Tigrinya, to associate with "old country" neighbors and relatives, and wear traditional garments. Young men and women make friends with non-Ethiopians in the army, in school, or on the job, and a number of marriages have taken place between Ethiopian and non-Ethiopian Jews, though most Ethiopians are still marrying Ethiopians. Children, who learn Hebrew rapidly, mingle with non-Ethiopian in school (once they are "mainstreamed" out of special immigrant classes), quickly learn the ways of the new world, and become the translators and interpreters of the culture for their families. The family hierarchy trembles and cracks in this reversal of roles, but -- the experience of Ethiopian immigrants mirrors that of virtually every immigrant community entering virtually every new society.

Cultural preservation is a serious problem. Ethiopian Jews actually did not arrive empty-handed in Israel; they brought with them an ancient, unique and beautiful Jewish tradition. Based on semi-Biblical observances (many of which, like menstrual huts, simply cannot be transferred to modern Israel), and taught by learned kessim (priests) whose authority disintegrated in Israel, their traditions are rapidly disappearing.

Older Ethiopians, who may never feel comfortable in a normative Israeli synagogue, have no focus for the religious commitment which was the center of their lives. Although a few Ethiopian synagogues have sprung up (the first, created by NACOEJ, is in Beersheva), they are tiny, and unable to accommodate the eager congregations. A Kes may live many miles from members of his now-scattered congregation. And although most Ethiopian children attend dati schools and are learning the normative traditions, their elders have rarely been touched by effective religious outreach.

Sadly, some Ethiopian youngsters growing up in Israel are becoming not only separate from the traditions of their parents, but ashamed of them. They are coming to see their Ethiopian heritage as "primitive" and "embarrassing." Some claim to have forgotten the Amaharic in which they must communicate with their parents. In Israel, where the needs of absorption seem so much more pressing than the needs of preservation, little is being done to counteract this tendency, which may be almost inevitable among immigrant children. But something must be done. The loss of cultural memory and reverence is tragic in terms of the immigrant's own self-respect and family solidarity -- and it also threatens to consign to oblivion a precious piece of Jewish history and culture.

One program attempting to deal with the problem is the Ethiopian Heritage Curriculum, now in use at K'far Batya Youth Aliyah School. This NACOEJ program, developed by a committee which included an Ethiopian educator, an anthropologist, and an Ethiopian aliyah hero, teaches Ethiopian youngsters to respect the customs of their fathers. A pilot program, it is

designed to be used in as many schools as funding allows.

Although this presentation of the problems facing the Ethiopian community in Israel has dwelt on the challenges still not satisfactorily met, it is not meant to be discouraging. The Israelis bring to the effort tremendous good will and concern. The Ethiopian community is highly intelligent, flexible, and ambitious. In many cases, the problems can be solved and great progress toward independence and high achievement can be made through the efforts of Diaspora Jewry in providing the funds, and sometimes the impetus, for carefully designed programs. Given the mind-boggling pressures on the Israeli economy, it is astonishing and heart-warming that so much effort has already gone into this great aliyah and absorption. It is up to American Jews -- who played a very real role in the rescue of Ethiopian Jews -- to continue to take responsibility for assisting in the final essential steps that will allow them to realize their great potential in their new homeland.

Barbara Ribakove Gordon is the Executive Director of the North American Conference on Ethiopian Jewry.

Timeline: When It All Happened

by Eyal Feiler

February 9, 1973 - Rav Ovadia Yosef, then Sephardic Chief Rabbi of Israel, writes a letter affirming that Beta Israel are Jewish.

1975 - Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi confirms that Beta Israel are Jewish.

March 1975 - Israeli Government Interministerial Committee rules that Ethiopians are eligible for Israel's Law of Return.

1977 - ORT and Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) undertake community development in Ethiopia including farming and vocational training, and religious education.

Summer 1984 - 10,000 Ethiopians reach Sudan and live in refugee camps.

November 1984 - "Operation Moses" begins. The first of 35 chartered flights sponsored by the Jewish Agency, brings Ethiopians to Israel.

November 1984 - January 1985 - 6758 Ethiopians arrive in Israel. Flights are halted as word of the mass exodus gets out. Emigration does not resume until 1989.

May 1991 - In just 36 hours, 14,324 Ethiopians are brought to Israel in "Operation Solomon." 35 planes are used to make a total of 41 flights.

Faculty Members Describe the Ideal Academic VP

by Jamin Koslowe

The Administration's search for a new Vice President of Academic Affairs to replace retiring Executive V.P. Dr. Egon Brenner is of particular concern to YU's faculty. The Academic VP controls all undergraduate programs of the University, with the exception of the Yeshiva Program, and all graduate programs, except for the Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

The VP sets curricula, decides which courses will be offered, and makes budgetary decisions. Moreover, the Academic VP makes decisions regarding faculty tenure, sabbaticals, and special privileges.

The *Commentator* asked three faculty members, each possessing a unique perspective on the University, to describe the type of Academic Vice President that YU needs.

Dr. Blanche Blank

Blank, who has served as professor of Political Science at YU for 12 years, was



Dr. Blanche Blank

Brenner's predecessor as Vice President of Academic Affairs. She became YU's first Academic V.P. in 1977, and served until 1981, when Brenner took over.

Reflecting upon her own years as V.P., Blank remarked that "I did not appreciate the severity of the economic crisis we were in." Because of YU's lack of fall-back resources, there was a real concern that YU might be forced to shut down. She recalled that "the predominance of fiscal concerns was overwhelming."

According to Blank, "[Dr. Brenner] has a very good handle on what is needed" at YU. She maintained that the Academic V.P. should be a person "who sees the realities." Additionally, the VP must "be tough in standing up for interests which may be challenged by other Administrators. It is helpful that the person respect faculty concerns; but it is even more essential to have someone who is practical. You need to have a clear set of priorities, because you can't do everything at once."

Blank stressed that the VP "needs the courage to stand up to pressure." Lastly, she said that the VP should have academic connections to help with recruitment and to evaluate departments.

Dr. Anthony Beukas

According to Beukas, professor of Speech and Drama at YU for 28 years, the faculty should have "major input in the selection of the Vice President."

Beukas said, "The Executive Vice President should be one who cares, respects, and fights for the faculty. He really is a conduit in two directions. He has to represent the Administration to the Faculty, and



Dr. Anthony Beukas

the Faculty to the Administration. But since we are so administratively top heavy in this institution, and the faculty does not have the power and input that it should, I would like to see a Vice President who is more of a faculty advocate. . . . I think Dr. Brenner represents my definition of what an Executive Vice President should be."

Beukas decried the fact that faculty members have no say regarding salary increases: "We need an Executive Vice President with the power to influence the powers that be that salaries are, in my opinion, a major issue, and have been for as long as I can remember."

Beukas admitted that the faculty is not always right, and should not always be supported. Nevertheless, he claimed that "the faculty is utterly reasonable in its requests; otherwise, how could you explain working for the salaries we receive?"

Rabbi Shalom Carmy

Rabbi Carmy graduated YC in 1972, and has been a professor of Bible since 1974. He has also taught a variety of courses in the Judaic Studies and

Philosophy Departments.

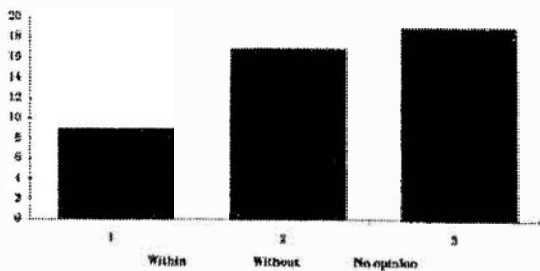
"The primary qualification is to be a good academic administrator. It is important to have a broad knowledge of how things are done elsewhere. At the same time, it would be suicidal for YU to be governed by an individual who lacked sympathy and respect for the unique mission of this school. No matter who becomes Executive VP, it is necessary to safeguard the autonomy and centrality of Jewish Studies at YC, SCW, JSS, and IBC.

"An effective Executive VP need not be a religious Jew; in fact, we have done fairly well with Dr. Brenner and with Dr. Blank before him. The problem would be with an individual with hang-ups about Torah. Even a person who is nominally observant may be disdainful of Torah u'Madda, and contemptuous of faculty and students who advocate and exemplify it. At the same time, a non-Jew may be respectful, and even sympathetic to our aims. I can imagine a serious Catholic who understands that the serious study of Torah, in all its variety, is not merely a form of ethnic indulgence or emotional high, but a rigorous and demanding intellectual activity."

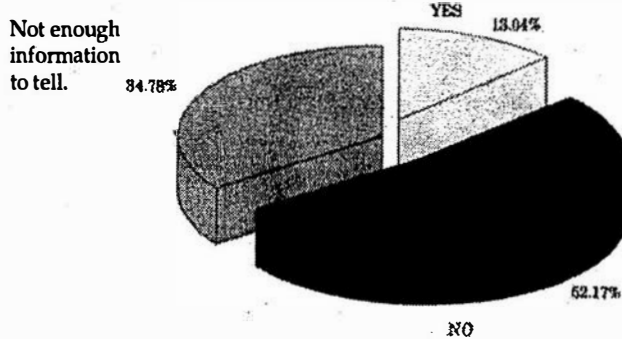


Rabbi Shalom Carmy

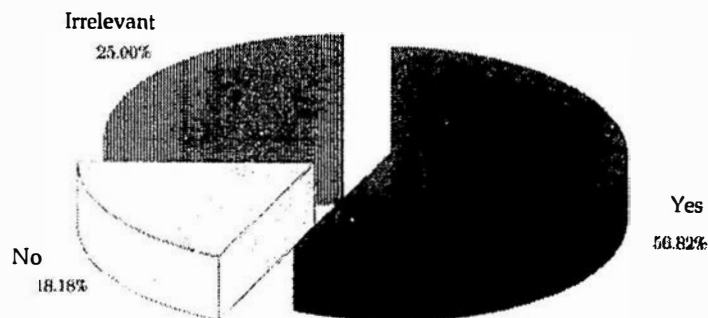
Should the new Academic V.P. come from within or without the University?



Do you approve of the selection process?

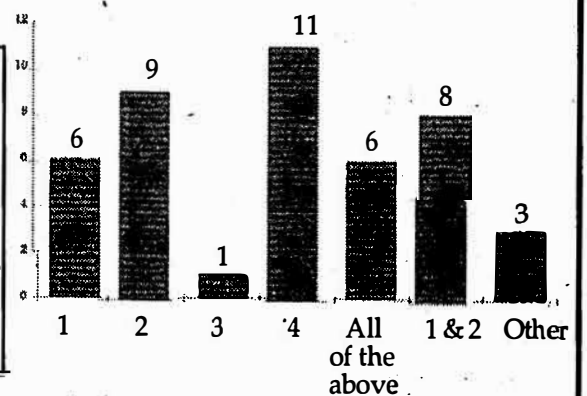


Should the new V.P. for Academic Affairs be Jewish?



In your estimation, what is the most important quality the new V.P. should possess?

- 1 = Academic Background
- 2 = Administrative Skills
- 3 = Likable Personality
- 4 = Broad Acceptance in Academic Community



How the Poll Was Conducted:

Surveys were distributed to all faculty members at the uptown and midtown campuses. 47 faculty members responded, none from the Midtown Campus. We asked six general questions which we thought would highlight certain attributes faculty members were looking for in the new selection for V.P. for Academic Affairs.

YU Hosts HASC Reunion Shabbaton

by Isaac Lifschitz

This past weekend, the Joel Jablonski campus played host to twenty-five developmentally disabled children and adults and approximately the same number of advisors at the annual HASC Reunion Shabbaton.

The weekend's objective was to provide the campers with a change of scenery and atmosphere and an opportunity to interact with others. "It is a social event for these people who spend most of their time inside," explained Daniel Feinberg, one of the organizers of the event. Daniel Loew, another organizer of the Shabbaton, added, "The parents get a break, the kids have a different type of Shabbos than they are used to and the Yeshiva benefits from an enlivened atmosphere not normally present."

The program featured Rabbi Mayer Schiller of Yeshiva University High School for Boys as its guest speaker. The speech was followed by an oneg.

The handicapped participants were predominantly adults, many of whom were sent from The Woman's League home in Boro Park. Among the HASC campers, some suffer from Down's Syndrome, some are emotionally disturbed and still others have cerebral palsy. The latter, while high functioning

and completely cognizant, are bound to wheel chairs, making movement restricted and cumbersome. To ease their situation, Mashgiach Ruchani Rabbi Yosef Blau allowed the security guards to help them in and out of the elevators on Shabbat.

The advisors were mainly YU students, and all were male. In addition, many of them had formerly participated in Hebrew Academy for Special Children (HASC), a summer-long program for the handicapped. Nevertheless, this was not a HASC-sponsored program. "Please emphasize that this was completely independent of HASC," Feinberg maintained. Jonathan Kaplan, a HASC division-head, qualified the situation: "It was an unneeded liability for HASC. But, at the same time, I commend them for their dedication."

Oddly enough, the impetus for this Shabbaton was not a YC or HASC counsellor. Avrami Horowitz, a young man bound to a wheelchair, came up with the idea. "He contacted us and pushed us to set the weekend up. He was in constant correspondence and made sure to keep abreast of the latest developments," Loew recounted. Apparently, Horowitz has launched three such weekends.

The Shabbaton was not without its problems. Exorbitant cafeteria prices, transportation difficulties and funding were among the obstacles encountered. Yet, on the whole, it was a success. "If I had any doubts about returning to HASC, this weekend certainly changed my mind," commented Bencie Schlager. "I really enjoyed it," added Horowitz.

Shaliach Outlines Z'Chuyot for New Olim

by Sid Singer

"Ein Z'chuyot B'li Chovot" -- there are no privileges without penalties. With these words, Yisrael Serok, Shaliach Aliyah of the Jewish Agency, began his discussion of the privileges/rights of new Olim (immigrants) in Israel, on Monday, February 22, in Rubin Shul. Serok spoke for roughly thirty minutes, after which he fielded questions from the audience. Entertaining the approximately forty person crowd with his humor throughout the speech, he set the audience at ease in his opening by stating that he was "speaking to the wrong crowd" (implying that there was no need to convince those in attendance of the merits of Aliyah).

Serok delineated three different categories of privileges: those which last for three years, four years, and five years after arrival in Israel. He then proceeded to describe the three different types of privileges, and the categories into which they fit, including customs, government loans, absorption, housing, and purchasing. Included in absorption privileges, according to Serok, is a two-year subsidy of education in either graduate or undergraduate studies, after which government loans can be obtained at a low interest rate.

Serok then turned to different types of personal status, dealing specifically with two categories. A "returning minor" (someone born in Israel who left before reaching fourteen and returned after the age of seventeen) and a person born abroad with at least one Israeli parent have similar statuses, according to the guest speaker. In both cases, one can visit Israel for up to one year as a tourist; after that point, his immigration rights/privileges begin to take effect. Upon hearing this, Shahr Zadok, a YC sophomore who spent two years in Israel at Yeshivat HaKibbutz HaDati, and whose father is Israeli, exclaimed, "I'd better call my lawyer."

To conclude his formal lecture, the shaliach touched upon the military obligations of new immigrants. After pointing out that women who make Aliyah after age eighteen do not have to serve at all, he discussed the different requirements for males, which vary according to age and family status at time of arrival. However, Serok's central theme of the evening was that every case is unique, and should be treated as such. "Call your local Shaliach," he said. "Make sure to find out which rules apply to you."

The speech was co-sponsored by Chug Bnei Akiva and the Aliyah Club.

Students Abandon Dorms for Apartments Citing Meal Plan and High Expenses

by Yisroel Holczer

Many students living on campus this year have noticed a phenomenon not seen in the dorms in recent years -- a proliferation of empty dorm rooms. Although Morgenstern, Muss, and Rubin Residence Halls can accommodate 830 students; this year, only 780 students are living in the dorms. This is a decline from 1989's record residency figure of 900, when some students were forced to "triple up," while still other students moved into floor lounges.

Muss Exodus

One of this year's "dorm trends" has been the exodus of many Muss Hall students to the other two dormitories. Consider the plight of Elie Gertel, a sophomore who spent the fall semester in Israel. Upon his arrival at YU this semester, Gertel requested a room in Muss Hall, (which currently boasts most of the vacant rooms), because "it is right on top of the Beit Midrash, and has more of the 'crowd' I am looking for." When Gertel saw the room, he was not impressed, stating that "the size of the available rooms in Muss were too small, whereas the rooms in Rubin were much larger." Subsequently, Gertel and his roommate switched to Rubin Hall, where they currently reside.

Although many students cynically refer to Muss Hall as "dead" or "on a different campus," Muss Hall's Head Resident Advisor Herschel Yeres noted

that "students choose Muss based on their own agenda. Some students come to Muss because they wish to be closer to the Beit Midrash, while others come because they are of the opinion that Muss is a quieter dorm." Nevertheless, many students observe that the Beit Midrash is the only University facility proximate to Muss Hall; furthermore, the labyrinth-like hallways cause confusion and frustration.

Apartments Gaining Popularity

Even more significant than students switching dorms is the increasing number of students who are fleeing the dorms for neighboring apartment buildings. Ten students who dormed on campus last semester have chosen to live in the apartments, joining dozens of students who already reside in the many apartment buildings surrounding YU's campus. One of the students, senior Elly Katz (formerly of Morgenstern Hall), is glad he made the change, commenting that "living in an apartment is great. I get to see people other than my classmates. I'm not forced to eat in the cafeteria, and now if my grandmother comes to visit me, she can see where I live. But most importantly, I found new life. I have cool roommates, freedom to entertain any guests I choose, and when I come home at night, I feel like a real person, not just a student."

Students not living in the dorms are also exempt from YU's \$1300 compulsory meal plan. Third year

apartment veteran Brent Levison remarked, "it's nice not to be forced to eat all your meals in the same place every day. I can choose from a variety of eating establishments."

Apartments Cheaper than Dorms

Additionally, for many students, living in the apartments also makes economic sense. The average rent for an apartment near YU ranges from \$600 to \$1,000 per month, which is usually split between three or four roommates. When compared to YU's dorm fee of \$2,650 per student per year, those students who live in an apartment generally pay less than those who live in the dorms. Moreover, it should be noted that YU's dormitories consist of a single room that is shared with a roommate, whereas an apartment features a kitchen, living room, private bathroom, and often more than one bedroom.

Ron Levy, a freshman who left Rubin Hall last December to experience life in the apartments, emphasized the benefits of having one's own room. "It's bigger, and I don't have to deal with people who leave food in the hall. I can choose to have friends over to watch a movie. When you live in the dorm, you subject yourself to the dorm's rules; here, you only have to follow Ron's rules. Additionally, Shabbos is a lot more special in your own home."

Burton Katz, a junior who has lived in an apartment for two years, added, "it's cheaper [living in an apartment], and

moreover, it has a personal, living room-type atmosphere."

"Filthy" Dorm Hallways Turn Off Students

Some students believe that the poor maintenance condition of YU's dormitories is compelling some students to move to apartments. Ronen Zour, a sophomore who made the switch after the fall semester, pointed out that "when I was living in Rubin Hall, my floor was very rowdy. Its hallway was filthy, and the floor was literally covered with garbage. It always seemed like there was no supervision, and sometimes the supervision was the cause of many of the problems, such as noisy get-togethers during early hours of the morning. Sometimes I wondered how our dorm counselor was chosen. It was very difficult to get up in the morning when I fell asleep at 4 A.M. In the apartment, I can get to sleep at a reasonable hour."

Reflects Decline in Enrollment

Nonetheless, Director of Residence Halls Rabbi Joshua Cheifetz asserts that the decline in dorm residency is not the fault of his department, noting that "obviously, the decline in student enrollment [at YU] has a direct impact on the decline of dorming students. No one sees it as a residence hall problem." He also points out that although fifty dormitory students moved out after the fall semester, many because they graduated, there are 68 new students dorming this semester, many freshly arrived from Israel. Cheifetz forecasts a significant rise in students who will dorm on campus next year, stating that "more students will be coming from Israel next year, due to an expanded Israel program."



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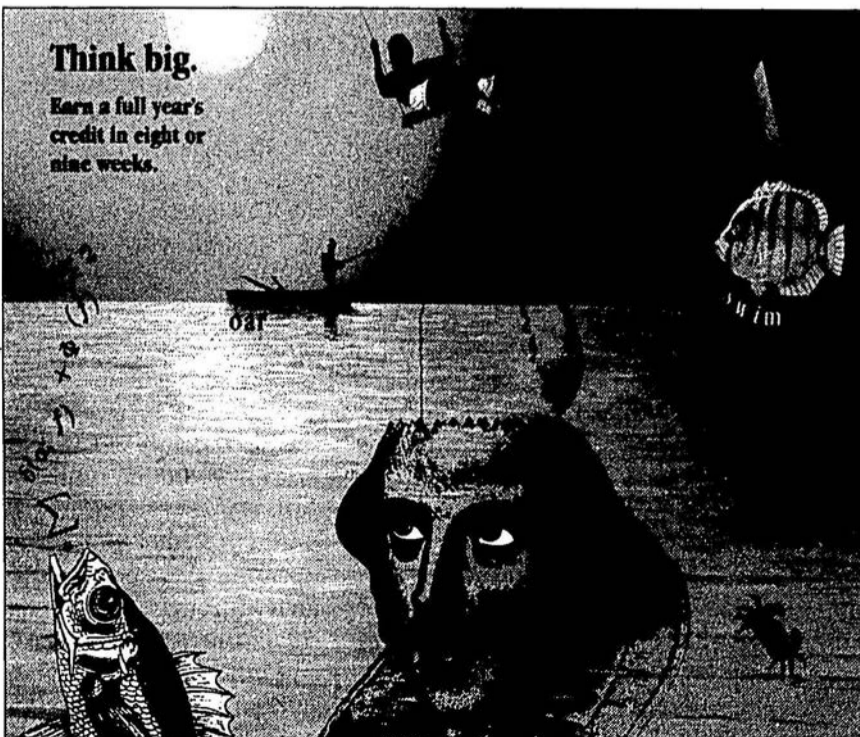


Old Green Cards To Be Phased Out

The Immigration and Naturalization Service recently Announced that form I-151 Alien registration Card (the older version of the Green Card) will be phased out. Before August 2, 1993, holders of this card will need to apply to immigration for form I-551, the new version of the Green Card.

Aliens needing to replace their Green Cards need to apply to I.N.S. on Form I-90 Application to replace alien Registration Receipt card. The I-90 application must be filed in person at the I.N.S. office having jurisdiction over the applicant's place of residence. The form must be accompanied by two photographs and a \$70 fee. Information and application forms can be obtained by calling 1-800-755-0777.

If you require additional information please contact Mrs. Vivian Owing in the International Student Office, Tannenbaum Hall, Room 106 (ext. 366).



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RESPONSA

continued from page 2

Yeshiva University, Torah U'madah:

A cry from the cauldron of chaos

Here I lie
I am trapped
Steel bars weigh upon my chest
Pressing me to the ground

Explode! Explode!
How the internal fires of the soul
battle
Waves of molten lava within my breast
explode! Explode!

Where to run -- Away! Away!
Burst open -- the volcano erupts
The lava, uncontrollable, shoots in
all directions

Wave after Wave after Wave
inundates the city below
oh, the mighty wave
encompasses all in its path
leaving a calm absolute
silence
in its track

Yet the lava continues
to simmer within me
bubbling
like heated water a moment
before it bursts into full boil
Bubbles of air wildly darting
in every direction
especially upwards and out.

Who sees my soul
who feels my feel
Place your hand upon me
and soothe me

Who am I?
My name is Yeshiva University.

Talmid X
(Name Withheld Upon Request)

In Defense of Polo Shirts

To the Editor,

For a long time, I have argued with many over the issue Mr. Goldstein raised in the last issue of the Commentator. I do not know Mr. Goldstein but I am assuming that he is a very serious student with only good intentions. But due to the nature of this issue, as the saying goes, I beg to differ.

During the week, I wear Polo shirts, Bugle Boy pants, white tube socks and Docksidors. On Shabbos, I (gasp!) wear a sweater to shul. I therefore ask: Does the fact that I choose not to dress "yeshivish" make my intensity towards avodas Hashem any lesser? Is it really necessary to dress in Shabbos shoes, jackets and hats to create a Torah atmosphere here in YESHIVA University? Do I need to change from Clark Kent into Superman in order to be closer to Hashem and to SURVIVE? I

think, in fact I know, that there are many people, who don't dress "yeshivish," in YU whose limud Torah and avodas Hashem are right up there with guys from other yeshivos who dress "yeshivish." Aside from them, is a dress code really necessary to keep the rest of us in-line? I think not. Instead of trying to be slightly innovative and improve the Torah atmosphere, you look at other places and say: Since they look down on us and say we're not a yeshiva at all, let's try to be like them. Instead of maybe emulating the intense limud Torah at other yeshivos (which is not to say that YU is lacking this), you choose rather to look at the dress code. You look at the chizoniut instead of pinimiyut. This is the flaw in your argument.

As far as I go, in the couple of years during which I attended yeshiva, I picked up one small item which to some may not seem so important -- but to me it means the most: "Al tistakail bakankan ela bima sheyesh bo." (Pirkei Avot 4, 27)

Ephy Gopin
YC '93

Zealots, Stetsons and Borselinos

In the most recent issue of the Commentator, a Yeshiva zealot, G-d Bless him, submitted that the YU community sling away its Dockers and Simpsons tee-shirts in exchange for new wool pants and Black Borselinos. This is all well and good - good one - but the author neglected a number of compelling problems that would arise with the advent of his proposal.

I, as well as many of my classmates, left Northwest Catholic High School with the hope of forever leaving behind the conformist plaid skirts and brown penny loafers. Under this recently proposed dress code, however, I would give up anything - even my newly purchased Aryeh Kaplan spy thriller novel - to return to the colorful world of checkered skirts.

First and foremost, the very fabric of the proposed pants themselves presents an immediate concern. Simply put - wool itches. The very thought of the whole idea sends shivers down my spine: a throng of penguins sitting in the Beit Midrash, classes, cafeteria, or basketball game, all clawing at their inner thighs attempting to alleviate the obnoxious pricking of wool threads poking their flesh. The author further overlooked the fact that cold winter will soon give way to a scalding summer. Black and wool are very few people's favorite words in the middle of July. 'Nough said.

Other issues will erupt as well. If a student wishes to work off the excess energy he'll build up from his new found desire to sit and learn in the Beis Medrish all day, will he be allowed to remove his Stetson? An even touchier question - will the new rules allow him to peel off - or in many cases chisel off - his wool

trousers? And then there's the issue of socks. If the author concedes that on the courts, wool shorts - but not too short - will be allowed, what color socks will be enforced? Surely those of the white species would be shunned. Only dark - preferably black, but we'll allow dark blue to slide. And, of course, any leg that does show, must be as pale, if not whiter than the walls of the house in which our President resides.

I won't address the everyday sock wear question - it's too volatile an issue to attack - but I feel obligated to address another, more pressing concern - the question of outer footwear. I don't think I'm crawling too far out on a limb when I suggest that Timberlands would find home in the shoe graveyard, along with Air Jordans and Penny Loafers. Or would Penny Loafers meet the new standards? My initial instinct tells me that the Reebok company - specifically low top and - you guessed it - black in color, would be welcoming a new wave of business.

I'm only going to scratch the other volcanic issue - the underwear question. Sure, the occasional rebel would get away with a hidden pair of tiger stripes or Aqua-man underroos, so the price would seemingly be too high to even attempt to enforce a "Fruit of the Loom Clause"? Or would that be a "Hanes Clause"? or a "Calvin Klein Clause"? See? It's way too sensitive.

So here's my "Modest Proposal" (Oh, by the way, before I forget, the real Modest Proposal was Jonathan Swift's 1729 suggestion that the starving Irish population eat their young. Apropos, don't you think?) I'll agree to ditch my seatless Sergio Valente's, and harness on a brand spanking new pair of Payne

Stewart Special Knickers - preferably plaid. The daring student will be permitted - but only on occasion - to hitch on a pair of Joan Baez bell bottoms. Platform shoes will cover sockless feet. Shirt-wear, however, seems to present a slightly more inflammatory issue so I succumb to pressure and compromise by calling for all students to wear light-blue ruffled tuxedo tops - the longer the collar, the better.

Finally, I intentionally overlook the earring question. Yes, this is an issue of dress, but I am too sensitive to the Rabbinical distress over that one earring in many students' left ears - they want students to put rings in both lobes - so I will leave this issue to the higher ups. But I feel I must confront another issue of apparel the author seemingly forgot - tatoos. As I write, a burly German named Klaus is etching in my right ankle a colorful two tablet design with a snake and sword running through it. Enveloping the illustration will be a heart surrounded by the words "I love Yiddishkite." I recommend similar such drawings be carved into every student so as to undeniably underscore our love and commitment to the values our institution professes.

The beauty of Yeshiva University is that one is always made painfully aware of when he - or she - has worn out his welcome. I am being thrown out the door as I write, so I'll sign off by cautioning the author to think twice before he tosses out his comfortable cotton slacks. Just remember, if you're not wearing Dockers, well, quite frankly, you're not wearing pants.

Yoni Kadden
YC '94

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Lakers, Heat Win Close Ones

by Daniel Gelbtuch

Lakers: 30 Celtics: 29

Last Tuesday's matchup featured an exciting defensive battle which went down to the wire. The Celtics, behind the solid play of Brian Kardon and rookie sensation Shlomo Kimmel (10 pts.), eked out a three point halftime lead. However, in the second half, the Lakers, led by Sid Singer and Ranan Well, kept it close. Finally, with five seconds left and the Lakers down by one, Steven Penn stole the ball and put in the winning basket to seal the victory.

Heat: 57 Sonics: 52

The Heat jumped out to their usual first half lead, due to a Sam Maryles and Baruki Cohen shooting clinic. Most importantly, the Heat were able to hold the Sonics offensive tandem of Avi Roth and Jeremy Bandler to a paltry eight points in the first half. However, in the second half, the Sonics caught up, partly due to the end-to-end hustle of Brian "Dawhs" Galbut and Seth Cohen. Finally, after Dani Davis' NBA three pointer tied the game with 20 seconds to play, Maryles sealed the victory with a Jordanesque layup and subsequent foul shot.

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Move Toward
Regionals**

Who Cares? defeats Do It For Byrd 61-57

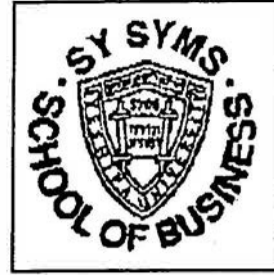
This close match between two excellent teams went down to the wire. Chaim Schiff and Neil Bromberg's offense coupled with Brad Nussbaum and Sol Genet's defense was too much for the hot Do It For Byrd team to handle. While Do It For Byrd played a solid game, it wasn't enough to defeat Who Cares?.

The favored Runaway Train also advanced and will face Rock The House in the quarterfinals.

The overall winner will play against the other regional champion teams on March 7 at Columbia. Good Luck to the remaining teams!

continued from page 16

Mark Levy, and Steven Tiger of The Magic Is Back were overlooked at the beginning of the tournament, but this team has turned it up a notch and find themselves in the semifinals. By defeating The Mix in a close game, this underdog has a chance to go all the way.



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2nd Place Macs Close Out Season with 3 Losses

Looking Forward to Playoffs at MSAC

by Michael Glass

The Macs' push to the playoffs continued last week with a total of four games in the span of a little over one week. First was the game against conference cellar dwellers NY PolyTech. In the game on February 11, the Macs easily took control and coasted to a 89-49 wipeout-- their most lopsided victory of the season. Igal Mellul led all scorers with 20 points (18 from downtown) and also pulled down 8 rebounds. The Macs shot 65% from the three point line and had little trouble dispensing with their opponents.

Fortunately, the opening round of the I.A.C. tournament finds the Macs pitted against the hapless PolyTech. (Story p. 16)

Next, on the 14th, the Macs traveled to the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at King's Point. The first half was a closely contested struggle and the Macs went into the locker room at halftime only trailing by only 7 points. However, they were unable to stop the hot hands of King's Point's Kevin Feigery and Brian Roche, who came off the bench and missed just 3 shots between the two of them, and accounted for over half the home team's points. The Macs, led by Miko Danan's 21 points, had cooled down considerably from their previous

shooting exhibition, and never really got their offense going in dropping an 86-65 game.

The Macs' problems continued in the next match-up, another road game, at rival St. Joseph's on the 16th. Daniel Aaron had a strong 29-point performance and Danan chipped in with 22, but little other support was provided, as St. Joe's avenged an earlier loss to the Macs at the MSAC, winning by a 76-71 margin.

It seemed as though this long stretch of games was beginning to wear out the Macs, but, unfortunately, there would be little time to rest as league leading powerhouse N.J.I.T. visited the Max Stern Gymnasium on Feb. 18 for the season's final regular season game. Tech showed why they are truly the class of the I.A.C. by exploding to a 25 point halftime lead before stretching it even further in a 92-57 triumph. The N.J.I.T. full court pressure gave the Macs great trouble and the Macs were never really able to set up anything effective offensively. The game marked the last regular season appearance for the team's Seniors, and Coach Johnny Halpert - in a nice gesture - allowed this to influence his substitutions and time allotment.

With the regular season over with a record of 11-9, the Macs set their sights on capturing the I.A.C. crown in the playoff tournament to be held right here in the MSAC.



1992-'93 Taubermen: Ending season with string of victories

Foil Leads Fencers in Routs of CCNY, Baruch

continued from page 16

contributed one victory as foil finished with a 6-3 record. In sabre, Williger scored his second career victory, while Dan Davis and Cohen each went 2-1. Epee scored a 6-3 record as Anhang, Dyckman, and rookie Reuben Levy each defeated 2 opponents.

Building on the momentum, Yeshiva crushed CCNY and Baruch 15-12, and 18-9, respectively, the following Wednesday. Against CCNY, epee led the charge, as CCNY's epee squad, lacking one of its members, immediately forfeited three bouts, and ultimately lost to Yeshiva 7-2. Continuing its remarkable turnaround, the foil squad defeated CCNY 5-4, with Azari again scoring a perfect 3-0 record. A strong CCNY sabre team spoiled the night for Yeshiva's sabre squad, which lost 6-3.

Baruch proved to be even less a match for Yeshiva, as the Taubermen shellacked Baruch 18-9 to put the icing on the cake. Foil finally realized its full potential as the squad posted an 8-1 record. Once again,

it was Azari leading the charge, going 3-0; Balkany matched him 3-0, and Faizakoff was close behind at 2-1. Epee won its eighth straight match as the squad went 6-3 for the evening; Anhang won all three of his bouts, with each bout extending past the six minutes of regulation time and into sudden death overtime. Sabre finished a difficult night by losing 5-4; Greenbaum and Cohen each amassed 2-1 records.

Said co-captain Lee Hammer, "...it's really a pleasure to see the team winning and having fun again. I think we've really gelled well together. My only regret is that we couldn't put it all together earlier in the year; had we fenced as well then as we're fencing now, we could have easily beat Hunter, Vasser, and Drew."

The Taubermen complete the fencing season next Thursday as they attempt to continue their winning ways against the toughest team on the schedule, St. John's.

Balanced Effort in Rout Allows Halpert to Rest Players for Mt. St. Vincent Showdown

continued from page 16

Halpert, trying to keep his players fresh for the second round game the next night, substituted often, and almost all the players saw some quality playing time. The Maccabees went into the locker room at halftime with a comfortable 43-22 lead.

In the second half, the Macs continued their dominance over the tired Polytech team, which only dressed six players. In fact, it took Tech until 14:47 to score their first points of the second half, which ended with YU winning by 40 points. Incredibly, YU only scored 1 of its 47 points in the second half from the free throw line!

Many Macs contributed to the win. Josh Dobin had his finest game of the year, finding his outside touch for 4 threes and 22 points. Daniel Aaron, who rested for much of the second half, finished with 20, and Miko Danan poured in 18. The game was essentially little more than a good practice outing for the Macs on their playoff path. Up next is Mt. St. Vincent, in a game scheduled for Tuesday night.

Although the Polytech game turned out to be a laugher, the semi-final match-up has the potential to be a hard fought contest. This issue of the Commentator went to print before the second round game took place.

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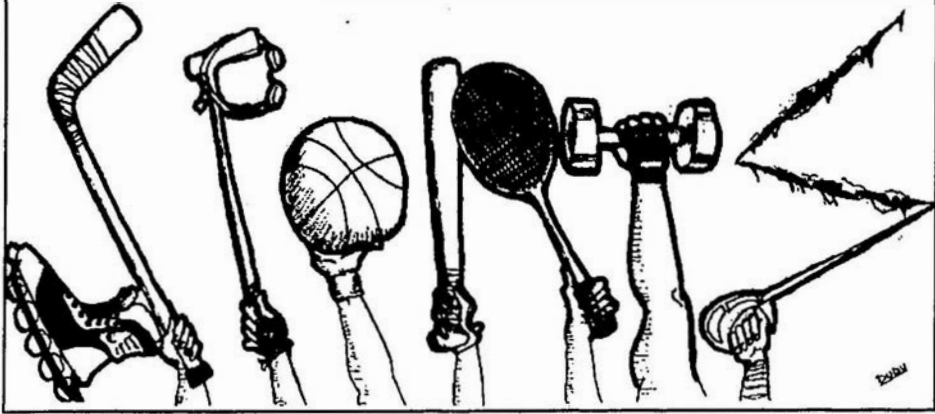
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IAC Playoff Picture

First Round	Semifinals	Finals	Semifinals	First Round
#1 New Jersey Tech	New Jersey Tech		MACS	#2 MACS
BYE	Tuesday 2/23 at MSAC	Thursday 2/25 at MSAC	Tuesday 2/23 at MSAC	Monday 2/22 at MSAC
#4 SUNY Maritime			Mt. St. Vincent	#7 Polytech
Monday 2/22 at SUNY Maritime				#3 Mt. St. Vincent
#5 Stevens Tech				Monday 2/22 at Mt. St. Vincent
				#6 Bard

Y E S H I V A



ON THE BALL

by Neil Bromberg

Donny Furst stole the ball from Lance Andrews at half court, drove to the basket for the layup, and just like that the New Jersey Tech lead was cut to 28. With the IAC tournament this week, Tech, wearing their home whites, displayed their superior offensive talent -- pounding on the Macs on the way to victory by a margin of 33. Apparently the Tech cherry-red uniforms, traditionally donned at away games, were stolen at their last home game. The team psyche did not seem upset by the matter (scoring 92 points). However, team members hoped to have the uniforms replaced by the tournament.

◆◆◆

The IAC basketball tournament, being played in our own Max Stern Athletic Center, should provide the YU sports fan with a fulfilling week of basketball. Monday night's single game scheduling had the Macs facing NY Poly Tech; double-header action resumes Tuesday night at 6PM, as the winner of the game featuring Maritime vs. Steven's Tech played the fearsome Jersey Tech squad. At 8PM, Mount St. Vincent, having won their game against Bard, will battle the Macs. The tourney finals will be played at 8PM Thursday night in the MSAC. (Down with the Dolphins, squish the fish!!!) Although no Macs players were willing to speak on the record, many expect to make it to Thursday's final game.

◆◆◆

In addition to the basketball tournament planned for next week, the IAC sponsored a volleyball tournament last Sunday at the New Jersey Tech campus. After winning the first game of the day against the Steven's Tech Ducks, the Macs dropped the next three, losing

Superhoops Winding Down to Semifinals

by David Wagner

The annual Schick Superhoops 3 on 3 competition is winding down and the top teams are now competing for a berth in the semifinals. Many talented teams have been eliminated in close games and the competition level has risen steadily. The final game is expected to be played before the end of the month so that Yeshiva University can send its winner to compete in the regionals at Columbia University. Recapping the exciting third-round and quarterfinals:

Altercockers Trounces Earwax 65-39

The Altercockers (Jason Horowitz, Andrew Leibowitz, Andrew Sosnay, and Brian Kardon) displayed their all

around talent by defeating one of the best outside shooting teams in the tournament. Earwax's Avi Gable, Avi Greenbaum, Jonny Shore, and Seth Farbman hit consistently from the perimeter, but were easily defeated by the superior Altercockers.

their first match of the day. However, after a two-hour layoff for lunch, the V-ball Macs rallied behind the strong-side hitting of Ralph Jakoel. After killing one ball down the throat of a Bard opponent, the young Albanian screamed, "You can print that in the paper!" The club went on to easily defeat the Bard club in three games, behind the consistent setting of Jeremy Bandler. NJIT was next up and swiftly cut through the Macs, treating them like a non-entity, and allowing them only six meager points in the match.

The Macs finished the day thoroughly exhausted with a quick victory over the Mount St. Vincent Dolphins (squish the fish!). The team continued regular season action on Sunday with a double-header versus Bard and Bridgeport. Avi Steinlauf, the self-proclaimed "Zeide" of the team, stated briefly, "We'll take 'em."

◆◆◆

While basketball intramurals are clearly the most popular after-hours activity, a hockey league does, in fact, exist. The league, which was more fashionable six years ago, struggles now to hold on to its life. However, with superstar players like Keith Mendelson and other notable ex-hockey greats joining the basketball league, the games are often forfeited and canceled. One reason, given by captain Jonathan Weinstein is, "... [the league] is just a pain in the butt. . . people are trying to juggle both leagues and it's just not feasible." The games are played in the Tannerbaum Gym on a time schedule similar to that of the basketball league. Without consistent participation by the student body, the threat exists that the semi-defunct league will collapse.

around talent by defeating one of the best outside shooting teams in the tournament. Earwax's Avi Gable, Avi Greenbaum, Jonny Shore, and Seth Farbman hit consistently from the perimeter, but were easily defeated by the superior Altercockers.

Chop Defeats Matt Klein's Team 32-29

In an extremely close match between last year's champion, The Chop, and Matt Klein's Team, defense turned out to be the deciding factor. Chop put on a talent exhibition and showed why they are one of the favorites to win it all again.

The Magic Is Back Over The Mix 62-58

Shlomo Kimmel, Hillel Schechter, continued on page 14

MACS ROMP IN PLAYOFF OPENER

40 Point Victory Opens Way to Mt. St. Vincent Rivals

by Michael Glass

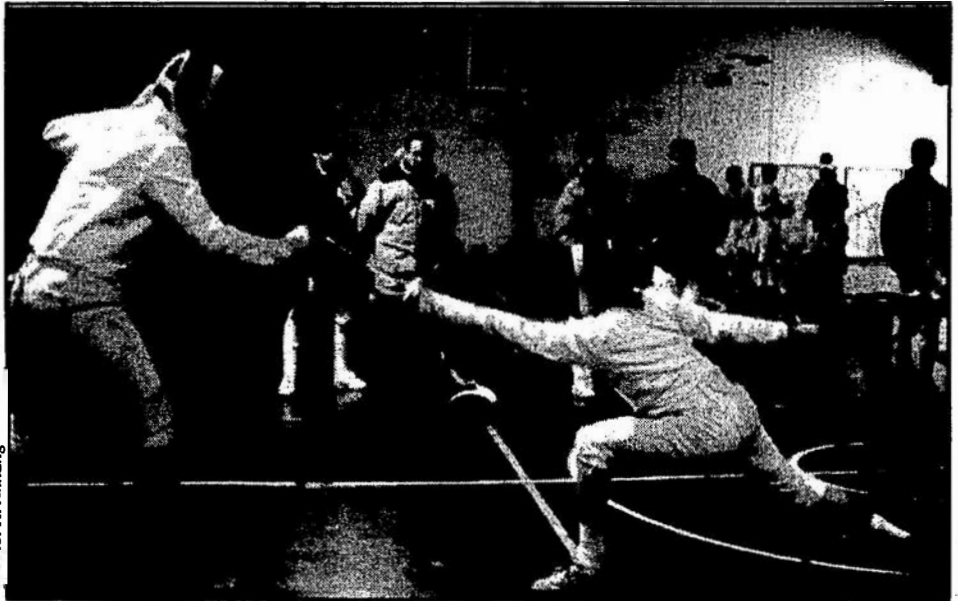
On Monday evening February 22, the Yeshiva Maccabees took their first step on the way to the Independent Athletic Conference (IAC) crown by humiliating N.Y. Polytech 90-50. The game was the first of three rounds of playoff contests that will be held at the Max Stern Athletic Center during the weekend February 28. (See chart on page 15).

The game, which was played in front of a relatively sparse, yet vocal crowd, got off to a rather peculiar start. During lay-up drills, one of the Mac players dunked the ball -- an illegal move during warmups -- resulting in a technical foul. Polytech was awarded two free throws before the clock ever started ticking, and led 2-0 and had possession of the ball at 20:00 of the first half. Unfortunately for Polytech, even a 25

point head start would not have been enough, as Yeshiva ran away with the game midway through the first half.

Yeshiva began the game using four seniors: Erez Ben-Ami, Dovid Cohen, Josh Dobin, and Saul Stepner all started, with center Daniel Aaron rounding out the five. After a regular season thrashing of Polytech, the Macs came out very confident and played a little sloppy in the early going. The game remained close in the opening minutes and Yeshiva only held a 13-11 lead with 12:42 left. It was not until after the Macs began to apply their patented pressure trap defense, that they were able to take control of the game and add to their lead. Daniel Aaron delighted the fans with a one handed slam at 6:32 to give the Macs a 31-15 lead, and from there, they just coasted to victory. Coach

continued on page 15



Ron Levy, of the Epee squad, gets tagged by a lunging opponent

Fencers Carve Up Competition
Team Wins Three Meets in a Row

by Nossional Kleinfeldt

A fencing team that Coaches Arnold Messing and Peter Rosas call "sharp and focused" slashed, stabbed, and stop-cut tough competition en route to victory at two recent tri-meets.

On Sunday, February 14, Lafayette and Steven's Tech visited Yeshiva for the first tri-meet. While the Taubermen lost to Lafayette, the meet was not without its emotional moments: rookie sabreman Robert Williger, substituting for Avi Greenbaum, scored his first career victory, while Elliott Cohen went 3-0 to lead sabre to a 5-4 record. En route

to epee's 5-4 victory, epee weapon's leader Adam Anhang and Joshua Dyckman both scored 2-1 records. Foil, until recently the team's Achilles heel, was able to muster only 2 victories.

Part two of the tri-meet resulted in a sound thrashing of Steven's Tech 17-10, as YU scored its first ever victory against the traditionally aggressive Tech team. After a difficult first two thirds of the season, foil suddenly came alive, as rookie sensation Shaun Azari eliminated three opponents in speedy fashion; team co-captain Adam Balkany added two victories, and Danny Faizakoff

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The Commentator

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Volume LVII 1992-1993

Macs "Squish the Fish" in Wild Semifinal

Danan Ties Conference Record With 31

by Michael Glass

It was always true of the Lakers and the Celtics and locally, in the NHL, the Rangers and the Islanders are another example. Classic matchups; games that are always very intense, exciting, games where more is at stake than just another win in the standings. In the I.A.C., the rivalry between Yeshiva and the Mt. St. Vincent Dolphins is quickly becoming a contest of similar magnitude. Last night, Wednesday, February 23, the two adversaries came head to head in a semi-final round contest of the I.A.C. playoffs, held here at the Yeshiva MSAC.

The game, which had its start delayed due to the late finish of the other semi-final game (N.J.I.T. blew out Steven's Tech), was eagerly anticipated by the fans as well as the players. During pre-game warmups, the Max Stern was abuzz as the large crowd was anxious to get the game underway and voice support for their team. Mt. St. Vincent also had their share of boisterous and loyal fans who had come to support their team on the road, and be a part of this growing rivalry.

Once underway, the game saw each team playing with a lot of emotion, and, in the early going, the score remained close. The Macs came out determined to hustle, and their tenacious work, especially on the offensive glass, helped them open up a nice lead. Three consecutive three pointers by Miko Danan (31 points, 8 rebounds) advanced them to a 20-9 lead. Yeshiva continued to play tough and a Daniel Aaron bucket with just under four minutes left gave the Macs a 14 point lead -- their biggest of the half until then. However, when the buzzer sounded, ending the impressive first half performance by the Macs, the score was 41-22.

However, the Dolphins came out strong in the second half. Using a full court press, Mt. St. Vincent was determined not to fall easily to their rivals. The Macs seemed to lose the cohesiveness that they had earlier displayed, and scored only 4 points in the first 5 and 1/2 minutes. With the momentum shifting the Dolphins' way, the YU fans began to nervously check the clock. Another three by Danan helped spark the fans, who now became more vocal, and would soon become an even bigger factor than previously expected. Then, Mt. St. Vincent cut the lead to 10, trailing only 49-39, and continued to press. With 7:10 remaining, the Dolphins had made the score 56-50, and YU called a timeout to stop the momentum and keep the game from slipping out of their hands. The Macs got their wish, but in an unfortunate manner.

The strong emotions that come with such an important game and within such a rivalry got the best of some Mt. St. Vincent supporters and Mac fans seated near each other. Problems had arisen in the past with certain Dolphin followers that have attended other games here at YU. Again, these troublemakers caused a ruckus and seemed to instigate a scuffle with a group of YU students that spilled onto the court, even involving some players, and causing the game to be delayed.

After Burns Security adeptly settled the mob, Mt. St. Vincent headed for the locker room, and Mac coach Johnny Halpert asked the fans to control their emotions. Saying that "no game is worth this type of incident," he told fans that if they did not show restraint, they would be asked to leave the gym for the duration of the game. Things returned to normal, and the teams shook hands, but YU had unexpectedly benefitted from the outburst. The almost 20 minute holdup seemed to take away

all of the Dolphins' momentum, and the fans now got into the game more than ever.

From this point on, a second game was played, one that saw the Macs return to their first half form, and take the game back from the now distracted Mt. St. Vincent team. The Maccabees returned to a comfortable 13 point lead at 72-59. The Dolphins were forced to continuously foul the Macs to stop the clock, but were unable to close the gap. Chants of "We want Tech," and "N-J-I-T" were heard, referring of course to the now determined Championship Game, to be played Thursday night against the solid N.J. Tech team.

The game ended at a score of 81-63 as Aaron finished with 22 points and 10 boards, and Danny First had his best game of the year with

13 points, 5 rebounds, and 4 steals. Danan, with a performance that is sure to be remembered, scored 31 points and tied the IAC record for most points in a conference playoff game. As a team, the Macs finished the game shooting 60% from behind the three point line.

While all fans are certainly anticipating the upcoming title game, and hoping for an upset, many realize that they probably have already seen the best contest of this year's playoffs. This was a game that was intense throughout and enjoyable to watch, despite its brief "intermission." Even though everyone knows where they will be this Thursday night (8 o'clock in the MSAC), many others are already penciling off on their calendars next year's first rematch of Mt. St. Vincent and YU, a rivalry that is sure to continue for some time.