Farewell for Dean Well

by Daniel Schloss

Rabbi Dr. Don Well, the Dean of both IBC and JSS, will be leaving YU at the end of this semester to take a position as Executive Vice President of the Board of Jewish Education of Greater New York. No successor has yet been named.

In a recent interview, Dean Well characterized his time at YU as extremely positive and fulfilling, calling the atmosphere here “personally hospitable and philosophically congruent with my views,” and noting that “the students are a joy.” He explained that he accepted the BJE’s offer because it will provide an opportunity “to have an impact on the education of 150,000 Jewish children.” Dean Well in tended to “maintain and strengthen [his] ties with YU” in his new job. One of Dean Well’s notable contributions to YU was the institution of a “machshava track” in IBC, taught by Rav. Meir Goldwicht. The goal of the program is to expose students to classical Jewish philosophy, with a religious Zionist, or “kipah srugah” orientation. Dean Well would like to see this program expanded. He also sees a need for an increased emphasis on “informal programming” (i.e. shabbatonim and special minyanim) in IJS, explaining that “newcomers to Torah need that.” Additionally, Dean Well feels that both IBC and JSS students would benefit from a Beit Midrash experience as part of their program.

Dean of Students Efrem Nulman stated that Dean Well had “made good contributions to the school,” and pointed out that the BJE position is “obviously in the orbit of Jewish education, and will enable Dr. Well to stay in contact with YU in a positive way.”

An outgrowth of late night discussions and casual dorm room conversations, the grassroots Aliya Club has attracted well over fifty members since its inception prior to Pesach. Simcha Chavel, the president of the Aliya Club, described the Club as an umbrella organization seeking to facilitate those interested in Aliya and establishing garinim. According to Chavel, the club not only serves as a networking and support system for current students, but also as a resource for incoming students. The club aims to attract well over fifty members to its events.

The problems with the award process were evident early in the year's Yom Hazikaron Tekes. The Unfree Press, which is published by the Senior Class, was invited to present the Tekes awards at the end of this semester. However, Daniel Schwartz, the fourth floor dorm counselor, was only allowed to speak in praise of thetekes, not to present it. The seniors were honored, but not in the way they deserved. The Tekes awards were presented in mailboxes Thursday morning for an election which was conducted called for a new set of Senior awards at the YCSC awards balloting. According to Felsenthal, YCSC was given out by the Executive Council rather than the Senior Class. These awards, sponsored by the Senior Class, are scheduled to be presented at the annual YCSC awards dinner. Bal loting for the YCSC awards takes place today during club hour.

The new awards are being offered in response to numerous allegations that the proprieties occurred during elections for the Gladsheim Award and the Lipsky Award, bestowed annually by the Senior class in recognition of outstanding service to the Jewish community and the student body. The problems with the award process included lack of participation by a large percentage of the Senior class and lack of adequate notification of the elections. There have also been charges of ballot stuffing during the unsupervised election.

In the wake of continued complaints over this year’s Senior awards, YCSC’s Executive Council has resolved to create a new set of Senior awards. YCSC’s President, Steven Felsenthal, explained the Executive Council’s decision to offer new awards. “People told me they wanted something new.” According to Felsenthal, YCSC was particularly angry over the fact that notification letters were placed in mailboxes Thursday morning for an election which was to be conducted by Thurs day afternoon. The new awards were instituted in order to “give recognition to those who deserve it,” contends Felsenthal. While the winners of the original elections may be deserving of accolades, Felsenthal feels that the manner in which the elections were conducted called for a new set of awards for “people who truly deserve recognition.”

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The entire election was a farce,” said YCSC’s President, Steven Felsenthal, explaining the Executive Council’s decision to offer new awards. “People told me they wanted something new.” According to Felsenthal, YCSC was particularly angry over the fact that notification letters were placed in mailboxes Thursday morning for an election which was to be conducted by Thursday afternoon. The new awards were instituted in order to “give recognition to those who deserve it,” contends Felsenthal. While the winners of the original elections may be deserving of accolades, Felsenthal feels that the manner in which the elections were conducted called for a new set of awards for “people who truly deserve recognition.”
EDITORIALS

Remembering Yom HaShoa

Two weeks ago, Yom HaShoa came and went with hardly a ripple in the YU community to mark its passage. Certainly, there was a well-run program in the evening and an intriguing guest speaker. But the event was still marked by a lack of student and administrative support. Three Hundred students came to the Yom Hashoa program, which as impressive as that may sound, simply means that less than a fifth of the student body could be persuaded to take off a couple of hours of their time to remember the single most tragic episode in Jewish history.

However, the problem goes far beyond the student apathy. More troubling is the fact that the administration seemed to place so little importance on holding a proper commemoration for Yom Hashoa. The average Jewish high school devotes an entire day to intensive programs and somber memorials designed to help students comprehend the enormity of the Shoah. How can YU do any less? YU's leadership role in the Jewish community is clearly suspect when the enormity of the Holocaust is relegated to a two hour program. A special t'fillah should have been held in the Beit Midrash; a commemoration involving all members of the University, including presidents, vice presidents and rebeim, should have been organized. Hopefully next year, both students and administrators will make Yom HaShoa a priority, and give to this day of remembrance the time and effort it demands.

Reflections on Elections

Although elections remain a full two weeks away, the campaign hype has already begun. Today's 5:00 P.M. deadline for submission of nominations marks the end of the "who's running for what" stage, and makes the upcoming onslaught of election posters and paraphernalia inevitable.

As candidates prepare their mass-media messages, it is imperative that all keep the following message close to heart: Stick to substance. It is extremely tempting for candidates to employ their energies in airing at standard套ting of catchy slogans, and snappy signs, and lose perspective on their prospective positions. Potential leaders are up late plastering placards, campaigning, and participating in those activities which provide maximum visibility. We as voters must remember that all the hype is only packaging; our focus must be on the contents. Both candidates and constituents must insist that this be an election of issues, not images.

The night after the election marks the metamorphosis of these previously hyperactive elected officials. Suddenly, ambitions shift focus and sleep schedules regulate. Unfortunately, this post-election attitude, rather than the spirited and motivated campaign behavior, is the way these positions become possibilities and thrilling plans become nice ideas. However, even if this results in a lackluster schedule of events and projects, these officials remain satisfactory representatives. Anchored by lack of motivation, they represent the third of the student body who is too apathetic to bother voting.

Following this sub-par year, students must drill their candidates and extract firm commitments from them to execute their responsibilities. Elections should not be merely a fun game where the winner receives an extra line on his resume. If we take elections seriously, the elected candidates will hopefully take their new positions seriously as well.

The Commentator congratulates YC students David Borowich and Andrew Goldsmith, and SCW student Shoshana Levine who will be receiving Ateret Cohanim's Chovevei Yerushalayim Award for their participation in Operation Torah Shield.

Orthodox Bergen County Synagogue looking for dedicated, charismatic, no nonsense YOUTH DIRECTOR to run its active youth program "from soup to nuts".
- 3 yr. olds thru 12th grade
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Send cover letter and resume to:
Search Committee
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cil officials.

Among the many powers allotted to Student Council, the YCSC Constitution grants Student Council the right to:

- Exercise legislative, executive, and judicial authority over all student extra-
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- Grant or revoke the charter of any Yeshiva College student organization.

- Impose Sanctions upon any student organization for infractions of this Constitu-
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These and other stipulations belie The Commentator’s status as a genuine undergraduate newspaper. One can imagine the outcry that would ensue if a newspaper such as The New York Times, sud-

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This is the only public forum for discussion that student leaders must take note of emanates from The Commentator. In es-

tence, it is entrusted with the job of acting as the sole student forum for discussion within the present rubric of YU student government.

Barring sweeping reforms, the present structure of student government will be around for some time to come. Although all students may not agree with The Commentator’s tactics or positions, they should realize that The Commentator’s role is of utmost importance. Only a free press, one that is not en-


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From The Editor’s Desk

Daniel Oshinsky

Unshackle The Commentator

We at The Commentator have always taken pride in our role as the University’s free-press, the voice of the students, an unbiased forum for airing ideas and opinions, etc. Yes, it all sounds nice. But in actuality, your student press is not as free as you might think. Technically, The Commentator is just another YCSC club, and as such, must deal with the whims and fancies of our duly elected public officials.

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The nature of our own student government adds to the dilemma of being a free-press at Yeshiva University. Currently, YCSC functions as an elected oligarchy. Outside the planning of social events, virtually all decisions are made by the four-member Executive Council.

Issues YCSC deems less important are routinely settled by the president and vice-president. The power wielded by these chosen few should be of concern to all students. For the student who wants to change the status quo, the threat is that much greater.

Two safeguards have prevented The Commentator from becoming a vehicle to spread a publicites dual role, the President is endowed with an inordinate share of authority. Unlike the U.S. system of “checks and balances” which forces discussions of decisions, YCSC operates in a vacuum. The only official “check” is the Dean of Students, whose job it is to insure that YCSC is not stealing any funds and that the events it runs are in accordance with the University. In addition, the Dean of Students wants a president to act quickly and decisively, primarily because of the vast number of minor decisions which would make a committee system too cumbersome. Further, the Dean wants to exert as much influence as possible on student council and he realizes that he can influence one student more effectively than a committee.

The Commentator was not the only party to be misinformed; the Alumni Association wrote out separate checks for each YCSC club, including The Commentator. The YCSC Executive Council then simply formed a judiciary committee, consisting of the president and the vice-president, who determined that The Commentator was in the wrong, YCSC in the right, the money granted to the newspaper by the Alumni Association should be returned, and then the council would decide what would be with the next two issues.

In the end, a satisfactory agreement was worked out between the two parties. However, the fact remains that YCSC control on all monetary allotments, and its ability to judge all clubs nearly shut the student paper down. Such decisions should not rely on the good will of student government.

The time has come to sever the ties which bind The Commentator to YCSC.

Specifically, the job of allotting funds to The Commentator, and to any other journal, should be turned over to an independent body, the Student Council. The Commentator should then cease to function as a YCSC club or be bound by its decisions.

I believe that a clean break between the newspaper and YCSC would actually improve our working relationship. Under the current set up, it’s easy for Student Council members to expect the paper to work for their interests, which as elected officials, they feel are really the interests of the student body. Unfortunately, this is not always the case. By clearly defin-

ing our separate roles, this source of tension would be removed.

More importantly, unshackling The Commentator would assure Yeshiva College of a student newspaper which both in principle and reality, stands for the highest ideals of journalism and strictest allegiance to freedom of the press.

To the Editor,

The Commentator not only has the right to criticize student government, it has the obligation to do so.

Although in my opinion, the article examining Mr. Felsenthal and YCSC was neither well researched nor well written, it was significant in that it raised important issues.

Now that some time has elapsed since the article was published, I feel a few comments are in order regarding the nature of Student Council, and the role The Commentator plays in YU student politics.

Having served first as a Commentator governing board member and later as YCSC President, I believe I have a unique vantage point with regard to this issue.

Of all the YU student organizations, YCSC has the potential to have the greatest impact upon the average student’s extracurricular life. Yet generally, after election day, few students are involved in the YCSC’s decision processes which to a large extent, shape campus life.

Shocking as it may seem, it is quite common for members of Student Council to be similarly in the dark as to the direction their council is headed.

This situation arises because of two factors: the structure of YCSC and a desire on the part of the administration to have substantive decisions made solely by the President.

Although the YCSC constitution clearly outlines each officer’s role, the President is endowed with an inordinate share of authority. Unlike the U.S. system of “checks and balances” which forces discussion of decisions, YCSC operates in a vacuum. The only official “check” is the Dean of Students, whose job it is to insure that YCSC is not stealing any funds and that the events it runs are in accordance with the University. In addition, the Dean of Students wants a president to act quickly and decisively, primarily because of the vast number of minor decisions which would make a committee system too cumbersome. Further, the Dean wants to exert as much influence as possible on student council and he realizes that he can influence one student more effectively than a committee.

The Commentator is not merely a student publication, it is a forum for discussion within the present structure of YU student government.

Barring sweeping reforms, the present structure of student government will be around for some time to come. Although all students may not agree with The Commentator’s tactics or positions, they should realize that The Commentator’s role is of utmost importance. Only a free press, one that is not encumbered by fears of retaliation, is able to fulfill its responsibility. Being Editor of any newspaper is a difficult job. Yet at YU, this job is often combined with student government responsibilities. Being Editor of any newspaper is a difficult job. Yet at YU, this job is often combined with student government responsibilities. Being Editor of any newspaper is a difficult job. Yet at YU, this job is often combined with student government responsibilities. Being Editor of any newspaper is a difficult job. Yet at YU, this job is often combined with student government responsibilities.
SSSB Blues Continue
by Joshua Pollack

As YU seniors prepare to face the harsh, cold world of business, they have found that jobs are not as easy to come by as they were in the past. The state of the economy is especially scary for non-accounting majors. Reuven Harow, a SSSB senior and active member of the Joint Business Society, noted that Sy Syms divides its placement activities into two groups: accounting and non-accounting. Those who are not accounting majors (i.e. finance, MIS, marketing) have had a very difficult time getting jobs. Accounting majors, on the other hand, “will all get jobs, but not necessarily at the ‘Big 6’,” predicts Harow. Says Adrienne Wolff, assistant director of recruiting for SSSB, “it is definitely the economy.” With the recession still in place, students have found that the number of jobs available have decreased.

Ami Aharon, President of the JBS, noted that accounting majors have had the advantage of the Accounting Society for years. This society, over time, has been able to get all the major accounting firms to conduct interviews with Sy Syms. Non-accounting majors, on the other hand, have only had the Joint Business Society looking after their interests for a comparatively short time. JBS is still working on developing the contacts that the Accounting Society takes for granted.

Yom Hazikaron

continued from p. 1

By Shmuel Hook

Over 200 students gathered in Sefard Commons on Wednesday night, April 10, to observe Yom Hazikaron, Holocaust Remembrance Day. The evening’s program, organized by YC Sophomore Jeremy Bandier and SCW Senior Shlomie Sattin, included an audio-visual presentation, reflections of YU students on their visits to Poland, and a lecture given by Holocaust survivor Dr. Livia Bitton-Jackson. Dr. Bitton-Jackson, professor of History at Lehman College, spoke of her experiences in the Auschwitz Death Camp. Dr. Bitton-Jackson was one of the lucky ones. She was able to escape from the death camp, but lost her entire family. She was able to make it to the United States, where she was eventually able to make a new life for herself. She shared her story with the students, speaking about the atrocities she witnessed firsthand.

In response to the job crisis, the SSSB placement office has made contacts with several new companies for on-campus recruiting. Two weeks ago, The Limited, a retail management company, was invited to interview on campus. Last week, Computer Systems Research, a company involved in sales, came to recruit. Ms. Wolff feels that student prospects are very high in these companies. Ami Aharon shares these sentiments, noting that company recruiters all commend SSSB and YC students for the dual curriculum they must shoulder. They seem to be attracted to YU’s disciplined students who are able to manage their time well.

In addition to these efforts to attract firms, Sy Syms held its annual dinner on Monday, April 15, honoring accounting and business graduates. The dinner, which is completely student-run, also allows students to make contacts with doz­

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mental problems were also created by the inclement weather which forced the cancellation of an outdoor ceremony in Tenzer Gardens. Borenstein also points to the fact that students were forced to come downtown late because of class and linger in the back as another cause for talking in the rear.

Borenstein labeled the decision not to cancel classes a “Bizayyon.” A “Yeshiva which just recently sent 400 students to Eretz Yisrael to show solidarity and support them in their efforts to receive Torah, has the right to a Tekes Yom HaZikaron... nothing. I can’t see why they wouldn’t dismiss classes earlier.”

The centerpiece of the Yom HaZikaron Tekes was the lighting of 10 candles in memory of YU alumni who sacrificed their lives for the State of Israel. Borenstein movingly referred to each soldier as “an everlasting flame burning in our hearts.”

The Yom HaZikaron program was interspersed with special memorial t’filot, recited by Belz t’fi łats and memorial t’filot, recited by Belz t’fi laat. One of the highlights of the program was the appearance of Holocaust survivor Dr. Livia Bitton-Jackson. Dr. Bitton-Jackson, professor of History at Lehman College, spoke of her experiences in the Auschwitz Death Camp. Dr. Bitton-Jackson was one of the lucky ones. She was able to escape from the death camp, but lost her entire family. She was able to make it to the United States, where she was eventually able to make a new life for herself. She shared her story with the students, speaking about the atrocities she witnessed firsthand.

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JSS Honors Luncheon - awards given to IBC students.
Offered a book thing, where 90% of what was sold.
+ Chavrusa Program - Matched a number of JSS students with MYP students.
Sh revering their questions.
+ Sha'anez Check - Garments checked by a student and then sent to a lab in Brooklyn for conformation.
+ Series of Talks at Night - On Tanya, other various issues, by final year Smicha students.
+ Chavrusa Program - Matched a number of JSS students with MYP students for night sedar.
+ Tefillin Check - upcoming check for students to determine if their Tefillin are kosher (to be sponsored by SOY).
+ Tzitis Sale - upcoming
+ Gifts to Students - Giving books to JSS students at the end of the year.
+ JSS Honons Luncheon - awards given to JSS students.
+ D'var Torah Committee - writes JSS's weekly D'var Torah.
+ Booth at Parent's Day - Spoke to prospective students and their parents, answered their questions.
+ Hatzolah Fund Drive - Raised $1,500 for Hatzolah (in conjunction with the other student councils).
Torah U'Madda and Other Platonist Friendships

by Haya'ir Angel

Legend has it that in the olden days, platonic friendships almost never existed. In a male/female relationship, if one of the two people involved declined that marriage was inappropriate, then the two would separate and continue to search for their respective "right ones." Today, however, things are not so simple. Many men have more than one female friend, and vice versa. By definition, this situation should allow the possibility of platonic friendships, since any individual can marry only one of his or her friends. However, many assert that a man and a woman can get only so close before at least one of the two wants to "go out." According to these people, the platonic friendship can exist only in a utopian world.

Interestingly, we can understand religious life at Yeshiva College in this light. There are students who assign primary importance to their individual religious growth. They try their hardest to spend long hours in the Beit Midrash, despite tremendous academic pressures. Strangely enough, many of these students still manage to do well in the College. However, most students acquire different priorities here. They arrive at Yeshiva College and decide that their future careers are what really count. The commitment to religious development often lags behind the commitment to achieve good grades and participate in resume-building activities.

Stated differently, it appears that much of the Yeshiva University student body is short on the platonic element in it with regard to the religious side. Students are deeply committed to their careers in "New York City jobs." "That's just friends," they say. It sounds fair enough; we can "like" Judaism, even if we have higher priorities. Perhaps in a dream world, Yeshiva University students would consider a different approach, one in which they would broaden their religious horizons first and look at their transcripts later. Although I believe that platonic friendships can exist between the male and female genders, I would argue that there is no place for platonic friendships between ourselves and Judaism. Shir Hashirim tells us that God wants more than just a friendship with the Jewish people. By giving Judaism anything other than the primary, all-embracing role in our lives, we are distancing ourselves from the most important relationship we could ever be involved in.

In addition to a change in the priorities of students, the faculty needs to be expanded to accommodate the religious and academic needs of the students. Unfortunately, many MYP shiruim currently have over forty students (my shiur has eighty), making it very difficult for more than a few students in each shiur to get close to their Rebbeim. Therefore, I am unlikely that more than a few students in each shiur will feel close to a religious role model. I am not familiar enough with the other Judaic studies departments to comment on them and so I leave it to the students of IGC and JSC to consider if their faculty members teach more than merely the material on the syllabus.

There actually are a few professors in YC who have Torah U'Madda orientations and teach with them in mind. Many are outstanding instructors who push students toward excellence. Of course, there are those whose brittle, yellowing notes make us wish we could "grow wise words" from the panels of many times with those same professors. To a large extent, the current system also allows the platonic friendship to remain intact.

In my ideal Yeshiva University, there would be a plethora of great religious role models with whom students could discuss important issues. Tocomplement the Judaic studies departments, the entire College faculty would be trained to discuss the Torah and its goal of finding new insights and knowledge, not A's.

Some is supposed to encourage and foster "more than just a friendship" with Judaism. The ideal Yeshiva University community would understand this principle and live by it. Students who think critically would consider their priorities seriously and weigh religious values and intellectual curiosity against good grades. The faculty would be improved and expanded to accommodate such growth.

Even in my dream world, students would still take the same courses, still go into the same professions, get the same salaries, and have the same children. But they would have a different outlook, one which would measurably improve the religious and intellectual level of our community.

It's funny. In Judaism, it is a "more than just friends" relationship which appears to be the ideal. But at Yeshiva University, our relationship to Judaism remains hopelessly platonic.

Living and Learning in Paradise

by Jonathan Tropper

What is my vision of Yeshiva University in an ideal world? Well, for starters, it's not in Washington Heights. As a matter of fact, it's not even in New York State. It's somewhere peaceful and green, maybe somewhere out in Connecticut. Too far away from St. John's, right? Wrong. There's no such entity as Stern College for Women. YC and SCW are a college with a Jewish and cultural purpose: to provide a liberal college education, with ample parking for all.

There is no Caramba music being played under your window at three in the morning, nor is there a continuous wandering of sirens punctuated by the occasional gong. Theoretically sounds that accompany you on your walk back to the dorm are the quiet chirping of the crickets. Speaking of dorms, are they what they are? They are not: however, members of different genders are allowed upstairs privileges. On the other hand, you statistically are placed at various points on each floor, some with fireplaces, some with pianos, some with pool tables. Many lively discussions take place in these rooms as students kick back and relax, enjoying each other's company.

The classrooms and lecture halls are in beautiful buildings, some modern and some classical, and attendance is no problem, despite the lack of any mandatory attendance policies. Of course, some are supposed to encourage and foster "more than just a friendship" with Judaism. The ideal Yeshiva University community would understand this principle and live by it. Students who think critically would consider their priorities seriously and weigh religious values and intellectual curiosity against good grades. The faculty would be improved and expanded to accommodate such growth.

Even in my dream world, students would still take the same courses, still go into the same professions, get the same salaries, and have the same children. But they would have a different outlook, one which would measurably improve the religious and intellectual level of our community.

It's funny. In Judaism, it is a "more than just friends" relationship which appears to be the ideal. But at Yeshiva University, our relationship to Judaism remains hopelessly platonic.
Hungry for a bite, we stop at one of the many restaurants that can be found on the campus. All restaurants are privately owned, which leads to variety, as well as competitive prices that appeal to our student budgets. After we’ve eaten, we stop at the shul to sign up for Shabbos. Besides, Shabbos is so peaceful, that nobody wants to leave anyway. As a matter of fact, our friends from other universities travel to be here for Shabbos.

As the day ends at Yeshiva University, there is a sense of peace and tranquility, of higher purpose, of community. This is a community dedicated to the highest religious ideals and the highest educational ideals. No wonder it’s so hard to get in to this place.

UnAmericanizing Torah U’Madda

by Avi Lapin

The Torah U’Madda ideal continues to fail year after year at YU. The argument is a simple one: As an educational outline, it fails to carry its ideals to the majority of its students. However, the flaw may not be in Torah U’Madda itself, but rather in the surrounding elements.

Before continuing with this train of thought, we must ask ourselves if we know and understand the ideals of Torah U’Madda. Rather than review the myriad of philosophical and intellectual explanations that have been put forward on the subject of Torah U’Madda, it might be more helpful to scrape up the few standard definitions of Torah U’Madda’s ideals with which most of YU’s leading figures concur, and then expose the wide gap that exists between ideal Torah U’Madda and reality in college and yeshiva. He realizes that this "exploring" consisted merely of finding the most original and inventive way to cram the night before a midterm, and that learning about the various graduate schools was the lone element which broadened his horizons.

On the yeshiva side, Zalman dizzily realizes the transience of what he has learned as transitory. Thus, he tries to be prepared on both sides of the coin. But wait! That’s not the point! Zalman is now on the road to success. The Shabbos is there, and the extra curricular activities are definitely there. Hello Arthur Andersson! Hello Columbia! Mission accomplished at YU! So much for idealism.

Before continuing with this, we must ask ourselves if we know and understand the ideals of Torah U’Madda. By definition: The harmony of Torah and secular knowledge, with focus of the day. How sadly naive.

As Zalman continues his journey through YU, the MAS esca- lates to new heights. In various departments, Zalman now begins to realize the “practical” way to study for the exams, the “efficiency” of the “do’s” and “don’ts” at YU, and of course, the “practical” Jewish program he should attend. The student will then be swept by the mob of recruiters from various firms, or just have his heart set on a medical or law school. Of course Torah U’Madda will not stand this constant, but at the same time, the student will then finally take the MCAT, LSAT, or CPA. Yeshiva! Must be put on hold temporarily.

On terminating the mad three year rush through YU, Zalman begins his search to find a way he can be sure that he sadly realizes the immense compromises which took place in the dozens of minyanim, there should be two big minyan- nam in the main Beit Midrash. Furthermore, mandatory Jewish lectures should take place at least once a week. Ultimately, the students will feel part of the yeshiva instead of feeling like they’re at YU’s towering campus. To implement this plan, unfortunately, attendance must be mandatory. What about college freedom? Not when it intervenes with yeshiva standards. Most importantly, the Rebbe must be面前 faced with the reality that he is no longer the leader in the students disposal. Although far from sufficient, the yeshiva’s initial ascen- dant would be one small step for Torah, but a giant leap for YU.

Student reaction would vary. Those with a weaker Jewish background, before enrolling at YU, must be informed and warned of Yeshiva’s rules and standards. Those will therefore realize that they are not going to a University with a Jewish program but rather a Yeshiva with a col- lege education. Those with a stronger Jewish background, let it be known, will easily understand the importance of Yeshiva regulations. Those returning from Israel, the seeds for change have been planted; many would welcome the chance to reap the full harvest of their seeds.

Sad, sweet dreams must always come to an end as reality rudely intervenes. Students entering YU, under the MAS, will undoubtedly concentrate more on the college education. Those returning from Israel, although trying to avoid it, will also eventually succumb to the pressures of success and career. After all, a top law school, a prominent medical school, and a big six account- ing firm is worth striving for at the expense of almost any- thing.

Wake-up YU! Instead of praising and applauding the beautiful courses which will truly split our Torah. Remove the ever-growing burden of requirements which prevent us from ven- open up a sefer.

YU must then find a way to expand the yeshiva atmosphere to the entire student body. In college and yeshiva. He realizes that this "exploring" consisted merely of finding the most original and inventive way to cram the night before a midterm, and that learning about the various graduate schools was the lone element which broadened his horizons. On the yeshiva side, Zalman dizzily realizes the transience of what he has learned as transitory. Thus, he tries to be prepared on both sides of the coin. But wait! That’s not the point! Zalman is now on the road to success. The Shabbos is there, and the extra curricular activities are definitely there. Hello Arthur Andersson! Hello Columbia! Mission accomplished at YU! So much for idealism.

Given the realities of the MAS, how can Torah U’Madda turn its ideals into reality? Just as time can’t be moved, neither can YU. But we can dream. Let’s "unAmericanize" the Torah U’Madda system and re- structure it with Jewish ideals and priorities practical in every day life at YU.

To give us a dream some substance, it is important for the entire YU family to recognize, painful as it may be, that the best of both worlds is impossible in this age and place. As was demonstrated above, the University, with its infinite pressures of success, career, grades, paper, and tests, for the most part supercedes the Yeshiva. The ideal Yeshiva and the ideal Uni- versity don’t, and cannot, intertwine harmoniously. Changing the status quo is therefore impor- tant.

YU must drop its pre-profes- sional, quasi-try league aspira- tions. The mountain of require- ments which YU presently deems absolutely necessary for a col- lege education needs to be shaved down to manageable size. Give us the freedom to choose those courses, career, grades, paper, and tests, for the most part supercedes the Yeshiva. The ideal Yeshiva and the ideal Uni- versity don’t, and cannot, intertwine harmoniously. Changing the status quo is therefore impor- tant.

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Students Gear Up for Summer of Giving

by Torin Rutner

The month of June for many students at both YC and Stern will not include family vacations, rest and relaxation and fun in the sun. These students will be part of two summer programs that have become quite popular over the past year, Achy/Technia and YUSSR. YUSSR, in its second year, begins June 17 and lasts until the middle of August. Over 100 applications for have been received for 40 slots.

This unprecedented program will be spread out among five cities in Moscow, Leningrad, Odessa, Moscow, and Vpet. The camp's programs are quite different than those of American Jewish camps. The program intends to draw Russian Jewish kids closer to Judaism by making them more familiar with Jewish themes and customs. Of the summer camps, a color war, with the camps will be quite a challenge. In each group, eight to ten advisors will be teaching Hebrew and biblical events in Yahadut and the Tanach. For many of the advisors, it may be hard to communicate with these olim. They will try to get both children and their parents involved in the program. The advisors will be helping these olim who will be entering Israel and who have no idea what to expect from their new homeland.

Chaim Hagler, one of this year's organizers, feels that: “This will be a tremendous experience for these students who are volunteering their summer to help their fellow Jews.” David Becker, a junior at YC who went on Technia last summer, remarked, “In addition to kiyun and education, we also have an opportunity to see what life is really like in Israel.”

CompuSci Expands

by Jon Taub

The Yeshiva University Computer Science Department has begun to install new equipment on the YU undergraduate campus. Some new equipment has already been installed; more will be going in over the summer. The new additions include more powerful network servers, Lanex Group IBM clones, and a data-base containing the entire Tanach. YU also plans to replace VAX terminals hooked up to the main-frame computer at Einstein with a new system from IBM. YC seniors and the outgoing director of Network Services Mark Roth said much of this work will take place over the summer. “We will be installing the IBM RS 6000, or a RISC-reduced instruction set computer, on this campus,” said Roth. “The VAXes have already been turned off at Einstein.” The Network has been improved further by the installation of Lanex Group IBM clones. Some new workstations have been created at Stern College, seven at YC. Eventually, 19 to 20 new units will grace the college computer rooms. “More departments are using computers,” said Dr. Brandwein, explaining the decision to upgrade and expand the network. “Actually, there are very few now that aren’t.”

Along with the new hardware, the Computer Science Department has also managed to procure a very special piece of software; a data-base containing the entire Tanach has been installed. According to Dr. Brandwein, the data-base is used mostly by Revel students, along with one or two faculty members. “Actually, we were supposed to get a program with all of Tanach, Talmud Bavli, and with competence.”

The program also expanded on the YU undergraduate computer network. “Their work will be in­

Reacting to the charge of ballot stuffing, Lopin admitted that the lack of supervision was a mistake. “I’m very sorry that that is what happened,” he said. “There was no way I could know that this would happen. However, Lopin con­demned the “those above me, namely Deans Nulman and Chaitoff” told him that this was how elections had been run in the past.

Dean of Students Efrem Nulman stated that the elections were given to the students to manage and added, “I don’t think they handled it well and with competence.” He also differentiated between the two sets of awards by pointing out that the Senior awards are officially sanctioned by the University and are provided by officially recognized gifts. This, according to Nulman, makes them “totally different” from the awards to be given out by Student Council.

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To the Editor,

plexed II”, I wish to clarify that the production aspect was done by Jay Bai­ley. His name originally appeared on the page but was subsequently removed after it was given to Student Council.

Mike Grynb erg  
YC ’92

They Don’t Make IBC Like They Used To

To the Editor,

When asked on interviews why I chose to attend YU over other colleges, my answer had always been that the teachers and administrators related to the students better as a result of their shared culture and beliefs. This was also one of the main reasons why I chose to attend IBC. I felt that in a shiur of 10–15 students one could establish a better relationship with the rebbe than in a shiur of 50–60 students. In addition, IBC also sponsored a monthly “Rosh Chodesh” breakfast to promote student unity as well as interaction between students and faculty in an informal setting. I was so impressed with the IBC outlook that I was motivated to serve in the IBC student government for the past two years (junior class secretary/treasurer, senior class president). However, recently I have become disheart­ened and I am no longer sure what IBC stands for.

When Dean Rabinowitz/Kelda was in charge, the door was always open and the first priority was always the student. However, Dean Rabinowitz stepped down, IBC and JSS combined forces, and no longer seems to be true.

I know that Dean Well is equally concerned about the students, but I believe that he is overburdened by his dual role (IBC and JSS) and he has lost sight of that objective. He is forced to spend too much time on his administrative duties and unintentionally no longer has time for the students. The impen­etrable divider in the office only com­pared those difficulties. Even though the Berlin Wall came down, the dividers in the IBC office are still standing, and it’s impossible to see the dean. The key to a healthy student/faculty relation­ship must be more than just monthly break­fasts, it must be an “open door” policy. “Open door” does not mean that you must make an appointment to see the dean, if it means that the door is open, so the students feel free to consult the dean whenever they believe it necessary.

Bring back the old IBC, let the ad­ministrative bureaucracy we have now; and tear down those dividers.

Avery Tuchman  
SSSB ‘91

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Stating the Facts

To the Editor,

Your reporter, Shlomo Zwickler, in his article “Unauthorized Lecture Sparks Controversy” (Commentator, March 13, 1991, Page 7) refers to Rabbi Irving Greenberg as a YC and RIETS alumnus. As a contemporary of Rabbi Greenberg, and as an alumnus of both YC and RIETS, I can assure you that Rabbi Greenberg is not an alumnus of either school.

Very truly yours,

Hyman Arbesfeld  
YC ’53 RIETS ’56

The Commentator regrets the error.
With multiple class governments running social events throughout the year, students tend to get muddled. Class governments intend for their events to attract as many constituents as possible, by and large, all of the class governments run events designed to appeal to the entire student body. Upperclassmen even run social events specifically for sophomores and freshmen.

The major factors contributing to the richness of a year's menu of events are their number, diversity and quality. Unfortunately, many students feel that all three factors were lacking this year. To date, the class council scorecard for the number of events held by student governments, from freshman to senior, reads 3,3,2,2. Since multiple classes coordinated two of these events, the scorecard yields a grand total of 6 events. Two were shabbatonim at Stern and two were comedy events. Numerous other comic events such as a night at Chicago City Limits and a talent show were aborted due to lack of student interest.

Since class presidents emphasize the social nature of their jobs, one student voices a cogent complaint. He asserts that, at many of these events, seesaw tension prevents Stern and Ye- shiva College students from interacting in a relaxed setting, which he feels to be one of the events' primary goals.

In contrast, student presidents tend to blame the failure of many of their cancelled activities, not on their inability to interest students, but on a pervasive student apathy. Students just don’t exhibit any school spirit, they say. They won't sign up for talent shows. They're too busy for a night at Chicago City Limits. Each president emphasizes that he actively campaigned for his events, advertising door to door. Joel Tennenberg, Junior Class President, pointed out that he offered a completely free comedy night in order to motivate students to attend, and they still complained about transportation. Faizakoff, however, the most successful of this year's presidents, did not raise student apathy as an objection.

Class governments furnished the following events this year:

Freshman: YCSC fundraiser selling refreshments while watching Monday Night Football between the 49ers and Giants; day of ice skating; a Stern Shabbaton coordinated with the Sophomore class.

Sophomore: The Stern shabbaton; cruise around Manhattan; the Jackie Mason show.

Junior: A shabbaton at Stern with Sigma Delta Rho; free Comedy night.

Senior: The aforementioned shabbaton; billiards night at Pockets.

The governments plan a number of future events. However, only the Sophomore class has concretized these plans into a Yankee game and Blind Date Night to celebrate Lag B'Omer. Each student government collects tax money for events from two sources, participants and YCSC. Furthermore, each student government holds positions on YCSC. However, in view of the generalized appeal of class governments' social events, one student wonders why they are even necessary. "None of these presidents are important, only Feinstein and Student Council."
Insecure About Security

by Neil Torczyner

Historically, times of trouble have always called for an increase in security at YU. In the mid-1980's, a shotgun was fired into the pizza store across the street from the high school building. YU responded by increasing the presence of security and the NY Police Department added more manned police booths to the neighborhood.

When war broke out in January, YU again decided to increase campus security. For the first month of the semester, there were two guards stationed at every post twenty-four hours a day. This time, however, the increase in quantity did not necessarily mean an increase in quality. The added Burns security men and their roving shouts of "ID?" did not substantially improve the security at YU. What they did do was prove to be a major inconvenience before eventually becoming just window dressing.

During the first few months of the second semester, YU students showed just how inefficient the security system was at Yeshiva. Students routinely borrowed YU IDs from their friends when they themselves did not have ID. Other innovative students took to replacing their pictures on the identification cards with pictures of contemporary heroes such as Saddam Hussein and Yasir Arafat. Still other students put their plastic card holders with Toronto Blue Jays baseball cards. Quite remarkably, very few of these students were caught.

The deficiencies in the YU Department of Safety and Security are not recent developments. Over the past few years, glaring errors have been revealed within the system, but have been swept under the carpet by "higher ups." For example, during the first semester, a crown with semi-precious stones valued at three thousand dollar range disappeared from an exhibit in the library. In the weeks following the discovery of the theft, signs appeared in the Morgenthau dormitory asking if anyone had found a lost crown. Lost? Did the Keystone Cops' fine sleuthing ability load them to believe that a student could find the lost crown while walking to class? Ironically, the guards managed to effectively stop any student from smuggling food into the library during the finals/reading week period.

Another example is the parking area/chop shop on 190th Street. In 1987, YU made lots of noise about the restructuring of the parking regulations in the 186-190th Street area to facilitate angle parking. The school set up a guard booth and arranged for a shuttle to run back and forth from the area to the dormitories. Now, a scant five years later, very few students park there even during the day. There are countless stories of students whose cars were broken into in front of guard booths.

The real problem does not lie with security personnel, but at the management level. The guards seem to lack direction. It does not appear that there is a standard procedure even for dealing with everyday occurrences. This is not the fault of the individual guards because many are not given training before they go on assignment at Yeshiva. There have been reports of guards as young as 17-18 years old serving in our dormitories and buildings.

The recent incident of armed robbers barging into a student dormitory is one more reminder of how dangerous our position is in Washington Heights. In order for YU Security to competently protect the students, an effective policy must be created at the management level and executed by the guards. Otherwise, they remain just guys standing at desks.

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Jewish Studies Councils continued from p. 5

+ Beit Yitzchak - Publication of insights into Torah by students. Will come out at the end of the year.
+ YUSSR - Donated money to YUSSR for seforim to be sent to Soviet Jews.
+ Beit Midrash - Responsible for keeping books in Beit Midrash.
+ Beit Midrash Akiva - Donated new benschers.
+ Tefilin Checks - will have upcoming Tefilin checks so students can determine if their tefilin are kosher (to be co-sponsored with JSS).

New Benchers - will be donating new benchers to the cafeteria in the near future.

Co-sponsoring various events, clubs - For example, the Discovery program at Stern on April 25, Aliya Club events, the Bikor Cholim Society, the Jewish Philanthropy Society, food for Shabbos for Jews in the Soviet Union. The Discovery program at Stern on April 25, Aliya Club events, the Bikor Cholim Society, the Jewish Philanthropy Society, food for Shabbos for Jews in the Soviet Union.

Seferim Sale - sale of seforim at discount prices. Brings people from all over the city. "It grossed six figures."

Peac Products Committee - Sold shmurah matzah before Pesach. Originally was supposed to sell wine, too, but had problems with a liquor license.

Shabbos in Yeshiva - rather than have SOY classroom and find a meal, students decided to have Shabbos in Yeshiva. Students were served a wonderful meal and the entire crowd was served food on Shabbos.

Shavuos in Yeshiva - in the planning process.

Taubmen
ctd. from p.12

to defeat both schools, but not before the Yeshiva fencers managed to win a substantial number of bouts. Against Bard, Yeshiva utterly trounced their opponents in a 25-2 rout. The foil squad deserves special mention for their exceptional fencing

Students Tech was the next school to cross swords with Yeshiva, and Stevens Tech escaped with a very narrow margin of victory. In the final tri-match of the season which followed, Yeshiva met Bard and City College. Yeshiva started slowly by losing to Bard, but instead of losing their fencers became determined to beat their classical rivals, CCNY. In another nail-biter of a match that usually characterized the team's losses, Yeshiva beat CCNY by a score of 15-12.

The final bout of the year against SUNY Purchase was not as successful. Although Yeshiva fought just as intensely as they did against CCNY, lightning did not strike twice for the fencers as they were defeated.

The fencing team ended the season with a record of 3-9, a record that belies the closeness of the individual bouts and the closeness of the matches themselves. This year's team, while not overly victorious, has set a standard of camaraderie, determination and enthusiasm for the team and for fencing that should be met by all the teams in the future.

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ACROSS

1. Combust
2. Agreement
3. In yard
12. Enemy
15. Wolves
16. Liver liquid
17. Anasthesia (abbr.)
18. Schools
19. Stents
20. Profits
21. Midtown state (abbr.)
22. Food bit
23. Fried
27. Night bird
29. Natural springs
30. Find salutes
31. Jewish camp
32. Place
33. Feast of Iowaeac (Yiddish)
36. Practice proposal
38. Come in
39. Age
40. Two times three (digit)
46. Coloring agent
48. Sale
49. Sharp tool
50. Closet (Dutch)
51. Greek (anc.)
57. Travel by sea
58.原子
60. Against

DOWN

1. Long way off
2. Unappendixed roof
3. A particular
4. Fall rap
5. Car
6. Picture taking pad
7. Reply in a certain way
8. Leave
9. Baby's food cocker
10. Building wing
11. Box in Scotland
12. Transparent (abbr.)
13. Homemade state (abbr.)
14. Makes a clothe
15. Served, rubbed
16. Clen
17. Unverified
18. Conventional leverage
19. Washable
20. Washable
21. Help
22. Young man
23. Preparation
24. Ear
25. One
26. Name weight
4. Morning time (abbr.)
30. Prosecutor's briefcase
31. Older
32. Baby
33. BENEDICT
34. Sound
35. Direction (abbr.)
36. Toned
37. Direction (abbr.)
One on Ones off to Hot Start

by Eric Melzer

On April 14th, Yeshiva University began its first annual one on one tournament. Many enthusiastic fans attended last week’s first round matches. Each of the tournament’s four divisions were filled with numerous action-packed games.

One of the feature games was Cohen vs. Jon Rosner in the tournament’s varsity division. The game was extremely close throughout, as Cohen and Rosner exchanged baskets in both halves. The MSAC crowd roared when Rosner hit the first three pointer of his career late in the second half. With two seconds remaining and Rosner leading by two, Cohen hit a bank shot to even the score and force an overtime. In the overtime, Rosner played extremely well inside and prevailed by the score of 39-33. Cohen finished the game with 9 three-point field goals.

The top three performances of the first round were by Erez Ben Ami, Yitz Stern, and David Ehrman. Ben Ami displayed more stamina than any other of the tournament’s participants and through explosive drives and excellent defense, he was able to win 55-13. Stern also played a superb game; he had the first round’s highest margin of victory and top-defensive output, winning his match 37-7. Ehrman hit an unprecedented 14 three-pointers as he coasted to a 70-29 victory.

Thus far, the one-on-one tournament has been extremely successful. The most common complaint by the players was that they were exhausted and out of shape for the grueling five-minute running time halves. Many of the players begged for oxygen, pleaded for a time-out, and even feigned injury in order to temporarily stop the game.

The tournament will be held each week on Sunday, Monday, and Wednesday until the tournament has been extremely well received. The tournament has been extremely successful so far, with each of the four categories crowned.

The next match will be a tri-match, the first in Yeshiva University history, featuring St. John’s (a Division One school), Lafayette, and Yeshiva. The YU fencers faced Lafayette, a school that has consistently defeated Yeshiva in years past. This time, however, YU fought a very close match and two of the fencers were even able to go undefeated against Lafayette. Against St. John’s, the match was not as close, but Yeshiva was able to earn the respect of their St. John’s counterparts in that each bout was fought with warlike intensity.

In the beginning of the second semester, Yeshiva met Hunter College, an old adversary whose coach is a former Olympic champion. Once again, Yeshiva fenced well against a characteristically superior opponent. Like St. John’s, Hunter was extremely impressed with the determination and skill of YU’s fencers.

The next match entailed a long road trip to Rutgers University, one of the toughest opponents of the season. The outcome came down to the final round of fencing and every bout was extremely close. Rutgers, however, barely managed to win.

Next came another tri-match versus New Jersey Tech and Bard University. NJIT was able...