Erna Michael College Established; Offers Degree In Hebraic Studies

Establishment of a pioneer four year college offering a Bachelor of Arts in Jewish Education has been announced by Dr. Samuel Belkin. The Erna Michael College of Hebraic Studies (which replaces the Teacher's Institute for Men) is a $1.25 million dollar gift donated by philanthropist Jakob Michael.

EMC is the first college in the United States to offer a liberal arts and professional program as well as courses in Jewish education. Students enrolled in EMC will be admitted on a highly selective basis and will attend tuition free. EMC will be a separate entity, and students attending it need not attend YC collaboratively, as is presently the case for SIC.

Several innovations are planned for the college. Among them are a year of study in Israel for the entire junior class, on-the-job laboratory experiences, a guidance program designed to counteract the trend toward "depersonalization" in American schools for teacher education, and a summer program at Jewish educational camps.

A chair, to be held by Dr. Mirsky, in recognition of the 25th anniversary of the Jewish Center, is to be set up and titled the Erna and Jakob Michael Professorship in Jewish Philosophy.

The present program, which is not complete, was developed by a committee composed of Dr. Emanuel ben Abraham Labovitch, Princeton University President; Dr. Isaac Bacon, Dean of Yeshiva College; Dr. Hyman Grinstein, director of EMC; Dr. Lamm; Prof. Moshe Silverman, Registrar; and Alvin I. Schiff, committee chairman. The prime purpose of the college, which will open in 1967, is to meet the need for qualified teachers in the field of Jewish education.

Jack Stern, EMCSC President, commented, 'The school's basic aim is that it will be the future of American and world Jewry. Without qualified teachers, the Jewish ministry of education cannot survive. The new college for Hebraic Studies will guarantee a fresh source for the almost depleted supply of Jewish educators.'

Lamm Talks On Creation

"Man's conception of G-d as the Creator of all life would be enhanced if and when biochemists succeed in creating intelligent life in their laboratories," was the opening statement of Rabbi Norman Lamm, speaking on the creation of life.

Rabbi Lamm asserted that man's ability to create life from inanimate material would not challenge G-d, but that on the contrary, "to be in G-d's image means in simplest terms, to be G-d-like. The book of Genesis teaches that G-d is the Creator." He warned, however, that "Man's accomplishments will be presumptuous and dishonorable if these marvelous secrets fall him with arrogance and inconstant him with a sense of self-sufficiency, and ultimately lead him to destroy every vestige of life on his planet." Rabbi Lamm also contended that a possible discovery of life on other planets would be definitely compatible with Jewish beliefs.

Rabbi Lamm is an assistant visiting professor of the School of Jewish Studies at Erna Michael College and has recently received a doctorate from YU. He was the founder and first editor of the magazine Tradition and is the author of numerous books and articles of Jewish interest.
The Commentary

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Pre-Registration

The Dean’s Office posted a pre-registration schedule last June in order to aid the Registrar’s Office in planning the size and number of courses. On the day of registration, however, one could easily surmise from the many panic-stricken students that little or no modification of courses was done during the summer.

Many courses had too few sections which caused overcrowding and early closings; thereby forcing students to reorganize their entire schedules. The fact that the control desk was undermanned and key people unavailable only served to aggravate the long lines and short tempers. To make matters worse, the forms were not put into the registered course, his name was not crossed off the original list. Consequently, many courses were officially closed out when in fact there was room for three or four more students.

If large colleges using IBM registration procedures can run smoothly, certainly a college our size can find a suitable, more efficient procedure.

Financial Registration

The recent chaos surrounding Yeshiva College’s pre-registration of a student dropped a pre continue the financial registration aggravated the situation.

It would greatly alleviate matters, if next year, with the coming out of the forms at an earlier date, the OSF would include samples on how to properly fill out the various forms. Similarly the setting up of a telephone service to answer questions the students and their parents may have should be an intricate and effective program.

Check-In Procedures

Dormitory registration was generally well-organized this year. Those financially-cleared students who arrived at the specified time found little trouble getting their keys and moving in, but students in that category were few in number.

The limited check-in hours caused considerable discomfort. Transportation arrangements—particularly for out of town students—often associated late arrivals. After 4 p.m., however, no one was present from the Office of Buildings and Grounds; the dormitory counselors had no keys; and the Residence Hall Supervisor was “unavailable.”

Furthermore, there seemed to be little justice in the handling of students. Before dormitory and academic registrations, as this unnecessary bureaucracy inconvenienced students who arrived on Labor Day, when the offices were closed, and could not settle financial matters.

We hope that next year, dormitory registration will cover any extenuating situations and prove more efficient.

RIETS Assignments

As usual, bedlam reigned supreme in the vicinity of the office of the Administrative Director of RIE To correct this annoyance, it is

If one is not in the regular, who knows his students’ needs and abilities better than anyone else, to recommend a shiur for each of his students. Of course, there are always those who for one reason or another cannot be assigned a course. However, would it not be better to pre-arrange examination appointments rather than subject them to hours of needless waiting?

Malterance Fee

One of YU’s myriad fees and charges is the little publicized, yet sizeable, Maintenance of Registration Fee of $35, payable by students who go on leaves of absence. Oftentimes, this sum is used to keep the student files and key people un The answer to this question is part of the basic philosophy which motivates the printing of any editorial. I would, therefore, like to briefly restate our policy for the benefit of those readers who wonder “why we bother.”

Once a student has decided to spend four years of his life in a particular college, the administration, faculty and student body of that college become an integral part of him. The faculty need not be the best in the country nor must the school be a member of the Ivy League. The student is satisfied as long as high educational standards are maintained and there is a sense of identity and pride in his college. The student feels that there is something basic wrong. Consequently, the student experiences the feeling of being “the man or woman on the other side,” whereas he was so proud of. There is a loss of school spirit and basic admiration which are so important to college life. Besides providing social disillusions, the school itself, which is so sensitive to public opinion, suffers irreparable damage to its community image.

All we ask is that the administration take the trouble to correct the few ridiculous situations which prompt the grievances we have, so that we may continue to be proud of our Yeshiva and our students.

That is why we bother.

Letters To The Editor

To the Editor:

We have followed with great interest the recent series of articles appearing in The Commentary.” As we have been for the past week, we are beginning with the commentary of our Editor-in-Chief, which seemed to us to be aimed at our staff. We are happy to register our support for Rabbi Greenberg’s call for the understanding of the principles of the crisis and conflict in contemporary life.

We believe that inquiry and expression concerning such matters are necessary and that we will continue to do so.

(Continued on page 4)

From The Editor's Desk

Why We Bother

By Stephen Bailey

During a recent Governing Board meeting someone asked why it is necessary to editorialize about registration at all, since the offices involved do not seem to be interested in reorganizing their procedures. After the editors appeared, protests are made for a more efficient plan—but each September and February the chaotic conditions reappear. So why waste the space?

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That is why we bother.
Only Out Of Strife

by Ted Miller

Secular-religious conflict is old hat at Yeshiva College. While the rebbetzin teaches us obedience to an ancient and sacred tradition, the professor instructs us in a liberal tradition of free thought and action. We are taught to obey and subtly induce to rebel.

The justification for perpetuating this apparent anachronism in the institutional autonomy of college and yeshiva is based on the view of the secular world held by such Jewish thinkers as R. Evard Salanter and R. Yehuda Kook. It is proposed that science and religion, not necessarily in conflict, can be blended and integrated by a mind molded by Torah.

A prerequisite for the integration of the secular with religious, however, is a highly developed Jewish intellect that can distill from a vast knowledge of Jewish tradition unique responses to philosophical and theological problems. Most students entering YC don't have this prerequisite.

Thus, as it stands, under such handicapped conditions, the educational policy aimed at the masterful assimilation of the secular into its own secular perspective is not at all what it should be. Is it not just as likely that the college influenced mind will integrate religion into its own secular perspective? And is not what subtly happens at YC?

What keeps YC in business as a religious institution is nothing more than the sustained pressure of the outside world which is in great danger of becoming. Is it not just as likely that the college influenced mind will integrate religion into its own secular perspective? And is not what subtly happens at YC?

New Program At Ferkauf

A program meant to spur the learning capabilities of adolescents from depressed areas who were doing poorly in regular schools and who had no skills was instituted by YU's Ferkauf Graduate School last summer.

Most of the students were punctual and showed the ability to work hard without the need for material incentives. The project showed not only the importance of the ego drive in adolescents, but also demonstrated to teachers and administration the motivation that can be produced in an underachiever through individualized instruction.

Summer Finds Yeshiva's Preparation For Frustrating Fun-Filled Fall Follies

By Gary Spaniel

Even during the most dismal hours of the summer, preparations were being made for the day when Yeshiva would again begin to dispense its peculiar brand of first-rate education. Behind closed doors, dormitory rooms, and sometimes offices, students pondered over the problems which running a college entail. Even the non-administrators of YC were hard at work in the summer between classes, when they would once again serve the Jewish youth of America.

From the end of one season to the beginning of the next, YC always seems to be on the go. Even during the summer, the school is never at rest. As classes begin, the school is never at rest. As classes begin, the school is always preparing for the next year. Even during the summer, the school is always preparing for the next year.

2. Yeshiva purchased 18th St. This might seem shocking and a bit humorous; it is. There are rumors that the agent who handled the transaction is now accepting offers for the Verrazzano Bridge. It is rumored that the street will be named after the agent — as soon as someone discovers his real name. Until then, the street will be 'Timed,' which is now a name without a cause.

3. That brings us to EAJMC-FHS, known affectionately as EMJ. This new name is sure to become one of the all-time favorites, as it reflects one of the basic drives of the University.

Mr. Training

Over in the dorms, a group of women, training for their employment as maids, were snipping off six inches from every bedsheet. They were beginning a course of study which would include door knocking, cleaning, dusting, and collecting empty soda bottles.

In the same week, lighted through the night, registration was nearing for the Verrazzano Bridge. It is rumored that the street will be named after the agent — as soon as someone discovers his real name. Until then, the street will be 'Timed,' which is now a name without a cause.

And so, as the new year begins, let us remember that much planning and action go into the Yeshiva curriculum — and if you believe that, you should meet the fellows who are selling the Verrazzano Bridge.

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Footnotes

2. Bereishis, 4:27.
9. The term ‘temple’ is used in the Talmud in the sense of a holy place, not always a building.

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Letters To The Editor

President Speaks

To the Editor:

It has become the custom that an article by the President of Yeshiva College must appear in every issue of THE COMMENTATOR. This is the President’s right since he represents the publisher - Yeshiva College Student Council.

The President and YCSC must work together for the benefit of the entire student body. It has become the custom that President-YCSC must appear in every issue of THE COMMENTATOR in which he presents a viewpoint. This custom is now going to evoke much deliberation and discussion. Our hope is that each reader may develop his own viewpoint.

Alan Schwartz ’68

Captain’s Name For Yeshiva Athletic Teams

(Continued from page six)

Sid Kagan, Senior Editor of THE COMMENTATOR, a premad major, and a student in RIETS, apparently has much to do. “No time for anything at Yeshiva.” While still maintaining a top average, Sid manages to practice a sport and to fill all those time slots that oppose Yeshiva.

Four years ago, a gangling freshman came to Yeshiva from the basketball courts of RIETS. Hard work and adaptation to a sport stressing fine points propelled Sid to his present condition. Actually, the team’s coach started to practice his legwork, so that he may earn his place at different objects in his field. Oh yes, on an emotional, non mediated, no need for compensation or knock when you enter Sid’s room.

Sammy Stern, the lone senior on this year’s young basketball squad, has been unanimously elected captain of the Mighty Mites. Sammy, no mite himself, has expected the summer at camp to keep up with a great future. A history major who pays special attention to his studies when acceleration could have taken him to a different level, with his traditional level. So easily another YCSC President-YCSC.

Yavneh

To the Editor:

We would like to call your attention to a new Yavneh program that we feel would be of interest to all Yeshiva College students. The program is the new Yavneh Institute at Bar Ilan University which offers students who have completed at least one year of college-level studies an opportunity to devote a year to Torah study.

The program offers courses in Talmud, Baha, Jewish Philosophy, Hebrew Literature, and Jewish History in a traditional and innovative context.

In addition, students will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities, including community service, sports, and social events.

We encourage all Yeshiva College students to consider this program and take advantage of the opportunity to deepen their understanding of Jewish thought and tradition. Please feel free to contact us with any questions you may have.

YBM
Large Expansion Slated For Gym Curriculum

By Bruce Spiswitz

In keeping with Yeshiva's policy of expansion, Drama, Acting, Physical Education, and Recreation have undergone much growth. Under the able directorship of Professor R. Weiss, a student may choose from some sixty half-credit courses, ranging from body building to first aid.

Unlike last year, students are not required to take two hours of gym classes. One hour is chosen from the scheduled gym courses, and the second may be fulfilled by participation in the much-broadened intramural program. This year's competition will include track and field, and bowling.

For the benefit of commuting students, many more hours have been scheduled for day sessions. This will undoubtedly lighten the work load upon these students who now must travel a considerable distance in school until the eight classes.

Owing to the great demand for swimming last semester, aquatic courses have been added to the schedule. A week. Instruction in Beginners, Senior Lifesaving, and Water Safety Instructor will be included.

In addition to the scheduled courses, Professor Hurwitz realizes the necessity for the availability of gym facilities on week-end and school nights. He has promised to have the Main Building gym opened.

Fortnite

Oct. 31 - Nov. 1 - 9. 9:30 a.m. - 1:10 p.m. - Yeshiva University Institute
YU Successes And Failures Recalled In Review Of Last Year's Athletics

By Kenneth Koslow

Yeshiva University's winter athletic teams finished the 1965-66 season with a combined record of 23-22. This was accomplished by the farming team's remarkable comeback, the wrestling team's first winning season, and the basketball squad's continuing decline into mediocrity.

The fencing team, with a record of 9-4, broke a string of three losing seasons to retain their position as YU's strongest team. This record was truly remarkable when compared with the previous year's record of 1-11. The Taubermen, captained by Vic Kops and Maurice Zauderer, started the season with a string of three straight victories. After the inter-semester layoff, however, the team lost the next three matches in a rather disappointing manner. The fears of those who remember the '64-'65 season were quickly dispelled, as the fencers bounced back with three straight wins and a second place finish.

Five New Captains Announced For '66-'67 Sports Season

By Robert Golub

Strong, agile hands, a facile body, and above all, absolute control of one's motions and emotions are essential in the ancient Greek sport of wrestling. Barry Levy and Neil Ellman, the captains of this year's wrestling squad, have spent the past four years mastering this arduous art.

Barry will probably wrestle in the 160 pound weight division. A Hebrew major seeking a doctorate in Bible, Levy has always approached wrestling as the clever art of controlling, not punishing, his opponent.

Neil, a confident, soft-spoken Tennessean who sports last year's best record, will weigh in at 137. An economics major who spent his summer as nature counselor at Camp Miruna, Neil has attributed his success to coordinating general theory with physical acumen in mat generalship.

Foisman StKatz and epeeist Shelly Karr, both captains and co-captain of this year's fencing squad. Continued on page 5

Great Athletic Facilities

I am rarely disappointed in the Yeshiva College students who don't appreciate the fine athletic facilities at their disposal. Yeshiva is blessed with not one, not two, but three gymnasiums. In fact, using these areas is not only a physical experience, but an educational one as well. A student can start with George Washington, complete his history lesson with Eliason, and conclude with sociology in the middle. The gym at the Main Center enhances New York's image, while making the Harlem River seem like the Slovenian backwater.

Much criticism has been leveled at the necessity of renting a court for home basketball games. The dissidents little realize the advantages of the situation. First of all, the arena is downtown for our convenience. After exiting from the station, running three avenue blocks to Power Memorial may be suddenly incumbent upon us, but, of course, in the eyes of technological society in 1966, Power Memorial doesn't only lend itself closely to the sport of basketball, but to track and field as well.

After a game, a little red Valiant, usually carrying two passengers, takes us all over the West Side Highway.

At Power Memorial, as with our gym, educational values are juxtaposed with physical ones. As Power Memorial affords a unique opportunity. Where else can a player bend down in front of a cross to pick up his yarmulka? Where else can students discourse with a priest as he tries to keep us off the court?

The third area of complaint centers around Klein Athletic Field. Students don't understand that Klein Field not only serves a recreational purpose, but a fraternal one also. With six basketball games, a football game, a pinball game, a basketball court (after being thrown off Duane Cen­ ter Park), and a game of stickball in progress all at once, students are constantly bumping into each other's legs. In other words, the students are reduced in size by the graduation stand, but this too is workable; a subtle reminder of the dehumanizing influence of modern thought.

Yeshiva College students who participate in athletics perform a two-fold service. The first is to Yeshiva University, the second to YUHSMB students. College athletics are guiding lights, the figures to emulate for these high school boys. Why else would the college share its facilities with the high school? why else would the college students be so inconvenienced?

It is not an ideal situation when students must travel to practice an amount of time equal to that of practice. It is a rather poor situation when a Yeshiva student must look to the scoreboard to find out if Yeshiva or its opponent is the home-team.

On the Sidelines

I saw a mere glimpse of YU's success when the basketball team played a match with Shelly Katz pinning his opponent in 30 seconds (a new YU three straight victories). The last of these was at the expense of record to clinch the victory and a winning season for the Wittenberg.

The basketball team put together a record of 7-13 for their fourth straight losing season. However, the final results do not tell all the story. With the toughest opponents scheduled in the first half of the season and two freshmen playing consistent roles, most of the damage was done early. After opening up with three straight losses, the out-of-state runners made the first half of the season with a 2-8 record. In the second half of the season, improved team play led to a 5-5 record. This was highlighted by a sparkling effort to defend in a traditional rival game. This enabled the Mighty-Mites to end up third in the Kinner- kemerke Conference with a 4-4 league record. The Mites were led by Shelly Raskin (third highest YU score and record breaker), Sam Stern, and Capt. Jon Halpert.

On the whole, the '65-'66 season was an enjoyable one.

Pictured above are YU athletes as they compete in events for which they have mentally and physically prepared themselves. The straining muscles and intense concentration reflect the months of training which each participant must devote to his sport. The careful weight training and sheer determination of YU athletes are tribute to the excellence of the coaching staff and the desire of the team members themselves. The student body's support is both solicited and appreciated by the squad. Aside from the beneficial effect such cheering has, athletic events are exciting to behold. So come down and root for your team.