

# Yeshiva University Commentator

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**The People Behind the Buildings** 8-9

An in-depth feature highlighting the individuals whose names adorn the buildings on the Main Campus

**MYP Roshei Yeshiva Attacked by Jewish Media in Aftermath of Rabin Assassination** 11

## Gore Presses For US Troops in Bosnia at YU Chanukah Dinner

BY MEIR S. ZEITCHIK

The seventy-first Chanukah dinner at the Waldorf Astoria in Manhattan, Yeshiva University's largest fundraiser of the year, seemed in some respects very much like the first seventy. The five hundred dollar a plate event, which took place on Sunday, attracted the richest and most influential people in the country. There were the businessmen (Viacom Chairman Sumner Redstone), the politicians (U.S. vice president Al Gore, U.S. congresspersons Charles Rangel and Carol Maloney and New York State Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver) and the former politicians (ex-New York mayor David Dinkins).

But beneath the veneer of elegant tuxedos and glitzy ballroom dresses, elaborate culinary arrangements and ornate centerpieces were a series of substantial speeches. They ranged from impassioned moral arguments for troops in Bosnia by the United States second-in-command to a shiur on Chanukah from YU's leader.

Vice President Gore set the tone for the evening with his convocation address - the keynote speech at the ceremony conferring honorary degrees - which was itself wide-ranging. Wearing a white knitted kippah, he stressed the critical role the U.S. must play in sending troops to Bosnia. "Europe cannot do it alone," he said, his voice rising emotionally. "Europe did not do it the last time when ethnic cleansing began in Germany and it led to ethnic cleansing in Europe, and the Holocaust. He acknowledged that sending troops to Bosnia wasn't risk-free. "Few worthwhile missions are," he said.

"But the risks of doing nothing are infinitely greater."

Turning his attention to the domestic front, Gore covered a variety of current legislative topics. The budget battle and the rollback of environmental regulations, urging lawmakers to fight the conservative tide sweeping Washington even if it posed political dangers. Drawing on this week's Haftarah, or weekly reading from Tanach, he invoked the example of Ovadia, who saved hundreds of people from the wrath of Achav and Ezevel. "He [Ovadia] didn't calculate whether it would help him or hurt him in the polls," Gore said. And in a poignant moment, he reminded the audience that balancing the budget should be done so that it "offers dignity to older Americans," as he stood against a backdrop of largely elderly benefactors.

### Lamm Delivers Talmud Shiur

In a move unprecedented for a Chanukah dinner, YU president Rabbi Dr. Norman Lamm chose to teach the audience instead of addressing them. Hoping to give the dinnergoers what he called a "taste of what they [YU students] do" bound copies of a section of a Gemara in Shabbat pertaining to Chanukah were distributed. After dedicating the shiur to the memory of Yitzhak Rabin, Lamm outlined and explained the classic disagreement between Beit Shammai and Beit Hillel on whether Chanukah candles are lit each day in ascending or descending order. He concluded by inferring the message of pluralism from the debate in the Gemara, and saying that, just like the

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President Norman Lamm seated with US Vice-President Al Gore and Viacom CEO Sumner Redstone at Sunday's Convocation Dinner. Gore received an honorary Doctor of Law degree.

## Mysterious Millionairess Leaves YU \$22 Million In Will

### Funds To Establish Scholarships For Stern and Einstein Women

BY STEVEN MIODOWNIK

In a bizarre and enigmatic turn of events, a reclusive millionairess who has never been known to step foot on a YU campus or even come into contact with any YU officials or students, has bequeathed her \$22 million fortune to YU. In a will signed in 1968 and revised in 1975, Ms. Anne Scheiber, an eccentric Upper West Side resident and retired IRS auditor, selected YU as the future recipient of her modest portfolio of stocks. Upon her death at 101 years of age on January 9, 1995,



Passport Photo of Anne Scheiber

that portfolio had appreciated to the multi-million dollar mark.

As indicated by the document, the funds were designated - and will be used - to establish an endowment fund for scholarships and interest-free

loans for Stern women, especially those interested in the medical or health professions, and Albert Einstein College of Medicine women. Additionally stipulated is that "no single scholarship or loan to any one student shall exceed the sum of \$3,000" and that if no female students are available for the awards, YU may "award the same to a male student attending AECOM or Yeshiva College."

News of the windfall came as a shock even to those at the highest echelons of the university, and quickly reverberated

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## Dean's List No Big Deal

### 66% YC, 29% SSSB Students score over 3.5 GPA

BY ARI GRUEN

While standing on the Main Campus a fifty percent chance exists that the first male Yeshiva University undergraduate student you see is on the 1995 dean's list.

Last year 439 out of 688 students - almost two thirds of Yeshiva College - had a 3.5 grade point average or higher - the current standard for dean's list. What is more interesting is the large discrepancy between the number of YC students and SSSB students qualifying for the

dean's list of their respective schools - 66% of Yeshiva College, 29% of Sy Syms. Only two explanations are possible: either Yeshiva College has serious grade inflation, or YC students are brilliant.

Dean Hecht apparently subscribes to the first theory: "There are faculty members whose grading alphabet only includes one letter." However, Dean Hecht is quick to point out that grade inflation at YC is no worse than at other colleges across the country, as he describes the problem as an

"American higher education problem" caused by the tremendous pressure on the colleges to get their students into the best graduate schools.

Dean Hecht places the blame for YC's grade inflation on the adjunct professors - those professors hired by the college to teach for one or two years. Dr. Will Lee, an assistant professor in the English department and a member of the Academic Standards Committee, echoed Dean Hecht's words, saying "adjunct professors want to establish a

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YU Student Leaders mingling at a dessert reception in the home of Yeshiva University President Dr. Norman Lamm

## As the World Turns

All too often students here at Yeshiva University lose themselves in a world of academics and politics that is confined to the walls of the institution itself. Ask the average student about peace or world events and his knowledge is passing, at best. After all, time is limited and so is the amount of information that can be assimilated. What possible relationship can exist between the outside world and Yeshiva University?

Events of recent weeks have disproven the validity of this attitude and have taught us a valuable lesson in the process. YU Rebbeim have come under attack for attitudes that spawned the mindset of the individuals who killed the Prime Minister. These attacks have put YU in context - in the context of a greater whole.

As the YU microcosmic Universe began to disintegrate due to Israeli politics, YU announced a \$22 million bequest by a woman who until that point had been unknown to the University. Ms. Scheiber's gift was not bestowed out of a sense of gratitude or obligation, but because she believed that Yeshiva University represented a particular type of individual, not only in Jewish circles, but to the world as well. Yeshiva is a unique institution and in that capacity it has a stance in the world community. For Ms. Scheiber, our school took on a significance that we often ignore, a significance in the world community.

And it is that significance upon which Vice President Albert Gore discussed the mission of our University in his speech at Sunday's Chanukah Dinner. Mr. Gore did not limit the role of YU to its own institutional self, or even to the orthodox community, but he extended a vision of YU's values as they are applied to world problems such as Bosnia and South Africa.

Our ideas and ideals are far too important to be marginalized by our own lack of vision. If we don't recognize the importance of the interplay between ourselves and the world around us then how can we expect ourselves to be taken seriously? Let us become a more aware and a more concerned student body.

## Stand up and Be Judged

A recent Academic Student Senate proposal is set to initiate a more practical and comprehensive undergraduate course catalog. Students will surely welcome and take advantage of a multi-dimensional catalog offering greater detailed course descriptions, outlines of course requirements including papers and frequency of tests, past grade distributions of classes, necessary materials and textbooks, and documentation of the student assessed professor evaluations which take place at the conclusion of every semester.

It is a proposal which would benefit everyone involved. Students would make a better informed decision on the courses they take, instead of simply relying on anecdotal evidence of their roommate or brother. And professors would be kept on their toes when they realize their classes are being examined in a more formal and widespread manner. Still several administrators expressed concern on the last feature, which would circulate information rating a teachers performance. They argued that such a record would breach the confidentiality between professors and students.

Granted, there are lines to be drawn. Not everything a teacher says in class should become public knowledge. But the overall performance of a professor or quality of a class should not be swept under the rug along with other, possibly more crucial academic information. A university's existence in a democratic country has no room for such totalitarianism. Instead, administrators should ensure that professor evaluations are accurately and readily accessible.

Even if these administrators see their way, all is not lost. The Senate can still recommend that students conduct and publish such surveys independently of the administration. Funding will be allocated from YCSC like any other club. It would certainly be easier if administrators facilitated the process. But if they refuse their assistance and guidance, students will forge ahead on their own.

# The Commentator

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# LETTERS

To the Editor

## A Very Perplexing Guide

To the Editor:

This year's "Guide to the Perplexed" finished recently with the distribution of the Student Directory. A lot of hard work went into the making of this student run publication. Many students volunteered to work on it over the summer, during the first semester, and even during their mid-terms. Additionally, the first part of The Guide came out the second week of school.

Unfortunately, there were many problems as well. Many students, including myself, were dismayed by the 11 week (almost three months - not including the

holiday break), delay of the Student Directory. This was especially after we were promised by student leadership to have it within the first six weeks. Granted, The Guide always had delays but I hoped that this year's Guide Staff would have learned from last year's mistakes vis-a-vis the tardiness.

Furthermore, this year's Guide has lost a lot of credibility for myself and many other students. Mistaken phone numbers, addresses, email account numbers, whole entries not being put in, certain people being put in twice, and floors

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## MisGUIDEd criticism

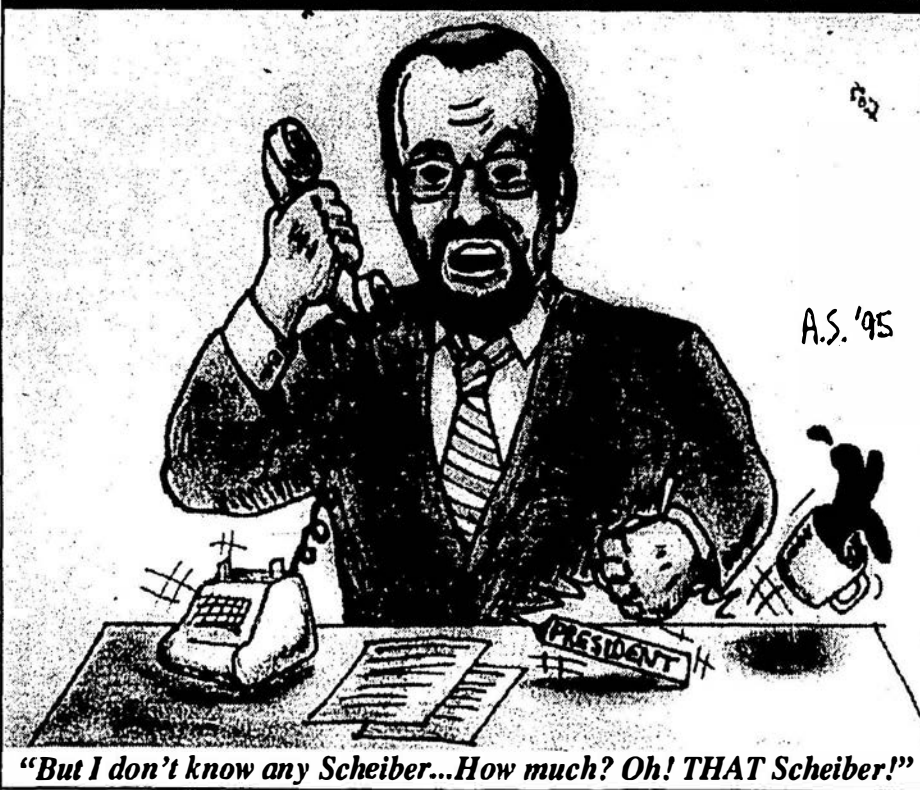
To the Editor:

I would like to express my sincerest gratitude to those committed students who worked so hard to put together the '95-'96 Guide to the Perplexed for their fellow YC/SCW students. I was particularly impressed by its general information, and the addition of students' e-mail accounts. As a first year student at Yeshiva College, I found the first half of the guide that I received invaluable not only to my getting around YU, but also New York. However, I have heard some students complaining that since they are more interested in the second half of the Guide, namely the student directory, combined with the fact that it came out in mid-November, that the production of this year's Guide wasn't even compara-

ble to the mediocre Guides of years past. Before any individual makes cynical or accusatory statements, I think he/she should ask himself/herself the following questions: Why didn't I volunteer my own time and energy to helping produce this year's Guide? Was it due to my tough schedule? Was it because I didn't have the computer skills to undertake such a task? As is my understanding, the simple fact that the majority of students didn't hand in their "Guide Information Sheets" on time was the single most significant contributing factor to the so called "lateness" of this year's Guide. In addition, the students who worked on the Guide were not paid to do so, as is common practice at other well respected universities. The

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## P I C T O R I A L



"But I don't know any Scheiber... How much? Oh! THAT Scheiber!"



## Message From the YCSC President

Now that I have completed my first 100 days in office, I would like to share with you some accomplishments of our Yeshiva College Student Council during this period. First, in fulfillment of campaign promises we have achieved the following:

1. We have made student government more inclusive by establishing student committees on which students now have more active roles in making decisions about our college's curriculum, academic standards, food services and campus security.

2. We have worked to make sure that our dorms have washers and dryers that are working well. I raised this issue strongly at the first student life committee meeting in July and consequently when students entered school for the first day of classes there were new washers and dryers.

3. We have worked to insure that all of the Morgenstern student lounges remain student lounges. Furthermore, I have received a guarantee that despite a projected increase in enrollment student lounges will not be converted into dorm rooms.

4. YCSC has already run some exciting programs through its student councils, clubs and societies. In the upcoming weeks, the Freshman, Sophomore and Junior Class Councils are planning more special events.

5. We have worked to rectify the problems most of our students have with our collegiate bookstore. After my recent meeting with Herb Glantz, the regional district manager of the collegiate bookstores, I am optimistic that there will be considerable changes in prices, hours and services in the near future.

6. We have worked to get our arcade rooms and main dorm lounges open later for our students. As of today, the arcade rooms and main dorm lounges are open until 3 AM.

7. The first part of the Guide was in students' hands the first week of school and we are very proud of that.

The YCSC has gone beyond campaign promises in attempting to improve campus life for our fellow students. We improved our Shabbos at Yeshiva program. Our first Shabbos was attended by 330 students, and subsequent shabbosos have been very well attended. After negotiations, we have also been able to keep the regular fee at five dollars, and cut the after-Wednesdays-at-8 PM-late-fee down to ten dollars and only the walk-in-late-fee remains at twenty dollars.

YCSC has started to work on improving our caf situation through the capable leadership of Lowell Baron and Roniel Weinberg, Chairmen of the Food Services Committee. Also, in the past few weeks thanks to the work of Accounting Society President Josh Levine, YCSC's goal of having the caf store open almost every Thursday night has become a reality.

Also, through the efforts of our Undergraduate Security Council Chair-

men Josh Feldman and J.J. Sussman, we are working to establish a 1-800-YU-Security number, so that students will not have to feel unsafe when they need to be picked up by a van from the subway stations in Washington Heights.

Our Academic Standards Committee Chairmen Michael Nelson and Michael Belgrade and our Curriculum Committee Chairmen Matt Leader and Jeremy Lustman deserve much thanks for fighting for YCSC's goal of allotting students taking Theater Workshop to take up to two credits for alpha numeric grades instead of pass/fail.

After a one year hiatus, YCSC will once again run a Chanuka Concert which will take place on Thursday night, December 21st and feature some of the biggest names in Jewish music. The Co-Chairpersons of the Holiday Events Committee Dov Simons and Ayala Shapiro have worked diligently to plan this upcoming event.

Advanced planning for the Senior Dinner, including booking the hall, hiring a caterer and negotiating the price has already been done. We thank SCW Senior Class President Devorah Goldring, who together with YC's Senior Class President Oren Lieber is continuing to plan what promises to be a gala dinner.

As we move forward, there are several issues that YCSC is planning to tackle in the upcoming months. They include:

1. Brightening the dim lights on the fourth floor of the library.

2. Extending Thursday night library hours from 11:45 PM to 1 AM.

3. Purchasing a big screen T.V. for the Rubin student lounge/lobby.

4. Bringing well-known speakers to YU.

5. Conducting a legislative breakfast, to be hosted by YC's most polished elder statesman, Ryan Karben, our Chairman of the Communal Affairs Committee.

6. Establishing a new policy of having student speakers at graduation.

7. Developing monthly faculty-student Forums.

8. Finding a solution (with SOY President Hillel Cohen) for dealing with the lack of adequate space in the Beis Medrash for the number of talmidim enrolled in YU's Judaic Studies Programs.

9. Receiving student's responses to our Door To Door Info/Suggestion Form so that we can use a wide range of ideas and opinions in considering how best to serve our student body.

May I take this opportunity after my first 100 days in office to thank the outstanding members of my board: YCSC VP on Business Affairs Sam Wald, YCSC VP of Liberal Arts Dov Simons, YCSC Treasurer Elie Paul and YCSC Secretary Natanel Lebowitz. My very special thanks to Elie Paul for keeping our accounting books in a correct and orderly manner.

## From the Editor's Desk

ARI D. HIRT

Four weeks ago two bullets took flight on a dreadful path ripping through Yitzhak Rabin. Thirty days have passed and the bullets continue on a course tearing apart the State of Israel and all of World Jewry. Nearly 20,000 people will join this Sunday in a rally for unity to make an attempt at setting these bullets off course.

Since the assassination, the widening rift separating the Jewish community's left wing and right wing camps has been exposed to the world. While many of the Orthodox Rabbis made attempts at bridging this gap during this mourning period, too many other prominent figures on both the right and left, including Leah Rabin and the Israeli Labor party, have only added salt to these wounds. Instead of showing the world that we are not like every other nation plagued by incurable internal turmoil, it was finger pointing and sentiments expressed against Orthodox Jewry that clouded newspapers and televisions world-wide.

Now, in an effort to close these wounds and bring our nation together, the organized Jewish community is planning for a massive Rally for Unity to take place this coming Sunday at Madison Square Garden in memory of our slain Prime-Minister's *sshloshim* (the conclusion of thirty days of mourning). President Bill Clinton, Prime Minister Shimon Peres, Leah Rabin, and Ashkenazic Chief Rabbi of Israel Yisrael Lau are the invited speakers.

It only hurts me that many New York Jewish newspapers have chosen to detail the political tidings which took place amongst various organizations during the planning stages of this monumental event. Rather than focusing on the mission of the rally - the hope and desire for unity and internal peace - the papers managed to once again pit against each other the issues of Peace and Non-Peace, the left and the right, and the Orthodox and the secular. Without a doubt, worry over the rally turning into a camouflaged peace rally or argument for equal representation for Labor and Likud speakers were significant concerns for those people dealing with and planning a united rally. But how significant is this debate to the readers? Such detail can only detract from this event where Jewish lateral attendance and participation is crucial to this healing process. By placing a political and religious slant on the scheduled gathering not only do these articles endanger such participation but they also advertise to the world that the friction between our "two camps" will

not dissipate even in the face of an event designed to bring us together.

Although I look on as an outsider and criticize the weekly Jewish newspapers' unwillingness to ignore this debate in benefit of a greater goal and purpose, I also look on from the inside, as the editor of a newspaper and see a conflict, a dilemma which all newspaper editors face when working for a unique cause or mission: do I print a story or specific details of a story which may undermine the foundation of a greater cause I believe in? Or do I print the story in the spirit of journalism, for the news-worthiness, controversy, and reader interest which it will bring to the paper?

So far, for every paper this year, my co-editor and I have grappled with this predicament and continue to weigh the issue on a scale - where on one side stands our journalistic integrity, and on the other lingers our personal Torah values as well as the unique mission of Yeshiva University. Of course each side of the scale carries its own lobby groups; over the year we have met with President Lamm, Vice-President of Academic Affairs Dr. William Schwartz, and multitudes of rebbeim in an effort to tip the scale in their respective directions, for whichever side that may be.

And last week, a high level and active YU board member requested to meet with the editors of *The Commentator*. As a former Associate Editor of *The Commentator* himself, this board member called for this meeting not to lobby a specific issue or file a specific complaint. He just wanted to make sure that we, as the editors, understand the nature and sensitivity of this conflict.

Through these encounters I have learned that although this conflict will never be resolved, nevertheless I must take responsibility and never use the conflict to excuse the ramifications of the decisions we make.

Therefore, I question the decision of the editors of the New York Jewish newspapers to bring the organizational debate and controversy involving this Sunday's rally to the forefront and in turn risk the success of a very lofty and idealistic goal - a truly united Israel.

Chanukah is around the corner, a holiday celebrating the spiritual and physical victory of a nation. It is a week which carries with it the necessary strength to pull our nation out of this fractionalizing turmoil. We must come together, harness this strength, and focus on such our goal before the assassin's two bullets make Sunday's Rally its next victim.

**We Want YOUR Input:**  
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# Yeshiva College



# Campus News

## Chanukah Concert Returns

### Avraham Fried to Play Lamport

BY DANIEL RUBIN

After a one year hiatus, the YCSC Chanukah Concert will be returning to Lamport Auditorium on December 21, and will be featuring the return of Jewish music sensation Avraham Fried to YU, featured star of the last YU concert two years ago. While the concert's fate was temporarily jeopardized, its eventual realization was assured by YCSC's successful last minute rescheduling. Rising star Yisroel Williger is also scheduled to perform.

The concert program emerges after a deal between YCSC and Bnei Akiva of New York to present D'veykus and Kol Achai in Englewood collapsed due to a dispute over sponsorship. Originally, YCSC agreed to pay Bnei Akiva \$4000 for tickets, expecting to make the money back through ticket sales and sponsors, thereby avoiding having to rent the costly Lamport Auditorium. In addition, this strategy would have lowered the ticket

price to a mere \$15. But soon after the deal was struck, Bnei Akiva unexpectedly informed YCSC that there would be a limit of ten sponsors, severely handicapping YCSC's ability to make back the \$4000. This dispute, itself enough to have forced YCSC to cancel the concert with Bnei Akiva, was then rendered moot as D'veykus canceled on Bnei Akiva.

YCSC Vice President Dov Simons then made an effort to hire noted Jewish music performer Dedi, but that deal fell through at the eleventh hour, leaving YCSC without an act for the concert with just a month to go.

But Simons was fortunate in nabbing Avraham Fried at the last minute for an on-campus concert.

A delighted Simons said, "There's no (Chanukah) concert that will be this big... for a concert this huge it's incredibly cheap, and everyone from YU is going to want to be there." Tickets have been priced accordingly at \$18, \$20, and \$25 and seating will begin at 7:45 on the 21st.



YC students participating in a program to assist immigrants in the English Language

## Community Literacy Club: Setting High Goals

### Reaching out to Washington Heights

BY JOSH RIFKIND

After weeks of planning schedules and processing applications, the Community Literacy Club held its first meeting, kicking off its inaugural season of tutoring neighborhood youth. The club aims to strengthen the Washington Heights community by teaching reading and writing skills to school children.

Many of the children are recent immigrants from Central and South America and come from homes in which English is not spoken by either parent. In addition, many of the children are from broken homes in which academics are not stressed, and as a result, are illiterate even in their native Spanish. The program also deals with physically and mentally challenged students.

The most ambitious program of its sort ever launched at YU, the Literacy Club was founded by Nick Muzin, a YC Junior from Toronto, Canada. It is comprised of over 30 students from YC and SSSB, each of whom donate one to two hours per week to work one-on-one, at no charge, with neighborhood children. Helping out in the day-to-day operation of the club is Zev Williams, YC senior and club vice president. The faculty advisor is Dr. Gabriel Cwilich, professor of Physics at YC and a native South American.

Muzin, club president, sees illiteracy as the major impediment to job equality and upward mobility for new Americans. Immigrants who are not English dominant have difficulty getting jobs, expanding their social network and accessing basic community services, and therefore, Muzin stresses, they are forced to turn to crime and

the underground economy. The Community Literacy Club hopes to target this epidemic by teaching children how to read and write while they are still in school, thus opening the door for them to pursue a post-secondary education and enter a profession.

To accomplish this goal, the Elanor Roosevelt Intermediate School, located on 182nd Street and Amsterdam, has given the Literacy Club a list of students in grades 6-8 who scored below the 50th percentile on the national literacy examinations. The tutors are working with students who have between 42-49 percent and hope to push them over the 50th percentile before the year's end. The tutors also function as 'big brothers' to the students, lending them attention and advice they do not receive at home.

Muzin has big plans for the Literacy Club, hoping to make it a lasting institution at YU. He is currently working on expansion to other schools in the community, a branch at Stern College, weekly public lessons in basic English for students and their families, workshops for the tutors, and certificates for members who have devoted 50 and 100 hours.

Muzin attributes the tremendous student response to his idea with over thirty students donating 1-2 hours per week - to the desire of YU students to help people less fortunate than themselves. He derides critics who say that one hour a week of volunteering cannot make a real difference.

"Never underestimate the power of volunteer work," he emphasizes, "when taken together, these hours represent a significant contribution to our community; we will make a difference."

## BMP Receives \$2 Million Endowment and a New Name

BY J.D. SHULMAN

Comprised of only 65 students, the youngest Jewish studies program at Yeshiva University has received its first benefactor.

The university officially announced a two million dollar donation to the one year old Beit Midrash Program from noted philanthropist Irving I. Stone at a ceremony in the president's suite on December 4, at which the program was renamed the Stone Beit Midrash Program. The money is earmarked for securing a beit medrash for the BMP students who currently learn in classrooms.

Chairman emeritus of the American Greetings Co., the world's largest publicly owned manufacturer and distributor of greeting cards, Irving Stone has long been a friend of Yeshiva University. He is a benefactor of YU through the Stone-Sapirstein-Weiss Family Foundation which has established, in RIETS, the Stone-Sapirstein Center for Jewish Education, the Irving Stone Rabbinic Internship Program, and the Sapirstein Scholarship Program. The Foundation has also established the Stone-Sapirstein Chair in Jewish Education at the University. Stone also established a Distinguished Professorial Chair at the David J. Azrieli Graduate School. Stone is a member of the RIETS

Board of Trustees and has been the recipient of an honorary degree from Yeshiva University, and one of only five people to receive the esteemed Etz Chaim Award, the highest honor bestowed by RIETS.

The Beit Midrash Program (now SBMP) was founded in the spring semester of 1995 in an effort to give students a little more time for the afternoon secular classes. Jeremy Maryles, the SBMP vice-president, pointed out that in Israel there are multiple yeshivot to choose from, but at Yeshiva University, before SBMP, there were only 3 programs, and some people found that they didn't fit comfortably in any of them. SBMP offers the benefits of the Mazer Yeshiva Program, The Issac Breuer College and the James Striar School. "BMP offers shiur like in Israel... though it is more class-oriented than YP and the Hebrew curriculum ends at 1 o'clock," stated Maryles.

Originally a program under the umbrella of IBC, SBMP is now a distinct entity within the college. Recently elected president, Elie Borger, Maryles, and Secretary/Treasurer David Wild are in the midst of preparing a constitution. Borger also expressed the need for the program "to try to get involved with the other student councils and their programs, especially the Shabbos programs."

## Fine Threatens to Remove Morg Mart from JBS Control

BY DOV GREENBAUM

Morg Mart, the popular basement store which has traditionally supplied hungry students with snack food at cheaper prices and different hours than the Caf Store, has yet to open its doors this year. Operated by the Joint Business Society (JBS), Morg Mart was created to teach aspiring business majors the ins and outs of managing a real business while simultaneously satisfying healthy student appetites. This year, though, behind-the-scenes squabbling between YCSC and JBS officials has caused embarrassing delays.

The problem, stated JBS President Shlomo Drazin, "is due to the lack of money being given by the school to start up the store." YCSC has offered to loan the society \$500, but Drazin says that this amount, less than one-third of the budget of previous years, is not enough to cover the start-up costs of the store. Josh Fine, YCSC president, countered that \$500 is all that the student council can allocate to the store for the time being and that it should be enough to at least start the business.

Fine has released an ultimatum to the JBS, giving it a little more than a week until he will allow the nascent American Marketing Association to usurp operation of the store. Drazin claims that YCSC has no right to take away the Morg Mart from JBS and even so, the ultimatum was issued only recently. Fine claims that the club has had ample time to get started and since it hasn't, the AMA should be given a chance to run the store.

Ronen Spinner, one of the two managers who have quit their position since finding out that YCSC cut the budget, says that it will be impossible for the store to get suppliers with just \$500. Drazin stated unequivocally that the store will not open until it gets a new manager, claiming that even if the AMA takes over, they too will not be able to break even on the shoestring budget.

Drazin blames the attitude of the Student Council towards the store for the poor management of the store last year, which resulted in embarrassing losses. He says that Morg Mart will open before the 7th of December, even if it means losing money, in order to satisfy the student's needs.

## High School Seniors Gather at YU Open House

BY ELI GANCHROW

More than three hundred and fifty prospective undergraduate students converged on Yeshiva University on Sunday, November 12th, for its annual Open House event.

The activities began with a breakfast, followed by a video presented by the Admissions Office. After the video, students and parents interested in additional information concerning the Judaic studies programs offered at YU were given the chance to meet privately with the deans of each of the four schools. Next, parents and students partook in a unique opportunity to meet informally with faculty representing the vast number of courses offered in both Yeshiva

College and the Sy Syms School of Business.

Mid-day activities commenced with lunch in the Furman Dining Hall, during which participants were able to ask questions to Dr. Israel Miller, a Senior Vice President of YU, Josh Fine, president of the YC student council, and Sam Wald, president of SSSB student council, in order to clarify details about activities, student life, and student services at the colleges.

The day concluded with student-guided tours of the university campus. The Office of Admissions was very satisfied by the turnout and felt that the day was a success for YU and an important learning experience for students and parents alike.



Student Council Presidents (Left to Right:) Sam Wald, SSSB; David Merklin, JSS; Hillel Cohen, SOY; Rabbi Lamm; Josh Fine, YC; Elie Berger, SBMP; Richie Grossman, IBC.

## Student Leaders Gather at Lamm Residence

BY COMMENTATOR STAFF

This past Tuesday evening, over 40 students gathered in the luxurious Central Park West Duplex occupied by YU President Dr. Norman Lamm. The annual gathering serves as an opportunity for student leaders to enter into dialogue with Dr. Lamm, a chance which his tumultuous schedule does not often permit.

Dr. Lamm opened the evening with remarks on what he called "a critical time for world and Orthodox Jewry." Lamm argued that the Rabin Assassination, along with its tragic consequences, bodes good as well as evil, "The ideogram for crisis is danger and opportunity ... we also have an opportunity to show who we really are."

Dr. Lamm, along with other administrators present including Dr. Efreim Nulman, Dean of Students and Dr. Wil-

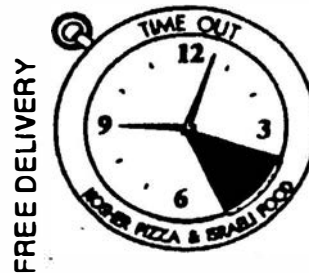
liam Schwartz, Vice President for Academic Affairs, opened the floor to questions from student leaders. Questions ranged from such innocent issues as mandatory class attendance to charged questions concerning the lack of Beis Midrash space and overcrowding in the classrooms and dorms.

The informal nature of the forum dictated that there was little substantive detail which emerged from the exchanges between the leaders and President Lamm. YCSC President Joshua Fine did manage to elicit a promise from Dr. Lamm and Dr. Nulman that the much touted Morg student lounges would not be converted into dormitory space, as many students had feared. Moreover, Dr. Lamm also pledged to have a comfortable, temporary solution to the Beis Midrash crisis within the first month of the second semester.

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## Influx Of Students To Constrict Space

*Administration Vows Not to Take Lounges*

BY NICK MUZIN

Both University President Norman Lamm and Dean of Students Efreim Nulman have promised that the much-valued student lounges will not be used next semester to house incoming students. The assurance came last Wednesday in Rabbi Lamm's apartment at a meeting with student leaders amidst rumors that the administration planned to fill the lounges with students they can no longer hold in the filled-to-capacity dormitories. Officer of Admissions Michael Kranzler estimated that 65 more students are to enter YU next semester than are graduating this semester. Kranzler maintained that the final figures are unclear due to students' uncertainty in their plans.

Dean Nulman explained that the ad-

ministration is considering a number of ways to house the new students. One idea involves using the first floor of Rubin Dorm, by moving the medical office to Belfer Hall and clearing out other rooms. Another possibility is to use local apartments to house students. Nulman also hinted at a 'third option' which he refused to reveal at the moment. He mentioned, however, that the RIETS students, who were moved out of the dormitories in the fall and housed in the apartments in order to make room for this semester's students, would not be coming back to the dorms any time soon.

When asked about the possibility of purchasing a new building to be used as a dormitory, as was done at Stern earlier this year, Nulman cited several problems, ranging from tenant and zoning laws to funding and availability.

## YC Divided Over Judaic Studies Professor Steven Katz

BY MEIR S. ZEITCHIK

Visiting Judaic studies professor Steven Katz is known to students as a galvanizing lecturer. And like his performance in the classroom, debates over the tenured Cornell professor are playing themselves out on the YC campus, with passionate voices on both sides of the divide.

"If some people say he's not a perfect match, then some people say he's one of the most outstanding scholars in the world," said YC dean Norman Adler, speaking of the perception of Katz among YU faculty and administration.

The dispute revolves around Katz's suitability as a professor at YC, where his curricula sometimes more closely resembles an Ivy League Judaic studies class than a YC one; accusations that he has a scanty knowledge of Hebrew; and alleged disparaging remarks he made about Rabbi Joseph E. Soloveichik.

In the YC class titled "Modern Jewish Thought" several students and MYP administrators were bothered when names like Leo Baeck, the famous Reform philosopher, appeared on the syllabus but those of Orthodox thinkers, like Rabbi Avraham Yitzchak Kook z"tl and Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveichik z"tl did not. The course now features a guest lecture on Rabbi Soloveichik, or the Rav, from philosophy professor Walter Wurzbarger, a change which sources indicated occurred only after administrators applied pressure. Katz denied the charges that he succumbed to outside demands, and said instead that he adjusted the course at the behest of students. "My academic integrity was not intruded upon," said Katz.

The specific situation may have been settled with the scheduling of the Wurzbarger lecture, but it leaves in its wake a fuzzy definition of the ideal YC Judaic studies program. Scholars and students are left to ponder whether the program should seek to emulate the curricula of Ivy League universities, as many secular studies programs at YU do, or

whether there should be a unique Orthodox slant to the YC Judaic studies program.

Some critics of Katz also express doubt that a professor whom they believe has deficient Hebrew skills is capable of teaching at YU, where many of the students are well-versed in Hebrew. In his defense, administrators and students argue that Katz, more than anyone else, is aware of his knowledge of the areas he teaches. "Does the person criticizing him know Kant or Hegel as well?" said Adler. And one student who asked not to be identified said, "This is an issue of academic standards? Katz is one of the few Judaic Studies professors who doesn't use *Mesorah*."

Perhaps the most emotionally explosive issue are Katz's questionable statements on the Rav. According to students in one class Katz has on several occasions spoken in a flippant tone of the Rav, saying that some of the Rav's views were old-fashioned and that the Rav did not follow scientific developments, a factor which impacted on his teachings. For his part, Katz said that no student has ever confronted him about the alleged remarks, which demonstrates to him that there is little dissatisfaction with what he has been saying.

The allegations of free speech have more far-reaching implications than merely the future of one Judaic studies professor. They raise general academic questions over when free speech at a university should be sacrificed to other concerns, and, more specifically, when classroom speech should be viewed as impinging on Jewish values at YC. Steven Katz, and YC itself, still struggles to determine where to draw the line. "It's a complex question, and it may require a different answer at YU," said a Judaic studies professor.

Katz is slated to remain as visiting professor at YC through the spring, although Vice President For Academic Affairs William Schwartz, has in the past said that he would be pleased if Katz would end up staying on at YU as a permanent professor.

## Sephardic Club Embattled by Controversy

BY ARNON STORFER

Not even the kabbalists could have foreseen the outcome of this event.

On Thursday, November 30, the Sephardic Club held its annual "All you can eat" event at Deli Kasbah. The event, scheduled to begin at 9:00 PM, was posted on bulletin boards throughout both uptown and midtown campuses.

When members of the Sephardic Club walked in to Deli Kasbah, they found everything they expected and more. Sure there was the traditional kibbeh, Moroccan cigars, falafel, and shawarma, but what wasn't expected was the presence of ashkenazim.

Ashkenazim wasn't a long lost Mediterranean cuisine, it was fellow YU students who happen to have Eastern European ancestry. Although the sign that was posted mentioned nothing about a private party, it became clear, as a Sephardic club board member asked the ashkenazim to leave, that they weren't welcome.

Ralph Madeb, the President of the Sephardic Club, said that they could participate in the night's activities. Madeb was heard saying, "if we don't let them in, we're not allowed to hang up signs," but when asked about the

turnout, the reply was much more diplomatic. Madeb explained that the event, in past years, had been open to only those who were Sephardic. This year he wanted things to be different.

Following dinner, the club scheduled a viewing of a movie in the Morg lounge. A separate television and VCR were brought in so to accommodate those wishing to watch on the main television. The group of twenty students who began to watch the video were abruptly interrupted by two Burns security guards who claimed that Associate Director of Facilities Management, Mr. Jeff Socol, had not received the proper paperwork necessary for clubs to hold events using Yeshiva University facilities, and on his orders were required to shut down. Madeb, who wasn't present when the guards forced the club to end their activity, later said that the appropriate documents had been processed through the office of the Sephardic student advisor, Rabbi Mitchell Serels.

Writing off this event as a victim of confusion and misunderstanding, Madeb seemed enthusiastic and hopeful about the club's next event, a shabbaton to be held over the weekend of December 15, and welcomed the entire student body to attend.

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# Senators Propose Student Course Catalog

BY ARIEL KONSTANTYN

At a Student Senate meeting in mid-November, Student Senator Isaac Sasson proposed the publication of an expanded YC/SSSB Course and Faculty Guide, igniting a controversy between the senators and some members of the faculty and administration. Among the most disputed aspects of the proposal is the inclusion of each professor's scores from evaluation forms which are completed by students at the end of each semester.

The new course guide in question would be published annually and would include registration information, broadened descriptions and complete syllabi for each course which specify the number of tests and essays, textbooks required, prerequisites, course rotation (how often the course is offered), and average class size. Also included would be the class' average grade distribution over a two year period. Finally, the guide would include biographies of the professors and their special areas of interest, office hours, and research opportunities. Such a catalog is currently available for students at many universities across the country.

The proposal, however, was met with fierce opposition by SSSB Dean Harold Nierenberg, who stated that "the course descriptions are in the [current] catalog. Period. And it covers the general aspects of the course itself. Sasson disagreed, citing the New and Occasional Offerings pamphlet compiled by Rabbi Shalom Carmy, and said, "It sounds exciting by the description. It will spark student interest. YC Dean Norman Adler sided with the student senators, remarking that its an idea well worth discussing since it can contribute to academic excellence.

Nierenberg argued against the catalog, explaining that syllabi change rapidly, even in the course of a semester, thus rendering the catalog futile to print. He declared that if students want a syllabus, they may approach the dean's office and request one. But according to physics professor Dr. Gabriel Cwilich, "it is not reasonable to ask the students to get to many teachers or the dean in trying to decide in which course to take." He suggested the ubiquitous World Wide Web as the perfect venue for such information, citing many other colleges who utilize that option. Course information would then be easily accessible and easily updated.

Nierenberg objected even more strongly to the inclusion of teacher evaluations, saying that "the evaluations that students do on faculty members are strict-

ly for the dean and the faculty member to review and for the faculty member to see his or her strengths and weaknesses and to build on [them]." They are also "for the dean and administration to analyze whether the faculty member should be continued or not." However, this information is not for public consumption because, among other reasons, "the faculty member starts off slow and then acquires a reputation upon improving, or one can have an 'off' semester and the reputation sticks." Also, students will often give unfairly low evaluations of professors if they feel that their grade is too low.

YC Senior Michael Belgrade agreed with Nierenberg's criticism, stating, "It's confidential information. It's not fair to the professors to have their evaluations printed out." Student senator Steven Greenfield, however, believes that "the senate will treat this information with maturity and responsibility for the benefit of the student body."

### Who would publish?

According to Nierenberg, he would be amenable to the publishing of an enhanced catalog, absent of any sensitive information, "Fine. I have no objection to that." Dr. Cwilich, however, said "that the students should do it, publish it, and sell it," explaining that the students should not wait for the university to produce the proposed guide with evaluations for legal reasons. Echoing Cwilich's stance, YC Senior Daniel Gordon reminisced about his first year on campus: "I had no way of knowing which professors or courses would suit me best. The guide would have saved me a lot of uncertainty."

"Grade distribution," YC mathematics and physics professor Dr. Thomas Otway noted, "could work against the interests of the YC students because it might show that they are just interested in easy A's which would diminish job opportunities." YC Senior David Simai feared that "it will scare teachers away from giving A's." Dean Adler recognized the drawbacks of publishing grade distributions, admitting that although he has "no problem with it [the catalog]" and that "it will give the student a view of the variety of academic experiences, the downside is that "it can be used as the hustler's guide to how not to work hard."

Dean Nierenberg reported that he is in the process of collecting short biographies of professors in order to produce a pamphlet similar to the one published by the Science Department.

# Israel Club Hosts Annual Shabbaton

BY MICHAEL J. BELGRADE

From November 10-11, over one hundred YU and Stern students participated in the Israel Club's annual shabbaton at Stern College, featuring major speakers from the Orthodox Union, Emunah Women and the Israel Defense Forces (IDF).

On Friday night after the meal, Mr. Gontownick, Vice President of the Orthodox Union and his wife, Mrs. Gontownick from Emunah Women spoke about the current situation in Israel and how it is affecting American Jewry today. They presented many different methods through which Jewish college students can involve themselves in Israeli affairs, including letter campaigns, media attention, and interning for political leaders. One of the programs mentioned was the Institute for Public Affairs (IPA) of the OU that sets up Jewish students with different House representatives and Senators either during the year or over the summer. Many YC and SCW students have already participated in this program. After the Gontownicks' speeches, students divided into groups to discuss ways in which the

Israel Club can bring about more awareness of Israeli affairs and involve more students.

On shabbat afternoon, Colonel Moshe Leshem, who fought in both the 1967 and 1973 Israel-Arab wars, spoke about the details of the Oslo II Accord signed into effect by Yitzhak Rabin shortly before his death. Currently a resident of the West Bank, Leshem impressed upon the students the responsibility of knowing the facts before saying anything. He asserted that it is the student's duty to keep abreast of the current situation in Israel by reading the documents currently being signed. Additionally, Leshem noted that many of the Israeli cabinet members approved the Accord without even reading it, and most of the people discussing the peace process do not even know what is being negotiated. He stated that some Israeli political leaders have been threatened with the loss of their posts if they speak against the current process.

After shabbat, some students remained at Stern to view different video tapes, including a film on Israeli police brutality at right-wing rallies and protests.

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## Think Before You Speak...

*continued from page 2*

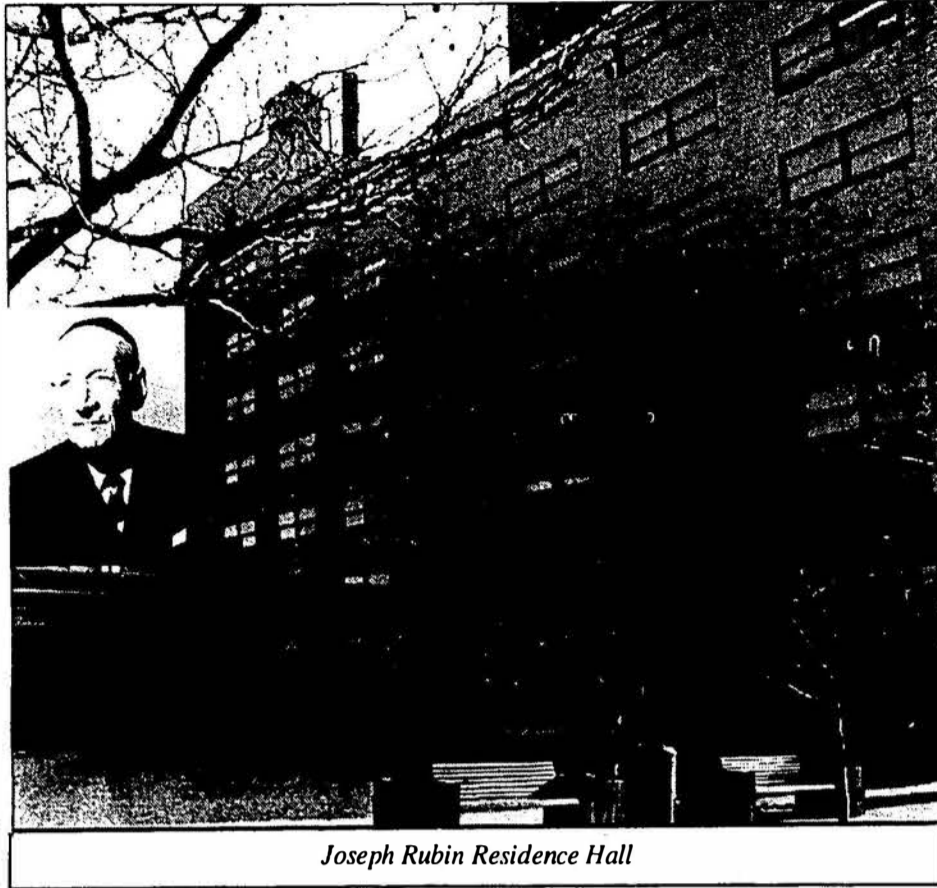
bottom line remains that the students who were committed to putting out this year's Guide not only volunteered their time and energy, worked many late nights to do a service for their fellow students (despite their long daily schedules), but they produced a Guide that not only myself, but the entire student body should be proud of. Therefore, the next time someone thinks about saying something con-

trary about this year's Guide, that person may want to think twice before they speak in such a negative manner. I can only hope that the students who worked on this year's Guide will some day be suitably rewarded, and I, for one would like to express my hakaras hatov for the service they have done for us.

Daniel Berkowitz  
YC '98

# SPECIAL FEATURE

## Awakening the Lives of YU's Buildings



Joseph Rubin Residence Hall

BY ARI HIRT

OK, if Morg is not a morg, and Rubin is not related to Belfer, then who was Furst?

Fifty years ago, the comic duo Abbot and Costello asked the critical question: Who's on first?

But for today's YU student, the more intriguing question may be: Who was Furst?

Furst, Morg, Muss, Belfer, Rubin...

From the day these names were memorialized on the buildings we sleep in, eat in, and study in, they have become institutionalized in the YU student lexicon as large inanimate objects. Every day we talk about the thin walls of Rubin, the mysterious third elevator in Furst, the new laboratories in Belfer, or the engagement parties in Morg. A student might hear the name Rubin repeated twenty times any day without it once conjuring thoughts of Joseph Rubin the person.

Ironically, these philanthropists, filled with high energy and ambition donated millions of dollars to YU only to exit the realm of a person and enter the framework of a lifeless building. But for a moment let us enter Morg and remember Morris Morgenstern; let us realize that Muss is more than a four letter word; and let us explore the heights of Arthur Belfer the person. But first thing is Furst - Sol J. Furst



Sol and Hilda Furst Hall

Photo: YU/PR

nasium recreation center. Phase B detailed the lofty Riverside-Amsterdam project. YU's goal: to consolidate all midtown campus structures by constructing a new midtown academic center on New York's changing West Side. They had plans of building a 135,000 square foot midtown campus between Amsterdam Avenue, Broadway, West 86<sup>th</sup> and West 83<sup>rd</sup> streets. The completion of both phases was to be mainly financed by debt and government funds.

Phase B spanned out when the federal government pulled out their funds, and the Gymnasium-Recenter was not built until the early '80s.

YU named the first structure of this building program in honor of Sol Furst's one million dollar donation. He was recognized for responding in a decade when the nation faced a doubling of college enrollments. Dr. Samuel Belkin, the president of Yeshiva University at the time described his generosity as setting the example for other Jewish laymen to emulate.

### Mr. Morris Morgenstern

The building of an eight story residence hall, a significant endeavor in YU's "Blueprint for the Sixties" was tackled by Morris Morgenstern. Morgenstern was a successful mortgage banker who established the Morgenstern Foundation which at one time was worth over \$50 million. Time and again Morgenstern would remark that he had the most diversified philanthropic portfolio in the United States. Whether it was for a Jewish, Roman Catholic, or Protestant need Morgenstern would answer the call.

Perhaps Mr. Morgenstern was sensitized to need when growing up on the lower East Side where as a child he helped support his family by selling newspapers and shining shoes. At age 13 he quit grammar school and together with a brother entered the seltzer cap business. Soon he would expand the business to selling seltzer bottles as well. In only a few years he was financing industrial outfits, hotels, apartment houses, and created a fortune.

For many years Morgenstern was prominent member of the Upper East Side's Kehillath Jethurun Congregation. He was also a member of the Jewish Ministers' Cantors' Association of America and he often officiated as cantor during the high holy days.

Morgenstern also had a particular interest in old manuscripts. One of his holdings was a 1790 letter from George Washington written to the Touro Synagogue in Newport, R.I.

### Mr. Arthur Belfer

Much like Sol Furst, Arthur Belfer arrived to the United States penniless from Poland in 1939. The day he left Ellis Island he needed to borrow \$5. Within a few days, Arthur was able to

persuade a brokerage house to finance him in importing feather and down from Europe. During the war he successfully manufactured sleeping bags for the Army. This served as a catalyst to making a fortune in feathers, foam rubber and oil.

In 1952 he entered the oil business in Texas. He founded and served as the Chairman of the Belco Petroleum Corporation, an independent oil and natural gas producer. Belco was listed in Fortune 500 as one of the largest industrial companies in the US and was listed on the New York Stock Exchange from 1962 until the company merged with Enron in 1983.

Along with Mr. Belfer's financial success he understood his responsibility towards philanthropy. He donated two million dollars to YU to develop its Graduate School of Science which was renamed Belfer Graduate School of Science. At the time this donation represented the largest gift the University had ever received and the largest Belfer had ever made. In 1977, as government



Arthur Belfer Hall

Photo: YU/PR

support for science declined the Belfer Graduate School phased out as the Belfer Institute for Advanced Biomedical Studies was established at Einstein College of Medicine.

In 1970 the sixteen story Belfer Hall, also noted for being the highest point above sea level in Manhattan, was dedicated in Arthur Belfer's honor.

In addition to YU, Mr. Belfer's philanthropic activities have involved a multitude of academic institutions including Wyoming, Syracuse, Cornell, Brandeis, Tel Aviv and Hebrew University. Interestingly, in 1969 Belfer sent Belco on an oil expedition to Israel; needless to say they were unsuccessful.

### Mr. Joseph Rubin

Philanthropy was so extensive and integral to the life of Joseph Rubin that he earned himself the nickname "The Patriarch of Brooklyn." Fittingly, it was a \$5,000,000 gift from the Rubin foundation to YU which led to the Leah and Joseph Rubin Residence Hall in 1957. The Rubin Foundation was a fund set up

to support worthy philanthropic works. The half million dollar donation was actually made by William Rubin, son of Joseph, in honor of his parents.

A native of Hungary, Joseph Rubin arrived to the United States in 1884 after having lived in London for several years. He was an immigrant boy without any financial support or relatives. He dabbled in various occupations and finally secured himself a position in a box plant where he rose to superintendent. In 1887 he established his own company, the Rockwood Chocolate Company.

### Rabbi Hyman Muss

Unlike Joseph Rubin, Sol Furst, Arthur Belfer, and Morris Morgenstern, Rabbi Hyman Muss was a student at YU. In fact he was a member of the first graduating class of Yeshiva College in 1932. As a typical student of YU he attained his Semicha at RIETS and went on to earn a law degree at Columbia University. Rabbi Muss, however, found his success as a real estate developer in the Muss Development and Muss Management Companies which built shopping center and apartment houses.

After donating an endowment to YU, the oldest residence hall on campus, formerly known as the RIETS dormitory was rededicated to Rabbi Muss at a luncheon celebrating the Muss's anniversary in 1986. Rabbi Muss passed away in 1993 after suffering from cancer.

### Mr. Max Stern

On the Uptown campus the name Stern has come to signify a great deal. This name plays a crucial role in a YU student's social life, athletic abilities, and financial stability. Over his lifetime, Max Stern had donated more than ten million dollars to YU, leading to the development of Stern College for Women, The Max Stern Athletic Center, and the Max Stern Academic Scholarship fund. He is also known for persuading Albert Einstein to lend his name to the Yeshiva University Medical School.

Stern is most recognized as being the founder of the Women's college by donating the first \$500,000. At the time there were many skeptics regarding a college for women. However, he was undaunted in fulfilling his vision of creating a place where a Jewish woman could be trained to become the center of her community.

After Max Stern died in 1982, YU built the athletic center in his memory.

Mr. Stern was born in Fulda, Germany and came over to the United States in 1926 after his linen business failed during the German depression. On the ship to the States was a shipment of singing canaries. This led to Stern initiating a pet food business which soon developed into the Hartz Mountain Company - the world's largest manufacturer of pet food and related products and vast real estate enterprise.



Mr. Jerome and Geraldine Schottenstein of Columbus, Ohio made a major gift to endow the Schottenstein Center designated for student activity. Jerome, the Chairman of Value City Department Stores, Inc. and CEO of Schottenstein Stores Corps had attended MTA high school. This ardent supporter of academics and education is best known for the treasured Artscroll Hebrew/English translated Schottenstein edition Talmuds. Mr. Schottenstein passed away in March, 1992. Recently the Schottenstein family gift enabled the purchase of a new Stern College dormitory.

Coming over from Germany, Mr. Stern established himself on Manhattan's Upper West Side where he served as the President of the Jewish Center Synagogue for thirty years.

As we see the names on our buildings do not merely represent people who gave a lot of money. Rather they honor those individuals who displayed an undying loyalty and commitment towards the building of an institution which they envisioned as the foundation of future American Jewish Orthodoxy. They set forth for us the challenge to fulfill this commitment and sustain their vision for years to come.



Rabbi Hyman & Ruth Muss Dormitory



Morris and Celia Morgenstern Residence Hall

Photo: YU/PR



# SCW and AECOM to Benefit From Scheiber Endowment

*continued from page one*

throughout those higher ranks behind closed doors for several months. It was an unsuspecting President Norman Lamm himself who was first introduced to the name Anne Scheiber when the executor of the estate, Benjamin Clark, contacted him shortly after the death and arranged a private meeting in the president's Stern College office. At that meeting, Rabbi Lamm was informed of the contents of Anne Scheiber's will and the net worth of her estate.

On February 16, Martin H. Bockstein, YU's attorney, appeared in the probate proceeding of the Anne Scheiber will in Surrogate's Court. His involvement continued through July 17, when the award was settled and signed.

With the exception of a \$100,000 donation to Haifa's Technion and some jewelry and antiques for various nieces and nephews, Anne Scheiber's assets belonged to YU and the name Anne Scheiber will forever be associated with YU. Public relations officials and high-level administrators were tasked with investigating the life of the mysterious millionairess and identifying the motives behind her grand benefaction. Such efforts are usually unnecessary as donors of substantial gifts to universities are targeted and painstakingly wooed years in advance. The Scheiber donation, although not the larg-

est in YU history, was unprecedented in its suddenness and surprise.

## A Lonely, self-made Woman

Details of Anne Scheiber's life slowly filtered in and painted the picture of a husbandless and childless woman, estranged from her eight brothers and sisters, all of whom passed away before her. Not a religious woman by any means, Scheiber was not affiliated with any synagogue or Jewish organization, stymieing attempts to discover her friends or associates. Living for fifty years in a \$450 a month rent-stabilized apartment on West 56th Street off of a meager government pension, she began her investing activities with only \$5,000 in savings.

Truly a self-made woman, Anne Scheiber was born on October 1, 1893 in Brooklyn and struggled against much adversity to attain what little she had. At fifteen she spent her days bookkeeping and her nights earning a high school diploma. College years were spent in Washington, DC at National University Law School from which she graduated in 1924 with a Bachelor of Laws degree. Simultaneous with college came a career with the IRS that lasted an additional twenty years. Her highest annual salary was \$3,150.

## Excerpt from the Last Will and Testament of Anne Scheiber, October 9, 1975

**"SECTION 8:** All the rest, residue and remainder of my estate, both real and personal, of every kind and description, and wheresoever situated, which I own at the time of my death, I hereby give, devise and bequeath to Yeshiva University, a New York corporation, IN TRUST, NEVERTHELESS, to hold, invest and reinvest the same, and to keep the same invested, and to collect the income therefrom, and to keep the same invested, and to collect the income therefrom, and out of the net income to establish and pay in accordance with such procedures as the said University shall determine an annual scholarship of loan award to such needy and deserving student or students attending such University. It is my further direction that no single scholarship or loan to any one student shall exceed the sum of Three Thousand (\$3,000.00) Dollars per annum for such student, and that preference be given first to female students attending either the Albert Einstein College of Medicine or the Stern College for Women, divisions of Yeshiva University, with first preference to those needy female students having the highest academic average, or to those female students having the highest academic average, or to those female students attending the Stern College for Women, the undergraduate liberal arts and sciences college for women, who have indicated intention to study medicine or to enter the field of the physical and natural sciences and who have indicated their desire to assist in the development of humanity and alleviate pain and suffering. In the event that there are no female students available for such award or awards in any one year, the University may, in its discretion, award the same to a male student attending the Albert Einstein College of Medicine or Yeshiva College, the undergraduate liberal arts and sciences college for men. The University may, in its discretion, award the annual income from the fund for scholarship or loan purposes. Loans shall be non-interest bearing and shall be repayable beginning with the second year following graduation, in such amounts as the University shall determine from time to time. The allocation of the funds available for distribution herein between scholarship and loan, shall be made in the sole discretion of the University. The scholarship award or awards herein shall be made under the designation of "Anne Scheiber Scholarship Fund Award" and the loans to students shall be under the designation of "Anne Scheiber Student Loan Fund Award."

DEED MUST BE FILED WITH THE COURT NO LATER THAN (6) MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF DEATH OF DECEASED. ANY ADDITIONAL FILING FEES MUST BE PAID AT THAT TIME.

JURORATE'S COURT COUNTY OF NEW YORK  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  
ANNE SCHEIBER  
Deceased

INVENTORY OF ASSETS  
(RULE 207.20 (c))  
File No. 563/95

The undersigned, a fiduciary or an attorney for the above estate, certifies that the following recapitulation constitutes the gross estate, (for tax purposes) of the decedent. The following documents are attached:  
[ ] Form ET-90; [ ] Form TT-395; [ ] Form 706.

IF FORM ET-90 IS ATTACHED, ALL RIGHTS TO SECRECY UNDER TAX LAW §994 ARE WAIVED.

Date of Death: 1/9/95 Date of Letters 8/25/95 Type of Letters Testamentary

NYS TAX PAID (Yes) (No) X	Date Paid	Individually owned by Decedent or Payable to Estate	Non-probate, Joint or Trust Property
		-0-	-0-
		\$ 20,225,662.61	\$ -0-
		92,066.85	-0-
		-0-	-0-
		-0-	-0-
		-0-	-0-
		-0-	-0-
		-0-	-0-
		-0-	-0-
		15,695.00	-0-
		TOTALS \$ 20,333,424.46	\$ -0-

Filing Fee under §2402 (B) \$1,000  
Filing Fee Initially Paid \$1,000  
Balance (Refund) Due

ATTORNEY OR FIDUCIARY  
Name Benjamin Clark  
Address 32 West 40th Street  
Telephone 212-575-5858

CERTIFIED TO BE TRUE ON Oct. 30, 1995  
Signature Benjamin Clark  
Print Name BENJAMIN CLARK

Inventory of Scheiber's assets immediately following her death. According to the provisions of her will, all of these assets are earmarked for Yeshiva University

## Her Glass Ceiling

Scheiber's uneventful twenty-three years at the IRS have been speculated as the stimulus for her bequeathing her fortune to an educational institution - precisely because they were uneventful. Scheiber never received a promotion despite boasting a fine record of competence, and her attorney has forwarded the position that she attributed her languishing as an auditor to the fact that she was female and Jewish. Consequently, it is alleged that supporting and advancing opportunities for Jewish women to achieve became her cause celebre.

After retiring in 1943 after years of unfulfilling work, Scheiber devoted her energies to the portfolio she had been gradually accumulating. According to Bill Fay, her broker at Merrill Lynch, Scheiber would spend days thoroughly researching each company before committing to an investment, and would even attend the stockholders' meetings of those companies when they were held in New York. By 1995, Anne Scheiber's portfolio contained 140 securities, the product of impressive investing savvy. She spent the last two weeks of her life in St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital and was buried in Mount Lebanon Cemetery in Glendale, NY.

## No Scholarship Details

The wealth of information on Anne Scheiber uncovered in recent months has not translated into a lucid picture of how Scheiber's wealth will be utilized. While the Anne Scheiber Scholarship Fund Awards and Anne Scheiber Loan Fund Awards have been established, the criteria for winners of these programs - to be implemented in Fall 1996 - are unclear.

The Scheiber will contains the vague instruction that the scholarships be granted to those women "who have in-

dedicated their desire to assist in the development of humanity and alleviate pain and suffering." According to SCW Dean Karen Bacon, this clause has been interpreted broadly as referring to Stern women intending on pursuing careers in the medical, health, or social welfare fields and Einstein women pursuing medical degrees. Additionally, merit and need will be evaluated, but no formal selection or implementation processes have been discussed.

Actively discussed, however, was the proper forum for announcing the Scheiber bequeathal. Although intricate legal maneuverings were completed weeks ago and the monies were secured in YU's possession, announcement of the donation was delayed until Sunday's Chanukah Dinner. There, in the presence of YU's hundreds of board members and benefactors, Rabbi Lamm was finally able to publicize the massive gift with great fanfare. To accompany that disclosure, the Public Relations Department prepared advertisements announcing the gift to the public that will run in this Thursday's editions of New York's Jewish newspapers.

Dean Bacon's reaction to news of the donation was typical of that of most members of the YU community. "Initially, it was disbelief," she recalled, "and then it brought a smile to my face like no other... This means that there was someone out there who clearly believed in what we do." Rabbi Lamm noted that "although we did not know her personally, she obviously knew about us." How so, no one claims to know for certain. But what is certain is that in 1968, Anne Scheiber unwittingly created for herself a legacy, and in 1995 she finally found a family to embrace her.

# Jewish Newspapers Mount Attack on YU Rabbis to Aftermath of Assassination

BY STEVEN MIODOWNIK

As the smoke from the December 4 assassination of Yitzhak Rabin clears, Yeshiva University's rabbis and lay-leaders are engaged in a battle of convictions waged from the pulpit of the Beit Midrash and in the editorial and advertising pages of newspapers across the world.

Their exhaustive efforts are in response to charges of culpability that have been cast on the shoulders of Orthodox Judaism in general, and Religious Zionist education in particular. YU, which boasts being a bastion of both, has consequently been faced with the task of formulating public statements and stances on the variety of religious and political issues the assassination has created. This attempt has been hindered by damaging misrepresentations in the press which have generated confusion among students within the school and benefactors and alumni on the outside.

### The First Ad

Immediately following the assassination, YU - along with almost every conceivable Jewish organization in North America - bought advertising space in New York's Jewish newspapers in order to condemn and express grief over the murder. That advertisement, which bore the YU logo and the names of President Norman Lamm and Chairman of the Board of Trustees David S. Gottesman, would only be the start of YU exposure in the media.

Journalists from the secular and Jewish press descended upon YU and monopolized the telephone lines of its Roshei Yeshiva as they were partly captivated by the assassin's manipulation of Jewish law to justify his deed, and partly motivated by the condemnations of Rabin's policies previously issued by several Roshei Yeshiva. Students in the Beit Midrash were exhorted by Mashgiach Ruchani R. Yosef Blau to be ex-

tremely wary when making statements and were advised by Rosh Yeshiva R. Mayer Twersky to avoid any conversation with the press at all lest the massive "chilul Hashem" be exacerbated.

At the same time, appearing heavily in the press were statements of Roshei Yeshiva R. Ahron Soloveitchik and R. Moshe Tendler, both of whom condemned the assassination wholeheartedly but differed significantly on the guilt-bearing of the Orthodox community. In The New York Times and The Wall Street Journal Europe among other newspapers, Rabbi Tendler was refusing to accept the blame; R. Soloveitchik was described in The Forward as "wracked by self-recrimination."



Other Roshei Yeshiva - all prominent leaders of the Orthodox community - were also targeted for comment. Simultaneously, the Public Relations Department was sending transcripts of Rabbi Lamm's eulogy of Rabin to local newspapers for quotes and possible publication.

### A Second Press Statement

As MYP Dean R. Zevulun Charlop and other administrators were bombarded by calls from alumni and board members perplexed by the differing media depictions of YU's reaction to the assassination, the University decided to issue a second statement. Rabbi Blau acknowledged that a statement by Rabbi Lamm alone could not impart the opinion of the other Roshei Yeshiva, who have been known to differ from the president in the past.

The Roshei Yeshiva assembled on Wednesday, November 15 to sign along with Rabbi Lamm a "Statement by the Faculty of Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary" condemning the assassination and his "epithet of rodef." The original text of the statement also asserted that opponents of Rabin's policies still had a right to voice their opinion; it was erased for the final version.

That second declaration was immediately posted on walls throughout the university for students to ponder.






**Statement by the Faculty of Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary**

We, the faculty of the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary, an affiliate of Yeshiva University, unanimously deplore and condemn the assassination of Prime Minister Rabin. It constituted a heinous violation of the Torah prohibition against murder and a most tragic profanation of G-d's name.

Moreover, the "rationale" for this historic outrage represents an inexcusable distortion of Halakha (Jewish law). Neither the late Prime Minister nor Orthodox Jewry can be justly tarred with the epithet of rodef ("pursuer" with intent to murder).

May the Almighty forgive those who spoke without care or caution and those who unwittingly allowed their rhetoric to be perverted by irresponsible individuals. May the rents that threaten to tear our people apart be repaired and the tormented anguish of division be quickly healed in Zion and elsewhere.





Statement circulated by RIETS Roshei Yeshiva unanimously deploring the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin z"l.

diately posted on walls throughout the university for students to ponder. Additionally, the Public Relations Department ordered one thousand extra copies of Hamevaser - which contained Rabbi Lamm's eulogy and several moving articles by students and rebbeim - published and sent to all YU board members as an accurate representation of YU in the weeks following the assassination.

Before advertising space for the new statement in New York's Jewish newspapers could be purchased, however, the most damaging media attention of the month caused much anguish for the YU community. The appearance of Rosh Yeshiva R. Herschel Schachter's picture along with the headline "No Regrets From Rabbis On Inflammatory Rhetoric" on the front page of the November 17 New York Jewish Week sent shockwaves throughout the university. The piece implied that the Rosh Yeshiva was unmoved by the assassination.

Bitterly ironic was the inclusion in the same issue of an expensive 36-page YU advertising supplement that was paid for weeks before, and disturbing was the fact that the Jewish Week's editor and publisher, Gary Rosenblatt, is a YC graduate. Rosenblatt, who was not in New York for layout of the issue and did not see the juxtaposition of R. Schachter's image with the inflammatory headline, came under fire during public appearances that week and was apologetic in conversation with YU officials.

The November 24 issue of the Jewish Week took a conciliatory stance toward YU. Letters from Rabbis Schachter and Blau clarifying and repairing damage were printed and an article featuring statements from R. Soloveitchik and RIETS Vice President Rabbi Robert S. Hirt contrasted starkly with the effect of the article a week before. The statement of the Roshei Yeshiva was also finally printed in the Jewish Week, as well as in the

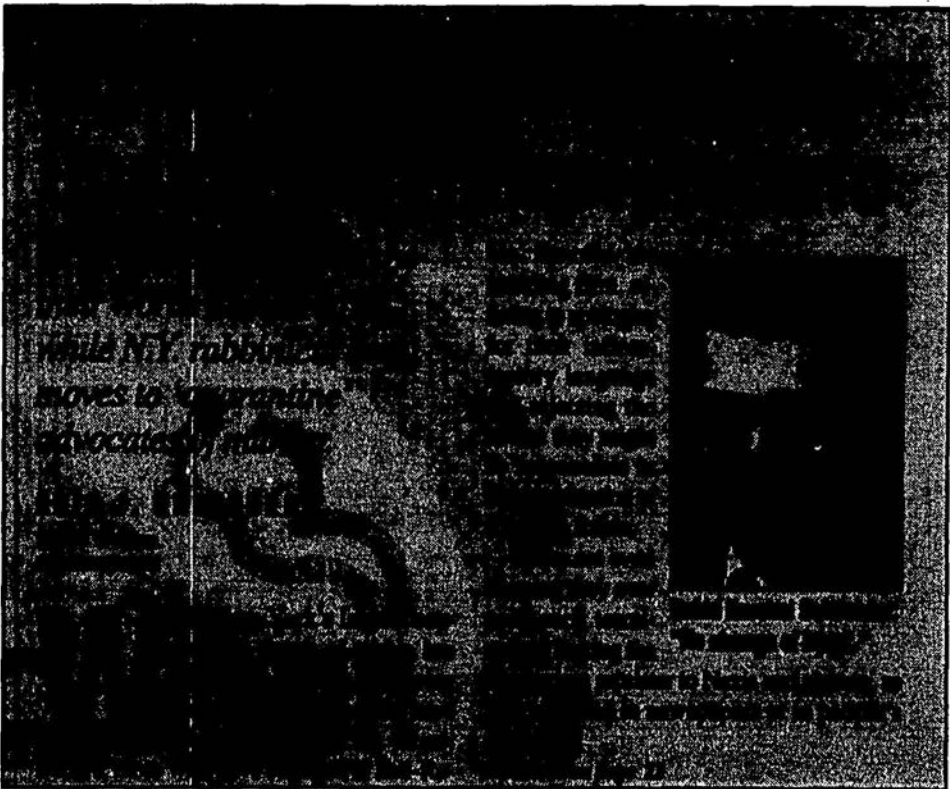
Jewish Press, Jerusalem Post, Allgemeiner Journal, and Long Island Jewish World. Last week, the meticulous process of translating the statement into Hebrew and then collecting twenty-eight signatures once again was performed in order that the message be printed in Israel's Ma'ariv.

### A Third Message

It was RIETS Vice President Hirt who was the driving force behind a third message that appeared in the New York Times on November 27. Sponsored by YU, the piece was an elaborate essay entitled "Erring On The Side Of Love" and its twenty-three signatories were an eclectic assemblage of world Orthodox leaders and YU benefactors that included Chief Rabbi Jonathan Sacks of Great Britain, Orthodox Union President Mandell Ganchrow, constitutional attorney Nathan Lewin, and Rabbi Lamm.

Described by R. Hirt as "a leadership ad," its purpose was three-fold: to convey the Orthodox community's abhorrence of violence and the assassination, to condemn excessive rhetoric and its impact, and to call for sensitivity and civility. It also acknowledged the failure of an educational system that did not adequately highlight values. According to R. Hirt, YU has received calls of approval from around the world from Jewish leaders who wish their names were included in the statement of concern and distress that marks this turbulent period.

Rav Goldwicht pointed to a different battlefield in his Sichat Mussar following the assassination, when he exhorted students to counteract this terrible tragedy, to work on our middot and be more serious about learning and davening. "This is the only way that we can fight our enemies," said R. Goldwicht, "and the sooner we realize it, the sooner we will be successful in uniting Jewry."



Article published on the front cover of the November 17th New York Jewish Week



YC Senior Shumel Herzfeld studies Latin with Dr. Louis Feldman

## OJ and Cicero: Latin Fraternity inducts Student

BY NACHUM LAMM

How would residents of ancient Rome react to the O.J. Simpson trial? Of course, the proceedings would have to have been in Latin for them to follow, but thanks to YC senior Shmuel Herzfeld, this is no longer a problem.

Herzfeld is one of the sparse number of students on campus taking the classical languages, Latin and Greek. After two years of studying classical language and literature and writing in these languages a student is eligible to be inducted into the national classical languages honor society, Eta Sigma Phi. YU boasts a number of distinguished members of this society, including Rabbi Manfred Fulda, Dr. Louis Feldman, Rabbi Michael Taubes, Rabbi Shlomo Riskin, and Dr. Moshe Bernstein.

Herzfeld is the first YU student to be inducted into Eta Sigma Phi in over four years; as the only member who is a current student, he holds all of the chapter

positions. Members are inducted at a ceremony at Dr. Feldman's house, where all chapter members meet and vote on the induction of the member. New members are required to translate a current article, story, or the like into Latin; Herzfeld chose to translate the Mark Fuhrman tapes.

Eta Sigma Phi is a national society with about one hundred chapters across the country. It sponsors an annual convention at which papers are delivered, and gives a number of scholarships for classics students.

According to Feldman, his classics students are "few, but excellent," giving as examples the high number of valedictorians and other distinguished individuals who have taken these languages.

Asked the inevitable question of what he plans on doing with his skills in an extinct language, Herzfeld revealed his wish to become ambassador to the Vatican, one of the few places on Earth where Latin is still spoken.

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## Life After Hal

BY JOSHUA M. FELDMAN

With the departure of director Hal Tannenbaum, the Placement Office has been left with only two full-time employees. But despite the personnel shortage and the office's inability thus far to find a replacement, the office maintains that they are still adequately catering to the needs of students.

"I miss Hal, but I think that the two of us are handling it really well," noted Adrienne Wolff, one of the remaining counselors. "If students are being seen, that's what is important to us." The smooth transition may be due to the hiring of Wendy Kaulfman and Lisa Small, two temporary career counselors. Each work two days a week, one at the Uptown Campus and one at the Downtown Campus.

Some students disagree. They profess that all too often the office overflows with students waiting to be attended to. The situation, they claim, is exacerbated by the fact that SCW shares the same staff.

But Assistant Dean Ira Jaskoll, who is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the office, said that students can

minimize their waiting time by going during the morning and on Fridays.

The thorough manner in which a permanent replacement is sought has contributed to the delay in finding a director. Candidates for the position are screened through the personnel office. Once a suitable candidate is found, he or she is interviewed by Jaskoll. When asked how many candidates this has happened with, Jaskoll said that he interviewed two or three in the two months since Tannenbaum tendered his resignation. Diane Edelberg, who handles the hiring of a new staff member, refused to be interviewed, citing confidentiality concerns.

The Office of Placement and Career Services mandate is to procure a job for every student that signs up for placement. Until this year, SSSB boasted a 99% placement rating. When asked how the effect of one less person on his staff would reflect that statistic, Dean Jaskoll noted that while the placement staff is being stretched, they will be able to handle the demand in the short term. It is in the long term, he said, that finding a replacement is most critical.

## Adler Forms Research Group

BY CHAIM LAZAR

Over fifty students and faculty members participated in a research presentation held at Stern College on November 15. The seminar was a function of the Yeshiva Research Group (YRG), a club that was created this past summer by YC Dean Norman Adler to promote student involvement in research. To that end, Adler sought to create an informal atmosphere in which some of YU's most talented students and professors could present and discuss research topics.

The November seminar featured a research paper delivered by SCW student Rachel Kahn, who spoke on epilepsy and its treatment possibilities. Also included was a workshop conducted by Nobel Prize-winning professor Ronald Hoffman entitled 'Ethics in Scientific Research'. Adler attributed the program's success to the students' and professors' willingness to participate and their enthusiasm for achieving scholarly work.

Adler's hope is that the Seminar will create an affiliation of students and faculty that he claims has previously never existed, especially amidst the grades-focused atmosphere and mentality that pervades YU. In order to substitute that atmosphere with one that is more vibrant and academic, the club will meet at regular intervals and has already held six seminars since the summer.

Many students and faculty members at both campuses are distressed that only certain individuals were invited to attend. Ryan Hyman (YC '97) said that he would have enjoyed the many seminars that took place and would have attended if he was properly notified. Some professors at the midtown campus were equally disturbed that they had not been notified of the programs in advance.

Adler, however, interpreted the complaints as signals that there is an interest and need for YRG. He also explained that the first students invited to attend were those who were known to be interested in research such as pre-med Roth

scholars and that all students are cordially invited. In the future, Adler assured, proper notification will be given. Adler also emphasized that YRG desires to attract a broad range of students from all fields of study at YU, such as market research, finance, math, and humanities. He explained that research is not limited to science as many students think, but rather extends to other fields as well. One of the purposes of YRG is to present a diversified range of topics; this can only be achieved if students from a broad range of studies participate.

According to Professor Anthony Beukas, chairman of the Speech department at YC, this program serves as an excellent learning ground to practice oral skills. Beukas explained that there are many students at YU that can produce brilliant papers but few can present a research topic in a lucid format that will keep the audience attentive and interested. The student will also learn how to quantify lengthy and complicated research material into a understandable and worthy address.

Adler dismisses the concerns of some students who fear they will be unable to grasp some of the in-depth discussions that may be presented, noting that any qualified presentation should be understood by both the expert in that field and the layman.

**Sy Syms, too**

SSSB students will also benefit from YRG, as the seminars will expose them to other studies such as the sciences and humanities. Adler declared that SSSB students may use their research material as a basis for the thesis paper that they are required to write for graduation.

**No name**

Adler is offering students the opportunity to suggest a formal name for the group. The student who concocts the most appropriate appellation for YRG will be treated to dinner for two with a distinguished YU professor of choice.

# Caf Prices Not So Outrageous

BY ADAM N. BERKOWITZ  
AND YECHIEL SEPTIMUS

Every year an all too common jingle is sung - the whiny retort of budgeted students, complaining about the prices in the caf-store. "Things are so expensive" voice a group of students, "they are really taking us for a ride."

But are they really hiking up prices? Is the food services management truly culpable, or is it plain old fashion griping of Yeshiva students? In search of an answer, we compared the prices of the caf-store with the prices in a local supermarket (Key Food). In order to accurately expose potential price discrepancies, we reserved the survey to products of exact weight and size.

To our surprise, the caf-store's prices were far more competitive than were first imagined. Prices, for the most part, were analogous to those in the supermarket. Staple items such as milk and Tropicana orange juice were priced at only 15 and 36 cents more. Snack foods such as Pringles potato chips and Hunt's chocolate pudding were a full 10 cents cheaper in the caf-store. And frozen items represented the most attractive consumer bargain at the caf-store, as French bread pizza was priced a full dollar less than in the supermarket.

The survey, however, did reveal some more sinister price tagging on the part of the caf-store. Popular items such as Kellogg's cereals were found to be 50 cents more expensive. Salsa, another admired treat was 40 cents

higher, and instant coffee a full \$1.50 more. Even more disheartening was the aggrandizing of toiletry items. All surveyed toiletry products were costlier in the caf-store, with many of the products costing over a full dollar more than in the supermarket.

Jacob Lieberman, the associate director of food services, commented on the derivation of prices in the caf-store. He stated that although the caf-store does not have the same "price-check" policy that the hot food cafeteria has (it is not even governed by a student council food services committee), they (the caf-store management) sincerely try to price items as inexpensively as possible. "It is very difficult to match the prices of the supermarkets since we do not carry the purchasing power that they do," he said, "But we do try to get items as cheaply as possible." Indeed, it is often very difficult for smaller scale stores to compete with the prices in larger ones. Companies will often give bargains to supermarkets because they purchase items by the trailer load, leaving the smaller operations at a distinct disadvantage. However, Lieberman pointed out that the caf-store will often put certain items on special and he urges students to take advantage of these bargains.

Students remain steadfast in their discontent of caf-store prices. "Things tend to be a bit expensive" said Daniel Miller, a YC junior, "but I don't really have much choice - I have to come here."

# Kiruv Through Bikur Cholim

BY SETH GROSSMAN  
AND JONATHAN ALTMARK

A series of Bikur Cholim visits by YU students to a patient in Columbia-Presbyterian Hospital in desperate need of a heart-transplant operation inspired the elderly man's soul-saving return to Judaism and, he claims, paved the way for a successful, life-saving heart transplant.

Mordy Solomon, a Bikur Cholim participant, records the following incident which transpired last year: For seven long months, the man had simply waited in the hospital for word of an available heart to save his life, but to no avail. Each and every week, he was visited by members of the *Bikur Cholim Club* who never knew his name.

Although he was not a man of religion, he apparently was impressed by the dedication and thoughtfulness of the YU students who brought their smiling faces and sincere prayers to his drab hospital room each week.

After seven months, the man was released from the hospital, knowing that his fate depended on immediately finding a heart. The first Shabbos back home he went to shul for the first time in many years in inspiration of the YU students who would visit him. When he got home, he saw that his beeper, which he had turned off to avoid disturbing the ser-

vices, was blinking furiously. A heart had miraculously been located for him, and he was told to rush to the hospital immediately. A successful transplant was performed the very next day and to this day the man credits his going to shul as his merit for receiving a new lease on life.

For Solomon and the other *Bikur Cholim Club* participants, the lesson in time management was clear: For many YU students, club hour is merely that scheduling annoyance which forces them to end classes forty five minutes later than they should on Thursday nights. However, those who use the hour from 2:45 to 3:45 to bring some much needed companionship and open ears to sick Jewish patients reap tangible and intangible rewards. For the past two years, there have also been sponsored club visits made on Friday mornings.

This year, the *Bikur Cholim Club* is headed by David Mark, Kenny Ripstein, and Daniel Hartstein. The club's presidents are given a list of the Jewish patients by the Jewish Services Coordinator of Columbia-Presbyterian Hospital, Rabbi Mordecai Schnaidman. Depending on the amount of patients and visitors each week, groups of two or three students are sent to brighten the day of four to seven patients.

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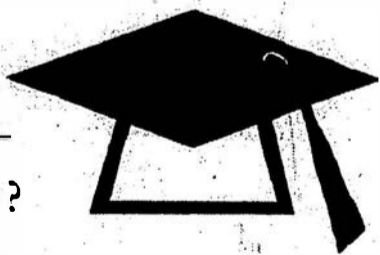
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## Beis Medrash Memorial Held For Rebbetzin Lifschitz

BY SHAMI JACOBS

In what was termed by MYP Dean Rabbi Zevulun Charlop as "a singular event in the history of the Yeshiva," the funeral for Rebbetzin Tziporah Lifschitz was held on November 21 in the Main Beis Midrash. Lifschitz took ill over Succos while visiting family in Cleveland and was hospitalized there for three weeks before succumbing to respiratory ailments.

This memorial marked the first time that a funeral for a Rebbetzin was held in the Beis Midrash. That site was selected because it was deemed "appropriate and most fitting" to bid farewell to the Rebbetzin in the place where she and her late husband, Rav Dovid Lifschutz had davened and dedicated their lives for over 50 years.

Rebbetzin Lifshitz was eulogized, both in English and in Yiddish, by Rabbi Charlop, MYP Roshei Yeshiva Rabbi Simon Romm, Rabbi Ahron Soloveitchik and Rabbi Meir Goldwicht. Rabbi Chaim Stein, the Rebbetzin's *mechutan*, Rav Chaim Waxman (her son-in-law), as well as her grandson, Shlomo Avraham Stein were also present. Each spoke of her commitment to Torah, the yeshiva, and

Klal Yisroel.

Born to Rav Yosef Yosilovitch, the previous Suvalker Rav, Rebbetzin Lifshitz was forced to flee from the Nazis with her husband and children. At that time, she took with her the writings of her father, which were later published. Never having completely overcome the death of one of her daughter's who died during that escape, it is ironic that the Rebbetzin died on the very same date, "assuring that it [the day] would always be remembered," noted Rabbi Waxman. Waxman described her as "a strong woman" with "a regal character about her." He spoke of her broad range of friends, and how she related to people of all ages, citing how much she cherished all her grandchildren, and how she "adored and idolized her husband."

Since the passing of Rav Dovid in 1992, Rebbetzin Lifshitz had been living alone in Washington Heights on 186th Street to the great protest of her family. However, she had numerous friends within the community and refused to leave. As a lifelong friend of the Yeshiva, Rebbetzin Lifshitz was remembered by many as an "Aishes Chaver." She was buried on Har HaMenuchot next to her husband.

## YCDS Presents Sherlock's Last Case

BY COMMENTATOR STAFF

Raising the curtain on its 64th production, The Yeshiva College Dramatics Society opens its run of Charles Marowitz's *Sherlock's Last Case* this Motzei Shabbos in the Schottenstein Theater. A modern script based upon Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's sacrosanct duo of Holmes and Watson, *Sherlock* is a sophisticated comic mystery set in Victorian London, featuring a cast of powerful YCDS veterans and some formidable newcomers.

Marc Spear returns to the YCDS stage after a year-long hiatus to play Doyle's world-famous sleuth. He was last seen as Felix Unger in the Dramatic Society's hilarious production of *The Odd Couple*. He is joined by the immutable Dr. Watson, powerfully portrayed by last year's Best Actor, Allan Schwartz. The two are backed up by a supporting cast including newcomers Yossi Lewis, Aharon Rabinowitz, Pinchas Cohen and veteran actor and perennial audience favorite AJ Sender as the butler, Mr. Hudson.

YCDS is guided again this season by Dr. Anthony Beukas, the group's Artistic Director for the 31 years since its inception. Beukas feels that the key to understanding the show is that everything on-stage is a clue, from the lines

the actors say to the props that they use, and that "the audience must be prepared to sharpen their wits and pay attention to what is said and done."

Naphtaly Abenaim, the show's Stage Manager, says that the play has been a challenge because of its unique genre - drawing-room sophistication. "It is very tricky for the actors to discover how far the melodrama can go before it is distorted," he said. Beukas pointed out that the biggest difficulty facing the cast is the show's delicate balance "that can't be changed, or the style of the production is wrong. It takes skill and concentration for the actors to fulfill the multiple goals the script demands from them."

Above all, the production radiates with the sheer joy of the period. One feels a great sense of fun and excitement in dealing with such untouchable characters. The show's power lies in its revelation that they are, in fact, very human. It is a story of reversal in which relationships are twisted, plots are inverted, villains become heroes, heroes become villains, and a knowledge of the history of Doyle's famous characters is invaluable.

The show runs every night, except Sunday, from December 9 - 14 at 9:00, with a Sunday Matinee at 3:00. Tickets are available from a number of students on both campuses.

## Errors in Guide to Perplexed continued from page 2

being forgotten in the directory of floor occupancy, are just some of the examples of the errors that are in this year's Guide. Now one may say that I am being nitpicky about it but the truth is that there is a large amount of mistakes in the directory; not just a couple. Last year, we ratified a new YCSC Constitution and there are many differences from last year's Constitution (which was printed in *The Guide* last year). This year, there is no Constitution printed.

Last year, the Commentator was very

critical of *The Guide* not coming out on time. This year, not one word was mentioned. This is an important issue which the Commentator should have addressed.

Keep in mind that this *Guide* costs \$14,000 to make. We, as students, expect a reliable *Guide*. Until one comes, I will just have to be a student at Yeshiva University. If you did not get the joke, neither did the editors when they made the front cover of *The Guide*.

Michael J. Belgrade  
YC '97

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## AIPAC Leader Visits Yeshiva College Campus

BY COMMENTATOR STAFF

A leader in the Political Leadership Development Program of AIPAC visited with members of that organization's campus Executive Board last week in an attempt to bring renewed pro-Israel activism to the Yeshiva College community.

Rachel Glazer, Northeast Field Organizer for the pro-Israel group, updated the group on the growing threat to Israeli security from Iran and the prospect of cuts in American foreign assistance to Israel. She also expressed her hope that the Jewish community would "come together" in the aftermath of the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Jeremy Lustman, AIPAC's Campus Liaison, stresses the need for more students to get involved in political activity. "AIPAC offers students numerous ways to get involved in politics - at the local, national and international level," he said. "Through ongoing seminars and educational efforts, as well as an annual Public Policy Conference in Washington, DC, students can learn

about how government works and how they can be a part of it."

AIPAC (short for American-Israeli Public Affairs Committee) is America's pro-Israel lobby. It is not a political action committee and does not endorse candidates; its mission to promote a strong U.S.-Israel relationship through education, communication with congressional officials and leadership development.

Glazer noted that AIPAC has made extraordinary efforts to reach out to students, including the recently established Campaign Training Institute. During that intensive three day seminar in Washington, students are assigned to manage fictional campaigns, which are then evaluated by leading political professionals. Graduates of the program have gone on to take leading roles in political campaigns across the country.

In the coming months, Lustman says, YU's AIPAC chapter plans to work closely with the AIPAC chapter at Columbia University to host programming with Members of Congress. He also plans for the group to take an active role in lobbying for continued foreign aid.

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## Rabin Assassination Tempers Chanukah Dinner Festivities

*continued from page one*

principle of "Ma'alim bakodesh v'ein moridin" Jews must "keep moving forward."

Keynote dinner speaker and Viacom chairman Sumner Redstone spoke little of YU, taking the opportunity instead to wax introspective on the role of the media in the Information Age. He spoke of the heavy responsibility of those in his profession in an age when "we can take children across the globe before we allow them to cross the street." But he cautioned against oversimplifying the definition of that responsibility. "We cannot ever agree which violence children should not see." Redstone sang the praises of the right to criticize the messages emitted by the popular media. "Is it appropriate for Bill Bennet to crucify vulgarity...? Absolutely," but warned that "Censorship is never the answer." And he emphasized the obligations of the media industry. "Media itself should not only reflect those values [of society] but be a catalyst for change."

An air of joy tempered with restraint hung over the dinner.

The dinner comes on the heels of a New York Times story on the endowment of Anne Scheiber, who bequeathed \$22 million to SCW and AECOM, and after former American Greetings Co. executive Irving Stone pledged two million dollars to the Beit Midrash Program. "We're all on a high," said former YU Rabbi Dr. Israel Miller in an interview.

But there was also the knowledge that the dinner comes at the end of the sheloshim (thirty day mourning period) for Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. YU trustee Erica Jesselson interrupted her opening remarks to ask the audience to rise in memory of the slain Israeli leader. An image of Rabin was plastered on screens throughout the ballroom as diners stood in somber reflection.

Gore contributed to the jovial mood with his dry wit. In a lengthy introduction to his speech, he entertained the audience with his witticisms and one-liners in a manner more reminiscent of a stand-up comic than a politician. What's great about the seal of the Vice Presi-



Vice President Al Gore

dent, he said is that if you "close your left eye and turn your head just right it says: President of the United States." Later in his speech, he deadpanned: "You and your university have done a good deed. Or what we Southern Baptists like to call - a mitzvah." And in a bit of self-deprecating humor, he poked fun at his image as a stiff and uninspiring politician with lines like "Al Gore is soboring his Secret Service code name is... Al Gore," and "It's no secret I ran for president in 1988, although it seemed like one to most people."

The fact that the twenty-two million dollar contribution came from a woman who never set foot in YU further enlivened the mood. For some elected officials, this dramatizes the profound and far-reaching effect YU has on people. "It shows you what an impact YU has made. Here is an individual (Scheiber) who had no connection and felt this was an opportunity to give to Jewish students," said New York state Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver (YC '65) in an interview.

Commenting on YU's effect on its surroundings, Washington Heights Congressman Charles Rangel told *The Commentator* that the relationship between the community and YU is "excitingly good. It's just a great university."

## Macs Hold Their Own Against IAC Powerhouse NJIT

*continued from back page*

field connecting on 3 of 3 from long range, 6 of 6 from the field, and 3 of 3 from the line to give him 18 points. The Macs won by a score of 70-24 only to set the stage for a showdown against NJIT.

Although the NJIT Highlanders were ranked sixth in Division III, the Macs were not about to roll over and play dead. The Macs started the game with an 8-0 run sparked by junior sensation Alon "oak" Zaibert. The Highlanders came back and went into the locker room leading 35-28. The Macs continued to show signs of life in the second half and with 15 minutes remaining trailed by only 5 points (46-41). NJIT proved to be a powerhouse by explod-

ing on a 10-0 run to pull away from the fighting Macabees. The Highlanders defeated the Macs by a score of 71-57; Zaibert led the way for the Macs with 20 points.

### Notes

- Barry Aranoff had five steals against NJIT to bring his average to four and change.

- Forward/Center Steven Kupferman is out indefinitely after tearing cartilage in his knee, during the first game of the season.

- The Macs will be playing SUNY Maritime in Madison Square Garden tentatively on January 31, 1996.

- The next Machome game will be Thursday night against SUNY Maritime in the MSAC at 8:00 p.m.

## Administration Attributes High Grades to quality of Students at YC

*continued from page one*

good reputation among the students and tend to grade high. We [the Academic Standards Committee] have tried to get the message out to them as to what is the standard grade curve."

In defense of the college's widespread hiring of adjuncts, YC Dean Adler pointed out that the numerous adjuncts enable the college to offer a wider variety of courses. He added that the college takes any possibility of grade inflation very seriously and consequently a system of governance recently has been established by dividing the various departments of the college into clusters. Each clusterhead will be expected to closely monitor the grade distribution of the adjuncts in his cluster, and thus will ensure that grade inflation is kept to a minimum.

Dr. Lee explained that he is not troubled by the large proportion of students on Dean's List, as long as they worked hard in their courses and gained from them. He pointed out that Harvard University routinely graduates over fifty percent of its student body with honors. However, "Egregious grade inflation where students can do a modest amount of work, learn an equally modest amount, and receive an 'A' is definitely a problem which must be rooted out. By way of example, Dr. Lee mentioned an independent studies evaluation on which a teacher commented that the paper was unimaginative and ineptly written, yet still gave the student three credits of 'A' for his work.

However, there are many members of the administration and faculty who do not believe that grade inflation exists on a significant scale in Yeshiva College. Dean Adler chooses to credit the students' focus and motivation for the surprising Dean's List numbers. He praised the YC student body for their commitment

to achieving excellence, and views the number of students on Dean's List as a natural outcome for students who have been trained to be "supermen" by the dual curriculum of Jewish and secular studies which most Yeshiva College students have been forced to contend with throughout their elementary and primary education.

Dr. Schwartz, the Vice President For Academic Affairs, agrees with Dean Adler's assessment. He praised the drive and determination of the YC student body and suggested that the high grades are simply a reflection of the quality of the students. He attributes the large number of students on dean's list in part to the various programs of academic enhancement such as the Golding Distinguished Scholarships which have attracted many top caliber students to YU. In short, he believes that the high grades "reflect the faculty attitude of let's reward the students with what they truly deserve. If they truly deserve the higher grades, they should get them."

Whether one ascribes the extraordinary number of students on the dean's list to grade inflation or to the talent and drive of the student body, the high grades of most Yeshiva College students certainly do not seem to be having a negative effect on their acceptance into graduate school. On the contrary, Dean Hecht reports that Yeshiva College is well represented in all the top graduate schools. He adds: "Although the issue [of YC students' high grades] might occasionally be raised by Deans of premier law schools, I tell them to look at our students' performance in your schools."

Perhaps Dr. Lee phrased it most succinctly when he said that "the high grades can only work in the students' favor as long as they perform well once they leave."

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## Intramurals Complete Seven Weeks of Play

BY JONATHAN NEISS

Intramurals took a giant step forward with the addition of new colored jerseys for all participants. Many thanks extended to athletic director Steve Young, Stan "the man" Watson and Adam Melzer for the bright addition to the intramural league.

### WEEK # 5

#### WARRIORS 57 GRIZZLIES 50

After two straight losses, the Warriors led by the performances of Josh Hasten, Wild and Foreman, who combined for 36 points, outplayed the struggling Grizzlies. Warriors captain David Katzoff who also added 7 points classified the win as "an all-around team effort". Seth Poloner had a game high 20 points for the Grizzlies.

#### SIXERS 47 N.J. TURNPIKES 41

Friedman's Sixers continued their unbeaten streak and improved to 4-0 in a big win against Melzer's Turnpikes. Doug Rothchild (16 points), Michael Feder (14 points) continued their strong play, while Jake Goldberg contributed 10 points off the bench. Maryles and M. Goldberg led the scoring for the Turnpikes in a losing effort.

#### KNICKS 41 CROATIA 32

Another game highlighted by some questionable calls, was salvaged by the Knicks, who improved their record to 3-1. Tenacious defense and a season high 27 points by Eitan Butler enabled the Knicks to overcome an early deficit for the win. The all Syrian team was led by Dweck who scored 15.

#### CELTICS 58 CLIPPERS 42

Trailing by one at the half, the Celtics started the second half on fire, grabbed an eight point lead and never looked back. Engle's 20 point game was not enough for the Clippers, as the Celtics were sparked by solid play of Marc Rosenbaum (18 points), Ari Cutler (10 points) and Andy Davidson (10 points). For the Clippers, Y. Septimus added lift off the bench with 10 points.

### WEEK # 6

#### LAKERS 53 GRIZZLIES 42

Mark Hecht with another solid performance scoring 20 points led the Lakers to their third win of the season. Seth Poloner and Jon Lifschutz combined for 30 points for the Grizzlies. Surprisingly, the talented Grizzlies continue to slump and dropped their fourth straight.

#### KNICKS 43 RAPTORS 40

The Knicks continued rolling winning their fourth in a row. Knicks center Daniel Lowe, who at times seemed unstoppable, dominated with 20 points. Other key contributors for the Knicks were Daniel Blank and Joel Kornbluth who totalled 17 points. Sam Wald's 14 points paced the scoring for the winless Raptors, who also suffered a major blow when Donnie Appel was forced to leave the game early due to an injury.

#### CELTICS 42 CROATIA 32

This game was a blowout from the start, as the Celtics crushed Croatia. Davidson's Celtics were led by Ari Cutler, Marc Rosenbaum and Ari Rockoff who combined for 29 points. The all-Syrian team got strong performances from Dweck (15 points) and David Waknin (14 points) in the losing effort.

### WEEK # 7

#### N.J. TURNPIKES 53 CELTICS 46

Big performances by Turnpike guard Steve Mandel, who had 17 points including four buckets from 3 point range, and 15 points from center Jeremy Fox helped the Turnpikes achieve their third win of the season. This spoiled the efforts of Celtics Ari Rockoff and Ari Cutler, who scored 13 apiece. The loss put an end to the Celtics previous four game winning streak.

#### CLIPPERS 42 SIXERS 40

Marked as the matchup of the week, the battle of the two 4-1 teams, certainly lived up to its expectations. Clippers guard Brad Nussbaum drained two free throws as time expired for a Clippers victory. Clippers captain Seth Grossman had 11 points and Yechiel Engle added 7 for the first place Clips. Ari Hirt of the Sixers had his biggest game of the season scoring 16 in a losing effort.

#### WARRIORS 60 CROATIA 46

The Warriors used a balanced attack, as three players scored in double figures in their win over the 0-5 Croatia team. Josh Hasten and David Wild each had 15 points, while Kenny Weinblatt totalled 14 points to lead the Warriors. Dweck was once again Croatia's leading scorer with 15 points and D. Waknin also added 14.

#### SIXERS 38 RAPTORS 33

Playing without the services of Donnie Appel (injury), the 0-5 Raptors didn't stand much of a chance against the high-flying Sixers squad. Hillel Olshin and Doug Rothchild had big games for the Sixers. Sam Wald led the Raptors attack, while Jay Koffsky provided some offensive punch with 9 points off the bench in the loss.



YU Macs at home against Bard College

## A Dismal 3-4 Start for the Macs

BY STEVEN ZOMBEK

After much anticipation, the Yeshiva Macabees kicked off their 1995-96 season. On November 19, the "new look" Macs opened their season with a 77-54 rout of Emerson College before a raucous crowd of 400 people. The Macs got off to a quick start with the hot shooting of sophomore phenom, Alon "oak" Zaibert, who led the Macs with 20 points. The first half was a see-saw battle with the Macs clinging to a 33-28 half-time lead.

Senior guard Barry Aranoff led the second half surge with his intense defensive play. Picking up where he left off last season, Aranoff finished with 9 steals, 15 points, and 5 assists. The Macs were sparked with great bench play, led by junior Steven Kupferman and sophomore sensation Brian Wein. Wein and his up-tempo style of play, ignited the crowd with a couple of nifty reverse lay-ups and a dunk attempt on which he was fouled (Wein will throw one down this season).

In the second game of the season, the Macs took on an extremely quick and talented John Jay team. Unfortunately, the outcome of the game didn't quite go Yeshiva's way. After leading by seven points with five minutes to play, John Jay took control of the game with their pressure defense and outside shooting. The Macs, unable to buy a basket down the stretch, committed a couple of crucial turnovers during crunch time, resulting in a 69-65 loss.

Over the holiday weekend, the Macs took part in the Molloy Thanksgiving Basketball Tournament. The Macs, who took on Molloy College in the opening round, played poorly in the first half collecting just seven defensive rebounds while giving up eleven offensive boards. As a result, the Macs went to the locker room down 38-30 at the half. The Macs finally got things going in the second half, holding host Molloy scoreless for the first six minutes during an 8-0 run. With 3:35 left in the game Molloy took a 58-56 lead. An Alan Levy put back and two free throws by Alon Zaibert put the Macs ahead for good. The Macs escaped with a 61-59 win to advance to the championship game. Captain Alan Levy led the way with 20 points.

This set the stage for the championship game of the tournament where the Macs took on a strong Dominican College team. Dominican jumped out to a 27-17 half-time lead. In the second half, Dominican exploited their size advantage down in the blocks, en route to a 69-46 thrashing of the Macs.

The Macs brought their 2-2 record to City College last Tuesday night and put on a horrendous performance. After leading at half-time 26-22, the Macs could not put it together in the second half losing their lead and eventually the game by a score of 52-49. Brian Wein led the way with 16 points.

The Macs played host to a weak Bard College team last Thursday night. Bard was no match for the Macs who led at half-time 32-9. Jake Rosenberg was perfect from the

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## The Commentator

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