

The Commentator

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After 60 Years of Service, Miller Retires

by Daniel Lowe

After sixty illustrious years of involvement with Yeshiva University, Dr. Israel Miller has announced his resignation as of August 31, 1994. Widely recognized as a major leader of both American and world Jewry, Dr. Miller has been Senior Vice President of YU for the last 15 years, and has served as an administrator of the university since 1968.

A native of Baltimore, Maryland, Dr. Miller's association with YU began in September 1934 when he entered Yeshiva College as a freshman. He graduated magna cum laude in 1938,



Rabbi Israel Miller, soon to retire

received ordination from RIETS in 1941, and received a Master's degree from Columbia University in 1949. In 1967, Dr. Miller was awarded an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree by Dr. Samuel Belkin, then President of YU.

'Never Really Left'

In his resignation letter sent to Dr. Lamm, Dr. Miller said, "I

continued on page 13

New Program To Bring YU High Schools Closer to Other Divisions

by Moshe I. Kinderlehrer

After years of meetings and planning sessions, both Yeshiva University High Schools, the Marsha Stern Talmudical Academy for Boys (MTA) and the Samuel H. Wang School for Girls (Central), are finally set to move ahead with a brand new program of integration and coordination with the undergraduate and graduate schools of Yeshiva University.

The new program, which will be formally announced in an advertisement to be run in this week's *Jewish Week* and *Jewish Press*, will allow students at the YU High Schools far greater access to the educational resources of YU than ever before. The ad, which was released to *The Commentator* prior to its publication, outlines the highlights of the new program. Among the features of the program are: new Torah

Studies courses and programs to be taught by Roshei Yeshiva, new college-credit course electives and mini-courses for outstanding students to be given by YC and SCW faculty, and the use of YU facilities such as the Gottesman Pool, the Library, and the Max Stern Athletic Center. Moreover, there are planned research internships to be conducted at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, as well as Moot Court and legal internships to be conducted by the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, and a Chavrusa Mentors Program at all high school levels involving undergraduate and s'micha students.

Shmidman to Head Program

Rabbi Dr. Michael Shmidman, currently the University Dean of Undergraduate Jewish Studies for the Isaac Breuer College and the James Striar School, will be



Rabbi Dr. Shmidman will direct the new program

guiding and overseeing the implementation of the new program with the aid and assistance of the present administrators of the high schools, Rabbi George Finkelstein, Mrs. Rookie Billet, and Dr. Richard Geldard, as well as an advisory council of *roshei yeshiva*, undergraduate deans, and various administrators of the University. Rabbi Shmidman will be actively involved in supervising the curriculum, faculty, and educational programs of the high schools.

The goals of the program are,

continued on page 8

YU Looking to Fill Two New Posts

by David Merklin and Ryan S. Karben

In an aggressive attempt to boost enrollment and promote alumni involvement in school activities, the university administration has begun accepting resumes for newly created university-wide posts in admissions and alumni affairs. The new spots to be filled are the Dean of Enrollment Planning and Services and the Director of Alumni Affairs.

The occupants of both new positions will report directly to Academic Vice President Dr. William Schwartz, who has

wasted no time in making academic and personnel decisions since his arrival last October.

In a related development, Carol Roth of the YC Registrar's office has been named Acting Registrar, replacing the retiring Pinchas Friedenberg. Friedenberg resigned his position to take a job with Touro College.

The decision to hire a Dean of Enrollment Planning and Services has attracted some discussion in light of concerns about enrollment at the undergraduate male schools.

continued on page 8

Max Stern Scholarship Undergoing Change

by Ryan S. Karben

The University's Golding Scholarship Task Force has agreed on a plan to restructure the undergraduate merit scholarship programs, including the doubling of the award in the current Max Stern Scholars program to \$10,000 for new recipients.

The \$40 million bequest from the late Rachel Golding announced this past November contains within it \$12 million for scholarships at the university's undergraduate and graduate schools. While the gift did not specify that the funds be used solely for new scholarships, Academic Vice President Dr. William Schwartz, who served as an ex-officio member of the committee, dismisses complaints from some current Stern scholars that their award should be increased as well.

The Golding funds could not have come at a better time for the Stern Scholars program,

whose future had been clouded by the Stern family's decision to discontinue funding for the program. Recent funding for the program had come from the University's general endowment.

YC Associate Dean Michael Hecht, Chairman of the Max Stern Scholars Selection Committee, says that the new configuration of the merit scholarship program will consist of three different awards. The current standards for the Max Stern scholarship - superior academic performance, demonstrated communal leadership and a commitment to the institutional philosophy of Torah U'Madda - will be retained by the Golding Distinguished Scholars Program, though the award will increase from the current five thousand dollar scholarship to a ten-thousand dollar tuition subsidy. A "Dean's Scholarship" of five thousand dollars will be expanded to

accommodate students who meet the criteria of the Stern scholarship, but, for a variety of reasons, are technically unable to receive it.

The Belkin Scholars Program, which is currently bestowed upon students with demonstrated academic ability, will retain its name and its award will also be doubled from the current fifteen-hundred dollar scholarship to a three-thousand dollar tuition break.

Academic Vice President Schwartz, in comments echoed by Hecht, hopes that the expansion of the programs will augment the University's efforts to attract high caliber students. Hecht says that the Stern Scholars program, over its ten year history, has been "extraordinarily successful in attracting extraordinarily talented people with a commitment to real scholarship and a serious approach to Judaic Studies."

Hecht concedes, though, that

continued on page 15



Yossi Jayinski pictured with teenagers from Junior High School 143. He is part of a program intended to help foster understanding and good will between YU and the local community. See Focus on page 6.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

YU Sends Students to Recruit in Israel

In an innovative new program, Yeshiva sent three student leaders to Israel for winter break to recruit at the Yeshivot there.

Page 7

Student Notebook: The LA Earthquake

YU students relate their experiences and emotions after experiencing the LA quake of January 17.

Page 11

YU Mac Seriously Injured in Game Against NYU

YU forward Miko Danan suffers a season ending injury against NYU.

Page 16

Academic and Ideological Guidance

The university recently announced the formation of an academic advisement center. Recent op-eds on the pages of this newspaper, specifically those written by Dr. Will Lee and Rav Aharon Kahn, beg the question: what will students be advised to do? Will they be encouraged to take Art History and broaden their "worldly" horizons? Or will they be encouraged to take a language, thereby enabling them to avoid "halachically problematic" art? Will students be told to major in the liberal arts and thus be exposed to diverse cultures and ideas? Will the advisors be adherents of Torah U'Madda? Will they stress Yeshiva? University? A combination of both?

We are confused as to what the university's ideology is, and we feel that the current ideological crisis might somehow manifest itself in an academic advisement center.

This debate is polarizing the inhabitants of this campus. The university is obligated to outline exactly what should be accepted and what should be rejected. Yeshiva University truly has a unique position in the world. To maintain this position, it must clearly define its mission and remain firm in it.

Yet More Bureaucrats

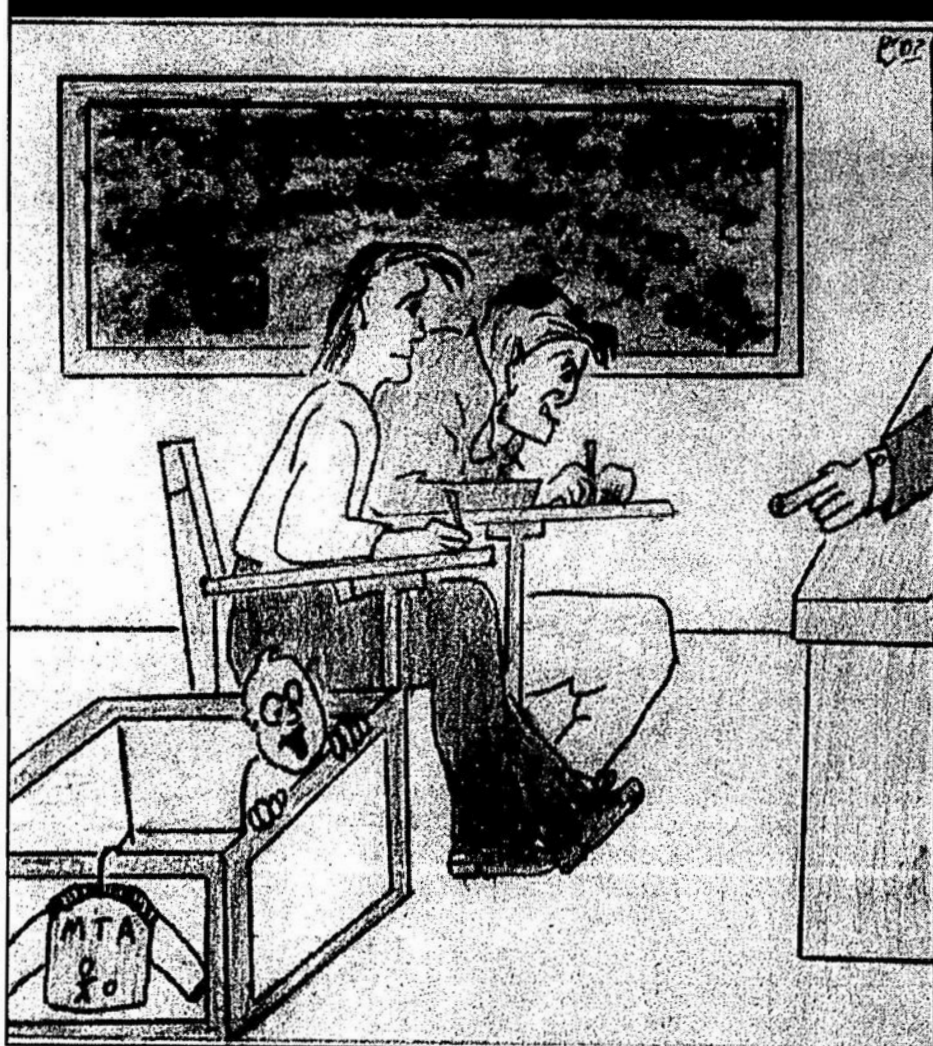
YU, like so many other universities in America, has been under ever-increasing financial pressures as a result of the recession that currently stifles the American economy. Maintenance personnel have been laid off, and crucial positions in various offices have been eliminated. Moreover, the search for a solution to the problem of inordinately low faculty salaries has not exactly been aided by the nation's economic malaise.

So what does YU do in these troubled times? It adds yet more bureaucrats to an already bloated upper-level administration. Yeshiva has created two new University-wide posts: Dean of Enrollment Planning and Services, and Director of Alumni Affairs.

Many faculty members and mid-level administrators question the need for these posts, as do we. In addition, the University has not even clearly determined the exact role of the new enrollment dean. Why hire someone whose duties are not even defined?

Rather than hiring yet more bureaucrats, the University should learn from the example set by the many corporations currently downsizing managerial staff. Logically, this streamlining should be done at all levels, within the upper echelons of the administration as well as among those at the lower end. To create redundant and expensive bureaucratic positions only serves to divert money from areas where it could be put to better use.

P I C T O R I A L



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RESPONSA

Halacha is Paramount

To the Editor,

In reading Howard "Smiling John" Katz's letter, I can appreciate his commitment to education and his devotion to writing and expression. Unfortunately, I cannot say the same regarding his feelings toward *halacha*. Not knowing what kind of "Modern Orthodoxy" Mr. Katz is referring to, I cannot understand the true meaning of his letter. However, I think that Mr. Katz is missing the point of the entire issue. He readily concedes that there may have been a problem *halachically* with his story. In that case, what issue is there?

Halacha, as defined by the corpus of Jewish Law that we here at YU study, is not a rule book for the synagogue or a guide of what to do during Jewish holidays. *Halacha* is a systematic code for the every day life of every Jew. It is a code of behavior that tells us what and how to eat, how to dress, how to sleep, and also how to speak. *Halacha* regulates every day, every hour, even every minute in the life of a Jew. Indeed, one of the four *Turim* is aptly named *Orach Chaim* - "The Way of Life" to convey that message. If something is in violation of *halacha* it is

improper behavior for a Jew.

But what of the idea of freedom of expression, a freedom that we as Americans cherish? This very freedom allows us, as Jews, to practice our religion as we wish. Nevertheless, would we condone the eating of *trief* in the name of freedom of expression? What if some students decided to accept *Yushka* as an expression of their "modern" Jewish views? Would we allow them to write a journal, form a Jews for *Yushka* society on campus, or distribute their propaganda to the students of Yeshiva? What if, in writing an article for a literary journal, a real piece of known *loshon hora* is mentioned? Would it be better to publish the article in the name of expression or refrain from being *malbin es pnei haveiro b'rabim* [embarrassing one's friend publicly]?

All these situations are protected by the Bill of Rights, yet contravene *Halacha*. This is also the case concerning the *nivul peh* in the article "Smiling John".

Mr. Katz states, "I believe I have been denied a fundamental right to properly participate and express myself as a human being in society." I take no issue with that right. As a citizen of a Western country his rights are protected. However what does he mean by "properly"? Who sits in judgement of proper expression? For Jews, *frum* Jews in particular, the judge is *HaShem* and his rules are known as *halacha*. Certainly

continued on page 9

**Mazal Tov to Commentator columnist
Avi Sussman and his wife Rina on the
birth of a baby girl, Yael Michal.**

RESPONSA

Yeshiva? University? Both?

The Debate is for Members Only

To the Editor,

The Torah U'madda debate has in the past flared up many times in many forms. Most recently, it reared its head with the Kol scandal. This time, however, it arrived with a twist.

Widely received at YU as a first rate intellectual possessing similar ethical credentials, Dr. Will Lee entered the fray. Some have accepted Dr. Lee's thoughtful and articulate essay while others have taken issue. I have chosen a third path. Though I read Dr. Lee's article, I reject his comments out of hand.

By choosing to print the essay, *The Commentator* editors seem to have missed a fundamental point. Dr. Lee, whose deliberate sensitivity and honest intentions are beyond question, has no place in the Torah U'madda debate. His comments do not flow from an internal or intuitive Jewish religious experience. They offer at worst the best that academia has to offer - a detached dispassionate intellectual analysis. At best his thoughts represent excellent sociological commentary due to greater intimacy with the subjects under consideration.

But Torah U'madda is none of that. Rather, its adherents claim that Torah U'madda represents one of the *shiv'im panim* through which a Jew may become closer to the *Kadosh Baruch Hu* and hence become a better Jew. Whatever formulation one offers, it flows from an inner religious sense and sensitivity motivating the individual to achieve a certain set of goals: *d'veykus* to Hashem, commitment to His Torah, and observance of His *mitzvos*.

What can a person who possesses no visceral connection to the *Nosain HaTorah* contribute to the Torah U'madda debate. Objective intellectualism may serve the

halls of academia well, but Torah U'Maddah demands a certain set of assumptions, a preconceived outcome, and most importantly, a Jewish religious experience moving the individual in his analysis towards the advancement of *Yahadus*.

The Commentator editors failed to realize that it is irrelevant that Dr. Lee may have, in any particular instance, offered a view which does, in fact, advance the cause of *yahadus*. This debate is for members only. Because only a member might possibly have the requisite foundation from which a legitimate viewpoint may emerge.

If one accepts that YU has a mission, then that mission is to actively help its students become better Jews through a path called Torah U'madda. (For those who argue a more utilitarian purpose such as advancement in secular studies without losing the benefit of a daily shiur, opening the doors of professional schooling to Jewish clientele, meeting a spouse from a similar background, etc..., I respond that these objectives are for YU, at most, anachronistic. In today's society, the pragmatic advantages that YU offers may be found in a variety of other settings.)

Thus, by presenting the Torah U'madda views of a non-Jewish college faculty member, *The Commentator*, perforce, transforms these views into a legitimate and powerful voice in the Torah U'madda debate - an option like any other.

To do so is an affront to Torah U'madda adherents, a disservice to the Torah U'madda debate, and provides an excellent, though unnecessary, catalyst for confusion among students now formulating their own understanding of Torah U'madda and who are now developing their own *derech* of *Avodas Hashem*.

Etan Tokayer

Without Open Inquiry, There is No University

To the Editor,

As a member of the Yeshiva College faculty for almost twenty-five years, I would like to respond briefly to Rav Aharon Kahn's argument for the primacy of Torah values at the college. Rav Kahn's appeal, although eloquent and often moving, shows little regard for the spirit of open inquiry so crucial to the modern university. Yet, without that spirit, there can be no modern university, as Dr. Will Lee has stated so well.

Such a gap between Torah and secular perspectives may be inevitable at our institution. The yeshiva and the college have always somewhat uneasily inhabited a single space, their co-existence frequently a matter of compromise. There are many *yeshivot* in the United States, as there are many colleges, and full-time study at either would unquestionably give students an opportunity for more intense learning, whether religious or secular, than is possible within the constricts of our

double program.

But, as we all know, "there is only one Yeshiva University," and it is precisely that uniqueness we should all cherish. As Rav Kahn informs us, the yeshiva of Wolozin closed its doors in opposition to onerous secular regulation (although the analogy is inexact, the Russians mandating severe limitations on Torah study). Is this what we want - that Yeshiva College, too, close its doors? Employing a metaphor derived from the banners decorating the uptown campus, Rav Kahn asserts, "We want our banners whole, not full of holes." Yet the holes, deliberately slashed to prevent wind damage, are what keep the banners flying. Surely, it is better to have torn but waving YU banners than to have banners rigidly constricted or in tatters, or - as occurred with the Wolozin yeshiva - to have no banners at all.

(Dr.) Joan G. Haahr
Professor of English

"Monistic Versus Binocular Vision"

To the Editor,

Not that Rabbi Kahn needs or wants my applause, but I honestly do applaud his heartfelt, often eloquent espousal of the yeshiva as an institution which safeguards "one halacha" with its roots sunk deep in "one Torah." At the same time, his essay reveals all the weaknesses as well as all the strengths of a monistic viewpoint. His lofty inspiration, vibrant exhortation, steadfast conviction, and simple formulations sacrifice subtleties, complexities, and transformations, all of which he might well reject as allied with the multiple-minded slide into secularism and decadence which he identifies with the modern world.

I found Rabbi Kahn's account of the principled stand of the Yeshiva of Wolozhin moving, for instance, but the invited analogy between imperial Russia and the New York Board of Regents seems at the very least loose. I can see nothing in his essay which differs from the ultraorthodox position that the one and only viable choice for a committed Torah Jew in the modern world is withdrawal within the walls of a protective, homogeneous, monistic yeshiva, in effect recreating Wolozhin in Washington Heights.

That position is coherent, principled, and consistent, but it willfully blinkers so much as a sidelong glance at the founding, mission, and history of Yeshiva College, let alone of the Bernard Revel Graduate School, let alone of Stern College for Women, let alone of Yeshiva University. Revel based his noble experiment on his own confidence, born out of his own temperament and experience, that Jewish and general studies could and would reinforce each other. As his model for general studies

he turned to established American colleges and universities, especially City College of New York, known in those days of quotas as "the Harvard of the Jews," along with the University of Pennsylvania, Columbia, Yale, and Harvard itself. He did make changes from the curricula of those distinguished institutions, but they certainly didn't include eliminating literature and the rest of the humanities; indeed, five of the seven original departments included branches of the secular humanities. The only course of study he outlawed outright was theology, which blatantly ran counter to Torah values. Bible, Hebrew, and Jewish history, philosophy, and ethics, his additions to the mainstream liberal arts curriculum of his day, changed it much more substantially than his one subtraction did. While Revel placed Torah at the center of everything, like all his successors as President, he and they pursued "both/and" lines of thinking; their vision was binocular.

Rabbi Kahn's vision seems to me more appropriate to RIETS than to Yeshiva College, but ironically, some of the pages of the history of that institution seem strikingly parallel to the currents and needs within the Jewish religious world that led Revel to found and define the mission of Yeshiva College. In the early 1900's, long before Revel arrived on the scene, a conservative Board of Directors shared Rabbi Kahn's point of view in that they wanted to stick with the type of education offered in the great yeshivas of Eastern Europe, while students felt increasingly that if they were to serve effectively as rabbis in modern America, they needed "a curriculum in the native

See 'Dr. Lee Responds' on page 9

The College is Bound to Taryag Mitzvot

To the Editor,

In their respective fields, my *rebbe*, Rav Aharon Kahn, *shlita*, and the esteemed Dr. Will Lee, both dwarf me. However, I still believe that I can add one valuable point to the ancient and ongoing discussion, "Yeshiva and/or University."

Let us imagine that two fellows named Moishe and Dave decide to set up a college that will be "owned and operated" by Jews. Moishe and Dave decide that their college will leave *Talmud Torah* to the yeshivas; it will have no *beis medrash*, no *rebbeim*, and no *shiurim*. Instead of "Yeshiva University," it will be called "Moishe and Dave's University." It will be "YU" without the "Y." The question is, would this yeshiva-less institution have the right to function like any other college, without any restrictions on curriculum and student activities?

Of course not. As I see it, a fundamental point that has been neglected up to now is that the college is

bound to Taryag Mitzvot because it's Jewish, not because it's attached to a yeshiva. As our great *rebbe*, the Rav, *zt"l*, writes in *Ish Ha-halakhah*, there exists a halakhic norm for every phenomenon; no aspect of life is unaddressed by the Halakha (cf. "B'sod Ha-yachid..." pp. 64-67). Consequently, whatever institution Jews establish must be established on halakhic foundations, whether it's a bowling alley, a dry-cleaning store -- or a college.

In light of this, I believe that the topic of discussion, if there will be one, should not be, "Yeshiva and/or University," but rather, "Should we be 'Queens College with a *beis medrash* program,' or should we instead do what Hashem asks of us no matter what the cost?" By virtue of its Divine origins and authority, the Torah commands our allegiance, and therefore, I believe, we have only one legitimate path to chose for our institution.

Eliyahu W. Ferrell
RIETS

CAMPUS NEWS

CALENDAR EVENTS

Wednesday, February 9

YC Fencing at CCNY
7:00 P.M.

Rabbi Gilbert Klaperman Lecture Series: "Recent Trends in Karaite Research."
Prof. Daniel J. Lasker, Ben-Gurion University, speaker.
Furst Hall room 535
8:00 P.M.

Thursday, February 10

YC Basketball vs. NY Poly Tech
MSAC
8:00 P.M.

Friday, February 11

JJC Residence Halls *shabbaton*
Topic: "Torah Umadda - The State of the Doctrine, 1994"
Rabbi Mayer Schiller, *Magid Shiur*, MTA, speaker
Rubin Hall
8:00 P.M.

Saturday, February 12

YC Basketball at SUNY Maritime
8:15 P.M.

Sunday, February 13

YC Volleyball - IAC Tournament at NJ Tech
10:30 A.M.

YC Fencing vs. Stevens and Lafayette at Stevens
2:00 P.M.

YC Wrestling vs. John Jay College
MSAC
2:00 P.M.

YUM Opening: Birobidjan: A Soviet Jewish Agricultural Community
11:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.

Sunday, February 13 - Tuesday, February 15

YUNMUN IV - YU National Model United Nations
Hilton Meadowlands, NJ

Monday, February 14

YC Basketball at St. Joseph's
8:00 P.M.

Wednesday, February 16

YC Fencing at Baruch College
7:00 P.M.

YC Basketball vs. Stevens Tech
MSAC
8:00 P.M.

Friday, February 18

JJC Residence Halls *Shabbat at Yeshiva*, co-sponsored by SOY
Rabbi Hershel Schachter, Rosh Kollel, RIETS, Rabbi Meir Goldwicht,
Rabbi Eliyahu Ben-Haim, Roshei Yeshiva, MYP, speakers
Rubin Hall
8:00 P.M.

Sunday, February 20

CLEP tests administered

YC Fencing vs. Bard College and NJ Tech
MSAC
2:00 P.M.

YC Volleyball vs. Bard and Bridgeport at Bard
2:00 P.M.

Monday, February 21

Presidents Day - regular class schedule

SSSB and YC Spar Over Liberal Arts

by Stuart Milstein

When the smoke from spring registration finally cleared, more than a few students were upset by the ever-tiresome process. This time, professors of the English Department at Yeshiva College also came away disturbed by what they were seeing: a lack of interest shown in some of the more advanced level courses in the English Department. Apparent lack of interest forced several liberal arts courses, including two English courses (Eng 2410 - Eminent Victorians and Eng 3316 - Devel. Eng. Novel II), to be canceled.

Dr. Joan Haahr, head of the English department, believes that a major reason why no one registered for these classes can be attributed to the very minimal liberal arts and English requirements for Sy Syms School of Business students. The marginal requirements of Sy Syms and its continued growth in enrollment "is threatening the quality and attractiveness of Yeshiva College," said Haahr, and "it is cutting the course variety and weakening the College by limiting students options."

Aneven larger concern of Dr. Haahr's is the increasing popularity of Sy Syms. "That continuing trend," said Haahr, "is a serious danger for YC because the students come from the same pool of applicants." Haahr feels that the root of this problem is that "the new dean of Sy Syms increased enrollment by lowering the requirements. In doing so, Yeshiva University is turning out students who are trained but not educated. They do not know the analytical way of thinking that is learned in liberal arts courses."

Haahr is not the only professor who noticed winds of change blowing through YC. Professor Noyes Bartholomew, a music professor, said that "this is the first time in ten years that I can remember having an under-enrolled class. This is probably because there are less students to take the

requirements."

Dr. Haahr admits that part of the problem is that Israel credits often make YU a three-year college. "If someone is in university for only three years," she explained, "it is an either/or situation, and if the decision is business only, then YC is in jeopardy."

"Tough," said Dean Harold Nierenberg, the Dean of the Sy Syms School of Business, when informed of Dr. Haahr's complaints, "I feel our students get the finest education available in business, Jewish studies, and liberal arts, as well as excellent training."

Dean Nierenberg feels that Sy Syms is an asset not only to Yeshiva University as a whole but to YC and the liberal arts departments as well. "By having a business school here, we can attract more students. Any student that comes to Sy Syms instead of any other business school is a gain for the liberal arts departments because they are required to take those courses. I don't feel that Sy Syms is a zero-sum gain."

"Another way Sy Syms adds to the University," he continued, "is because it offers students more variety and greater opportunities."

In addition, he objected to the notion that the liberal arts requirements are lax. "When I arrived, I made no major changes to the requirements, which are now consistent with the requirements of other business schools." Regarding the claim that there are too many credits devoted to business courses he pointed out "that only fifty out of the 128 required credits are taken in the business school. The rest come from Israel, Judaic studies or the college - all of which provide a very liberal education."

Haahr said that she "doesn't want to see the demise of Yeshiva College, which is the heart of Yeshiva University. It is not a good idea to make Sy Syms so appealing that it takes away from the college."

Faculty Colloquia to be Held

Academic Vice President Dr. William Schwartz has launched a series of academic colloquia to stimulate discussion among faculty on topics of common intellectual interest.

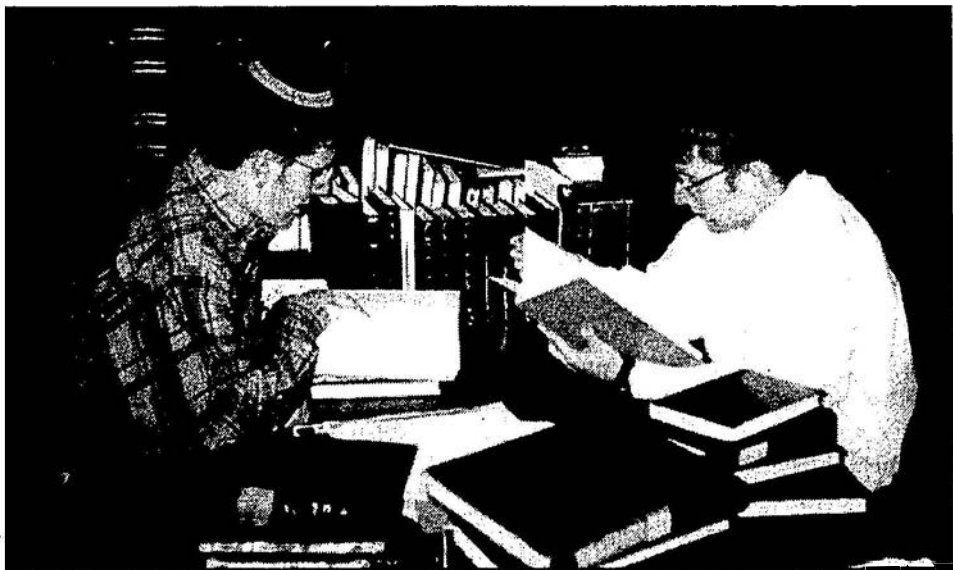
The series of seven one-hour presentations begins this week with a lecture by Associate Professor of Psychology Michael Palij. Later discussions will explore subjects from a range of other disciplines.

Schwartz says that the program is

being implemented to "enhance the academic environment" of the university. "[It] provides for consistent, systematic interaction between faculty," he said.

The project, which one professor labeled "a refreshing undertaking," is one of a number of initiatives being promoted by a newly aggressive and assertive Office of Academic Affairs. Dr. Marelyn Schneider will chair the colloquium.

-- Ryan S. Karben



Recent returnees from Yeshivat Sha'alvim, Michael Fruchter and Glenn Pfeiffer, learning in the Beit Midrash

After an "Extra" Semester in Israel, Students Return to YC

by Raphael C. Gross

After intersession, new faces appeared on the Joel Jablonski Campus. According to Michael Kranzler, Director of Admissions, forty one students returned from Israel for the start of the second semester. This is the largest spring registration increase in Yeshiva's history. Kranzler added that dormitory vacancies were also significantly down.

Kranzler partially attributed what he termed "the third semester phenomenon" to many parents' reluctance to allow their sons to remain in Israel for a full second year. While the students would have stayed on, says Kranzler, their parents only permit them to stay in Israel for the equivalent of a third college semester. "This alternative is becoming more popular every year," he noted. Kranzler also felt that increasing tuition costs have induced parents to make their sons graduate sooner than later.

Shlomo Weissman, a YP sophomore who recently returned from Yeshivat Kerem B'Yavneh, characterized his one and a half years of learning in Israel as a compromise. "The decision was not really up to me. My parents only wanted me to stay for one year [of learning] but I felt I needed a second year. We negotiated this [one and a half year] settlement."

Jay Lisker, a MYP/YC returnee from Har Etzion, also explained his return to YC on practical grounds. "Basically, I needed two and half more years to complete my college education. I figured this would be a good time to stick in half a year. The decision to leave Israel was purely my own. I guess that made it a

little tougher." A former early admissions student, Jay compared his first year on campus to the present and said that, "I don't know as many guys now as I did during my freshman year but I'm meeting new people every day. I'm getting together with old friends from other *yeshivot* that I haven't seen in one and half years. And we were in Israel for the same amount of time."

The returning students interviewed for this article with were very impressed with the "learning environment" at YC. Shlomo Uretsky, Ari Rockoff, and Joshua Levine (all returnees from Yeshivat Ohr Yerushalayim) felt that the *rebbeim* and learning were excellent. David Rosenfeld, hailing from Yeshivat Sha'alvim, commented, "learning in English takes some readjustment, but it's more intense here than in Israel. We simply have more time constraints in YC."

Most of the new students appreciated the encouragement and help they received from faculty members and from their more adjusted classmates. "People have been very friendly. In the *Beit Midrash*, Rabbi Blau came over and introduced himself. Everyone has been very accommodating. These things are important for those of us starting out in the middle of the year," said Shlomo Weissman.

Benjamin Laufer, another KBY-er, commented, "I felt that it was time for me to get on with college. I needed a little more structure in my day. That doesn't mean I'm abandoning learning. The great thing about YC is that people know that they can spend time learning under top-notch *rebbeim* and still major in their area of choice."

SOY Finds Torah Tape Library at YC

The Student Organization of Yeshiva has decided to donate a collection of Torah Tapes to the Uptown campus. The tapes will consist of lectures from Yeshiva's own *roshei yeshiva*, as well as discourses from other popular lecturers, such as Rabbi Yissachar Frand from Ner Israel Rabbinical College. There will also be a small collection of Jewish music tapes.

The collection will be located on the fourth floor of the library, where students will be able to take the tapes out for a period of roughly one week at a time. Initially, SOY plans to donate \$400 worth of cassettes, but will give more after

profits from the current Seforim Sale are in. It is projected that the collection will eventually have almost \$2,000 worth of tapes.

The project is being coordinated by Ehud Fried, a YP/SSSB junior. When asked about the project, Fried replied "I think that the purpose of the project is pretty self evident... to give the *talmidim* of YU even more accessibility to the broad range of Torah. I really feel that people will take advantage of the library and use the tapes on the bus, on the train, in the car, on the plane, and wherever they may choose..."

— Eli Duker

Congressman Rangel Visits Campus

by Marc Crystal

"While there's high hope, rough days are ahead." That is how Congressman Charles "Charlie" Rangel (D-NY) described the future of the Middle East in a late December "town meeting" sponsored by the Yeshiva College Israel Public Affairs Committee.

Rangel, currently serving his twelfth term in the United States House of Representatives, entered the Rubin Shul with an informal "Hi, gang!" and was welcomed by YCIPAC chairperson Ryan Karben. Karben, whose friendship with Rangel reaches back to a meeting three years ago in Jerusalem, presented the Congressman with a plaque in recognition of Rangel's commitment to a strong U.S.-Israel relationship.

The Manhattan Democrat noted that while "all of us felt excited" when [PLO Chairman] Arafat signed the peace agreement, "we must continue to be vigilant." Calling Israel "the only solid ally we've had in this part of the world" and praising her shift from military spending to research and development, Rangel also stressed the need to continue to monitor the peace process and terrorism.

Rangel said the progress in the Middle East is similar to recent events in South Africa, where he recently visited at President Clinton's request. "One cannot think of any situation where the differences between people are more open and more ruthless," he said. Rangel further observed that "while the political centers of both countries move forward, there are those on the right and on the left who will make emotional appeals that can lead to terrorism and bloodshed."

After his remarks, Congressman Rangel asked for questions from the forty YC and SCW students gathered for the speech. Rangel, whose arrival at the meeting had been delayed thirty-five minutes because of a meeting with outgoing Mayor David N. Dinkins, pronounced himself "delighted, honored and impressed" by the large number of students who "stuck around" to attend the meeting.

As the third ranking member of the House Ways and Means Committee, Rangel tackled a wide variety of inquiries from the assembled students. In response to a question on health care, Rangel said no one in the Congress believes the President's proposed Health Security Act will stay intact. He also lambasted Oregon Senator Bob Packwood, who has been accused of making unwanted sexual advances toward employees. "He's a sad excuse for a public servant," Rangel said.

Rangel appeared to doubt the credibility of Syrian President Hafez al-Assad, saying "a leopard doesn't change its spots." He added that there has been a shift recently in the Congress, with more members listening to Israeli leaders in security evaluations than to American Jews. Some students were alarmed to hear Rangel tell the audience that "it will be difficult for supporters of Israel to have their views heard in Congress if they are not consistent with the views of the Israeli government."

YU Senior Vice President Rabbi Israel Miller concluded the program, reminding the students that Rangel was among those who travelled to Jerusalem as Iraq fired Scud missiles upon Israel. "Supporters of Israel have a friend in Charlie Rangel," he said.

65 Yeshiva Students Inducted Into Who's Who

The 1994 edition of *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges* includes the names of 65 students from Yeshiva University - 38 men from Yeshiva College, and 27 women from SCW - who have been selected as "national outstanding leaders." According to the publisher of the directory, the campus nominating committee (headed by the Dean of Students) and "the editors of the annual

directory have included these students based on their academic achievement, service to the community, leadership in extracurricular activities, and potential for continued success." "These students are a source of pride to Yeshiva and to all which our school values," said Dr. Efrem Nulman, Dean of Students at Yeshiva. The directory has been published since 1934.

— Robert Fagin



SOY Sefarim Sale Chairman Chaim Hollander and SOY Vice President Daniel Gelbtuch pictured with some of the over 2,700 titles offered at this year's sale. Judaic Classics Library CD-ROM Shas and other titles are available this year, starting at \$50.

FOCUS

Basketball: The Language of Understanding

by David Schertz

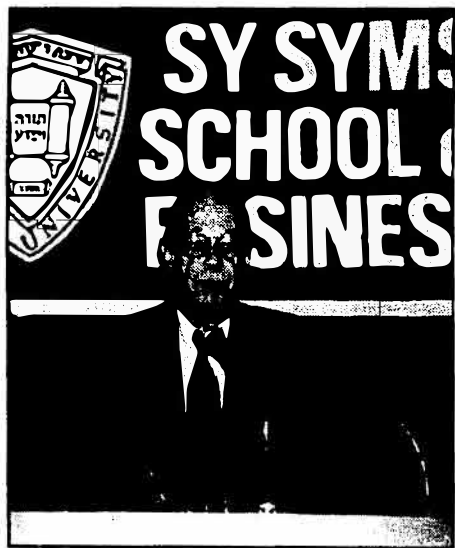
Yossi (Jose) Jayinski, a Sy Syms Junior and shooting guard for the Macs, is representing YU both on and off the court. He is involved with a program to help foster understanding and good will between YU and the Spanish speaking community of Washington Heights.

Rabbi Mitchell Serels, director of YU's Sephardic Community Programs, decided last year to initiate a program in which Spanish speaking YU students would visit local schools and discuss the similarities and common goals which Jews and Hispanics share. Jayinski and three other students from YU spoke with teenagers from Junior High School 143, located on 182nd street and Amsterdam Avenue.

While growing up in Israel, Jayinski learned to speak Spanish from his parents who are both Argentineans. He is happy to help break down the cultural barriers between the Jewish and Hispanic communities. As he put it, "I think the bridge was the language." Jayinski noted that the students were shocked to see Jews who wore *kipot* and could speak Spanish. The YU entourage also tries to demystify Orthodox Jews by explaining to the students basic aspects of Judaism.

By talking to these students, Jayinski noted, the YU group was able to help the students look "beyond the *kipah*" and realize that Jews are people just like everyone else. Jayinski was particularly able to impart this message because he was able to converse in a language which transcends racial and religious boundaries: the language of basketball. Jayinski was a professional basketball player in Israel, playing for the Ramat Gan Maccabiah team before he entered the Israeli army. Basketball is something the students can relate to; many students were invited to come to Macs games to see Jayinski play. Rabbi Serels felt that it was important to show that YU is part of the Washington Heights community by inviting local teens to games to root for YU.

Jayinski is very optimistic about the upcoming sessions for the new year. Last year's program culminated with a dinner where the teens introduced their parents to their new friends from YU. It was an exchange of cultures - both Spanish and Israeli music was played, and the main course was falafel. Other YU students who are involved in the outreach project are Avraham and Michael Ben-Hamu, Jose Perez Vanderoban (RIETS), and Said Levy.



Professor Ivar Berg

Dinner Held to Honor Visiting Professor Berg

by Eyal Feiler

The Sy Syms School of Business held a dinner to welcome Dr. Ivar Berg, the Ira and Doris Kukin visiting Professor of Management, on Tuesday evening, February 1. Following the dinner, Dr.

Berg, a leading expert in human resources and corporate and industrial sociology, delivered a lecture entitled "Russia, the USA and the 'Price System': A Tale of Two Pities." Among the 200 invited guests at the dinner were several members of the Board of Trustees, Senior Vice President Dr. Israel Miller and Academic Vice President Dr. William Schwartz. Additionally, many SSSB faculty and various student leaders were in attendance.

In his lecture, Dr. Berg applauded the progress that the Russian government was making in creating a free market economy similar to that of the United States. However, he stated that the U.S. does not have a pure free-market economy, since the U.S. economy contains several oligopolies: a small group of corporations that dominate their industry output. One example he cited is the oligopoly that exists in the automotive industry, where three domestic car makers dominate the market, namely General Motors, Ford, and Chrysler. According to Berg, although there is price competition between the oligopoly members, oligopolies can be detrimental for consumers because member firms may be slow in developing new and innovative products.

Computer Room Upgrades

Yeshiva University has recently replaced thirteen computers in the Uptown computer center, located on the eleventh floor of Belfer Hall. The much-awaited upgrade includes a '86/66 network server, eleven 486/25 workstations, and an X-station for use

with the UNIX operating system. "I am truly excited by the additions," said Joshua Guedalia, Head Operator of the computer room. "These changes were much needed, and will certainly benefit the entire student body."

-- Robert Fagin

Slowly But Surely, Library Continues to Modernize

by Dov Simons

On the threshold of the "information age," the University's libraries are seeking to meet the demands of a world in which knowledge is increasingly bountiful - and increasingly expensive. Various efforts have been launched to keep the library's collection current and suitable to the needs of the Yeshiva College student body. These efforts include the installation of a new up-to-date database and a constant influx of new and noteworthy books and journals. Plans to computerize the card catalog continue to progress. In the meanwhile, problems such as noise pollution and poor climate control continue to plague students trying to study in the library.

Dean of Libraries Pearl Berger explained the library's procurement policy, saying, "We encourage the recommendations of both faculty and students." She continued, adding that "faculty members will often present us with a list of recently published books, which we will try to obtain." The stock of the library includes books from the disciplines taught within the colleges. When a new member joins the staff, they often request several new books and other materials to cover the side of the discipline in which they specialize, "which we then acquire over time," said Berger. Subscriptions to various journals depend on recommendations from the staff, but due to cost restraints, "we try to be careful."

To compensate for any shortcomings that might exist in the current stock, a connection is maintained with other libraries and other universities. A book not found on the library's shelves may be ordered via the "inter-library loan." Under this system, a request for a book is submitted at the circulation desk. The request is then transmitted to libraries throughout the city, then the state, and, if necessary, the country.

One of the most recent and extensive additions to the services available is an on-line network called "FirstSearch." With this database, Dean Berger demonstrated, one can search hundreds of newspapers, magazines, and other periodicals. Because the database is constantly updated, a student can find abstracts of some articles only a few weeks old. "If the student wishes, for a nominal fee, he can receive a faxed copy of an article," Dean Berger added.

Various department heads expressed approval for the librarians' efforts to maintain a well-equipped

undergraduate resource. English Department Head Dr. Joan Haahr remarked, "If I request any books, they are very responsive and attempt to order them." Professor of Biology Dr. Carl Feit agreed, "The library is ready and willing to update, and has welcomed faculty input." Dr. Thomas Otway related how, when he arrived, there was a deficiency in a particular branch of mathematics, but after deciding which workbooks to order, the problem was remedied. Dr. Ruth Bevan, the head of the Political Science department, also praised the library's endeavors to stay abreast of contemporary academic publications, citing a "tremendous improvement and effort to modernize."

Although some professors expressed some doubts as to its qualifications as a research library, Dr. Marelyn Schneider explained that "no library has room for books in every interest." She continued, "Students can't expect to find everything on their particular report topics, which is why a consortium and the inter-library loan exist."

Expense remains a major consideration in new library projects. Dr. Bevan pointed out the sheer cost of maintaining a large collection of periodicals and government documents, commenting that "it ultimately comes down to a choice of where the funds will be allocated - periodicals or books. It's a tough call to make." Dr. Gabriel Cwilich, a professor of physics, wishes the library would maintain the extensive collection of periodicals housed there in the past, "But they have gotten so large and numerous" and are becoming "very expensive."

Two major unresolved problems that continue to plague the library are the noise level and climate. Although the fourth floor has been designated a "quiet floor," Dean Berger felt the entire library should maintain silence. One student recommended covering over the hard brick walls to absorb the excess sound. Since the library is one large main room consisting of many floors, even the best absorbing material could not prevent noise from filtering through otherwise quiet sections. Plans to install conference rooms have met with difficulties, according to Dean Berger, who promised that as soon as it can be arranged with the Facilities Management Department, their efforts will continue. YC Senior Jonathan Greenspun voiced his opinion that the problem, particularly acute during finals season, leaves students

continued on page 13

Lamm Honored by AREI

Rabbi Dr. Norman Lamm, President of Yeshiva University, was recently awarded the title of Honorary Fellow and Revered Educator by the Association of Religious Educators in Israel. The title was awarded in a ceremony at the Jerusalem Theater before a distinguished audience that included Israeli President Ezer Weizman, Chief Rabbi of Israel Rabbi Israel Lau, the Minister of Education, and members of Knesset. Rabbi Lamm is the first non-Israeli to receive this prestigious honor in the award's ten-year history.

The award comes as a backdrop to Rabbi Lamm's work at the first conference of Zionist Orthodox organizations, which took place in New York. A variety of rabbinic, academic, and educational bodies participated in the conference, and they discussed and approved many decisions supporting Israel and the need to strengthen Torah study. Rabbi Lamm was one of the main organizers of the conference and his presence and leadership were influential in shaping its direction and agenda.

-- Mendy Harary

A CLOSER LOOK

YU Gets Tough on Graffiti

By Steven Miodownik

At a university plagued by chronic controversy, struggling to define its philosophy, and coping with lackluster student-administration relations, the YU administration has courageously evolved a plan to put an end to... graffiti. The Office of Residence Halls has ordered the removal of all writings from the doors of the Morgenstern Dormitory. Residence Hall officials were appalled by the "new phenomenon of leaving ink and marker scrawlings directly on room doors intended to be messages for room occupants." Apparently, this defacement of school property marred the clean and sanitary conditions for which college dorms are famous. In an ultimatum issued by the Office of Residence Halls and placed in students' mailboxes upon their return from vacation, students were requested to wash the markings off, as they were in violation of "regulation V section A" of the code of YU residence halls. The notice stated the penalty for failure to wash off the graffiti: dismissal from the residence halls. Also, students would have to pay for the "cost of cleaning and repairs," a hefty financial burden for newly homeless students.

The vandalism is fostered by the lifestyle of YU dormitory residents, many of whom are never in their rooms at night, preferring, instead, to sleep

during the day. Friends wishing to contact students with such sleep patterns choose to write messages on their doors. Messages ranged from a simple "HI DAN" to more complicated and extravagant ones like "HELLO DAN." Indeed, while walking through the halls of Morg one could observe brilliant displays of YU students' imaginations: a psychologically devastating portrait of Batman contrasted superbly with "DOV, STOP BY MY ROOM LATER," or the even bolder "DON'T YOU HATE WHEN PEOPLE WRITE ON YOUR DOOR?"

The enriching pastime of writing such notes is not gone for good, however. Students were advised to purchase inexpensive magnetic message boards to attach to their doors and many have done so. In addition, most students have erased the graffiti from their doors in compliance with university policy, and no one has been ousted. Surprisingly, no one questioned the university's suppression of "free speech" on this policy issue.

Although the worst offenders were the upperclassmen of Morg, the illegal activities were not confined to that facility. The doors of Rubin have also been noted for their share of sometimes "colorful" markings. The Office of Residence Halls advises all Rubin residents to remove such markings from their doors, even if these writings do enhance the great "diversity" of our yeshiva.

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At Hunter: Malkie Russ 696-4096

At YU: Daniel Alter RU 503 795-2860

At Columbia/Barnard: Ariel Greenberg 853-6772
or contact the YUSSR office at 923-7650

Applications must be submitted by Monday, February 21.

In An Effort to Boost Admissions, YU Sends Team to Israel

by David Kelsey

In years past, Yeshiva University sent members of the Administration to Israel during mid-winter vacation to recruit for YU. Last year, four *rebbeim* were added to the team: Rav Hershel Schachter, Rav Meir Goldwicht, Rav Michael Rosenswieg, and Rav Mordechai Willig. This year, three students, Danny Gurell, Rona Gross, and Chani Pearlman, were also sent to Israel by YU, as were three YU deans and YU Associate Director of Admissions Michael Kranzler.

The trip was coordinated by YU's Israel branch, who arranged for the team to give lectures and interviews. Often, three or four *yeshivot* and Seminaries were visited each day. In many cases, the number of people who attended the lectures far exceeded the number who had signed up for YU's Joint Israel Program (JIP). For example, Dean Hecht noted that at Ohr Yerushalayim, where 52 students are signed up on the JIP, 138 students attended the presentation. Interviews were held during evenings, as were meetings with parents who were visiting their sons and daughters.

Kranzler and Dean Karen Bacon called parents before and after the trip to "communicate a sense of 'we care.'" At night, Kranzler would transcribe recorded interviews, including those of about 70 students who applied for the Distinguished Academic Merit Scholarship.

According to Yeshiva College Student Council President Danny Gurell, some of the questions he encountered on the trip included, "What is really available at YU," "What type of social activities are available at YU," and "Isn't it financially wise to go Queens College and Ohr HaChaim instead?" "I felt that my job in Israel was to give the students realistic and truthful representation of what YU is," said Gurell.

Dean Nierenberg found this year's trip particularly productive. "When I first became Dean full time in September of 1993, we instituted a number of changes, we started to promote the

school, [and] we made the school more flexible, more do-able. [On] this trip, students were fully aware of Sy Syms, its programs, and the opportunities it offers for careers. I was personally gratified to see a great number of students interested in the business school's either major or minor, indicating that the SSSB has caught the attention of students, since they are considering YU as an option." Dean Nierenberg commented that, "All in all, the Israel Program is essential to the ongoing viability of all [of] the YU undergraduate schools."

The Israel Program has become increasingly important as more and more students spend a year in Israel after high school. Dean Bacon is impressed that "even students who questioned their own commitment to Judaism before going to Israel now see that it's very important to them."

Administrators are unapologetic about their intent to convince prospective students to go to YU instead of the Ivy Leagues. "I go to Israel with a lasso," said Dean Hecht. "I believe in this institution. I believe in a quality education, both in *limudei kodesh* and secular studies."

Rav Schachter was cautious about declaring the extent of the success of the trip before the results were clear, but he mentioned a case where a student had probably been convinced to go to YU instead of Ner Israel. Rav Schachter spent one *Shabbat* at Ohr Yerushalayim, and the other at Kerem B'Yavneh. "Despite the condition of the country, the *yeshivot* are learning strong," he noted. Rav Schachter explained that the recruitment was for "those [students] that intend to go to college also. They should realize that they can learn just as well at YU, possibly even better." He also suggested that "*rebbeim* should be scheduled to speak to alumni, *baal habatim*, and other *yeshivot* as well, not just for recruitment. [People] should know the nature of YU, that the learning at YU is at the level of any other yeshiva, [and] that it's not watered down."

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RESPONSA

Dr. Lee Responds

continued from page 3

language and general knowledge," "public speaking," and "opportunities to study Hebrew, Jewish culture and Jewish history" in addition to the traditional learning of the yeshiva. Student editorial writers claimed, "RIETS is necessary only if it prepares for us old country scholars with American attainments," including "secular knowledge."

As for the legal separation of RIETS from the College, Rabbi Kahn portrays it as an abrogation of principles because rabbis no longer fully control the curriculum. I would maintain that the separation forced the colleges to change very little about their curricula. If anything, during this current rightward swing of the pendulum, legal pressures may encourage the college to stay close to Revel's original vision, protecting general studies from being virtually gutted.

In the latter 1300's William Langland in *Piers Plowman* evolved three allegorical characters, Dowel, Dobet, and Dobest, to indicate the search for the best way to live a serious religious life. Among the possible choices in this complex allegory are the simple, humble life of a faithful farmer, the contemplative life of someone who prays and learns full-time, and the lives of more influential, less humble contributors to society. Langland doesn't decide what is best for every person as Rabbi Kahn seems to. Evidently monotheism need not lead to monism. Surely no one should question the validity, usefulness, or seriousness of a life like his, dedicated to teaching, studying, and living the Torah and the Talmud. But Torah Judaism features a multitude of methods and traditions, a kind of pluralism within halachic boundaries, some of which are themselves contested and difficult to define. Surely *talmidim* engage in such intense learning and so much probing dialogue in part because "these and these are the words of the living God," and in part because respected rabbis within the tradition differ from each other. On many issues, there is a contemporary consensus, but on others, the debate continues, and each individual student must consider the relevant sources. Isn't that why Rabbi Kahn can wonder whether Jewish studies may not foster more intellectual independence than secular studies can? Yes, there is only one Torah, but that is where some discussions begin. Students will obviously continue to choose many religiously valid ways to live their lives. In Rabbi Dr. Lamm's terms, the goal is to try to ensure that all of these lives will be worshipful, committed, religious, Jewish lives. My worry is that Rabbi Kahn's vision, while deep, is so narrow as to write off far too many of our students, perhaps the majority. His may be the best choice for him and for some *talmidim*, particularly in RIETS, but it is by no means the only valid choice *within the boundaries of Torah*

Judaism for each and every one of our undergraduates, who must make their own decisions. Rabbi Kahn and Rabbi Dr. Revel's visions form chapters of the gigantic book of Torah Judaism, but the chapters, however much they overlap, do not exactly coincide.

Revel's vision and actions encountered considerable opposition in his own day, but mostly from without, not from within. Now we face a potential breakdown of dialogue in which teachers on different sides tend not to believe in each other's work. In my view, the fifth column rabbis attempting to undermine YU from within currently pose more of a danger to the college than the few professors who don't respect the seriousness of many of our students' commitment to religion, but in any case, more dialogue and more respect on both sides are in order. We may even find that we are not only natural opponents, but also natural allies. If the yeshiva is not the street or the modern intellectual marketplace, neither is the university in its essence. Both the secular humanities and Torah Judaism aim to foster moral and intellectual seriousness about the deepest human issues and problems.

With some exceptions, Revel's noble experiment has proven a success; we have graduated generations of students of whom both sides can be proud. In my experience, the students who take both sides seriously while placing Torah at the center tend to get the most from the institution as it was meant to be, while YU also continues to provide homes for students who take the religious side to heart but remain skeptical about the secular side.

Is our institution great because it maintains the vision of Volozhin unchanged? Or is it because Dr. Revel provided us with a vision and a kind of Constitution which guaranteed the centrality of the Torah while providing for gradual adaptation of the curriculum to the best that has been and is thought and said in the modern world? If so, we allow Rabbi Dr. Lamm thanks for articulating, extending, and deepening but remaining true in his own way to Revel's founding vision. YU's is not the only pathway within religious Judaism, but it has proven its validity and deserves more credit and honor than it is receiving from some of the members of our yeshiva/university. While keeping the Torah at the forefront of students' hearts and minds, YU reaches out unafraid to knowledge in general, to a broad range of kinds of knowledge, and to a vast multitude of choices in life. Hence the tensions; hence the messiness; hence the room for disagreement and individualism; hence the creativity. Behind the slogan lies a unique mission which forms one of the mainstays of religious Judaism in our time.

In closing, with a mixture of pleasure and irony, I take note of the obvious: a fine, wide-ranging education helps to nourish and energize Rabbi Kahn's eloquent, allusive, metaphorically rich writing and thinking, if not his basic view of his world, which essentially excludes most if not all of mine, and of my world, which includes and is enriched by his.

Dr. Will Lee

One Standard

continued from page 2

as a human being Mr. Katz desires his freedom, but what does that mean for him as a Jew? Does he wish to live his life by two standards: one as a human and one as a Jew? At what point does he decide when to be one or whether to be the other? Does he wish to say that those who live by Halacha are not living as "normal" human beings? Of course, Jews live their lives as human beings. However, as Jews, we have a higher standard of morality according to which we must live. This morality does not tolerate certain behavior. To live as a Jew means to live by *halacha*.

In closing his letter, Mr. Katz exhorts the "Modern Orthodox" to, "speak up and demand your rightful place in Judaism". Though I am not familiar with the Judaism Mr. Katz is referring to, it is seemingly a brand where the participants pick and choose when to follow Jewish law. At a recent Modern Orthodox conclave over Thanksgiving, a belief in *Torah MiSinai* and the binding nature of *halacha* were affirmed. We, *talmidim* of Yeshiva, with our distinguished *rebbeim* as our guides, do not subscribe to a Judaism that subordinates *halacha* on ANY issue. Just as we would not tolerate an alternative cafeteria in which "international cuisine" is served in the name of broadening the students palates, we cannot tolerate a clear violation of halacha in the name of broadening the students expressions.

As one who seems to be involved in *kiruv* in some capacity, I would urge Mr. Katz to begin looking at *halacha* as something we practice and live by for our entire lives. We are unable to turn this obligation on or off as we please. This is what it means to be the chosen people. The chosen people follow the laws of the Torah first and all else is secondary. We do not distinguish between ourselves as Jews and ourselves as people. As such, I urge the *talmidim* of Yeshiva to stand up for Torah-true values.

Michael Fragin
YC '96

Oops on Super Hoops

To the Editor,

Daniel Lowe did a fine job writing the history of Super Hoops article. I only wish to make several corrections. I did *not* play in Madison Square Garden in 1983 because my CCNY team of 3-on-3 cohorts failed to advance against Rutgers University. We lost by about 15 points in that game; it was our second loss (in a 3-2 initial regional appearance record, which still stands for CCNY). This was the first annual regional *ten* years ago, not fifteen. (This is the tenth anniversary of the tournament.) It was held at Seton Hall before Columbia University took over as the regionals host. Our loss to Rutgers occurred at William Patterson College in New Jersey. I thank Daniel Lowe for the article and the newspaper for its coverage, as always.

Stanley R. Watson
Intramural Director,
Yeshiva University

Thanks from Project ORE

To the Editor,

Thank you very much for running the article about Project ORE in your last issue. Unfortunately, the plight of the Jewish poor and homeless is one that is often ignored or neglected. Your article has helped enlighten the Yeshiva University community about this serious predicament.

Three years ago, when I started working with Project ORE, I was shocked when I found out that there were Jews living in the subways and in shelters. "How could there possibly be homeless Jews?" I asked myself. After spending time with these special individuals I have been exposed to a whole new world.

Everyday, each and every one of us is approached by homeless individuals begging for money and food. This constant bombardment of vagabonds has caused a sense of numbing passivity to overwhelm a vast segment of the city's population, since most individuals feel that the plight of the homeless is not their responsibility. We want to be able to enter restaurants and access ATM machines without having to maneuver past a beggar holding a paper cup, yet we feel that the homeless represents a problem that society as a whole must deal with. I ask you "if the individuals that makeup society neglect the homeless, then how can society as a whole deal with this dilemma?" As Jews, it is our responsibility both individually and collectively to actively "open up your hand to your poor and needy brother in your land" (Devarim 15:11).

We worry about grades, graduate school, jobs and *shiduchim*. They worry where their next meal is going to come from and where they are going to sleep. We, *Baruch Hashem*, are fortunate to have the basic necessities of life but they don't.

Last week, the director of Project ORE called and informed me that due to insufficient funds, the Project has no alternative but to serve non-kosher meals to the Jewish homeless. Fortunately, I have been able to raise enough money to allow Project ORE to continue to serve kosher meals through the month of February. This project means too much to the Yeshiva University volunteers to let it deteriorate. You the student and alumni of Yeshiva University are our last hope of keeping this important program alive.

If you would like to get involved in this Project please feel free to call me at (212) 259-4783 or Chaim Rose at (212) 740-8528. All tax deductible checks should be made payable to Project ORE and sent to me at 730 Columbus Ave. Apt. #51 N.Y., N.Y. 10025 or brought to Chaim in Morg 219. *Tizkei L'Mitzvot*.

Laizer Kornwasser
SSSB '92

RESPONSA
Continued on Page 13

LSAT
7.5
points

(range: 120-180)

GMAT
72
points

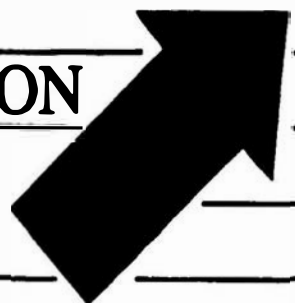
(range: 200-800)

GRE
214
points

(range: 600-2400)

MCAT
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points
(range: 3 sections,
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STUDENT NOTEBOOK

Still Not the Big One, Quake Makes an Impact on YU Students

by Ari Hirt

Formost Yeshiva University students, television was the main source of information about the destructive Southern California earthquake, which measured 6.6 on the Richter scale. But on January 17, the start of YC's second semester, a new source was made available - students returning from their devastated hometowns. Angelenos of YU were surrounded by gestures of concern and inquiry from fellow classmates.

Yitzchak Book, a YC junior from Monsey, travelled to Los Angeles together with his family for a wedding, and experienced firsthand the effects of the quake. "Of course I felt it! It was like sitting in a plane during terrible turbulence, thinking that you are going to die." Native Angelenos Ashi Gottesman

Virtually no house escaped power and water outages

and Chaim Rose laughed when they were asked about their experiences during the earthquake; they were literally thrown out of their beds.

In elementary school, all Californians are told that covering your head beneath a door post or under a desk is the safest reaction during a quake, since these places lend the most support and protection from falling objects. However, when quake victims are jolted out of bed from the middle of a deep sleep, their reactions are not always textbook. YU student Michael Teichman leaped from his bed and ran to protect his petrified sister across the hall. Teichman was fortunate, for, as he was dashing to his sister's room, he miraculously avoided tumbling bookshelves. Chaim Rose, who heeded official advice, jumped beneath his desk. Later, he reflected that he thought that this was the "big one" and that he would die. "While I was under my desk, I kept on thinking of Korach (the biblical character who was swallowed by the Earth)."

The quake did not prompt as urgent of a response from Ashi Gottesman or Tzvika Nissel. After Ashi was thrown out of his bed he simply returned to sleep after calling his fiancée, though he was concerned that the large windows over his bed would blow out. Tzvika figured that the quake was a bad dream, and returned to his pillow for more Z's. Yitzchak Book, the "novice earthquake rider" from New York, simply rode out the quake in bed. "I had absolutely no idea what to do," Book explained. "We did not even know how great the quake really was - not until that Monday morning, when the busy streets of Los Angeles resembled a ghost town."

Unlike Nissel and Gottesman, most families do not return to bed after such a frightening experience. Instead, they gather together at the safest section of the house, with a portable radio and flashlight in hand, in anticipation of

aftershocks. Having aced earthquake class in elementary school, Chaim Rose was one who followed the letter of the law and remained beneath his desk until 7:30 in the morning.

Once it was determined that the worst of the aftershocks had passed, the remainder of the day was spent assessing and cleaning the damage. The extent of destruction in the homes of YU students ranged from cracks in ceilings to pummelled walls. YC sophomore Jason Jacob described his mother's former brick wall in the backyard as looking like the "Berlin wall after the cold war." Similarly, Noam Geft returned home from skiing in the mountains to find his house missing an entire wall. The house of Chaim Rose suffered severe "aquatic damage" - the Rose's water heater

detached from the wall and leaked through the house, and water from the Rose's swimming

pool mysteriously emptied into their neighbor's pool.

Although certain homes endured more damage than others, virtually no house escaped power and water outages, except for the Beverly Hills district, which sustained all water and electric power throughout the entire ordeal. The homes of many of YU's Angelenos were out of power for the next few days and had no running water for a day or two. Due to the fact that street lamps were not working, a 10:00 P.M. curfew was imposed on the city for several nights following the quake. Once water service returned, residents were able to shower, but the water was not drinkable for fear of contamination. Residents crowded at supermarkets in order to purchase bottled water. Water was such a hot commodity that lines formed outside markets, and water was being sold for five dollars a bottle.

This recent earthquake killed over 45 people and caused over \$30 billion in damage. Yet, experts say that this was not the expected BIG ONE. The infamous BIG ONE is expected to be in the range of 8.2 on the Richter scale - more than a thousand times greater than a 6.6. So why would a person remain in this doomed city? "I ask myself the same question," responded Jason Jacob, "I would love to move out for it is too nerve wracking." Chaim Rose also has been asking himself this question but then he explains, "when things calm down, the fantastic qualities of Los Angeles will once again overshadow the lurking big one."

However, most Los Angeles residents at YU do not consider earthquakes to be a reason to leave their beloved city. Tzvika Nissel remarked, "I have never been significantly affected - every city has its problems." When asked why he doesn't move to a safer city like New York, Ashi Gottesman answers, "No thank you, 50 seconds of earthquake isn't a fair exchange for 4 months of fatal cold."

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Eli Duker, Ilan Haber, Erez Gilad and Yisroel Okon whooping it up in WYUR booth.

At Last, WYUR Is On the Air

by Moshe I. Kinderlehrer

After a semester-long wait, WYUR fans despair no longer. As of this past Sunday evening, February 6, WYUR-640AM began broadcasting live for the first time this year from the third floor of the Schottenstein Center.

WYUR, YU's college radio station sponsored by the student councils of YC and SCW, had been unable to go on the air during the first semester due to a host of security and equipment problems arising from the theft over the summer of a large number of CDs, a compressor limiter, and other equipment necessary for broadcasting. Station Coordinator Yisroel Okon explained that WYUR would still not be on the air if not for the urging of Rabbi Jeffrey Chaitoff and members of the Executive Board of WYUR to go ahead and hire a private electrician to rewire and replace the WYUR equipment. "After being told that the YU electrician was on sick leave, we gave up and decided to hire someone," he said.

The work was completed early last week and WYUR began test broadcasting late last week.

According to Okon, the schedule of broadcasting was ready last semester, and only a few minor modifications

have been made since then. In terms of the programming itself, Assistant Manager Steven Unterberg exclaimed, "We've got a show for everyone... from the *Beit Midrash* crowd to all the others." Okon and rest of the WYUR staff have high hopes for future of the station. "Advertising is getting on the road... we hope to attract a major YU audience and [hope] that WYUR will establish itself in the life of the student body," added Erez Gilad, WYUR's Business Manager.

The Eli Duker Show

One early sign of success has been the tremendous frenzy generated by the Eli Duker and Ilan Haber Show. Gilad called Duker "A genius." The call-in show, which aired on Sunday night at 11:45 PM, featured Ryan Karben, the head of the YU College Democrats. The topic for the evening was challenges facing the students at YU. Among the calls lighting up the switchboard were calls from YCSC President Danny Gurell, and SOY President Lavi Greenspan. Fierce debates were waged on the air about issues such as homosexuality in Wurzwiler. Concluded Duker, "It was a lot of fun. It allowed us to talk about the issues without contaminating the airwaves with *sin'as chinam*."

RESPONSA, continued from page 9

Fond Recollections

To the Editor,

As a Yeshiva University alumnus ('57) I (occasionally) receive copies of *The Commentator*. I read your article on The Soloveichik Synagogue by Ari Hirt with great interest. I recall the Rav Moshe Soloveichik School, but not the *minyán*. I do however remember that after lunch, on *Shabbat*, we would go for early *Mincha* at the Mikveh *minyán* around the corner on 187th Street. Is it still there?

Your interview with Tuvia Lasdun raised fond memories. Mr. Lasdun, an

old "Telzer," has been part of the Washington Heights scene for decades. We would reminisce about our common *rebbe*s, the *Gedolim* of our day, HaRav J.B. Soloveichik, *zt"l*; HaRav M. Katz, *zt"l*; and HaRav Moshe Feinstein, *zt"l*.

I can't attend the *minyán*, but I enclose a small donation in honor of my old friend, Mr. Lasdun. Please forward it to the shul.

Erwin I. Katz

Editor's note: the writer is a judge in the United States Bankruptcy Court in Chicago.

Databases Among New Additions in Library

continued from page 6

with no feasible place to study. "The [area near] the Circulation Desk on the second floor is always too noisy, and when one moves to 3 and 3A, one faces a hot and uncomfortable environment." YC Freshman Pinchas Saar echoed the

latter complaint, "It's too hot - there's not enough air." Any problems and complaints should be directed to the Student Council Library Committee, chaired by David Schertz and Joey Schwartz, or library administrators.

ERNST & JULIO DOWN BY THE SCHOOLYARD

"Today's Special."

--Deli Kasbah

With little if any pomp and circumstance, tens upon tens of Y.U. seniors graduated last month. (Let me just say that having employed the phrase "pomp and circumstance," this column could end right here—it packs that much entertainment muscle! But alas, as the Danish Danish pastry chef who spoke English only haltingly said to his colleague in the doughnut field, "There is space to be filled.") The sad fact of the matter is that January graduates do not receive the same attention as do so-called "June graduates"—charlatans who *actually* graduate in late May! So, if via the medium of these few paragraphs I could somehow right that wrong, hammer out that dent, oil that hinge, eat that hors d'oeuvres, what have you—I will have lived a lifetime's worth. In that vein, I would like to offer some general advice to our January heroes, because that's what they are: heroes.

1. The name "Phoebe" rhymes with B.B., not lobe.
2. Thinking of renting "Ishtar"? Think again.
3. When imitating Robin of "Batman and Robin" fame at parties, never exclaim "Holy Roman Empire!" or "Holy Land!", because that's been done to death, and you'll come across as foolish.

And now, here are some sure-fire pick-up lines for those graduates who will soon be hitting the Jewish singles scene:

1. "Can I get you a Malaga?"
2. "That's amazing--*shlishi* was my favorite *aliyah* too!"
3. "If you agree to go out with me, perhaps I could arrange for you to meet Ernst & Julio."

4. "You say 'Ishtar' is your favorite movie? I...er...I loved 'Ishtar.'"

Finally, while generally speaking I have tremendous respect for myself, I do admit to having committed my share of gaffes, and I'd like to relate one or two of them to our fab Jan grads, so that they won't repeat my mistakes.

1. Pay no attention to the signs around campus reading "*Shalom 'im HaGolan*--Peace with the Golan." We are not, nor have we ever been, at war with the Golan.

2. My research has confirmed that while some South African black leaders have at times supplemented their livelihoods by selling Judaica, there is no such man as "Mandela Mocher Seforim."

3. From time to time during this bitter winter I have been obliged to unglove one of my hands in order to extract something--keys, change, trinkets--from my pants pocket. During this brief operation my eyes have often wandered and caught sight of the still-gloved hand grasping an empty glove, and I've gotten a start, because it looks like my hand has been amputated, glove and all! But that has seldom proven to be the case, so if you notice an empty glove in your hand, don't worry.

In closing, as our valiant January graduates embark upon the road of life, I would like to convey to them one simple and important message. The road of life is not actually a road. There are no road signs, no neatly painted broken, solid or double-solid lines. There is no pavement, no heat convection shimmering in the distance; there are no cars, or at least not as far as the metaphor is concerned--that's just it: the "road of life" is only a metaphor. In reality, life is more of a path.

All the best.

CLIP 'N SAVE

ERNST & JULIO'S NON-ADHESIVE POST-IT

Distinguished Communal Leader Retires continued from page one

came to Yeshiva College in September 1934, and have never really left. Though I am resigning as Senior Vice President, I expect to continue my concern, interest, and support for my beloved Yeshiva University, the premier Orthodox institution in our time."

Responding to Dr. Miller's letter, Dr. Lamm wrote, "Your sixty years of association with Yeshiva constitute a historic record, one which will be long remembered in the annals of our University." In addition, Dr. Lamm bestowed the title of Senior Vice President Emeritus to Dr. Miller in his letter to him.

After serving as the rabbi of the Kingsbridge Heights Jewish Center in the Bronx for a quarter of a century, Dr. Miller joined YU's administration as Assistant to the President

for Student Affairs. In 1970, he became Vice President of YU, and in 1976, he was appointed Chairman of the Executive Committee, the interim governing board following the death of Dr. Belkin.

Miller's numerous communal positions are testament to his dedication to American and world Jewry. He serves as President of the Conference of Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, the official group representing the Jewish victims of the Holocaust to the Federal Republic of Germany. He has also served as Chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, the coordinating body of various Jewish groups in the United States.

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Stern Scholarship Will Undergo Change

continued from page one

the formal review of the Stern Scholars program that will be undertaken in light of its restructuring is crucial. Stern scholars agree.

"This study is long overdue," says YC junior Andrew Sicklick. "You can not offer one course and a night with Elie Wiesel and call it program," he said, while noting a recent guest lecture as "a step in the right direction."

Indeed, the Stern Scholars program has taken a few degrees of heat in recent months. One student, who requested anonymity, described the scholarship as "nothing more than a check - which is fine if you are willing to admit that you can't call offering money an intellectual enrichment program."

Hecht says that he does not join in the criticism of the Stern Scholars Program and, in the course of an extensive interview, repeatedly praised President Norman Lamm and Vice President for Business Affairs Sheldon Socol for their "personal commitment" to maintaining the program during financially difficult times for the university.

Hecht also dismisses suggestions that current Stern scholars should benefit from the Golding largesse. "I certainly have not detected a feeling that [current scholars] are angry with this approach," he said.

Vice President Schwartz says that current scholars had no reason to expect any increase prior to the announcement of the Golding gift and, while increasing the awards to them was considered, the Administration needed to start somewhere. "It is always a problem to draw a line such as this, but you must

start at some point. It is like the voting age - you wouldn't make the right to vote retroactive for those who were eighteen when you couldn't vote until you were twenty-one."

According to Hecht, the next step in the scholarship restructuring effort is a "formal, top to bottom review" of the opportunities offered to merit scholars. "We are going to bring together present students, alumni and faculty and see what changes, if any, should be made. We'd like to see what the students want."

Hecht says the administrators of the Stern scholars program have had to walk a careful line between supporting the program and avoiding charges of elitism. "We have been very careful and successful in maintaining that balance; the goal of this program is not to create animosity from those who are not Stern scholars."

In its original conception, Stern scholars were to have the opportunity to participate in special course offerings and cultural programming. Currently, recipients of the Stern award are required to take a special two-semester English seminar in their first year on campus. Lack of funds from the Stern family had sharply curtailed any plans for expansion of the program.

Schwartz says that the scholarship task force is still exploring options for merit scholarships at the university's other schools. He notes that even the decision about the undergraduate merit scholarships may be changed. "Nothing is written in stone," he said.

Hoosiers Claim Intramurals Title

Horowitz Named Game MVP

by David Goldenberg

In one of the most exciting and memorable championship games in YU intramural history, the #2 Indiana Hoosiers knocked off the #1 Michigan Wolverines in double overtime, 48-46.

In their first semi-final game, Michigan met Illinois. In what was a closer game than most expected, Illinois hung tight, led by captain Avi Greenbaum's 16 points. But down the stretch it was the strong inside play of Avi Vogel that helped the Wolverines prevail, 41-38.

In the other semi-final, the Hoosiers matched up against Minnesota. In another nailbiter, the Hoosiers squeaked by the Golden Gophers, 39-37. They were led by Ephraim Gerszberg's 10 points and Avraham Ciment's 7 points.

These two games set the stage for one of the most eagerly awaited championship games, featuring the #1 Michigan Wolverines (9-1), and the #2 Indiana Hoosiers (8-2). The first half was a defensive struggle, and at halftime the score was tied at 17-17. In the second half, the game started to heat up. The two teams traded baskets until there were about two minutes left on the clock. The Hoosiers had the ball and a 4 point lead, and Indiana could not hold on to the ball. Vogel stole a pass and was fouled immediately. He swished both foul shots to pull Michigan to within 2 points. After a missed shot, Barry Aranoff, who led all scorers with 16 points, hit a jumper to tie the game with just 40 seconds left. Indiana held the ball until about 20 seconds left when Horowitz drove the lane and was called for a controversial offensive foul, giving Michigan a chance to win. Playing for the last shot, the Wolverines worked for a good shot and got it, but Horowitz was right there for a huge game-saving swat, bringing the game into overtime. As the extra session began, neither team could find the hole. Michigan had several opportunities from the line but could not hit the clutch foul shots down the stretch. Once again, Michigan had a chance to win, but Horowitz, playing

with 4 fouls, came up with probably the biggest of his 9 blocks to force yet another overtime period. In the beginning of overtime, Aranoff's team came out smoking and scored a quick 4 points but took a big hit when star point guard Arkady Abraham fouled out with three minutes left. Aranoff followed with a steal to give Michigan what looked like a safe 6 point lead with 1:24 left. However, co-captains Horowitz and Lebowitz had other ideas. Horowitz drilled a three pointer to pull Indiana to within 3 at 46-43. Following a missed shot with 45 seconds left, the Hoosiers worked the ball around and Steven Tiger found Lebowitz in the slot who calmly sank a three pointer. With the score tied and the crowd on its feet, Michigan missed a jumper and Indiana grabbed the rebound and called an immediate timeout with 29 seconds left. Holding for the last shot Tiger hit Sid Singer on the baseline who drained the shot to give the Hoosiers a 48-46 lead with just 4 ticks remaining. Horowitz, who was named the game's MVP, scored 14 points to go along with his numerous blocks. Gerszberg, who played sensationally all year chipped in with 10 points. Eitan Butler added 9 off the bench and Singer scored 8.

After the game, Horowitz commented, "I'm really proud of our guys. When the going got tough the poised veterans with the support of an unrelenting crowd rattled the flashy rookies. On behalf of the entire Hoosier team I would like to thank the fans for backing us up the way they did, and we will see you at the end of the semester." An exhausted Lebowitz had this to say: "This game was by far the most exciting game I have ever played in. It's great to see after fifty minutes of play that the veterans still had some kick left in them. I just can't wait to become a grandfather so I could tell my grandchildren about it."

Congratulations to the champs: Jason Horowitz and Andrew Lebowitz co-captains, Sid Singer, Ephraim Gerszberg, Steven Tiger, Eitan Butler, Shlomie Friedman, Avi Wachsmann, Avraham Ciment, Elie Pieprz, Ben Gris, Charlie Ness, and Sammy Rhein.

Goldenberg's Final Season Awards

- MVP of the Semester - Arkady Abraham
- MVP of the Post Season - Jason Horowitz
- Rookie of the Semester - Barry Aranoff
- Defensive player of the Semester - Avi Vogel
- Surprise of the Semester - Ephraim Gerszberg

1st Team All Star

- G - Arkady Abraham
- G - Barry Aranoff
- C - Jason Horowitz
- F - Sam Maryles
- F - Burt Katz

2nd Team All Star

- G - Hillel Olshin
- G - Joel Kornbluth
- C - Avi Vogel
- F - Jeremy Fox
- F - Yoni Epstein

Some Macs Out of Commission



continued from page 16

Israel. Miko finished the season averaging 14 points along and two steals per game.

Other Macs who are out of commission include Yehuda Halpert, a promising guard

who went to Israel for the second half of the year, and Steven Kupferman, a solid big man who left the team due to time constraints in his schedule.

-- Adam Melzer



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YESHIVA SPORTS

YC Fencing Team Heads North to Compete

by Eric Berkowitz

On the weekend of February 4, the Yeshiva University Fencing team will travel to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston in order to compete in its first major tournament of the academic year. Other schools competing in the tournament include Notre Dame, Princeton, Brown, Brandeis, NYU, MIT, and North Carolina; all are among the highest ranked teams in the United States. The YC team will be one of two NCAA Division III school teams participating in the tournament.

The bulk of YC's fencing meets are concentrated in the month of February. This year's fencing team is led by co-captains Elliott Cohen (sabre), and Adam Balkany a foil fencer. Cohen qualified for the NCAA Regional Division III Championship and Balkany qualified for the Blue Bird championship held at

Johns Hopkins University. Balkany, the only returning foil member on the squad, is joined by members Samson Fixler, Joe Herman, and Tzvika Nissel. The sabre squad, led by Elliott Cohen, seems to be the strongest squad. Members include Avi Greenbaum, Josh Jacobs, Jonathan Korn, Aron Lifshitz, and Robert Williger. The epee squad, led by Reuben Levy, is the final component of YC's fencing team. Comprised of mostly new fencers, the squad includes Eric Berkowitz, Charlie Ness, Shimon Oppenheim and veteran Shai Canaan.

While looking forward to the upcoming fencing meets, new members also view them as a learning experience. As fencing coach Arnold Messing said "fifty Percent of the team members are new, and right now we're building a team for next year. The practices have been long and hard but we are finally ready to compete."

Near Miracle At The MSAC

by Adam Melzer

NYU vs. YU: Steve Sommers of WFAN Sports Radio predicted a 90-40 NYU victory. A 50 point blowout. Right? Wrong.

In what was supposed to be an NYU walkover, the Macs almost pulled off a remarkable upset against nationally-ranked NYU. Many thought that the Macs would fold early as they had often done against other good teams. But ten minutes into the game, the Macs (8-6), were still within two points of NYU (15-2). By halftime, it was evident that the Macs had played their best half of the season; they were only down by one. In the second half, the Macs took the lead at one point with just under ten minutes to go. Even in crunchtime, the Macs

were in the game. It wasn't until 30 seconds left (with the MACS down by four) that the referee made a controversial double dribble call, ending the Macs' hopes for a huge upset.

Miko Danan led the Macs with 18 points (3 three-pointers) until he suffered a season-ending injury with a few minutes to go. Daniel Aaron played a solid game, scoring 17 points and grabbing 11 rebounds. Donny Furst played superbly, scoring 10 points.

A very bright spot for the Macs was Alan Levy. Besides scoring 11 points and grabbing 10 rebounds against NYU, Levy has been a positive constant for the Macs. He is shooting 55% from the field and is slowly becoming the cornerstone and leader for next season's team.

And Then There Were Eight

The bench has gotten lonely for the Macs. When the Macs defeated SUNY Purchase this past week, only eight players were in uniform. Last week's defeat to NYU was a loss in more ways than one, as star player Miko Danan suffered a season-ending injury against NYU. Danan, a departing senior, tore the anterior cruciate ligament in his knee while driving to the basket. This is the same injury that Bernard King, Danny Manning and more recently, N.Y. Knicks guard Doc Rivers have suffered. The average rehabilitation period for an NBA player for this injury is one year. It is hoped that Miko will have a successful rehabilitation. If his rehabilitation is successful, he will have a potential shot at playing professional basketball in

continued on page 15



Injured Mac Miko Danan

Macs Set to Wrestle Two in February

by Commentator Sports Staff

The first wrestling match of the YC academic year was a scrimmage against St. John's. With many rookies on the YU team, it was an excellent chance for the team to experience at least one real match before the season started. Although many members lost their matches, Coaches Elman and Schweitzer were optimistic. They were quick to point out that only a couple of the rookies got pinned and that most team members were not afraid to use the moves that

they had learned in practice.

Two weeks later, the team was up against St. John's again, in the first official match of the season. Two weeks of strenuous practice proved to be worthwhile when Yeshiva University beat St. John's by two. Since then, captain Barry Bessler has led the team to a 2-3 record and it is still possible that the Macs will end this season with a winning record.

The Macs are scheduled to wrestle at Columbia on Wednesday, February 9 and at John Jay (at home) on the 13th.



The 1993-1994 YU Wrestling Team

Anti-Semitism Besets Macs' Game

by Adam Melzer

The 67-57 Macs victory over Stevens Tech was a mere sideshow to what took place in the stands. In the beginning of the game, fans and members of the Macs were shocked to see a Jordanian flag flying from the bleachers. While there is a Jordanian player on the Stevens Tech team, according to the Stevens Tech Athletic Director, this was the first time such a flag was raised. The Jordanian player said that he had no prior knowledge about the flag.

Additionally, players on the Macs said that Stevens Tech fans near the flag were taunting them and hurling anti-Semitic epithets at them. Athletic Personnel from Stevens Tech tried to stop the fans in the stands. Although they were finally able to remove the flag at halftime, they were unable to stop the fans' taunting and use of anti-semitic

language.

At press time, an investigation by the Yeshiva University Athletic Department was pending. Players on the basketball team have been asked by the Athletic Department to recount what happened on the evening of the game. Some students have been discussing alerting New York newspapers, Jewish newspapers, and possibly the Anti Defamation League. One YU administrator said, "In a time where there is such a racism problem in sports, we have to be very concerned about an anti-Semitic act such as this. Hopefully, the Athletic Department will handle this matter adequately so that it will not have to be handled by other people. This is truly a shocking incident." Players on the Macs have said that if necessary, they will be interviewed by "outside authorities" to recount the incident.

The Commentator

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