Scharansky's Fight
by Jonathan Bandler
In Cleveland to begin a hectic
night of speaking engagements,
Natan Scharansky on Monday
111$ the campaign of many
politiCians. Natan Scharansky
drew a large crowd of students
at the crossroads. But cam-
paigning is exactly what he
is doing during a Midwest swing
to the University of Wiscon-
sin, Milwaukee and Columb-
State that will eventually lead
him across much of the United
States. Scharansky added that
December 4th to Mikhail
Gorbachev at the superpowers'
summit meeting. He is cam-
paigning to bring as many people
as possible to Washington
to see how the Soviets are
building the Iron Curtain.
Wherever he spoke in Cleve-
land and beyond, Scharansky
I,"oned the cause
WYU R. until recently it was
WYU R, Yeshiva University's
undergraduate radio station.
request to Dean Nulman to
benefit from programming on
the fire that keeps Scharansky
everywhere as a hero. as a man
return to Israel where he will
fight for Soviet Jews, and everything
crossroads to which he has
settled his family. He has
finished his book for Random
and needed to be discussed.
Scharansky, like others is also
concerned about what Gorbach-
ev's Glaunost policy means in
terms of the kind of Jew who
is left in the Soviet Union.
Scharansky, one of the most
influential refuseniks released in
the past two years, Scharansky
said that the impression of the
structure of remaining dissi-
dents will have been weakened,
a scenario for which the
Kremlin is striving.
What then lies immediately
ahead for Natan Scharansky?
What will he be doing a year
from now even not even he could
answer. But the next six months
certainly be very hectic and
probably won’t allow for much
resting time. He will be
finishing his book for Random
House Publishers and is con-
tracted to promote the book
nationwide for the three weeks
of the Spring. The book is sche-
duled for release in late May
or early June, coinciding with
the newly dedicated Tenzer
Gardens to the Belief Continum.
Scharansky to find out what Yeshiva
University is really all about.
By ten o’clock, most of the
parents, prospective students,
administrators and student
hosts were in their seats listening to
the opening remarks by Judy
Paikin. Director of Admissions
at Yeshiva University and Dr.
Norman Rosenfeld, Dean of
College and SSSB. A series of
open House sessions drew overflow
crowds.
An open “forum” with each
department providing a rep-
resentative to talk to the
prospective students and
parents in an informal atmosphe-
re provided helpful and
informative. Musical entertain-
ment was provided by WYU
Athletic Director, Dr. Gil
Shevlin. When the ceremony
was over the stands stood on the
feet ready for the long-awaited speech to get under way.
Avi Nativ controlled the tip
and from there the Maccs
were off to the races. Benny Reiche
scored the opening basket of
the season with a nice scoop
layup and once again the fans
displayed their enthusiasm as
streams of blue and white paper
cont. on page 11

Macs Bom-Bard
by Jon Bandier
The YU Maccs overcame
opening game jitters and
trounced an undermanned Bard
College team, 70-37, before
nearly 700 raucous fans at the
Max Stern Athletic Center.
The game began with the
pregame player introductions
out by the chanting and stomp-
ing of more than 40 blue and
white faced YU students who
danced around waving pom-
poms. After the screaming
died down and the anthems
were sung, the teams finally
took the court for the
ceremonial opening tip. Honored
with tossing up the first ball
was Rabbi Manfred Fuld who
announced the opening tip.
Under his shoulders and says, “That is
the way of life. This is where some
people as possible to Wash-
ington. However, on
December 6th is geared toward
wherever he spoke in Cleve-
land. In Minnesota to be
gettable day.
Dr. Israel Miller, Senior Vice
President of Yeshiva University,
and Dr. Michael Schill, Dean
of SSSB, gave welcoming
remarks and Michael Levine.
President of YCSS, delivered
a perspective of student life
at YU.
When asked about the report
breaking turnout this year.
Levine replied that ‘this year’s
Open House seems to be
another pr0of of the heightened
interest in YU.’
After Mincha, student guided
tours of the campus were
provided, ending a most unfor-
gettable day.
1987
This year’s Open House ran
particularly smoothly due to the
greater efforts of Judy Paikin,
Ken Wagner, Joan Friedman,
and the rest of the Admission
staff. In recruiting and coun-
seling student representatives
to help run this years program,
it ran to peak efficiencies.
Judy Paikin stated later that
the day was such a bit because
every administrator and faculty
member approached to help
was cooperative. Miss Paikin
added that all this is symbolic
of the positive turnaround at
YU and that “the word on the
does not have to return to Israel
at any time high, many college
students were housed there once
Morgenstern and Rubin Res-
estates.
With the addition of the
4th floor last year and the 5th
floor this year, the potential
time of listeners in Mass Hall
has doubled. This year’s program-
ming also is more popular than
it has been, with real interest
shown in the Hebrew and sports
programming, as well as the
live coverage of YUS Macabes’
home games.
Michael Levine, president of
YCSS, is now toying with
different ideas as to methods
of raising the $1500 needed for
a transmitter, and WYU will have
to cover the costs for the phone
tie line. Whether or not they
are successful will soon be seen.
New Receiver in Mass Hall
Recently, Donor Spier,
a member of the dorm commit-
tee in Mass Hall, submitted a
request to the administration
that there be a receiver placed in
Mass Hall so that residents could
benefit from programming on
WWUR, Yeshiva University's
undergraduate radio station.

Open House Success
A description of the three
Yeshiva students programs fol-
lowing the video was an explo-
ration of the Liberal Arts and
Sciences fields at YU. Included
in the many sessions were
“Choosing a Career” and “For
the Parent of the Prospective
Student” Prettalow and the Syms
School of Business session
drew overflow crowds.

New Receiver in Mass Hall
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undergraduate radio station.

According to Mark Zomick,
the Program Director at
WWUR, until recently it was
not felt necessary to have a
receiver in Mass Hall because
it was not worth the money
there was no one who lived there, as well as
the fact that there did not seem
be much of a listening audience amongst them. This
is because for many years
RIETS, now Mass, Hall only
housed the Semicha students.
Now, with student enrollment
On December 6th, thousands of American Jews will join Natan and Avital Scharansky, Vladimir Splak, and other former refuseniks in Washington, DC to greet Premier Gorbachev on the occasion of the Soviet leader's summit meeting with President Reagan. The presence of families, students, and community leaders from all over the country will serve as a forceful reminder that despite the recent trend toward increased emigration, the plight of the millions of Soviet Jews still awaiting visas has not been forgotten.

While some may harbor reservations as to the wisdom and/or effectiveness of this manner of support, once such a demonstration has been planned, all those concerned with human rights and dignity should exhibit their solidarity by attending.

In assessing the contribution of YU students to the cause of Soviet Jewry we can recall the enthusiasm displayed upon the arrival of Natan Scharansky in Lamport Auditorium following his long-awaited release from the Soviet Union in the Spring of 1986. Today we should endeavor to recapture that depth of emotional commitment to the cause of our fellow Jews and travel en masse to Washington both as representatives of Orthodox Jewry and as involved college students and participants in world society.

Bookstore: A Question of Propriety

The newly reorganized bookstore has provided a welcome change from years past. Under Collegiate Bookstores management it has expanded both the variety of services offered and the hours of operation. With few exceptions, the YC student must no longer make the weary trek downtown to purchase needed texts.

However, there does appear to be one small cloud over the otherwise bright horizon - the specter of censorship. While perhaps an exaggerated and over-used term, it nevertheless does serve to draw attention to a little noticed incident which may potentially create a problem.

YU has established a set of general guidelines for the bookstore, prohibiting management from carrying volumes deemed off-color or in bad taste. Shortly after the semester commenced, the practical effects of such a policy were felt with the removal of books by Sidney Sheldon and Jackie Collins. The two books were removed at the behest of the Office of the Dean of Students through the University-Bookstore Liaison, Mr. Aryeh Furst, in response to the complaints of several students. The decision to remove them has been defended on the grounds that the books themselves were not of the classical type. Notwithstanding the obvious dangers inherent in such a judgment, no formal procedure for this type of action exists. The decision for removal was essentially an arbitrary one.

The possible implications of this incident are unlimited. The absence of a delineated, reasoned, and open process could lead to the removal of any book simply upon the complaint of a few disgruntled people. Who knows what may seem offensive to some and not to others? Certain such now-established classics as 'Catcher in the Rye' and 'Huckleberry Finn' have met and still do meet much opposition and a delineated, reasoned, and open process could lead to the removal of any book simply upon the complaint of a few disgruntled people. Notwithstanding such new-established classics as 'Catcher in the Rye' and 'Huckleberry Finn'.

The advent of another Mac's basketball season marks the return of a euphoric school spirit which this campus has enjoyed each of the past two years since the Max Stern Athletic Center opened in the fall of 1985. The MSAC seems to unify a student body that is constantly being divided into camps of Yeshiva and University, and has helped restore many outsiders who have previously denigrated the YU environment. This integration is best exemplified by the YU athletes themselves who come from all Jewish studies programs and varying fields of study. However, despite cries from other varsity squads for equal treatment - cries which are sometimes justified - the basketball Macs are the Athletic Department's drawing card. This year's opening game, against a relatively weak Bard College team, drew a capacity crowd as demonstrations of YU students who did not stop chanting and stomping from the opening tip to the final buzzer. Only on-campus concerts approach that level of spirit and commitment, and at these events students have words to which to sing along. Athletics at YU, particularly the basketball team, seem to provide the campus with a measure of cohesion not adequately met by academic pursuits.

This year's team should merit the loudest cheers yet at the MSAC. Unlike last year, the team no longer must play in the shadow of all-league guards, Joey Eaves and Ronnie Schwartz, and can only improve on last year's disappointing 10-13 record. The guards and forwards, Joey Eaves and Ronnie Schwartz, and can only improve against a relatively weak Bard College team, drew a capacity crowd as demonstrations of YU students who did not stop chanting and stomping from the opening tip to the final buzzer. Only on-campus concerts approach that level of spirit and commitment, and at these events students have words to which to sing along. Athletics at YU, particularly the basketball team, seem to provide the campus with a measure of cohesion not adequately met by academic pursuits.

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Response & Opinion

Rabbi Willig on Mada

by Averick Benjamin

According to Rabbi Mordechai Willig secular studies are not permissable, but are adaptable for anyone.

At the second of this year's series of Torah U'Mada lectures, Rabbi Willig asserted that it is indeed a Mitvah to learn natural science, history, and language.

The only subject aggiud in a job that is under restriction is philosophy as well as sexually arousing literature. Rabbi Willig was quoted as saying that he understands this by exposing a number of issues.

As to the question of whether everyone may learn secular studies for the purpose of making a living, Rabbi Willig spoiled the suspense by immediately answering, "almost everyone."

The main sources for this response are the Gemara in Bava Batra 54a and 99a. The two sections deal with Torah study, and how much time to devote to its study. The final answer is in the words of the Shulchan Aruch (siman 156), that man should learn Torah as his main occupation and should work as a secondary profession.

Controversy is created by the Biyur Halacha there, which states that the law is that one must not work all day and night in order to be obligated to do so. The Ramonbach concurs with this idea.

It is important to note that those who work for a living are allowed this includes studying for that line of work.

In conclusion, whether one may learn secular studies for purposes other than making a living is a bit more complicated. The Gemara in Menachot 99 is the source again for the answer. The Gemara disputes whether one may learn "Chachmat Yavan," Greek wisdom, taken by us to mean secular wisdom. The answer is that one may learn secular wisdom for it would constitute Bitul Torah. The Shulchan Aruch (siman 246) states that a man must learn Torah all day long and in time of urgency, the bare minimum of Shema in the day and night. Rabbi Willig placed special emphasis on "time of urgency" for tense spots one otherwise take this as a freedom to neglect one's Torah learning.

The Rama states that one may learn "Shir Yachom," secular studies, for reasons other than making a living. As an example he does this on a temporary basis. Again, the underlying condition is that Torah be one's main occupation. Also, as Rabbi Elchanan Wasserman points out, while Torah should be learned "Lishma," secular studies must be learned only as a means to an end. The Rama, according to Rabbi Willig was giving a warning to someone wishing to satisfy an intellectual curiosity, but by no means should one devote equal time to secular studies as to Torah.

The Ramba states emphatically that one must learn secular subjects, but of course, Torah must be primary. Primary meaning both in time devoted and personal values as Rabbi Willig pointed out.

The liberal arts is a subject discussed by many of the Gedolim. The natural sciences are a mitzvah to study, according to the Rambam and the Torah, and the noblest of them all, "Ahashv Hashem" is enhanced by this subject in particular. History, looked down upon by the Stoics and Epicureans, is a useful waste of time, is very much encouraged by Rabbi Yaakov Emden and Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch. The latter note that the study of history gives a person a perspective, and a slight of the "hand of G-d."

Of course, language is of critical importance, as rabbis must be fluent in whichever tongue they will address people in.

Of course, with all of these studies, despite being mitzvot, there are inherent restrictions. For example, the Torah and the Rambam both state that books written by heretics, even though they contain no heresy may not be read. However, if one's line of work is in the field of debating heresy, this is not an issue for him. Such a person was the Ramah. The one art agreed upon by all which requires one to be fully versed in all of these studies is philosophy. Both the Rashba and the Ramab state this is beyond the scope of the average Jew.

What the Shulchan Aruch calls "divrei cheshek" known by us today as novels, which may contain sexually arousing material, is also definitively prohibited. The consequences this has for our English and other literature departments was not fully discussed.

Rabbi Willig noted that we in Yeshiva must use our secular studies to enhance our Torah learning. He noted that it was a fine job. But if YU espouses a yeshiva ideology, it is as challenging as are only eight courses in Israeli Foreign Policy, Israeli Society, and International Relations.

Unfortunately I and fellow YU students face the possibility of not getting transfer credit for these courses. I have enrolled at Bar-Ilan in neighboring Tel-Aviv and its exciting night life and beyond, and I chose Hebrew University as only 445 other yeshiva students have done since 1955, mostly because it is located in the holy city of Jerusalem overlooking the Western Wall. Rabbi Lebeli and the Beit Hamidkic. I have been told that perhaps it is because there is no religious atmosphere, yet I learn alongside several yeshiva students every Tuesday night at Beit Midrash. Next Semester I hope to enroll in courses taught by Nechama Ettinger, professor of Fackenhuin, two of the most renowned experts in their fields.

Unfortunately, I am unable to direct my best students in search of their own religious identity. Bar- lia's religiosousness remains to be seen.
A Deadly Charade

by Professor Paul Eidelberg

To commemorate the tenth anniversary of the late President Anwar Sadat’s historic visit to Jerusalem on November 19, 1977, Israel’s former Prime Minister Menachem Begin has written an “open” letter to his friends in the United States expressing the “wish to honor the memory of President Sadat, who was murdered by his enemies, and the enemies of peace.”

Begin goes on to say: “The peace treaty between Israel and Egypt is not just ‘a piece of paper’; even with all the enemies, and the enemies of the Egyptian ruler said: “Poor paper.” Nor is this all. A year after the Alma oil fields, and what has Menachem got? A piece of paper.”

Indeed, in an article appearing in the Spring 1982 issue of Foreign Affairs (i.e., after Sadat’s assassination), Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boutros Ghali boldly admitted that, “In spite of the severance of diplomatic relations between Cairo and those Arab capitals, transnational relations have continued and even increased.” private Arab investment continues to flow into Egypt... and Arab military and police officers are still being trained in Egyptian academies.

More ominous, as recently as January 1987, Egyptian Defense Minister Muhammad Abdel-Haïm Abu-Ghazala referred to Israel as still Egypt’s “principal and sole enemy,” and boasted that Egypt and Syria, acting in unison, would “crush the Jewish State.

But Ghazala was only reiterating the two-stage, peace-and-war strategy enunciated by Sadat before his Jerusalem visit: “The effort of our generation is to return to the 1967 borders. Afterward the next generation will carry the responsibility.” Or as his confidant, Hassanin Haykal explained: “There are only two well-defined goals on the Arab scene: erasing the traces of the 1967 aggression by Israel’s withdrawal from all the areas occupied by it in that year, and erasing the aggression of 1948 by Israel’s total and absolute annihilation.”

Finally, a personal note, apropos of Mr. Begin’s open letter. The present writer, together with five other academics, had a meeting with Begin two days before the Prime Minister left Israel for the September 1978 Camp David summit meeting with Sadat and_then President Jimmy Carter. After referring Mr. Begin to the glole evident in Sadat’s just then published autobiography, I handed him some material which placed in question the genuineness of Sadat’s so-called peace initiative. Mr. Begin nodded and, gesticulating with his right hand, exclaimed: “SADAT WILL STAB ME IN THE BACK!”

Ponder the significance of this incriminating statement as we celebrate the tenth anniversary of Sadat’s historic visit to Jerusalem, the City of Peace, also known as the City of Truth.

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Call your mummy.

You remember. She was always there when you were frightened. And if you got hurt, she was standing by with bandages. Wouldn’t it feel good to talk to your mother again right now?

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Selection Process Questioned

To the Editor:

I congratulate the YU-Stern delegation on their success at the University of Pennsylvania Model UN. The program provides its colleagues with the opportunity to mingle with peers of varied backgrounds and confront opposing viewpoints. YU should definitely participate.

Still, I must disagree strongly with the competition process used to choose the delegates who represented our school. Most applicants believed, quite erroneously, that they had a fair shot at being accepted. Laboring under the false illusion, most applicants devoted a great deal of time to researching, writing and perfecting their essays. They also set aside time to travel down to Stern for an interview. Most applicants I spoke to recalled feeling confident about their chances. Unfortunately all such efforts were wasted in pursuit of an improbable outcome.

Two of the five available spots were immediately taken by interviewers even before the process began. I don’t begrudge these two seats. I am sure, in fact I know, they are capable and secondly, since they “run the show”, they can choose whomever they want. Still this left only three other realistically available spots which mathematically speaking, gave each applicant a 7% chance (or less) of making the delegation. Most applicants would have declined to apply had they possessed prior knowledge of their unlikely chances. I feel that a committee should have handpicked the delegates which would have prevented unnecessary disappointment and frustration. Pick your friends, Poli Sci members,... Grandpa, I don’t care. It wasn’t fair to create false hopes.

Secondly, why must Stern and YU participate as a combined delegation? Two separate groups would double the available spots which may justly compete with any delegate. Many applicants would have declined to apply had they possessed prior knowledge of their unlikely chances. I feel that a committee should have handpicked the delegates which would have prevented unnecessary disappointment and frustration. Pick your friends, Poli Sci members... Grandpa, I don’t care. It wasn’t fair to create false hopes.

As an aspiring politician, I must question the rationale for the PolitSci Society to reconsider their methods. The Harvard Model UN is held later this year. Rowing against the tide, subsidize costs and provide twenty YC-Stern students with a memorable experience. In all fairness, as many students as possible deserve the chance to attend an exciting event like the model UN.

Joshua Fruchter

YC
by Steven Pudell

A young man distributed fliers as the Yeshiva University students entered Columbia University's Low Memorial Library for an evening of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) on November 16 at 7:00pm. The flier, ironically, announced a meeting of various pro-Arab organizations on the Columbia University campus. The YU flier stressed the importance of supporting Israel through the political process. Additionally, the attending students from YU attempted to destroy the belief that YU students are apathetic to Jewish political causes.

AIPAC is a registered lobby and the only one in the United States which is dedicated to the support of Israel. The crowd of over 60 people, representing Columbia University, Barnard, Queens College and NYU, as well as Yeshiva University, were addressed by U.S. Representative Reverend Floyd H. Flake (D) of the 6th district (Lau­retton) of Queens and Dr. Ralph D. Nuremberger, a lobbyist for AIPAC.

Congressman Flake, a black, spoke of improving the nations, through elimination of racism, drug and alcohol abuse, and school dropouts, as a vehicle to improving the world. Flake, though he did not address the Israel issue often, entertained the audience with his pulpit oratory style. Flake is a minister of a 4000 member Church in Queens.

The Reverend cited Israel as the only democracy in the Middle East. He also commended it for halting arms sales to South Africa. Flake often drifted, however, to talking of the revitalization of the inner city as well as other social reforms as a way to improve the nation and the world.

The students questioned Congressmen Flake on various issues, including anti-semitic remarks made by Louis Far­rakhan. Flake answered that just as Rabbi Meir Kahane is not the representative of the Jewish people (and his remarks go ignored) so should it be known that Farrakhan is not the leader of the black people.

The black leader is now Jackson, he said. The Congressmen did not address the issue of why Jackson did not condemn Farrakhan for his racist remarks if Farrakhan commands so much power. The Reverend, consistent with his theme, concluded, “we should work together with mankind for a better world.”

Dr. Nuremberger, a lobbyist for AIPAC addressed the issue, “Can we make a difference? Dr. Nuremberger first explained the position of lobbyists in politics. He then joked, “Jews are men, women and children but did not eat a single lobbyist out of professional courtesy.” He illustrated, however, that through active participation everyone can make a difference.

The first story told was a famous one of President Tru­man. Neil A. Modi, former one-time office manager and one-time business partner, Eddie Jacobson. Truman, when asked if he knew that Farrakhan is not the leader, would not know much about Israel and did not care much. At the time, Chaim Weizman was in America. Eddie Jacobson, a Jew, entered the Oval Office of his friend and pleaded the case of Israel. A few days later, against the advice of his advisers, Truman met with the future President of Israel. In fact, the U.S. under Truman recognized Israel minutes after its birth. Dr. Nuremberger also elaborated on how every student can alter a political situation. In 1982, Rep. Paul Finley of Illinois, a PL0 supporter, was defeated in his bid for reelection. On election day, over 1500 students drove to Springfield, Ill. to launch a last minute campaign against Finley. Finley lost - by less than 2000 votes.

Now students have as much opportunity as in any other time in history. The day before the leader of the Soviet Union, Premier Gorbachev, visited the United States, there will be a march for Soviet Jewry in Washington. This is a golden opportunity for all people to help their Russian brethren as well as a perfect opportunity for Yeshiva to shed its apathetic image.

Students were urged to support AIPAC, which promotes Israel’s interests in all facets of American political life. AIPAC now is pushing for a settlement of the budget and theGramm-Rudman bill. If an agreement is not met, foreign Aid to Israel needs will be cut from the budget.

This was the first AIPAC event run at Columbia in three years. Mr. Michael David, President of Columbia University AIPAC, opened the discussion with a keynote address on the political significance of the Jewish state, Israel, and the importance of involvement in AIPAC as a member.

The highlight of the evening, however, was an insightful discussion about the widespread misunderstanding of Arab-Israel conflict and therefore the need for AIPAC, made by Dr. Nuremberger. He raised the issue of the Middle East crisis who said, “I simply can’t find a difference.”

Jews and Muslims can’t get together and solve their problems like good Christians.”

SY SYMS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
JOINT BUSINESS SOCIETY
SPEAKERS FORUM

1) Monday Nov. 30, 1987
“How to Market Yourself” & “Careers in Marketing” Aharon Ungar, Marketing Consultant Room 411 Belfer. 8:00 PM

2) Wednesday Dec. 2, 1987
Richard Catalano, President Adrienne Viettadini Room 518 Stern 8:00 PM

“How to Market Yourself” & “Careers in Marketing” Aharon Ungar, Marketing Consultant. Room 518 Stern 8 PM

4) Wednesday Dec. 9, 1987
“Careers in Investment Banking” Joel Mael, First Vice President, Drexel Burnham Lambert will lead a panel discussion. Room 411 Belfer Hall 8:00 PM

Neil Katz, President Revenion Beauty Care Division Stern Room 518 8:00 PM

For current enrollment, Ms. Paikin states that “this is the best enrollment YU has seen in eleven years.” Contrary to popular opinion, YU rejects “literally hundreds” of applicants every year, according to Ms. Paikin.

Ms. Paikin asserts that the increased enrollment is not only quantitative but also qualitative. As more students enroll, course offerings and faculty also increase. Therefore, a larger student body raises the standards of education for all students.
Figure on Campus - Alex Ratnovsky

by Leonard Gross

He stands quietly behind the desk. His beard a deep orange rust, his hair a sharp lighter. The seat behind him reflects a kind personality, but a reserved one. People say he is patient and helpful. With his small students spend an extra moment with this man, the portrait comes to life: the students say that Alex Ratnovsky is no ordinary librarian; they realize that he is a man with a story. His name and accent bear testimony to his origin: The Soviet Union. An inquisitive student may ask Ratnovsky a question before his emigration to the United States. Ratnovsky was a professor of Russian Literature. But there's more - and one night after most of the lights in the library are turned off, Retenit Ratnovsky reveals...

Born in Smolensk, he moved to Moscow at the age of War Two. He recalls his childhood: "I never had a lot of degrees - in Russian and position was in a college, Two. He recalls his early to Moscow after World War of Jewish friends because all teaching the Russian language propaganda.

- One night after most of the German literature, both from really have idea about 'Jewish- testimony to his origin: The second, and longest academic position two years later, was to for students from and many other countries. His second position: two years later, was a professor of Russian literature in the branch of Moscow University devoted to theatre. The 'Theatre College' had an enrollment of one thousand students.

Alex explained that some of his most challenging moments during his thirteen year career in the college were incorporating those ideas into his lectures who were not included in the course plan, because their writing was questionable from the ideological point of view. With a system of codes and innuendos. Alex would make reference to writers like Alexander Solzhenitsyn, nobel prize winner, who spent eleven years in exile and in prison because he criticized Stalin in a letter: "There is only one honest writer in Russia and he is being persecuted". Alex says that eighty percent of his students would catch on. During his doctoral work, conducted simultaneously with his teaching, Alex encountered uncomfortable expressions of anti-semitism. "In middle of dissertation - sponsor applied for a visa to Israel, and they stopped my work. After two years they said 'Okay, we give you new sponsor.' But in a period of time I submitted my application to go to Israel, and they said to me: You can no longer teach because you are against the Soviet Union. I said 'I am against', but they said 'no, no, you can't teach.'"

Alex also worked as a freelance journalist for Crocodile, the only national humor magazine in Russia. Ratnovsky says he is extremely well travelled because as a journalist he was sent to the most remote parts of the country. "The satire in Russia is not like here. In Russia you write about a superintendence, but never about government." Alex chose to freelance because it was the only opportunity for freedom of expression. Not all work would be published, but at least it was a chance to write without the usual imposition of subject matter.

...Like all Jewish journalists in Russia, Ratnovsky wrote with a pen-name, "because if everyone wrote under their real name it would look like Jewish Press. They once built a building only for writers, and a superintendent said 'I never knew before that all Russian writers are Jewish.' It was a joke.

Alex continued to submit articles through his friend, and also found a job being an art critic, "because they didn't know about my idea to leave Russia." And when they did find out three years later, he was told to leave. "Afterswards, I organized a Jewish theater," Alex pauses for a second, and then quickly adds, "I made an effort to create a twenty-people theater, but it's not official theater - we staged it in peoples apartments." He continues to explain, "I wrote a play about Maccabees, and was very popular. People loved it very much. many people come to see it.

Alex relates how the K.G.B. could not tolerate people being different. "In Russia, Jewish people don't drink vodka. It's very difficult for Russians to understand this, because in Russian vodka [s] very popular. Jews like to study. I make a theatre, another makes an unofficial magazine, a third one makes a sporting club. In a life so suffocating, one desperately needs an outlet: a way out. A great deal of Jews living in Russia are studying, researching into their Jewish history, organizing semi-official sports clubs, societies, lectures, etc. There exists what they call in Russian a "micro-climate" - an artifice to escape from the dox and suffocating outlook within a larger, hostile environment.

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A Figure on Campus - Alex Ratnovsky

by Jonathan Bernstein

Four score and ten days ago I arrived in this country to embark on a completely new course in my life. How to arrive at the last six years of my life preparing for a career in law, it was quite a shock to my system to have become a law student. I began to wonder if I could ever succeed.

But is this necessarily the best thing for me? Would I nothave been better off continuing along my chosen path to a career in law? And most importantly, will I be a better person for the added education that I will receive here?"
by Larry Portal

This month is of particular significance to the Yeshiva University Karate Club and its founder, Professor Chaim Sober. It marks the Karate Club's twentieth anniversary and the thirtieth year of Professor Sober's involvement in the martial arts. Both of these milestones will be commemorated in a forthcoming exhibition scheduled to take place in mid-December.

In 1965, three YU students who are friends of Prof. Sober were attacked and asked him to teach them self-defense. Sober, a graduate of MTA and Hunter College, who began training in the martial arts in 1958, agreed. When asked by fifteen other boys whether he would teach them also, Sober replied that he would not. He simply was not ready to give a martial arts class and was primarily interested in teaching his three friends.

In 1966, Sober was confronted with a petition, imploring him to teach self-defense to all interested students. The twenty-five signatures on the petition was a startling amount considering that martial arts were familiar to few students at the time. It was not displayed on movie screens, television, or any form of media. Sober assented to the request and began teaching in the shower room adjacent to the Tannenbaum gym.

By the end of 1966, the Yeshiva Karate Club was comprised of a sizable group of thirty students. Sober, a recognized expert in the martial arts, was also asked by Israeli representatives to train Israeli personnel employed in the New York consulate. His style, Tora Dojo, was regarded as being a full contact style. For this reason, intercollegiate competition is non-existent. In 1967, Wilbur Rinefield, one of Sober's students, approached Dr. Horowitz, the chairman of the physical education department, with a list of fifty names requesting that Karate be offered as a regular course in Yeshiva. Dr. Horowitz complied eagerly to the request. Consequently, the size of the Karate Club grew significantly. Henry Witten and one hundred and five students enrolled in the Karate courses and forty participants in the Karate Club. The club has been self-supportive since its inception. Although, in past years, Prof. Sober received a small annual salary for his services, he has never been reluctant to teach a student who is unable to finance the cost of the class. He and his staff have been quite generous in this respect in addition to the countless hours of dedication to the club.

Andr

The Yeshiva College Student Council presents its ANNUAL CHANNUKAH CONCERT

Thursday, December 10, 1987 8:00 PM Lamport Auditorium 186th St. & Amsterdam Ave. Featuring YERACHMIEL BEGUN & The Miami Boys Choir & KESHER

For Tickets and More Info. Contact:

AT YC: Yosef Mandelbaum MORG Rm429 928-2783 Adam Chill MORG Rm207 923-6688 Michael Levine MORG Rm223 960-5325

At SCW: Shira Spolter RmBr18A 213-1805

Tora Dojo

The Commentator

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Dialing Trouble
by Tommy Weinstein

Returning students may have noticed changes in the pay phones that are dispersed throughout the University. Some changes have to the benefit of Yeshiva students. For example, a few of the rotary dial phones have been replaced with new and more practical touchtone phones. However, most of the changes have not been practical. For instance, a large number of phones have been removed, and broken phones have not been repaired.

According to Mr. Eric Hansen, the Project Assistant who works under Mr. Aryeh Furst, these changes are due to the nature of the pay phone system. The YU pay phone network consists of Full Public and Semi Public phones. NY Telephone collects all the revenue received from a Full Public phone. The expected revenue is $6.70 per phone per day. If the collected revenue exceeds the prescribed amount, then YU would make an official request. Eventually, all the payphones on campus should be fully operating touchtones.

Hebrew University Transfer Problems

cont. from page 3

the reason for credit problems at all; rather, it has merely attracted more students than Hebrew University and therefore YU was happy to oblige their students by creating a co-sponsored program as it has with B.M. T., Michlalah and Machon Gold, and there have even been yeshivot turned down for such a program because of the cost to NY Telephone. Therefore, YU must pay a monthly user fee of $55 and the school does not receive any of the revenue. Pay phones which have relatively low volume are designated as Semi Public phones.

Due to the extra cost, YU would like to see all the pay phones converted to Full Public phones. However, NY Telephone has been complaining about the poor volume at all of YU pay phones. For this reason, 20 pay phones have been removed from the campus, thereby increasing the volume at the remaining phones. Phones have been removed from the floors of Rubin Morg and other locations on campus. As far as maintenance and upkeep of the phones is concerned, this is solely the responsibility of NY Telephone. When phones are out of order, they are normally repaired or replaced. However, if it is a low volume phone it may be removed due to financial considerations.

When old phones are replaced, they are usually replaced with touchtone phones. However, Mr. Hansen stated that if there were a demand for touchtone phones, then YU would make an official request. Eventually, all the payphones on campus should be fully operating touchtones.
Survey

YU Basketball

Backcourt Asset

Shelly Wieder (Senior, 7'1", 163 lb.), Shelly, as the quarter-back of this outfit, is responsible for setting up the plays devised by Coach Sarachek. A valuable asset in the backcourt, he has proven himself to be an accomplished play-maker. Perhaps the most under-rated player here in recent years.

Wieder is an excellent ball-handler and effectively gets the job done.

There are few occasions when the student body of a college has the opportunity to formally express its gratitude to an individual. Perhaps the highest form of tribute given by the students of Yeshiva this year was the dedication of the 1961 Masmid in honor of Dr. Seymour Lainoff. As assistant professor of English and executive secretary of the Scholastic Standing Committee, Dr. Lainoff has come into close contact with the students and earned their respect.

Personal History

Dr. Lainoff came to Yeshiva as a part-time instructor in 1950. He became a full-time instructor in 1953 and was appointed assistant professor in 1958. He received undergraduate training at Brooklyn College and did graduate work at Columbia and New York University. His doctoral thesis dealt with William Wordsworth, and he has published articles on that poet as well as on Henry James and D. H. Lawrence. At present, he is in the midst of writing a book on Edith Wharton.

There seems to be a definite plan to destroy the identification of Soviet Jews...
In support of our brothers in the Soviet Union and the scheduled demonstration on their behalf in Washington,

The 20th

ANNUAL

YESTHIVA UNIVERSITY

KARATE ASSOCIATION

EXHIBITION!

Board/Brick Breaking, Kata, etc.

has been rescheduled for

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13

2:30 p.m.

Lamport Auditorium

Amsterdam Ave. (between 186th & 187th St.)

Admission $5.00
Under 12 $4.00
Valid Y.C. ID Card $3.00
There was a multitude of getting me in to law school that I had been intrigued by, immensely. For the first time I am still debating seriously. There were so many this and other subjects and I reconsider my options quite in the past few years due to the rigidity suggested by the English system. From the age of thirteen all the subjects I have taken at various levels have been geared towards getting me into law school. There was a multitude of subjects, such as Economics, that I had been intrigued by, but destined never to learn on my way to law. Now here in YU I have been able to take this and other subjects and I find that I am enjoying them immensely. For the first time in years I am able to enjoy school again. I am still debating within myself as to whether or not I want to change my career direction, but at least I can now say that whatever I end up doing it will be something that I will be able to live with. What does a thirteen year old know of the legal profession, and yet that is the age at which most aspiring lawyers in England have made that fateful decision. It is possible that in some ironic fashion, the very fact that the English student has to make this decision at such an early age could itself cause him to mature earlier.

On the other side of the coin is the American college student who has already made the decision as to what he wants to do, and finds himself constrained by the seemingly endless list of requirements that he has to fulfill before he is allowed to go on to what he would like to do. However, because of the high school education which he has received, he still has to go through the liberal arts process. There are, however, provisions for the advanced American students to progress at a faster rate, through such programs as early admissions.

In short, the American student has a personality that the university supplements by inserting various cultural insights. Whereas the English student, by virtue of a more cultural environment and an education system that is more geared to maturing earlier, has no need to be taught these courses at the college level.

I personally feel that I am privileged in that I will benefit from both of these educational systems. Firstly I have had an English high school background which has brought me to a more mature outlook on my life at an earlier stage. Yet, since I was still not ready to make the decision, the American university system has given me the chance to take a step back and reconsider my decisions.

So having experienced both educational systems firsthand, which do I feel to be of a more beneficial nature to the student? The accelerated pace of the English system, or the slow but sure approach of the American system.

The only apparent solution to this conundrum is that "the grass is always greener on the other side of the fence." Having leapt over the fence at this stage in my life I can honestly say that at the moment, it's green as far as the eye can see.

Now that you've gotten into Yeshiva University, IBM can help you get more out of it.

The road to graduation is paved with term papers, lab reports, cramming, all-nighters and, of course, exams.

To ease that journey and awaken your professors to your exceptional abilities, we suggest the newest member of the IBM Personal System/2 family: the Model 25 Collegiate.

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New Coach Aboff Fields Promising Squad

by Jonathan Bandler

When Mickey Aboff graduated last year as captain of the YU Tennis team the team lost one of its most energetic singles players in years. However, the team retained its competitive edge when Aboff was named the coach of this year's team, succeeding Neil Tilson. Not only is Aboff keenly aware of the strengths and weaknesses of each of the returning players, but he knows the styles of most of the coaches and players of opposing schools.

The YU Tennis team will try to revert to its form of two years ago when it finished 5-3 and came within one game of the Independent Athletic Conference championship. Last year was a disappointing season as the team went 3-4 and lost tough matches that it should have won. The competition within the league should remain fierce with Stevens Tech and NJIT the top teams once again.

Western Connecticut, which upset YU last year, may challenge for second or third place, while Maritime and Polytechnic will battle it out for the cellar. As always YU will have the potential to beat any of these teams. The singles players are strong and with enough practice will be match tough to challenge the top players from other schools. However, each year it seems to be the doubles that make or break the matches in college tennis. Coach Aboff feels he has found a number of first year players to practice with the top returning doubles players in hopes of finding the best possible combinations.

A number of returning players form the nucleus of this year's team. Top seeded Ben Ungar returns along with fellow captains and singles players Jon Bandler and Robbie Wind. Also returning are second seed, Leon Levy, and Darius Schwartz, Jeff Goldberg, Gideon Schwartz, and Seth Lifshitz. Steve Siegel, the team's top doubles player, returns for a second season and will hopefully be paired up as soon as possible to best prepare for the season.

The first year players are untested but the talent that the YU team will have in the future is readily apparent after the first few Fall practices. Ari Pasternak, a top player in Maine, Darrin Hirt, Yoni Weber, Dunny Lifshitz, and Jeff Greenwald have all showed promise in singles and doubles.

Coach Aboff has a solid team to work with this season at the team's home courts in Edgewater, NJ, but how far they go, as is the case every year, is in their own hands.

Tauberman Fall to Alumni Once Again

by Zalman Levine

The bright lights of the Max Stern Athletic Center blazed down on the annual YU intramural tennis tournament. Two long mats rested atop a plastic floor covering, electric cables snaking between the benches and tables with food - yes, food! - families milling around, a coach-type person in a snazzy red blazer running here and there, and a few fenc ing-type people warming up. The Taubermans welcomed their alumni in a gala exhibition match designed to prepare the varsity team for its season opener against Vassar on November 30, and to encourage Yeshiva's past talent to shed its rusty skin and oil its cracking joints.

Under the direction of coach Arthur Tauber, the alumni launched a vigorous, intense, deadly-serious, five-minute retraining program, and with set jaws and gleaming eyes, lunged their way to a 16-11 victory over the Taubermans.

Led by David Feit, Dan Zanger, Steve Rothman, and Murphy Rothman, the alumni put on an outstanding show, aggressively and persistently attacking and attacking, backing their opponents into the metaphorical corner and forcing them off the liberal strip. The Tauberman displayed outstanding performances by Zev Goldblatt (J-3) in foil and by Rob Sobel (J-3) in saber, but could not muster the power needed to sever the age-old tradition of their annual defeat at the hands of the alumni. Spectators had fun, the atmosphere was jovial, the alumni enjoyed refreshments during the match, varsity scouts watched off the court, after the match, the team celebrated the arrival of a new stainless mat, and all experienced - if nothing else - an unusual Sunday afternoon.

The Taubermans are ready to defeat Vassar, and now, on the threshold of the season, we would like to remind the student body of its standing invitation to come to our home matches and to cheer us on to victory.

STANDINGS

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The Commentator November 24, 1987

SCOURING LEADERS

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Hoyas for their first OT victory of the season. Izzy Kaufman shot 9 of 16 from the field scoring 19 points, to lead the Ducks and deny the Hoyas their first victory. Dan Yoshor returned from a serious ankle injury to score 10 points and help Mark Ziering on the boards. With the victory, the Ducks kept their slim playoff hopes alive. Shai Shmeltzer led the Hoyas with 15 points.

COUGARS 53

The Ducks broke open a 20-20 halftime tie with some impressive fast breaking and hold down the stretch to edge the Pit Bulls despite a league high 25 points for Ari Blaine. The Cougars led by 11 with 3:27 remaining but the Pit Bulls pressed and scored a number of uncontested layups to narrow the margin. Adam Fishman led the Cougars with 15 points, Shaye Shindler added 13 and Jon Bandler had 12 as the Cougars outside shooting and fast break offset the strong inside game of Blaine and Gerson Levitz who scored 12 points.

BANNER CONTEST

At halftime of the YU-Maritime game on Thursday Dec. 3 Banners will be judged on originality and creativity and will be used to decorate The Max Stern Athletic Center. Winner receives free gift certificate to Bernstein's.

Commentator
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2 Slices and Small Drink
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