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Fourth Jewish Studies Program to Begin in Spring Semester

Announcement Raises Concern On Campus

by Ephraim Leibtag and Josh Fine

Amid confusion over both the need for, and the goals of, a new Judaic Studies program, YU formally announced the Golding Beit Midrash Program (GBMP) on October 25. Scheduled to begin in the spring semester, the aim of the new program is to better meet the needs of YU students who want to spend their mornings in a classic *Beit Midrash* setting but are put off by the large *shiurim* and time requirements of MYP.

The Golding Program's formation was the result of a series of discussions between YU administrators and several *Roshei Yeshiva* during the past year. In the press release formally announcing the program, YU President Dr. Norman Lamm stated that Rav Meir Goldwicht will serve as the "key intellectual resource" of the program, noting that this

arrangement will "ensure that learning in the Golding program will be at the highest scholarly level," and that Rav Goldwicht's "warm rapport with students will contribute greatly to the program's success."

The program will run from 9 AM to 1 PM, Monday through Thursday, and will include special classes in both *Halakhah* and *Machshava*, given by both Rav Goldwicht and other *Roshei Yeshiva*. This will be followed by *sefer* in the *Beit Midrash* and *shiur* at 11:30. Rav Goldwicht will give *shiur* in GBMP but will also continue to give *shiur* in YP.

According to Rav Goldwicht, attendance will be mandatory at the *Halakhah* and *Machshava* classes, and tests will be given periodically. Rav Goldwicht will function purely "*Mi-tzad Hashiurim*," leaving the administrative details to the administrators. Rav Goldwicht made it clear that "I agreed to give *shiur* in Gemara and

Machshava to help start and build up the new schedule. This will be in addition to my existing role as *Rosh Yeshiva* in MYP, which I will continue to its fullest extent. Only after I became aware of the decision by a few *Roshei Yeshiva* and the administration to start a new program did I become involved. I did so in order to increase the *Ahavat Torah* and *Yirat Sh'maim* within the Yeshiva, by helping students who need the program to organize their time better in the hope that they will be able to return to, or join for the first time, the regular Yeshiva program. I therefore suggest that the *Roshei Yeshiva* who proposed the 9-1 schedule, along with other *Roshei Yeshiva*, follow up this new schedule by offering any ideas and suggestions they may have which will help ensure the program benefits those who truly need it."

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First YCSC vote of 1994, authorizing the sale of the Guide to the Perplexed to all students for \$1

YCSC Releases Budget Plans

First Time in Recent Memory

by Menashe Shapiro

For the first time in recent memory, YCSC has released its annual operating budget. President Daniel Billig recently finished final allocations for the 1994-95 academic year and has begun to inform the various club presidents of their budgets. Aside from major changes regarding the distribution of The Guide and the Chanukah Concert, the entire budget allocation system has been overhauled in order to provide a comprehensive system of checks and balances to keep track of all expenditures.

The tentative budget projection includes a \$2000 surplus, which is necessary when estimating expenditures because many of the expected revenues are subject to change. If over the course of the year there is indeed a carryover of excess funds, then the money will be distributed to deserving clubs. These allotment decisions will be made by the student council based on need, as well

as the club's ability to effectively manage its funds. However, until then, the council is depending on the various clubs to do their own fundraising to help offset the extra costs incurred that would not be covered within the YCSC budget. The council's revenues include a percentage of the student activity fee, which is based on a complicated formula that divides the money between the different school organizations. Other expected revenues come from an internal account that funds joint YCSC and SCW events, arcades, Morg Mart, alumni donations and the President's Circle. Combined, the expected revenues come close to \$100,000 which is not as much as the approximately \$150,000 in requests Billig received. With requests as high as they were, Billig cut at every possible place, resulting in many clubs not getting near what they requested. In fact, two new clubs were even denied entry as a result of budget

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Chanuka Concert Cancelled

Student Leaders Propose Chagiga in its Stead

by Nachum Lamm

The Yeshiva College Student Council announced at its open meeting last Sunday that the annual Chanukah concert would be scrapped this year, to be replaced by what SOY President Yitzchak Book described as an "*achdus*" concert/*chagigah*. According to YCSC Vice President Yoseph Helft, who along with Book, YCSC President Daniel Billig, and YC senior Samson Fine, are planning the early stages of the event, a number of problems that plagued previous concerts caused this decision to be made. Among the problems cited was a lack of interest among YU students -- often, the majority of the audience was composed of MTA students and of people from outside YU.

This year, with midterms coming during Chanukah, the number of undergraduate

students attending was expected to be even less. In addition, since the concert caters to those outside of the University as well as students, it is supposed to turn a profit; however, it has consistently showed a considerable loss for the student council.

The event scheduled for this year is to be a free-admission, YU only combination concert and *chagigah*. In the words of Book, it will be an "investment in the students" and will therefore not be expected to raise money- it will be a simple expenditure by the student councils. In addition, the event will cost only about one fifth of what the concerts have cost, and this cost will be divided among all of the undergraduate student councils, both at Stern and YU. Both SOY and TAC will continue to hold their annual Chanukah *chagigot*, SOY's to be held in the main Beit Midrash

on Monday, November 28th. The joint event will be held in Weissberg Commons in Belfer Hall on Thursday, December 1. It is hoped that the event will begin with a giant menorah lighting ceremony and a short speech in Tenzer Gardens, followed by music and dancing in Weissberg Commons - an arrangement similar to this past Yom Ha'atzmaut. Neshoma Orchestra will perform, and there will be periodic breaks in

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YU Israel student visits the community of Nachshon Wacman during the time that he was held captive.

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RESPONSA

WYUR, Wronged

To the Editor:

As Assistant Station Manager of WYUR, I'd like to respond to the article in your latest issue entitled, "WYUR Slow To Air." It was a cheap attempt to stir up an age-old controversy by playing off long-held prejudices in the school. The station is not, as you put it, "slow to air". I, and other members of the board, have been putting in many hours every night interviewing, discussing programming, and getting the station in order. Station Manager Stephen Unterberg has sacrificed much of his busy, academically-constrained schedule trying to fix the many technical difficulties that the station has been plagued with for years. At the time your article was printed, not to mention written, we were searching the campus for talented radio personalities and exciting shows. Had you done any research into WYUR's background you would have found that this year's board is working harder and faster than ever. We are definitely not being "slow"!

The article itself was a travesty, full of misquotes and statements taken out of context. First, the show with Eli Duker and Ilan Haber is called "What Are You Hocking About?" and not "Fill-in-the-Blank", as Mr. Unterberg was misquoted. Secondly, your article mistakenly implies that we are airing "Levphones" this year which we are not. Further, although there are plans for a second phone line, it has not been installed, contrary to what you assert in the piece. And you left out the most important issue involved in the technical difficulties; the broken transmitters in the Morgenstern and Muss dormitories. When Mr. Unterberg was informed of the erroneous quotes prior to printing, he asked that they be taken out!

Finally, juxtaposing speculation from Program Director Aharon Rabinowitz, with facts from Faculty Advisor Hal Tannenbaum to create a "confusion", and claiming the two are giving "completely different versions of the events", was not only immature but grossly irresponsible, tabloidic

journalism. And even if you do not know the difference between Mr. Rabinowitz's relayed hearsay given as a possible source to problems, and Mr. Tannenbaum's knowledgeable statement that simply disproves the theory, and therefore quoted them both as opposing opinions implying one is blatantly lying, Mr. Rabinowitz and I personally pointed this blunder out to your editors prior to printing and were assured that the mistakes would be corrected! In addition, Mr. Tannenbaum was also misquoted. He did not deny that the window was left open; he said no one broke in through any windows. Twisting a quote to fit the heading, "Confusion...", is unprofessional.

Speaking for the board of WYUR, I am greatly distressed that we had to start out our relationship this year with our media brethren on such a sour note. I hope that you will accept this criticism good-naturedly, publish this letter reparatively, and correct your mistakes responsibly. We bear no grudges and look forward to a long future of mutual respect and cooperation.

Chanoch Kanovsky
YC '95

Editor's Note:

The Commentator acknowledges that the article in question contained a number of factual inaccuracies and incorrect quotations. Unfortunately, the heavy volume of news articles and the new computer system in our office led to an oversight in which the final version of the article, including changes made known to and approved by WYUR officers, was left out of our main directory, leading to its omission from the newspaper.

The Commentator apologizes to WYUR and its faculty advisor, Hal Tannenbaum, for any negative effects the article may have caused. Yet we regret the venomous, vindictive tone in which the radio station has chosen to voice its complaints. WYUR's use of phrases like "cheap attempt," "travesty," and "immature...grossly irresponsible, tabloidic journalism" serve to attack personally those responsible for the unintentional omission. We indeed aim to honor WYUR's call to arms of "a long future of mutual respect and cooperation"; we can only wonder if they intend the same.

IBC Not a High School Remedial Program

I have a big problem with high schoolers in the College, particularly in IBC. Rabbi Bloch (the Assistant Principal of MTA quoted in last issue's article about the new high school program with YC) seems to think that IBC is a remedial program for students who have not performed well enough to do their senior high school year in YP. If they were "not flourishing in YP style shiurim in MTA" what have they done to earn their way into IBC?

According to Rabbi Bloch, I am "narrow minded and self destructive" for not desiring high

school children in my college classes. Rabbi, we have lived in an already over supervised environment for years without your high schoolers and we have somehow avoided our point of destruction. This recruitment program dressed up as Talmud Torah stands to harm the mature and fragile student environment at YU. If you want to expose high school children to YU, Open House is on November 13th.

Adam Cohen
President IBCSC

Correction:

The article "YU set to Announce Fourth Jewish Studies Program" in the last issue of *The Commentator* contained a few items which require clarification. Rav Goldwicht is not the "brainchild" of the new program as the article stated. Rather, the idea for the new program came about in trying to solve some of the problems taken from the survey conducted in 1993. From there, the administration consulted three Roshei Yeshiva to formulate a rough framework of a Beit Midrash schedule meeting from 9-1. Rav Goldwicht was asked to give shiur in the program after it was decided that it would be introduced. Also, the program's *Halakha* and *Machshava* classes will be mandatory and tests will be given periodically.

Baruch Goldstein, A Martyr

To the Editor:

Who was Baruch Goldstein? Baruch was an exceptional person. Everyone that knew him tells unbelievable stories of his kindness, dedication, and sensitivity. However, the *Erev Purim* incident in Chevron has given Dr. Goldstein a horrible name by which he is to be remembered. Recently, I read a letter written by Irwin (Yisrael) Goldstein, Baruch's father. It is that article that compels me now to write this letter. It is my firm conviction that the full story has not yet been told. Unfortunately, the only story we hear is the slanted version the Israeli government wanted us to hear. I would like to present the side of the story that the Israeli government does not want you to hear, the side that Baruch knew. Goldstein's father writes "Baruch's walkie-talkie was with him 24 hours a day, seven days a week. At night, he slept in sweatpants so that he would waste no time in responding to emergency calls... they kept him running day and night." *The Commentator* (March 10, 1994) printed after the incident, describes Baruch's rare, wonderful personality and dedication to the Jewish people and medical profession. For those of you who do not know of his benevolent past, I urge you to read the March 10th article in *The Commentator*. Being the remarkable man that everyone describes him as, we must consider whether he knew something that we didn't. Yisrael Goldstein continues by saying "When the family was sitting shiva, people came to us and declared that although Baruch, with the help of the Almighty, saved many lives while he lived, he saved many more when he died." A premeditated massacre of Jews was planned by the Chevron Arabs. The Chevron Jews knew these facts and yet the Israeli government conveniently did not. The media in both Israel and the U.S. leave this bit of information out of their reports. Mr. Goldstein's letter explains: "Friday, *Purim* morning, was the end of Ramadan. For days before, loudspeakers on mosques in Chevron had been blaring forth their message of hate, 'Itbach al Yahoood!' ('Kill the Jews!') without any interference by the IDF." The same IDF that today are arresting innocent Jews who live in the territories for alleged and unfounded acts of "underground activity" without trial. This fact I personally verified with sources who live in Chevron.

In fact, there was a simultaneous attack scheduled for both Chevron and the Old City of Yerushalayim. I was there that morning, in the Old City, on the rooftops, as Arab terrorists hurled

stones down over the side of the Kotel and onto the Jews below. That attack was pre-planned and not a spur-of-the-moment retaliation. Those stones were quarried, brought up to the Har Habayit, and chipped away to create an arsenal for a premeditated Jewish slaughter. I have some of those exact stones with their professionally finished edges. The Arabs used Baruch's preemptive strike as an excuse for their terrorism. However, don't be fooled - Arab terrorists don't need an excuse, they kill regardless. The terrorist attack on a Tel-Aviv bus that killed twenty two innocent civilians on October 19th is a prime example.

The Chevron Arabs were warned through pamphlets and inscriptions written on the walls to stockpile supplies for an expected long curfew. A long curfew that would "inevitably follow an end-of-Ramadan slaughter of Jews" as Goldstein writes. Possibly the most interesting piece of information in Goldstein's letter is another thing that the media failed to report. "A few days before Baruch's preemptive strike in the Ma'arat Hamachpela - and this can be verified by members of the Kiryat Arba Town Council who were present - a high ranking IDF officer came and urged Baruch to prepare emergency operating facilities for an expected Purim attack upon Jews!" They had the information but chose not to take any official military actions.

How many people are aware that the Arabs in Chevron were found to be "wearing outlawed-extremist-group green kaffiyahs?" There was also found amongst them no less than one known and wanted terrorist who came all the way from Shechem with his friends. An Israeli soldier was heard on his radio after the incident reporting that he found a "Kalashnikov (assault rifle), axes, and other weapons on the scene." Weapons that are supposed to be outlawed for use by the Arabs (especially at Ma'rat Hamachpela). Dr. Baruch Goldstein made a preemptive strike against Arabs who were at that moment collaborating against the Jewish people.

In the March 10th *Commentator*, an editorial concludes, "Baruch Goldstein's actions can never be justified. They can only be condemned." This is true... based on the information supplied by the Israeli Government, Baruch's actions can't be justified. However, there is more to the story and there are more facts than those we were told originally. Dr. Baruch Goldstein knew something more that we did not!

I can do no better in explaining what happened in Chevron than can Baruch's

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CAMPUS NEWS

CALENDAR EVENTS

Tuesday, November 1

Last Day to Drop a Course Without Notation on Record
Last Day to Withdraw with Partial Tuition Refund
Election Day
English Honors Society Symposium, 8:30 pm - Furst 535

Friday, November 4

YC Hebrew Language Credit/Exemption Exam

Wednesday, November 9

Dorm Talks, 8:00 pm - Morgenstern Lounge
Panelists: Rav Hershel Schachter & Rav Abba Bronspiegel
Moderator: Rabbi Yosef Blau
Coordinator: Rabbi Joshua Cheifetz

Sunday, November 13

CLEP tests administered
Open House - YC/SSSB

Jewish Affairs Committee Started Up In YC

Reacting to what they perceive to be a student body insensitive to Jewish issues, YC Juniors Josh Fine and Meir Pollack have founded the Yeshiva College Committee on Jewish Affairs. YP Rosh Yeshiva Rabbi Reichman will serve as faculty advisor. Fine explained that the primary purpose of the committee is to promote Jewish awareness and generate a response to the issues that are facing the Jewish community. He hopes that stimulating student awareness now will help set the tone for a lifetime of Jewish community involvement.

Among the activities the committee will be sponsoring are the publication of a bi-monthly newsletter as well as inviting prominent Jewish speakers to address the student body. The newsletter hopes to include articles by members of both the Judaic studies and secular faculty in addition to student pieces. Although the club has only been allocated two hundred dollars from the student council budget, both Fine and Pollack have stated that they plan on spending a good portion of their own money to help finance the various programs.

-- Yoni Kahan



Avi Weiss and MYP Rosh Yeshiva Herschel Reichman Protesting at the PLO Mission

YU Students Protest PLO

by Josh England

On October 19, a group of Yeshiva University students protested in front of the Palestinian Liberation Organization's mission to the United Nations. Coordinated by the group AMCHA-Coalition for Jewish Concerns, the protest followed the news of the fatal bus bombing in Tel Aviv which killed 23 people and injured over 40 others.

The protest was organized to express outrage over the PLO's failure to curb militant groups such as Hamas. The protesters message was that Yasir Arafat and the PLO are responsible for cracking down on terrorists and if they are unable to do so, then the Israeli government should halt negotiations with them.

Among the speakers at the rally were Rabbi Avi Weiss, president of AMCHA and noted Jewish activist, and Rabbi Hershel Reichmann, an MYP Rosh Yeshiva. The speakers noted the irony that in this "Year of Peace," three times as many Jews have been killed in Israel as compared to past years. They

condemned Arafat for not attempting to revoke the provision of the PLO charter calling for the destruction of Israel and for his recent mourning of the deaths of the Hamas kidnapers.

Also addressing the crowd was Pesach Wolicky of the International Committee for Missing Israeli Soldiers. After reciting *Tehillim* and marching in front of the PLO mission, the protestors marched to the hotel where President Clinton was staying to urge him to stop giving taxpayer money to the PLO. They also demanded that Clinton obtain information from Arafat regarding Israeli MIAs whose whereabouts are believed to be known to Arafat.

The protestors from Yeshiva College were joined by their counterparts from Stern, and others from Columbia and Barnard. The turnout, approximately 60 people, was significant considering the fact that the rally was held during a weekday--when classes are in session. "*Kol Yisrael areivim zeh lazeh*" said Dov Weiss, an active YC participant in the rally. "When we feel we can make a difference, we will be out on the streets."

Guard Mistakenly Asks Women to Leave Morg Lounge

by Stuart Milstein

A number of YC students were presented with a surprise early last week when, on Tuesday evening, a Burns security guard told various couples to leave Morg Lounge because women were not allowed to be there.

Avi Hornstein, a YC junior who was with a friend when she was asked to leave, said that he was shocked. "It did not make any sense. Where do they expect people to hang out?" he asked? The security guard justified his actions, according to students at the scene, by explaining that because the stairway entrance cannot be seen from the guard station in Morg, women cannot be in the lounge, lest they go upstairs. However, he explained, during engagement parties women are

allowed because an additional guard is present.

The situation was clarified when Rabbi Joshua Cheifetz, Director of Residence Halls, said that "somebody made a mistake; there is no such rule." He did indicate that there was a concern about women entering the staircase, but the Morg Lounge has not been closed because of it; after all, "how many places do you have to shmooze?"

The reason for the error, explained Chief of Security Don Sommers, was that many of the guards this year are new and unaware of all the rules for the different buildings. However, they have now all been informed of the actual rule: women are allowed to be in the lounges only until 12 AM to ensure that they do not miss the last van back to Stern.

YCSC to Charge for the Guide

by Oren S. Keiser

In its second open meeting on October 23, the YCSC Executive Board voted unanimously to charge students for this year's Guide to the Perplexed, a service that in the past was provided to YC and SCW students for free. Because of the minimal cost of one dollar, YCSC contends this should not really upset the student body, while raising some much needed funds for the student government.

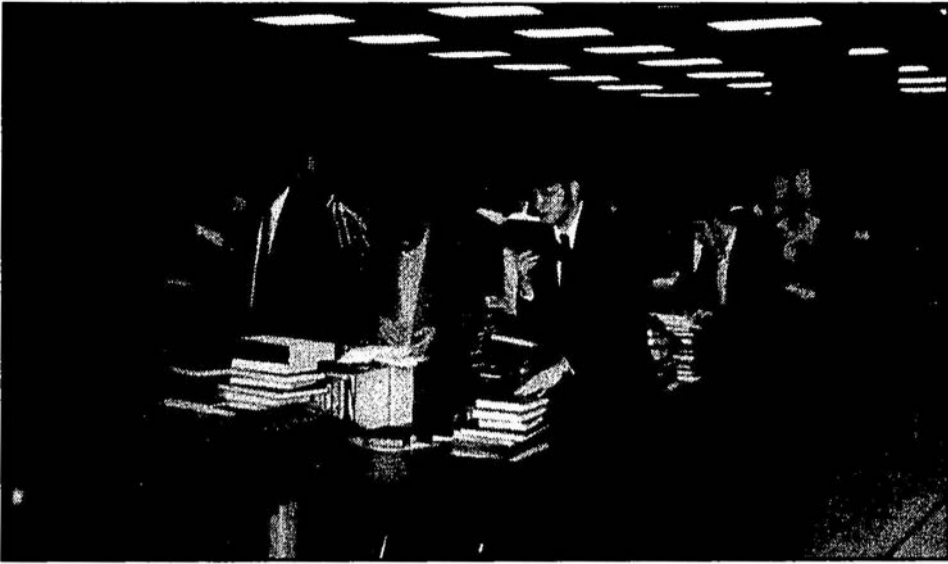
Daniel Billig, President of YCSC, explained that the small cost of a dollar for each student will raise about nine hundred dollars. These funds allow clubs, whose funding would otherwise be significantly reduced, money for additional activities, thus paying the students back more than their dollar's worth. "We cannot nearly afford all that is asked of us," Billig commented. "We are not asking much, and with this money we can give one more activity to several clubs."

Around campus the news of the charge for the Guide has been met with a mixed responses. Some students feel one dollar is a silly reason to complain. Oren Meyers, a YC senior, said "A dollar doesn't make a difference to me. It doesn't bother me, I need it [the Guide], and for a buck, I'll buy it."

Other students look at the issue quite differently. "The Guide is a student service," said Rafi Rosenblatt, a YC senior. "We should not be charged for these services we deserve." Many students shared this concern. Alex Bailey, also a YC senior, went so far as to say "The Guide has traditionally been considered a student service, just as Academic Advisement or Career Services are. By charging, YCSC is setting a precedent by which people can, theoretically, demand payment for what has always been a free student service."

Another concern expressed by students was that once it becomes established that YCSC can charge for the Guide, there is the possibility of its price skyrocketing in the future. "This year a dollar, next year five, a year after that who knows. All for a service that we deserve for free, just as other schools provide student directories to their students," commented SSSB junior David Blatt.

However, almost all of the students agreed that no matter how annoyed they are at having to pay for something they believe they are entitled to for free, in the end they will pay for it. A few students, however, responded that they would not buy the Guide, no matter how inexpensive it is, because they just can't see themselves paying for such a service. Other students pointed out that they would rather just call it up over E-mail. For most students, though, the easiest way to go is to simply pay the dollar.

Saying *tehillim* in the Beit Midrash on the Yom Tefilah

Hundreds Gather for Tehillim

by Steven Miodownik

In response to the devastating string of terrorism that has recently plagued the citizens of Israel, hundreds of MYP students gathered in the Main Beit Midrash on Sunday, October 23 for an outpouring of *tehillim* and prayer.

Led by RIETS student Baruch P. Mendelsohn and accompanied by several MYP Roshei Yeshiva, the 350 students recited 45 minutes of *tehillim* and then davened *mincha* with *Avinu Malkeinu*.

The otherwise unadvertised and unpublicized gathering was announced by Mashgiach Ruchani Rav Yosef Blau

in the Beit Midrash the previous Thursday night. Rav Blau explained then that the *tefilla* would be a show of solidarity with a much larger gathering sponsored by the Young Israel and the Orthodox Union earlier in the day at the Isaiah Wall in midtown Manhattan.

Rav Blau had been in contact with OU officials and had unsuccessfully attempted to persuade them to postpone their event until 2 PM so YU students could attend without missing *shiurim*, which end at 1:00 on Sundays. It had been decided by the Administration not to tamper with the *shiur* schedule because the learning would be "equally effective" in combatting the terrorism.

WYUR to Begin Airing ... Soon

Station will Broadcast Macs Basketball

by Benjamin Cohen

WYUR, the official student radio station of Yeshiva University, a longtime victim of technical blunders and programming gaffs, has been the epitome of hard luck in the past. But according to station manager Steven Unterberg, WYUR, at 640 AM, is trying to revamp its image. "We're going to have some incredibly unique shows that will cover a very wide spectrum of entertainment," he commented. "We have some surprises up our sleeve."

After putting up notices on the third day of the semester and beginning interviews on the fourth day, the offices of WYUR have been bombarded with students interested in hosting their own shows. The executive board of the station has conducted nearly 50 interviews with prospective DJs. Only 28 night time spots are available, although more spots might open up for morning shows, lunch shows, and even for shows past 2 A.M.

The station hopes to broadcast news from on and off campus, as well as entertainment news periodically throughout the shows. Plans for specific newscasts lasting approximately 15 minutes each have also surfaced. Perhaps most significantly, WYUR is optimistic about acquiring a portable switchboard, enabling the station to broadcast public speeches and "Dorm Talks" live on location. In an unprecedented move, Unterberg also plans to broadcast both home and away MAC basketball games live. "That's awesome," declared Neil Bronstein, a player for the Macs. "It should help get more people involved with the team."

The total overhaul has already attracted attention among students on campus. "WYUR is an integral part of the student body at Yeshiva University," said senior Erez Gilad. "It represents an effective medium through which ideas can be communicated."

Tough Times

Reaching this point has not been easy for the station. Since moving to the Schottenstein Center, WYUR has suffered through an unlucky, if not tumultuous few years. During the move, several key pieces of equipment were severely damaged. In addition, almost every year since the move, the radio station has been subject to constant break-ins, leaving supporters of WYUR physically and emotionally drained. At present, with the station rendered inoperable, technicians have already been called to fix damaged equipment. Currently, there is no sound in Muss, and only static can be heard in Morg. Both Rubin and Brookdale Halls already have good reception. "We don't want to go on the air until Muss and Morg are fully operational," commented Unterberg.

According to inside sources at the station, broadcast capabilities could come as early as this coming Sunday night. Others are more skeptical about when the first show will air. "I'll believe it when I hear it," said one student who wished to remain anonymous. For Unterberg and the rest of the station's governing board, it is a race against time to prove themselves to the student body. Meanwhile, the ghosts of years past still haunt WYUR, and only time will tell if it can successfully pick up the pieces and move on.

Rav Blau Disbands Eight Thirty Rubin Minyan

Labels Students' Actions as 'Religious Blackmail'

by Meir Zeitchik

In an attempt to increase the amount of time students spend on learning, Mashgiach Ruchani Rabbi Yosef Blau two weeks ago halted an eight-thirty *minyan* in the Rubin Shul.

Citing one of the foundations of the Yeshiva as being a complete morning *seider*, Rav Blau informed the students who regularly davened there last year that the *minyan* would be shut down so as not to conflict with *seider*. "In the past several years we have seen a rapid deterioration of the attitude toward Jewish studies in the Yeshiva on every level... as evidenced by the *minyanim* which violate morning *seider*. Every effort should be made to reverse this trend," stated Rav Blau. Rav Blau's statements and actions have touched off a storm of controversy, as many students feel that this injunction is evidence of a double standard, given the fact that a *minyan* in Morg is taking place at the same time. "The most popular *minyan* in the school is going on just down the block," commented former member of the banned *minyan* Michael Pfeifer. "Why aren't students in Ruben entitled to the same privilege?", he wondered aloud. For other students though, Rav Blau's actions represent a step in the right direction. "If the entire school had a class beginning at nine o'clock, no one would even dream of instituting a *minyan* which would violate that time. *Seider* should be treated with at least the same respect," noted seven forty-five *minyan*-goer Daniel Wolf. And fellow seven-forty-fiver Jay Lisker remarked that "there's a certain sad hypocrisy in claiming a three hour *seider* when in reality a good portion of YP doesn't show up until at least nine fifteen or nine thirty. An eight thirty *minyan* undoubtedly contributes to this phenomenon."

Students objecting to the new policy see it as more than a bad institutional policy, but as incorrect on halachic grounds as well. "According to the Rosh

Yeshiva I asked, *Tefilla b'tzibur* clearly outweighs a few extra minutes of learning," commented co-founder of the *minyan*, Barry Aranoff. "And while ideally it may be best if students would attend *minyan* and arrive at *seider* on time, the reality is that without the eight thirty *minyan* students will end up davening in their rooms," he noted further.

For Rav Blau, however, their arguments hold little water. "This is religious blackmail. The yeshiva has no responsibility to cater to the needs of wayward students. Sanctioning this *minyan* due to the 'reality' would be analogous to saying that the yeshiva must mandate a disco party with kosher food for students who threaten to have it out of the yeshiva with non-kosher food. While this may be an exaggeration, the idea remains the same."

Morg Next?

Rav Blau also expressed his desire to carry his plan even further: "The next time a meeting of the roshei yeshiva takes place, I plan on broaching the subject of abolishing all *minyanim* which affect *seider*," an obvious reference to the eight-thirty Morg *minyan*. He probably would also consider discontinuing an eight thirty *minyan* which often takes place across from the Beit Medrash. The likelihood of the Morg *minyan* being abolished, however, remains minimal. The *minyan* is well attended -- by students ranging from early-admissions to married Kollel fellows. Even YP Rosh Yeshiva Rav Reichmann frequents it regularly. And for many the 8:30 *minyan* is the logical choice if they are serious about their studies and learning but also want to get a reasonable amount of sleep. "When you're up working until two or three o'clock, commented eight-thirty *minyan*-goer David Amster, the only way to be able to function the next day is to attend the eight-thirty. Stopping it would be disastrous."

Junior Class Goes to Chicago City Limits

by Seth Dym

The junior class organized its first event of the year last week to the Chicago City Limits comedy club, drawing over 120 students from YC and SCW, despite the relatively high seventeen dollar cost.

Following up a successful senior class event at Sportsworld in New Jersey three weeks ago, the junior class's event at the comedy club act focused on improvisational skits, working with very little pre-written material, and reacting spontaneously to suggestions offered by the audience. Skits consisted of a play with a constantly changing theme, a *Jeopardy*-type game show, and even a monologue read by an unsuspecting

student. The stage seemed almost too small to contain the four-member cast's antics as they unrestrainedly did anything that came to their heads. Most who attended enjoyed it immensely. "It was really funny," said Owen Waxman, a sophomore, "It was definitely worth the seventeen dollars."

The junior class sponsored the event to give the students a chance to meet with one another and make new friends. Their intention was not to make a profit, said Elie Paul, the class vice-president, although they did end up making money because of the relatively large turnout.

Debate Rages Over Gay Clubs at Cardozo

Conflict Between Torah Values and American Law

by Owen Cyrulnik

This week, Dean of Students Efreim Nulman and several Cardozo Law students conducted meetings regarding the issue of gay clubs at Cardozo. The meetings are part of an ongoing controversy that has arisen surrounding the existence of homosexual clubs at the law school.

Although the clubs have existed for several years, the controversy erupted after last year's Cardozo law school graduation when, in a public speech, a student mentioned that he was gay. Religious Jewish students who found such public affirmations religiously offensive are now attempting to force Cardozo to officially abolish the gay clubs that exist at the school.

Unlike the homosexual clubs that exist at the Wurzweiler School of Social Work and the Einstein School of Medicine, the Cardozo controversy seems to have become much more of a public issue. Aside from articles and editorials that were published in the *Cardozo Forum*, an article was printed in the *Forward*, and there is a piece that is scheduled to appear in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* sometime in the near future. There are those who place the blame for this publicity on the religious students themselves. One source who wished to remain anonymous commented that "those who oppose the clubs have, by their public opposition, caused the very *chilul hashem* that they wanted to avoid."

The claim of those who oppose the club is a familiar one. They assert that any club which by definition contradicts values set forth by the *Torah* cannot exist anywhere under the Yeshiva University umbrella.

Leaders of the gay clubs maintain that to abolish homosexual organizations at Cardozo would be to give homosexuals the feeling that they are not wanted in the University. Some Orthodox Jews, however, disagree. In fact, they maintain that the homosexuals are unjustified in seeking such

recognition at YU. a student attending the YU Israel program, who wished to remain anonymous, commented that "If they [homosexuals] want us to be sensitive to their needs, then they should be equally as sensitive and not attempt to create a club that spits in the face of the very values of the school that they attend." *The Commentator* contacted the President of the Gay and Lesbian alliance at Cardozo, Karen Marcus, for an interview, but she refused to discuss the issue with *The Commentator*.

In response to all of the criticism, the University asserts that abrogation of the gay clubs would be impossible. Dean Nulman points out that the club does not really exist under Yeshiva University, but rather is funded by the Student Bar Association at Cardozo. According to Nulman, the University is doing "what is required by law; nothing more, and nothing less." Similarly, Dr. Norman Lamm, President of Yeshiva University, is quoted by the *Forward* assaying that "to deny gay clubs the right to function is to deny Yeshiva University the right to exist."

Lamm Under Fire

Dr. Lamm has been the target of much of the criticism by religious students on this matter. This is partly due to the fact that any final decision rests in the hands of Lamm and the Board. Dr. Lamm has been further criticized for refusing to speak to Cardozo student leaders on the issue. Opponents claim that Dr. Lamm is allowing politics to cloud his Torah beliefs. Jeff Stier, Editor-in-Chief of the *Cardozo Law Forum*, believes that Dr. Lamm is allowing "the politically unpopular position of banning gay social groups and letting Torah principles central to the University's essence fall by the wayside."

Students who oppose the clubs claim that the law really does allow discrimination against gays if done purely on religious grounds. The only tangible loss due to such a policy, they

claim, would be a loss of New York State tax-exempt status. Such a monetary loss, claims Jeff Stier, is not reason enough to violate *Torah* values, "For YU, when dollars are part of the equation, the monetary concerns will always be given more weight than *Torah* values, regardless of the enormity of the *Torah* principles at peril."

Nulman, however, took issue with the legal conclusions. After consultation with University General Counsel Mr. G. Bockstein, Nulman concluded that to discriminate against the homosexual clubs would absolutely violate established civil rights statutes. Nulman cited a case in which Georgetown University, a religious institution, attempted to ban a gay club on religious grounds. A gay student sued Georgetown based on the District of Columbia Civil Rights act. The university policy was upheld by a state court ruling on grounds of religious rights granted by the constitution. The appeals court, however, reversed the lower court's ruling, claiming that homosexual rights superceded the religious rights of the University in this case. The U.S. Supreme Court upheld the Appeal's Court's reversal. Nulman also listed several other religious institutions that face similar problems to the one faced by YU, and added that all of those institutions have responded in kind. Those schools include Catholic University of America, St. Johns University, the University of Santa Clara, and Fordham University. Dean Nulman points out that unlike most of these other institutions, Yeshiva University is not a religious school, but rather is a non-sectarian University and thus would be bound by even more stringent legal requirements than the aforementioned schools.

Students who are seeking the abolition of the clubs maintain that regardless of the legal consequence, the University has no choice but to uphold

Torah values. In fact, there are even those individuals who call for the university to divest itself of its interests in institutions that presentsuch religious dilemmas. They point to the fact the Yeshiva University represents a standard to the outside world, and that a compromising of that standard can have serious ramifications. Many students outside of the Yeshiva University community concur. For example, Ian Boczek, a student at Columbia College remarked, "Although as a Columbia University student I am surrounded by homosexual activism, I had always pictured Yeshiva University to be unaffected by society's moral deprecation. Obviously, I was wrong. The very thought of a gay society under the umbrella of Yeshiva University is appalling."

Dean Nulman, however, firmly believes that the problems caused by Cardozo's existence are greatly outweighed by the immense benefit that it provides to Jewish students. Many members of both the student body and the administration recognize the fact that this issue does not fall into black or white categories. For this reason, many of those interviewed refused to comment on the record, realizing that there were problems with taking a stance in either direction. Not wanting to stifle student opinions, however, Dean Nulman stressed that students are encouraged to make their opinions known, as long as they do so in a respectful and non-obstructive manner.

Finally, although Yeshiva College is not directly threatened by the controversy surrounding Cardozo, the College's status as a school that is governed by Torah principles prompt many to call upon college students to maintain the integrity of the University. According to Jeff Stier, "As an anchor of YU, it is up to Yeshiva College to stand up for torah principles, because it is clear that our administration won't."

Aaron Tirschwell Leaving MSDCS

by Dov Simons

Rabbi Aaron S. Tirschwell of the Max Stern Division of Communal Services (MSDCS) has resigned as of October 28, 1994. As the search for his successor continues, Rabbi Tirschwell is preparing to take over his new position as the Director of Synagogue Services for the National Council of Young Israel. Tirschwell, YC'82, assumed his current position in 1992, after serving as Youth Director of Lincoln Square Synagogue. As Coordinator of Youth and Outreach Services for MSDCS, he helped arrange several projects such as Torah Tours. Indeed, under his direction, Torah Tours has expanded from ten to seventy programs a year. He has also helped to fulfill the center's role as a resource center for Modern Orthodoxy, providing ideas, manpower, and other necessities.

Rabbi Robert S. Hirt, Vice-President for Administration and Professional Education for RIETS, praised Tirschwell

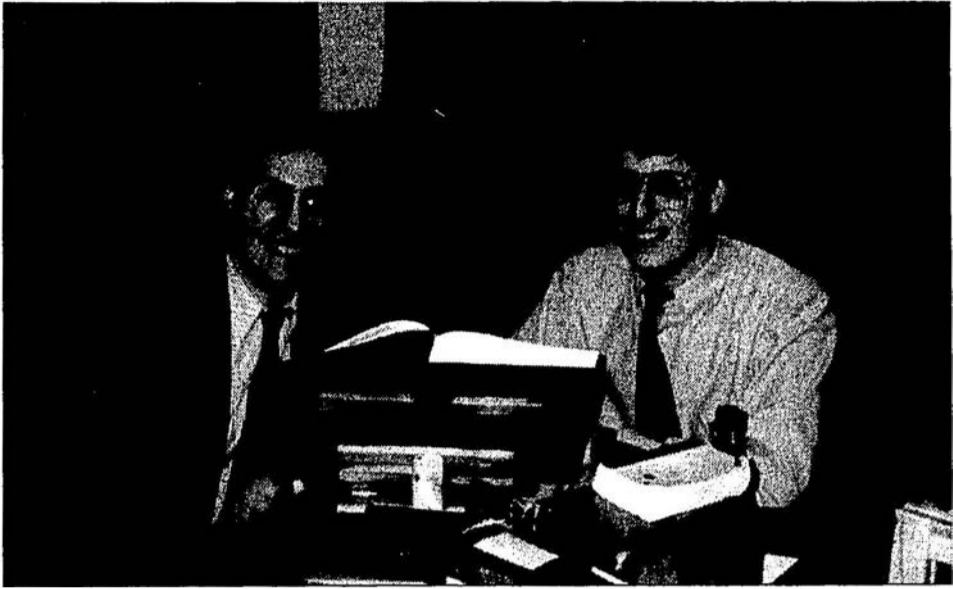
for his work within MSDCS. "I think he was a diligent and committed person, who advanced the knowledge of student opportunities to help the Jewish community." He also expressed his satisfaction that their efforts have helped to bolster Jewish communities where MSDCS has placed YU *musmachim*.

Although a successor for Rabbi Tirschwell has yet to be found, Hirt said meetings with candidates continue. After Tirschwell's departure at the end of the month, programs such as Torah Tours and the Alumni Learning Program will proceed as planned under the direction of student leaders. Tirschwell expressed his regret on leaving the students with whom he has worked so closely. "The thing I loved most was being able to work with men and women who are going to be the future leaders of the Jewish community."

WYUR 640AM

1994 - 1995

Fall 1994	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
7:45-8:45	<u>The Eilka & Dina Show</u> Music	<u>The Fruity Flavors</u> Comedy, Music	<u>Listen to the Music</u> Classic Rock	<u>The Levine & Sadres Show</u> Top 40
8:45-9:45	<u>Grunfeld & Shevelev</u> Classical Music	<u>Mad World</u> Music	<u>Chatting It Up With Susan & Beth</u> Politics & Health	<u>Jewish Music With Marc & Moshe</u> Jewish Music
9:45-10:45	<u>The YC Hour</u> Classic Rock	<u>Shirim V' Shirlim</u> Israel Club Music, Divre Torah	<u>The Selesny & Rosenberg Show</u> Country	<u>Torch and the Kofster Show</u> Student Affairs Interviews
10:45-11:45	<u>Strive For Truth</u> Life According to Jordan and Yoni	<u>Topics</u> Survey's & Discussion	<u>The Players</u> YCDS Radio Drama	<u>Moe's Tavern</u> Low Budget Radio
11:45-1:00	<u>What Are You Hocking About?</u> Talk	(11:45-12:15) <u>Arabic Music Show</u> (12:15-1:00) <u>The Right Stuff</u>	<u>Reality Check</u> Political Issues	<u>Ben Isaacs</u> <u>Benson Casden</u> Sports and Politics
1:00-2:00	<u>The Brain Dead Zone</u> Talk & Music	<u>Away Boyz</u> L.A. talk/music	<u>Fencers On Acid</u> Alternative	<u>Chatting With the Scurvy Boys</u> Rock



Rabbi Jeremy Weider (Right) and Rabbi Elchanan Adler (Left), two of the new Shoalim U'Meishivim in the Beit Midrash

Shoalim U'Meishivim

by Moshe I. Kinderlehrer

With nearly a month gone by (actually two, counting *Elul*), the MYP morning *sefer* is full, Rabbi Parnes' *shiur* still goes out the door, and finding a seat for Maariv in the Main Beit Medrash is a risky gambit. Yet there's something else marking this year's MYP (or the Yeshiva, as some prefer).

This is the first year ever in which three, officially titled "*Shoalim U'meishivim*" and "*Sgan Mashgichim*" are on the scene in the Main Beit Medrash and in the third-floor Beit Medrash in Furst Hall. The newly-hired group, consisting of Rabbis Meir Orlian, Jeremy Wieder, and Elchanan Adler, have been serving in their newly-created roles since late August and their appearance has not gone unnoticed.

Their role in the Beit Medrash, as their titles suggest, is to be there for students of the Yeshiva; first by learning their names, answering questions of all kinds, and sometimes, by sitting down with a student or two and learning a little *Gemara* or *Tosafot*. As one new *Shoel U'meishiv*, Rabbi Adler, explained, there are two needs being addressed by his role. "First," he remarked, "it is to support students in their learning, especially as it relates to preparing *mar'eh mekomot* for *shiur*. The other is to establish a personal *kesher* with individual students so that they feel that someone is interested and concerned with their welfare."

Apparently, it's working. Noted one *chavruta* twosome, two MYP/YC sophomores just back from Yeshivat Ohr Yerushalayim, Noam Kranz and Moshe Kesselman, one of the new *Shoel U'meishivim* just came over to their *makom*

and started learning with them. In recounting the incident, they recalled how shocked they had been in seeing him come over to them. But they overcame their initial surprise and ended up enjoying their three-way learning experience.

The pair voiced their wholehearted approval of the new *Shoalim U'meishivim*. They explained, "Luckily for us, Rabbi Orlian sits near us and is always enthusiastic in answering our questions. It's a big fear here that guys will get lost and fall through the cracks. He sits down and learns with us. It's important that they have a *kesher*; it makes you feel comfortable here."

But what about attendance in the Beit Medrash? The new *Shoalim U'meishivim* have often been spotted wielding the newly-instituted attendance sheets as they make the rounds in the Beit Medrash. Responded Rabbi Wieder: "So far, attendance has been very strong. The focus of our attendance is to be able to identify students who may be having difficulties in order to assist them. The way to keep students in the Beit Medrash is by sitting down and talking to them to help them cope with any problems."

He added, "There is an element of guidance in what we do, although most things we deal with don't require professional guidance counseling. We're viewed as guys learning in the Beit Medrash and we are willing to talk about the problems that arise." Before returning to his post in the Beit Medrash, he left off by strongly urging all *talmidim* to come over to the *Shoalim U'meishivim* in both Batei Medrashim and shmooze with them a little about whatever is bothering them. "We are willing and eager to help," he quipped.

Reb Shlomo Carlebach -- A Legacy of Music and Simcha

by Ryan S. Karben

The crowd swayed to the strains of his guitar, intoxicated by the sincerity of his voice and the intensity of his gaze. With him, they climbed aboard the wings of the eagles, soaring closer home, finding within themselves the smoldering ember of faith that he claimed was a light to the nations. The magic of Reb Shlomo Carlebach touched Jews around the world--and the shocking news of his sudden death two weeks ago at the age of sixty-nine struck like a lightning bolt. "Reb Shlomo" was a frequent visitor to YU, appearing most recently at a Chanukah Concert in Weissberg Commons last year for Russian émigrés. On campus, as in the larger Jewish community, students mourned the loss of the man the *New York Times* called "the foremost songwriter of contemporary Judaism."

Many students said that what was magical about Carlebach was not the music but the man. Zvi Ish-Shalom, a YC junior who spent last Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur with the "singing rabbi" at his shul on the Upper West Side, said that Carlebach's greatness, "was his ability to make everyone in contact with him feel as if they were the best in the world. He was an incredible man." Ish-Shalom said that Carlebach's "music was fused with his personality. He was a spiritual leader. His legacy is that in a world of excessive hate, he showed excessive love to tip the balance."

Carlebach has been called the father of the modern *kiruv* movement. After receiving *Semicha*, he worked as a traveling emissary for Lubavitch Grand Rebbe Menachem Mendel Schneerson *tz"l* and founded the House of Love and Prayer in San Francisco in 1968. Carlebach founded the *shul* to reach out to forgotten and forsaken Jews who he believed he could touch. "If I would have called it Temple Israel, no one would have come," Carlebach is reported to have said, and for decades he distinguished himself as one of the few Orthodox rabbis willing to go "into the trenches" to rekindle what he called the "*pintele yid*"--the spark of Jewish consciousness--in every Jewish soul. Gary Turkel, who spent two consecutive *shabbatot* with Carlebach in Israel, including one on his *kibbutz*, says the rabbi had the unique ability to bring everyone close. "Whatever branch they came from, reform, reconstructionist, conservative, orthodox--it didn't matter. He spoke a universal language," he said.

Carlebach's folk music attracted the attention of a number of big names of



Reb Shlomo at a YU Concert for Russian immigrants last year.

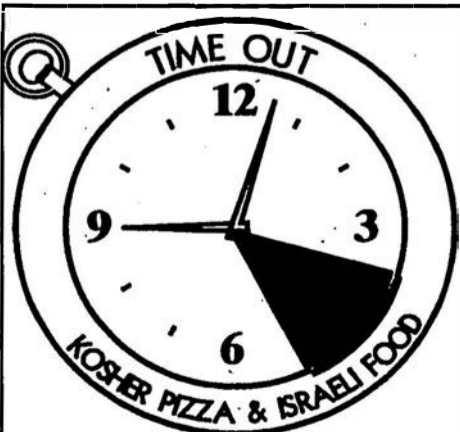
the 1960's. Bob Dylan secured him a place at the Berkeley Folk Festival in 1966 and his circle of friends, associates and "wonderful, *erlicheh yidden*" was wide. The scene at Carlebach's *levayah* was testament to the breadth of his appeal and his fluency in the language of the soul. Chassidim mingled with hippies. It was a mixture of Williamsburg and Woodstock as speakers rose before a crowd of three thousand to honor Carlebach's unique and compelling legacy. Cantor Bernard Beer, Director of YU's Belz School of Jewish Music, called Carlebach a "creator and innovator of the new Jewish folk music. His influence was felt throughout the world."

Indeed, the rabbi's renditions of "Esah Einei," "Pischu Li," and "Nachamu" lit a candle in the darkest corners of the world. In 1965, he composed *Am Yisrael Chai*--the anthem of the Soviet Jewry movement and his trips to the forgotten Jews of Eastern Europe became legendary for the crowds this balding, bearded and vested rabbi attracted. His piercing blue eyes would stare into the souls of these most alienated Jews and, for some of them, Carlebach was their ticket home--their means of return to heritage they had long ago forsaken.

Carlebach would often interrupt his songs to tell his audience a story. Addressing his "beloved friends," he would share inspirational tales of struggle and soul-searching, of redemption and renewal. Often, he would sing the same *niggun* for ten minutes--until it seemed that the walls were swaying with crowd. And, indeed, it sometimes seemed the whole world swayed with Reb Shlomo. To him, every Jew was a lost sheep to be brought back to pasture, every smoldering ember a potential bonfire.

As the world mourns his loss, it is almost possible to hear the guitar playing again, as he quotes the words of the prophet. "My holy friends, *nachamu*--be comforted. *Dabru el lev Yerushaliym*--speak to the heart of Jerusalem, speak to your brothers and sisters wherever you may find them. Invite them *tokiddush*, for a meal. Sing a *niggun* with them in the rain. Do not cry, Rachel. There is a reward for your labor. For your children shall return to their borders."

And with that, Reb Shlomo begins once again to lead the way home.



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YC Junior Zev Shubin discussing career options with representatives of a technology firm at the career fair on Monday night, October 17.

Where is the Cost?

Internal YU Fees Stymie Students

by David Schertz

The high prices of the cafeteria food often dominate any student griping about finances on campus. Yet two other expenses imposed upon students leave them asking where their money is heading: the \$5 penalty fee for changing one's course schedule, and the \$100 room rental fee that Facilities Management charges for student club and student council events to be held in a University room.

Undoubtedly, every student has at one point or another dished out the five dollar late registration fee. The fee is particularly irksome, since a change in course schedule is often beyond a student's control. The fee is meant to serve as a deterrent for useless changes; however, when a student needs to make a pertinent change in his schedule, he makes it regardless of the cost, since the need to change his academic program definitely outweighs the \$5 fee. But what is the cost for? Is it just a capitalistic exploitation of the helpless student?

Melvin Davis, the Registrar, admitted that the fee does not deter students from changing their schedules. He noted that some universities raised their late registration fee to as much as \$25 and it had no effect on the frequency of program changes. Further, while late registrants create more work for employees, Davis admitted that "nuisance charge fees are not worth the money they generate." Davis revealed that his office is therefore "looking into" changing the fee into a negligible addition to the registration fee students already pay as a part of tuition. While the normal registration fee would be raised, students would not have to pay afterward, no matter how many times they change their schedules. Davis feels that this plan is a positive alternative because it would eliminate much of the ill will generated when students are penalized for a situation beyond their control.

The increase in the cost of student

council and club events is attributed by student leaders mainly to an apparently unnecessarily high facilities rental fee. When asked whether or not the fee is fair, Daniel Billig, President of YCSC, commented that "it depends what the cost is for." He explained that, "if [people are just standing in a room, [then paying] anything more than electricity is preposterous." He further commented, however, that if labor is needed, then the expense is legitimate.

Jeffrey Rosengarten, Director of Supporting Services, understands why it may sound illegitimate to charge student clubs to use classrooms that each individual student can use for free. However, he explains that YU's economic policies are based upon a cost accounting system. This means that every expense in YU has to be accounted for by some entity or other in the University. The only question is which entity is responsible for which expenses at which times. In other words, when a student goes into a classroom alone, turns on the lights, and moves around a desk or two, someone pays for his use of the room even if he does not pay the expense himself. Therefore, when a club wants to use a classroom for an event, they are merely covering an expense that would have been charged to someone else for that club to use the room. The costs for such things as maintenance and electricity are determined and divided mathematically. No matter how a room is used, "everything has a cost," Rosengarten said. He further explained that these rental costs are taken into account when YCSC is provided with a budget.

These explanations still leave students wondering. Do student activities really consume \$50 worth of electricity, let alone \$100? Does the \$5 late registration fee deter anyone from changing necessary courses? As students ponder these and other questions like them, they are left to answer for themselves the main question: Where does the money go?

Sixth Floor of Library Uncovered

by David Schertz

Nobody ever stops to ask where the button for the sixth floor of the YU library is in its elevator. Why? Because most people do not even know it exists. Yet there actually is a floor above 5A, one which is used everyday and that no one can get to without using a special key in the obscure employee elevator. What can possibly be there so top secret? Could YU be working in accordance with the Israeli Mossad?

Actually, the sixth floor houses the YU archives. Looking like a big cellar with no windows, the floors and shelves are filled with gray and brown boxes that line the walls from floor to ceiling. These boxes contain documents that are analyzed and organized by the Head Curator of the Archives, Shulamith Berger.

Some of the more interesting collections of the archive include that of the Vaad Hatzola and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. The Vaad Hatzola was an orthodox organization that helped procure entrance visas for Jews during the Second World War. Among the documents is a telegram, dated September, 1944, to the Apostolic Delegate in Washington DC. The telegram begs the delegate to intervene to save the lives of a shipment

of Jews, among whom were Rabbi Elchanan Wasserman and Rabbi Avraham Grozenski.

The American Joint Distribution Committee (AJDC) was an orthodox institution established after World War I to support yeshivot around the world. Their ledger shows how much money was given to each yeshiva; most of the entries end in the year 1939. The AJDC is also a rich archive because it contains many of the letters sent by Roshei Yeshiva asking for funds. One such letter is dated 1925 from Rabbi Avraham Yitzchak Hakohen Cook, then Chief Rabbi of Palestine.

Other collections include that of Ben Koenigsberg, one of the first orthodox lawyers in New York, which documents the legal formations of many of the major orthodox institutions. Other recent additions to the archives include the documents of recent retirees YU Executive Vice President Rabbi Dr. Israel Miller and Head of Public Relations Sam Hartstien.

All the collections are being organized into inventories to be published later so that anyone can learn which letters are in the collection and where they are located. Finally, these collections will then be transferred onto microfilm.

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Science Career Seminar A Success

by David Swidler

On Thursday, October 20, dozens of YU students made their way to the sixteenth floor of Belfer Hall, where they attended a seminar sponsored by the Chemistry and Physics clubs, and Sigma Delta Rho. The seminar focused on career options for those majoring in biology, physics, chemistry, and engineering. The biology, chemistry, and physics departments were represented at the seminar by Drs. Judith Solomon, Raji Viswanathan, and Gabriel Cwilich, respectively. Dr. Leonard Brandwein discussed possible career choices for those interested in engineering. Each presentation lasted about ten minutes.

According to Chemistry Club president Yosef Crystal, the seminar was originally intended for those majoring in chemistry, but it was soon decided that a joint program with the other sciences would be more productive. Indeed, he noted, there was quite a turnout.

Each speaker began by mentioning the course requirements for the major in their department, and then went on to discuss the various career opportunities available for graduates with a degree in that subject. Dr. Viswanathan gave her presentation first, noting that a degree in chemistry provides the graduate with career choices that include laboratory research, notably in the pharmaceutical industry, clinical affairs, regulatory inspection, manufacturing, patent law, and of course, teaching. Medical school is an option, as well.

Dr. Solomon, the second speaker, drew attention in her presentation to the relatively high number of science majors at YU. There are more this year, she said, than there have been in the past ten. Dr. Cwilich, in the third presentation, also



Dr. Cwilich addressing a crowd at the Science Career Seminar

noted the resurgence of interest in the sciences, and he, too, gave advice: for a physics degree from YU, the key is to plan ahead; there is not a great deal of flexibility concerning timing and availability of certain courses, and planning is absolutely essential. The various careers open to the physics major include, as expected, teaching and medicine, but more surprisingly, fields like finance and marketing research—very often, a mathematical model is necessary to help determine the potential outcome of a particular scheme.

Finally, Dr. Brandwein spoke, and defined the role of the engineer as bringing things from the realm of the theoretical into the realm of the practical. There is a tremendous variety of available careers in engineering, much of it interdisciplinary, such as biomedical engineering, and patent law. For engineering, YU has a joint program with Columbia University, and if the student maintains at least a B average at YU, he or she is guaranteed acceptance to the Columbia part of the program. He warned, however, that of all the science majors, the engineering requirements are the most numerous, and even include a course in Economics, so that, in the words of Dr. Brandwein, one will not invent, "a five-hundred-dollar hammer."

By all accounts, the seminar, drawing a large and attentive crowd, was a success, though each presenter lamented that to properly cover all bases, much more time was needed.

YC Connects to Internet

by Stuart Milstein

In this age of technology and computers, many YC students have connected to the Internet, a system which offers features such as e-mail, gopher, and other services to individuals with accounts.

While many people believe that Internet serves satisfactorily, others feel that improvements must be made. According to Daniel Ritsma, a Sy Syms student and a computer room operator, the Internet is a good program, but it has "many limitations." Ritsma complained the system "is not 'user friendly,' it can only be used by individuals who have accounts, and it does not access all of the information is available through computer networks.

Early last week Ritsma suggested a plan to alleviate these shortcomings. He proposed to Dean Harold Nierenberg

and to YCSC President Daniel Billig to install an "information server" connected to the university's computer network which would be freely accessible to the students. The information that it provides would be retrieved from both the Internet and commercial services consisting of the Associated Press and Reuters news desks. "Since the news, stock quotes, and other information will be on our computer so soon after events occur," said Ritsma, "it makes the news almost live."

The service costs \$195 per month and provides access to between 30 and 35 megabytes of information, approximately 15,000 typed pages. New computers costing about \$3500 are also being suggested.

Ritsma said that both Billig and Nierenberg were excited about the idea and he hopes to have the project working when the spring semester begins.

Obscure on Campus: Places of Mystery

by Issac Sasson

Among the attributes which make YU unique are the rumors and erroneous beliefs about the institution which circulate its campus. Included among this group are misconceptions about Belfer Hall, the library, and Klein Hall.

All YC students interested in architecture will explain to you, after extensive observation and careful consideration, that there are more than sixteen floors in Belfer Hall (despite what the elevator numbers read). According to the YU mesorah, the top four floors of the building have been condemned because of flaws in the foundation of the building.

However, Jeffery Rosengarten, Director of Supporting Services, asserts that rumors like this one are absolutely preposterous. The building was designed to have its entire plant on the top floors, Rosengarten explained. The list of machinery includes a huge gas boiler, ventilation equipment, air conditioning, water towers, chillers, and blowers. "All of the equipment which would be found in some high rises on the lower levels are really found [in this building] on the upper levels," Rosengarten said. "It is nothing more mysterious than some fancy machinery."

The grapevine does not end with Belfer Hall. In fact, the history of the library has made its way into the rumor mill. Some students contend that the library was built backwards, with its main entrance on the second floor facing Washington Terrace. Rosengarten responded that the main entrance is indeed the one on Amsterdam Avenue, opening into the museum and adjacent to the elevators. "It was originally built with two entrances, but that would require double the security. I found nothing that would indicate that [the second entrance] would be the main entrance," Rosengarten commented.

There are some stories regarding the library which seem to be true, but most people have a hard time believing them. The architect supposedly designed the library so that the structure would look like a stack of books. Others assert that this phenomenon can only be seen from overhead in a helicopter. Go figure.

No discussion regarding the library is complete without mentioning the sixth

floor. Yes, the library has six floors. No button in the elevator will get you there, but it exists, and is comprised of two parts. One half is a machine room, similar to the top floors of Belfer Hall. "Many of the buildings built in that era have equipment rooms which were built up rather than down," Rosengarten explained. "Some buildings have a combination of both, with a boiler in the basement and circulation on the top floor." The remainder of the floor is occupied by the YU archives for storage of "important items which we do not need to get to all that often," Rosengarten said.

The library was not always located between 185th and 186th streets. In the sixties, the current library was just an empty lot and, according to Rosengarten, "the library, or parts thereof, were housed in Parking Lot E." When the current library was completed in the early seventies, Parking Lot E then housed the student union on one floor, and the YU theater on the other. They remained in the converted garage until four years ago, when the Schottenstein building was renovated. "The [Parking Lot E] building was originally built as a garage, and it was just converted to meet our needs," Rosengarten explained.

Many students have never heard of Klein Hall until they see the name posted on signs or written in announcements. Klein Hall is located in the basement of Muss, and in recent years has been used as a distribution center for the SOY pesach supply sale. According to Rosengarten, it is a beautiful room which was appropriate because of its accessibility to 187th Street and because it provided the proper security requirements.

Originally, Muss Hall was used as the YU physics center. When Belfer Hall was completed, all of the science facilities were placed under one roof "in order to provide a more modern setting," explained Rosengarten. Future plans for Klein Hall remain confidential since they require further research and a potential donor. "In the future it will be put to a different and more suitable use. Klein Hall is a nice part that can do better for us than just storage," Rosengarten said. "It can be a part that the students can enjoy."

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Sy Syms School of Business



Alumni Op-Ed: Career Fair, An Alumnus' Perspective

by Mark Furman YC' 90

Career Fair 94 or senior year 1989? If not for the stack of company brochures in my bag instead of my resume I never would have known. For some weird reason the old adage, "The more things change the more they remain the same" was going through my head over and over again. Could it have been the fact that I had to go to Belfer Hall to get a meal ticket to go to the Caf to wait on line to get my one serving only meal of something I was told was veal. It sure didn't look like veal, although it tasted fine, and visions of an on-campus *Shabbat* meal were rampant in my head. I mean here I am representing Corporate America and I feel like I am being treated like a YU student. But since I went to YU myself I'll cut them a little slack. But what about all the other Career Fair representatives who didn't go to YU, or worse, who aren't even Jewish, imagine the first impression (or lack of) that YU is making on them.

The Career Fair itself is a great idea. It really gives students a chance to talk to people in different fields to get an idea of what is available for them in the future. However, how impressed is a company rep going to be when while talking to a possible candidate for a position in their company, another student runs by and swipes the promotional water bottle from right under their noses without even dropping a hello. Forget about a distraction, a turnoff is more like it. Yes, boys will be boys, but it is the

parents' responsibility (or in this case SSSB) to keep these kids in-line. These kids are doing nothing but hurting the serious seniors who are looking for jobs. These promotions are there for the taking; trust me the company reps don't want to schlep them back. All one has to do is say, "Hello, may I please have one?" and a markedly different impression is left.

But back to the Career Fair, whose very purpose is to help make clear to students what career possibilities are available to them. But what about the junior and sophomores who have vague ideas about what they want to do with their lives? Perhaps SSSB should consider a Mentorship Program, where a varied group of YU graduates would volunteer to serve as advisers for students. Volunteer advisers would have to make themselves available to meet with assigned students, offering advice about course selection, resume wording, and employment opportunities. Or at the very least, have a listing of selected YU graduates from all fields that agree to make themselves available over the phone for students to ask questions relating to their field. Perhaps this would fill the current void of career-specific advice on campus.

The real world is a vicious place. The level of competition is incredible. I'm not saying that YU students are in anyway less capable than other students, but the goal has got to be that YU students are the best. SSSB/YC is on the right track but there is still room for improvement.



SSSB Vice President Daniel Gibber tutoring as part of the SSSB Tutorial Program

SSSB Debuts Tutorial Plan Early

by Josh Epstein

Following the example of the new mentor program designed to help returning students from Israel adapt to life in MYP, as well as the writing center that enables students to work with their peers on writing skills, the Sy Syms School of Business has recently introduced its own tutorial program. The program allows students who require assistance in basic business courses to receive aid at their own convenience, rather than chasing after busy instructors during limited office hours. Daniel Gibber, SSSB Vice President and Junior David Ruditzky, SSSB Secretary, helped initiate the program which matches student requests for help with capable upperclassmen who have already mastered the subject matter. Gibber explained that although the tutorial program has actually been functioning quietly in SSSB for a number of years, this is the first time it has ever been introduced this early in the semester. "In past years," Gibber noted, "people would be clamoring for tutors during finals time, and it would be too late to set up a workable schedule. This year we wanted to open the opportunity to all as soon as possible." Another problem in the past was that many people were unaware that such help was available.

To alleviate this problem, Gibber and Ruditzky spent the first week of school distributing memos to all SSSB professors, informing them of the program and requesting suggestions.

Currently, there are about twenty-five students matched with tutors in the introductory courses of Accounting, Finance, Statistics for Business, Computers and Management Information Systems. These classes were selected because they are typically the most troublesome for new students, but any tutorial request is usually accommodated. Tutors are paid \$7.50 an hour, with funding provided by the SSSB office, whose budget is allocated by the University. Most SSSB students now enrolled in the program are pleased with the help they are getting. "With the short semester, I needed a lot of attention, this program arranged two different tutors for me," said one SSSB sophomore. With the growing popularity of the program some YC students have even expressed jealousy. "Maybe if there was a school of psychology or a school of literature, we would get some help as well," said one YC junior. When VP Gibber heard this, he broke out a big smile and said, "I guess we're just practicing what the business school taught us to do: to find a need in the public, and try to fill it in the best and most productive way that we can."

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Investment Club Commences New Season

by Seth Grossman

After a successful inaugural season, the Sy Syms School of Business Investment Club is geared up for another year. Last year, through the hard work and market knowledge of managers Adam Lowensteiner and Ezra Lightman, the club returned profits in excess of thirty percent. This year, while economic success will still be the main objective, the club plans to place major emphasis on educating its members in the ABC's of the investment

process. No longer will Lowensteiner and Lightman be solely responsible for all decisions as they were last year, but all members will have major input into all buying decisions.

Increased opportunity for involvement in the decision making accounted for the high attendance at the Nov. 26 orientation meeting. Over fifty students, both from the uptown and main campuses showed up to hear Lightman outline the basic goals and requirements of the club. Fifty dollars

continued on page 15

Reduced Van Access Upsets YU Families

by Steven Miodownik

In years past, non-student area residents relied heavily on the free door-to-door van service provided by YU's Department of Safety and Security for transportation to and from the subway, bus station, and schools. But an abrupt change in policy has begun to wreak havoc upon the lives of faculty, kollel members, and their families who live in Washington Heights.

A summer evaluation of YU's safety practices by its insurance company led to the recommendation that no minor should be permitted on the vans without parental accompaniment. The recommendation, coupled with an apparent lack of communication between the Office of Safety and Security and the van drivers, led to immense confusion and strife within the YU community. As a result, some prominent rebbeim, including MYP Rosh Yeshiva R. Meir Goldwicht, were forced to factor two or three van trips into their teaching schedules in order to drop off and pick up their children from schools in the Breuer's community. Other families similarly affected are those of MYP Roshei Yeshiva R. Hershel Reichman and R. Mayer Twersky, MTA Mashgiach R. Yitzchak Cohen, and YC/IBC Professor of Hebrew Samuel Schneider.

Besides the problems effected by the insurance audit, additional minor cutbacks have affected services provided to rebbeim. Rav Yitzchok Cohen, a towering presence in the Beit Midrash at nights, no longer receives a ride from there at late hours to his apartment, and must wait with students for a van at the

bus shelter. Other faculty members and Stern students who live in Washington Heights have not received an afternoon shuttle from midtown as promised to them for certain weekdays.

Families Outraged

The dozens of families who live in the immediate vicinity of the Main Campus are outraged that the new rules were simply inaugurated without explanation or warning. One mother said that in instituting the regulations the drivers were "obnoxious" and did not even "try to be polite." Numerous complaints to the security office, including those by the Goldwicht family, were ineffective in gaining clarification or explanation of the policy changes.

According to Donald Sommers, Chief of Security and supervisor of van operations, under the new policy any child is permitted on the van if accompanied by a parent who is a YU staff or kollel member, or the spouse of one. Identification is also required. Those under ten years old are considered children for insurance purposes, he said. However, for the past three weeks, many children have been inexplicably barred from the van, even with a parent.

Orit Anshelewitz, the wife of a kollel member, complained that no driver would allow her on the van with her five-year-old son. She has been forced to walk him to and from school through unsafe areas. "It is ironic that they are called the Department of Safety and Security," she steamed. "There is nothing safe or secure about what they do."

The recent institution of seven specified van pickup locations has

residents complaining that their access to the neighborhood has been reduced. More significantly, staff children are no longer picked up at their schools near Breuer's for rides to the Main Campus, and must meet the van at one of the seven locations.

When the new policies were first instituted, Dr. Schneider complained that his 13-year-old daughter was no longer picked up at her school, as had been the practice for many years. She either had to walk a circuitous route home to bypass certain dangerous streets or wait alone at school until he finished classes and could rush to the van to get her. More recently, she has been allowed on the van by herself, but must walk to a designated pickup location, one block away from school.

YU banned unsupervised children from the van since it is not insured for them in case of an accident. Some families argue that the university should pay the extra money to include children in its insurance policy. Their criticism is that the existence of a van service was a major incentive to live in Washington Heights. One kollel member, who wished to remain anonymous, bemoaned the new policy and the unwillingness of the Administration to meet the needs of the YU community.

But Sommers denied that the issue is a monetary one, referring to a New York State law that precludes accepting responsibility for transportation of children under ten. While acknowledging that many families move into Washington Heights on the provision that the van service will provide them with easy access to

neighborhood institutions, Sommers stated that "constraints" in the system make it impossible to please everyone; making constant pickups and drop-offs in the Bennett Ave. vicinity would then cause YU students to complain that their own service is slow or lacking.

In fact, families and others who were "taking advantage of the van service" caused the instituting of the seven designated pickup locations, said Sommers.

Residents' specific frustration with the van service seems to stem from the fact that the van is heavily promoted by YU as part of its campaign to maintain a family presence and community atmosphere in and around the yeshiva. Consequently, families feel cheated when promises that were made are not upheld. "All we're asking them for is to make living here tolerable," said Mrs. Anshelewitz, who admitted not feeling safe walking around outside the campus.

Decisions Being Made Higher Up

In addition, disgruntled faculty members feel that there is more to the cuts than an insurance audit; some rebbeim feel that high members of the Administration are attempting to save money at the expense of the yeshiva part of the university. Indeed, Sommers commented that although the van service is under his jurisdiction, certain decisions are subject to "the whims of others."

To keep the van service running smoothly, Sommers said that permanent visitor IDs for spouses and children of staff can and should be obtained from the security offices in Belfer Hall.



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YC Enrollment Highest Since Vietnam Era

by David Rosenfeld

The Yeshiva University campus seems to be overflowing with students this year, and for good reason-- enrollment is up over 10% from last year, with the size of the student body increasing from 838 undergraduates to a whopping 928. However, despite the exceptionally large increase, the Admissions office claims it has actually rejected more students this year than in years past.

Associate Director of Admissions Michael Kranzler notes that the last time the numbers were this high there was during the Vietnam War when enrollment peaked at a record 1101 students. Looking in that direction, the Admissions Office has ambitiously undertaken different projects in an attempt to attract prospective students.

Topping the list is the annual Yeshiva University sponsored Model United Nations, currently in its 5th year, in which 300 students from across North America participate. In addition, the Red Sarachek Basketball Tournament serves to attract students from high schools outside the New York area. And the transfer of MTA debates to Belfer Hall helps introduce YU hospitality to visiting schools. Aside from the actual events, which the students all enjoy, the underlying idea is to introduce students to what YU is all about. They will hopefully realize that YU is the ideal setting in which they can satisfy their intellectual needs while simultaneously furthering their commitment to Judaism, Kranzler explained.

Kranzler pursues these goals off campus as well. In January, along with assorted deans and *Roshei Yeshiva*, he travels to the various yeshivas in Israel and meets with the *talmidim* there. The *Roshei Yeshiva*, who deliver their own uniquely styled *shiur*, impress upon *talmidim* the sophistication and opportunities available in the world of learning that were unknown to the *talmidim* beforehand. In an effort to show the university's concern for both students and their parents, Kranzler speaks with the students in Israel and upon his return to America makes sure to call every parent with reassuring words from their children.

Another very important contributor to increased enrollment is the significant growth in the Joint Israel Program. Melvin H. Davis, Director of Enrollment Management, views Israel as a

"recruitment pool that has grown." Davis feels that prior to a year of learning in Israel many students have reservations and misconceptions about the need for a yeshiva setting in addition to a university setting. Only after rigorous exposure to Torah learning combined with the determined efforts of the YU Israel office, do students realize that YU is their only sensible option.

Many people feel that YU's high tuition scares off many potential applicants. Neal Harris, Acting Director of Student Finances, however asserts that approximately 75% of the current student body receives some type of financial assistance. Harris maintains that this year, as in years past, no one has been turned down for a request for financial aid. Harris further stated that it is a shame that certain people never even consider applying to YU thinking they are ineligible for financial assistance when in fact they might very well be qualified. Additionally, the Distinguished Scholars Program, the former Max Stern Scholarship, has been increased to \$10,000 a year together with other academic awards that have been increased to \$3,000. Incentives like these help YU attract quality students, who in turn strengthen the already respected name of YU and help attract even more quality students.

Impact Felt In Dorms and Beit Medrash

The impact of this year's influx is felt primarily in the dormitories and the *Beit Medrash*. According to Rabbi Joshua Cheifetz, Director of Residence Halls, the dormitories, which have a normal capacity of 840 occupants have only 18 empty beds. With additional students expected to arrive in the Spring semester, the Residence Office will have their hands full trying to find suitable arrangements for them. In previous years, shortages of dormitory rooms were dealt with by imposing a third roommate on certain rooms in Muss and Rubin Halls. As of now, Rabbi Cheifetz and his office have not explained how they plan to dealing with the situation.

In the *Beit Medrash*, Rabbi Jeremy Weider, one of 3 assistant *Mashgichim*, is being kept busy trying to find seating for everyone. For the approximate 700 students who require seating, only 510 seats are available. As a result, first-year *talmidim* are being forced to learn in their *shiur* rooms instead of in the regular *Beit Medrash*.

STUDENT NOTEBOOK

A Student Observes First Hand the Effects of Arab Terror

by Jonathan Neiss

October 14, 1994 - It is Erev Shabbat in Ramot Gimmel, the beautiful, modern residential area on Jerusalem's outskirts. As my cousin and I head for shul for *Kabbalat Shabbat*, my mind focuses on the desperate situation of Nachshon Waxman who was kidnapped by Hamas terrorists and held prisoner by them. As I enter the Young Israel of Ramot, the shul regularly attended by the Waxman family, the tension is palpable. My cousin somberly points out Nachshon's *Makom Kavuah*.

Unfortunately, the members of the Ramot community were well aware of the possible consequences and the dangerous deadlines when dealing with Hamas. Fresh in their minds was a similar situation last year when a young soldier who lived in Ramot was declared missing and later found murdered in an Arab village.

We tried to overcome a feeling of helplessness by reciting special *tefilot* and *Tehilim*. Just the day before, tens of thousands gathered at the Kotel for a mass recitation of *tehilim* for the safe

Jonathan Neiss was an early admissions freshman last year at YC and is currently learning at Yeshivat Sha'alvim on the YU joint-Israel Program.

return of Nachshon.

The deadline set by Hamas was rapidly approaching as we returned to shul for a special recitation of *tehilim* at 8:30 p.m. that Friday night. With a feeling of desperation, hundreds in the crowded shul cried out in prayer and pleading. Never have I experienced anything comparable to the emotions expressed by the Ramot community that evening.

Returning from shul we passed the Waxman home where knots of people gathered and continued to *daven*. As I reached the next block, I saw squads of police and camera crews rush to the Waxman residence. We immediately knew that something major had occurred. Some in the crowd claimed to have heard helicopters and others told of hearing the crackle of gunfire. Shortly, our worst fears were confirmed. Nachshon Waxman had been brutally murdered during an unsuccessful commando attack to rescue him from his captors in a nearby Arab village.

It is hard to describe the emotional shock of this outrage after the intense *tefilot* in my Yeshiva, Yeshivat Sha'alvim, and after the intense events of Friday leading up to the tragic outcome. All of Israel in general and the Ramot community in particular are plunged into a state of depression, anger and frustration.

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I am just back from Israel and my brain has been flipped
I am a steering wheel and to dodge eighteen-wheelers I am gripped
But through it all, both big, and yes, quite small,
I am a poet whose mind is ripped.



SSSB President Ziv Mendelsohn addressing crowd at SSSB reception on October 24

SSSB Holds Student Reception

by Matthew Turk

On Oct. 24, SSSB held its annual Student Reception, at which students were able to converse with members of the Sy Syms faculty on an informal basis.

Sy Syms Dean Harold Nierenberg announced to all 200 men and women in attendance that SSSB had reached a new enrollment high of 380 students, almost double the enrollment of two years ago. Students were informed about programs the Accounting Society plans to run, including several lectures, participating in a community tax aid program, and running the Caf store at night.

Other clubs discussed were the Joint Business Society, which will once again be organizing an investment club in which students will be involved in the financial decision-making, and the Sy Syms Student Council, which will be organizing a free tutoring service. The tutors will be paid by SSSB.

The SSSC will also be organizing a Big Brother program, in which senior students will be paired up with first-year students to help them make academic decisions, such as which classes or teachers to take.

After listening to the speakers, all in attendance received a mug courtesy of SSSB.

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Opinions Differ on New Fourth Program

continued from page one

Mixed Feelings From Faculty

The announcement of the new program has drawn mixed reviews from both students and *Roshei Yeshiva*. Rabbi Yosef Blau, *Mashgiach Ruchani* of MYP, is skeptical. He feels that it "has not been thought through well and is a misread [sic] of the situation." R. Blau believes that it would have been better to offer new, smaller *shiurim* in the YP framework that could cater to students who need more individualized attention. He is concerned that the GBMP may eventually cause a reduction in the hours of MYP as well, and an eventual lowering of standards of the entire Yeshiva.

Rabbi Abba Bronsiegel, an MYP *Rosh Yeshiva* was even more outspoken in his opposition. "I am very much opposed to this program. The direction that they are going in shows that they are being *makil* on the student in order to increase enrollment. It worries me that if the program is successful, it will take away students who would otherwise be in the Yeshiva. I think the administration is making a serious blunder. This program may be the beginning of the *churban* of this Yeshiva."

Dean Harold Nierenberg, Dean Ad Interim of YC, and Dean of SSSB, wholeheartedly endorses the initiative. "I believe there are many current students who are interested in the program, but more importantly, it may attract additional students to the university. It will provide some relief in terms of taking courses at 1:30, and we will be able to offer more courses at that time. I don't think it will detract from any of the already existing programs."

Dr. William Schwartz, Vice President for Academic Affairs, concurs. "YU has an obligation to provide each of its students with a program of Jewish study appropriate to his needs, time constraints, interests, and level of understanding. The Golding Beit Midrash program helps meet this obligation by productively addressing the needs of students and promoting new dimensions of Torah learning at YU." He added that the program is intended for students who "want to learn

in a traditional Yeshiva environment but who don't wish to enroll in the excellent but more intensive and more time consuming Mazer Yeshiva Program."

Echoing Vice President Schwartz's idea of various programs serving the different needs of the Yeshiva, IBC student Reuven Schmucl Botchnick stated that "I like the idea because having a long *Gemara* shiur like MYP offers, combined with *shiurim* in *Halacha* and *Machshava* as IBC offers, will make it an all encompassing program, which is what I'm looking for."

Ely Kronenberg, an MYP/YC junior, added, "The program is a great idea; however, if they are going to let them out early, then night *sefer* should be mandatory and attendance be taken."

An Easy Way Out

Some students in both IBC and YP, however, believe that GBMP only comes as "an easy way out" of one's Judaic Studies requirements. MYP/YC junior Yossi Friedman even went so far as to say that "those students who now sleep until shiur at 1:00 are just going to have to get up at 11:30 instead." Yoni Kahan, YC '96, feels that there is a danger in this program because "students returning from Israel may feel that MYP is too difficult, and choose GBMP without giving MYP a chance, thereby causing a reduction in the amount of *limud torah* in the Yeshiva."

There has also been some concern that GBMP will weaken the other Judaic Studies programs and lead to an even more polarized environment at the university. Rabbi Michael Schmidman, Dean of IBC, stated that "if it [weakening] means that some *bochrim* from IBC will choose to go to this program, *kol hakavod*." Rabbi Zevulun Charlop, Dean of MYP, stated that "This kind of a program isn't a polarizing program; on the contrary, the program will bridge the gap between the existing programs." He also expressed confidence that "the MYP program will stay strong and continue to grow as it has over the years."

Second Concert Planned for Second Semester

continued from page 1

the dancing for "concert" style music featuring other "big name" groups. However, as opposed to the Chanukah concert, there will be no choir, a fact which will lower the cost considerably. In addition, food- "real" food (i.e., not junk food), it was stressed-will be served.

A concert, similar to the Chanukah concert of past, is planned for the beginning of next semester, in February or March. It is hoped that individual sponsors, in the pattern of similar concerts, can be found for this later event.

It is also hoped that because of the latter event, complaints on the part of non-YU students who had hoped to attend the Chanukah concert will not materialize. YU students reacted favorably to the news of the proposed change. Many stated that it had been the cost that had kept them from attending the previous concerts, so they would certainly attend this event, a fact which reflects favorably on Helft's hope that all students would come.

Macs Hire Experienced Assistant Coach

by Bennett Schachter

To fill the void at assistant coach left by Steve Podias' departure for Brooklyn College, the Macs have hired Steve Post, former Head Coach of Bronxville High School. Bringing knowledge of the game, intensity, and eighteen years of experience with him, Post faces quite a task as he replaces the man who orchestrated last year's #1 ranked defense in all of Division III.

Post is a former letterman at Bronxville High School in 1976 as an assistant. Promoted to head coach the following year, he coached for a few years until 1981, when he joined Iona College as an assistant coach. He remained there until the conclusion of the 1992-93 season, when he took the same position at Manhattan College for one year. One year later, he took the top

spot at Bronxville. Macs Head Coach Jonathan Halpert wants to give Post plenty of opportunity to coach. With that freedom, Coach Post plans on heavily involving himself with the team's defense, hoping to keep it atop of Division III like last year, when the MACS gave up a mere 53.2 points per game. In addition, he would also like to implement a fast break to the MACS offensive system.

As opening night approaches, the Macs are hoping to give Post four times a week. So far, Post has enjoyed working with his players. The MACS respect him and feel that his intensity provides a spark for the team on defense. Coach Post is looking forward to "seeing the stands full and the fans cheering the team on at the games." He is very much looking forward to the competition as he says that competition "is what it's all about."

Investment Club Aims High

continued from page 10

is the minimum investment needed to join the club. Every member will be responsible for researching possible investment opportunities. Additionally, all members will be expected to attend monthly meetings, at which the club's future transactions will be voted on. Finally, all members will be required to sign a legally binding contract which explains in detail club policy on a variety of issues, ranging from rights of withdrawal to managers' veto power.

The Investment Club has caused quite a stir on both campuses, particularly among business majors. SSSB Main Campus President Ziv Mendelsohn, although absent from the meeting,

expressed his confidence in club leaders Lightman and Lowensteiner and praised the new format of the club, saying that "increased student involvement and participation will help ensure its success for years to come". Judith Schlussek, SSSB Downtown Campus President was also very upbeat about this year's Investment Club. "The Investment Club is a wonderful opportunity for students to learn about financial markets while still earning a high return on their investments," she said.

For more information on the Investment Club, call Ezra Lightman at 927-6317 or Adam Lowensteiner at 568-4761.

Glass Window Pane Smashed at Furst Hall

On October 18, at 8:30 pm, someone threw a one-pound metal object through the back window of Furst Hall smashing the window and causing substantial damage. Donald Summers, Chief of Security told *The Commentator* that the metal object caused a "spider effect" to the window. Students who saw the piece of metal mentioned that the object looked like it came from a stereo or radio. Summers also said that it was probably a youth in the neighborhood who threw the metal piece from the alley behind Furst Hall, either accidentally, while playing, or on purpose. The youths in this area are

known to "horse-play" and in the process can cause substantial damage. The police were also called to investigate the incident as well.

Summers commented that it seemed that whoever threw the object "lobbed" it through the window. If the person threw it directly with force, it could have been much worse. The incident came at a time right before Halloween when youths in the area are known to vandalize in the neighborhood. Students were warned to stay in on Halloween rather than venturing out in the neighborhood.

--Michael J. Belgrade

Columbia Graduate Dean to Speak At YU

by Commentator Staff

The Assistant Dean of Columbia University's School of International Affairs MarJean Knokey will visit the Yeshiva College campus on November 16, 1994. She will discuss with students the many programs in international affairs available at Columbia, and she will talk about the kinds of careers for which a degree in International Affairs qualifies students.

Dr. Zucker, a professor of Political Science, who arranged for the visit, felt this would provide an opportunity for

Yeshiva College students to explore careers in political science. He explained, "The school of International Affairs at Columbia has a wide range of programs that could be of interests to students in a number of fields, including political science, economics, history, and sociology, as well as students in the Sy Syms School of Business. The School has area studies focusing on different regions of the world, including the Middle East."

For those interested, Dean Knokey will speak on Wednesday, November 16 at 5:00 PM in Belfer Hall Room 807.

A Young, Yet Experienced Fencing Team

by Alan R. Egozi

In the middle of last year, the Tauberman, the YU Fencing team, was cast adrift by the absence of its two best fencers NCAA qualifiers: Elliot Cohen of the Sabre' squad and Adam Balkany of the Foil squad. As a result, the Spring semester was utilized as a training and transitional period for the team. Despite the team's relative inexperience, they won many bouts and even sent two more fencers, Reuben Levy and Shai Canaan, both from the Epee squad to the regional NCAAs.

This year, under the leadership of experienced fencers Levy and Jonathan Korn (who fenced for three years in Boston University), much is anticipated from the Tauberman. This year, the Tauberman switched into a bigger, and more competitive league, the Mid-Atlantic Conference Fencing Association (MACFA). There is much to do and since Yeshiva only started in October, the Tauberman are really a month behind in their training. Their first fencing meet of the 1994-95 season, which will take place at John Hopkins University in Baltimore, is a megameet -- when several teams fence each other within a span of one to

two days.

Despite the poor conditions of their training facility in the basement of Furst due to the clutter of old desks, chairs, and files filling the basement gym, the fencing team's membership has not been affected. There are seven new fencers on the team: David Bollag (Swiss), Baltsar Beckeld (Swedish), Yonah Green, Matthew Lieder, Seth Dym, Stuart Shindel, and Josh Bierman. These rookies don't expect to start much, since most of last year's second semester team stayed on. Only two people left: Eric Berkowitz and Charles Ness.

All of this year's starters are experienced fencers with much potential. Reuben Levy (Cpt.), Shai Canaan, and Shimon Oppenheim will be the Epee starters; Jonathan Korn (Cpt.), Robert Williger, and Aron Lifschitz will be the top Sabre' fencers; leading the Foil fencers are Joe "The Piercer" Herman, Shimshi Fixler, and Tzvika A.R.E. Nissel. The team has a busy schedule of over twenty meets ahead of them, including another megameet at MIT; however, since this team is so young and yet experienced, YU should expect great things from them for at least the next couple of years.

Senate Plans Big Year

by Yehuda Fruchter

While many students enjoy the beginning of the academic year for its relative ease, this is not the case for those eight students who form the YC-SSSB Senate. On Thursday October 27, the Senate members began their task of appraising the current state of academic affairs.

The Senate is currently working on two important academic projects. First, they are interested in adding an actuarial science concentration and new interdisciplinary majors. The interdisciplinary major will consist of a narrower and more concentrated treatment of certain majors. For example, while an English major must now study over a thousand years of literature in just eight courses, under the new proposal he would be able to focus on one specific genre or period of literature. This, hopes Uriel Lubetski Y.C. junior and member of the Senate, "will resolve an apparent desire of students for a more concentrated study in their major."

A further addition to the academic environment which the Senate plans to

implement is the establishment of a resource center to aid students with learning disabilities. The center will be guided by qualified tutors and typified by confidentiality for those students attending.

One of the more important items on this year's Senate agenda, according to Chairman Rich Soclof, will be the increased "visibility of the Senate to the students." Soclof plans to have an e-mail hookup for those who wish to inform the Senate of any suggestions they may have.

Their labors, though generally not recognized by the student body, have recently led to major changes in many of the requirements at Y.U. "This year," says Soclof, "promises to be an exciting year during which many significant things will be accomplished."

The year's first Senate meeting was described by Lubetski as being, "full of lively debates and arguments." Soclof stated firmly that, "the Senate has an excellent group of students who are motivated and ready to put in hard work to improve the academic standards of the university."

Goldstein, Martyr

continued from page 3

own parents. Therefore, I entreat those of you who seek truth, to read the letter written by Baruch's father the way he wants it to be read: In its entirety. It was published in *The Jewish Press* (Friday, Oct. 14, 1994, pg. 50). If you have any trouble getting a hold of the article please don't hesitate to stop by my dorm room to see a copy of it.

I would just like to end my letter with the words Yisrael Goldstein used to end his: This is "... the truth about Baruch Koppel Goldstein zt"l. In the name of honesty, fairness, and decency I beg you not to cast it aside. With abiding faith in Hashem and love of Israel,"

Ariel J. Siegel
YC '95

Yeshiva Sports

Melzer's 94-95 Preview

by Adam Melzer

Now that it has been established as to who is not on the Macs, let's see who will be playing for the Macs this year and what possible results they may have.

GUARDS: At one point last year, the outside shooting (except for Danan) got so bad that a fan next to me commented, "It's a success every time one of them hits the backboard." The guard play is the X-factor of this year's team. If the shots are falling and the confidence is there, the team could surprise. Barry Aranoff is beginning his Mac career with an experienced past, as he was very successful in both high school and YU intramurals. He has the touch, the point guard leadership, and the confidence to have a very positive impact. Yehuda Halpert is a fundamentally sound guard who should contribute with his smarts and overall solid play. Rounding out the "true guard" position is Ira Landsman, a raw but quick guard that can develop to be quite useful.

SWINGMEN: This position seems to be quite common on this team. Ohr Rose, a top notch defensive player who returns after a one-year hiatus, figures to be a key component and one of the team's leaders. Isaac Newman, a third-year player with tremendous leaping ability, got some experience at the guard position last year. Jake Rosenberg, a second year player with a good touch, can play both the guard and forwards positions. Jose Jayinski, the Israeli representative of the team, returns with his solid outside shooting, and will hopefully contribute

to the Macs' perimeter game.

FORWARD-CENTER: Alan Levy, one of the Macs most consistent big men last year, returns once again to provide the team his consistent play. Look for Levy to become one of the main leaders of this year's team. In addition, first year player Joel Jacobson figures to become a big key for this year's team. He has the ability to play big but also has the touch to be deadly from the perimeter. Marc Saada is a very solid big man from Miami who also should become an important part of the Macs future. He has solid big man skills, and also has a nice shooters touch. Neil Bronstein is a tough big man who hopefully will develop into quite a solid player. Finally, the Macs were delighted to hear that Steven Kupferman decided to return to the team. His big body and good low post skills will definitely be an asset.

WRAP-UP: The loss of so many players from last year's squad, combined with an abundance of new players, has left many people down on the Macs. One Mac fan has even said that, "By January, you'll be seeing signs on the highways that read, 'INTERSTATE 67 MACS 65.'" However, after watching the Macs practice, this sports editor is going to offer a different prediction. The Macs have a couple of things going for them that may surprise some people. They seem intense at their practices, loose because they have nothing to lose, and hungry because they have something to prove.

PREDICTION: 16-10.

Macs Wrestling: Best Ever?

by Jordan Mishaan

YU Wrestling Coach Ellman called this year's team "one of the best ever assembled at YU." He was very surprised at the number of students who showed up to practice a few weeks ago. He is even more surprised that almost all of the guys are still with the team. "After the first few very rigorous practices, I was only expecting half the amount of people to stick with it," Ellman said. "Now we are a few days before the first match and we are 22 strong. The energy at practice is awesome and we've already made two runs across the GWB." Captain Albert Sebag, for one, is anxious to start the season. He came to YU last year from Amherst, and was surprised at the level of competition the team provided. Al likes to take the opponent down quickly but not painlessly. His great strength only complements to his skill and instinct on the mat. Michael Sentell, the team's assistant captain, is

expected to dominate his weight class if he can get down to 142. He's known for catching his opponents mistakes and making them pay dearly for them.

Beezy Heller gained about 15 pounds during the off-season and is vying for the 134 spot. It won't be so easy, though, considering the competition. David Aberman is back looking for his old spot in the same weight class. Also going for 134 is Ari Gottlieb, who is new to college wrestling but was captain of the MTA team two years ago. It will be interesting to see who wins the wrestle-off and represents the Macs in this highly competitive weight class. Also, look out for Steven Balsam who joined the team at the end of last season and has surprised everyone with his explosiveness and natural ability. The combination of new and old players has left expectations for the team high. "It's a wrestler's dream to be part of this team," Sebag says. "I expect to go all the way this year."



YU Track Team Medalists Meir Zeitchik (Left) and Michael Resnick (Right)

Track Team Places Third in Annual Halloween Run

by Josh Fine

The Yeshiva University Cross-Country Team participated in its second competition of the year, the 3rd Annual Halloween Invitational, a five mile run held at Van Cortlandt Park in the Bronx this past Sunday, Oct. 30. Coached by Stan Watson, the track team placed third for the first time in its history.

At 1:10 p.m., on what was a hot and sunny day, 69 runners participated in the Halloween Run. The YU Cross-Country Team's fifteen runners gave it their all. Two YC team members, Meir Zeitchik and Michael Resnick, stood out from the rest, each winning a medal. Zeitchik was first among YU's runners with a time of 35:04, and Resnick, in his first run for YU, placed second among the team's runners with a time of 37:29. Co-Captain Chaim Motzen, who placed third, said that "Our first year runners [Zeitchik, Resnick, Rochof and Houpt] performed very well. The track team has a lot of potential, and it looks like YU's Cross-Country Team will dominate the conference next year."

The members of the Independent Athletic Conference (IAC) that competed for the 1994 Championship of the Conference included Polytechnic University, Stevens Institute of Technology, YU, State University

Maritime College, NJIT, Bard College, and Mt. Saint Vincent. CUNY schools such as York, City College, John Jay and Hunter College also ran in the race. At the race's conclusion, Maritime had come in first, Stevens second, and YU placing a solid third. After the race, Coach Watson commented, "It was a very successful run; we did very well, especially since it was the first time, in my history as the team's coach, that we finished in the top three." YU is one of the main sponsors of the Halloween Invitational, who along with Polytechnic and Stevens, started this annual event three years ago.

Coach Watson, reminiscing about the historic run three years ago at the first invitational, when eight YU runners placed among the top twenty and won medals, said that day "was a good start for us, and I think that we are just getting better."

Besides celebrating their impressive run, the Cross-Country Team was ecstatic to learn that pairs of Reebok Sneakers had been ordered for them by Steven Young, YU's Athletic Director, due to their continuing achievements. For track team fans it was a day to remember, as they witnessed the realization of Coach Watson's dream: placing strongly at the IAC Championship.

The Commentator

500 West 185th Street
New York, NY 10033