Administration Begins Search for Brenner’s Successor

Head-Hunting Firm Hired to Look for New VP

Who will replace retiring Executive V.P. Egon Brenner?

by Jamin Klosowe

The YU Administration has served the services of Heidrick & Struggles, a Washington based head-hunting firm, to identify qualified applicants to fill the position of Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs, which will be vacated by Dr. Egon Brenner at the end of the academic year.

Brenner, who has held his current position for 12 years, announced his decision to retire last month. He is responsible for all of YU’s academic divisions, except the Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

In his capacity as Executive Vice President, Brenner coordinates academic programs, makes decisions on course offerings, sets curricula, and makes the final recommendation to the President on faculty tenure decisions.

Describing the importance of finding a qualified successor, YU Director of Public Relations Sam Hartstein pointed to the “tremendous challenge to lead our institution into the 21st century.” Hartstein explained that the firm of Heidrick & Struggles was hired because of its extensive resources and networks, attributes which are needed to secure the names of exceptional applicants.

Heidrick & Struggles associate Janet Greenwood explained that the firm will “work as the University’s partner,” trying to “match people’s portfolios against the University’s needs.” To date, the firm has placed advertisements in many journals in an effort to solicit applicants. Additionally, the firm has begun talking to their sources worldwide, to determine who might be available to fill the position.

A recent advertisement appearing in The Chronicle of Higher Education outlined the requirements for the position. According to the advertisement, the Vice President should provide creative educational leadership and identify, attract and retain outstanding faculty in the University’s continuing effort to further enrich the quality of its educational programs.

According to Greenwood, “the search is just beginning,” and no applicant’s name has been sent back to YU yet. She stated that within a month, the firm will probably gather a sampling and forward a list of applicants to YU.

Lamm Lauds Brenner

Reflecting on his years at YU, Brenner cited major improvements in YU’s graduate schools, libraries, laboratories, and faculty appointments, stating, “I am very happy with what I accomplished.” Brenner asserted that he is “not unhappy with Yeshiva, but the time has come to leave.”

In a letter sent to colleagues, President Norman Lamm hailed Brenner for his “important contributions,” adding that “As professor, dean, and deputy chancellor, Dr. Brenner distinguished himself in the service of higher education.” Dr. Lamm concluded by stating that he “confident that our efforts will prevail in the changing of the guard.”

Marketing Firm Investigates YC Constituency

by Eric M. Creitznan

As part of the University’s attempt to augment enrollment, the task force on admissions, chaired by Dean of Students Eliot Nulman, has commissioned Martilla and Kiley Inc., a prominent marketing research firm, to conduct a study to locate YU’s target audience and the most effective and efficient way to reach them.

During the study, which began in early December and will continue for the next few months, Martilla and Kiley will consult with different groups to obtain their impressions of the strengths and weaknesses of YU’s academic, social, and religious environment.

Natalie Wigotsky, Martilla and Kiley’s representative directing the study, stated that the first objective of the study is to get a feel for YU life. “We have never seen a study before Christmas, and we are attempting to learn everything about the institution,” she explained. While Wigotsky insisted that they have not entirely accomplished this goal, Nulman was impressed by their “remarkably clear understanding of who we are.” Martilla and Kiley representatives have been working frequently with administrators, faculty and student leaders, and have attended administrative conferences where experts on YU admissions were present.

In addition to the conferences with student leaders, Wigotsky, along with John Martilla, intends to speak with other students as well. They hope to determine why students choose to attend YU so that the marketing strategy can focus on a target audience. Martilla and Kiley is also considering a survey of the entire student body, interviewing potential applicants, and students who have been accepted in the past but declined to attend.

Biology Students Find Unusual Bacteria in Cafeteria and Pool

by Ari Rosenstein

Towards the end of the fall semester, ten to twelve microbiology students participated in an experiment with the purpose of finding and identifying bacteria not found in the laboratory environment. Samples taken by some of the students from the swimming pool and cafeteria preparation surfaces indicated certain pathogenic (disease causing) bacteria which should not have been present had the areas in question been properly maintained.

Bacteria Found in Cafeteria

Sergei Levin, a second year biology major, tested various serving counters in the cafeteria. After growing the bacteria in a sterile culture, he discovered several bacterial colonies not normally found on food surfaces. On the inside of the main serving counter, Levin found E. coli, Staphylococcus, and Proteus mirabilis, all pathogenic organisms. Staphylococcus, for example, is a bacteria found in feces and is known to cause diarrhea and nausea. Levin also tested the hamburger section, as well as the hamburgers themselves, and found Proteus mirabilis present.

Eric, a new employee in the cafeteria, stated that he began working the counter on February 4 and he was never told to use any specific sanitary precautions before serving the food. Another employee, Jimmy, stated that although he occasionally wears gloves “when handling meat,” servers were not specifically told to wear them at all times.

However, Jake Lieberman, Assistant Director of Food Services, stated that gloves and bacterial soap are present throughout the cafeteria and employees are supposed to use them. “The only exception is ‘when handling hot foods, the gloves may melt or lose their grip, and are therefore not required.’” He strongly maintained that gloves are required whenever there is direct contact with food. “We cannot be policemen here,” he stated, “and if an employee doesn’t wash his hands or wear gloves all the time, there is nothing we can do about it.”

Lieberman asserted that while Levin found certain bacteria on the counter, this does not mean the counters are contaminated. “We have never been cited for health violations by the Health Department before,” he stated, “and a single test done by a single student cannot be used to indicate anything.”

Standard scientific procedures require the area in question to be tested a second time, to determine the accuracy of the first test. While certain bacteria may have been found, the results cannot be confirmed without re-testing the counters. At present, there are no plans to re-test the counters.

continued on page 9
A Recurring Problem

Time and again, The Commentator has addressed a persistent problem which plagues our university. Unfortunately, there is no reprieve in sight, and we are forced to highlight once again the deleterious effect Associate Director of Facilities Management Jeffrey Socol has on our campus.

In yet another rash act, Socol closed Muss room 581, changing the lock to ensure that not even the dorm counselor could enter. Do we not trust our dorm counselors? Would Director of Residence Halls Rabbi Joshua Cheifetz appoint untrustworthy men to these positions? Additionally, Socol confiscated The Commentator’s Bellers Hall newspaper after the newspaper had obtained permission from Assistant to the Dean of Students Rabbi Jeffrey Chaitoff to place it in the building’s lobby.

Further, Socol’s relationship with the maintenance staff and security has deteriorated to such an extent that 1199 workers openly protest, Socol remains untouchable and his dismissal is a virtual impossibility. The usual chain of command is blocked somewhere along the line. However, we are sure that together with improved cooperation between students and administrators, a way can be found to further improve the general campus atmosphere by removing this problematic Mr. Socol.

Failing to Find Faculty

Last issue, The Commentator concluded a four-part series of investigative articles which analyzed the strained relations between the YU Administration and its faculty members. Our articles and polls indicated severe faculty discontent regarding YU salary and tenure policies, in addition to a general lack of communication between the two groups.

In the current search for a new Vice President of Academic Affairs, the Administration has placed advertisements to procure someone who will “identify, attract, and retain outstanding faculty.”

What caliber of professors does the Administration think they can draw to a university where 86% of the faculty perceive their salaries as being below the national average?

We are not blind to financial considerations; in these recessionary times, all universities are economizing. But if our university continues to target faculty in its penny-pinching policies, Dr. Brenner’s successor will not live up to the Administration’s expectations. No Vice President, regardless of qualifications, will be able to secure outstanding faculty if the state of faculty-administration relations fails to improve on campus.

The "Tanned Member" Responds

To the Editor:

I am the tanned member of the audience of Mr. Samuel Katz, and incidentally I am a bit tanner since I spent the intercession in Acapulco. Several weeks have passed from the time we heard Mr. Katz speak, and since then, the letters in The Commentator have mentioned the "savings" of the hyper-sensitive Mr. Berkowitz, his true colors, and my external ones. Well now, I figure it’s time I had a say, since I have been the impetus for this ruckus.

My outspoken reprimand of Seth Berkowitz was initiated by the implications of his comments and questions of the evening. They were indicative of a weakness among our people. Everyone has their "true colors" and that is the need to alleviate pressures at practically any cost without objectively weighing the potential dangers. Seth implied that since the Likud tactics did not change the status quo, then we obviously had to try something new (Territorial Compromise). The goals of this approach innocently intend to reach a peace, but more accurately means to rectify a supposed wrong done unto the Arabs in Judea and Samaria. I know that Meretz did not actually send Seth, but the influences of such parties did.

Those who identify with the approaches of such parties should keep in mind that we have a very precious inheritance: Israel. Furthermore, I must grasp what Mr. Katz implied, “We have nowhere else to go.” If Seth and others are completely convinced that the Arabs are truly seeking peace and that the inhabitants of Judea and Samaria will settle for a part of Israel, then I believe that these words will fall on blind eyes and deaf ears. If any doubt exists, then these folks should not be so impatient about reaching perceived goals that would bring on deadly disadvantages. There is no room for error when it comes to survival.

Rachel Isaac
SSSB ’93

Thank You, Sylvia

To the Editor,

We would like to complete the Commentator’s attempt at "bakarat hatov" for the Chanuka Concert.

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SSSB ’93

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Guest at the Desk

Joshua D. Goldberg

Communication: The Key to a Good Relationship

Dean Hecht loves to cite statistics on the number of YU graduates at prestigious law schools. I once heard him claim that there were more Yeshiva alumni in one class of Harvard Law than Harvard graduates (in yirzeh hashem by me) implying that YU is on par with the most ‘renowned’ college in North America. If our student-faculty poll was accurate, only 18% of faculty members can concur to any degree. And there’s no need to poll the students. Why do so many of us disagree with him?

Now, this isn’t going to be one of those “This School Stinks” tirades heard so often in our halls. I am convinced I made the right choice in selecting Yeshiva as my source of post-high school education. Nonetheless, it is impossible for me to ignore the complaints shared by every peer I respect, that invade every conversation I overhear. Over meals at the Caf., students grumble disparagingly about their own high school experiences. I try to approach their comments as carefully as possible.

The components of life are hard. A childhood spent in yeshivas is no exception. I have faced more hardship than I can possibly summarize in this column. Some are more private. The first is a feeling of isolation.

Resisted every time improvement is sought, disregard even when the essence of Judaism is pinnnus, not chutzionus? I argued. Perhaps, I feel personally scarred by this issue, having once attended one of New York’s “real” yeshivas, where I was labeled an outsider. How could I do well, merely because I wore a suede yarmulke and it was known that I would some day return to YU? Upon thinking of my experiences, I could not believe that I had been so financially protected from the yeshivas, where I was labeled an outsider.

I have a good friend who would love nothing more than to see me wearing wool pants. My friend, who does not learn in our yeshiva, comes from a more “yeshivish” background and thinks my Dockers are unbecoming of a semicha student. (Let’s not even talk about white tube socks).

Needing to listen, I rejected this suggestion out of hand, as any good YU boy would do. Why are you so interested in outward expression, we were given the keys to lead us on the road to a life of avodas hashem on the highest level. The ability to think critically and question only develops us as true Jews. And I am now beginning to believe that it is our minds that will bring us closer to God, and this should never be underestimated. This is the essence of Judaism.

Op Ed: Ari Mosenkis

Party Politics

Rosh Chodesh Adar will soon arrive, bringing with it an annual problem: the location of the Purim chagiga. Last year, the location was not determined until a day before the chagiga, and this year I foresee similar difficulties. For as long as I can remember, the Purim chagiga has been held in the Beit Midrash. The most serious problem in holding it there is that it is overcrowded. First, there are overcrowded processions to and from the auditorium -- on stage. The women would be welcome to come and enjoy the shpiel. There would be plenty of room for both parties (pun intended) and the safety hazards would be alleviated, as would the risk of fire. The audience would be more content in seats than on the floor, and everyone would be able to see and hear because of the auditorium’s sloped floor and sound system.

Another, yet separate problem involves the mixing of the sexes, both indoors and outside. This mixing could spoil the chagiga and to hear and enjoy the shpiel. There would be plenty of room for both parties (pun intended) and the safety hazards would be alleviated, as would the risk of fire. The audience would be more content in seats than on the floor, and everyone would be able to see and hear because of the auditorium’s sloped floor and sound system.

Admittedly, my proposal is not without its own flaws. Specifically, paying for two separate, simultaneously playing bands, seems wasteful. Moreover, some girls will, inevitably, still feel excluded from the main action. Furthermore, there are countless logistical problems: how exactly will the shpiel. There would be plenty of room for both parties (pun intended) and the safety hazards would be alleviated, as would the risk of fire. The audience would be more content in seats than on the floor, and everyone would be able to see and hear because of the auditorium’s sloped floor and sound system.

Additionally, this proposal will stir conversations and future correspondence and eventually we can arrive at the best solution and enjoy the shpiel. This proposal, however, –– rather than developing the impromptu suggestions, with some modifications. The men could have their own chagiga in the Beit Midrash, while TAC could suggest some sort of Purim street chagiga in Weissberg Commons. The men’s shpiel would be at a set time, midnight perhaps, in Lamport Commons. Any girl who would welcome be welcome to come and enjoy the shpiel. There would be plenty of room for both parties (pun intended) and the safety hazards would be alleviated, as would the risk of fire. The audience would be more content in seats than on the floor, and everyone would be able to see and hear because of the auditorium’s sloped floor and sound system.

The writer was the Chairman of last year’s Chanukah and Purim chagigot, and is currently vice-president of SOY.

My Modest Proposal: A Dress Code for YU

Dhani Goldstein

I have a good friend who would love nothing more than to see me wearing wool pants. My friend, who does not learn in our yeshiva, comes from a more “yeshivish” background and thinks my Dockers are unbecoming of a semicha student. (Let’s not even talk about white tube socks).

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Op Ed: Dani Goldstein

Although her name was not mentioned at the concert and was omitted from the now infamous “Dybbuk” poster.

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The essence of Judaism is chitzonius, not chutzionus. I argued. Perhaps, I feel personally scarred by this issue, having once attended one of New York’s “real” yeshivas, where I was labeled an outsider. How could I do well, merely because I wore a suede yarmulke and it was known that I would some day return to YU?

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Mystery Cat Sneaks into Aron Kodesh

Students davening at the 7:40 am minyan in Morgenstern Hall's basement shul were shocked to find a cat inside the Aron Kodesh this past Thursday morning. The cat was not discovered until the Ark was opened to take out a Torah for learning. YC senior Steven Penn, who opened the Aron said, "I was astonished to see a gray kitty sitting on the Torah covers. "Students immediately summoned a maintenance worker who removed the cat from the Aron, and threw it out the window.

According to YC senior Dov Schreier, gabbai of the morning minyan, the cat has been sneaking into the shul on a continual basis. Schreier first saw the cat hiding behind the Aron on the previous Sunday. He said that he took no action at that point because the cat "wasn't bothering anybody, and besides, I didn't know what to do about it."

Despite having been thrown out the window on Thursday, the cat was once again hiding behind the Aron this past Sunday morning, and began meowing loudly in the middle of davening. The cat, which has been nicknamed "Toonces the Mitzvah Cat" by Morgenstern Hall residents, was unavailable for comment.

--Jamin Koslove

Socol locks out Muss Residents From Study Hall

by David Kelsey

Residents of Muss Hall were dismayed to find room 581 - an unoccupied dorm room which had been used all year as a make-shift study hall and shul - closed without explanation during finals week. On January 7, Associate Director of Facilities Management Jeff Socol ordered the installation of a new lock on the room so that fifth floor dorm counselor Adam Miller would be unable to open the room.

In response to this action, Muss resident Ira Piltz said "If Jeff Socol's job is to make facilities usable, why is he making facilities unusable for students?" This limiting of the dorm counselor has been interpreted by some as an expression of Facilities Management's authority. One Muss dorm counselor suggested that certain people wanted to "increase their power through diminishing the student's autonomy."

While Director of Residence Halls Rabbi Joshua Cheifetz described Facilities Management and Security as "in general, very cooperative," he disagreed with the actions taken regarding room 581. According to Cheifetz, empty rooms "should be used in a controlled way, under supervision of a floor counselor. There have been very few problems. These problems don't warrant the students being deprived of their use."

Additionally, several Muss residents expressed resentment that their study hall was sealed while students in Morgenstern enjoy a study hall on every floor.

Socol refused to comment on the issue.

"Whirlpool Wind Effect" Explained

Due to the recurring winter problem of high speed wind gusts, students are once again experiencing great difficulty opening the double doors at the entrance to Belfer Hall. Occasionally, they have literally been blown away trying to close them. On a number of days, security has posted signs asking students and faculty to use only one door of the building, for fear that the glass doors will "in general, very cooperative," he disagreed with the actions taken regarding room 581. According to Cheifetz, empty rooms "should be used in a controlled way, under supervision of a floor counselor. There have been very few problems. These problems don't warrant the students being deprived of their use."

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Purim Chagiga to be Separated?

by Ami Hordes

Unlike previous years, the SOY Purim chagiga for this year will not be a co-ed event in the Beit Midrash. According to Director of Supporting Services Jeffrey Rosengarten, the chagiga is now so well attended that the Beit Midrash is unsafe to hold the annual event. In fact, he added, a decision to move the entire chagiga to Belfer Commons had already been made in December 1991 at a meeting between Facilities Management, SOY, and Security. Unlike previous years, the SOY Purim chagiga is officially an SOY event, "it's really up to SOY. When a decision is made, we will take the necessary steps to serve everyone as best as we can." Dworken noted, however, that if the boys did stay in the Beit Midrash, TAC has the right to run a parallel chagiga in Belfer.

Dworken would have to factor money into the equation. In years past, TAC only had a budget for a Belfer chagiga. If the chagiga is split, however, there will be the additional cost of renting Belfer Commons, a greater charge from Housekeeping and Security, and the major expense—a second shpiel. Despite the extra costs, as a result of Belfer’s increased size and layout, said Dworken, it would be impossible to pump quality sound throughout the room. As for a potential decrease in attendance, that will only come as a result of the extra cost, Scheinfeld would also make, we will take the necessary steps to serve everyone as best as we can."

Levy attacked the hypocrisy of Rabin’s Labor government, noting that during his campaign, Rabin had promised to make the economy his government’s most pressing priority; in fact, said Levy, Rabin’s government has provided little or no stimulus to the economy. In particular, Levy pointed out that “Russian scientists will only sweep the streets for so long,” once they move to the US or Europe, stated Levy. Israel will have lost a golden opportunity.

Student council presidents and editors of The Commentator and The Observer were invited to a closed door luncheon in the President’s Suite following the speech. During the luncheon, hosted by YU Senior Vice President Dr. Israel Miller, Levy discussed topics of his plans for revitalizing The Jerusalem Post. Aside from restructuring the business operations of the Post, in order to increase readership, Levy has instructed writers to move their personal biases out of news articles and on to the editorial pages.

Masmid '92 Finally Arrives

by Eyal Feiler

The 1992 edition of Masmid, the annual YC yearbook, was distributed last week, after a seven month delay in production. In previous years, the yearbook was distributed in June, within several weeks of graduation.

Uri Cohen, a 1992 YC graduate who contributed to Masmid '92, stated, "Until we received the yearbook, my parents were concerned since they had no idea what happened to the Masmid and they had paid a lot of money for it." Another 1992 graduate, who requested anonymity, felt that the Masmid was put together sloppily. The student asserted that "most of the student clubs were omitted, and of those that did appear, the names of the students were incorrect. Additionally, on many pages, there was only one enlarged picture, when there could have been several pictures instead."

According to Masmid '92 Editor-in-Chief Ronnie Aranoff, the delay was caused by weak sales of yearbook ads, which are the primary source of income for the yearbook. Aranoff attributed the weak sales to the "poor state of the economy in the Northeast." As a result of the cash crunch, the staff was forced to publish a yearbook for about $22,500, half the budget of Masmid 1991.

Although Masmid receives limited funding from YCSC, the yearbook was not able to come up with the funds necessary to order a rush publication by the Thornton Publishing Company, Masmid’s publisher.

Masmid '93 Editor-in-Chief Dov Kesselman expressed confidence that this year’s yearbook will be delivered soon after graduation. Commenting on the upcoming yearbook, Kesselman stated, "We have a great staff that is working on new layouts and implementing new ideas. We hope to portray many aspects of student life, including humorous ones, and we hope to represent the entire student body and the range of activities at YU."
The Great North West vs. The Big Apple

by Ephraim Gopin and Danny Spodek

Bang Bang, you’re dead! Someone got shot in the head Just a few blocks away from this place This type of thing happens every day

New York. The Big Apple. More like the Big Apple. Concrete mountains, endless streams of gunsshots ringing in your ear. The flashing lights of police cars and ambulances. The smell of urine filling up from the sewers. The melodious sound of ragtag music and blaring sirens. New York. It’s packed with NEW YORKERS. Where is the baby, take it out of the hospital, then ASK THE DOCTOR for a baby bag. Because there is no one there to take care of them. Life is fast, it’s a big city with small features - and a small-town mentality. Mark Twain once said it’s a big city with small features - and a small-town mentality. The sounds of the Big Insane Asylum. The flashing lights of police cars and ambulances. The smell of urine floating in the Big City. The Big Apple.

We don’t have any subway system. We don’t have tolls. We don’t have any traffic. We don’t have a medical system. We don’t have a medical system.

Let’s talk about the weather. Folks, this is New York. The Big Apple. More like the Big Apple. Concrete mountains, endless streams of gunsshots ringing in your ear. The flashing lights of police cars and ambulances. The smell of urine filling up from the sewers. The melodious sound of ragtag music and blaring sirens. New York. It’s packed with NEW YORKERS. Where is the baby, take it out of the hospital, then ASK THE DOCTOR for a baby bag. Because there is no one there to take care of them. Life is fast, it’s a big city with small features - and a small-town mentality. Mark Twain once said it’s a big city with small features - and a small-town mentality. The sounds of the Big Insane Asylum. The flashing lights of police cars and ambulances. The smell of urine floating in the Big City. The Big Apple.

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47th. Photo Expo Canceled Temporarily

Misunderstandings and Technical Difficulties Cited

by Yisroel Holczer

The 47th. Photo Computer and Business Machine Expo, sponsored by the Be Syna School of Business, which was advertised, was shown both for February 2 and 3, has been postponed indefinitely, and possibly canceled. The event, which was arranged through the efforts of SSSB VP Aharon Fischman, was to be held in Belfer Hall’s Weissberg Commons, but was shelved by SSSB student leaders and University administrators just days before the extravaganza because of misunderstandings and technical problems.

From SSSB’s perspective, the expo’s objective was to exhibit and demonstrate hardware and software, as well as to issue discount coupons to attending students and faculty members for use at 47th. Photo. Additionally, 47th. Photo had agreed to give away prizes at the annual SSSB dinner. However, many UY administrators perceived that 47th. Photo’s primary interest was commercial rather than educational.

A key factor that led to this perception was a 47th. Photo advertisement mailed to students’ homes during the midterm break. Students’ home addresses were apparently obtained from The Guide to the Perplexed, the student phone directory. SSSB Assistant Dean Ira Jaskoll maintained that 47th. Photo had no right to send advertisements to students’ homes since “The Guide can only be used through the express consent of YU.” 47th. Photo later apologized to Jaskoll for the mailing.

Although Fischman would not reveal how 47th. Photo obtained a copy of “The Guide,” he contended that anyone can procure a copy. SSSB President Ofir Naor concurred, stating, “The ‘Guide’ is for sale, so it should be considered public information.”

The content of the advertisement best indicated the discrepancies between the perceptions of the expo’s purpose. SSSB’s involvement was not clear, nor was it mentioned that students could learn about advances in various technologies. Rather, the advertisement underscored specific prices on hardware systems. Jaskoll claimed that “the goal of the expo was not to sell systems, just to have the ability to see computers, and get discounts. Their flyer should have been approved by the Administration.”

We wanted 47th. Photo to primarily help students, not make profits. The advertisement sent us mixed signals about 47th. Photo’s intentions, and, due to this misunderstanding, we are postponing the expo until we believe it can be done right.”

47th. Photo Vice President Stuart Held, who oversaw the plans for the expo, asserted that their intentions were perfectly rational. In a telephone interview, Held said that because 47th. Photo was sponsoring the entire expo, they were allowed to determine the contents of the flyer. He added that 47th. Photo intended to sell on campus; only coupons were to be distributed.

Jaskoll confessed that he had the impression that 47th. Photo was going to vend on campus, which could have led to technical problems. Assistant to the Dean of Students Rabbi Jeffrey Chaioff pointed out the legal significance of the situation: “We have never had vendors here before. Legal issues have to be worked out, such as a contract and signed agreements.” Additionally, Chaioff maintained that the “technical aspects” of 47th. Photo occupying Weissberg Commons had not been arranged with Facilities Management.

47th. Photo proceeded to question concerning the IBM Expo held at YU three months ago, where sales did take place on campus. Jaskoll asserted that “IBM was too low key, and did not emphasize sales, whereas 47th. Photo appeared much more commercial.” Chaioff added that “IBM had been dealing directly with YU, for a long period of time before their expo.”

Paperwork Not Filed

Apparantly, the expo was doomed from the start, as plans for the event did not reach the Office of the Dean of Students until five days before its scheduled commencement. Chaioff noted that “for every student event, a meeting takes place between myself, Security, Facilities Management, and Housekeeping. In this case, the paperwork (to rent Weissberg Commons) had not been filed, and no arrangements had been made.” Jaskoll agreed, stating “it has to be clear what they will or will not do... and the paperwork must be filed on time.”

Could it be that the paperwork could have been filed during interession, but the relevant parties were not present to process it? Despite the miscommunications between 47th. Photo and SSSB, both sides are confident that the expo can still take place once the differences are settled. Fischman affirmed that there were merely “different visions about what the event was to be... which could not be reconciled before the event itself.” Neither side had malicious intent toward the other. The real enemy was “the school.” Fischman and Jaskoll both professed that there is much student interest in rescheduling the expo, but declined to comment as to if and when it would happen.
It's A Mistake,
Claims Lifeguard

Another member of the class, Adam Splaver, a pre-med Yeshiva College senior, and a life guard at the pool, explained that the goal of the experiment was "to find and isolate a unique bacteria not found in the lab, and to identify it." Splaver took water samples from the swimming pool and whirlpool at both the Yeshiva University uptown campus and the Einstein campus. The 100 ml samples were collected in sterile test tubes, and with the assistance of Dr. Barry Potvin—the biology department’s supervising professor—the water was filtered and then grown in sterile culture plates. According to Potvin, the number of individual colonies represents the "number of bacteria colonies found per 100 ml of water.

Results indicated that both pools at Einstein, as well as the whirlpool on the uptown campus, were perfectly clean. However, Splaver was shocked to find 182 bacteria colonies in the uptown swimming pool sample, a number which greatly exceeded the expected amount. Bacteria discovered in the pool included: Streptococcus pyogenes, Staphylococcus hominis, and Neisseria sicca, which are found in humans in the upper respiratory tract, on the skin, and in saliva, respectively.

Splaver presented his findings to head lifeguard Hal Klugerman, who was skeptical about the accuracy of the test. "I have been dealing with pools for years," Klugerman stated, "and I know that no life guard can detect the first time an experiment is performed there is always a high margin of error. There must have been a mistake."

Klugerman also claims that with a level of 182 colonies per 100 ml, the water should have been cloudy, which it was not.

Splaver re-tested the pool a week later and found no bacteria in the second sample. Klugerman maintains that between the two tests, "no treatments of the pool were made above the regular maintenance." This further assured Klugerman that there was contamination or some other error in the first test.

However, Dr. Potvin accompanied Splaver on the initial experiment and confirmed the sterility of the procedure. Dr. Potvin explained that had there been contamination, the types of bacteria isolated would not have been of these particular strains. Clarified Splaver, "...the bacteria we found were not typical for a laboratory environment. They are characteristic of bacteria found in a swimming pool."

While some sources believe that large amounts of chlorine may have been added to the pool in an attempt to eliminate the excess bacteria, Associate Director of Plant Operations Doug Rogers said that he heard nothing about the tests or about the high level of bacteria supposedly found in the pool.

"We always maintain extremely high levels of chlorine, bromine, and oxydizers in both the whirlpool and swimming pool," he said, "but I have never had any excess of chemicals into the pool. We don’t run that kind of operation around here."

Klugerman believes that levels of bacteria that were slightly higher than normal can be attributed to students not showering before entering the pool. In fact, both Rogers and Stan Watson, Head of the Physical Education Department, were in agreement with Klugerman. "Students often run directly from the gym to the pool without showering," Watson stated. "I’m not surprised they found high levels of bacteria in the pool."

Shortly after Splaver approached Klugerman with the test results, Klugerman called a meeting with the lifeguards to stress the importance of requiring students to shower before entering the pool. Klugerman, Rogers, and Watson all maintain that most bacterial problems can be averted if students shower properly before entering, while Potvin also stressed the use of soap in the showers.

According to the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, even a single day of exposure to the high levels of bacteria found in such pools may result in a case of "septicemia" and even death. The U.S. Public Health Service stated that although cases of "septicemia" are rare, there is no reason for concern. The section of the Department of Health’s handbook dealing with bacteria levels in pools states, "There must exceed 200 colonies of bacteria in 100 ml of water."

Rogers said that he heard nothing about the tests or about the high level of bacteria before re-testing the pool. Klugerman called a meeting with the test results, but Watson disagreed with Klugerman. "Students often run directly from the gym to the pool without showering," Watson stated. "I’m not surprised they found high levels of bacteria in the pool."

Let’s take one small and insignificant step. Let us come with our white shirts and black pants. Let us come with our Shabbos shoes, jackets and hats (black, blue or gray, your choice). Let us create the intensity, the fervor and hashkofa that it takes in order to get closer to Hashem, and simply survive.

By this point, I am sure many of you disagree with my modest proposal, but allow me to conclude with the following. A professional once explained to me why sometuch schools used dress codes. The theory is the dress codes keep people in line. When a dress code is enforced, people stop. This is what we all need. But let’s look at the world. But let’s face it. The YU Beit Midrash veterans get a big kick looking at the shabbos hats, shirts, pants, and their first round of midterms. Why is it taken for granted that after one or two years of intense striving in yeshiva abroad, one will come to YU and lose it? But when can help but slide? The intensity of fervor which comes from yeshiva abroad, we, as individuals, are not strong enough. Weren’t we all in line. When a dress code is enforced, we, as individuals, do not seem to be strong enough. Weren’t we all in line. When a dress code is enforced, we, as individuals, do not seem to be strong enough. Weren’t we all in line. When a dress code is enforced, we, as individuals, do not seem to be strong enough.

Our dress code will enable us to add to our attractiveness. This is what we all really want. I hope and pray that it is.
Associate Director of Admissions Michael Kranzler suggests that the study concentrate particularly on two issues that he feels impede larger enrollment: the students who can afford it, but are not convinced of YU’s academic quality. “We have to figure out the best way to demonstrate our successes in academic achievement and the disproportionate number of students admitted to quality graduate schools.”

Nulman said that the public relations department should conclude by late March or early April. Until then, students can expect to be requested to express their opinions on the positives and negatives of YU life. “The objective is to find out what makes the student tick, what is that it attracts him to YU. Students may be able to tell a market survey what they won’t tell me,” said Kranzler.

As for Martilla and Kiley, Wigotsky stresses that rather than instruct administrators and admissions directors on what to do, they intend to provide them with material to work with there conclusions: “The goal is to make the key decision-makers aware of and thoroughly understand the values of students at Yeshiva University. These values will help focus the recruitment campaign on specific groups of students and how to attract them.”

Dispute Over Enrollment Numbers

The admissions task force was created by YU President Dr. Norman Lamm to study the significant drop in enrollment for the 1992-1993 academic year and to determine the steps necessary to raise enrollment over the next decade.

However, some administration officials maintain that the low figures do not indicate a drastic decrease in enrollment. According to Kranzler, the low figure is deceptive because it only covers students on the YC campus while the number of YU students enrolled in Israeli Yeshivot, which is greater than in previous academic years, was ignored. “While Yeshiva College enrollment technically went down, it was an artificial bubble. The enrollment numbers were basically the same,” said Kranzler.

However, Kranzler welcomed the market survey. “I always encourage a study that gives us greater awareness of those whom we are not attracting,” he believe the study will help us target which type of students we are most effective in reaching and where we have to improve.”

Dean Nulman concurred, “It was not a drastic decrease [in enrollment] and Dr. Lamm did not act out of hysteria. It is, Dr. Lamm’s intent to evaluate resources and academic enrollment. He wants to know what our population is and what’s marketable to attract more students.”

While Nulman expressed confidence in Martilla and Kiley’s ability to help his task force better understand YU’s environment, he insisted that the task force not act blindly on the marketing firm’s suggestions. “It would be foolish to act without hard data, but once we determine our consumer base, we will work together with Martilla and Kiley on a plan, comparing our own conclusions and assumptions with the study’s findings.”

YU’s public relations department, under Sam Hartstein, has been in charge of marketing Yeshiva University and attracting students for fifty years. Although Martilla and Kiley is expected to do the task force, the department welcomes the opportunity to change its marketing focus, if necessary. “In fact, Mr. Hartstein has already had a close contact with Martilla and Kiley, and is impressed with their insight and dexterity in ascertaining the sentiments of YU students and faculty.”

“Everyone who works at this institution has ideas about the types of students enrolling and why they do so; Martilla and Kiley is here to flush out the assumptions.”

Dean Nulman concurred that the public relations department would benefit significantly from the study’s findings. “Once they’re given the necessary information, the public relations department will be better able to act on the increased knowledge.”

The last time a similar study was commissioned to determine the characteristics of YU students was in 1984, noted sociologist Egon Mayer. Despite this, and although the current recession has affected YU, the task force feels it is crucial to expend funds on the new study.

Although Wigotsky declined to release the price figure for the study, Nulman stated that “Martilla and Kiley have been highly recommended by those close to Yeshiva and we have negotiated a very reasonable cost.” Zev Furst, an alumnus of Yeshiva University who consults with the administration frequently on marketing matters, recommended the firm because of its reputation. For her part, Wigotsky is confident that the study “will be very successful.”

Some administration officials asserted that a marketing survey is likely beneficial to the task force’s mission, and some insisted that a periodic study is crucial to the university’s continued success. “It’s not like we’ve done it every year. It has been almost a decade since the last survey, and it is very likely that situations and conditions have changed,” said Nulman. Hartstein agrees, “believe it isn’t an investment. The findings will help us increase enrollment.”

Although this is Martilla and Kiley’s first experience in researching a university, the Boston-based firm has vast experience with Jewish organizations. In fact, the recent Anti-Defamation League study on racism and anti-semitism in America was under Martilla and Kiley’s direction.

An Update From the Retreat Steering Committee

To: The Members of the Yeshiva University Community

Ofen, an effort is undertaken with a great deal of excitement and activity only to lose momentum once the initial enthusiasm diminishes. We are pleased to report that such is not the case regarding the student-administration retreat of November 30, which was convened to examine the ways and means of improving communication between the various on-campus constituencies.

At the retreat, all of the participants agreed on the necessity of prompt follow-up on the issues that were addressed. As a result, committees have been formed, meetings have been held and programs have been initiated, all of which are intended to reinforce the commitment of all concerned.

In recent weeks, the following activities have resulted: The Student Calendar and Events Committee, chaired by Mrs. Zelda Braun, Director of Student Services, Midtown Center, has formulated a more concise and effective system for scheduling events sponsored by the student councils and other University groups.

The Student Court and Grievance Committee, chaired by Rabbi Jeffrey Chaichoff, Assistant to the Dean of Students, has met several times with various students and administrators, including members of the staff of the Office of the General Counsel, to clarify the exact function of the Undergraduate Male Student Court and to consider the feasibility of a similar body for Undergraduate females.

Dr. Jeffrey Court, Academic Assistant to the President, is chairing a student, faculty and administration student representation committee, whose charge is to study the role of the undergraduate student senate and their relationship to the Deans’ Offices and the faculty curriculum committee. This group will also discuss the formulation of a mechanism for designing parameters for quality control and evaluation of courses.

An Undergraduate Male Student Life Committee, including administration and student representatives, was created at the September 29 retreat and consists of those who are most likely to be selected by student leadership, to be established to look into the non-academic aspects of student life at the Joel Jablonski Campus.

Mr. Hillel Scheinfeld, SOY President, is forming a Beit Midrash Committee at the Jablonski Campus and we look forward to receiving his written report.

Mr. Abraham Cohen, Vice-President of YCSS, is reconstituting and reformulating the Parking Committee and we await his report as well.

Dean Rosenfeld asked Mr. Avi Steinlauf to assist with the selection of student representatives to serve on faculty search committees. These search committees, which are being constituted, will have YC and SCW student representation.

A follow up for the retreat has been scheduled for Friday, March 19, 1993. Details will follow.

Several suggestions introduced at the retreat have already been implemented. There is now an enhanced public relations presence at the Midtown Center. Dr. Michael Kranzler has agreed to include faculty members on the Orientation Committee for Undergraduate and Visiting Students, and Dr. Nulman has requested that students assume a more active role on the University Executive Council, and he asked student members to join the various Executive Council subcommittees.

We are greatly encouraged by the progress achieved in the weeks since the retreat, and are confident that the new semester will bring further achievements. All members of the University community are invited to contact us directly with any questions or suggestions at 960·5330.

Pearl Berger, Dean of Libraries
Neckama Polin, President, 9S9SC
Albee Levy Graubard, President, 9CWSC
Jeffrey Rosegarten, Director of Supporting Services
Ben Menasha, President, YCSS
Avi Steinlauf, Dean of Students
Ebrein Nulman, Dean of Students

Counselor 18 years +
needed at new camp
JBFCS/MISHKON BOYS DIVISION.

Driver 21 years. Waiters. Please call Chaya:
(718) 851-7100
Intramural Spring Season Gets Underway

Cohen Picked First in Supplemental Draft

by Daniel Gelbutsch

The Spring Intramural Basketball season commenced last Monday night with the Supplemental Draft. The Heat, captained by David Wagner, shrewdly traded Burton Katz and their late first round pick to the Pistons for the #1 pick overall—former Mac star, Baruchi Cohen. Avi Lyons, a high scoring swingman, and speedy point guard Arkady Igbrahim, were picked 2nd and 3rd, respectively, by the Knicks and the Clippers.

Here is the recap of this week’s Intramural competition:

HEAT: 52 CLIPPERS: 45

The Heat, behind the most talented and feared frontcourt in the league, jumped out to a 26 - 21 halftime lead. First pick Baruchi Cohen (14 pts.), Noam Cohen (16 pts.), and Sam Maryles (8 pts.), led a balanced Heat attack, while holding Moshe Benarroch, of the Clippers, to 3 points. The Clippers were led by Arkady Igbrahim and Greg “Sky” Haber, two supplemental draft picks, who combined for 28 points in a losing effort.

KNICKS: 58 SONICS: 53

The Supersonics, led by the dynamic duo of Avi Roth (14 pts.) and Jeremy Bandier (22 pts.), pulled out to a 28 - 20 halftime lead. However, the Knicks bounced back in the second half behind rookie scoring sensation Avi Lyons, who led all scorers with 23 points, including 4 treys. Lyons, along with the solid play of Chanoch Harow (14 pts.), Matt “Grandpa” Harris (13 pts.), and Yoni Epstein (8 pts., 8 assists, & 11 boards) helped the Knicks pull away from the Sonics down the stretch.

The game ended with a potential victory. With six seconds left, and YU down by one point, the Macs in bounded the ball from under Maritime’s basket. Instead of immediately calling a timeout (which would have given YU the ball at half court with five seconds left) or running a play, the Macs did neither. After inbounding the ball, they dribbled the ball over half court, and only then called a timeout. The game clock showed only two seconds and the Macs were unable to convert.

Miscommunication Costs Macs Victory

continued from page 12

were too consistent. Had Maritime been a better team, YU would not have been able to recover from their disastrous first half. The game ended with a miscommunication that cost the Macs a

TO ALL CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION JAN '93, JUNE '93

and those graduating Sept '93 who want to march May 24

Commencement exercises will be held on Monday, May 24, 11:00 am in the Paramount at Madison Square Garden

Have you returned your completed graduation kit to the Office of the Registrar?

If your name is not on the Registrar's computer listing:

• Cap and gown will not be ordered for you
• No tickets and instructions will be issued
• Your name will not be listed in the Commencement program
Macs Upset by Maritime in Poor Defensive Effort

by Yoni Epstein

The first Macs home game after their paid vacation to Florida resulted in a lackluster victory over John Jay. However, in their next home game, the Macs were not as lucky. Against a weak Maritime team, questionable defensive strategies and inconsistent offensive production enabled Maritime to emerge with a 49-48 upset. The Maritime team opened the game with a tough man-to-man press. Y.U. experimented with a trap of their own, but it was executed with a marked lack of hustle, as illustrated by their inability to cover the weak side shooter after the ball had been reversed. As a result, they quickly gave up three uncontested 3-pointers and fell behind 10-2. Rather than revert back to their patented man-to-man defense, the coaches elected to remain with the half court pressure against this weaker team.

However, the pressure defense was consistently exploited by back-door cutting and weak side shooting. The offense, which took a number of poor long range shots was equally bad. Luckily, Maritime made enough unforced errors to keep it from being a complete blowout. After twelve minutes, the score was an embarrassing 22-8, and at the half, it was 33-19.

After the first half trap experiment failed, the Macs returned to a man-to-man defense in the second half, and went on a 21-6 run. The reasons for the trap’s failure are unclear. Perhaps Maritime’s big man was too tall under the basket for it to work effectively, or maybe Maritime’s long-range shooters continued on page 11

Rematch: Macs Rout Mount St. Vincent

by Daniel Gelbuth

The Yeshiva Macs pulled off their biggest and most crucial road victory of the season by trouncing the Mount St. Vincent Dolphins in Riverdale two weeks ago by a score of 72-51. The Macs, who earlier in the season lost a second thriller to the Dolphins in the IAC, were able to ignore the disastrous first half and put the Mount St. Vincent crowd, and played it’s best ball of the season.

The Macs, behind Miko Danan’s 18 first half points, held on to a tenacious 3-point halftime lead. Daniel Aaron, despite being held to two first half points, turned it up a notch in the second, scoring 18 points and grabbing 19 rebounds. Dovid “Cappy” Cohen (8 pts, 9 rebounds) and Danny Furst provided the Macs with superb ball-handling and stellar defense.

Meanwhile, Aaron, Allan Levy, and Dananably contained the athleticDolphin frontcourt and hit key buckets down the stretch.

Because their earlier loss to Mt. St. Vincent was a non-league contest, this victory vaulted the Macs into second place in the IAC. Behind New Jersey Tech and gave them a 5-1 league record.

Macs Upset by Maritime in Poor Defensive Effort

by Neil Bromberg

In a rare moment, YU, the institution that utilizes a registration computer system that can’t indicate deficient prerequisites, has finally moved into the modern era – the age of fitness. Torah, Madda, U Sport. YU has been participating in the IAC for years, but never has such a diverse athletic fervor emerged from the student body.

The night after Coach Mitelman worked arduously to embarrass the volleyball team in a scrimmage against his seasonal sports class, the Volleyball Macs recovered and battled furiously never has such a diverse athletic fervor.

Omar Vargas said, “For the most part, I liked what I saw... it’s a good place to start.” With the help of new Albanian recruit, Ralph Jakoel, the team hopes to use this match as a springboard for the IAC tournament next week at New Jersey Tech.

Touch football intramurals began at 3PM this past Sunday afternoon. Over 30 students braved the bone-chilling cold to run slippery crossing patterns on a slick, snow-covered field. In the latter of the two games, the team led by super-athlete Jeremy Bandler suffered a gut-wrenching 13-6 defeat. Moshe Benaroch had the stand out play of the game as he dove face first into the muddy snow to convert the only point-after attempt of the game. Surprisingly, the games were both well played and well officiated.

While on the topic of officials, it is definitely necessary to address an evident problem on the Yeshiva sports circuit. Intramural basketball games serve as the breeding ground for poor tempered arguments against sports officials. While players are willing to cry and bicker over every individual call, participation in the pool of referees has dropped sharply since the end of Commissioner Melzer’s reign. Commissioner Jon Shore spends hours on a daily basis searching the cellar for quality referees; however, quantity is often substituted for quality. The moment has arrived for participation from the winners themselves. (If you want something done right...)

Although the fencing team was thwarted by Vassar College, it was a match of personal victories. Rookie Ron Levy, substituting for veteran Josh Dyckman, scored his first victory in his first bout, and sabreman Avi Greenbaum won 2 matches. A record number of students have joined the fencing program this year, and hope to participate in actual competition next year. This week, the team travelled to Boston (at the expense of the University) to draw swords with MIT and Boston College.

YU foil team member battling his opponent on the team’s recent trip to Boston

by Nossonal Kleinfieldt

Yeshiva’s fencing schedule expanded exponentially this past weekend as the Tabbemmen travelled to Boston to take on Boston College and MIT. Similar to the Macs’ annual basketball trip to Florida, the fencing team travelled to Boston on Friday and stayed with families in the Brookline Jewish community for Shabbat; after fencing the two matches on Sunday afternoon, the team returned to New York by bus on Sunday evening.

The event was the brainstorm of sabreman Elliott Cohen, who wanted “to give the team some more experience, and put Yeshiva on the East Coast fencing map.” Cohen approached Athletics Director Dr. Gil Shevlin, who enthusiastically embraced the idea as a way to expand Yeshiva’s fencing program. Nate Katz, a member of the Brookline Jewish community and uncle of sabreman Dani Davis, arranged the Shabbat home hospitality, while Coach Arnold Messing arranged to have Boston College and MIT placed on the schedule.

Davis was especially appreciative of the Lupatkin, Paleski, Liebowitz, Harow, and Katz families, “who made the team members feel comfortable and well rested for the meets... the Young Israel of Brooklyn [where team members davened on Shabbat] even announced the time of the meets after davening!”

A Heartbreaking Loss

Both matches were held in Boston College’s frigid Flynn Athletic Center. Due to a malfunctioning heating system, the team was confronted with the fencers to wear winter jackets between bouts. In these adverse conditions, Yeshiva lost a heartbreaking 14-13 decision to Boston College. Epee lead the charge with a 6-3 record as spear weapon leader Adam Anhang, Josh Dyckman, and rookie Ron Levy each went 2-1. Cohen lead the sabre team to a 4-5 effort as he slashed his way to a 3-0 record, and team captain Adam Balkany finished with a 2-1 record as the foil team lost 3-6. Danny Paizakoff added the third foil victory.

MIT, an IAF/IEAC school, easily beat Yeshiva 23-4, prompting Messing to “chalk the meet up to a learning experience.” Of particular note was foil rookie Shaan Azari’s sharp performance, as he defeated a tough opponent with patience and quick remezes.

Assistant coach Peter Rosas believes “that the team benefits immeasurably from fencing other colleges...you don’t gain anything from fencing your teammates in practice.” Rosas hopes that the trip becomes an annual event, with Messing confident that Brandeis and Harvard can be added to the schedule next year.

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