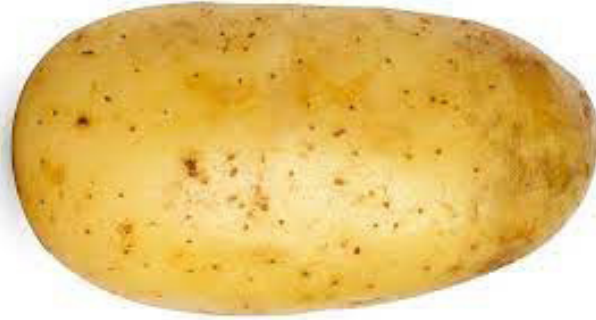


THE NOT-SO-COMMON TATER



The Independent Student Newspaper of Yeshiva University

VOL. LXXXVIII

SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 2023

PURIM ISSUE

Torah *UMammon* Will Live On: Wasserman Steps Down, Rabbi Yitzchak Blau appointed as Next Dean of Sy Syms

By **ARI WASSERMAN**

Yeshiva University recently announced that at the conclusion of the Spring 2023 semester the incumbent Dean of Sy Syms School of Business, Noam Wasserman, will be leaving, and Rabbi Yitzchak Blau, currently CEO of Yeshivat Orayta LLC, will be taking over the position beginning of the Fall 2023 semester.

Wasserman assumed the position of dean for Sy Syms in 2019, and under his leadership, the business school surpassed Yeshiva College in enrollment.

Wasserman thanks Yeshiva for an incredible few years. While he will certainly miss his time in the Heights, he is confident that Rabbi Blau's practical experience in the

workplace and business administration will raise the institution to even greater heights.

"Rabbi Blau is a good friend of mine, and I look forward to seeing all that he does for Sy Syms," Dean Wasserman stated.

Rabbi Yitzchak Blau graduated from the Sy Syms School of Business in 1991 with a dual BA in Marketing and Finance and was President of the Tamid Club at Yeshiva. Rabbi Blau enjoys reminiscing about his time at YU and is eternally grateful for all the practical life skills that he learned in his Sy Syms classes.

"Both of my brothers decided to major in English," Rabbi Blau recalled. "But I never understood that. Reading books might be nice for some people, but it doesn't help you with excel sheets or slideshows. More than that, who would ever want to write in their free time?!"

Rabbi Blau is also looking forward to getting very involved with The Commentator, as he seeks to be the first ever YU faculty editor and staff writer for the business section.

"The way of the world is pragmatic, and it is time that everyone realizes that," Rabbi Blau stated.

Rabbi Blau further stated that he aims to replace the current required CORE for Sy Syms students with a survey course of canonical Marvel movies.

"Spidermans 1, 2 and 3 should be shown to the entire university during orientation," Rabbi Blau argued.

Rabbi Blau is scheduled to begin the position on August 17th, 2023.



Rabbi Blau has been appointed as the next Dean of the Sy Syms School of Business

Professor Caught Creating Course with Chat GPT

By **AN ACTUAL HUMAN, PROBABLY**

A Yeshiva University professor was accused by the Academic Integrity Committee (AIC) of using Chat GPT to write all of his course lectures last Tuesday.

The course, entitled "Cultural Touchstones in a Changing Landscape," taught by Professor Blankety McBlankface, seeks to allow students to immerse themselves in "the enigmatic mysteries of society's shifting paradigms" and "gain a profound understanding of the multifaceted and complex nature of cultural touchstones," according to the syllabus. McBlankface had been instructing the course until mid-March when students aroused suspicion of potentially shady practices.

"I never imagined the lectures could've been created by a chatbot." Anony Mous (SSSB '25), a computer science major, told The Commentator. "I had never taken any humanities courses before but needed a core. I didn't really understand what the course was about or what the big words the professor was using meant. I sort of just took out my laptop and did homework; thought maybe I'd have to write an essay at some point, but I wasn't worried."

McBlankface earned his Ph.D. in Film and Video Studies from Cornell in 2013, and wrote a dissertation entitled, "The Social

Sciences as Anti-Social and Unscientific; the Humanities' Portrayal in the Jurassic Park Trilogy and American Science Fiction." McBlankface has taught several courses at YU as an Adjunct Professor for the past five years.

"The obviously fake quotations should've been a red flag." Re Dacted (YC '23), an English major, told The Commentator. "At one point the professor quoted Confucius as saying 'The time to live is now, because otherwise how will you wake up in the morning?' I didn't really have any suspicions because, you know, sometimes professors get busy and don't have time to prepare, so they just have to wing it. That's all ok, no harm done, fine. But what tipped me up was his tendency to mix up and mispronounce difficult words such as 'epitome,' 'status quo,' or 'coup.' At first, I just chalked it up to clumsiness, but eventually, I began to suspect something was amiss."

According to Professor Dalphon ben Hamdasah, chair of the AIC, students interviewed about the matter reported that McBlankface generally "gave lectures primarily based off of slides. Although he often expressed 'bewilderment' and 'confusion' as to what they meant, offering students the opportunity to provide their own interpretations and generally just running with what they gave him."

"It's really just incredibly disappointing

on a variety of levels," ben Hamdasah remarked. "We have here this august institution that seeks to inculcate in its students our core Jewish values passed down from the lips of Moses, such as Truth, Man, and Life; it's just heartbreaking when the faculty fails to reflect the proper values we expect in a religious institution."

For his own part, McBlankface, when asked by The Commentator, decided to just own the fact that he'd created a course with AI.

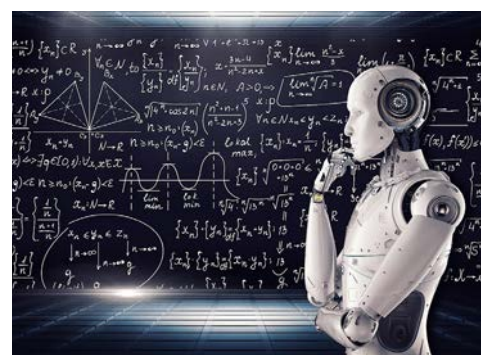
"I take pride in the fact that I have leveraged technology to create a course that is both intellectually stimulating and pedagogically sound. By embracing AI, I have liberated myself from the constraints of manual labor and allowed my creativity to soar to new heights. I look forward to seeing students engage with the course material and achieve their full potential. While I am concerned by the administration's concern with the matter, I look forward to the resolution of these points in a way amenable to the students' further intellectual and cultural development in all their humanistic endeavors."

McBlankface refused to provide an answer as to whether the statement given to The Commentator was auto-generated.

Although the story shows that Yeshiva College has a long way to go in controlling challenges to academic integrity and blatant

fraud, ben Hamdasah also sees the saga as a harbinger of hope that things may change soon.

"I think that this experience has been a learning experience for faculty and students across disciplines. It teaches us what can be done through the vigilance of a few honest individuals, individuals with a sense of self-respect, decency, and no new Whatsapp messages on their laptops for just a couple of minutes. Perhaps, a few students will be inspired by this incident to pay some attention in class, and maybe, just maybe, they'll realize that there is no need to resort to Chat GPT to pass them."



Professor Utilizing AI to Make His Life Easier

WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Yeshiva University Names Pool After Observer Editor-In-Chief

Yeshiva University's pool was named after YU Observer Editor-in-Chief Benjamin Gottesman the YU athletics department announced Tuesday.

The Benjamin Gottesman pool, a men's-only pool located on Wilf Campus, was named after Gottesman due to his being at the helm of a major YU paper.

"The YU Observer has served the Yeshiva University student body for decades as the women's newspaper," said Ari Berman, President of Touro University. "That being the case, we felt it would be a good idea to name the men's pool after him."

News of the pool's naming caused controversy on campus. Some felt that there were other YU figures who deserved to have the pool named after them.

"There is one stand-out figure

who has inspired generations of YU swimmers," said YU student Jerome Cameron (YC '22) "And that person is none other than YU Rosh Yeshiva Ryan Turell."

Call it the "Rabbi Ryan Turell Pool," not the "Benjamin Gottesman pool," said Cameron.

Others felt that it shouldn't even be named after a person.

"It should be called the 'Five Torot Pool,'" Shek Ur, a university official who puts Commentraitor editor's numbers on speed dial, told The Commentator.

"Seriously? The Five Torot Pool? Are you out of your mind?!?" said Chief YU Lifeguard Morah Cindy. "Obviously, a better name for the pool would be the 'Torah U' Maddah Pool!"

The Ariel Kahan women's only pool, is set to open this March. Touro University President Ari Berman told

The Commentator that the location is TBA, but Stern told The Commentator that a pool is being built in Fairbanks, Alaska.

"Construction is currently underway in Fairbanks. We'll even offer a shuttle service for women who want to go," said Ur at 5:30 a.m., as his 17 hour phone call was wrapping up. "We are even calling it the polar express – women can book it through the YU shuttle app for the slight cost of \$44 thousand – in pennies only, of course."

The proceeds from the polar express will go towards a new club framework that YU is planning, called Kol Yisroel Areivim, whose first event is planned for March 10, 2123.

President Berman Dresses as Core Torah Values for Purim, Mistaken for Pride Activist

By YOUR ROOMMATE

On Monday Mar. 6, Yeshiva University President Rabbi Doctor Rosh Yeshiva Lord Ari Berman s"hlitta esquire dressed up in celebration of the Jewish Holiday of Purim. His choice of costume apparently resulted in an incident described by eyewitnesses as a "kerfuffle." His costume was intended to resemble the Five Core Torah Values, an obscure and esoteric rabbinic concept whose earliest source is a massive banner on the outside of Ruben Hall. A group of YP guys, unfamiliar with the Core Torah Values branding due to the fact that they never leave Glueck, confronted Rabbi Berman, apparently mistaking his multicolored bands for the rainbow pride flag, which they are familiar with only due to stacks of Commentators and Observers they walk past every day. This followed on the heels of a false alarm the previous week, when shouting sounds outside the Beit Midrash were assumed to be protesters, but were instead a group of local high school students visiting the Seform Sale.

The president's office, when asked for comment, said "The framework for the Kol Yisrael Areivim club for our undergraduate LGBTQ students striving to live authentic Torah lives is grounded in Halacha, endorsed by Senior Roshei Yeshiva and reflects input and perspectives from private conversations with current and past undergraduate LGBTQ students. This week, following our announcement of this framework, we have been in further conversations with our current LGBTQ undergraduate students. Our students with whom we are currently engaged stand to benefit significantly from this initiative, and we invite those interested in participating in the conversation to contact Student Life." One bystander said "I saw what

was going on, and at first I thought security would intervene, but then remembered that they do nothing." He continues "But then I thought maybe they would do it for Purim for ya'know, *Vinahapoech hoo*"

The security department, when emailed twenty times for comment, said "The framework for the Kol

His choice of costume apparently resulted in an incident described by eyewitnesses as a "kerfuffle."

Yisrael Areivim club for our undergraduate LGBTQ students striving to live authentic Torah lives is grounded

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The Commentator attempted to reach the Kol Yisrael Areivim Framework for comment, but was unable to reach it or confirm its existence.



Artist's conception of the President's Costume

THE COMMENTATOR

2022-2023

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The Commentator is the student newspaper of Yeshiva University.

For 88 years, The Commentator has served students and administrators as a communicative conduit; a kinetic vehicle disseminating undergraduate social, religious and academic beliefs across the student bodies; and a reliable reflection of Yeshiva student life to the broader Jewish and American communities.

The Commentator staff claims students spanning the diverse spectrum of backgrounds and beliefs represented at Yeshiva.

We are united by our passion for living the ideals of Torah Umadda, and a commitment to journalistic excellence.

Read more at yucommentator.org

A Desperate Student Court Resorts to Suing Itself

By AKIVA SPEARMAN

Wilf students woke up bright and early (or, for the JSS guys, at noon) on Tuesday to find yet another dozen emails from the Student Court in their inboxes. The email, which appears to have been inexplicably sent out at 3:47 am, states that the Court has gotten desperate for something to do and has thus decided to sue itself.

The Court's last case recently ended prematurely under mysterious circumstances after the plaintiff, who sued the Wilf Campus General Assembly (praise be the great overlords), disappeared in the night, leaving nothing but a few bloodstains and small body parts scattered around his room. There's

really just no way of knowing what happened to him; your guess is as good as mine. (Two detectives who were investigating the case have also vanished mysteriously.)

The email announced that the Court "really want to get into law skool," and "need to have a good case to decide." Given that, the Court has initiated a suit against itself accusing itself of launching frivolous suits. Both of YU's philosophy majors, upon hearing about this new development, were overjoyed for about a minute before realizing that they actually had no idea what to do and switching to computer science.

The Student Court has its job laid out very clearly in Article 18, section 12, subsection 24-82 Wilf Campus Constitution, the document which governs the flawless workings

of the student government. The Court "has authority over, you know, whatever needs doing, like making sure things run well and such, bruh," says the passage, which may or may not have been written in the sixties.

Students, when asked, had a lot of fascinating insight into the workings of the court and this case.

"What is the Student Court even? I have no idea what they're supposed to do," said Laruch Berman, a random student of no particular standing.

"I set all the emails coming from the Student Court to go directly to spam months ago already," said one YC student who appeared to have achieved a state of perfect nirvana when I interviewed him.

"Dude, go to bed; it's three in the

morning," was the insightful comment of a student (YC '32) who I interviewed for no particular reason and definitely isn't my roommate.



The Supreme Court of the United States of America, upon which the Wilf Student Court is closely modeled

The Gedolei Hador of the American Jewish Community

By HARAV AUBREY DRAKE GRAHAM,
KOSHER RAPPER

Purim, and all of Adar, is a time of immense happiness and boisterous celebration. However, this time could also be an excellent opportunity to reflect on our *Yiddishkeit*. While it is on the individual to examine his own religious connection, it is also valuable to take note of the exemplary *Yidden* who shine among our community. Here is a list of four Jews that have risen above the rest and are an example of how to best serve the Jewish people.

4. Jonah Hill

As an actor, Jonah Hill Feldstein has tremendously influenced American culture. He has played Jewish characters in many films and has always portrayed a true *Heilege Yid*. Through his marvelous acting, he truly demonstrates to young Jewish teens how a truly frum *Yid* should act. His character in *The Wolf of Wall Street* was a beautiful demonstration of a Jew observing *Halacha* in the workplace. As a man with deeply rooted *yiras shamayim*, Jonah is conscientious about producing and acting in

strictly appropriate movies to ensure that he does not expose young fans to content that is counter to Jewish values. He is a paragon of Modern Orthodoxy, pursuing secular achievement within *Halachic* guidelines. He is a true leader in the American Jewish community and is one of our *Gedolei Hador*.

3. Whoopi Goldberg

While Whoopi is not actually Jewish, it can be said that she is the *Yisro* of our generation. As a public figure, she acts as a support and a guide for the American Jewish community. Goldberg uses her immense influence to shine a positive light on the Jewish people and truly honors Jewish heritage and history. She is a warrior on the front of dispelling historical inaccuracies, especially about the persecution of Jews in Europe. She even adopted a Jewish-sounding last name to prove her devotion to the community. Her continuous public support of the Jews solidifies her place in the *Gedolei Hador* rankings.

2. Seth Rogen

Another Jewish actor, Seth Rogen, is on this list not due to his career but because of his observance of an often

overlooked *Mitzvah*. When a *Yid* smells a truly aromatic object, they should make a "*Borei Minei Besamim*" *bracha*. No one is more meticulous about fulfilling this *Mitzvah* than Mr. Rogen. It is well known that Rogen has an affinity for *besamim*. However, it is less recognized that he always remembers to say this *bracha* when getting a scent of his favorite kind of *besamim*. Additionally, Rogen is an avid supporter of Israel and has never ever made disparaging remarks about the Jewish state. This shows his *Ben Adam LeChavero* is just as strong as his individual religious connection. Though Seth Rogen has achieved plenty in his career and has always made a *kiddush hashem*, his *zrizus* to appreciate Hashem's creations earns him a place in the *Gedolei Hador*.

1. Adam Sandler

Our top *Gadol Hador* has been a pillar in the Jewish community for decades. Though it is Purim season, Adam Sandler is best known for his passionate celebration of Hanukkah and the miracle of the menorah. Beyond that, he is arguably the most well-known Jewish actor of the past three decades. He earned his fame while maintaining an authentic religious connection.

Like Jonah Hill, Sandler makes sure only to portray *halachically*-minded characters. For instance, in *Uncut Gems* he played an honorable jeweler who always made sure to give *maaser kesafim* and avoid the temptation of gambling. Due to his diligence in *pirsumei nisa* and his role modeling on the screen, Adam Sandler is the true *Gadol Hador*.



Seth Rogen making a speech to the Klal
RANDY SHROPSHIRE, GETTY IMAGES, USA TODAY

Grossest Places in YU

By WEXNER KOLLEL ELYON

6. Room 224 in Rubin - You know who you are.

5. That Weird Leak in the Nagel Bathroom Up the Stairs - That garbage can is filled with water from who knows where. There is a sign on it that says don't touch it as if I ever had a hava amina.

4. Couches in the Library - I don't know what it is but something grosses me

out about those bright orange couches on Floor 2.

3. The Back Right Table on the Right in Golan - The restaurant itself doesn't give off the cleanest vibes but that table on the back right right next to the garbage is the one thing that can ruin an otherwise perfect chetzi chetzi. It's right next to the garbage and all sorts of other mysterious trinkets they just shove in the back. In terms of chair mobility and wiggle room it is the worst table because the table is moved slightly further away from the wall than its parallel (the

back left table). It's positioned just further enough that the chairs with their backs to the table behind them have less room and the chairs to the wall still have less room than their parallels because of the overflowing chachkes crammed into that corner. Plus, in the winter when it's cold outside, whenever someone opens the door a harsh breeze comes to hit you.

2. Muss - That is it. Just Muss. All of it.

1. Glueck 1 Bathrooms - This one is a non-starter. I will do my best not to be

too graphic or crude. The floors are always scattered with droplets of who-knows-what. The shabbos proof paper towel dispensers are always soaking wet, forcing you to consider whether your recently washed hands are truly clean or not. The stall doors are oddly greasy but when you feel your hands there is no oil residue. The toilets and urinals are always dirty or wet with something, and don't even dare think about looking into the far stall—you'll be in for a rude awakening.

The Five Boldest Moves to Pull In YU

By CASUAL OBSERVER

YU is rumored to be a place that embraces conformity. True or not, here are the moves that very few students have the guts to do for fear of total ostracization.

1. Going in the elevator and hitting "2"

Literally everyone hates that guy. In fact, the only time people make conversation in the elevator is to make a rude comment to someone who did that.

2. Eating with your significant other in the cafeteria

Let's be honest: Doing that is more of a commitment than an engagement ring or putting a down payment on a wedding hall.

3. Wearing a non-white shirt into Glueck on Shabbos

Most of the time you feel like everyone is staring at you even though nobody actually cares. In this case, everybody cares.

4. Being the guy who uses the store part of the Caf as a supermarket for all items

Waiting on any line is terrible. Waiting on line while the person in front of you pays for over \$200 worth of snacks that they could have bought at Target for #40 ruins a lunch break.

5. Asking a question when class is supposed to be dismissed

























The Commentator Presents

President Ari Berman Bingo Board!!

Use this during one of President Berman's speeches to see if you can score **BINGO!**
For best results, compare our bingo board with the board of President Berman's staff. We all know they have one.

B I N G O

HaKol Lechvodo 	Record Enrollment 	Torah U'Maddah 	#3 in NYC* *According to the U.S. News Report 	"I was deeply Inspired" 
Flagship Jewish Institution 	How President Berman's Grandparents met 	"It's a tremendous honor"	Mentions Rabbi Sacks	How President Berman's Parents Met 
Where he lives (spoiler alert - it's Teaneck) 	Rise Up Campaign / 613 million 	Five Core Torah Values (FREE) 	Adds a dvar torah 	His time in Israel before being President 
Indirect, vague reference to a certain lawsuit 	"Israeli Flag flies 365 days a year" 	References to new programs 	Mentions that YU is an intergenerational institution and is essential for the future	YU students are the "Leaders of Tomorrow" 
His New Book (first of many?) 	His family and their YU story 	New Belz Building 	"YU's on the Rise" 	Trip YU makes - Vienna/Morocco/BYU/ (insert here) 



CLASS OF 2023

UNDERGRADUATE COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY CHECKLIST

Graduating This Year? Mazel Tov!

Be sure to complete all the items below to participate in your Commencement Ceremony.

STEP 1

Consult with your academic advisor or program director to be sure that all of your graduation requirements have been met.

Visit yu.edu/academic-advising to schedule.

STEP 2

Degrees are awarded in September, January and May. Contact your campus Registrar to determine if you are eligible to attend Commencement.

Visit yu.edu/registrar/graduation for additional information.

STEP 3

Apply for Graduation by your degree's deadline:

February 28th (May Degrees)	March 1st (September Degrees)
---------------------------------------	---

The Application for Graduation—Undergraduate Degree can be found here: yu.edu/registrar/forms

NOTE: If you miss this deadline your name will not be included in the Commencement Program.

Be sure to RSVP on the application to Commencement and give your accurate height and weight so your gown fits just right!

STEP 4

Pay your graduation/diploma fee of \$150 to the Office of Student Finance.

STEP 5

Cap and Gown Distribution Events will be held on each campus a few weeks before the ceremony.

Come with friends; have your picture taken in the photo booth to be featured at Commencement!

If you cannot pick up your attire at a distribution event you may pick it up from the Office of Student Life starting the day after the event.

No attire will be distributed at Commencement.

STEP 6

Each graduate will receive **6 guest tickets**. If you would like to request additional tickets, a form will be live in the coming weeks.

QUESTIONS?

Visit yu.edu/commencement for updates closer to the ceremony, or email commencement@yu.edu

**WE ARE EXCITED
TO CELEBRATE
WITH YOU!**

YU.EDU/COMMENCEMENT

YP Daily Schedule

By CHARLES TYRWHITT

YP Daily Schedule

7:00 AM: Wake up.
 7:01 AM: Netilas Yadayim.
 7:03 AM: Put on the pair of tzitzis you were “supposed to wash” last night.
 7:04-7:07 AM: Stare at your various Charles Tyrwhitt shirts, wonder if today will be the day you are bold enough to wear a polo.
 7:07 AM: Put on black pants and wonder if they match your navy Cole Haans.
 7:08 AM: Realize it would all be easier if you were just black and white.
 7:15 AM: Arrive at Shacharis 5 minutes early. Say all of Brachos and Korbanos. Realize you have no idea what you are saying.
 7:40 AM: Start Shemonah Esreh.
 7:45 AM: Finish Shemonah Esreh.
 7:52 AM: Pretend you finish Shemonah Esreh.
 8:10 AM: Take off your tefillin and say all 15 *Ikarei Emunah* (you added two to be *shtark*).
 8:15 AM: Halacha Seder.
 8:35 AM: Finish Halacha Seder, realize that *Imaaseh* you still don’t know the bottom line.
 8:40-9 AM: Sugar cereals or Grandmas, hock about how much work you have.
 9:00 AM: Sit down for seder.
 9:13AM: Actually start seder.
 11:38 AM: Feel the burn out — give yourself a motivational speech.

11:49 AM: Realize the motivational speech did not work, try to find a 10 minute chaburah to go to so you don’t feel like a bum.
 12:00 PM: Go to the caf, get salad because you haven’t worked out since the semester started.
 12:07 PM: Decision time, what table to sit at. Options: Realize that the KBY table isn’t a real option. Shaalvim table makes you feel inadequate, and the Comp-Sci table is its own *matzav*.
 12:10 PM: Settle for some table you are unhappy with.
 12:13 PM: See a table form where you actually want to sit. Wonder for over ten minutes whether it’s rude to switch (it is).
 12:30 PM: Take out a *bencher* that somehow fits in your wallet and *bench*.
 12:40-1:10 PM: Awkward bubble of time before shiur. Bring your laptop to your shiur room to do “work.” Get overly engrossed in *pre-shiur hock*.
 1:15 PM: You are following shiur.
 1:45 PM: Aftereffects of lunch hit, drowsiness ensues.
 2:10 PM: Get back into it.
 2:30 PM: Mincha time.
 3:00 PM: Promise today is the day you will focus in class.
 3:01-3:30 PM: Whatsapp.
 3:30-4:15 PM: Frum Twitter.
 4:18 PM: Heichi Mincha on a bad day. Realize you are becoming balebattish. Glance and see some frum people around you and feel better.
 5:50 PM: Dinner.
 6:45 PM: Head to the gym for a small

workout — wear tzitzis until you have reached treadmill.
 7:10 PM: Look around the gym and feel inadequate.
 7:30 PM: Shower and wonder if you should go to the 7:45 heights lounge Maariv. You don’t make it.
 8:01 PM: Arrive at night seder.
 8:16 PM: Actually start night seder.
 9:00 PM: Glance around your table and notice a guy who just slid into your row doing a very obscure *limmud*.
 9:23 PM: Get tired, pray that *sichas mus-sar* is tonight.
 9:48 PM: Wrap things up.
 10:00 PM: Maariv.
 10:21 PM: Conclude that 7:45 Heights

Lounge Maariv was a good idea.
 10:30 PM: Realize you have not started your work. Comment to your friend that this wouldn’t be a problem had your parents let you go to Lander’s, Ner, or Shor Yoshov.



PIXABAY

Comp Sci Guys Apprehend Hacker

By <UNDISCLOSED>

YU’s servers are rarely hacked, and there’s a good reason why. To hack them, an adversary must scale a wall of fire, fight the system’s vicious antivirus, and get past the shield on YU’s logo. However, on March 1st, a hacker managed to get into YU’s servers through unknown means. “It was a nightmare to deal with” said Jessie Hacker, a member of YU’s IT department. “That hacker corrupted our IP address, deleted our RAM, installed a python, and renamed our folders to ‘holdy things’.”

Fortunately, YU had students who specialized in computational devices and were willing to help. Armed with part of the knowledge of their master Judah Diamant,

and eager to fix any computational problem, the YUCS students were the perfect bunch to face the daunting task of restoring YU’s servers. Chaim Algor, one of the students tasked with restoring YU’s servers said “if I were a student in any other college, I probably would not have found time to help the IT department. However, it is common knowledge that all YU students fully abide by the principles of the five Torot, and among the Torot is Chessed. According to the laws of Chessed we should always be willing to help our fellow staff and students, even if we have other priorities.”

After three days of hard work YU’s servers went back online, though a fear still lingered throughout the school that the hacker would attack again. The administration decided to ignore the issue, until Adam Chromberg convinced them to take action against the

hacker. When asked how he did it, Adam said “it is common knowledge that all YU students fully abide by the principles of the five Torot, and among the Torot is Chaim. According to the laws of Chaim, we should always value life, and by pursuing the hacker, we are removing a threat to the lives of the servers”.

Of course, in order to pursue the hacker, the school would need a way to track him down. To do so, YU’s IT department took advantage of a small mistake which the hacker made: he accidentally dropped his private key during his attack on YU’s servers. With the hacker’s private key, YU could hack into the hacker’s super-secret satellite network, and with access to the hacker’s super-secret satellite network, YU could pinpoint the location of the closest kosher restaurant to the hacker, sorry, I was getting hungry... the

exact location of the hacker.

In possession of the hacker’s private key, YU was able to find the hacker’s exact location in <Undisclosed>, California. After finding out that <Undisclosed>’s local authorities knew about the hacker and wouldn’t apprehend him, YU decided to go above the letter of the law and take matters into their own hands. To do so, they assembled an epic trio consisting of Adam Chromberg, master of morals and computer science, Emmet Applebaum, master of learning Torah during night seder and computer science, and Benzion Windor, master of caring for the health of the plants in Tenser Gardens and computer science, to confront the hacker and bring him to justice.

Adam, Emmet and Benzion proceeded to go on a 23-day road trip around the United States of America before confronting the hacker. During this road trip, they visited many important monuments, such as the Lincoln memorial in Washington D.C., the giant BEAN in Chicago, a random palm tree in Florida, and 770 in New York City. “You see”, said Emmet, “it is common knowledge that all YU students fully abide by the principles of the five Torot, and among the Torot is Adam. According to the laws of Adam, we should always value our fellow man, and the United States of America sent a man to the moon, so we should also value the United States of America.”

After their extremely important 23-day road trip across the United States of America, Adam, Emmet, and Benzion arrived at the hacker’s house in <Undisclosed>, California. After politely knocking on the hacker’s door, no one responded, so Adam busted it down, to be met with a sight he would never forget. Behind the fallen door was a room full of



PIXABAY

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Anonymous for a Reason: An Exclusive Interview with @stern.memes

By **YEHOShUA B.**

You've probably seen the Instagram page (unless you're too frum and only stick to Twitter). Enjoy this exclusive interview with the one and only stern.memes, who chooses to stay anonymous for reasons which become clear pretty early on in this article.

I had the privilege to sit down with stern.memes one afternoon in my dorm room, a few minutes after we agreed to do this interview.

takes my phone

Stern.memes: Hi, this is stern dot memes... I first got the idea at the cross-walk outside of Dunkin Donuts when I was standing next to the writer of this article and I turned to her and I said, "Should I make a meme page for Stern?" *turns to interviewer* you were my first follower.

Yehoshua B.: I was your first follower?

SM: Yeah, you were the only person who knew. You were the first person who knew — it was *born* with you.

YB: Wow, what an honor. Should we just do the interview right now?

SM: Yeah that's what I'm saying.

YB: Okay so my first question is are you willing to reveal your identity to the *klaf*?

SM: Should I just do it right now? I was thinking about it.

YB: That might destroy the whole concept of this interview.

SM: When I graduate, *im yirtzeh Hashem*. This is off the record but.... *shares a bunch of hock* we're back on the record now, what was your next question.

YB: Tell the story of how you built this page.

SM: So I really liked YU Stern Confessions, *mamish* obsessed with it. I thought it was so funny and a really needed outlet that could criticize YU while at the same time taking somewhat humorous approaches to things. And then when it just stopped, I was like, oh, this kind of sucks, we need a new way of complaining about the school but still making it funny. And so I was standing outside Dunkin Donuts on my way to I believe a 9 a.m. class with an anonymous person who works for The Commentator and I just turned to her and I said, "I kinda wanna make a way of just Stern students complaining." And then a week later, the caf closed so early and I needed to spend my flex dollars, and I was so mad about it that I was like, that's it, I'm making a meme page to complain. So that's how it was born.

YB: I have to think of some shticky questions. Just blabber in the meantime.

SM: Just monologue?

YB: Yeah.

totally unprompted

SM: I think my biggest accomplishment as a meme page is having PRDAB follow me.

YB: PRDAB follows you?!

SM: Yeah. PRDAB follows me, YU

Athletics follows me, YU Israel follows me.

YB: PRDAB follows you?!

SM: PRDAB follows me. That really was an amazing moment for me.

YB: What was your best meme?

SM: My favorite meme, because I think about it every single time it happens, is the one where it's a school bus on the train tracks and all of a sudden it gets shoved aside by a train and it says "me and the revolving door to 215" because I absolutely BODY SLAM that door.

YB: If you're not hauling yourself into that door...

SM: ... you're doing it wrong. Like, I will run someone over if they're in front of me in that door. Also every time I exit that building, I'm like wow this is such a fire hazard. Like, how do we have permission to have hundreds of students in a school and one singular revolving door. 215 scares me.

YB: What do you think about wilf.memes?

SM: Wilf.memes is purely a fan page at this point.

YB: Do you know who runs it?

SM: I don't, I have a strong suspicion, but I don't actually know who runs it. Why don't I ask? Because I don't talk to men.

YB: As stern.memes where would you describe yourself *hashkafically*?

SM: Do you wanna just put my whole *shidduch* resume on here while we're at it? Here's the thing: I think it's so obvious who I am. A couple people have guessed right but I told myself that the second people found out, I would stop. So don't guess unless you want this to end.

YB: I think my favorite meme is the one about the smushed bug in the *beis*.

SM: Oh my God I stare at the bug always. I should do a walking tour of Stern that's just the places that I mention in my memes.

YB: How long have you been running this page?

SM: Since its inception, which was last year early fall semester.

YB: How many times has your identity almost been discovered?

SM: I was terrified at American Dream.

YB: You're like Hannah Montana — student by day, stern.memes by night.

SM: Student in class, stern.memes literally in all the elevators. I check my DMs in the crowded elevators. If you look over at my phone, you know who I am.

YB: What are you doing to ensure that the stern.memes legacy lives on?

SM: I'm starting to scout people.

YB: Changing gears completely, what's the best school: YC, SCW or Syms?

SM: Wurzweiler.

YB: No, dude, undergrad.

SM: Here's the deal. YC is the OG, it's the classic, *whispers* it's a little bit tired. It's like *pareve* ice cream; yeah, I can eat it after I'm *fleishig* but like, ok. Like the Trader Joe's *pareve* ice cream tastes like cardboard and that is a hill I will DIE on. Ok, so YC is Trader Joe's cardboard. Then we have Stern. Stern is like ... Adidas Stan Smiths — doesn't require a lot of creativity and is just the default option. Syms is ... I'm trying to think of a way of saying this that is politically correct, and by politically correct I mean socially appropriate. Syms is the older brother in a sitcom who's really cool and better than everybody else and at the end of season one he leaves to fulfill his dream, and then they just write him out of the show and he never comes back, and they pretend he never existed. That's what Syms is. I figured it out.

YB: Can you give an example from a specific show?

SM: No I don't watch TV, I'm very frum.

YB: What's your favorite line from the *aveirah* song?

SM: Ooh, niche question.

YB: Or the *chumrah* song?

SM: Oh, the *chumrah* song is obvious — "I bought a donkey just in case I'm *moshiach*." That is literal genius. My favorite line from The Chavrusa Breakup Song is "They say there are other fish in the sea but who wants to learn with a fish." Literary genius.

YB: What do you think about the dating scene at YU?

SM: Pass. *interviewer and SM chuckle* Here's the thing about dating: I once was exiting a less populated dorm building (let's call it 35th), and there was a guy waiting outside and I was like okay, he's picking someone up for a date. And the girl's behind me and she walks out and I'm walking

somewhere from 35th (hypothetically), and he goes, oh hi, are you X? And she's like, yes. Do not pick up a girl for a first date from her dorm building!!

YB: Where should he have picked her up?

SM: Obviously the 7/11. Jumping topics entirely, as a secret identity person, there have been a couple times when I almost said things to people in conversation and then I realized they never said them to me, they just DMed me. So I've almost given my identity that way a bunch of times.

YB: What do you do in a situation like that? How do you cover up?

SM: Lie. I'm not gonna do this not anonymously. So basically if you think you know who I am, don't talk about it; you're probably right.

YB: Do you ever think you'll have that Hannah Montana scene where she takes off her wig onstage?

SM: I hope not. Although I kind of want to do a grand reveal on top of my grad cap.

YB: Thank you all for reading this, it was a pleasure to spend some time talking to my good friend and colleague, stern.memes. Any other final comments?

SM: One more thing — now that I have this large platform, I'm gonna talk about a few things really quickly. Number one, don't try to figure out who I am, you already know it. Number two, keep the "what's for dinner" chat about what's for dinner. Also, if I wanted to join your club, I would've joined the group chat; I don't need it on literally every single chat. Anyways, what are my final thoughts? I'm so glad you asked. My final thoughts are that if you'd like to do memes, please DM me and I'll send you the link to apply. I'd like to think I've created a little community of almost 300 people (including PRDAB) who can have a good time and laugh at the school and laugh at ourselves because if we're not laughing we'll be crying. And yeah, I hope you enjoy the memes, and if you're a guy stay out of my DMs. Thank you so much.



ריבוי"ץ:

החברות. קלובס בלע"ז: פסק דין רע. שפסק בית דין בניו יארק ששיבה אוניוורסיטי עומדת בכת מוסדות חינוכים ואסור לה להפלות נגד אנשי להט"ב: חוץ מן הגאווה. בראשונה אנשי ההנהלה אמרו ששם גאווה היה הבעיה העקרית וברית הגאווה ב'וויי' 'יו' תיקנה את עצמה בשם ברית ב'וויי' 'יו' אעפ"כ החברה נאסרה והלכתא כתנא קמא: עושה קול. ששיבת רבינו יצחק אלחנן מתרת איסורים: רבי ארי. נ"ל שהוא הנשיא רבי דוקטור ארי בערמאן: כל ישראל ערבים. דפוס לחברא שנברא להכיל את בעלי הגאווה בפעולות חיי התלמידים: בעלי גאווה. אנשי להט"ב המתגאים בזהותם ובני בריתם: והאיפכא. הברייתא השניה סותרת את הראשונה: עקרי תורות. תורה וואלוס בלע"ז ורבי ארי תקן אותן לפרסם את שליחות השיבה: תורת אמת. טרות' בלע"ז אמונה באמת אובייקטיבית והיכולת של בני אדם לגלות אותה: תורת אדם. אינפניט היומן וורת' בלע"ז אנומה בחשיבות האינסופית של כל אחד ואחד מן בני אדם: תורת חיים. לייף בלע"ז אמונה ביכולת להחיות את העקרים: תורת חסד. קומפאשיון בלע"ז

חסרונות:

פסק דין רע. פירוש הקונטרס ששיבה אוניוורסיטי עומדת בכת מוסדות חינוכים. ותימה לרבי יוסף שהשיבה יצור להתאמן רבנים ומנהיגי הקהילה בארה"ב והלא נקרא השיבה בכינוי מוסד האניה הניסית למודרן אורטודוקסי ואי אפשר שאינה מוסד דתי. ויש לומר שלפני חמישים שנה בימי הנהלת הנשיא שמואל בלקין השיבה היה מתוקנת דמוסד דתי והנשיא רצה להתמקצע את האוניוורסיטי והבדיל את ה'רבי יצחק אלחנן ת'יאולוג'יקל סימינרי' מתוך ישיבה אוניוורסיטי כדי להפריד את התארים הדתיים מן התארים המקצועיים. אז בשנת ה'תשכ"ז נהפך ישיבה אוניוורסיטי למוסד חינוכי בעיני הדין:

מלתני' המבטל את החברות מפני שהוא מתירא מפני גיים מפני לסביות מפני פסק דין רע או בשביל עשיר שיתרום, פטור. מתיר על ה'וויי' 'יו' מתיר על הברית מתיר על הגאווה, חייב. ורבי חיים פוטר בכולן חוץ מן הגאווה מפני שהיא עושה קול: גמ' לימא מתניתין דלא כרבי ארי. דתניא כתיב (ויקרא כו:לז) וכשלו איש באחיו אל תקרי איש באחיו אלא איש בעון אחיו מלמד שכל ישראל ערבים זה בזה. אתי לקמיה דרבי ארי אמר להו זיל תקן חברא על שם כל ישראל ערבים כדי לשרת את בעלי הגאווה מן בני השיבה. והאיפכא תנא רבי ארי ולימא מתניתין כרבי ארי דתניא אמר רבי ארי חמשה עקרי תורות נתן הקב"ה לשיבת רבינו יצחק אלחנן ואלו הן תורת אמת תורת אדם תורת חיים תורת חסד ותורת ציון. מעשה ברבי ארי שאסר את חברת ברית הגאווה אתי לקמיה דרבי ארי אמרו ליה אמאי אסרת חברת ברית הגאווה אמר להו מפני שהסתירה את עקרי התורות. קשיא דרבי ארי אדרבי ארי. אמר רב באקסטר לא קשיא האי מפני פסק דין והאי מפני העקרים ורבנן אמרי הכל נעבד מדעת תורה:

אמונה באחריות להגיע לאחרים ברחמים: תורת ציון. רידימפטיון בלע"ז אמונה שתכלית בני אדם להפוך את העולם לטובה ולהביא את תולדותו קדימה: שאסר את חברת. כשבעלי הגאווה בקשו לתקן את ברית הגאווה ועיין לעיל: מפני שהסתירה. נ"ל שברית הגאווה סתרה תורת ציון אבל רבי ארי לא הסביר את דעתו: קשיא. משמע בברייתא ראשונה שלפי רבי ארי מותר לתקן חברא בשביל בעלי הגאווה: רב באקסטער. הוא אריק באקסטער עורך דין מבית בקט: מפני פסק דין. כדי ליראות לפני בית דין בניו יארק כאילו לא הפלו נגד אנשי להט"ב: מדעת תורה. לא תסור מן הדבר אשר יגידו לך ימין ושמאל (דברים י"ז:א) אפילו אומר לך על ימין שהוא שמאל ועל שמאל שהוא ימין (רש"י שם):

HACKER

Continued from Page 6

giant black boxes with weird flickering lights. In its center, there was a large array of screens of varying sizes, being operated by a masked man wearing a black suit. "So I see that wish to avenge that scrawny little server of yours", remarked the hacker, in an ominous voice. "Unfortunately, that will be no easy task". When asked how his fight with the hacker went, Emmet said "The hacker was a pretty weak opponent. I mean, his attacks were powerful, but he'd always broadly announce them before he performed them, so they were easy to dodge. Eventually, I managed to kick him to the ground, downing him for enough time for Adam and Bnzion to tie his arms together". Downed and with his arms tied together, it seemed as though the hacker had been defeated by the YUCS kids. However, the hacker would not go down so easily. "It may look like you have defeated me," said the hacker in a low voice. "This fight is not over though. I never thought the day would come, but it's time for me to use my Ultimate

Attack!"

Do you ever get depression or anxiety at YU? Do you feel like your grades aren't what they should be? Do you feel like you don't have a good friend who can comfort you through tough times and teach you valuable life lessons? If you answered yes to any of these questions, you should try buying a YU Torot Ducky. YU Torot Duckies are your best rubber ducky friends, each one imbued with one of the five Torot. You can take them wherever you go, and they'll always be there to brighten your day and teach you how to act like a proper YU student. You can buy your YU Torot Duckies at retailers near YU, or you can buy them online for only \$25 a duck. Don't let your anxiety get the best of you and buy a YU Torot Ducky today! *YU Torot Duckies are non-refundable after purchase. Each duck is sold separately. Duckies are not guaranteed to cure anxiety or depression, boost your grades, or teach you valuable life lessons.*

"It may look like you have defeated

me," said the hacker in a low voice. "This fight is not over though. I never thought the day would come, but it's time for me to use my Ultimate Attack! I plead the fifth!" "I thought we were done for", said Adam, remarking on the hacker's Ultimate Attack!. "It is common knowledge that all YU students fully abide by the principles of the five Torot, and among the Torot is Emet. According to the laws of Emet, we should always say the truth and if we always assume that others are saying the truth and if others are saying the truth, then we should assume that their statements have validity, and if their statements have validity, their statements have value. However, when it seemed all hope was lost, Emmet reminded me that the fifth amendment says "nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law", implying that the hacker's Ultimate Attack! has no effect if we turn him in to the police. We promptly brought the hacker to the <Undisclosed> local

police station where he was brought to justice."

Shortly after he was brought to the <Undisclosed> local police station, the hacker was released because he did not physically harm anyone. Having served their duty as role models for the YU student base, the epic YUCS trio back to their campus in New York City and gave the following explanation as to why: "It is common knowledge that all YU students fully abide by the principals of the five Torot, and among the Torot is Zion. According to the laws of Zion, we must yearn to return to our homeland of Israel. It is known that Israel has a ton of plants, and Benzoin really likes plants. Benzion also likes ice cream and ice cream is made of ice. Canada has a lot of ice and Canada also has a lot of geese. Geese fly a lot and planes also fly a lot, and planes fly all over the world. The world has a lot of people and New York City has a lot of people, so according to the laws of Zion, we had to return to our campus in New York City."