

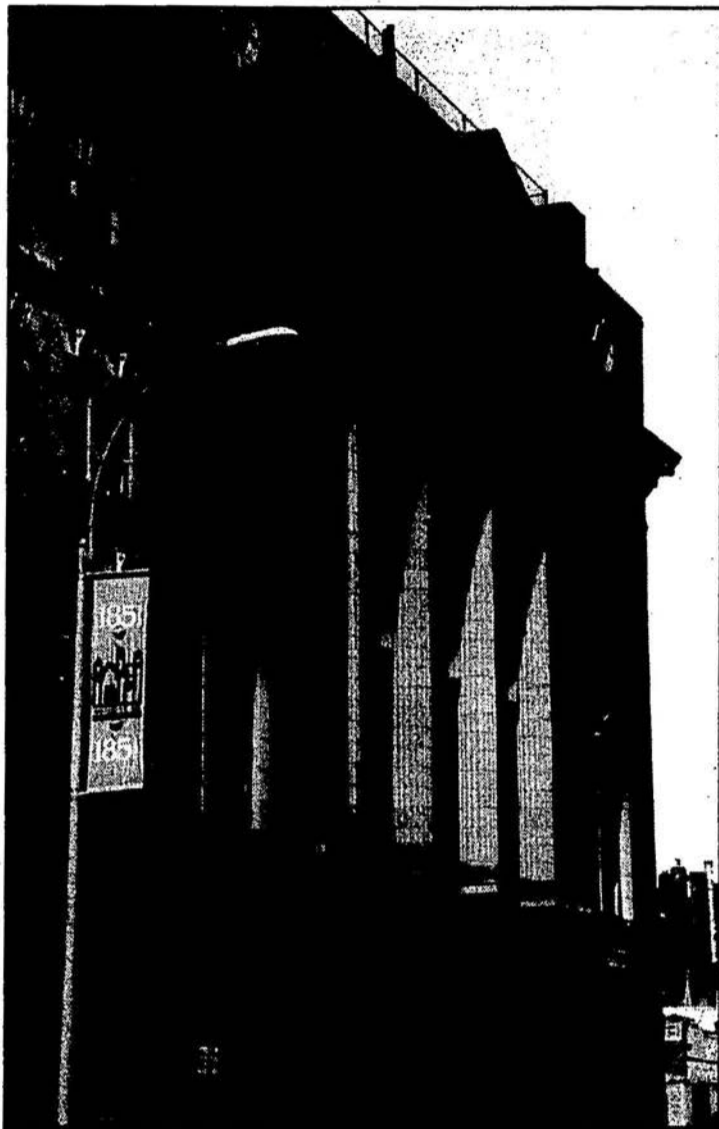
The Commentator

Official Undergraduate Newspaper of Yeshiva College

November 15, 1994/ 12 Kislev 5755

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY, NEW YORK, NY

Volume LIX, No. 4



The Schottenstein Building. Two blocks off Amsterdam Avenue, Schottenstein is the home of the Belz School of Music and hosts student offices including The Commentator and WYUR. Sadly, the building remains underutilized with empty classrooms and the beautiful Sherk Shul (pictured inside) now used for storage. See story Page 12.

Union Accuses Administration of Ignoring Asbestos

BY NICK MUZIN

Students, faculty, and University employees have been exposed to asbestos in Belfer Hall and in the Pollack Library through negligence and carelessness on the part of the YU administration, according to members of the employees' union. These concerns, raised at last week's Section 1199 meeting were directed at specific members of the administration who are believed to have

covertly covered up evidence of the asbestos leakage.

Asbestos is a mineral silicate that was used extensively between 1940 and the late 1970's for insulation. It has been associated with lung cancer and pleural scarring, and its use has been prohibited in most situations since the late 1970's. From June through August of this past year, the light fixtures in the library were changed to put in reflectors that would minimize the amount of

bulbs used. In some instances the drilling necessary to attach the fixtures went into the ceiling where previously encapsulated asbestos was released into the library.

"Because of the unique ventilation system in the library, the asbestos particles were drawn through the vents where they were recirculated throughout the museum and library," said Rodney Hart, maintenance worker and

continued on page 17

Faculty Raises Cut by 25%

Professor Morale Hits a New Low

BY STEVEN MIDDOWNIK

In what is seen as a prudent financial move by some and a miscarriage of justice by others, the average pay raise of all undergraduate YU professors has been reduced to 3% from the 4% figure of past years. The controversial decision, which was made in August by the Board of Trustees with recommendations from Dr. Sheldon E. Socol, Vice President for Business Affairs, has ignited the anger of an increasingly distressed faculty.

Exasperated professors are questioning the priorities of the administration due to its cutbacks in an era of university growth; the raise decrease comes during a chapter of YU's history that has seen an unparalleled increase in enrollment on both campuses and well-publicized acknowledgements of large donations to the school. As several professors admitted, faculty morale is at an all-time low.

The figure of an average raise of 3%, which means that some

professors received even less than 3% while some received more, was not the original raise determination. The deans of the undergraduate schools, Drs. Norman Rosenfeld and Karen Bacon for YC and SCW, Harold Nierenberg for SSSB, Rabbi

Zevulun Charlop for MYP, and Rabbi Michael Shmidman for IBC and JSS, were originally instructed by Dr. William Schwartz, Vice President for Academic Affairs, to prepare detailed proposals for raises at

continued on page 16

Dean Decision Expected Soon

Commentator Slammed At Meeting

BY MOSHE I. KINDERLEHRER

After almost nine months of searching, Yeshiva College will once again have a permanent dean as YU President Dr. Norman Lamm is expected to hand down a decision on the matter in the coming weeks.

The Decanal Search Committee, chaired by Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. William Schwartz, last met on October 28 to interview an unspecified number of new candidates for the deanship. At the meeting, the committee examined the candidates and discussed them, ultimately agreeing to submit its latest recommendations to President Lamm for consideration.

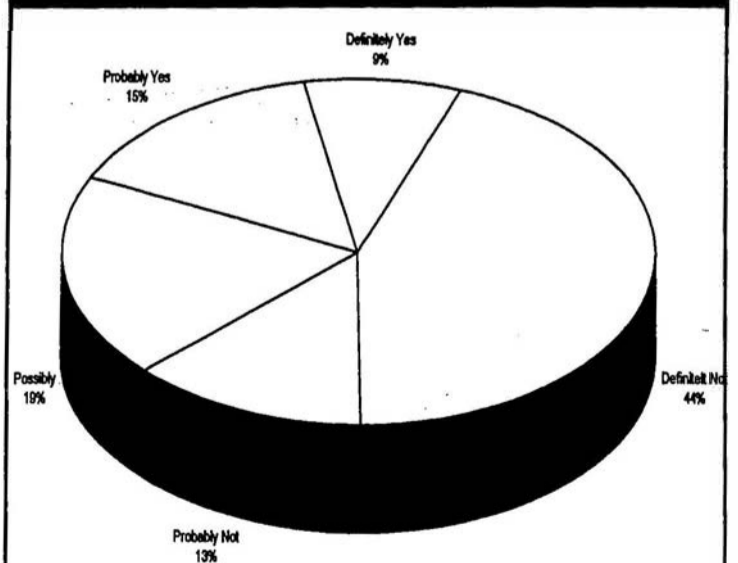
Schwartz refused to confirm

that a meeting of the Search Committee had taken place on October 28, but he did note that "any meeting that would have taken place was productive and fruitful." Explained Schwartz, "We have a number of candidates under consideration and the process is still an ongoing one." Citing the need for confidentiality and for preserving the integrity of the search process, Schwartz was insistent in refusing to confirm that the Search Committee had even met on Oct 28, much less provide any other details about the meeting.

Dr. Schwartz Attacks The Commentator

The names of the candidates *continued on page 16*

GOLDING BEIT MIDRASH PROGRAM: WOULD YOU SWITCH?



See breakdown of the Commentator Poll results inside this issue - Page 10

EDITORIALS..EDITORIALS..EDITORIALS

Consider the Consequences

This past August's announcement of a reduction in the average pay raise of all undergraduate YU professors from the traditional 4% to 3% marks yet another blow to the faculty in an often contentious and dispute-ridden relationship between the Administration and its professors. There's a long history of bad blood between the two sides, going back to the highly publicized Supreme Court case in 1980, which legally prevented the faculty from unionizing or acting as a collective bargaining unit.

Although the Administration claims that the cuts are motivated by economics, it is impossible to dismiss the faculty's claims of mistreatment, disdain, and disrespect. A university's faculty is one of its most important resources and YU's faculty is no exception. Yet our faculty does not have the legal right or the capability to act from a position of strength in dealing with the University Administration, resulting in pay raise reductions such as the one passed in August.

Administrative issues aside, the YU faculty feels unappreciated and underpaid. Moreover, experience dictates that an embittered faculty is an ineffective faculty. And while disputes between teachers and administrators continue to escalate, we can all guess who will be hurt the most — that's right, the students. It's time that YU administration took its mind off of money and applied its considerable efforts to furthering our education.

Dorm Talks or YP Talks

At Dorm Talks this past Wednesday night in the Morg Lounge, students got a chance to hear some straight talk on the issue of Kiddush Hashem from two MYP Roshei Yeshiva, Rav Hershel Schacter and Rav Abba Bronspegel. Attended by well over one-hundred students, the theme of the evening was: Is there Halacha Beyond Halacha? By all accounts, the session was a successful one, enjoying excellent participation from the student audience. Commendations are in order for those who helped put the event together. They are: Rabbi Joshua Cheifetz, the Coordinator, Rav Yosef Blau, the Moderator, and Eitan Mayer, who created the scenarios which Dorm Talks centered on.

Looking at the poster advertising Dorm Talks, one could not help but notice the large number of co-sponsoring organizations of the event. YCSC, SOY, SSSC, IBCSC, JSSSC, as well as *The Commentator* and *Hamevaser*, were all listed as co-sponsors. However, the crowd sitting in the lounge that night was composed primarily of MYP students. Few IBC and JSS students were in evidence.

Why? One reason is that the event wasn't geared to students in all the Jewish Studies schools. The style and manner in which the panelists addressed the scenarios were highly reminiscent of an MYP shiur, something a student from IBC or JSS would have difficulty handling or appreciating. Ideally, Dorm Talks should attract students from all the Jewish divisions and allow for all to join in, not merely be an opportunity for MYP students to speak to their rebbeim on topics beyond Gemara.

Dorm Talks, without a doubt, is an invaluable opportunity for informal interaction between students and their *Rebbeim*. But to be truly effective, It cannot be just a "YP Talks," but a meaningful and inclusive "Dorm Talks." We all live here, don't we?

The Commentator

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RESPONSA

Wake Up, MYP

To the editor:

When will we wake up and realize that the MYP track does not demand all of the hours between 9 and 3? First, this includes a lunch break, lasting for a minimum of 45 minutes, and, for some shiurim, a full hour. So now let's say, for comparison purposes, 9-2:15? Still, no - shiur ends at 2:45, not 3:00. And for most shiurim this includes mincha, so the shiur itself lasts only until 2:30, with the next half hour consisting of mincha and then a short break to trek down to Belfer Hall for 3:00 classes. (And we can trust that the roshai yeshiva in MYP who currently go past their time allocation would do the same in GBMP). So now we are down to 9-1:45. Finally, as was noted in the last issue of *The Commentator* ("Rav Blau disbands 8:30 minyan"), "A good portion of YP doesn't show up until at least 9:15 or 9:30".

The Golding BMP will have mandatory classes beginning at 9:00, so we can expect GBMP students to be putting in an extra 15-30 minutes at that end. What is the final balance? Most MYP students will be learning somewhere around 20-30 minutes more per day (except for Thursday and Sunday. On Thursday, GBMP will presumably finish at the same time as MYP; on Sunday, GBMP is scheduled not to meet at all. I agree that it is not ideal to build a Yeshiva program with only 4 days of

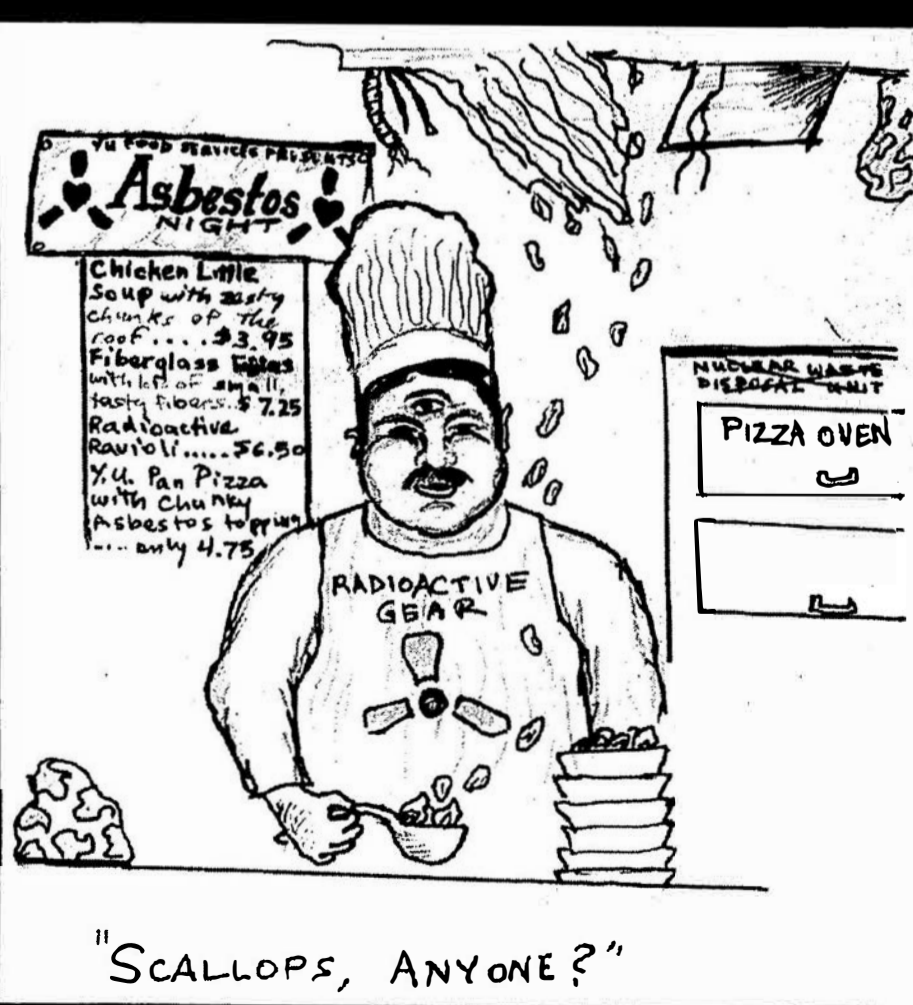
shiur; however, I believe that this is a point which should be argued separately from the fundamental 9-1 restructuring that I am dealing with here.)

Does 30 minutes per day constitute a massive reduction in time requirements? Does 30 minutes per day constitute a "destruction of the Yeshiva"? No! What does this constitute? A program in which the average YC student, instead of receiving 2 years of intense gemara b'iyun and little else, will now enter the professional world with a well-rounded Jewish education, having explored areas of halacha and hashkafa, as well as having had a significant taste of gemara b'iyun.

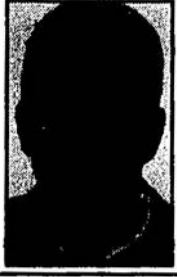
And another thing - it is well known by sleep researchers (see, for instance, Dr. Richard Coleman's *Wide Awake* at 3 AM, pages 166-167) that the body experiences a low in the circadian rhythm - that is, a sudden lessening of alertness - between the hours of 1 PM and 3 PM! Holding shiur prior to 1:00 will alleviate the sleepiness problem that currently plagues, to greater and lesser degrees, many MYP students during their shiurim. If you're in MYP, you know what I'm talking about. Pushing GBMP as a l'chatchila will push many YU students' Torah education from good to superb.

Avi Shmidman, YC '96

P I C T O R I A L



"SCALLOPS, ANYONE?"



From the Executive Editor's Desk

Sidney A. Singer

During any brief visit home to Cincinnati, someone inevitably asks which school I currently attend. The words "Yeshiva University" consistently prompt expressions and looks of approval which would impress even the YU public relations office. Yet, while I share my fellow natives' enthusiasm for the ideals and practices which YU has come to represent, I fear that the truth has betrayed their perceptions.

Five weeks ago on Sunday afternoon, a terrorist opened fire on a main thoroughfare in the center of Jerusalem, injuring many and killing one. Reports of the incident began to circulate on our campus later that evening. Shortly before 11 PM, two concerned students approached the crowd in Morg lounge watching the closing minutes of the Eagles-Redskins football game and, after informing the roughly thirty students present of the day's incident, requested to watch the news for a few minutes. "There's going to be a war if you change the channel," warned one student. "I don't [care] if someone died," exclaimed another.

Directly across the street in the library, in a seemingly unconnected situation, diligent students undoubtedly continue to waste valuable time searching simply for a quiet location in which to study. By now, seven weeks into the semester, even the new students have learned the rules of the library: undergraduate talking on the second floor, Revel talking on the fifth. Talking has become such a norm that those who ask others to lower their voices are often scorned and mocked.

The talking in the library and the television incident are not unrelated. They both reflect the near exclusive concern of many here at YU: ourselves. No one would suggest that we should completely neglect our personal needs in the presence of others'. That does not justify, however, the often offensive lack of consideration for the concerns of our peers.

A friend of mine learns nightly in the Main *Beis Medrash* with an early admissions freshman. Recently, while learning *gemara*, an older *bochur*

interrupted them. "Excuse me," he said, "but you are in my *makom kavua*." My friend and his *chavrusa*, unaware of their infringement, politely moved over, wondering yet why their evictor could not have settled for one of the other six vacant chairs at the table. The young student must surely have felt excited about his future here. "I can't wait," he must have thought to himself, "to return to this warm and courteous environment upon my return from Israel."

Critics of YU cannot deride our consistency. When finals arrive, the library talkers continue their conversation right into the exam rooms themselves. It must be standard procedure at every university for student to forego precious minutes of their own and others' exam time while proctors wait for them to end their discussions. Just like the standard practice of turning any basic requirement course whose professor does not lecture so inspiringly into a rowdy classroom, unproductive even for those who defy the trend and attempt to learn.

Not everyone displays this lack of consideration for others. Our student body boasts a large number of individuals who give of themselves practically 24 hours a day. But they undoubtedly constitute the minority. Many students here can surely relate a story similar to those mentioned above. And yet, while most of us would stop short of echoing the second football fan's comment, truthfully, how many of us would change the channel? Attending an institution respected by the world and the Jewish community carries with it a responsibility sometimes undesired by the very students who choose to attend. Yet consideration for one's fellow man requires a major pledge neither of one's time nor one's labor, simply of one's heart. The words "Yeshiva University" originally came to signify honor and respect largely due in part to the actions and effort of its students and graduates on behalf of their fellow man and Jew. It was a reputation well deserved. It is our duty to restore it.

A Toava Cannot be Tolerated Within the Walls of YU

To The Editor:

How is it that Yeshiva University can allow a Gay and Lesbian organization to be granted office space at Cardozo School of Law if "Under no circumstances can Judaism suffer homosexuality to become respectable... to assent to the organization of separate 'gay' groups under Jewish auspices makes no more sense, Jewishly, than to suffer the formation of synagogues that cater exclusively to idol worshippers, adulterers, gossipers, tax evaders, or Sabbath violators. Indeed, it makes less sense." (Rabbi Dr. Norman Lamm, 1974 Year Book of the Encyclopedia Judaica).

As long as Cardozo remains part of Yeshiva University, and Yeshiva University clings to the tenets of Torah Judaism, it is improper to sanction and support a student organization which actively promotes behavior that the Torah characterizes as a 'Toava'. The crux of the issue is not that we cannot accept homosexuals as individuals, but that we cannot support them organizationally with funds and facilities. Cardozo should either act in accordance with Jewish principles, or remove the name Yeshiva University from its doors.

Michael Fragin YC '95

RESPONSA

No Pencils in Store

Letter to the Editor:

I just don't get it. The caf store located in the basement of Rubin Hall doesn't sell #2 pencils. They are such a necessity for conducting normal student life. How does the administration expect us to pass our SCANTRON exams and succeed through college if they don't provide us or make accessible such necessary tools as a #2 pencil. The Caf store sells almost everything else - instant chili peppers,

menorah wicks, Pez dispensers, toilet paper, baby powder, fat free flat breads, Mentadent, Jhirmack Nutri-Body Bodifying Shampoo, Cankaid Oral Antiseptic, Wipeze Refreshing Towlettes, and Suave Strawberry Essence Shampoo - but still no #2 pencils. I just don't get it.

Benjamin Cohen

Official Newspaper of YC

To the Editor:

My expectation of the Commentator is to act as the "official Undergraduate newspaper of Yeshiva College" concerning itself only with topics that are relevant to YC. Concerning the Commentator's previous issue (vol. LIX no3) "Gays at Cardozo," I found the subject irrelevant at YC. Cardozo is a YU graduate school under idfferent

auspices. Even the topic of "Gay Clubs in Wurtzweiler" is at least on YC campus to receive the attention of the undergraduate school but Cardozo is not even in the same location. I am not saying that the article is not discussing an important issue, but should not concern The Commentator.

Zach Hepner
YC Junior

There's More to the Golding Beit Midrash Program

To the editor:

Your recent coverage of the Golding Beis Medrash Program seems to portray it as a travesty perpetrated by the secularist faction in the Yeshiva in an attempt to emphasize Gemara in favor of Hashkafah, and to abbreviate our Torah studies. Indeed, one Rosh Yeshiva has been quoted as saying that the new program was "the beginning of the Churban of this Yeshiva."

At first, I tended to agree with this sentiment; GBMP seemed to be no more than a cop-out, a way out of Gemara and serious learning. However, an experience last week changed all that. Last week, I sat discussing Hashkafah with a group of YP students in the cafeteria when one of the students offered his view that belief in G-d was not necessary to be a "good Jew." Shocked and disbelieving, I tried to convince him that his position was false; he maintained his ground, misquoting a

number of statements in the Yad Hachazakah and Moreh Nevuchim by the Rambam to support his views. Upon discussion with some friends, I was aghast to discover that this boy was not a Da'as Yachid in our Yeshiva; a substantial number hold similar misguided views. I shuddered to think that the propaganda that the "right" has spread against our Yeshiva could be even partially true. Could regular shiurim in Hashkafa have changed the views of the these Yeshiva boys and alumni who have gone off the derech? I am certain that a proper system of guidance in the areas of hashkafa would have proven quite meaningful. If Stern is entitled to a Hashkafa program, kal v'chomer so is YC. What good is the study of Torah without the understanding that it is Toras Hashem?

Aton Holzer YC '98

Issues of *The Commentator* Can Now be Found on the Internet

The Commentator Can be Accessed by Gopher at gopher.jerusalem1.datasrv.co.il.

The Commentator is also available via internet mailing list - Send the message *subscribe commie name* to listserv@jersusalem1.datasrv.co.il

Questions regarding the new service can be directed to *The Commentator* at commie@yu1.yu.edu

CAMPUS NEWS

CALENDAR EVENTS

Tuesday, November 15

Sigma Delta Rho, "Applying to Medical School?", 8:00 pm - Belfer 218
Investment Club Meeting, 9:00 pm

Wednesday, November 16 - Tuesday, November 22

IBC, JSS, & MYP Midterms
(No YC/SSSB Uptown tests)

Wednesday, November 16

Political Science Department, Dean Columbia School of International Affairs, 5 pm, Belfer 807

Psychology Club, Dean of Ferkauf, 7:30-10 pm - Rubin Shul

SCW Basketball vs. Kings College, 8 pm - Home

Racial Harmony Council Meeting, 8 pm - Sephardic Shul

Thursday, November 17

Torah U'Maddah Project, Dr. Moses Pava, Business Ethics

Club Hour

Sophomore Class Event, 8 pm
Chemistry Club, Movie: *Jurassic Park*, 10 pm

Monday, November 21

SCW Basketball vs. Medger Evers, 8 pm - Home

Tuesday, November 22

YC Basketball vs. NJ Tech, 8 pm
SCW Basketball vs. Stevens Tech, 8 pm - Away

Thursday, November 24 - Friday, November 25

Thanksgiving Recess

Monday, November 28 - Monday, December 5

Chanukah - Regular schedule

Wednesday, November 30

Spring Registration procedures announced

Philanthropy Society Chanukah Chagigah for the Russians, 7-11:30 pm

Sunday, December 4

YU Chanukah Dinner

Mazel Tov

Joshua Blacher and Ariel Augenbraum

Aryeh Ciment and Rise Speirer

Larry Rothwachs and Chaviva Yudin

Yecheil Levin and Toba Meltz

Adam Orlow and Rivki Azerad

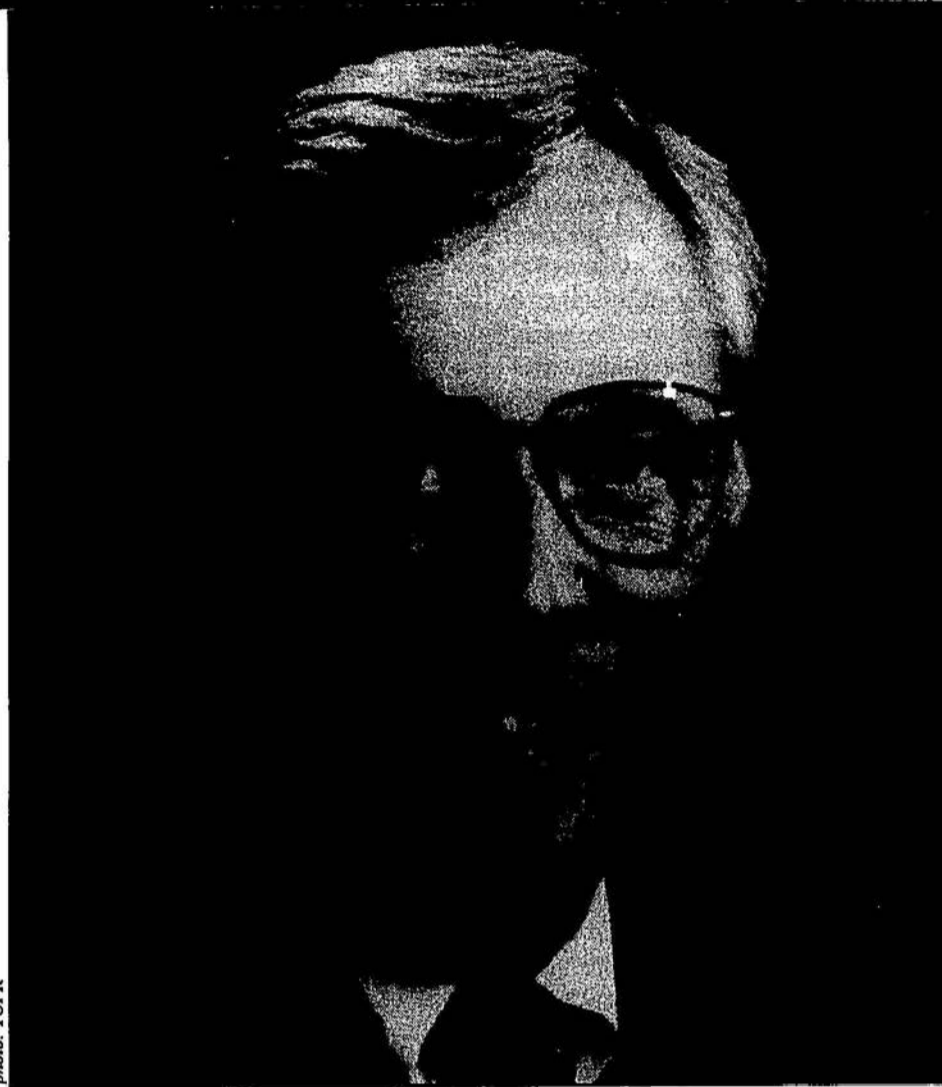


Photo: YUPR
YU benefactor Robert Beren, who recently donated \$2.3 Million for YC Judaic Studies

YC Receives \$2.3 Million For Judaic Studies

BY JOSH EPSTEIN

Robert M. Beren, a business leader and long time benefactor of YU, has recently donated \$2.3 million to the Judaic Studies department at YC. The endowment, according to a university-wide press release, will provide the means to support and sustain the rabbis and educators in the current department, which includes all the Bible, Hebrew, and Jewish History courses. The current classes will continue in the same fashion, but will now be known as the Robert M. Beren Department of Jewish Studies.

Dr. William Schwartz, Vice President

for Academic Affairs, will oversee the funds and also attempt to enlarge the department with guest instructors and a larger variety of courses. Currently there are over sixty courses in all fields of Judaic study taught by fifteen full-time faculty members.

Beren, of Wichita, Kansas, is an independent oil and gas producer. He has been a member of the YU Board of Trustees since 1989. In awarding a Doctor of Humane Letters degree to Beren, YU President Dr. Norman Lamm attested to his "stalwart dedication to the creative advancement of education and scholarship at the University."

English Honor Society Symposium

BY DANIEL RUBIN

In the first of what it hopes will be many such gatherings on contemporary British and American literature, the English Honor Society held a symposium on November 1 to discuss Charlotte Perkins Gilman's "The Yellow Wallpaper."

A small group of students from YC, SSSB, and SCW attended, along with English professor Dr. William Lee. English Honors Society President David Schertz said that more students expressed an interest in attending, but could not because of the short notice. He added that in the future he hopes to announce such symposiums about a week ahead of time.

The purpose of this and future symposiums, said Schertz, is to provide students an opportunity to discuss literature *lishma* in a relaxed, non-

classroom atmosphere where there is no lecturer and no single correct way to examine the narrative. The Society hopes to attract more students to events such as film-screenings, a symposium with an established writer, and even a Broadway show. Schertz pointed out that while these functions are mostly still ideas and would not be held until next semester, he is optimistic that they will take place and will be successful.

Questions remain, though, as to whether the Society can afford all of these events and its annual literary journal *Kol*, with a \$1400 budget. Schertz believes that they can all be squeezed in under the budget, but if the costs do end up exceeding \$1400, he trusts that YCSC will allocate more money to the Society, provided that the Society's functions up to that point will have been successful.

Dorm Talks Tackle Halacha Beyond Halacha

BY LOWELL BARON

In the first Dorm Talks program of the semester, MYP Roshei Yeshiva Rav Hershel Schachter and Rav Abba Bronspiegel discussed four scenarios relating to the Jew's interaction with the world before a crowd of nearly two hundred in the Morg Lounge. Mashgiach Ruchani Rabbi Yosef Blau moderated the program.

The formal title of the evening, "Is There Halacha Beyond Halacha?" was described by Rabbi Schachter as a way to explore the *halacha* in specific cases where the *Shulchan Aruch* does not comment. The question, he said, was not if there was *halacha* in these obscure cases as the title "Is there Halacha beyond Halacha?" seemed to imply.

Much of the session addressed a scenario concerning the proper reaction Orthodox Jews must take towards crimes committed by Jews. Rabbi Bronspiegel, in his response, quoted a *passuk* that instructs against publicizing Jewish tragedies because this would give non-Jews reason to rejoice. He condemned those who placed the ad in the *New York Times* denouncing Dr. Baruch Goldstein's actions in Hebron, claiming that this was just publicizing his act, giving *son'ei Yisrael* reason to rejoice. However, in response to a question, Rabbi Bronspiegel differentiated between publicizing problems like the homosexual student club at Cardozo within the Yeshiva, namely through an article in *The Commentator*, which he said should be done, as long as it is kept within the Yeshiva walls.

In an open question and answer period, the *rebbeim* touched on a number of topics. Regarding the ever-popular matter of dubbing tapes, Rabbi Schachter gave a *heter* in specific cases where the tape is so expensive that one would never buy it. However, he did warn that one must be extremely careful to be honest with himself.

Questions concerning Rabbi Blau's termination of the Rubin 8:30 Minyan also arose, though he said he was "only moderating," and directed the question to Rabbi Schachter. In cases of waking up late, R. Schachter said that one should try to make a minyan on one of the dorm floors but not in public.

Those students who attended, mostly MYP students, were treated to a buffet of cookies, crackers, gefilte fish balls and chickpeas.

The Guide is Free

Anonymous Donor Subsidizes \$900 Cost

BY MOSHE I. KINDERLEHRER

In a late-breaking development, YCSC President Daniel Billig announced this past Sunday that the Guide to the Perplexed would be free for YC students, overturning an earlier decision by YCSC to charge \$1 for the traditionally free student directory. Explaining how he had spent the last two weeks searching for a donor to subsidize the publication of the Guide, Billig noted that the donation became official this past Thursday. The donation, approximately \$900, is being given by a donor who wishes to remain anonymous. On behalf of the student body, Billig thanked the unknown benefactor for the gift.

"If we could avoid charging for the Guide, we certainly would...now we won't have to," stated Billig. However, he did note that he was not, in principle,

against charging for the Guide and indicated that future student councils would probably have to charge for it to aid in recovering the cost. "It really depends, from year-to-year, what the budget situation will be," said Billig. Student response to the announcement was overwhelming. "Wow! awesome! It should be this way! It was a dumb idea to begin with," exclaimed SSSB junior Joshua Feldman. "Not charging for the Guide is the way it should be," asserted YC senior Yosef Crystal.

Guide Out Around Thanksgiving

The Guide, which just went to the printer last week, is due to come out by the end of November. Josh Hosseinoff, the editor-in-chief of the Guide to the Perplexed, affirmed that the Guide will certainly be released by Thanksgiving time.

Controversy Surrounds Dole's Speaking at Dinner

BY MENASHE SHAPIRO

The administration's decision to confer a Doctor of Humane Letters degree on Senator Robert Dole (R-KS) has raised concern among members of the student body who have questioned the decision to accord such a high honor to an individual who has been criticized for having a less than satisfactory record on issues of importance to the Jewish community.

Some feel the decision shows how the desire to attract a big name public figure has clouded the judgment of the administration and YU's Board of Trustees. While Director of Public Relations David Rosen has gotten a number of phone calls in protest to the choice of speakers, there have been no cancellations due to it, nor are any expected. "There are some very high-ranking members of the board who think very highly of him," noted Rosen, while also echoing the sentiment that "we hope to give Dole the opportunity to present a positive message on importance to the Jewish community."

For many students, though, the fundamental question is why the administration and Board of Trustees chose to invite such a person when there are other worthy candidates who have been far more supportive of Israel and Jewish causes. In fact, the invitation was first extended to Vice President Albert Gore, Jr., a longtime champion of Israel, but the Vice President turned down the offer due to a scheduling conflict. Senator Dole was next on the list, apparently chosen based on his standing both as a leader in his party and in the national political arena.

Vice President of Development David H. Zysman, says that since Dole has regained his former role of Senate Majority Leader, he is in a position where his opinions are vital to the

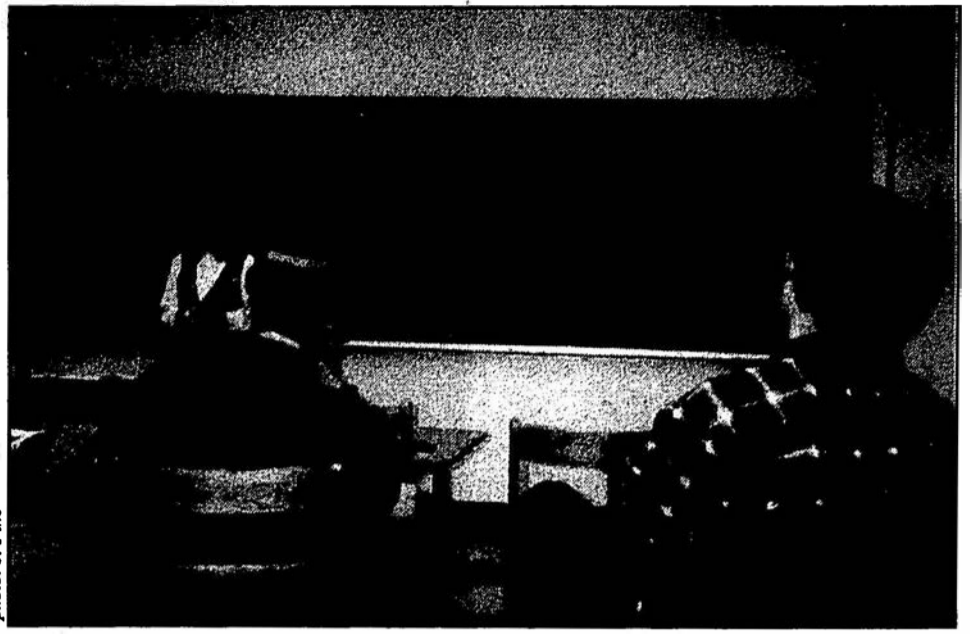
interests of the University.

With respect to the contention that Dole's personal ideology is antithetical to the goals and ideals of the University, Zysman remarked that "It is important to make friends in both political parties because at any given time one or the other will be in power, and we have to ensure that our interests will be represented."

The co-chairman of the Jewish Affairs Committee, Josh Fine, vehemently disagrees. "We should base the decision on what the individual has done for us, not on what they can do for us." And Elisha Graff, a YC junior, commented that "Suddenly YU feels its policies should be of no consequence when choosing an honoree." Fine went even further and said that according to this logic, "What is to prevent David Duke, if he were to become the party leader, from speaking?"

Zysman rejected this notion on a number of grounds. "It is not like we are having a blatant anti-Semitic address us, and Dole will surely not speak in a negative fashion." He even suggested that in reality Dole was pro-Israel, citing the fact that twenty years ago, when he was to speak at a dinner in Kansas City on behalf of Israel Bonds, then-Israeli ambassador to the U.N. Yitzchak Rabin asked him to single out Dole for his contribution to the State of Israel. In

an issue of *The Commentator*, Zysman felt it was "shortsighted" and lacking objective judgment, but yet he welcomes student opinion. "You can't please everybody," he said, "somebody will always criticize your decisions for one reason or another." Some have suggested a more adamant stance by those opposed. Zysman, however, feels that any large scale protest of the Majority Leader would be "sacrilegious" and paint the student body in a negative light.



Sarah Jay, New York Times crime reporter, lecturing to YC Journalism class

Journalism Course Makes Impact

BY YERACHMIEL SCHECHTER

While most campus residents usually ignore the day-to-day events that occur beyond Amsterdam Avenue, there are six students who periodically venture into Washington Heights in the hope of sniffing out a good story. And they should -- it's their class assignment.

Designed to teach students the art of writing a good newspaper article, a course in Journalism is now being taught by YC alumnus Professor JJ Hornblass. "It's an extremely relaxed and friendly atmosphere," remarked Gershon Seiferas, a student in the class.

Professor Hornblass instructs the "reporters" to go into the surrounding neighborhood and seek out newsworthy events. According to Seiferas, the class "hangs out with homeless people and cops. He [Hornblass] brings in his own new and exciting aspects of journalism."

Hornblass, however, downplays his role. "I don't see myself as a guru on journalism. I just try to relay what was taught to me." Deadline writing as well

as the ability to detect a good story are also greatly emphasized in the course.

The most important contribution of the new class to campus academic life, though, is an ongoing journalism lecture series. Established journalists have been invited to speak both to his students and the entire university. Hornblass says every writer needs an "old sage" to guide them through the process.

The first of these lectures was given by Kevin McKenna, a New York Times Metro editor, who Hornblass calls one of the paper's "rising stars." The Nov 7 presentation was given by Sarah Jay, a crime reporter at the Times.

There are four more such lectures scheduled to be given, among them a seminar given last night by YU alumnus Ari Goldman, a former Times religion writer, author, and teacher at the Columbia School of Journalism.

Former YC Dean Norman Rosenfeld highlighted one practical benefit to the course. "It could really open students eyes to interesting new career paths," he noted.

Belfer Goes Multimedia

BY AARON KLEIN

After almost two years of planning, an entire summer of construction, and a budget outlay exceeding sixty thousand dollars, a new multi-media room on the second floor of Belfer Hall has finally been completed. The room includes laser disc players, CD-ROM, video image projectors, tape players, slide projectors, and a wireless microphone system. All of these functions are controlled from an easy to operate computer console.

According to Jeffrey Rosengarten, Director of Supporting Services Administration, Room 218 provides the capability for professors to develop new ways of teaching to keep students interested. While audio-visual techniques were utilized in the past, they would often entail transporting heavy equipment. Rosengarten hopes that the new room will be more technologically efficient.

For Rosengarten however, the room does more than pay students dividends

now; it also represents interesting possibilities for the future. One of these possibilities which he would like to see implemented is remote teaching. This would allow a professor to teach a lecture in the comforts of his/her own home. The system also presents new opportunities out of the classroom, as the room can host both audio and video conferencing.

Despite the high cost of the system, it has been well received by students and professors alike. Dr. I.J. Borowitz, professor of organic chemistry, whose lecture is held in the new room, believes this is a big step for the university. He stated that "Although there are a couple of glitches with the room which have to be worked out, this is a major improvement." And Meir Pollack, a YC junior, remarked that "YU is making a sincere attempt to keep pace with the top colleges and universities in bringing the ever changing technological advances into today's classroom."

Controversial Posters in Dorms Taken Down

BY EPHRAIM LEIBTAG

Angered by the unauthorized posting of signs by the Committee for Jewish Affairs nearly two weeks ago, YCSC President Daniel Billig ordered these signs removed. The controversial posters, which questioned the selection of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Senate Majority leader Robert Dole as speaker and honoree, respectively, at the annual Chanukah dinner, were then quickly taken down by the co-chairman of the committee, Josh Fine.

In general, any signs or posters bearing the name of a YCSC-supported club or society must be approved by YCSC before they are posted. Although in many cases signs are put up without official approval, they are generally just regular announcements of upcoming events. However in this case, Billig argued, where the signs were political in nature, approval should have been sought.

According to Billig, the posters contained several problems. First, the use of the word "Yeshiva" in the message was a misrepresentation, because as a YC society, the Committee for Jewish Affairs must represent the views of the entire student body and not just those of the "Yeshiva." Secondly, Billig felt that the poster's tone was inflammatory and would have had no practical benefit, especially considering the fact that the dinner will take place in just a few weeks.

The signs were also problematic because one of the fundamental "mission statements" of YCSC for this year is that "Protesting or disapproving of policy in the college should only be done with just cause and accompanied by alternative solutions for the problems that exist." Because an alternative was not given, the signs were deemed unacceptable.

When questioned on the matter, Fine responded in a conciliatory tone. "After I spoke with Daniel (Billig), and he made it clear that this type of sign was not acceptable, I had no problem removing them." He did, however, offer an explanation of his motives. "I do want to make it clear that the signs were not put up to anger the administration, but rather to raise the issue of the selection of Rabin and Dole on the campus," he said.

As for alternative solutions, Billig offered one of his own to Fine. He suggested that a survey be conducted in order to better examine the feelings of the student body regarding the issue. If it turned out that thirty percent or more of the students disapproved of the selection of these two individuals, Billig would write an official letter to the administration making them aware of students' disapproval. He would also recommend that student leaders have more of a say in these types of decisions in the future.

Fine concurred and expressed hope that the "forthcoming survey will enable students to have input into the selection process to prevent such a travesty from happening again."



Book head of SOY (left) and MYP Rosh Yeshiva Rabbi Reichman (right) with Rabbi Waldman who spoke about Rav Goren on Wednesday night

Fifty Gather for Shiur in Memory of Rav Shlomo Goren

BY ELIE BORGER

On Wednesday night, November 2, more than fifty students gathered in the Rubin Shul for a shiur by Rabbi Eliezer Waldman on *Inyanei Eretz Yisrael* in memory of Rabbi Shlomo Goren, a giant on the Israeli religious and political scenes who recently passed away.

Rabbi Waldman praised Rabbi Goren,

a former *Rishon LeTzion*, for introducing Torah values, including *kashrut* and *shabbat*, into a secular army. Rabbi Goren was a military leader as well, having taken part in the liberation of Hebron and the reclamation of the *Ma'arat Hamachpeila*. A former Member of Knesset, Rabbi Waldman is presently the Rosh Yeshivat Hesder in Kiryat Arba. His lecture was sponsored by B'nei Akiva and SOY.

YU Political Science Society Takes Part in Model UN

BY MICHAEL J. BELGRADE

Twelve YU members from the J.P. Dunner Political Science Society took part in the University of Pennsylvania Model United Nations Conference (UPMUNC) at the Valley Forge Convention Center in Pennsylvania. Universities from around the country joined in the Model UN held this past weekend. YU represented the countries of Lithuania, Bahrain, and Turkey. Although the team involved themselves as much as they could, there was still somewhat of a disappointment in that the team could not involve themselves completely in the UPMUNC.

The schedule itself made it very difficult for the YU contingency to be involved. While they were able to attend Thursday night for opening ceremonies and the first committee session, they were only able to attend for a half an hour on Friday due to the early Shabbat. Additionally, three out of the six committee conferences were on Shabbat itself that the contingency could not join. The team did not take the convention as seriously as other years in the past due to the framework of the schedule. The leadership amongst the members was weaker this year as well.

However, there were other technicalities that made the weekend more difficult than it already was. To begin with, one of the cars that left from the Main Campus got into a car accident right on the corner of Laurel Hill and 185th street. Furthermore, another car had to be picked up in Brooklyn which led to a three-hour delay. A third of the team could not even show up for the opening ceremonies due to the accident.

The team still made the most of a very pressing situation. The YU team showed their presence in the different committees and played a role in the influence of the decisions being made. Additionally, the team took part in the general assembly on Sunday and voted on different resolutions.

Due to Shabbat, the YU contingency could not stay at the Valley Forge Convention Center and instead spent Shabbat at the University of Pennsylvania. Although it was crowded with parents due to "Parent Weekend at Penn", the contingency still was able to mix well with the Orthodox Penn students. Also, the team was able to spend Shabbat together as one cohesive unit.

Saturday night was an evening of interesting events. Even with the problems of car keys being locked inside cars, different members of the team getting lost in Philadelphia, one of the cars taken by another member of the team for a "joy ride" around the block, hysteria from some, and general confusion of what was happening, the team still had a good time and ended up seeing a movie in Northeast Philadelphia. Additionally, one of the members of the team, Dov Simons, who lives in Philadelphia, provided dinner Saturday night for the members of the team.

The YU Model UN members had a great time over the weekend. Not only did they learn about different countries in the world and the problems they face, but they also were able to work as a team with other university students representing different countries. The only regret the team had was that they could not have been more involved.

YC & Stern Attend Princeton AIPAC Conference

BY COMMENTATOR STAFF

A nearly fifty-student strong delegation from YC and SCW joined four hundred other collegiate pro-Israel activists last week for a Regional Political Leadership Training Conference at Princeton University, sponsored by the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC).

The pre-election weekend program featured educational seminars and workshops on the peace process, the midterm election campaign, and grass roots political skills. AIPAC President Steve Grossman and Congressman Dick Zimmer (R-NJ) keynoted the conference.

Ryan Karben, AIPAC's YC Chairperson, says the conference was a valuable opportunity for students to gain a better understanding of the rapidly changing situation in the Middle East. "The peace process is one of the most complex, exciting and terrifying things that has ever happened in that region. The struggle to adjust to an Israel that is strong enough to make peace is very difficult for American Jews, as is dealing with an Israeli government that seems more willing to make concessions than many in our community. Our successful response to this struggle must be grounded in a real understanding of the issues, not in an emotionally satisfying but intellectually irresponsible reaction," he said.

Grossman and Zimmer both received applause when they reiterated the commitment of the Jewish community and its friends on Capitol Hill to a unified Jerusalem as Israel's capital. Grossman sidestepped the issue of the stationing of American troops on the Golan as part of a peace agreement between Israel and Syria, saying there will be full Congressional debate when the time comes.

Both Karben and Liat Sharabi, the SCW AIPAC Chair, gave workshops at the conference. Karben gave an analysis of New York Region Congressional races in a session he and Sharabi conducted on grass roots politics. Karben also led two workshops later in the day on "How To Run For Office."

Karben says that despite the warm relationship between the Clinton Administration and the Rabin Government, Jews need to remain vigilant. "Governments come and go, but fundamental policy commitments endure. Our task is to continue to press for support in the Congress and across the nation for a strong and secure American-Israeli partnership-- a partnership based on shared values and a common commitment to democracy. Once we become content, all we have accomplished will disappear like chaff in the wind," he said.

Op-Ed: Joint Israel Credits Hit YU Where it Counts: Its Students

BY SANDOR BAK

U.S. News and World Report recently published a ranking of America's best universities. Among the 220 schools included in the list, YU placed a very mediocre 107th. As much as our departments of admissions and public relations would like to dismiss this ranking as "totally inaccurate," the truth is that presently, the ranking appears just about right for our college. While those who are familiar with the school know of its many strong, distinguishing qualities, clearly we are no Harvard. At the present, we are no Columbia. In fact, according to U.S. News, we are not even Oregon State College. Of course, we could dismiss the ranking as meaningless and of absolutely no value. We could. Or we could believe, as U.S. News writes, that "Fairly or unfairly, the name of a top-ranked college or university opens more doors to jobs and graduate schools than does the name of a school in the bottom tier." Right now, YU has the reputation of an average school. One might speculate that the level of a school is a reflection of the intellectual level of its student body. Well, not according to U.S. News. The article reports that the average SAT score of a YU student is 1188, a very respectable figure that is much higher than the corresponding student score in any of the other average schools. Of course, no YU student needs the U.S. News and World Report to tell him that there are many bright students here on our campus. By simply sitting in on any of the upper-level courses or *shiurim* offered here, anyone can see that our student body is on an above-average intellectual level. Why then does YU rank only 107th in the survey? The answer is almost obvious. The ranking was conducted of all four-year colleges.

Yeshiva University is a three-year college. I don't know the exact figures but the situation is clear. There are very few students who spend four years on the YU campus. While most students spend three years in the college, it is becoming increasingly common for students to graduate after only two and a half or even after two years. What allows for this phenomenon is YU's policy of granting a full year of credits for the year spent in Israel. According to the survey conducted on this campus last year, over 75% of YU students have spent at least a year studying in Israel. The positive side to this phenomenon is obvious. However, one still must question the wisdom of granting 32 credits for this year of learning. A student in Israel spends a full day - perhaps as much as twelve hours -

learning. The Yeshiva Program in YU runs from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. daily, six hours. The maximum number of credits that a student may transfer from MYP to YC is three per semester. By that same formula, for each semester spent learning in Israel a student should be granted a maximum of six credits, or twelve for the full year. Certainly, many will argue that the time spent learning in YU cannot compare to that of a Yeshiva in Israel. However, while there may be some truth to that argument, it should have absolutely no bearing on YU's credit-granting policy. Clearly, a three-credit summer course taken at Princeton is on a different level than a similar course offered at a local community college, yet YU grants the same three credits in both cases.

The advantages of having students spend four, rather than three, years at YU may be lost on many students and on many of their financially-minded parents, but these advantages are undeniable. Fourth year students would rejuvenate existing, underpopulated electives and prompt the various departments to offer additional advanced courses. This, in turn, could lead to the expansion of our faculty, with new scholars adding to the intellectual quality of the college. Existing faculty members, as well, would probably gain additional enthusiasm from the opportunity to teach a wider variety of courses and more advanced students than are found in the basic first and second-year core courses. Finally, the students would benefit as well. Aside from the chance to take more challenging courses and the reflected glory obtained from having attended a school that ranks in the above-average category, there are very practical benefits as well. As Dr. Hecht has often pointed out in his capacity as pre-law advisor, law schools are clearly more favorably inclined toward students who present a transcript showing six or seven semesters at their current college than they are toward students who apply with a record of only four or five semesters. And it is easy to surmise that this applies to many other professional and graduate schools as well.

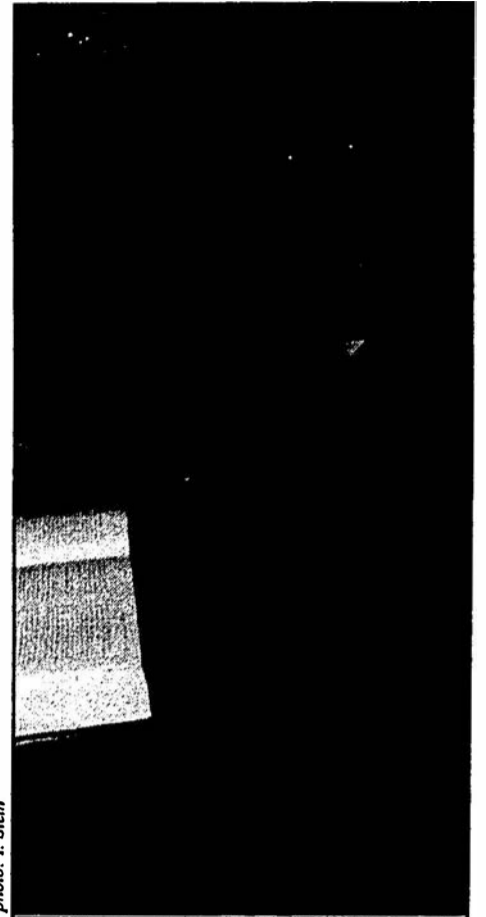
Many will argue against the implementation of such a policy on the notion that it would inevitably lead to a reduction in time students spend involved in Jewish studies. In reality, however, this policy would have the opposite effect. Were students to spend another year taking courses on the YU campus, they would also be spending one more year involved in learning half the day. It is apparent, therefore, that such a policy would have the effect of any other reduction-policy. In the end, the entire corpus would emerge strengthened.

Klein Elected Freshman Class President

BY STUART MILSTEIN

With this year's freshman class election over, representation on the student body in the student council is now complete as Jonathan Klein will occupy the position of freshman class president. Dror Barber was elected vice president, and Uri Goldstein will serve as the freshman class secretary/treasurer.

Klein easily won the presidency because, to his surprise, he ran unopposed. Until the day of the election Klein thought he would be running against Avi Factor, who had received the necessary nominating signatures and had begun hanging up signs, "I found out in the voting booth that he wasn't running," said Klein. Only Klein's name appeared on the ballot because the night before the election, Factor withdrew from the race. Factor had no comment as to why he dropped out.



Freshman Prez. Jonathan Klein

Even though he ran unopposed, Klein exuded optimism about his new position. Said Klein, "I hope to do a good job representing my class now that they elected me, and I hope we'll run something that people will enjoy and gain from."

President's Circle Sponsors Free Shalosh Seudos

BY DAVID SWIDLER

The sign read: "Yeshiva University Residence Halls; Important Notice: Shalosh Seudos henceforth is free for all students even if you do not sign up for the other meals. Just come to Shalosh Seudos! (Compliments of the President's Circle)." Students took advantage of this unprecedented offer, and one of the results was a sign posted the following week, which said: "Notice of Clarification: Any student or his guest who wishes to participate in Shalosh Seudos (Compliments of the President's Circle) must obtain an authorization card from the dorm office each Wednesday, and then make a reservation in the cafeteria by 7:30 PM on Wed., after which there is a \$5.00 late fee. No walk-ins to Shalosh Seudos will be allowed - reservations must be made in advance."

The second sign went up at the urging of the Food Services Department, with the explanation that it had to know in advance how much food to prepare. Associate Director of Food Services Jacob Lieberman, when asked if this was prompted by a glut of unexpected guests for Seuda Sh'lshit, commented that the number of uninvited guests was irrelevant; if even one student who had made reservations -- and paid for his meals -- was deprived because someone else came in without arranging it beforehand, the sign would be justified. The first sign, he said, had been posted without consulting Food Services, and this is what caused the need for the subsequent clarification.

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African-American Professors Nowhere To Be Found

Dean Denies Discrimination is the Reason

BY MEIR ZEITCHIK

Yeshiva University's undergraduate schools are not noted for their racially diverse student bodies. It should, therefore, come as no surprise that the faculty is equally homogeneous, supported by the fact that there are currently no full time African-American professors on campus.

The lack of African-American professors at YC/SSSB is a complex issue. Many factors contribute to this phenomenon, but the essential question is where the responsibility really lies -- on the shoulders of qualified African-American professors, who, for whatever reason, choose not to apply for positions here; or on the YU administration, who may subtly and even subconsciously discourage them from applying. There is also the possibility of an interplay between the two, creating a vicious cycle of sorts.

As for the possibility that the school engages in discrimination in its hiring practices, Dean of SSSB and Dean Ad Interim of YC Harold Nierenberg strongly rejects the notion. "There is no discrimination here," he stated emphatically. "We seek out the most qualified individual in the field." But he did not acknowledge diversity as playing a role in the hiring of a professor and consequently dismissed the idea of looking at the skin color of an African-American as a definite plus. "Race and religion are not factors," noted the dean. But some professors disagree with this position. Sociology professor Dr. Marelyn Schneider remarked that "if two candidates were equally qualified," she would favor an African American one over a white one for the sake of promoting diversity and breaking down stereotypes in the school. And Psychology professor Dr. Michael Palij went a step further and stated that "even if the white professor had a slight advantage, such as the fact that he had published three works and the African-American had published only two, I would still favor hiring the African-American professor for the sake of diversity."

However, it is important to note that relatively few qualified African-American professors even apply for positions at the undergraduate schools. According to English professor Dr. Will Lee, who has sorted through hundreds of applications for positions in the English department, "no candidate has emerged on the short list of people to be interviewed." The lack of applicants may be an indisputable fact, but the reasons are considerably murkier. While it is true that proportionally the number of doctorally qualified instructors in general is lower among the African-American population than among the white population, other New York area schools such as New York University and Columbia still manage to have a significant amount of African-American professors on their staff.

Explanations for this discrepancy abound. YC/SSSB cater to a very specific student body, one which is considerably less diverse than a school like NYU or Columbia. It is conceivable that an African-American professor would prefer to teach at a more heterogeneous institution. And while it could be argued that an African-American professor may see a challenge or even a moral responsibility to bridge the gap between the Jewish community and the African-American community, that possibility remains unlikely. Many professors feel that they have considerably more to offer their own community and in many cases their own community demands greater attention. "Asking an African-American professor to teach at this institution as a moral undertaking would be analogous to asking an Orthodox Jew to go on a crusade and teach at a school like Howard University, when he could be serving his own community instead," commented Dr. Lee.

Interestingly enough, there are a number of Jews who teach at Howard, which may underscore the notion that a predominantly African-American institution like Howard may be more concerned with diversity as a goal than a predominantly Jewish institution such as Yeshiva. Or it simply could mean that certain Jews are more likely to undertake

moral crusades than certain African-Americans. Other theories explaining the negligible percentage of African-American applicants at Yeshiva include a low turnover rate in general [at YU] and a substantially lower salary. And while logic seems to dictate that a position as a professor at a respected university such as this one may be in high demand given the relatively limited number of colleges in this country and their notoriously low turnover rate, many administrators believe that due to Affirmative Action requirements and other factors, an African-American professor in this day and age can afford to be very selective in the position he chooses to accept. "Schools like City University and Harvard have gone out of their way to recruit African American professors," noted Media Relations director Sam Hartstein. "Therefore, an African-American professor today has his choice of select jobs."

Hartstein also noted the situation involving former African-American YU administrator Ed Gordon who was "pulled away" from YU by Teachers College at Columbia and is now a senior administrator at Yale University. Louise Zuckman, YU's Affirmative Action Administrator, claims the university has made efforts aimed at minority recruitment, though she would not specify what minority journals had been advertised in or what conferences of minority educators had been attended.

"From what I've seen, there's nothing wrong with what we're doing," said Zuckman, who has been in her posts since 1985. "My understanding is we make every effort to promote equal employment opportunity.... We've never been found guilty of discrimination on the time I've been here," she said. Zuckman disputes the notion that applicants may be turned off by the existing homogeneity of the faculty and says that the university's failure to attract African-American professors probably stems from dissatisfaction with things like location, parking, transportation, salary and benefits. Another explanation for the low number of African-American applicants is that even among the small

pool of PhDs in the African-American community, a great many of them are concentrated in specialized areas such as African-American studies. "With the exception of African-American Studies there is a scarcity of African-American PhDs in nearly every field," commented Dr. Lee. Given the fact that YC does not offer an African-American studies course, let alone have a program, the absence of African-American teachers on the Yeshiva campus is quite understandable.

But this explanation raises another interesting question. Should the university offer courses in these areas, for the purpose of exposing students to a different culture and breaking down racial stereotypes many people feel are prevalent at the school? "I believe a substantial proportion of the student body is prejudiced toward African-Americans and a course of this nature might help break some of these stereotypes," Dr. Lee asserted.

Another professor optimistic about a course of this nature but for slightly different reasons is Professor of Classics Dr. Louis Feldman. While qualifying his remarks by saying that he did not feel it was as essential to the development of civilization as Greek and Latin studies, he did stress the academic value of such a course and stated that "any accredited field of study such as this one is certainly worth the effort [to establish a course in]." Ilan Haber, a YC senior, agreed with Dr. Feldman on the academic significance this type of course would have. "Any course which makes academic diversity a priority is important. A literature or history course in African-American studies would certainly be a worthwhile endeavor."

Other students, however, were more skeptical about the idea. YC senior Moshe Kahan noted that "It's ridiculous to establish a course just for the sake of being 'diverse'. Besides, I don't think very many students would be interested anyway." It is just that kind of reaction, many say, that points to the need to go the extra mile for inclusion.

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Prospective Students Upbeat About Future at YU Open House

BY ANDREW DAVIDSON

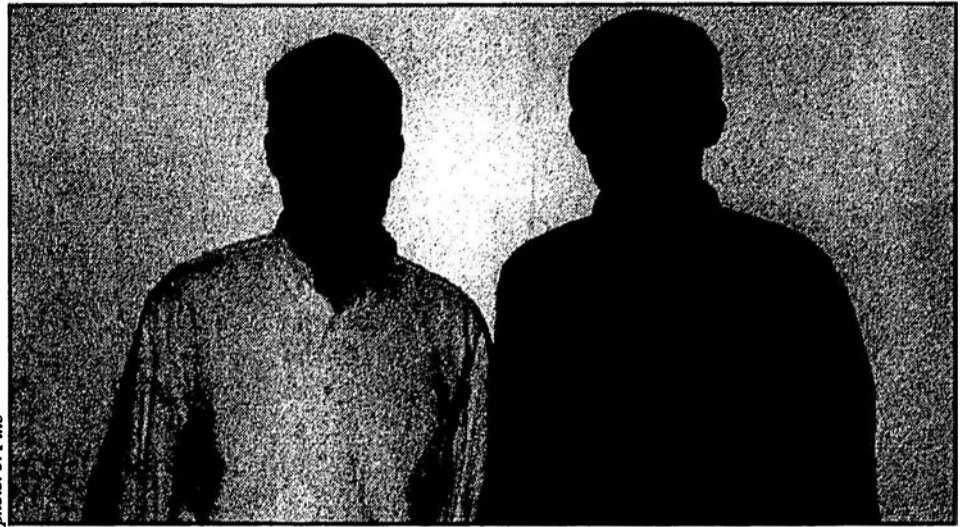
The annual YU Open House, a half-day function designed to inform potential YU students about the various programs available to them took place this past Sunday, November 13. Besides faculty members and deans, the open house committee, consisting of over twenty students, was on hand to ensure the smooth running of the program, answer any questions parents had and to speak to potential students about various campus activities.

Positive Attitude Displayed

The attitude of the numerous high school seniors present was very positive. One MTA senior was impressed that, "YU would set up a complete program to inform us about the numerous activities and possibilities available. My initial negative feelings toward YU have been turned completely around. I spoke with numerous faculty members and

each was helpful in answering all my inquiries about college." The morning program apparently changed quite a number of negative attitudes.

For example, Shachar Minkove, a senior at the Hebrew Academy of Greater Washington, traveled here for the Open House, and was not disappointed. Having an older brother here at YU, he felt, "YU is the perfect place for students to excel in both Judaic and secular studies, while at the same time enjoying a great college life. The diverse programs available really impressed me." Others were happily surprised by the overwhelming friendliness that current YU students displayed. "Besides answering my basic questions about the dual program and classes," stated a current HAFTR senior, "it was very relieving to find out that there is still time to relax, play ball, or just hang out with friends. I was concerned that with such long hours, it would be all work and no play."



YC students Meir Leiter and Avraham Skiba spearhead effort to free science tutors

First Ever Free Science Tutoring Service Set to Begin

BY EPHRAIM LEIBTAG

For the first time ever, Yeshiva College will have free tutorial services in all the science courses offered. After discussions and consultations with members of the administration, science professors, student leaders, and many students struggling in their coursework, it was determined that establishing this program was a necessity. Beginning immediately, the tutoring will be given by students who have previously taken the respective courses and have been approved by specific professors who are currently teaching the courses. Two YC students, senior Mayer Leiter and junior Avraham Skiba spearheaded the project and organized support from the administration and student government. After talking to some current pre-med

students they got the impression that there was a large need for tutoring, especially for the math-based science courses. If successful, the tutoring service will be expanded to other departments to better serve the needs of the student body. "We hope to establish the service this year as a model for future years and set a precedent for students in years to come," commented Leiter, "By having experienced tutors who will be compensated by the school, and who have already taken the courses they are tutoring in, I believe the program will help many students."

The only possible drawback to the program is the students currently tutoring on their own who may have to charge a lower price or even may lose their jobs because of it. However, the overall gain for the majority of the students will definitely be beneficial.

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Dean Absence Takes its Toll on Yeshiva College

BY OREN KEISER

As the school year passes and a permanent Yeshiva College dean has not been named, questions arise concerning how the students, teachers and administrators of YC are being affected by the slow process of hiring a new dean. How long can YC and SSSB can go on sharing Dean Nierenberg?

Many students do not notice the absence of a full time dean casts for they may not be aware of the dean's role. Dr. Michael Hecht, Associate Dean of YC, described the role of the dean as follows: "He is a leader, he sets the tone, involved in the nitty-gritty administration and planning for the future."

For now, these responsibilities have fallen on the lap of Dean Nierenberg, the permanent dean of the SY Syms School of Business. These double duties have forced Nierenberg to divide his time between his SSSB dean's chair on the fourth floor of Belfer and the YC dean's office on the first floor of Furst Hall. Imagine how hectic that must make things for Dean Nierenberg. Dr. Nierenberg admits that its a bit hectic running back and forth, but really its just a question of dividing his time well.

Time is precious to Dr. Nierenberg right now. "I budget my time better. Time management is most important now," he said, "but this could not be

done without the dedicated assistance of SSSB Assistant Dean Jaskoll, YC Assistant Dean Horowitz and Associate Dean Hecht, the secretaries, and the Registrar's Office."

Another concern was that Dean Nierenberg would not be able to meet the needs of both students and teachers in SSSB. However, Dean Nierenberg insisted that this has not been a problem. "Nothing has been taken away from SSSB, every student or teacher that has asked to see me has been able to."

YC Running Smoothly

So far, the administration is pleased with how the school is running in the interim period. Registration and the opening of the new Academic Advisement Center, two areas in which the dean played a direct role, hurdled the obstacle of no dean. Dean Hecht added, "Registration ran as smoothly as any other year, students were not at all affected.... also, the new Academic Advisement Center, opened by the Dean's Office this semester, has begun well."

The Dean's Office believes that students have not been slowed down in anyway by the situation. "On the whole, students have not suffered," said Dean Hecht. While lines might be a little longer at times, accessibility has not been a problem for students or teachers.

Future Planning Halted

Although both students and teachers say that their immediate needs are being

fulfilled and that day to day operations are running well, all believe that it is not healthy for YC to be without a dean for much longer.

One of the major responsibilities of any dean is to plan for the future. In the absence of a permanent YC dean, this planning has come to a halt. As an interim dean, Dean Nierenberg is quite open vis-a-vis his feelings about directing YC's future: he won't. "I'm not involved in long term policy, because I can't follow through or complete such projects," he said. Dean Hecht added, "In the long run its bad. Future planning is not being done right now, although Dean Nierenberg has brought a fresh perspective with him."

Long range decisions are a major concern of the faculty. New courses, lab equipment, and other improvements are all overseen by the dean and now many of these programs are on hold. However, Dean Nierenberg stated, "Areas that have been developing should really wait for a new dean, but nothing is on hold." Rather, he claimed, new ideas are being worked on at the department level. But nothing will be done officially until a new dean is in place. How long these programs can remain on hold without taking a toll on the future of YC, is a disturbing thought to many faculty.

A History of Interim Deans

This is not the first time that YC has been without a full-time dean. When

dean of YC Dr. Daniel Kurtzer resigned in the late 1970's, it took fourteen months until Dean Rosenfeld washedired. During that 14-month period, Dean Hecht filled in as Interim Dean of YC. While he enjoyed his time as Dean, Dean Hecht is sure that it is not a position he would like to hold full-time. "My real love is teaching," he said, "I don't find being a dean fully, personally satisfying. You don't get the same gratification you get from giving a good shiur or a good lecture in Constitutional Law."

The history raises another question, how long will it be until a new dean is in place in YC? Will it be 14 months? How can one take the school seriously when it does not fill one of its top leadership positions? "It shouldn't continue past this semester," responded Dean Hecht. Dean Nierenberg added that he was ready to serve as dean of YC as long as it takes to find the right man for the job. He said "I am prepared to be of assistance as long as required. I have every reason to believe a new dean will be hired as soon as possible." However, Dean Nierenberg was not shy about saying he is looking forward to the day when he could return solely to SSSB. "I enjoy it tremendously, I enjoy challenges, new things, and problemsolving...but I look forward to a short tenure at YC." Although many share that hope, there is a sense of fear that Dean Nierenberg's stay in YC might be longer than he thinks.

The Golding Beit Medrash Program Poll Results

Nearly a quarter of YC Polled

BY DOV SIMONS

From the day it was announced, questions and doubts have shadowed the new Golding Beit Midrash Program (GBMP).

Some Rebbeim in the Mazer Yeshiva Program fear that talmidim switching into the newer program will weaken the stability of the Beit Medrash. Rabbi Abba Bronspiegel has stated "I am very much opposed to this program. The direction that they are going in shows that they are being makil on the student..."

Many IBC students fail to find distinction between the new program and IBC. These students are disturbed that the administration does not recognize that the schedule and program designed for this new fourth track can also be achieved with what IBC currently offers its talmidim.

Still, others wonder whether enough student interest exists to support one more Judaic Studies program.

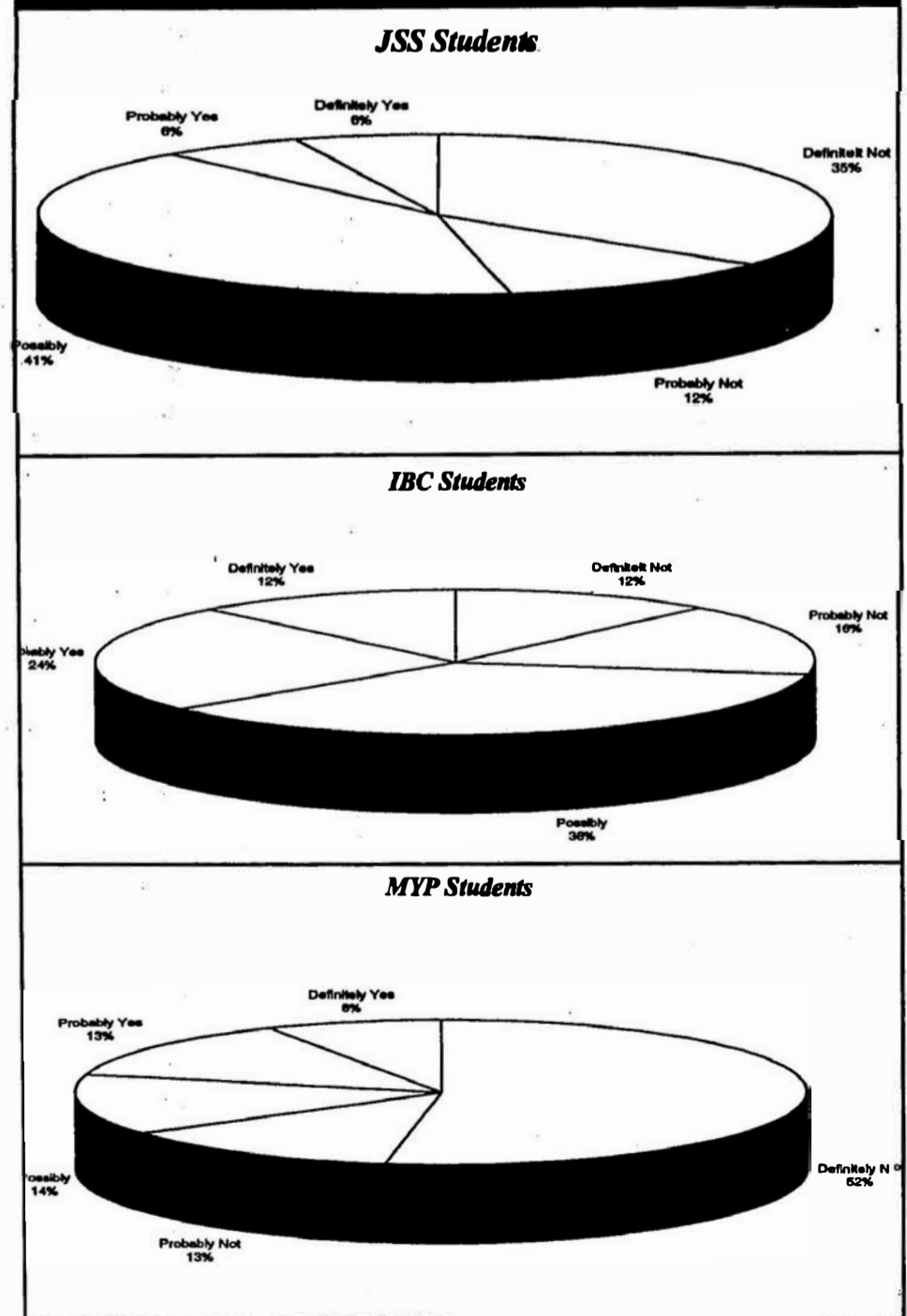
In order to discover the students attitudes towards the GBMP, *The Commentator* conducted a poll of all students residing in the Main Campus dormitories. The surveys were placed

into each of the student mailboxes, with official *Commentator* poll boxes placed in all residence halls. The unscientific survey received 272 responses - 17 were from JSS, 49 from IBC, and 203 from MYP.

The survey produced interesting results. Nearly 85% of the school is "somewhat" or "very" aware. Over half (52%) of the students in MYP who responded to the survey will "definitely not" switch into GBMP, with only a total 35% possibly or definitely considering the idea. JSS respondents also have reservations about switching in; only 12% said they would "definitely" or "probably" transfer. However, a much larger margin, 41%, consider "possibly" switching, as compared to 14% of the MYP respondents. Results from IBC students indicate that the GBMP would cut a significant portion of the current IBC population - 24% are probably transferring, and is a definite option for another 12%.

In all, 24 respondents would definitely transfer in, 41 would probably do so, 52 would possibly switch, 35 would probably not, and 120 would definitely not transfer.

Would You Switch? A Breakdown of the Responses



The Making of An Academic Reputation

BY ARI HIRT

Paris has a reputation for culture; Beverly Hills has a reputation for luxury. The Kennedy family has a reputation for promiscuity; by contrast, the Soloveichik family has a reputation for righteousness and wisdom. Like people and places, reputation is what makes or breaks a university. The magazine U.S. News and World Report recently ranked Yeshiva University as the 107th rated undergraduate college. Is this the only factor other Universities and institutions use when evaluating our reputation? Hopefully not. It is therefore crucial for all members of the Yeshiva University community to reach an understanding as to what criteria shape an academic reputation - for it is this reputation which will help determine the future of the university and its students.

Most faculty and administrative members at Yeshiva University agree that the core of an academic reputation lies in the quality of the faculty and success of its student body. A University is, in essence, judged by the products that it creates. The most objective standards external critics could utilize when measuring the caliber of YU's student body is whether or not the students get into advanced professional and graduate programs. Once they do get in, it is their subsequent performances which help establish a positive or negative track record for YU graduates. Dr. Will Lee, Assistant Professor of English at Yeshiva College feels that, "because of the dual program and work habits they develop in this school, almost all students leaving Yeshiva succeed, whether in a job or graduate school, enhancing our reputation."

The reputation of a university's faculty is of equal importance. An outsider looks at a university's faculty and asks two questions - which names do I recognize and which articles have these professors published. Otherwise, people have no avenues for accurate evaluation as these "critics" do not attend the actual classes and pass judgement on the professor's actual teaching ability. "It's a pity and a shame that our students, the parents of our students, and our constituency do not know to what extent our undergraduate faculty are published faculty," decries Dr. Carl Feit, Professor of Biology at Yeshiva College. "YU Public Relations never talks about our own faculty and what they publish. Even the students who take these teachers do not realize that these are people who are doing scholarly research and are publishing in the best journals in their field."

Dr. Efreim Nulman, Dean of Students of YU, also points towards YU Public Relations' lack of academic exposure. He explains that until now YUPR publications focused solely on the alumni, the donors, and the fundraising activities of YU. Mr. David Rosen, director of Public Relations concedes that because of this trend YU's academic reputation was not cast in the most favorable light. "We could do more things in our own publications and press releases to stress the academic side of the University," expresses Rosen.

Being that the accomplishments and endeavors of the student body and faculty comprise the core of an academic

First of a Three-Part Series evaluating Yeshiva University's academic Reputation.

Coming Next Issue - In 1980 the U.S. Supreme Court announced that Yeshiva University faculty are considered managerial professionals and thus are unable to unionize under the aegis of the National Labor Relations Board. Are the Professors of YU still disenchanted? If so, how does such discontent affect the University's outside reputation?

Coming In Two Issues - How do the students perceive the reputation of Yeshiva University?

reputation, Public Relations is trying to incorporate the faculty and students in their PR publications such as Yeshiva University Today and Yeshiva Review. But these magazines are mainly internal - they are sent to faculty, parents, alumni, and donors. This type of PR merely reinforces a name within a market of people already familiar with YU.

However, in order for the publications to bolster YU's academic reputation, they must reach the outside academic community. According to Rosen, Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. William Schwartz is encouraging PR to send Yeshiva University Today to the Presidents and Deans of other colleges. Dr. Schwartz feels that if we send reams of material presenting YU in a favorable light it could only elevate the college's reputation.

Effects of Being 3 Year College

While YU Public Relations tries to increase the University's academic exposure, most faculty members and administrators at Yeshiva College are quicker to point out a more serious problem affecting the University's academic reputation - the prevalence of students graduating YU in 3 years or less. "There are twenty-four hours even in a day of a YC student, and to spend 6-8 hours a day in intensive Torah study something must give," explains Dr. Michael Hecht, associate dean of Yeshiva College. "To try to cram everything in two-and a-half years is counterproductive and is a problem we must come to grips with."

Dr. Feit agrees that the only way to increase the academic standards of the school is by increasing the time students spend on campus. If students were here for four years they would be able to take more advanced courses, making them more educated and better prepared to succeed in their future endeavors. When students spend only three years in college, Dr. Will Lee believes that, "students are losing a breadth and depth of education. This tremendous lack of semesters on campus not only deprives the students from taking full advantage of what YU has to offer, but it also handicaps the professors' abilities to deliver fully. In order to expect quality work, teachers cannot assign students taking six courses the same amount of work they would if they were taking three courses. Indeed, Dean Hecht feels that the effects of being a three-year college could reflect poorly on YU's reputation. In the past, deans of law schools have questioned Dr. Hecht on students who appear to be of high caliber but who have a minimal number of semesters tucked under their belt.

Cut Down Israel Credit?

Should the credits from Israel be abolished or at least diminished? Should the requirements at YU be increased? If the academic reputation of YU is being jeopardized than "Yes," something should be done. "I think we have to cut down the credits," suggests Dr. Feit, "not all at once but I do think we have to start selling this idea to the yeshivas in Israel and to the students going to Israel." Dean Hecht concurs that the 32 credits granted to a student studying in Yeshiva for a year in Israel must be re-examined. "It has been part of the culture to go to Israel, that students would still go."

Would YU be willing to take such a risk for the benefit of education? After all the Joint-Israel program is one of the major attractions for many of the students enrolled at YC. In the last couple years Israel has become an increasingly greater market for YU recruitment. Certainly, every member of the faculty wants to increase the standards, but every member of the faculty also wants to maintain a healthy enrollment. Yeshiva College runs on tuition; lessening tuition could also weaken the quality of the school.

Contrary to the majority of professors and administrators, Dean Nulman strongly opposes the idea of cutting back on Israel credit. "It is a terrible idea. By taking away the Israel credit, we, as an institution are saying that we do not value it." Since many students are financially incapable of staying in YU for four years and spend a year in Israel, Nulman feels that YU has an obligation to not make it more difficult on students who are already facing tough times. In the past, in an effort to better our academic reputation, YU instituted the plus-minus system and raised the standards of academic honors - such as Dean's List, Summa Cum Laude, and Magna Cum Laude. Should these actions be taken again?

Today, everyone at YU agrees that grades and honors are merely cosmetic components of an academic reputation. "The question becomes," said Dr. Lee, "Do good institutions let our students in? Do good organizations give our students jobs? Do they succeed in what they are doing?" If the answer is yes, then Dr. Lee feels that the standards for grades and honors definitely should not be raised.

Reputation, the images that people or places cast on the public, is the single most important factor in determining the success or failure of anyone or anything. A restaurant may serve the most appetizing dishes, but if its reputation is for its customers to frequently suffer from food poisoning, the establishment is likely to fail. Likewise, Yeshiva University serves the public an 'entree' of faculty and students. It is the quality of this 'academic platter' that will determine the reputation of the University.

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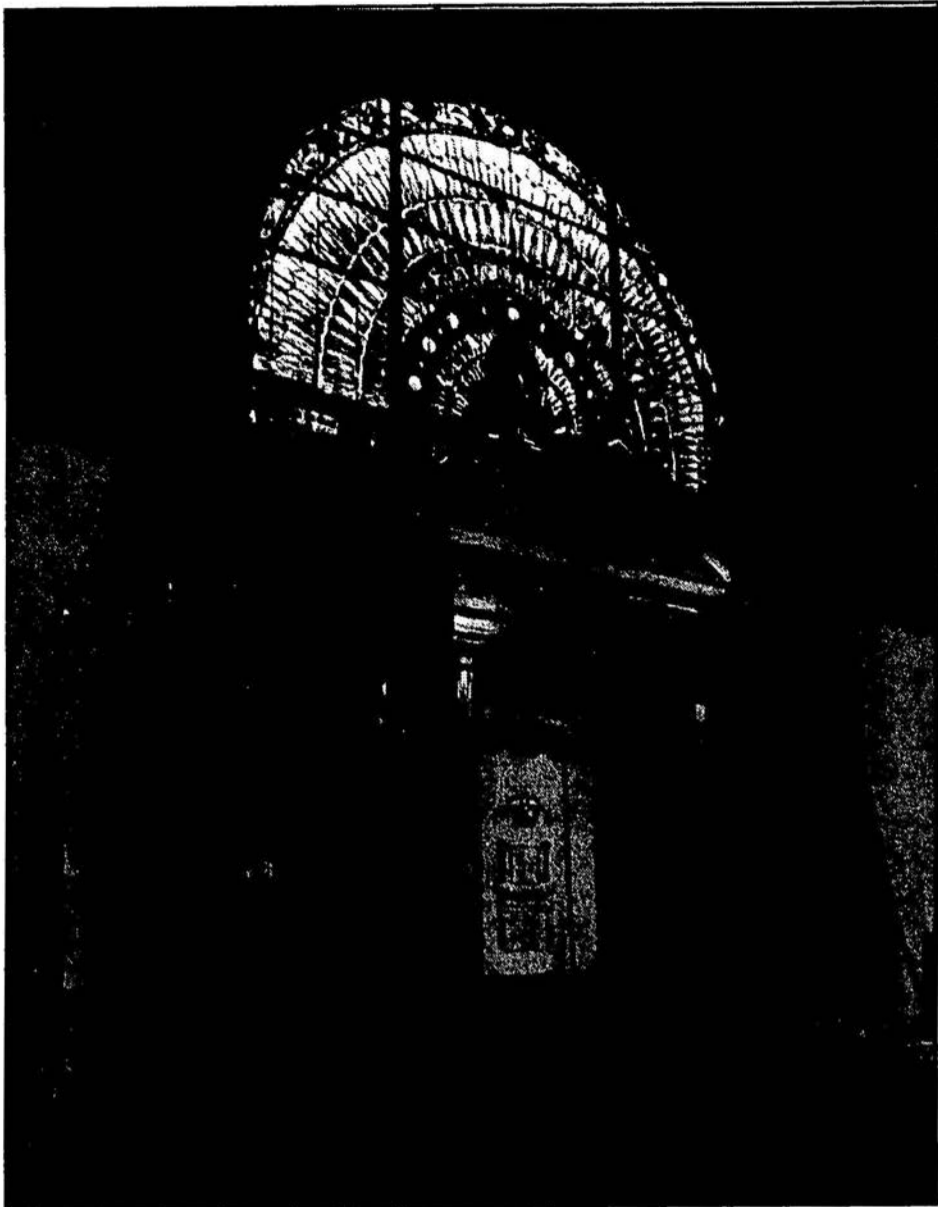
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Shenk Shul is located in the Schottenstein Center. This beautiful but unknown room remains a storage area

Schottenstein Center, Still Overlooked and Underused

BY SETH GROSSMAN

Located on 185th Street, one block up from Furst Hall, YU's Schottenstein Student Center is a five-story building with a very lonely story. Despite being endowed with modern classrooms and equipment, tastefully appointed lounges, and gathering places, it is, perhaps, the most underused building on the main campus.

Before being acquired by YU, the architecturally impressive edifice was the Rabbi Moses Soloveitchik Yeshiva. In 1983, when the yeshiva was forced to sell the building because of financial difficulties, YU acquired it, fearing the complex would be purchased by a church. It was then refurbished through the generosity of philanthropist and YU Board member Jay Schottenstein.

The Schottenstein Center is quite a large structure. It boasts many office complexes and classrooms, a furnished lounge, a large theater, and even a shul. Art and music classes take place on the second and fourth floors, as the Belz School of Music, as well as drama and art departments call Schottenstein home. The Commentator, WYUR, and Hamevaser staffs maintain offices on the third floor.

Majestic Shul A Storage Room

The rest of the building, on the other hand, is rarely utilized. The shul in Schottenstein, called the Shenk Shul, which can hold over 300 people, has not been used for years. An intriguing possibility, proposed two years ago, was to turn the shul into a new Beit Midrash

and alleviate crowding in other buildings. Nothing has come of it. The shul is now used for storage.

The shul is not the only Schottenstein facility used inefficiently. Five or six classrooms are hardly ever occupied. Spacious offices on the third floor, designated for the JSS Student Council, SySyms Student Council, SOY, and other student organizations are never used. The theater is used for play practices and two productions a year. The lounge on the third floor is bigger than Rubin Hall's and more comfortable than the one in Morg, but it is also rarely used, despite being open to women.

Part of the reason for lack of interest in Schottenstein seems to stem from ignorance. A number of students questioned said that they were unaware of certain facilities at Schottenstein. Sophomore Andrew Wurzberger was surprised upon being informed of the comforts of the building. "There's a lounge in Schottenstein?", he queried aloud. Others said that they felt unsafe walking to Schottenstein, especially at night. Some students did not even know where or what the Schottenstein Building is.

Cantor Bernard Beer, Dean of the Belz School of Jewish Music, realizes the vast potential of the Schottenstein complex and hopes YU will hold and promote new activities there. According to Beer, such a move would provide Schottenstein with the "YU identity" it currently lacks, and attract new students to some of the programs presently held there, including the already popular Belz school. Until YU does anything about it, things aren't likely to change.

Morg Lounge Refurbishing, Not Much Expected

BY NACHUM LAMM

They've been used for just about everything—studying, club meetings, even an impromptu engagement party. But because the floor lounges in Morg very often contain little more than some uneven tables and rusty chairs, if anything at all, there are a growing number of voices calling for widespread improvements of these lounges.

While the idea has been well received with many Morg residents, with one club president even suggesting that refurbished lounges could be used for club meetings, YCSC President Daniel Billig stated it was not a high priority. Indeed, according to Director of Residence Halls Rabbi Joshua Cheifetz, the refurbishment of the floor lounges has been on the agenda of the student residence council for some time, but other matters, including the construction of a lounge on the second floor of Muss Hall, have taken precedence. One resident advisor, however, noted that the renovations would be relatively simple, especially considering the fact that there is a wealth of excess furniture currently being stored in the basement of the Morg.

Other suggestions include less radical

and relatively inexpensive redecorating such as putting posters on the walls and carpeting the rooms. Students believe these changes will create more positive interaction between floormates who rarely see each other as well as giving students a place to relax other than their cramped sleeping quarters or the more public lobby lounge.

Reservations to possible improvements were expressed by a number of students. One student, echoing Rabbi Cheifetz, stated that floor lounges should first be constructed for Muss and Rubin before the focus shifts to Morg, where lounges already exist. Others feared that an increased "social" usage of the lounges—for example, the introduction of televisions—would disturb the many students who use the lounges to study. To avoid such a problem, Morg resident Ahron Herring suggested alternating floors for "study" and "social" lounges.

Other fears voiced included the possibility that an increase in lounge usage would disturb those in adjoining rooms, and that without adequate supervision, furniture and other items put in the lounges could be subject to vandalism and theft.

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COMMENCEMENT

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HAVE YOU RETURNED YOUR
COMPLETED GRADUATION KIT
TO THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR?

IF NOT, CONTACT THE REGISTRAR

IF SO, DID YOU RECEIVE A CONFIRMATION
OF YOUR APPLICATION?



MYP Students Stephen Tolany and Sruli Tannenbaum learning in the Beit Midrash

MYP Attendance-Taking Gains Attention

BY JOSH ENGLAND

Six weeks into the school year, the recently instituted attendance system in the Beit Midrash has gained the acceptance, if not the approval, of many MYP students. Under the system, each MYP student has a numbered *makom kavua* and attendance is taken daily by the Shoalim U'meishivim, Rabbi Jeremy Wieder and Elchanan Adler. The first few weeks of the semester caused confusion as students settled into the new system and adjusted to their *shiurim* and *chavrutot*. But according to Rabbi Wieder, the situation quickly stabilized and orderly attendance-taking has been possible. The Main Beit Midrash and adjacent rooms are monitored by Rabbi Wieder, while Rabbi Adler oversees the Furst Hall Beit Midrash and the nearby classrooms.

According to Rabbi Wieder, the main purposes of the attendance system is to identify the students who fall between the cracks and to provide an air of seriousness and order to the Beit Midrash. "We don't want to make the Beit Midrash like a police state, but we want to instill in the *talmidim* a sense of *achrayus* to be in *seder*," he explained. The role of the *mashgichim* goes beyond mere attendance-taking. The rabbis converse with students and, if they notice that a student has consistently missed *seder*, they will approach him and see if he is having any problems. In addition, Rabbi Wieder has been known to inform MYP Roshei Yeshiva of low attendance in their specific *shiurim*.

Despite the ambitious intentions of the *mashgichim*, logistical problems have

hampered smooth operation of the system. The lack of space in the Beit Midrash has caused problems in keeping track of students. Students are spread out over two buildings and numerous classrooms. Furthermore, some students who do not have designated seats tend to "float" from seat to seat and from room to room—making it more difficult to keep track of them. However, the assistant *mashgichim* have been endeavouring to establish their presence in the classrooms. In addition, they have started to contact students who are enrolled in the MYP program but do not appear on any attendance sheets.

The reaction to the attendance system has been mostly positive. "It's a good feeling to know that someone's watching over the Beit Midrash," said Ely Landsman, a MYP Junior who believes that there has been a definite improvement in attendance over last year.

One YP senior voiced his disapproval, however, over the transforming of "the yeshiva into a high school atmosphere" and the removal of "the *lishmah* out of *seder*."

The Litmus Test: Midterms

Many believe that midterms will be the litmus test of the success of the program. "The big challenge will be midterms," said Rabbi Wieder. "Keeping the Beit Midrash strong for midterms would be a very positive development." Eytan Chen, a YP junior, contended that "although [attendance-taking] may encourage students not to miss a regular *seder*, which in and of itself is an accomplishment, I doubt that it will prove effective during midterms."

Photo: J. Fine

Opening Message From Chairman of Student Senate

Fellow students,

During my two years on campus, including one year on the Senate, the Senate's role and visibility on campus have repeatedly been questioned. Understanding the origin of the Senate and its true purpose will clarify these issues. With an appreciation for the function of the Senate, this letter serves as an introduction to a Senate activity column which will appear in upcoming issues of The Commentator. Equal rights and democratic freedom characterized the revolutionary Sixties, sentiments that were present at Yeshiva University. The students felt that they deserved the right to have a say in their education. As necessity is the mother of invention, the Y.U. Senate was created in 1968. The three constituents of the University, the administration, the faculty and, of course, the students now had a vehicle to interact and discuss the academic affairs of the school. While we may not be living in the revolutionary Sixties, these objectives and beliefs that helped establish the Senate hold true today. The students deserve to have an active involvement in their academic careers. The University exists for the betterment of the students and the Senate was created, and still exists, to improve our academic life here at Y.U.

Since I have been involved with the Senate, some of the larger issues that have been undertaken are the improvement of academic advisement, the re-structuring of the Bible requirement and a complete report on the condition of computer literacy on campus, from the physical facilities to the lack of staffing and courses. This year we already have a very busy agenda. We are following through with the computer report to see its fruition, discussing an Actuarial Science major, interdisciplinary majors/minors, and a resource center for students with learning disabilities, amongst many others. It is important to note that the Senate serves as an advisory board authorized only with the power of suggestion. Thus, after issues have been

fully articulated, they are passed on to authorized committees which are empowered beyond the jurisdiction of the Senate. In most cases, these committees have acted upon the Senate's suggestions. The student Senators serve to represent what is best for the University and we want to do that to our full potential. It is the student Senators that have the special responsibility of setting the agenda and seeing it through. Yet, no one has a better idea of the important issues and the concern of the students than the students themselves. The Senate is a vehicle for the students to communicate what they want improved or discussed.

We want to know the pertinent issues and want to solicit your opinions. A suggestion box has been set up as well as a few E-Mail addresses. We are also trying to organize a Senate sponsored student forum where students can come and discuss any issue on their mind. At the same time, we want to keep you, the students, up to date on what issues are presently being discussed. There will be a prompt and thorough distribution of the minutes from each meeting as well as an up-to-date bulletin board located in the lobby of Furst Hall. Finally, there will be a Senate section in The Commentator following the agenda, explaining new issues and updating you on current ones. Included in this section will be the date of the next meeting which are always open to the students. Bi-monthly meetings are held during club hour in 535 Furst Hall. Tentatively, the next meeting will be held on December 1st. You are invited and urged to attend. We look forward to hearing from you, but, as importantly, we look forward to being heard.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Soclof (928-5131)

Senate Chairman

Suggestion Box: Morg326

E-Mail addresses: Rabbi Carmy

(Vice Chairman) carmy@YU1.YU.edu

Isaac Sasson (Secretary)

sasson@YU1.YU.edu

Photo: J. Fine



Maybe we should have just taken the 3% Raise!



Local Union members meet in Furst Hall to discuss asbestos. Article on Front Page

YU Prof On Cutting Edge of Cancer Research

BY JEREMY FINE



photo: YUPR

Biology Chairman Dr. Carl Feit

While students at Yeshiva University are often very familiar with their professors' talents and abilities inside the classroom, many fail to recognize that these professors are active researchers as well as instructors. Yes, in their own ways, most professors carry a "dual curriculum." At the edge of the science front stands Dr. Carl Feit, head professor of the YC Biology department. "Ever since I was a child, I knew I was going to be involved in scientific research," remarks Dr. Feit as he reflects on his life.

Dr. Feit is working on a topic that less than ten major labs in the world are involved in - human sarcoma antigens, a type of tumor that develops in connective tissues. Before beginning his research on sarcomas, Dr. Feit spent numerous years exhausting the field of connective tissue differentiation in order to give himself an adequate background. Today, Feit spends much of his time in his lab in YU, while collaborating with researchers at Cornell University and the Sloan Kettering Institute, the latter one being one of the foremost institutions in the world for the study of cancer.

In the last ten years, the capability of making large and reproducible amounts of specific antibodies has become

possible. These particular immunoglobins called monoclonal antibodies are crucial proteins in the study of cancer, because they recognize biological molecules with high precision. Recognition and isolation of cells and molecules are the basis for science research. Cancerous tumors are products of a single cell that goes "astray" and through cell division, produce an aggregate of thousands of cells. Until now, these lethal tumors have only been detectable by physical examination, namely by feeling for lumps. Monoclonal antibodies, however, may be able to be diagnose these tumors at much earlier and treatable stages. By a simple blood test, they would detect whether or not tumor cells were floating in the blood stream.

In order to produce these special antibodies, Dr. Feit removes the spleen of an immunized animal and dissociates it into single cells. The lymphocytes are then introduced to a cancer cell line, producing new hybrid cells. The hybrid cells secreting the antibodies specific for the antigen of interest are then separated out. These separated hybrid cells are cultured and produce the monoclonal antibodies used in his research. (See figure 1) All cells of a specific tumor share

the same characteristics since they originate from the same faulty cell. In these cancer cells there are a few select proteins which make them distinguishable from normal cells of the same line. "Finding those few proteins is like looking for a needle in a haystack," states Dr. Feit.

Once these markers are found and isolated, the monoclonal antibodies can enter the host and locate all of the cells which have this specific protein, since the antibodies are chemically engineered to zero in on these proteins. However, before the antibodies are sent on their mission, a fluorescent molecule is attached, emitting certain wavelengths of UV light and serving as the antibodies' homing device.

Although the technique of cancer cell identification by means of monoclonal antibodies is prevalent in the scientific community, Dr. Feit's research is unique in that he deals specifically with sarcoma

antigens, a topic so particular, that one could count the number of such active laboratories with two hands. The two main components of Dr. Feit's research include: searching for monoclonal antibodies specific to sarcoma cells and the subsequent attachment of toxins that could be carried to the cancerous cells and in turn, kill them without harming the normal functioning cells. "We have identified certain markers that are more or less specific for cancer cells, but nobody has found a marker that is absolutely specific for a cancer cell," explains Feit.

"Research is an area of science that demands patience," comments Dr. Feit, offering advice to future scientists. "We must be willing to repeat experiments over and over again and realize that if we are lucky, five to ten percent of what we are working on will actually be published and contribute to the growing field of science."

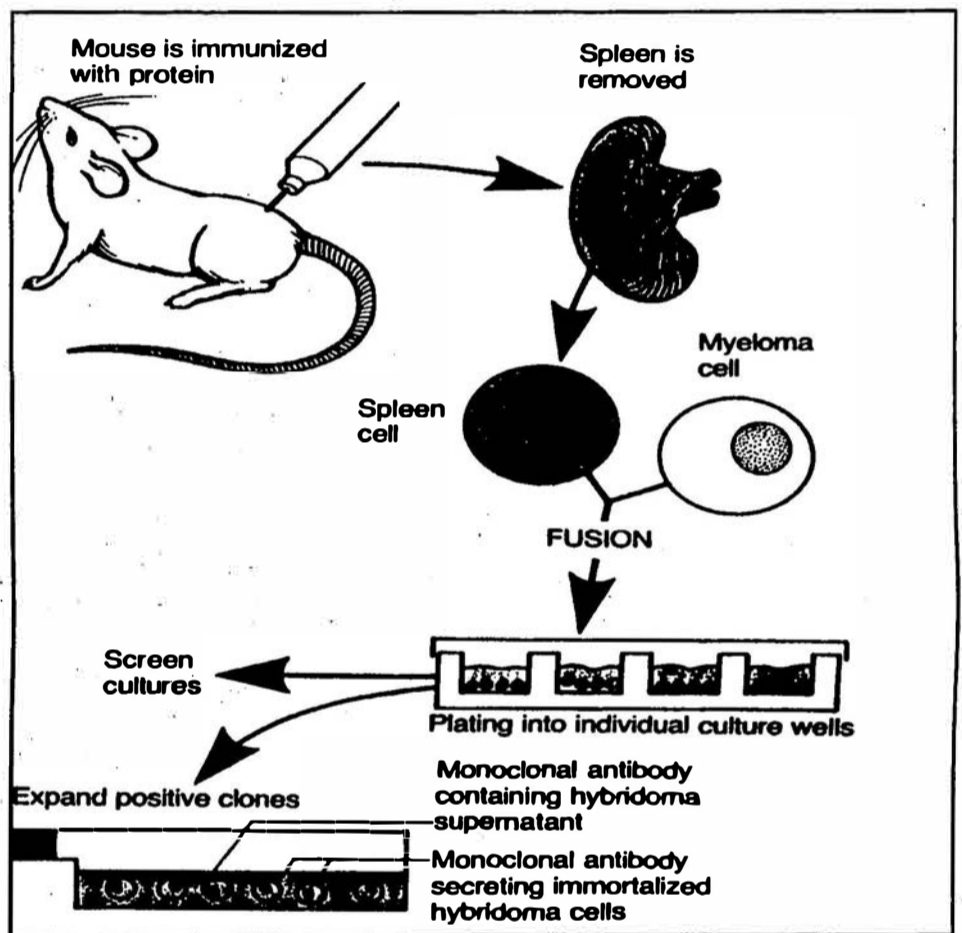


Figure 1: Monoclonal antibody production

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Thanksgiving Dinner

Thursday November 24, 1994

Thanksgiving Dinner Menu

Garden Vegetable Soup	\$1.75
Turkey Breast served with 2 sides	\$6.50
Roast Beef served with 2 sides	\$6.50
Sweet Yams	\$1.00
Corn on the Cob	\$1.00
Pumpkin Pie	\$1.25

Furman Dining Hall open for Dinner from 2:00 pm-5:30 pm

Chanukah Menorah

Chanukah Candles	\$0.99
Chanukah Menorah	\$0.99
Olive Oil	\$2.79
Wicks	\$1.69
Chocolate Chanukah Gelt	\$0.59

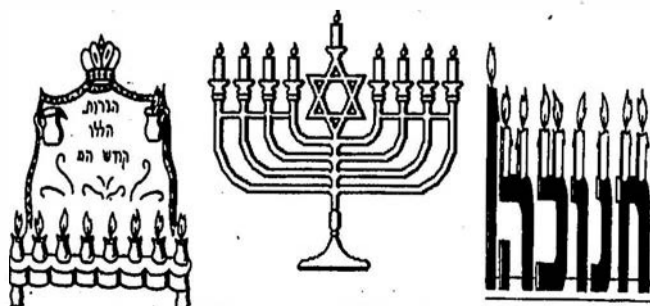
Hanukkah Fest

The Macabee's have just defeated Antiochus, come celebrate the victory in our dining hall.

Thursday
December 1st, 1994

Macabee Cabbage Soup	\$1.75
Antiochus Chicken served with kasha and latkes	\$6.50
Stifado Greek Stew served with latkes	\$6.00
Potato Latkes served with apple sauce	\$1.75
Kusha (squash)	\$1.00
Donuts	\$0.75

Please note:
The Furman Dining Hall will be closed on Friday & Saturday 11/25 & 11/26



2.9% Average Faculty Pay Raise Barely Covers Cost of Living

continued from page one

the 4% level. But only days before those proposals were due, in mid-August, the five deans received faxes from Sheldon Socol instructing them to reconfigure their proposals at the 3% level.

Dr. Rosenfeld, now a mathematics professor, explained that all faculty members do not receive the same raise because some are owed greater raises due to recognition of merit, correction of inequities, and contractual obligations. One such contractual obligation shifted a large portion of money from the raise pool to one professor who had earned a Ph.D. The honoring of commitments to some faculty members necessitates the reduction of raises for others. Rosenfeld noted that the amount the one aforementioned professor received skewed the figure so much that a more accurate statistic is a 2.9% average raise.

Faculty members learned of the decision when they received notice from Dr. Schwartz in late August and their ire has been building steadily throughout the semester. One professor, who categorized her career as being "downwardly mobile," said she vacillates between feelings of "anger and hurt," while another lamented that YU "has no respect for the faculty."

Contempt For Administration

Many professors see the university as being caught in a vicious cycle that will ultimately also harm the students. "If more money went to the teachers, they would spend more time with the students," observed one professor, explaining that the low level of YU's salaries requires faculty members to take on second jobs and precludes full dedication to teaching and enlightening. "A well-functioning, happy faculty can only help students," said another. "But here we feel a disdain or contempt of the administration for the faculty. They don't provide the resources necessary [for teaching]... and it's hurting the students more."

Many faculty members submit that the lowering of the raise levels would not be as much of an issue if YU professors were being paid on par with their colleagues in academia. Their assertion that YU salaries are considerably lower than those of other institutions was buttressed by a study co-authored by YC professors Dr. William Lee and Dr. Noyes Bartholomew. Their 12-page report, which compared YC/SCW faculty salaries to those of institutions comparable in type, location, quality of faculty, and quality of students, demonstrated that YU salaries were not competitive with those of similar schools.

Presented to Dr. Egon Brenner, former Vice President for Academic Affairs, in February 1993, the thoroughly researched report concluded that "within every grouping of institutions and at every rank, YC/SCW salaries average considerably lower than those at comparable institutions." Specifically, YC/SCW salaries ranged from 10% to

40% lower at the instructor rank, and from 18% to 60% lower at the assistant, associate, and professorial ranks. Lee and Bartholomew also wrote of the psychological results of their revelation: "Under the economic circumstances at YC/SCW, the commitment and professionalism of our faculty is remarkable. At the same time, their knowledge that salaries do not reflect the market value of their qualifications and experience carries with it some high indirect costs. The psychological results range from disaffection to stress to burnout."

According to Dr. Bartholomew, the report only "supported things we had already known." Faculty members were willing to reveal their base salaries for statistical purposes to rebut claims by the administration that YU professors were being paid on a level similar to their colleagues in comparable schools. The administration had always insisted, however, on comparing YU to obscure parochial institutions in the Midwest, explained Bartholomew. In his analysis, though, he compared YU only to colleges in the metropolitan area or the Middle Atlantic region, where the cost of living is drastically higher. Bartholomew was confident that "the administration is well-aware that we are not paid very well," adding that it does not seem willing to "invest in the teachers. The money must be found some way."

While money does seem to be flowing into the university, Dr. Schwartz denies that the bounty should translate into increased salaries. "Donated money is restricted in its use," he said, explaining that most of the \$40 million Golding endowment of last year was earmarked for students, not teachers. Donations can not always be directed towards budget purposes. Nor will the increase in enrollment, and with it, dollars, coming into the university, affect a salary increase, said Schwartz, because the university "is still in a deficit posture, even with the high enrollment." In defending the average raise of 3%, Schwartz cited the slowing of the inflation rate and the meager cost of living increase over the past year. But many professors see the 3% raise as being below the inflation rate, and, in effect, a salary decrease. What troubles some more, however, is that the structure of the university prevents anything from being done. "We have no influence here," commented one professor. "The administration is too removed from the teachers."

Faculty Dedicated To YU

The rancor over salary inequity has yet to translate into concrete action on the part of faculty members. To explain why YU has not witnessed a large-scale exodus of professors, several professors touted the fierce dedication of the faculty to YU and its Torah U'Madda philosophy, despite the adverse conditions.

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continued from page one

interviewed and the details of the Oct 28 meeting are, for the most part, a secret. However, *The Commentator* has learned from sources on the committee that Schwartz spent the first part of the meeting criticizing *The Commentator* for publishing the names of three candidates approved of by the committee in the early part of the summer. Also, Schwartz chastised the committee for leaking the names to *The Commentator*.

Still unwilling this past Friday to confirm that he had ever attended the meeting, Schwartz sharply criticized the *The Commentator* in publishing the names of the candidates. "By publishing the names in *The Commentator*, it has a chilling effect on the entire process. It's important to preserve the principles of confidentiality," he explained. He pointed out how one of the new candidates had almost been scared away by the publication of the names, afraid to meet with the Search Committee for fear of a leak by committee members.

Schwartz defended the search process. "This has not been an uncommonly lengthy process... We tried

to have as broad and as representative a committee as we could and there has been consultation as well with even broader groups beyond the committee," he explained. "I think Doctor Lamm was one-hundred percent right in taking the time to deliberate," he concluded. He also voiced his hopes that a decision on the YC deanship will be made shortly.

Dr. Harold Nierenberg, currently serving as the Dean Ad-Interim of YC as well as the permanent dean of SSSB, expressed his optimism about the deanship. "I'm pretty certain that a dean will be named before the end of the semester," he said, adding that he is "prepared to help the University in any way... someone has to assume the responsibility for YC and I've been asked to do it." So far, he has enjoyed his new role as YC dean. He explained, "It's hectic and challenging and it's certainly been an interesting experience for me. I'm definitely making an impact on YC." He also indicated that he would stay on, if necessary, as the YC dean if the new dean would be unable to take over at the beginning of the fall semester.

Mystery Symptoms Raise Questions Among Employees

continued from page one

licensed asbestos worker. "While normally asbestos remains airborne [and therefore dangerous] for only 48-72 hours after being disturbed, in this instance it was circulated countless times throughout the library," he said.

Most shocking of all is the claim that the administration deliberately used non-licensed personnel, including cafeteria workers, who were free during the summer, to do the work, when it had already trained some of its staff for this purpose. "An asbestos-licensed worker charges an additional \$6/hour," explained one of the workers who did the drilling in the library and wishes to go unnamed, "and they only work under special conditions: the area must be cordoned off, they must be wearing a mask, and the work must be done at night when no one is around. Without these conditions they won't do the work because they know it is illegal. Instead we were called to do the work without masks, without proper equipment, in the middle of the day. We didn't even know what asbestos was or what it looked like; we couldn't refuse to do the job even though we knew we shouldn't be the ones doing it."

Jeffrey Rosengarten, Director of Supporting Services Administration, explains that the administration did not have a responsibility to assign licensed workers to deal with the situation because they had no idea that asbestos would be released.

When the librarians complained about working in the library while asbestos particles were flying around, the work was immediately stopped and continued at night with fully equipped asbestos experts. Facilities Management then called in Gramercy Asbestos Consulting Inc. who tested the air and found it to be within the Environmental Protection Agency's clean air limits.

Union Tests Show Dangerous Asbestos Levels

The union, however, collected a sample of dust from the floor under the area where the drilling had occurred and sent it in to Applied Geoservice Consultants (AGS). The sample was found to contain 35% asbestos, a dangerous amount. AGS qualified the report, however, by saying that the sample was obtained "by personnel not under the direction of AGS" and therefore they "could not reliably substantiate the accuracy of the analytical result."

Rosengarten is not impressed. "Their report is not worth the paper it's written on," he said, "We know that the ceiling contains asbestos and anyone can take a sample from the ceiling, submit it to a lab and have it confirmed as asbestos." When asked if he was suggesting that the union deliberately took an asbestos sample from an encapsulated ceiling, Rosengarten responded "I would certainly hope not."

This clash is the second asbestos-related scandal this year. In April, secretaries and clerks in the payroll department walked off the job when work being done emitted asbestos particles into the sixth floor of Belfer Hall. On the morning of April 21, the

secretaries walked in to find their desks covered with dust which they believed to be asbestos.

"After sitting at my desk for a few hours I began feeling extremely sick," says Mildred Diaz, senior payroll clerk, "my throat was sore, my eyes were itchy, and I had trouble swallowing. When we went to the Personnel department [on the second floor] to complain, my symptoms began to subside. In fact, there were people who came on that day to be interviewed for a job in this department and they had to leave."

"It's a mystery to this day why the secretaries felt those symptoms," Rosengarten told *The Commentator*, "I don't know if those allegations have been verified." Jeff Socol [Associate Director of Facilities Management] came down and told us that everything was fine and that we had no right to question the administration," claims Jeanette Resnick, payroll clerk, "When I asked him if it was okay for me to sit here, he replied, 'I'll tell you when it's unsafe for you to sit there.'" Jeff Socol refused to comment on this episode.

"They kept telling us that there was no asbestos work being done, that it was just plain dust," said Joan Doumbia, senior payroll clerk, "If so, how come the men doing the work were wearing masks? In fact, the administration is so foolish that they forgot we were working in the 'payroll' department and that we saw the checks made out to the men that did the work on that day. Those men were paid an additional six dollars an hour for asbestos related work."

"The men were wearing masks because by regulation, people who work on the ceiling must wear masks," explained Rosengarten, "There was no asbestos leaking that day on the sixth floor and in reality there was no need for the men to wear the masks."

"But we can't make exceptions to the rule. And the rule is that anyone working on the ceilings must wear a mask." The women went to the personnel department to ask to be relocated for the day. When their request was denied, they walked off the job. That night, the work was cleaned up and air-sample tests were taken. The tests showed the air quality to be within normal ranges. To date, the clerks in the payroll department have not been paid for that day's work though they continue to petition the administration. The issue was brought to the attention of Congressman Charles Rangel (D-NY) who wrote to Jeffrey Rosengarten on behalf of the payroll department asking for full disclosure of the air quality tests taken that day. In addition, the union has filed a grievance asking that an appropriate contract be put together whereby the administration would be required to inform employees in advance about potentially hazardous work they will be carrying out. A similar agreement is already in existence at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. "We've been asking for months for a policy on risk assessment," says Pam Moskovic, union delegate, "This University suffers from selective memory loss. They say that they won't expose us [to asbestos] again, but it keeps happening. It

happened in Belfer, it happened in the Library, where's it going to happen next?"

Caf Ceiling In Danger, Union Worker Maintains

One maintenance worker, who refused to be named, thinks he knows. "The Furman Dining Hall ceiling is loaded with asbestos and lately we've had water leaking on it from the pipes underneath the first floor. Any day now that thing is going to collapse, and when it does, I ain't coming to clean that [expletive deleted]." In addition, he claims that there is asbestos leaking from the ceiling in the basement of Belfer and anyone walking underneath "has particles falling on their heads."

If the union members are to be believed, one important question remains unanswered: Why would a University intentionally and knowingly expose its students and faculty to toxic substances?

"Because they're cheap," one union member said, "and they don't care about anyone. This University is notorious for subjecting its employees to unsafe working conditions. They've done it before and they will continue to do it unless someone puts a stop to it."

YU Fined In 1992

Indeed, in 1992 YU was fined \$600 because a pipe surrounded with asbestos fell in Cardozo Law School and maintenance was working on it in the middle of the day without cordoning the area off. Rosengarten shrugs off these accusations. "Obviously, when you're dealing with safety you can never be too careful. But it's important to understand the union mentality that we are dealing with. There are certain people who are only looking to start trouble and they use safety as an excuse to miss work. If you look at the facts, the union has not provided one shred of evidence that anyone was exposed to anything. We have taken all the necessary safety precautions. YU was one of the first schools to send its employees to get licenses to work with asbestos and we have been eager to jump on the 'safety bandwagon' whenever we saw fit."

Though the library has been thoroughly cleaned and all shelves wiped down, the union has requested that a special task force be appointed to investigate exactly what took place in the library and in Belfer and has expressed the hope for better cooperation with the administration....once the dust settles.

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Despite NHL Lockout Hockey Lives on in YU

BY COMMENTATOR SPORTS STAFF

On October 12, YU hockey intramurals finally began in the Main Building's gymnasium. Captains Chaim Leffel and Ross Rothenberg squared off against each other in the opening week's first game. Leffel's team played a solid game with the scoring evenly distributed. With Ross' first round pick and last year's MVP, Mikey Fruchter, Leffel went down easily, 5-2.

The stars of the game were goalie Marc Mandel for his superb play in the net and Ross Rothenberg, who scored on a beautiful break-away. In the late game, Oren Lieber's team edged Moshe Schreiber's team in overtime by a score of 5-4. Many felt that Schreiber's team was the early favorite with their highly potent offensive attack including Evan Borenstein and Kenneth Ripstein. However, Team Lieber's relentless attack provided the margin for victory. The stars of the game were Team Schreiber's Brian "MER" Mermelstein, who netted a hat trick and Team Lieber's Greg Haber who scored two of his own. Week two featured Team Lieber

vs. Team Leffel in the first game. Ron Friedman along with Lieber helped lead their team to a 7-4 victory and upped their record to 2-0. Leffel netted two for the losing cause. In the second game, Team Ross handed Team Schreiber their second straight defeat by a score of 7-4. Fruchter's goal and two spectacular assists, provided the scoring punch they needed, while Ross and Daniel Wolfson each added two goals. For Schreiber's team, David "LARRY" Lawrence scored all four goals in the losing effort.

Week three's action showed us more of the same: a Lieber victory and Schreiber loss. Lieber teamed with Ira Teicher to score two goals a piece and hand Team Ross their second loss of the season. Eric Sussman netted two in a losing effort. It seems as if Moshe Schreiber just can't pull his teams to victory in the regular season. Last year his team went 1-8 before winning in the playoffs and upsetting Borenstein in the finals. His team now falls to 0-3 with their loss to Leffel. Naftali Bennett scored two to bring Leffel's record to 2-1 and Kenny Ripstein picked up two beautiful goals for Team Schreiber.

Intramural Season in Full Swing

Scores from 10/17-10/25

Rapid City 54 South Bend Central 51
Ithica 47 Long Island 41
Miami 55 Hickory 45
Albany 50 Terhune 35
Charleston 41 Rapid City 32
Albany 39 Miami 36
Ithica 43 Oolitic 38

by David Goldenberg

As the YU intramural basketball league stepped into high gear with its first full week of play, there were a number of interesting matchups, some featuring all stars, some rookies, and many highlights.

On Monday night, October 17, Daniel Lerer's Rapid City Thunder met Eitan Butler's South Bend Central Bears in a matchup of two 0-1 teams. The Bears were heavily favored, considering their roster which included talented players such as Jeremy Fox and Chaim Zackheim. However, Rapid City stunned the Bears as they led for most of the game and survived a desperation three pointer at the buzzer. The winners were led by Avi Dzik's superb shooting (16 points) and David Dweck's 10 points. Although the Bears' former BMT connection combined for 40 points, it was not enough, as the Thunder won 54-51.

Four new teams made their debut the next night. In the first game, Adam Melzer's Ithaca Warriors defeated Akiva Aronson and his Long Island Surf, 47-41. The Warriors used a balanced scoring attack led by Donny Appel's 15 points, Joel Kornbluth's 13 points, and Steven Bransdorfer's 10 points and ferocious rebounding. The only bright spot of the game for the Surf was Brian Galbut, who led all scorers with 16 points, including 4 treys.

In the second game Ephraim Gerszberg's Miami Juice, the early favorites to win it all, matched up against Donny Davis's Hickory Huskers. On this night, the Huskers needed more than Jimmy Chitwood, because the Juice were just too strong. Led by #1 pick overall Ari Ciment, who scored 24 points, the Juice beat the Huskers 55-45. Arkady Abraham scored 16 and Neer Even-hen added 15 for Hickory.

The last two teams to begin their season met Wednesday night, October 19, as David Samet's Albany Patroons took on Kevin Rosenberg's Terhune Tigers. This one was all Albany, as Shlomo Kimmel led all scorers with 16 points in a 50-35 win. Sam Wald led the Tigers with 12 points, while Rosenberg chipped in 11.

In a matchup of roommates, Noah Lindenberg's Chiefs increased their record to 2-0 with a 41-32 win over Daniel Lerer's Thunder. The Chiefs who might have the best front line in the league with Michael Dube, Sol Genet, and Hillel Cohn, were led by Dube's 14 points. Sol Genet had another strong night, controlling the boards while adding 12 points. The Thunder, who dropped to 1-2 with the loss, were led by David Dweck's 11 points. Playing without Ari Ciment because of a finger injury, the Miami Juice lost their first game of the season, a 39-36 loss to the Patroons. Albany struggled but defeated the Ciment-less team with strong foul shooting down the stretch. The winners were led by Shlomo Kimmel's 17 points and Captain David Samet's 10 points.

Albany is now 2-0, while the Juice fall to 1-1. In a game that featured two 1-0 teams, the Ithaca Warriors survived a second half surge by the Oolitic Owls and prevailed 43-38. After jumping out to a 16-3 lead, the Warriors had to hold on to remain one of three undefeated teams. They were led by point guard Bennett Schachter's all around strong play (12 points, 2-3 from down town).

Taubermen Off to a Strong Start

BY ALAN R. EGOZI

The Taubermen's '94-'95 season commenced with a M.A.C.F.A. (Mid-Atlantic Conference Fencing Association) megameet in John Hopkins University, Maryland this past weekend. Over Shabbat, the fencers stayed at various homes of YU alumni, some of whom are former Taubermen. Sunday proved to be a long and grueling day for the fencers, starting at 9:00 AM and concluding at 6:00 PM. At the megameet the YU fencers picked up their first victory this season, outfencing the University of Virginia 16-11.

The returning fencers had a better day than anticipated. The epee squad dominated at the megameet, going almost undefeated. Veteran Shai Canaan had the best day with an 11-2 record. Captain Reuben Levy had an exceptional

day as well, going 10-4. In the saber squad, co-captain Jon Korn finished 8-6. Although the foil squad, led by Tzvika Nissel, was not as successful as the other two were, it managed to come through with a respectable outing.

Although novice fencers found it difficult to adjust to the strenuous megameet, all found it to be a rewarding experience. Team coach Arnold Messing made it clear to them that not all of them would start and that those that would be competing should use this as a learning experience. Coach Messing, commenting on the team's performance, said, "The team improved as the day progressed. I am hoping that this pattern remains consistent throughout the rest of the season." Hopefully, next Sunday when they meet the universities of Cornell and Vassar, the foil squad will rise to the occasion as well.



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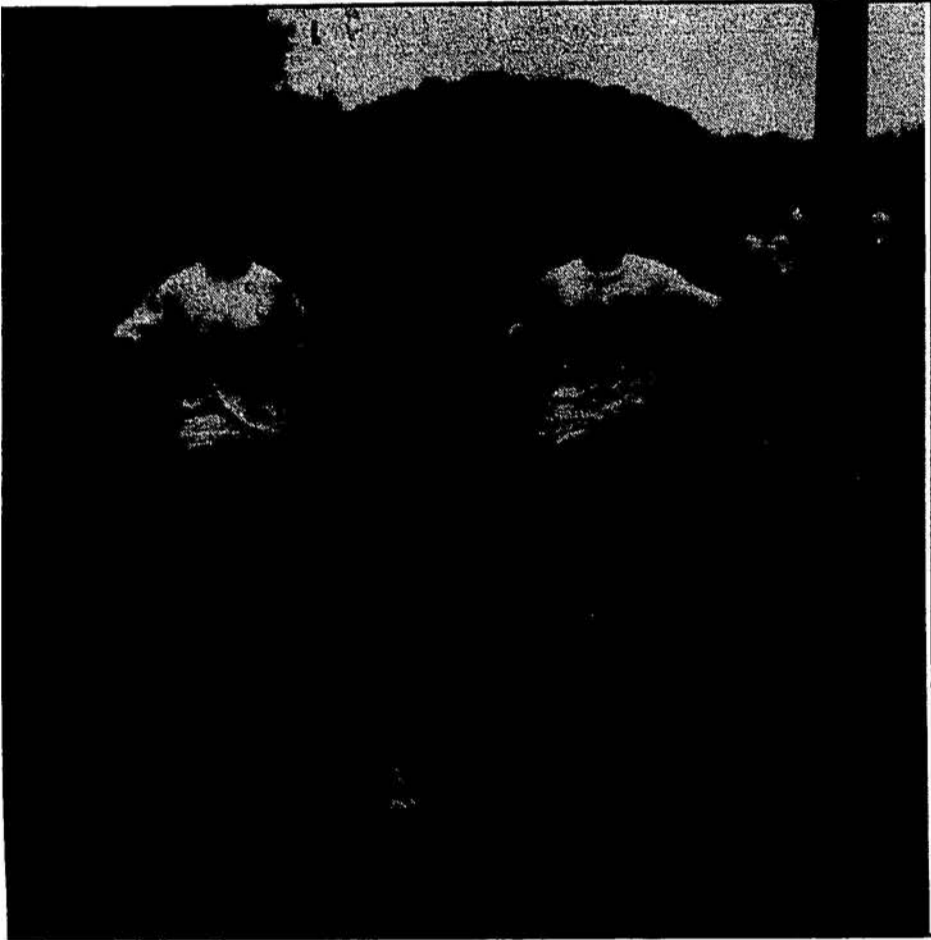
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Photo: D. Gordon
Going up for a shot during Intrmurals

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Yeshiva Sports



Stretching across the finish line at the IAC Marathan

Resnick Places Second at IAC Marathan Sunday Cross-Country Run

BY JOSH FINE

The Yeshiva University Cross-Country Team participated in its final competition of the year, a five-mile track meet, held at Van Cortlandt Park in the Bronx this past Marathon Sunday, Nov. 6, 1994. Coached by Stan Watson, the track team made a strong showing, placing five of its six runners among the top ten. The members of the Independent Athletic Conference (IAC) that competed in the Marathon Sunday Cross-Country Run included Polytechnic University, New Jersey Institute of Technology and YU. When the race was over, YU had finished first, NJIT second, and Polytechnic placed third.

Meir Zeitchik, who had been attracting attention as YU's premiere cross-country runner, did not attend the track meet due to an exam. Michael Resnick, who's first run as a YU cross-country runner earned him a medal at the Third Annual Halloween Invitational, came in second. Resnick said, that if the hard training that he put in meant the result that he produced, it was well worth the pain and sweat. He finished with a most impressive time of 37:15, the best finish of his young but bright track career. Coach Watson commented that, "Resnick had an exceptional run, and except for a wrong turn mid-way through the race, due to not having clear markings, he was the

front runner." He also said that, "Resnick is not only an exceptional runner, but an outstanding individual. Akiva Davis, placed third and crossed the finish line at 37:54, Ari Rockoff, placed fifth with a time of 42:35, Gili Houpt, placed sixth with a time of 44:05, and Yakov Falk, placed seventh with a time of 45:18. After the race, Coach Watson said that "the team's future looks promising, especially after the training that the guys put in this year, running daily across the George Washington Bridge or in the streets of Washington Heights." He said that he felt that "this year's team, was the tightest-knit team he's had since he took over as track coach and that the guys were dedicated and dedication pays off with excellent results." Finally, he said, "it was the combination of the experienced runners and the very capable rookies that made this team so great."

Kudos to Coach Stan Watson for training YU's Cross-Country Team this season, one in which track team fans witnessed their team place third at the IAC Championship and place first in their last official track meet. They were especially thrilled by the emergence of two first year runners, Resnick and Zeitchik. Lastly, they can already look forward to next season, which will feature the YC Harriers as the most dominant team in the IAC along with a few trophies on the shelf as well.

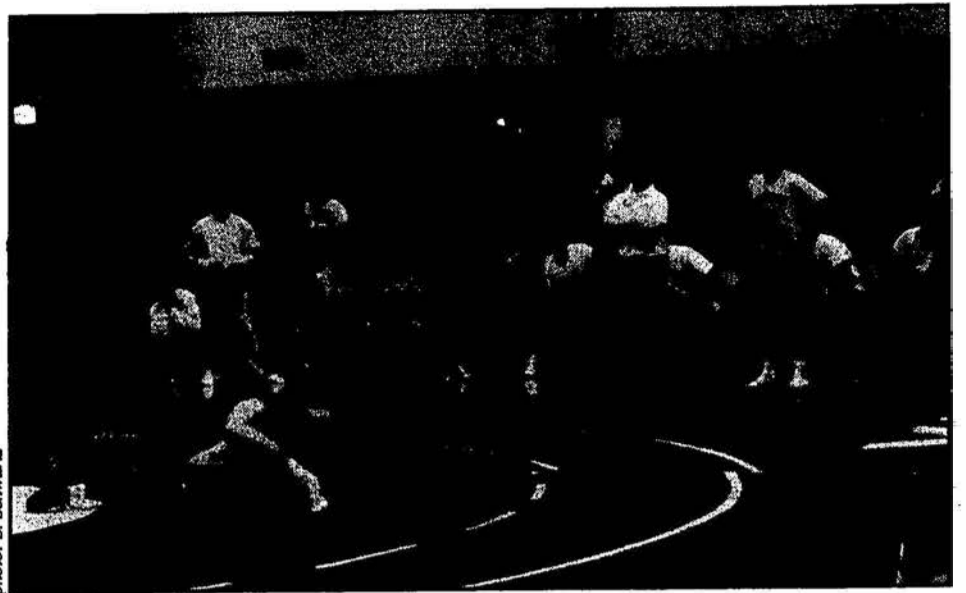


photo: S. Schwartz

YU Macs watch on sidelines as a match takes place

Macs 42, St. Johns 18

BY COMMENTATOR SPORTS STAFF

In their first match of the year, the Macs lived up to everyone's expectations. The excitement of a large crowd really added to the intensity. A big surprise was the strong support from SCW, which definitely didn't hurt the teams morale.

Starting their season in the w column are Jason Finkelstein (118), William Green (126), Jordan Mishaan (142), Albert Sebag (150), and Yaakov Falk (158). Newcomer William Green shocked the crowd with an impressive pin. The most exciting match of the day, though, was definitely in the heavy weight division. Rookie Steven Stern put up a great fight. His courage on the mat against a towering opponent inspired the team and brought the whole crowd to its feet. He eventually lost the long and brutal match, but it was his first ever and he

showed great potential.

After this great victory, the team is anxious to go head to head with Upsala on Sunday November 20 at 2:00PM. Captain Albert Sebag expects this to be a big grudge match. "They are a very powerful and skilled team. This will be the toughest match of the year," said Sebag who cast no doubts on the Macs ability to come out on top. Co-captain Daniel Sentelle explained, "We are a smart team and a fast team and we will wipe up the mats with their faces."

Now helping out the Macs in their attempt to go undefeated this season is Coach Brian Ostro. Ostro was a former captain of the wrestling team and has just returned from Israel after a few years in the Israeli army. His intensity and love for the sport has been a definite plus for the team and should be a factor in the upcoming match this Sunday.

The Commentator

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