

QUARANTINER



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PURIM 5781 ~ FEBRUARY 2021

EDITORIAL

NO SMILE NO ENTRY

By Smylie Thumb

The start of any semester is hard, but beginning a semester in these precedented times has posed the greatest challenge yet. Ordinarily, we all look forward to the start of a semester, eagerly awaiting the new clubs and events. We approach the semester with baited breath, wondering what surprises the future has in store for us. However, due to extreme budget cuts and world peace, we now face utterly monotonous times. We need to face the fact that aside from a few schedule adjustments, this semester will be extraordinarily ordinary.

We have all received emails, and sat through lectures aiming to prepare us for these times. As President Rabbanit Dr. Ariella Berman urged, during these precedented times we must come together to support one another and take the time to seek support geared to alleviating the learning-fatigue we are all doomed to face.

I want to commend the Macs on their perseverance during these times, making their way to the Washington Heights championships. It is inspiring for us all to see what can be accomplished when we take ownership of our lives and push through the boredom. However, unlike the Macs who made an effort to find joy, I was shocked and appalled to see many current YU students who were supposed to be cheering on the game, spreading the light of the Macs, but were instead huddled together in the stands with bare faces. Not a smile in sight. Due to the poor foresight of YU

who did not take a stand in enforcing joy, this event sadly put us at risk. Many left that event with frowns and at high risk of falling into a pit of despair.

While YU should have taken a stance earlier (one that could have mediated the sadness spread), I want to commend the YU administration for taking a bold stance, recognizing the dire situation of commonality by releasing the university's "Rules of Behavior" policy. I am behooved to note, however, that this statement was released on the tails of many complaints from students and faculty alike about the subpar, educational and extracurricular experience.

Aside from the "Rules of Behavior," YU came to the conclusion that a smile must be flashed in order to gain access to campus buildings. Smiles have the power to change lives as smiles are scientifically proven to keep students happy during these usual times. While no one will be allowed on campus unless they are wearing something on their face — a smile — I, as well as others, have noticed some downturned mouths have remained around the YU campus.

At Yeshiva University, we need to remember

one of the core tenets of judaism: to greet your fellow Jew with a smile. Pirkei Avot 1:15 writes that one should receive each person with a sever panim yafos, a pleasant expression. Have we forgotten about this value here at YU? Do we need signs posted on every door with words such as No Smile No Service? In fact, I have even heard some Rosh Yeshiva exclaim "How can we have strayed so far from the words of our fathers, at a Yeshiva no less!?!?"

During these precedented times, it is important for us to come together. We must take the above teaching to heart, smiling at each other is the first step to building a community. If we have

any chance of withstanding this tedious semester, we need to begin by fostering a smile wearing community. Before leaving your dorm each morning, we must not only look for our keys, and ID, but we need to remember to take our smiles too.



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Purim Sameach
FROM THE
YU OBSERVER

All YU Light Switches to be Replaced with Dimmer Switches

By Rick Astley

In a recent email to the Yeshiva University student body, President Rabbi Dr. Artie Bourbon announced that he has arranged to replace all of the light switches in all YU-affiliated buildings with dimmer switches.

"We are living in unprecedented times," Berman stated in the email, "and in order to adjust, we must treat the transition back to campus life as a dimmer switch. I have been using this extremely clever metaphor for several months now, but I have come to worry that much of the student body feels removed from the metaphor. These dimmer switches will provide the visual aid we need

in order to fully understand the dimmer switch metaphor for these aforementioned unprecedented times."

The dimmer switches will be installed across all buildings on March 4. In the email, Berman explained that this date was chosen because it will mark "a year since we have started getting increasingly, exponentially dimmer here at Yeshiva University." Yeshiva University first closed its doors on the Wilf Campus on March 4, 2020, thus making this project occur on the one-year anniversary of the university's first closure.

While Bourbon is optimistic

about this visualization of his metaphor, it requires the allotment of a budget that was previously unprecedented. "We didn't originally set aside a dimmer switch budget, of course," explained a named spokeswoman, "so we had to make some sacrifices. We will be taking some of the budget from the Studio Art department. After all, without an art floor, what do they need all that money for?"

Much to the dismay of Bourbon, however, he was not given authorization to establish dimmer switches in all of the buildings he had hoped. According to Brandy Orangebaum, chief facilities and administrative officer, "We have

authorization for the undergraduate buildings, sure, and even the graduate buildings and the dorms. But what about Chop Chop and Golan? I know they're not actually our buildings, but I'd love to have them in on the adjustment. Meanwhile, Tiberias has been driving a hard bargain, but they'll come around."

It is the hope of Bourbon and the YU administration that establishing the dimmer switches throughout Yeshiva University will help the students and faculty to be mindful of his metaphor and its meaning.



SCW Students Trapped in Zoom Calls Twice in One Morning

By Carol Baskin, News Editor

Following some irregular Zoom activity earlier this week, on Thursday, February 30 at 1:00 p.m. EST, several Stern College for Women (SCW) students in Mr. Baskin's "Introduction to Zoology" course were unable to leave their Zoom meeting.

As the end of class drew closer and students became more excited to embark on their weekend plans, some SCW students found themselves trapped in their last Zoom class of the day. One student, who wishes to remain anonymous, shared her experience with the YU Quarantiner, stating, "I tried to leave the Zoom meeting as I normally would after a long day of

Zoom calls, but found that I could not find the 'Leave' button on my Zoom tab. The professor already left the meeting, so we weren't sure what to do." The student expressed her gratitude when she was finally able to be rescued from the Zoom call, saying, "Baruch HaShem [Thank God] one of the women in the class was a Comp-Sci major, or we would have never gotten out." The fourth year computer science major, who also wished to remain anonymous, explained the atmosphere of the Zoom call after Professor Baskin left as "something out of a documentary." The same student continued to explain, "All my peers unmuted themselves and

all expressed the same hysteria... it was a simple technical fix and everyone immediately left the call once the problem was resolved."

As the number of Zoom bombing incidents continue to rise, professors have been instructed to maintain strict security of their Zoom meetings. Professor Baskin commented, "I am new to this whole Zoom thing. I was told to download the highest form of security for the Zoom meetings, so I did... I didn't realize that to 'lock' the Zoom meeting really meant students could not get out."

Many students have expressed their concerns. "Not only are

we being threatened by Zoom bombings, but our own teachers can't even figure out how to use to Zoom settings to the extent that students are being trapped in class," shared one student.

Eric Yuan, CEO of Zoom, has not yet given a comment to the YU Quarantiner at the time of publication.

New YU Straight Panel Causes Controversy

By Moira Rose *meant to be read in Moira's exquisite, eccentric accent*

Yeshiva University has generated much controversy with its allowance of the YU Straight Panel. Replicating the YU LGBTQ+ Panel which was held in December 2020, four straight students are to take stage and talk of their personal histories and their struggles with being straight in the Jewish Orthodox Community. It is to be held on June 9, Heterosexual PrideDay, and will be moderated by the renowned Ken Spero. A highlight of what to expect was sent out in an email to all Yeshiva University students:

"This panel will be a safe forum for the four members of the straight community to share their stories of struggling to be straight in a more 'woke' Jewish Orthodox world. While no Jewish Law will be discussed, and there will be a lack of political rhetoric, Ken Spero, the mensch himself, will be the moderator and is expected to add in his (unwarranted) input. The audience will be requested to pay an admission fee of \$5, which will be donated to the Menly Menches — a non-profit organization which teaches young men the Jewish Marriage Laws from the very beginning of their Torah study. If anyone has further questions, please contact yustraightpanel@mail.yu.edu."

There is student outrage on all campuses. Chava Nargilah (SCW '22) raged, "This is almost as infuriating as Moira Rose's Sunrise Bay character being killed off!" One anonymous YC '22 student complained, "Don't we have this all the time?!" One of the panel's supporters, an SCW '24 student, who heard this student's comment, responded with, "This panel is exactly what we need! It celebrates YU's diversity!" Which was met with the YC student's response, "Do you know the meaning of diversity?"

David Rose, owner of smalltown Schitt's Creek, will be leading a protest march in support of YU's LGBTQ+ community on May 18, 2021. A donation will also be made by Mr. Rose to the YU Counseling Center, in order to support all of the student's mental health.



People Getting Stuck In Elevators Long-Distance

By The Hulk

A series of unfortunate events occurred on January 28, 2021 at 8:55 a.m. when 54 Stern College for Women students, across the country, got stuck in their buildings' elevators. As if in succession, each elevator stopped working and fire fighters took their time to arrive on scene. At roughly 9:30 a.m., having missed the majority of Zoom lecture, students were finally rescued from the elevators. However, one week later, students have reported that instead of fixing the elevators in their respective buildings, the elevator companies have merely patched the elevator with duct tape and hot glue.

Andy Bananaman, chief facilities and administration officer at YU, commented saying, "These were a series of incidents that were out of our

control. We are doing our best to buy more duck tape and glue from Amazon Prime and give it to the students affected so that these incidents do not happen again. Additionally, we ask that at YU women avoid taking the elevator at all costs because even though the elevators are scheduled to be fixed by the Fall 2021 semester, it may still take another 67 years."

Arielle Baubam, SCW '25, who was stuck in an elevator on the Upper West Side, reported to the newspaper that "It was one of the scariest moments of my life but it wasn't the first time this has happened; I was stuck in the Stern College elevator not long ago. To be honest I should really move into and live inside the elevator, I'm allowed to stay there rent free." It seems that even from afar, Stern College has some maintenance issues that need to

be addressed.

YU staff member Professor Rebecca Shuckester commented on these recent elevator halts saying "This is why the students should come back to campus! You have a lower chance of catching COVID on our safe campus then you do getting stuck in an elevator. So some back to campus, and crowd the classrooms; we miss you!"

In the midwest, student Aly Broom, SCW '29, commented by saying, "At least when I'm stuck doing class in the elevator I don't have my screaming siblings around me, who needs WiFi when I have the comfort of silence..."

On the opposite side of the country Allie Baxabom, SCW '30, reported that she was "scared." This is all she shared on the matter. Her comment

alone to this newspaper showed that this was no ordinary incident. No one is safe, no matter which elevator they take, the Stern College elevator karma will follow them.

The Honorable Lord Avi Bauxman Esq., President of YU, sent an email to the school outlining the effects these incidents had on the students while pointing out a silver lining stating "in the darkness of the elevator, we need to look to the light. The light can only be dim if we make it dim so let us find our flashlight in these pressing times." Truly inspirational words from a motivating man.

The elevator company, ElevatorY Universe, refuses to comment on this matter.

YU Survey Indicates that 75% of Students Do Not Know What Their Professors Look Like

By Elizabeth Bennet, Arts and Culture Editor

A survey conducted by the administration of Yeshiva University found that 75% of their students did not know what their professors or instructors looked like.

The survey was initially sent to the student body on both Beren and Wilf Campuses via the student email list on November 15 of last year, the official President Rabbi Dr. Ari Berman day. However, after learning that students could not find the survey amongst the myriad of emails sent to them daily at arbitrary times, the administration had to resend the survey on November 31, 2020 to ensure a significant number of responses.

Exactly three months after President Rabbi Dr. Ari Berman day, the results were collected and analyzed by the students in the Business Statistics course that consisted of freshmen from the Sy Syms School of Business on Wilf Campus, Yeshiva University's most valued numbers experts. Approximately 75% of the respondents

claimed that they were unable to recognize and identify their own professors. While only 37.29% of the Beren students claimed their inability to recognize their professors, the Wilf students' responses were at 89.69%.

Zoom meeting window, whereas 52.91% said it was due to the immodest implications of looking at their instructors face and the remaining 12.74% of students stated that their teachers' have not figured out how to turn on their

"incredibly taxing because of the high expectations of looking at my professors and when I walk through the halls of the school buildings, I always get nervous because of the responsibilities involved in being able to recognize them and having a conversation with them. After five semesters of being a full-time YU student, they shouldn't expect students to have to look at their professors for the full semester that they take the course."

Another student, a lower junior, described having a fear of looking at their professors' faces and said that she "was required to be watched by my parents in the case that I throw my laptop at the wall from fright."

In light of these unsettling results, the Yeshiva University administration refused to address questions as to what they will do about this issue, and declined to give a comment to the YU Quarantiner.



34.35% of respondents claimed that their inability to recognize their instructors was due to their lack of motivation to look at their

cameras.

One upper senior, who wished to remain anonymous, described that doing school virtually was



The Batei Midrash Will Remain Open!

By Masechet Chagiga

A freak storm hit both YU undergraduate campuses this past Sunday, closing all facilities including dining, classrooms, and gyms. However, despite the challenging circumstances, and less than ideal situation, the Batei Midrash (communal Torah study places) remained open.

Students coming out of their morning classes reported to the YU Quarantiner that as they stepped out onto the YU plaza and Lexington Ave. respectively, a hodge-podge of snow, hail, burning rocks, and screaming frogs began to rain down. As the ballistic objects rained down, students desperately ran back to their dorms, grabbing the nearest first year on campus to shield them.

Eye witnesses reported that this freak event seemed to only affect the YU buildings, as the nearby bodegas, nail salons, and the empire state building was left undamaged.

Shortly after the start of this event, an email was sent to the student body via the YU update system stating "We are closely monitoring the freak storm-deluge-frog-missile advisory for today. The projectile predictions vary by area but are expected to be significant throughout the uptown and midtown campuses." The email went on to confirm the closure of almost all facilities on campus, including the cafeteria.

When asked what students in the dorms should do for food, the YU Quarantiner was told "that's what their illegal panini presses and kettles are for."

Despite the closure of virtually all essential resources on campus, the YU Quarantiner can confirm that the Batei Midrash will remain open. This is despite the fact that students must potentially put themselves in life threatening conditions to attend. However, closely following the teaching that "those participating in doing a mitzvah are not harmed" means that students should not be concerned.

Some have posited that the reason why the university has emphasized the Batei Midrash remaining

open is due to the lesser known "Volozhin curse." Whispers across campus have told of this curse that if there is not at least one person learning in either the Glueck or the Stern 7th floor Batei Midrash, the Yeshiva University campuses will come crumbling down. Many students are glad to see that the Yeshiva University administration is taking this supernatural threat so seriously, with one YC student stating "the Yeshiva hasn't closed since the last influenza pandemic of 1918, and we wouldn't want to break that chain of tradition."

Unprecedented Scandal Involving the YU Quarantiner Staff Rocks the Undergraduate Campuses

By Sammy the Smelly Sourdough Starter

Three YU Quarantiner copy editors were rushed off to hospital last Thursday, after allegedly taking part in a drinking game. While the students are fully recovered and have returned unharmed, the student body was left wondering what game could these three have possibly been playing to cause such high levels of intoxication.

One student reported to the YU Quarantiner that he believes the topic of the game was to take a shot any time the term "unprecedented" was used in a YU Quarantiner article. The proximity of the incident and the Observer February edition publication date seems to corroborate this. A second student witness testified that the editors could be heard shouting "how many times do you have to say unprecedented before it becomes preceded" as well as "puting the word in quotation marks still counts as using it, it's still a cliche

even if you're using it ironically." Another editor was heard muttering to herself "uncommon, extraordinary, unheard-of, unparalleled, abnormal, idiosyncratic," as well as other synonyms.

However, conflicting student eyewitness reports have stated that this particular incident was the result of a different drinking game, namely the "take-a-shot-every-time-you-see-a-nose-in-the-library" drinking game. This game has the unfortunate effect of quickly inebriating participants who play with others, as every shot requires the uncovering of the nose. The exponential number of shots taken when playing this game has led to others naming this the "un-flattening the curve" drinking game.

Incidents such as these have occurred in other universities

around the country, leading to some to call for further restrictions of alcohol acquisition and consumption. Yeshiva University History professor Bill Penthouse commented that when he teaches the quote "Those who do not remember the past are condemned to

repeat it," he did not think history would repeat so literally.



PRDAB Fan Club Profile

By Shayna Herszage on behalf of Features Staff

Each month, the YU Quarantiner aims to highlight one club available to the YU undergraduate community. For the Purim issue, the YU Quarantiner is highlighting the “President Rabbi Dr. Ari Berman Fan Club.”

Club Name: President Rabbi Dr. Ari Berman Fan Club

Heads: Ariella Namreb, Aryeh Notberman

Relevant Campus(es): Wilf Campus,

but we come to Beren now and then.

What is your club’s mission state-

ment?: We aim to spread knowledge of the ideologies, teachings and legacy of President Rabbi Dr. Ari Berman.

Why is this club important?: Where would we be without our fearless leader? Exactly.

What was your pull to get involved in/ start the club?: When President Rabbi Dr. Ari Berman took over as president of Yeshiva University, we knew this would be a new era, and every great leader needs a great team of groupies cheering him on.

What are some things your club has done in the past?: Viewings of community calls and dramatic readings of President Rabbi Dr. Ari Berman’s weekly emails have been some of our most successful events. We also enacted a new President Rabbi Dr. Ari Berman Day every November 15, in

which we spam the “YU Memes for Jewish Varsity Teens” Facebook group with memes that pay tribute to our leader.

What are some plans you have for this semester/future semesters?: Since we’ve amassed a bit of a following lately, we’re thinking about kicking it up a notch with a shabbaton in Jonestown. We’re planning on bringing Kool-Aid and lots of other fun stuff. Come if you really believe in the ideologies of our fan club and what we stand for!

What is your favorite OSL-provided food for club events?: Food? Do you have any idea how expensive that is? We just get some phone pockets with YU logos on them and call it a day.

With COVID-19, how is your club adjusting?: It’s not easy in these unprecedented times, but we just try to utilize a dimmer switch with everything.

What is your advice to someone looking to get involved on campus?: Don’t question authority in the process. It never goes well.

Anything else to say about your club: All we can say is... Berman 2024!

Are you a YU undergraduate club head interested in seeing your club featured in a future edition? Email us at theyuquarantiner@gmail.com with your club name and the names of the club heads!

Wilf Elevators Ranked: the Highs are High but the Lows are Low

By Elisha Otis

Since time immemorial, people have asked themselves “should I take the stairs or the elevator?” The answer, of course, is always the elevator. They’re faster, easier, and the glares you receive for making people hold the door for you only to go up or down a single floor are sublime. That being said, not all elevators are created equal; whether because of their physical characteristics, location, or some elusive je ne sais quoi, certain elevators are just a cut above the rest. In this article, I’ll list the top five elevators on Wilf Campus and describe why riding them is truly an incomparable experience for the discerning elevator enthusiast.

5. Morgenstern Residence Hall Elevator

I nearly included the Furst Hall Elevator instead, but the Morg elevator edged it out for two reasons. The first reason is utility; if, for

some unknown reason, one decided to take the stairs, they would find that the stairwells in Furst are much more spacious than those in Morg, making the elevators marginally less important. The second, and more important reason, is the thrill. Anyone who has had the privilege of riding one of these metallic beasts can tell you of the faint uncertainty that lingers in the air when you enter. That isn’t to say that they’re in disrepair, but something about the scuffed walls and modest capacity makes you feel just a bit unsettled. They make you doubt yourself, if only for a moment. It’s as though someone tipped a tuning fork in there years ago and the always-fading ringing never quite stopped.

4. Gottesman Library Elevator
In a word, the Gottesman Library Elevator is reliable. There’s not much else to say. It gets you where you need to go and it does a great job, time and time again. Legends

tell of a staircase that also leads to the upper floors, but I have yet to see it.

3. Rubin Residence Hall Elevator
The Rubin Residence Hall Elevator wears many hats. It leads to the gym and it leads to a residence hall, but it has one role that stands out from the others. I am speaking, of course, about the caf. The importance of this function can not be understated, it has even been said that if there is no sushi, there is no Torah. But, the Rubin elevator is not as simple as it may first appear; sometimes, it is as quiet as the fourth floor library, other times, however, it becomes a maelstrom of frenetic activity as students vie for sustenance, packed beyond any conceivable occupancy limit.

2. Jacob and Dreizel Glueck Center for Jewish Study Elevator
The JDGCJSE, as it is called by elevator connoisseurs the world over, is a force to be reckoned with. One truly feels as though they are

ascending the heights of spirituality as these chic conveyors carry them to and from shiur. Populated by only the most learned of scholars, riding the JDGCJSE is truly a religious experience. It goes to show that when riding the elevator, the journey is just as important as the destination.

1. Belfer Hall Elevator

The height of decadence, the creme de la creme, it’s little wonder that the Belfer Hall Elevator sits at the top of this list. Spacious, immaculate interiors will bring to mind luxury hotels frequented by the wealthy and elite. Furthermore, just like these hotels, once you step into the Belfer elevator, it’s not uncommon to find yourself staying there for hours, or even days, at a time. Needless to say, such splendor can be an acquired taste; luckily, most students on Wilf Campus will have ample opportunity to experience its majesty, as the only way to access the mailroom is via this elevator.

Staff Writer Spotlight: Anonymous Staff Writer

By Radio Rebel on behalf Features Staff

Each month, the YU Quarantiner aims to highlight some of the YU undergraduate students who have written articles for us over the course of the semester. For this edition, the YU Quarantiner is highlighting the Anonymous Staff Writer.

Name: The Anonymous Staff Writer

College: [Redacted]

Major: Maybe Finance, maybe Political Science. But I’m going to be rich and famous eventually, if I can keep my reputation clean.

Year: Graduating as soon as pos-

sible.

Where are you for the COVID-19 pandemic? With Whom?: I’m living with some similarly centrist, non-political friends. I hope they never find out I have secret opinions...

Currently reading: Any mystery novel I can get my hands on!

Currently watching: “Pretty Little Liars.” I know I’m late to the game, but how could I resist a mysterious person known only as “A”?

Currently listening to: Secret Tunnel from “Avatar: The Last Airbender”

Favorite way to social distance

with friends: Zoom calls with my camera off.

Any cool things you’ve done/hobbies you’ve picked up over the COVID-19 pandemic?: I’ve been trying my hand at making cakes that look like other things. You know, like when you see those videos that look like someone is putting a knife in a laptop but it’s actually just cake? So, that. I’m hoping to eventually succeed in making a cake that looks like me. What do you miss most about your pre-COVID-19 life?: I can’t say for sure, but I know I enjoy one thing about during-COVID-19 life: I love when I walk around on cam-

pus in my mask and I see people I know but they don’t notice me.

What’s better than that?

What is your favorite thing about YU?: Being able to protect my reputation for jobs and dating. If any place is going to understand that taking a stance on any issue can destroy a person, and that avoiding all opinions is the safest way to go, YU’s the place.

What’s a quote/thought/or piece of advice you have for your fellow students?: Being diplomatic is everything. To quote the musical “Hamilton”, “Talk less, smile more. Don’t let them know what you’re against or what you’re for.”

New Campus: My Childhood Bedroom

By Brutus Buckeye

After years of Yeshiva University being strictly confined to New York, the university has finally opened up its first ever campus in Ohio: my childhood bedroom.

Due to COVID-19 precautions, the campus is maintaining a strict maximum occupant limit with regards to student residents. The new campus has a student population of one undergraduate student, who lives in a single-bed dorm. Thus far, the student population has responded positively to many of the new amenities, despite acknowledging the shortcomings of the campus.

The student population reported high levels of satisfaction with the decor in the new campus. One student reported, "The interior really raises my self esteem. If I get a low grade or have a difficult lecture, I can just look over at the certificate I got in seventh grade for behaving in Hebrew class. It reminds me of my more successful salad days, and motivates me to chase that high again." 100% of students sur-

veyed on the new campus reported agreement with this sentiment.

Additionally, students have stated that they sleep better in the new dorm due to being under the constant surveillance-like watch of dozens of dolls and plush animals. According to one student, "The American Girl Dolls staring down at me from my shelf really make my night. Their vacant eyes and emotionless smiles are illuminated in the moonlight in the middle of the night, and I can't imagine a more serene feeling." While giving this quote, the student constantly glanced at the dolls on the top shelf, eyelid twitching in an expression the YU Quarantiner can only interpret as joy.

While the decor of the new campus has had overwhelmingly positive reviews, the fully-stocked closet has received even more satisfied feedback. The closet on the new campus is stuffed with old clothing from the past decade. As a student living on the campus stated, "I walked in and I saw stained high



school uniform polos hanging in that closet. Not even Vogue has been so daring to make that look work!" The student has also expressed joy at finding Silly Bandz, a hair crimper, and a pair of sequined leggings from Justice.

However, one of the students on the new campus raised her dissatisfaction with the security levels on the new campus. "I miss the days when entering campus required scanning a student ID at the door," one student expressed. "These days, anyone can just come in: my

mom wanting to ask me a question in the middle of a midterm, my sister wanting to steal my shoes, my dad wanting to know where the car keys are. Where is YU Security when I need them?"

Overall, the population of the new Yeshiva University campus is satisfied with this new advancement in the Yeshiva University community. As Yeshiva University extends from New York City into out-of-town cities and childhood bedrooms, Yeshiva University will also extend further into our hearts.

The Beren Elevators Ranked: Break it Down Now Y'all

By Professor Snape

8. Brookdale Elevators (both of them)
No surprise here. The elevator that is always crowded no matter the time of the day, decides to free fall because it is bored, and always has a lingering smell of Eden Wok, is the Brookdale elevator. Climbing 20 stories, this elevator is the one you can count on to be late constantly. Picture this: you have pressed the button to go down from the 19th floor, you have 10 minutes to get to class, you hear the playful beep of the elevator one floor below you thinking it will come up to pick you up. Suddenly, you hear those beeps get further and further away from you. You realize what has happened; the elevator ignored your floor because it said "nah bruh" and decided to skrrrt out of there. You are now forced to run down 19 floors hoping you don't tumble all the way down. Needless to say, this elevator ranks last.

7. Schott Elevator
Not good, not the worst. This elevator has done nothing absolutely terrible yet we are all just waiting for Schott to become a walk-up at this point. The only reason this elevator has not had the opportunity to do something terrible is because it has been broken for at least three years now if not more. The only good thing about Schott is that the elevator (and I guess also that kitchen) but that is it. With the elevator broken, what does Schott really have going for it?

6. 245 Left Elevator

The only reason that this elevator is not ranked at number seven is because it sometimes works. Other than that this elevator rivals that of Brookdale in terms of reliability and safety. Don't pack this elevator because it will get stuck, and you will be forced to stare at another girl's backpack for the next 30 minutes until you are released. The people riding this elevator are mean. You have the girls who press two. You have the girls who don't say excuse me when getting off the elevator prompting you to drop your coffee everywhere. And you have the girls who will listen to their music full blast no matter what. Worst of all, this elevator is unpredictable. There is a feeling of instant regret once getting on this elevator which is immediately heightened when more students pack it; who knows if it's going to drop or not. The only safe time to ride this elevator is when one other student is on it; and make sure there is at least one other person with you, you wouldn't want to be stuck in an elevator alone.

5. 245 Middle Elevator

This elevator has speed and that is the only thing it has going for it. At any given time, this elevator has at least two numbers, if not more, that are not glowing. If the elevator has not been stuck at least once that week there is something wrong. The middle elevator is constantly sticky and is only fun to ride when there is no one in it. This el-

evator is only handy to the athletes at Stern College as it will be the first to arrive on the 11th floor and additionally serves as a great asset to the athletes carrying down supplies for practice.

4. 245 Right Elevator

A pretty reliable elevator. You can count on this one to break down the least amount of times, and that, coupled with the minimal foot-traffic, makes this one of the best elevators in 245. The right elevator does have its downfalls however. Being the "good" elevator comes with pressure. If one day the two other elevators break down, students rely on the right elevator to stay functioning. If it chooses to break down on the same day, disappointment will reign throughout Stern.

3. Sy Syms Elevators

These are very reliable elevators. It is kind of like a Honda, reliable, nothing fancy, will get the job done. The elevators in the Sy Syms building are rarely broken but almost constantly smell like sushi. These elevators are also part of the office building Sy Syms is attached to which could be why they run so smoothly. Despite being some of the best elevators on campus, these machines take a very long time, don't hold many people, and you can find yourself accidentally pressing a floor above 8 resulting in immediate embarrassment to yourself.

2. 245 Freight Elevator

These are only really known to the softball players who are forced to carry down pounds of equipment on days the three 245 elevators are broken, to those who work in the building, and to upper class women. This elevator runs smoothly and is a hidden gem within the 245 building. However nice these elevators are, there is a downfall, you can only take this elevator to and from a certain floor so you will need to walk the rest of the way if the other three are out of service. Overall, a great ride and almost always empty.

1. 215 Freight Elevator

This elevator is honestly the best. It seems good constantly, it runs smoothly and is never broken. It brings you to all the floors in the 215 building including the office floors. It is almost always empty because lowerclassmen are afraid to ride it not knowing that students are allowed to use it. When running late to class in the 215 building you can count on this elevator to get you to class only running a few seconds late. The one and only downfall is that it has padding, so it is not aesthetically pleasing, but who cares about aesthetics when you have a reliable elevator that won't make you run up stairs, destroy your nose, or make you have seconds thoughts about getting on.

Finding Love at the Spit Test Stations

By Salt Bae

As the coronavirus has continued to rage across the world for the past year, a significantly more threatening crisis has appeared within the Jewish community: how do we find people to date without the convenient coed spaces, such as the Seforim Sale and Friday night tables, which we always took for granted?

When the Yeshiva University campuses finally reopened in October, I felt the absence of dating opportunities everywhere I went. The library was emptier, Chop Chop was only available for takeout, and the Intercampus Shuttle had not yet restarted. Every time I walked out of the Beit Midrash (study hall), the question blared in my mind: where are all the eligible single women?

Everything changed the day I walked into the COVID-19 testing area on Wilf Campus and saw her. Samantha Pittler sat behind her trifold board, spitting into her tube. I could only see a part of her face, but she already took my breath away more than the virus itself. I sat in the middle seat, ensuring that I would be in full view and capable of striking up a conversation with her. At first, she just wanted to spit in peace, but before long, we were talking between salivations. By the time she finished her test, I had

her phone number and a date for the following night.

Since that day in early November, we spent our time going through all the classic coronavirus-era date ideas: filling out the pre-screen survey together, Sabbath walks on opposite sides of the street, washing our hands together, and more. But above all else, the most treasured time we spent together was on the second floor of Furst Hall, spitting into tubes while we gazed into each other's eyes.

Last week, I finally laid it all out on the line the way I had always dreamed of doing: after we finished our coronavirus spit tests in Furst Hall, I put my specimen sample in the big plastic bin and I got down on one knee, pulling a ring out of my pocket. Always a romantic, I proposed in the very same room where we first met. I think she was surprised and overjoyed, but I could not be entirely sure because of the mask. She said yes to my proposal — how could she refuse? — and we plan to get married in mid-March, the first anniversary of when Yeshiva University closed its campuses due to the virus, in tribute to the international crisis that brought us together.

Ultimately, the coronavirus pandemic has been a yearlong learning expe-

rience for everyone. I have learned that G-d always has a plan — if not for Divine intervention bringing COVID-19 and mandatory spit tests, I may not have met the love of my life. I have learned that no global crisis can truly get in the way of love. And above all else, I have learned that salivating in a classroom is something that can be so intimate — it just might change your life.



YU Faculty Profile: Dr. Rocky Stone

By Spongebob Squarepants on behalf of Features Staff

Each month, the YU Quarantiner aims to highlight a YU faculty member. For the Purim edition, the YU Quarantiner is highlighting Dr. Rocky Stone.

Name: Dr. Rocky Stone
Department: Monolith Establishment
Educational Background/Qualifications: Trust me. I'm qualified.
Hometown: Boulder, Colorado.
How long have you worked at YU?: I'd hate to age myself, so I'll leave this one unanswered, if that's alright.

What got you passionate about your field?: As a child, I learned that the world stands on three pillars: Torah, service and kindness. I decided that the importance of pillars may as well be taken literally, and I've been passionate about monoliths ever since.

What do you like about working at YU?: There's a lot to love, but I think my favorite thing is the fact that I am given a really sizable

budget each year to make my job happen and to keep YU properly covered in monoliths.

How has COVID-19/Zoom affected the way your job functions?: Significantly. So few people see the fruits of my labors as they walk between classes. Sometimes it makes me wonder: why am I doing this? But then I see the masked faces of students who are only first leaving their rooms in the late afternoon, and they are so in awe of whatever new monolith was erected earlier that day. And that's what it's really all about.

If you could bring in any guest lecturer, alive or deceased, who would it be, and what would they speak about?: I would love to bring in Moses himself. I have always wanted to hear about specifically why he chose to hit the rock and why he couldn't just repurpose the Golden Calf. All in all, I just would love to hear him speak and try to defend whatever he has against monoliths.

Do you have any advice for students interested in a career in your field?: Be determined. Not a lot of people respect the monolith field as much as they should, and it takes a strong resolve to reach the point I've reached in my career.

What is one thing you want students to know about you?: If you knock on the correct spots on the monolith of the YU logo on Wilf Campus, the monolith opens up and you find where I live. The code is hidden within this article. Get searching!

Is there a YU professor you admire who you would like to see highlighted in future editions? Email us at theyuquarantiner@gmail.com.



WISHES THE STUDENTS OF YU A SHANA TOVA U'METUKA
FULL OF PRIDE AND NACHAS FOR YOURSELF AND EACH OTHER.

WE CONGRATULATE THE
YU PRIDE ALLIANCE

ON A SUCCESSFUL
#WETOOPREYU MARCH

THAT WAS A

Kiddush Hashem

FOR THE ENTIRE YESHIVA.

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STUDENT COUNCIL TRUST BUSTS SHAYNDIE HIMSZAGE'S CLUB MONOPOLY

BY JUSTIN TRUDOUGH

Not content to hound their own student government with student court cases, the Wilf student court has decided to sue a student in their first trust busting case. The decision titled Shayndie vs. the Wilf Student Court comes after one student came to the realization that only one person was ever sending emails about events on both campuses. "We knew something was amiss when we saw her sending out emails for the college republicans and college democrats, Shamayim (an animal advocacy group) as well as YUP-CHIC (YU People Consume Hens in Cows).

Shayndie Himszage (Sagittarius INFP), defended herself by stating "I don't cook, I don't clean, but I instead utilize my time to run every single club ... " she continued "I'm a savage (yeah), organized, ambitious, resourceful."

Student Justice Nathan Pinnitsky (Sagittarius INFJ-T) quoted anonymously to the *YU Quarantiner* "this was an incredibly hard court case to argue, as OSL heavily pressured us to not trust-bust Shayndie. They feared that without her events the only events left would be "herd-immunity-on-the-shidduch-shuttle" and "pay your way through college by selling your plasma.""

In further response to this attack on her empire Himszage argued "In this economy, breaking up my big business will only further weaken the financial standing of Yeshiva University. It is unconscionable as a capitalist institution that the Wilf Student Council is even considering this clearly communist course of action." With that quote she strode away donning her black top hat, monocle and three piece denim suit.



YU CONNECTS JOINS THE S&P 500

BY BLAIR WALDORF

YU Connects is an infamous dating site connecting people from all over the world. From the Heights to Midtown, and back to the Heights. From all the money they make charging an \$100 annual fee, they have had quite the successful last quarter, finishing the year at a market capitalization rate of \$11.5 billion — making them the most successful online dating platform in the world.

They started the year off in near bankruptcy at a market cap of merely \$2,000. Then, all of a sudden, an exorbitant amount of people wanted to pay to use an online dating service instead of just going on JSwipe for free. In fact, just last week, Elon Musk tweeted that it was a worthy investment to pay for this service as it is the most cost effective way to meet your spouse.

After the tweet, the site overflowed with new members, crashing the site multiple times. From this past week alone, the company's worth skyrocketed from a mere 11.5 billion dollars to a whopping 30 billion dollars.

Other dating sites, such as Tinder and Bumble, are

shaking in their boots because they are

afraid that they will be out performed by YU Connects and its success of 450 engagements. Tinder and Bumble could never achieve such lasting numbers. According to Forbes and The Wall Street Journal, YU Connects is on it's way to becoming the Amazon

of the dating marketplace, becoming the most reliable and affordable place to find a spouse. With their marriage centered business model and questionable success rates, YU Connects has become an asset to

the market and joining the S&P 500 is only the start.

I predict that in the

near future they will knock all of the companies

off the list, leaving them as the sole members of the index. How is this possible you may ask? Easy. All they need is to perform some simple mergers and acquisitions to make every company theirs, with their name stamped all over it. In other words, YU Connects is plan-

ning world domination. Everyone is worried about China, but YU Connects is the one to watch. Amazon Prime will become YU Prime. Google will become YU Browsing. YU Connects will even take over the home improvement market, turning Lowes into YU Bayit. YU Bayit will feature broken elevators and visible pipes, becoming the most eco friendly and reliable place to remodel your home. Furthermore, one of the most exciting acquisitions is PayPal, in which they will start charging \$100 every time you open the app. The customers will love the new feature. As you can see, YU Connects is on their way for great things and joining the S&P 500 is only the beginning. Overall, this Jewish Dating site is the company to invest in, currently trading at 20 caf dollars a share.

SY SYMS ACADEMIC ADVISEMENT SUGGESTING A UNITY OF CAMPUSES

BY MR. STOPPABLE

Just a year ago, a Sy Syms School of Business student on the Beren Campus was able to make an advising appointment using the same link as the one used for a Stern academic advisement appointment. However, our world recently changed. With Yeshiva University going online due to the pandemic there also came changes from the Sy Syms advising team. Shortly after in person classes were cancelled, the whole Sy Syms advising team met with students to discuss how to best advise Sy Syms students during this difficult time. One advisor who has always found it hard to work on both campuses and is never able to remember which campus they are supposed to be at on which day, suggested a proposal for the advising team. She recommended to the

other advisors that Yeshiva University should just combine the two campuses for the business students, saying that it would be easier for scheduling and advising. In addition, she felt that all classes, Judaic and secular should be coed, which could help with staffing issues. She proposed that due to the complexity of the Judaic program on the Wilf Campus, the women

should join those programs...
...due to the complexity of the Judaic program on the Wilf Campus, the women should join those programs...

grams, and that morning *shiurim* (classes) should therefore plan accordingly. Although staff refused to respond to the *YU Quarantiner's* request for a comment, the *YU Quarantiner* can confirm that the advising team has officially made the decision to allow Sy Syms

Beren students to join the Judaic classes on the Wilf Campus. This decision was told to students in an email on April 14, 2020. In addition Sy Syms Beren students were told that they should make an appointment with academic advising using the same link that a student on the Wilf campus would visit. The women were told to make another account

on this

website
and

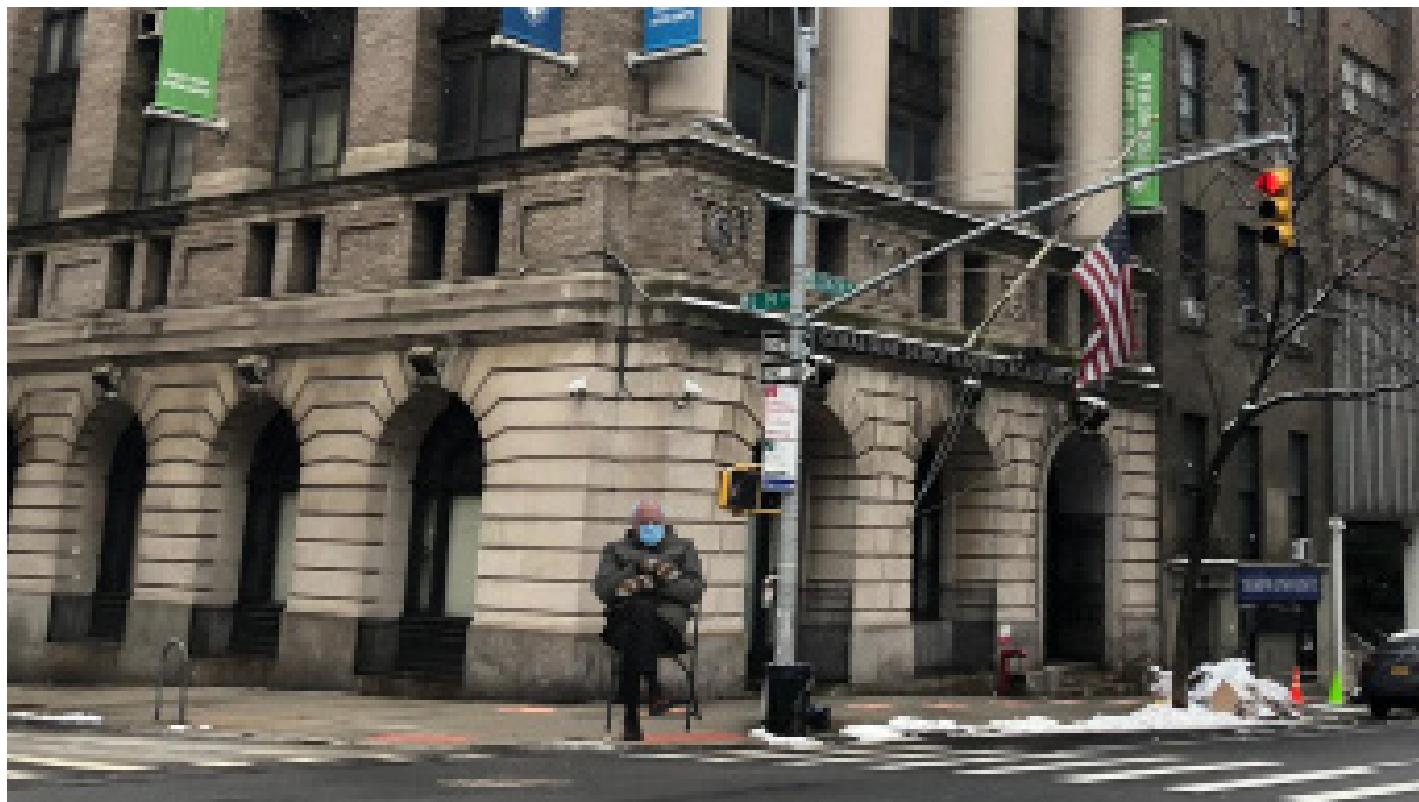
then
they

could

make an advising appointment as normal. However, what the email did not inform the students was that when one chooses a time, date and advisor, the sign up would look different it had in the past. Each student is required to answer the field of which morning pro-

gram they are a part of with "Beren Student" not given as an option. When a Beren student went to make her appointment, she expressed frustration that the reason she wanted to set up an appointment was to discuss her Fall 2020 classes but now she had to discuss just which morning program would be right for her because she could not choose classes without this information. "I did not learn Talmud in seminary but I'm a very serious student and think YP would hashkafically be right for me," she explained, "I really love the class options and flexibility of IBC but was wondering if the negative reputation also would apply to a woman who takes part." Going further she said, "I would love to get credit for going to *minyan* (prayer quorum) but currently Stern does not have a morning *minyan*."

OPINION



WHY WE DON'T NEED THE SHUTTLE

BY BERNIE'S MITTENS

The shuttle system Yeshiva University put into place many years ago is a complete waste of money and largely unnecessary. First and foremost, the shuttle must either be owned or rented. In either case, YU has to pay for it with money they do not have. Assuming it is being rented, we're throwing away that money. Assuming it's owned, the high level of depreciation on the vehicles, especially through

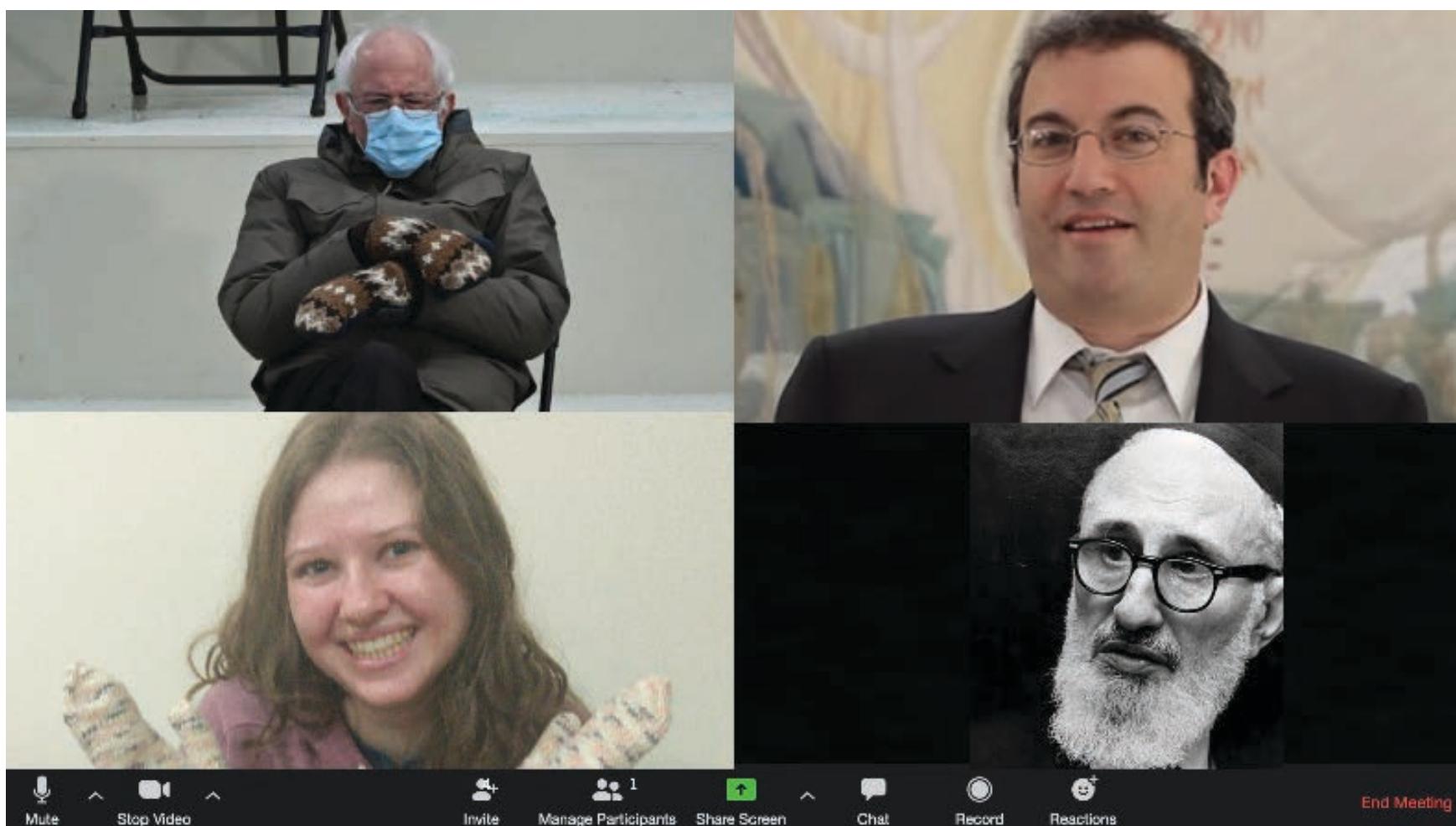
rough use on city streets, makes it ineffective for the system to be in place. Assuming YU has the available funds to acquire a transportation vehicle,

they then have to pay a driver to operate said vehicle. This burden of time and money should not be spent on amenities to potentially enhance the college experience, but should go towards things we do not actively need, like new YU flags or statues.

Even if funding is covered by the copious amount of money YU may or may not have, the shuttle would be a waste of everyone's

time. First, YU would need to accommodate students with an app that functions swiftly and efficiently — one which would never crash or provide inaccurate information. This app would have to display real-time updates to assure our student body can efficiently use the shuttle. However, this is too technologically advanced, and an unreasonable expectation.

Second, YU must allocate precious time for absolutely no



THE HORRORS OF COED ZOOMS

BY HERMIONE GRANGER

Some horrific things have struck this Earth since the beginning of Zoom courses: embarrassment when you think your mute or video is off and teachers' Zoom magically freezing at the most crucial points during the lesson which will, of course, be on the test. Just to be clear, tests are not the worst, how could something that enhances learning be bad? I mean who doesn't love an exam taken on Canvas, especially when the professors are so good at making sure they're available at the right time? But these are just some instances, amongst other horrors, that have occurred over Zoom. However, there is one new creation that could strike fear in even the bravest of hearts, the "Voldemort" of all inventions: coed Zooms.

Yes, I have spoken the unspeakable name; I must, for fear of a name only increases fear of the thing itself. These (*shudder*) coed Zooms include both male and female students in classes. As if concentrating in Zoom was not difficult enough. With Zoom fatigue, horrific wifi, professors that are incapable of sharing their

bravery, we can NOT allow such senseless and unnecessary things to distract students from pursuing their academic goals.

There's plenty of other opportunities if you wish to find a significant other besides Zoom classes. Such opportunities include coed school events, specified Zoom circumstances, the Seforim Sale (definitely no reason it exists), and

However, there is one new creation that could strike fear in even the bravest of hearts, the "Voldemort" of all inventions: coed Zooms.

screens, and Zoom links that are never accurate, why add another distraction to classrooms? Not that I would be distracted by such frivolous matters, of course. While I do admit there are more important ideologies than books and cleverness, such as friendship and

other things that take away time from learning. I attended a "Family Feud" for students at the beginning of this school year, and a minute did not go by where the word "shidduch" (marriage match) or "date" was not mentioned. I do not understand how people have

time for such things. Or if they do have time I don't understand the reason they would want to go. Personally, I would rather spend time in the library; but to each their own, I suppose. Classrooms are for learning. For expanding students' minds, intellectual abilities, and connections with the world, not for gazing into the eyes of another student by pinning specific videos or desperately fixing hair to attract a mate. Also, no one looks good at 9 a.m. in the morning. To be honest, everyone looks like Hagrid in the morning.

We all know the importance of actually learning in school. I mean professors definitely never randomly talk about their significant others' incredible Mid-dot (character traits) in a lesson, so why should we be looking for one? The school and Headmasters of the school cannot allow this to happen. Too many distractions exist already. If we continue to allow

SHUTTLE FROM PAGE 11

reason other than to pamper their students. The people using the shuttle system are more than capable of using public transportation — with their large amounts of money, and ability to brave harsh weather conditions. We are all aware of how central the subway station by 191st Street and Saint Nicholas Avenue is for everyone, and with the unques-

tionable reliability of the MTA, students shouldn't need another transportation service.

Lastly, no one makes use of the shuttles. Any time someone wants to travel to midtown or an out-of-the-way subway, they find their way. Just look at how resilient our student body is! The shuttle hasn't run at full capacity or regular hours for many months and everyone seems to be fairing just fine. In fact, if we think of the number of students who "need"

to use the shuttle to travel from Washington Heights to Midtown, it's probably close to five individuals. I'm sure they can split an Uber or something. We are all aware of the dangers of coed campuses, and our esteemed Stern students would never take lodgings anywhere near the Wilf Campus. Our very affordable and available Midtown dorming is more than enough to accommodate our student body; living on a floor which is 20 levels up is completely

convenient.

YU has no responsibility for our extra-curricular activities or events that do not pertain to campus life. The student body does not need transportation from one campus to another when there is no school-wide activity or event being held. There should be no money allocated to what the student body "needs."



A Sociological Study of the Male COVID Spit Testing Competition

BY the Author

instead of physically.

“A couple minutes ago, but I’m almost done already. My time is down to 2 minutes and 45 seconds.” — This seems to be too late in the game for our Yeshiva bachur. If he was only a minute behind, he might have been able to manage it. He can blame this on the registration staff, who may have been watching Jane the Virgin.

“Nice. I actually got my time down to a minute and a half.” — With this reply, our student accepts the challenge. The game is now afoot. The tension is crackling in the air. The boys are sitting at attention, with strained faces as they try to gather their saliva.

“Ah, but are you saving up?” — A very important question. There are a few kinds of speed spitters who come to COVID testing. Some have trained in the arts of watching food videos and chewing on their tongue, while others have learned to store saliva in their cheeks like a chipmunk. As long as a student can tell the registration staff their name and date of birth without drooling, the chipmunk technique works. Students with different spitting tactics can’t always compete.

“No, I just produce a lot of sali-

va.” — This is said proudly. While excess saliva may be an inconvenience to your dentist, during the age of coronavirus it’s a marvel. However, our student’s competitor is now in a tight spot. He can’t compete with better saliva-producing genetics, he just wasn’t born that way. He’s left with a couple of choices. Does he try to maintain the competition, even though he’s sure to lose? Does he point out the unfairness of the comparison in order to save face?

“Wow, that’s so lucky. I wish my mouth worked that way.” — He goes with flattery to dissolve the tension. It works pretty well, because he saves face and doesn’t look like a sore loser.

Although the competition is supposedly over, both boys still try to finish spitting their 3 ml (minus the bubbles) as fast as possible. They may have different techniques and start times, but the first one out of the room still wins on some level.

There are always guys who don’t compete. Generally, this is because they know they will lose. They spend most of their time complaining quite loudly about how long the testing process is. This declaration establishes for others in the room that they are not interested in competing.

In order to ascertain whether these students feared the competition or were just not ready to partake, an experiment was performed where certain students were told what to do to speed up their spitting, and then watched the next week to see if there was an increase in competition participation. This study found that the students continued to express the same complaints about spitting, and they did not seem to remember the advice given when it was repeated. Possible reasons for this may have been a lack of desire for competition or fear of a loss. Experimental errors may have included accidentally listening to the wrong boys the second time (we forgot to write down their names) or may have been due to the advice coming from a woman (it’s always unclear whether they hear what I say). This study suggests that taking a long time to finish the spit test is an active choice on the part of many, in order to avoid the intensity of the competition.

The transformation of spit testing into a race is a source of annoyance for many a COVID monitoring volunteer, who all tire quickly of the posturing. It is, however, a boon for the school — at least if there’s a competitive aspect to the test, maybe the pandemic non-believers will show up.

Scientifically speaking, men are competitive. The behavior of the boys of Wilf during COVID-19 testing, therefore, should not come as a surprise. And yet, everyday while working in YU’s COVID monitoring program, I am newly astonished by the tension that builds in the testing rooms. A recent study of YU’s COVID-19 monitoring program has revealed the fascinating sociological premises for this occurrence.

As a member of the monitoring program’s staff, I assisted in organizing this study. Hiding inconspicuously behind my face shield, I am forgotten by the boys who arrive to take their tests, allowing me to observe their behavior unnoticed. After a quick reminder to grab a wipe, these bochurim (young men) pass me by into the rooms, and take their seats. The competition then begins.

The average conversation commences along the following lines:

“Mendy, when did you get here?” — This question is important, as the newly arrived student needs to know whether it’s worth it to try to compete. If the other student has been there too long, the bochur will choose to compete verbally

My Teacher is a Judaics Bender

BY Mr. Dr. Strange

Air, Water, Earth, Fire... and Judaics?

Long ago the four nations lived together in harmony; then, everything changed when the Judaics teacher showed her powers unleashing massive amounts of homework, Yiddish, Rashi Script, and rapid fire hebrew throughout the world.

There I was, a sophomore who had just come into Stern College, when I had my first encounter with a Judaics Bender. Having attended a Jewish Day School in high school, I knew the power these benders might hold, but it wasn't until I reached Stern that I recognized how powerful these benders actually are.

What is a Judaics bender? The Judaics bender has the ability to scan through the entire Torah in one go and is able to relay all the information back to you within an one hour and fifteen minute period. Not only that, but they have a unique ability to write in scrawling Hebrew cursive on the white board so that only they can understand, leaving their students with gaps in their knowledge. There are more studies underway to better understand the powers that these professors possess.

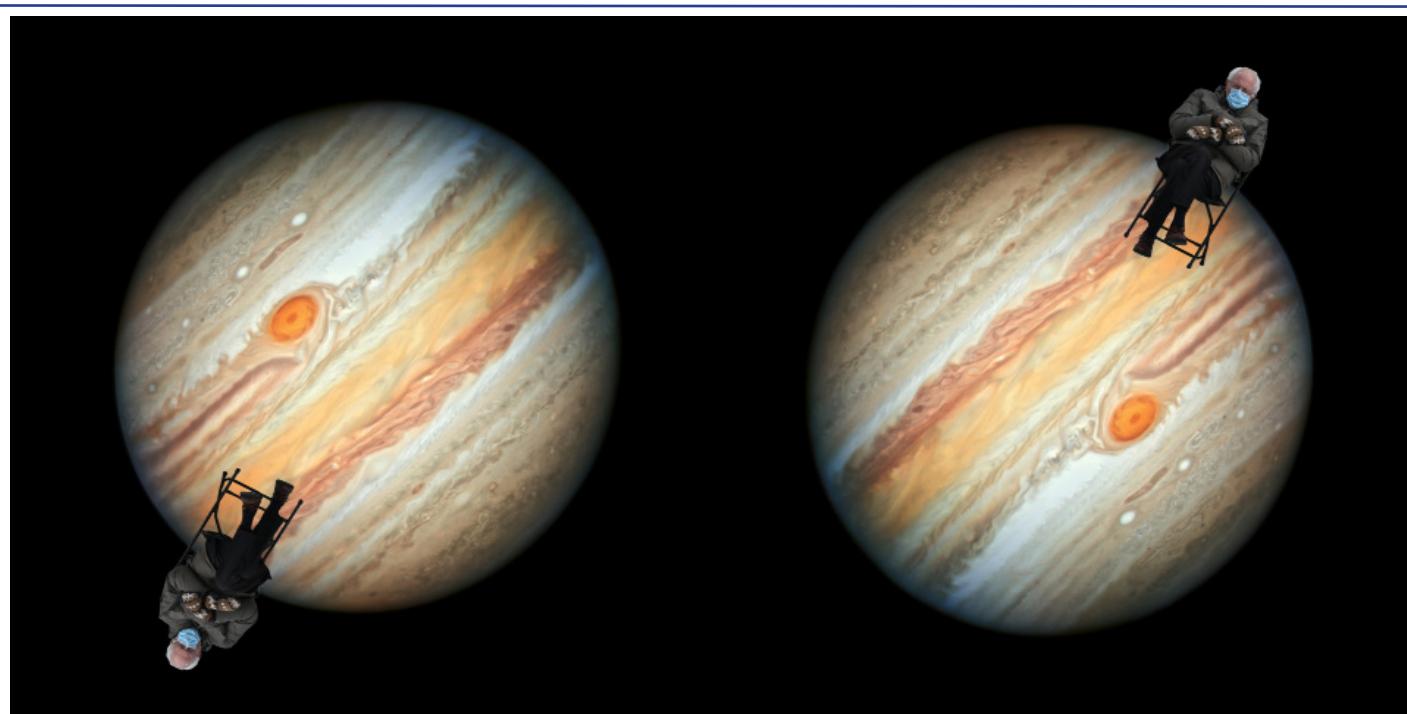
According to a credible .org website, a Judaics bender is defined as a "[g]reat master of the Judaics arts with the ability to confuse and over complicate even the simplest gematria and talmudic texts." A new study has been released which confirms the hypothesis that many scientists have made regarding the pow-

ers of the Judaics benders. The hypothesis stated that all Judaics benders have the ability to not only flunk their students for not understanding advanced Yiddish, but also to make wild accusations regarding race, gender, ethnicity, and marital status. This hypothesis was supported and confirmed by a finding in the National Geojudaic Journal stating that "out of 1000 participants from various Jewish school in the United States, 1000 of those participants displayed the bending skills of the aforementioned accusations regarding race, gender, ethnicity, and marital status, along with flunking ability. The r-value for this study was 1."

An r-value of 1 indicates that an event or a study is completely and perfectly accurate which proves that the hypothesis is in fact correct. Additionally, since the study

had a wide sample size composed of random participants, the factor of bias was eliminated thereby proving the skill-set of the Judaics benders.

The Judaics benders are out there in the world and we all need to be wary of their power. Use caution to try your best and avoid flunking within the Judaic bender's presence and try not to be swayed by whatever racist, homophobic, or martial inaccuracy might be spewed out of their mouths. While fire benders may burn you, air benders may spin you into oblivion, water benders may make you freeze, and earth benders may bury you in rock, none of these benders compare to the massive power and extreme might that the Judaics bender holds.



YU Goes to Jupiter

BY R2D2

Forget NASA, forget SpaceX, forget Elon Musk. There's a new space player in town and they're called Yeshiva University. You've seen their name on hand sanitizers, mugs, ill-fitted thicc sunglasses, and monoliths but now you'll see their name on a rocketship. It's been reported that President Arielle Bonbon and the marketing team have been faced with a difficult realization this year — the swag just hasn't been enough. Due to the pandemic, the Beren students are unable to play "Stay to Play" on Shabbat for leftover shirts from 10+ years ago that are five sizes too big and the annual swag fair was cancelled.

The university's love for a good deal never goes unnoticed. A cou-

ple of months ago there was a report of a \$15 Groupon for an acre of land on Mars, but, just Mars won't cut it for YU and so they've decided to go to where no man has physically gone before — Jupiter. Similar to how YU's meat dinners leave you, gassy, YU will be gathering their troops to visit 'The Gas Giant' Jupiter and leave their mark on the planet. "This is going to be the ultimate advertisement for the university" remarked Dean Ether Oxygen who will be making the trek alongside Bonbon.

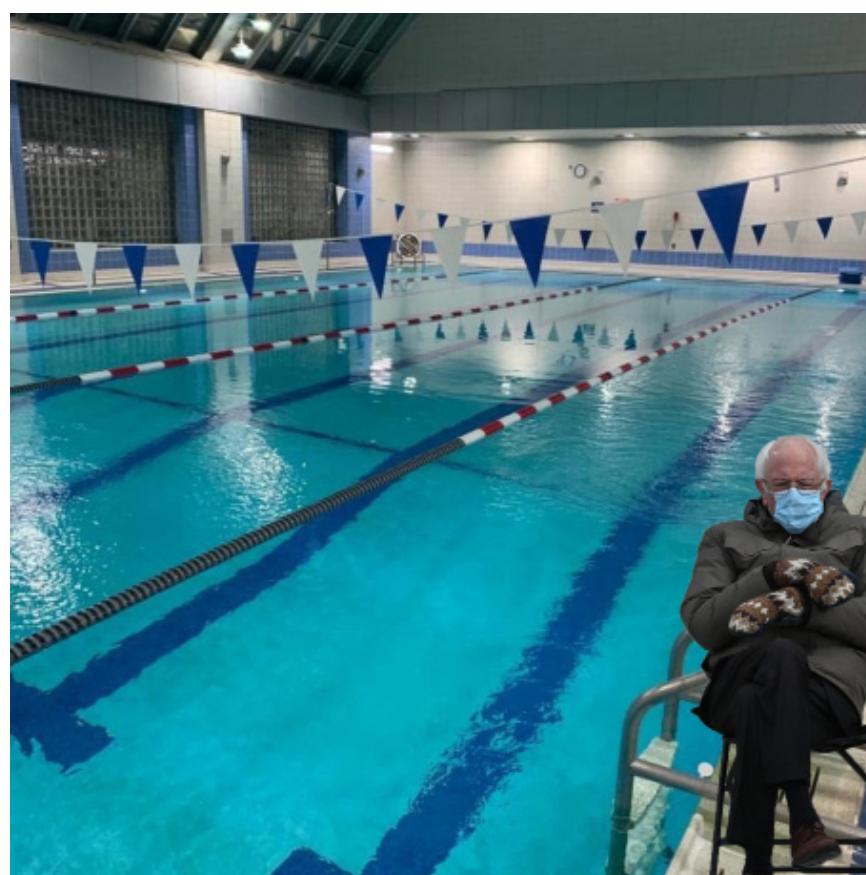
The costs of the trip will no doubt be expensive, and this is why the school has decided to raise tuition prices even though the majority of the student body is living at home. The university's electric bill, printing-ink bill, toilet-paper bill, and swag bill has certainly gone down

since the pandemic hit, but the school's leaders need the gracious students to fund this expedition for the ultimate swag — a YU flag planted right in the middle of the Jupiter planet. The Jupiter Journal reported that "this will be an extraordinary expedition if YU is able to pull it off since Jupiter's upper atmosphere is primarily ~90% of hydrogen gas." If a human tried to stand on Jupiter they would fall through the upper atmosphere and theoretically get stuck while facing extremely hot temperatures — but if anyone can do it, YU can.

This will also be a great recruitment tactic for any potential extraterrestrial beings who would like to be a part of Yeshiva University as well. YU boasts about being a diverse school, and if they can

do kiruv (outreach) on the aliens, well then that is the ultimate addition to the student body. Why settle for Mars? Why settle for the Moon? Why settle when you can go to Jupiter and make tomorrow, today by joining forces with the extraterrestrial aliens and say "We Yeshiva University stand with all Jews, with all people, and with all aliens." We've also received reports from a source, who would like to remain anonymous, that the reason they've pushed out the art department from their floor to make room for cybersecurity students, is because these students will be in contact with the extraterrestrial beings so that they know we are coming in peace. Here's to hoping that one day we can all sit together at a shabbos meal on Jupiter for some dry chicken and out of tune singing.

SCIENCE



New Study: Women Can't Swim; Supports Uptown Pool Decisions

BY Toph Beifong

It is common knowledge to anyone who attends Yeshiva University that the women are not allowed to use the uptown pool. For many years, the women thought it was for Halachic (Jewish Law), or perhaps selfish reasons, but a new study has just come out confirming a theory the founders of YU made about women.

According to a study published in 2020 in the accredited journal Phake Wom*n Fax, “the structure of the female body cannot physically float. The female body has additional factors that men do not

have, and those structures ultimately weigh down the women; dragging them to the bottom of the pool.” Some of these factors include: baby bearing hips, the inability to learn Talmud, the need for a man to dictate her life, and of course, the lactating vesicles. In order to support this theory, 10 randomly selected women were placed into a pool and instructed not to propel their feet; all 10 of them sank to the bottom of the pool.

Regardless, females can still use floaties to swim in the pool, so why

can’t females go in? Another study was conducted by Mansplaining Central with regards to female “lifeguards.” It was found that all of the lifeguard certifications and Basic Life Support certifications awarded to females were considered inaccurate and void of any validity. Due to the proven fact that women cannot swim, it can be determined that women cannot swim to save another life.

However, despite both of these facts, there are still some questions. How are women in films able to swim in oceans or pools?

Simple: this is a facade — merely a greenscreen effect.

Furthermore, any woman you see swimming in a pool is clearly a witch, using kabbalistic powers derived from learning Talmud (also the reason for why women are barred from entering the Glueck Beit Midrash).

With this type of evidence it seems that Yeshiva’s decision to bar the women at Stern from using the pool seems justified and perhaps in the women’s best interest.

The Covid Vaccine Contains a Direct Line of Communication to PRDAB

BY Tony Stark

You have heard the theory made up by many anti-vaxxers that the COVID-19 vaccine contains a microchip which companies will use to track our data and whereabouts. Well, I am here to put that theory to rest and share the real facts. The COVID-19 vaccine does not contain a microchip, but rather a microphone and cellphone software that will allow you, the user, to contact President Rabbi Dr. Ari Berman wherever and whenever you like.

This new technology is comparable to the Iron Man suit used in Iron Man 3. In Iron Man 3, Tony Stark (Robert Downey Jr.) injects himself with microchip sensors that allow his suit to automatically

fly towards him when doing the proper hand signal.

This microphone works in a slightly different, yet similar way.

The technology works as follows: the device is inserted into your deltoid region through the “vaccine.” It then travels to your brain. In two days time, the device can be linked to your phone or laptop (please note that this will only work on Macbook pros). Once two days have passed, you can install the app called ‘BermanShinnagans’ on your phone and now you will have the great opportunity to call and text the man, the myth, and the legend himself.

The comedic part of all of this is that the president himself didn’t know of this new microchip. This

was supposed to be a comedic prank played on him by the gay YU graduates who invented the vaccine.

Dr. Solomon has come forward as the whistleblower to share all the juicy details stating that “This is a beautiful new technological breakthrough. I have never been able to reach the president, being at the low standard of female that I am. Additionally, I work for the predominantly woman run newspaper, the YU Quarantiner, where we struggle to receive quotes relating to subjects such as: the LGBTQ+ community, mental health, maintenance, and anything pertaining to the welfare of the Stern population. With this new microchip, however, I have been able to bombard the president with Stern tea on a daily basis and receive responses from

him such as: “Why are you in my brain?” and “I need to raise tuition to make this stop.” Needless to say, this new invention and vaccine is a marvel.

Unfortunately, the rollout for the vaccine is slow and you might need to wait till March, unlike Dr. Solomon. The good news is that these specialized vaccines are being distributed to all Yeshiva University graduates and current students so long as the vaccine distribution isn’t halted by the president himself.

Those who have already received the vaccine because they were part of the phase 1A group, congratulations, you may now install that app on your phone or laptop and get talking with the Dr. Rabbi. He is waiting to hear from you!

SCIENCE

Emunah is Found to be Antiviral, Rendering Masks Useless for Roshei Yeshiva

BY Harvey Milk

Following the recent vaccination of two Yeshiva University Roshei Yeshiva, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) conducted a study in antibodies and immunity in rabbis using a sample size of 613 Roshei Yeshiva from various institutions. On February 15, the CDC announced that, according to the results of the study, Roshei Yeshiva are immune to COVID-19 and incapable of transmitting the virus.

"We are not entirely sure how this works," said Dr. Fauci, Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, "but we have a handful of guesses as a jumping-off point. The possibility we are currently looking into is that this specific form of herd immunity might be out of pure emunah (faith), a trait we have

observed from these men who have not worn masks on their respective campuses."

As Fauci continued to explain, emunah has a direct impact on COVID-19 transmission. Emunah has, in recent studies, shown indications of the ability to attach itself to white blood cells and signal information to its machinery allowing it to combat the virus. As a result, emunah acts as an antiviral element within Roshei Yeshiva, rendering masks unnecessary for such individuals.

While Fauci himself was surprised by these results, several Roshei Yeshiva were not. Rav Yeshua of Yeshiva University stated, "This is exactly why my chavrusa (learning partner) and I haven't been wearing masks all year. We come from a place of understanding that we, as Roshei Yeshiva, are inherently safe from the global

pandemic."

In response to these new findings, Dr. Fauci has amended his recommendation that all people wear masks: "Roshei Yeshiva with particularly high emunah are immune and exempt from wearing masks. This especially applies in crowded batei midrash in which they are able to make an example of their immense faith."

According to Dr. Fauci and his team of highly esteemed professionals and researchers, further plans include researching the reason women, regardless of emunah status, have a higher risk of infection — so much so that, not only are they required to mask alongside the rest of the world, but they were not allowed in prayer services until after the emunah-protected men were able to congregate.

"Each answer gives us more questions," Fauci explained. "Why can't women reach such a level of holiness? Why don't any YP students have enough emunah? Should the YP curriculum focus more on that? These are some of the questions we hope to pursue."

In the meantime, Fauci has delegated a team to develop a Yeshiva-style educational curriculum to be introduced to hospitals in place of standard medical treatment in order to instill a more widespread sense of emunah among the infected. These new discoveries and advancements not only exempt Roshei Yeshiva from wearing masks, but also open up a possibility for a treatment equally expensive when compared to standard medical care, increasing economic prosperity for the upper class within the United States of America and beyond.



Keeping Up With the Quarantine-Trends

BY Violet Parr

Over the past year, kids, teens, parents and pets alike have been scouring the internet for ideas of ways to stay busy while in quarantine due to the pandemic's lockdowns. Many college students have been stuck at home in their childhood bedrooms with only their parents to keep them company. The stresses of school, the future, and general life needed to be combatted — avoided at best. So, they turned to the internet.

What follows is a list of trendy activities many individuals took on as hobbies over this past year. Feel free to keep count of how many you invested time, effort, and possibly money into this year to stay busy.

TikTok

At least three generations of bored individuals spend most of their time on the newfangled app TikTok. It has become a pastime, a hobby, and, at times, an inspiration. People have completed viral challenges and learned intricate dances. Rising pop-stars such as Doja Cat and Megan Thee Stallion saw their popularity skyrocket in short spans of time. "Blinding Lights" by The Weeknd resurfaced as a viral dance trend, including friends, siblings, parents, grandparents, even pets. Many people have kept track of time in quarantine through the progression of TikTok trends. What was popular in March 2020 is considered "old news"; now, new trends pop up like ads from 123movies.

"Tiger King"

The Netflix original series took over people's social media feeds for the months of March and April 2020. The drama surrounding Carole Baskin reached every corner of the Earth. If you didn't watch the show, you know about it. If you don't know anything about the show, "Carole Baskin. Killed her husband, whacked him" is forever ingrained in your memory.

Bread making

How many types of bread can you think of? I'll bet it's more

than you could imagine a year ago. Over the past year, people far and wide have experimented with baking all types of bread. Banana, sourdough, bagels, new challah recipes... stores saw a shortage of flour and yeast from the sudden desire to fill one's time with baking bread. Although time consuming, this was a rather tasty hobby to take up when we had quite a bit of free time.

Nintendo Switch

The Nintendo Switch saw a spike in popularity and sales towards the beginning of America's quarantine and lockdown periods. This is one trend that has not yet died out. The novelty of the controller makes the game attractive on its own. The classic controller is a vibrant red, black and blue which doubles as the game console, adding to its appeal. With an attractive multi-functioning controller, the game-play options heighten the obsession over the Nintendo Switch. One of the games many people became addicted to was Animal Crossing. Its height of popularity came right before the first lockdown and grew rapidly following that time. In this game, one aims to settle an island and hold a fictional character's concert. The stress-free game has great graphics and small rewards to keep players hooked. The online play option also draws people in easily. Another game many have been playing non-stop is Super Smash Bros. The options in this game are nearly endless. From customizing characters and battle requirements to unique attacks, the sky's the limit. Often referred to simply as "Smash," this game also has an online play option where you can battle other users worldwide, as well as friends by creating or joining a game room. The Nintendo Switch opened doors and continues to entertain those bored and in need of a new game.

Bleaching. Everything.

Bleach used to be feared. If someone did a load of laundry before you and used bleach, your clothes would be forever ruined. Over quarantine, bleaching everything within reach became another common

pastime. People got creative with their bleaching endeavors. Bleach pens were utilized to create art on jeans and t-shirts, tie-dye bottles were filled with bleach to create an ironically unique tie-dye design without color. Attire was not the only thing to get bleached — hair was the next victim. No hair was safe from the sprays and soaks of bleach. Ends, tips, highlights, lowlights, Narcissa Malfoy inspired, the options ran free. I wonder how many hands will still be dried out years from now from soaking in bleach.

Whipped coffee

If you didn't like coffee before Corona, chances are you do now due to this trend. Many people started to whip the cream before they put it into their coffee. Yes, this is common practice for many coffee houses, but when you're stuck inside your own home for months on end, the coffee house must move to your kitchen. Milk frothers were purchased, YouTube tutorials were watched, coffee was made. Another version of the whipped coffee trend is to mix and whip the coffee grounds, sugar, and water, add ice and milk to your glass and pour the whipped coffee mixture over. People have gotten creative with this trend, from glass shapes to caramel drizzle down the inside.

Tie-dye

Similar to the bleach trend, the all-time favorite camp activity made a comeback over quarantine! Every piece of clothing you could get your hands on has been tie-dyed. This trend should not be news to anyone, but its large resurgence brought back the nostalgic memories of stained fingers and washing machines. Being that this was a quarantine trend, many people took their tie-dye endeavors outside. Others stuck with the comfort of their homes and now have dye-streaked bathtubs. Bucket hats, jeans, sweatshirts, pajamas, anything that could be twisted up in rubber bands and soak up some dye became a victim to this trend.

Among Us

Unlike the Switch, Among Us'

popularity has died down a bit. Surely there are still leagues of little Among Us avatars running around completing tasks, calling emergency meetings, but many of us have stopped hearing about such occurrences. Among Us began as a relatively small trend that essentially went viral overnight. Suddenly, it was as if the world was playing and only a few were left out. Companies made bank off of Among Us merchandise, from t-shirts to plush dolls. The online game took over memes, TikTok videos and trends, search histories, and much more. As fast as the game rose, the next trend was ready to take its place.

Harry Potter

Most of us have had a "Harry Potter" phase, or have read the books once. If not, you've seen the movies. Or at least one of the movies. No matter the capacity to which you interacted with the Wizarding World, you most likely heard about the resurgence of the "Harry Potter" fandom. Primarily on TikTok, people created videos dressed as their favorite characters, or just in their house colors. Some even took the liberty of determining what Gen-Z would wear at Hogwarts depending on which house they were placed into. This revived trend and obsession brought with it more sales for "Harry Potter" merchandise and a rekindled love for the timeless stories.

Investing in stocks (GameStop drama)

Over the past few months, more people have been educating themselves about the stock market, some even buying shares. The stock market is nothing new — it is not the latest "trend" to take part in — but when Reddit and GameStop had their drama at the end of January, people who never had much of an interest in stocks became invested in the action. Those directly involved may not have found the action exciting as much as nerve wracking. Stocks has seemingly become the current hobby for many with a knack for strategy and investing.



Lady Berenista's Society Papers: Bridgerton in the Modern Day

BY Lady Bridgerton

Dearest Readers,

Every year the Seform Sale serves as the prime location for eligible bachelors and ladies to attend and meet their mate. This year, things are a little different. Instead of attending the Seform sale, the Yeshiva University Roshei Yeshiva thought it was necessary to host a shidduch (matchmaking) ball where females and males could gather together, ensure proper tzniut (modesty), and maintain shomer negiah (non physical contact).

Tonight many eligible bachelorettes gather at the event of the year, but all eyes are on Hailey

Goldstein, a freshman from Seattle. Goldstein took part in an unexpected affair this season, catching the eyes of a boy unsuited for her. What is really juicy is that after her friend, Maya Lililah decided to drop this boy for he cheated on her with another, Haliey swooped in, betraying the unwritten rule of the girl code. Even juicer still, Hailey is expected to attend this evening's ball with an empty hand, empty finger, and an empty heart as her man dumped her just three months long gone.

While many eyes are on Hailey to see what scandal she might unveil, even more eyes are on the bachelor who dumped her, Mordecai Cavenson. Mordecai has

almost as scandalous of a past as Haliey except Mordecai will gain the attention of many girls due to his tzitzit (ritual fringes) which hangs gently at his side. Those white and blue fringes alone will be the talk of the campus.

But where is Maya Lililah? She has given us a tip saying that she will be in attendance with her man to enjoy the music and the food but nothing else, but we have yet to see a ring on her finger. It is common knowledge that Maya leads a scandalous life of reform Judaism so we shouldn't be expecting that ring anytime soon.

Enough exposing though, let's talk outfits. Many of the young ladies tonight have shown up in

dresses flowing far below their knees to ensure maximum security while the gentlemen have traded in their baseball themed kippahs (skullcaps) for black velvet ones to entice the ladies. The night has yet to begin and shidduch matchers, who act as faculty members by day, and YU Connects staff by night, are already on the field telling ladies who are not dressed tzniut to go home and change.

But enough chit-chat, let's let the ball do the talking and I'll do the writing.

Yours Truly,
Lady Berenista

Netflix Saves Money at the Expense of World Order

BY James "Jim" Halpert

On January 1, 2020, "Friends" was taken off Netflix, and the world dissolved into chaos. Australia caught fire, a deadly virus spread across the globe, murder hornets were on the loose, injustice reigned through the streets, the Cheeto claimed election fraud, and the New Year's Eve ball dropped a few seconds late.

On January 1, 2021, "The Office" was taken off Netflix. Since that occurrence, white supremacists and Cheeto fans stormed the Capitol, a high security inauguration took place, and the stock market was hijacked by Reddit users. And that all happened in the course of four weeks.

It seems Netflix has not learned their lesson. Clearly the removal of these shows, both of which happened to be on NBC, incited national and even global catastro-

phe.

Last week, an open letter to Netflix was released by the college students of the United States begging for mercy:

Dear Netflix,

We are worried. You have caused our world to go into chaos, and only you can prevent more chaos from ensuing. Countless Twitter posts, TikTok pleas, and Instagram stories have been released begging for your immediate redaction of your actions taken against "Friends" and "The Office." We insist that whatever money you were promised, whatever you will save by not having these shows on your platform is not worth it. We, the college students of the United States of America, are begging you to help. We are masked, we are socially distanced, all we

ask is that you supply us with the most binge-worthy shows ever created. Only you can restore balance to the universe (and don't you dare think of taking Avatar the Last Airbender off Netflix, you psychos).

Sincerely,
Concerned College Students



Fandom of the Pants Girl

BY James P Sullivan

On one cool summer day, Lily Beterch walked up to Stern College to check into her first college orientation. Everywhere she looked in line there were girls wearing black skirts and shirts that practically covered their ears. Lily looked down at her outfit. She was wearing a long black Led Zeppelin top tucked into her lightly faded jeans, all paired down with Doc Martin boots. Back where she was from, this outfit would kill the vibe checks. But as she stood in line, Lily could feel the eyes of the parents burning into her pants.

A few weeks went by and Lily slowly adapted to life at Stern, but she still had the slight feeling of discomfort as she walked down the hallways at Stern in her pants. On more than one occasion, Lily had the sudden urge to run down the street to Nordstrom Rack and buy as many skirts as possible, but she remembered to always stay true to herself. That truth was tested once midterms rolled around.

Lily walked into the classroom where her Judaics test was taking place and sat down in her seat

placing her pen and pencil out in front of her feeling more prepared than she had ever been for a test. The professor walked into the room scanning over it as though she had laser vision.

"Lily" she said, "what is that you are wearing?"

Lily immediately started going red, "A necklace" she responded knowing that both her snarky remark and her wrong answer would get her into trouble.

"No Lily, you must go back to your dorm immediately and do not return until you have a skirt on."

Lily began to sweat knowing full fact that she did not have skirts. Her dressers were filled to the brim with hard rock T-shirts, leggings and jeans but no skirts. Lily left the classroom not bothering to argue and bolted down the stairs and up 34th street toward Brookdale. In a hopeless rage, upon returning to Brookdale Lily knocked on every door in a desperate attempt to gain a skirt from one of the girls but for some reason, no one was in their rooms. Lily jammed her door open and started to panic, looking around for something that might resemble a

skirt. Then she had it, Lily shoved open a drawer and pulled out a long piece of fabric and sprinted back to school. Before entering, Lily took out the fabric which was her long Led Zeppelin shirt, she prayed to the rock gods that this would work, and entered the classroom where the evil incarnate stood. The professor looked Lily up and down and said "Let's talk outside."

"Lily, you come to my classroom ill-prepared, then I ask you to change, and you come back wearing what looks to be a shirt? Can you explain yourself."

Lily was in near tears now. She never wanted to conform to the traditional ways. All she wanted to do was get an education at a school that wouldn't abuse her for being Jewish but here she was, being targeted for how she chose to dress.

Lily burst out, "Look I don't have a skirt. I wear pants. I have tried to make do with my T-shirt. It covers my knees. What is the problem?" Asking that question she knew the answer but refused to accept it; the problem was her. She stuck out like a multi-colored thumb amidst a black sea of skirts and shirts.

The professor looked her up and down and sighed, "Get inside and take the exam but next time you are required to wear a skirt."

Relieved that the interaction was over, Lily took her test and passed. A few weeks later, Lily saw an article outlining how girls who do not wear skirts should be expelled. At her wits end, and looking for transfer options, Lily wrote to the newspaper Editor in Chief and replied four simple words 'I have a response.'

Two weeks later, Lily's article on why girls wear pants came out and Lily received an outpouring of support from her friends and from a female professor who also wore pants. Even though the school might never accept her for being who she was, it didn't mean that she wouldn't try her darndest to make her point and try to make an impact on campus. Lily single-handedly created a voice for the Jewish pants girls everywhere. It was because she was making an impact on campus that Lily decided to stay through her four years at Stern paving the path for more girls with pants to follow her.

Cat Photo Album Review: Dagny

BY Bob Chillin'

On February 2, Dagny Rosenfield unofficially released her first photo album, eponymously titled "Dagny." All pictures were taken by her human, Aryeh Rosenfield, who has owned the cat since August 29, 2019. Most of the photographs portray Dagny in her current St. Louis apartment, which she has managed to share with Aryeh, without paying rent, since 2019. In return, she stays mostly indoors

and allows Aryeh to document her daily activities through pictures and occasional videos. "I'm Only Purring (feat. Cardinal)" represents the only feature on the album, with an appearance from her favorite plaything and fellow St. Louis native.

The various shots in "Dagny" are marked by a rather candid nature. The album does not include any pictures that appear staged or premeditated, nor does Dagny seem particularly aware that she is

being photographed. She gives off a fairly homey feel, as shown in "Lounge Cat," "Just Like Ringin' My Bell" and "Dagny (What's My Name?),," where Dagny is hanging out peacefully on top of Aryeh's blanket. This is in fact one of her favorite spots, as she tends to sleep at the foot of his bed. During her more active hours of the day, Dagny often plays with her toys or simply observes her surroundings. In "Operating Vice President (Don't Tell Me, Eddie)," she is perched on a stack of books, looking curiously at something that has apparently caught her eye. "Black Cat, White Board" shows Dagny, once again, staring off into the distance, leaving us humans to wonder what exactly goes on inside her silly little mind.

This album also displays her relationship with music. When Dagny was purchased by Aryeh, she joined a family of musicians who had formed a rock band named The Dorons. Toward the end of 2020, Dagny officially became the band mascot — and a couple of photos from her album demonstrate how comfortable she has

grown around musical equipment. "Hey You!" for example, shows her standing on the floor in front of an acoustic guitar and the case of an electric bass. In "Electric Felid," Dagny is hanging out in a home recording studio beside a Marshall amplifier. This level of familiarity marks a tremendous amount of improvement since her early days of running away frantically at the sound of a piano.

Still, not everything is hunky-dory for the young cat. "Through a Screen, Vaguely" reveals a darker, more introspective side to Dagny. In the photo, she appears pensive, almost troubled, as she looks out the screen window of her apartment. Her face suggests that she may have a sixth sense about soon leaving her hometown of St. Louis. For she will indeed be moving to Atlanta over the summer, and the change in environment will undoubtedly need some getting used to. Luckily, the weather in Atlanta will be fairly comparable to that of St. Louis, and Dagny will hopefully find a new window to look through and watch as the world passes by.



Gossip Girl: A Guide To Healthy Relationships

BY Serena Van Der Woodsen

Introduction

Over quarantine, I watched a lot of Gossip Girl. As I rewatch every episode for like the fiftieth time, I notice that the friendships and relationships are quite stable and healthy. You can really see how much the characters have grown throughout six seasons that it's almost as if they have not grown at all. Some of the characters even end up with the same friends and love interests in the course of six years. Not only is this realistic, but it is also definitely the best option. Especially if the love interests have either been writing Gossip Posts about you to destroy your life or refusing to be with you because he wants to "defeat his father and win back what is his" which never was his at all. But isn't that sweet? Blair still waited for Chuck to destroy his father. Anyway, let's get back to business. There are plenty of lessons we can learn from the show to facilitate non-toxic relationships with people.

A Guide to Platonic Relationships

The show opens with Serena returning from boarding school, and her friend Blair is not so into it. Serena left without

telling anyone and Blair was offended. So what is the reasonable thing to do in this situation? Many experts may suggest that maybe Blair should pull Serena aside and tell her how she feels. Then Serena can explain her side of the story, why she left, and validate Blair's feelings. Those experts are wrong. The right thing to do is to avoid the problem, get confused as to why Blair is even mad in the first place, and forget about it a few episodes later because they're supposed to be "friends." Until, of course, Blair finds out that her boyfriend cheated on her with Serena. Here we have another lesson, getting drunk at a party with your best friend's boyfriend is always a good idea, especially if you guys are secluded, even better! Don't worry, all you have to do is keep it a secret and when she finds out, apologize because it didn't matter anyway.

Let's shift gears and discuss how to handle a bad situation in a mature way. If we take a look at the end of season three after Chuck trades Blair for a hotel. Chuck becomes upset with Blair for not meeting him on time at the top of the Empire state building and goes home all sad. After, Chuck sleeps with the first girl who walks in, Blair's

arch-enemy Jenny. When Blair finds out at the end of the episode, she banishes Jenny from the building they were in, and the entire island of Manhattan. Now, some may say that Blair was too harsh. Wrong. Blair handled this correctly, no need to walk out, take a breather and approach the situation with a rational mind. Here's the takeaway, if you find out your ex spent the night with a girl you hate, banish her! It's the only way.

The last conflict I want to analyze is a result of Blair dating Dan. Serena is not all that into it because he's her ex, whom she hasn't dated in like 4 years. As a result, Serena goes ahead and tells Blair she doesn't like their relationship. Blair doesn't listen and stays with Dan. What is the right thing to do in this situation? Obviously, find a way to break up what is arguably the healthiest relationship on the show, duh.

A Guide To Romantic Relationships

Gossip Girl has its fair share of excellent romances. The only questionable one is that of Dan and Blair; that's boring. Everyone knows peaceful and stable relationships are no good for you. The number one rule we learn is to always avoid your

problems and keep your relevant secrets from your partner for as long as possible. One place we see this is in season 1, when Serena accidentally left her friend to die of a cocaine overdose and keeps that secret from Dan because it would ruin her new and improved "good girl" image. Eventually, they broke up but obviously the secret keeping had nothing to do with it.

Another rule is when you're about to lose your hotel to your annoying uncle, trade him your girlfriend/boyfriend for it and then get mad when they break up with you. Chuck did exactly that with Blair. He's definitely not toxic and clearly values her just as much as his precious little hotel. Chuck shows how non-toxic he is again when Blair tells him she's choosing the prince of Monaco over him. Upon finding out about the news, Chuck proceeds to punch the glass window behind her, cutting her cheek. Of course, this is Blaire's fault for rejecting him; how dare she do such a thing! Chuck is definitely in the right here, which is why she chooses him in the end. Ultimately, the main thing we learn from Gossip girl is that stability and trust are not necessary in a relationship, and are totally overrated.



YU Quarantiner Purim Meme Submissions

Each month, the YU Quarantiner sends a call to YU students for meme submissions. The following are the exceptional ones the Quarantiner has decided to

feature.

Do you want to see your memes published?
Send all submissions to
theyuquarantiner@gmail.com.

