"Kol" Journal Confiscated

by D. Alex Bailey

A number of "offensive terms" and sexually explicit references in Kol, Yeshiva College Student Council's (YCCS) official literary journal resulted in its withdrawal from students' mailboxes last Monday for the first time in its thirty years of intermittent production.

Kol's production is funded by YCSC, while the English Department serves in an advisory capacity to the Editorial Board, which is comprised of student volunteers. All final decisions regarding the content of "Kol" are made by the Editorial board, with last year's consisting of Editor-in-Chief Joel Haber (YC '93), Executive Editor Ari Blech, and Senior Editor David Fitto.

Upon distribution last week, YC students Hillel Scheinfeld and Daniel Gutbich read the journal and immediately proceeded to alert Dean Efrem Nulman of the language content. They requested that they be allowed to remove all issues of "Kol" from the dormitories and mailboxes.

Dean Nulman's first action was to send for Daniel Gurell, YCSC President. Upon reviewing the stories in an initial meeting, Gurell noted that he felt it was "disgusting that this [Kol] was printed." Following a second meeting with Nulman, Gurell said that a "joint decision between Rabbi Lamm's office, Dean Nulman's office and myself, called for the retraction of the journals from the students' mailboxes."

Since YCSC pays for the printing and production of Kol, Nulman felt imperative that Gurell make the official decision on what to do with the journal. As a result according to Nulman, "He [Gurell] gave me a letter...asking me to remove [the journals because] belieftthattheywereimproper." Nulman also stated that Rabbi Lamm wholeheartedly agreed with his perspective and fully supported Gurell's action.

One of the two stories in question, "Smiling John," was the winner of the 1992-93 school-year "Kol" magazine contest. The winning story was based on the 1992-93 YU Student Government's proposed health plan. Lammi's application the number "Kol" was the winner of the 1992-93 school-year "Kol" magazine contest. The winning story was based on the 1992-93 YU Student Government's proposed health plan. Lammi's application the number...Continued on page 13

YU In Top Twenty In Per-Student Spending

by Yisroel Holzer

In a recent U.S. News and World Report article ranking United States colleges, Yeshiva University was ranked in the Third Quarter (schools ranked 103rd to 153rd) of the top 204 research-oriented schools in America. The rating was based on objective information, such as student/faculty ratio, average SAT scores, alumni donations, graduation rate, educational programs, cost per student, and percentage of faculty with PhDs, as well as subjective information, such as academic reputation rankings by college presidents and deans.

The office of former Executive Vice President Egon Brenner supplied YU's statistics to the survey.

High SAT Scores

Curiously, Yeshiva University's statistics are in consonance with many of the top colleges in the U.S. Most notable is YU students' average SAT scores: a 1365. Only one institution, the New School for Social Research (NY) has a higher average score for schools ranked in the Third Quarter (schools ranked above Second Quartile). Associate Director of Admissions Michael Kranzler, who tabulates all academic statistics of YU, continued on page 11

PRE-PRO TEST STUDENTS

Consider Clinton's Health Plan

A thorough analysis of the YC Pre-Med students' views of the proposed health plan continued on page 12

GUERRINI APPOINTED ASST. PROF. IN V.P. OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Former Academic Assistant to YU President Dr. Norman Lamm, is appointed the number man in Academic V.P. William Schwartz.

Page 6

YE Macc 1993-94 Preview

A review of how this years basketball team is shaping up.
Time to Reflect on Our Future

We welcome Dr. William Schwartz to the position of Academic Vice President. YU has built a strong foundation of academics, but there is tremendous potential for growth. We are confident that Dr. Schwartz will take a fresh look at the curriculum and programs of Yeshiva. A more progressive curriculum, with more course flexibility, is needed to meet the demands of a changing world. We hope that Dr. Schwartz will reflect on how our education should be molded to meet these challenges, and do his utmost to get input from the faculty and students on this matter.

The Editors were further encouraged by Dr. Schwartz's assurance that he will maintain more of an "open door policy" and invite students to discuss pressing issues in the area of academics on a continual basis is refreshing, and demonstrates his true desire for change.

Silencing "Kol"

It is difficult to dissect the many factors involved in the recent "Kol" controversy. It is important to note that "Kol" as a journal is not to blame; those students who argue that funding for future editions of "Kol" should be terminated fail to recognize the importance of having a variety of forums for students to express themselves. Furthermore, those students who wrote the provocative material are not at fault; students have the right to privately express themselves in any way they wish - to their instructors, to their mentors, to their friends, and in the classroom.

However, the Editors of "Kol" were insensitive to push such provocative material onto the general student body, some (if not most) of whom would not choose to read that type of literature. The Editors were further wrong to write the following on the journal, which indicated that the publication was sanctioned, supported, and was consistent with the philosophy of the University. Thus, the desire to suppress the journal was understandable.

At the same time, those involved in deciding to remove "Kol" have a great deal to consider. The fact that the Editors and faculty advisors of "Kol" were not consulted prior to the removal of "Kol", or even other copies of the journal were seized, is inexcusable. This courtesy should have been extended despite the halachic problem of the journal.

It is obvious that the University must publicly define its position on the issues of free speech so that an uncomfortable situation such as this will not reoccur. Moreover, it should act to sensitize students and faculty to the halachic concerns of the University community while understanding that professors at Yeshiva expect the same standards of free speech that apply at other universities. Certainly, these standards should not be bent without the University expressly informing its faculty.

Freedom of speech is of the utmost importance. And somewhere between total suppression and total freedom there must exist forums in which students can express whatever they feel an honest need to voice.

Raising Our "Kol" I

To the Editor,

Another week, another controversy here within the confines of Yeshiva. This time, the Administration took a firm stance to protect Torah values; Dr. Lamm's courageous stance in preventing the dissemination of the "Kol" literary journal should be duly applauded by all those in Yeshiva. However, the mere fact that the suppression of nivul peh and direr cases needed to be undertaken at all in an institution which claims to hold itself to the highest standards of Torah and Yiras Shamayim is profoundly disturbing. That certain individuals could even countenance the possibility of giving academic freedom precedence over clear halachic considerations is just another case of the many symptoms of the moral confusion (or perhaps malaise) that so often prevails here.

Theoretically, the aspiration of Yeshivas Rabbeinu Yitzchak Elchanan is to produce people who are on the highest level of Avodas HaBorei, yet are still able to function, and indeed lead, in modern Western society. To enable us to truly fulfill our mission of being anahri lagoyim, a light unto the nations, Yeshiva tries to provide not only a superior midot limud Torah, but also a respected institution of higher secular learning wherein we can foster and develop the tools needed to deal with the world at large. However, the motivation of nihyeh hal lagoyim must not be confused with nihyeh ko'ach ha'goyim. In our quest for secular knowledge, we must be guided solely by Torah strictures and mores; the ends of a superior university education do not justify the means of learning material or engaging in extracurricular pursuits which are of a dubious halachic nature. Analyzing Shakespeare on the same level as is done in Harvard and Penn may be justified within a halachic framework; publishing quasi-pornographic material as they do in Harvard and Penn clearly is unconscionable. Facing modern society head-on as a Torah Jew is often a dangerous game of brinkmanship; we must be sure not to overstep the boundaries laid down for us by the Torah. If our Rabbinim and Roshei Yeshiv tell us that certain topics of study are unacceptable for a ben-Torah, we may not challenge them on the grounds of intellectual curiosity being our overriding concern. We must realize that we are ultimately responsible to a Higher Authority and held to a higher standard than other peoples. If that means sacrificing the passing of a Christian art or the New Testament, so be it.

There are two complaints which I am sure certain readers will voice against this letter. First of all, some will accuse me of being monolithic, of dismissing the need for diversity within Yeshiva. This is clearly not my point; rather I have pointed out numerous times that there are many different forms of Avodas Hashem. However, certain uniform standards are accepted by all Oudei Hashem (yes, all). Surely no one would tell you that eating non-Kosher food with the intent of serving Hashem is permissible (excepting certain bizarre cases of pitachot nefashah). It is the same venin of "non-Kosher" intellectual continued on page 14
Fact or Fiction?

To the Editor,

I am confident that any Yeshiva U. student would agree that it is immoral to keep people in "refugee" camps their entire lives (list item 4), least of all that talented students could publish their work out some form of compromise so that those who objected to content on legitimate Jewish concerns would be comfortable reading it or list item 1) This is neither a fact nor opinion. It is a lie. Mr. Rabin received NO votes in the last election. Israeli voters do not vote for individual candidates (yet), they vote for party lists. His Labor party did not capture the 61 seats in Knesset necessary to form a coalition called upon to form a coalition from them to act as he sees fit. (list item lacks basic information on the electoral system, much like, he claims, the "anti-Israel" side of the "controversy" concerning the "anti-peace movement" he claims, the "anti-Israel" side of the story is wanting.事实被证明是假的; Mr. Rabin received NO votes in the election. His Labor party did not capture the 61 seats in Knesset necessary to form a coalition called upon to form a coalition from them to act as he sees fit. (list item lacks basic information on the electoral system, much like, he claims, the "anti-Israel" side of the "controversy" concerning the "anti-peace movement" he claims, the "anti-Israel" side of the story is wanting.)

Raising Our "Kol" Il

To the Editor,

I am appalled and embarrassed over the "controversy" concerning the Yeshiva College Literary Journal. For six (6) of the eight objectional works, this publication has been banned from distribution at Yeshiva College. This works out to one objectionable word per 4-5 pages. One could think that something like this could have been worked out peacefully so that those who objected to content on legitimate halachic concerns would not feel threatened to choose not to, but let those who want to read a good literary journal do so without feeling ashamed or "less Jewish." Of course, there are halachic guidelines that must be followed insofar as what's acceptable literature and what isn't. But, I would think that Yeshiva College, where people are being trained to run their own programs, could work out some form of compromise so that talented students could publish their work out some form of compromise. Next time something like this happens, I hope people will approach the problem with headleashed selfdoubt instead of selfdoubt. Joshua Normand YC '94

First Cuban Student

To the Editor,

I have read with interest your article concerning David Levi (The Commentator September 21, 1993, page 10). While Mr. Levi may be the first recent Cuban student at Yeshiva University returning to Cuba, he is not the first Cuban Student at Yeshiva University. To my knowledge, there were other Cuban students who attended Yeshiva University, including:

Leon I. Behar YC '78

A Request for More Advisement

To the Editor,

As a recent graduate of Yeshiva College, I have begun to tackle the responsibilities of the 'real world.' For me, these include: finding a research job, applying for a teaching position, or finding acceptance to a medical school. Due to the weak economy, however, and the fact that two out of three applicants to medical school did not gain acceptance (I applied for 4 schools, was denied acceptance from 3, or what other extracurricular activities could I have participated in to make me a more desirable candidate. Perhaps, I should not now be necessary for me to re-apply to medical school.

All of these questions lead to what I consider the greatest flaw of my four years as a student at YC: the Academic Advisement system. This is not to say that there is no academic advisement system at Stern and YC, but rather that there are serious flaws with the system. It is third year from my time at Yeshiva that there is considerable dissatisfaction with the system among students. Many feel that their academic progress would be enhanced with better advice and planning. For example, students do not graduate on time, or are unaware of courses they need to certify their majors until the third year. What's more, Dean Rosenfeld's office does not offer advice in a timely and organized manner, and may even be threatening to some.

Perhaps the most serious problem with the system (outlined by the Committee on Academic Advisement) is the lack of development of meaningful educational guidelines that are compatible with an individual student's life goals. It is recommended that there be a continuous process of clarification and evaluation for a student; an interpretation of the institutional requirements; referral to and use of other institutional and community support services; and the collection and distribution of data relevant to a student's needs, preferences, and performances in use in institutional policy-making. The recommendation is for a long time been made by the Middle-States Evaluation Committee, by the Committee on Student Affairs, by faculty members, by student activists, to take part in the Martilla & Kiley Survey, as well as by other committees involved in discussions regarding student affairs.

The most productive and concrete proposal to date is that resulting from the Committee on Academic Advisement (mentioned above), a faculty committee devoted exclusively to overhauling the advising system at this school with the help of student suggestions and opinions. As of the beginning of the 1992-1993 academic year, a proposal of implementing the system has been discussed and approved. Much of the credit should go to Dr. Nochimson, Dr. Bartholomew, Dr. Lee, Rabbi Carmyn, and all others involved in the process. The actual implementation of this proposal however, has been shelved. Due to concerns over who shall give what advice, and the unwillingness to fuel the financial support, the Offices of the former Executive Vice President, the Senior Vice President, and the Dean of Yeshiva College have blocked the advancement of the system. Perhaps they are content with running this University like a family business, i.e., their only concern is to keep the business operating from one day to the next, rather than thinking about the future (by implementing the proposed system, which would help to secure a student's future goals). The fact that most students at Yeshiva College fulfill their career goals in spite of, not because of, the academic advising program at YC has fostered a general disregard over the years by the Administration for its students. Only as a result of the forceful outcry by students over the Revell ordeal did this disregard become fully exposed. Let me say that I applaud the sincere interactions now proceeding between student leaders and the Administration with the goal of improving student life on all fronts. Yet, it would be better if the Administration would merely reactively, but also to take the initiative. One way is to improve the weak faculty-Administration relationship a relationship which indirectly affects the students, as the faculty members will supply the bulk of advisement. If there is little interaction between the faculty (who will have the manpower), and the Administration (who supply the financial needs), then what kind of advising will the students receive? I dare say the same as they do now.

Only when there is positive cooperation between the Administration, faculty and student body can academic advisement be an efficient system. Perhaps the function of academic programs at Stern and Yeshiva College, improved student morale, increased freshman application rates, and greater alumni support.

Richard Maier Student of the Yeshiva University In: the Business

RESPONSA is continued on page 18

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RESPONSA is continued on page 18
**Weekly Mussar Introduced in Main Bais Medrash**

A weekly mussar seder has been instituted by SOY president Lavi Greenspan and the rabbinic faculty. The topics will focus on classical Jewish ethical works tied in with the weekly parsha. The talks will be delivered either by Rabbi Blau, Mashgiach Rachuni, or Rabbi Cohen, Mashgiach Rachuni of the high school, with occasional appearances by Rabbi Goldvicht and Rabbi Schachter. The seder is open to all students, JSS,IBC, as well as MYP.

This weekly seder is a carryover as a result of many requests from the Yeshiva students, who had learned mussar during set sedarim in their respective yeshivot in Israel. Shabbat before that, in constituting an official mussar seder, students will take the subject more seriously and devote more time to it. Rabbi Blau explained that "being the climate in YU, we did not want to make it obligatory... we don’t want to restrict students in any way at all."

The new seder may address a major concern of many students regarding the lack of unity at YU. One claimed that “everyone shuir is like its own yeshiva, each with its own hashkafah and its own Rosh Yeshiva.” Rabbi Blau expressed hope that the mussar seder will address this grievance; “It is a beauty made out of necessity...that allows the Yeshiva to be felt as an entity.”

Though it comes in as part of a contemporary issues, the mussar seder is not unprecedented in YU. The weekly sicha originated years ago when it was given by the previous Mashgiach, Rav Dovid Lifshitz (z”l), who gave a weekly talk to his talmidim on his favorite sefer, The Gates of Repentance, by Rabenu Yonah. This year, the sicha mussar are dedicated in memory of their founder, Reb Dovid (z”l).

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**Blood Drive a Success**

About 150 students participated in the New York Blood Center’s recent campus blood drive. Over thirty-seven gallons of blood were collected during the two-day program.

Students who chose to donate were required to fill out an extensive health history questionnaire and undergo a brief physical exam by blood center personnel prior to the ten-minute donation procedure. Blood samples were screened for disease and contamination, and tested for blood type prior to being forwarded to the blood bank.

Drive organizer Zev Schubin said that giving blood is one of the most important things a person can do. “When we give blood we literally give of ourselves to society - that is what makes this campaign so important.”

A platelet-donation drive to help those with cancer is planned for December 24, 1993.

Yeshiva University will be receiving the Distinguished Services Award for Education at the New York Blood Services Reception on October 25, in recognition of its having the highest student-donor ratio of any New York school.

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**Local Teens in Scuffle With YU Security**

Last Tuesday night at approximately 8:00 pm several local teenagers were involved in a confrontation with Burns security guards outside Belfer Hall. According to Chief of Security Don Summers, the teenagers’ skateboarding was interfering with those attending Rav Aharon’s speech. A security guard reportedly asked them to “cool it.” There was a brief exchange following which the skater hit the guard with his skateboard. In the ensuing fracas one of the skaters noses was injured slightly.

The teenagers alleged a different account of the story and claimed that initially, the guard pushed one of them while they were “just skating around.” Chief of Security Sommers strongly refuted this account. He explained that the guards tried to avoid confrontations and were only telling the skaters to skate on the mall benches, planters and the white guardrail noting that if they continue to cause such destruction “they will be prosecuted and their parents will be made to pay for it.”

The teenager whose nose was hurt has already filed charges, as have assault charges been filed against one of the guards.

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**YU Student Hit by Car**

YU student Barak Haimoff suffered serious injuries past Tuesday night when he was struck by a car traveling south on Amsterdam Ave. at 168th street. According to Haimoff, he was crossing the corner of the Gottesman library to the high school dorm when the car struck him. He alleged that the car, described by eyewitnesses as a gray four door Mitsubishi, slammed into him, propelling him over the hood onto the roof, smashing his elbow into the windshield and, glass of the car front window, Haimoff finally landed at the corner of 168th and Amsterdam.

When Hatzolah EMR Jeremy Strauss arrived at the scene, Haimoff was lying on the sidewalk at the corner of 168th and Amsterdam. Strauss said that Haimoff complained that his left leg was “killing him.” As is standard practice in accidents like these, Haimoff was rollerboarded, immobilized, and had to be boarded to prevent spinal cord injury.

Police were already on the scene as a result of earlier disturbances (see articles in column to the right) and had called for EMS who arrived soon after Hatzolah. Haimoff was loaded into the EMS ambulance and accompanied by Rabbi Cheifetz. He was taken to Columbia Presbyterian Hospital.

According to Strauss, who later visited Haimoff at the hospital, the doctors explained that while he suffered serious damage to his left leg, there was no serious head trauma.

--Ari Listowsky

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**Weekly Mussar**

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**Jack D. Weiler to be Honored by YU**

Mr. Weiler served on the University’s Board of Trustees from 1976 to 1992, when he was named Honorary Chairman. For over 30 years, he was a member of Einstein’s Board of Overseers and was its chairman from 1960 to 1967 and from 1976 to 1977. He is currently Chairman Emeritus.

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CAF implements Changes
by Erez Gilad

A recent meeting of the student-led Food Services Committee and the Cafeteria Administrators, held on Thursday, October 14, led to a number of recommendations regarding the quality of services offered by the cafeteria. The Food Service managers accepted much of the student input, and many of the suggestions were implemented as early as the Tuesday following the meeting. Those in attendance included Avi Greenbaum, Chairman of the Food Services Committee, David Wagner, Vice President of the Sy Synos Accounting Society, Daniel Billig, YSCC Secretary, Associate Director of Food Services Ipek Lieberman, as well as the other Food Service managers.

The meeting came through the initiative of Billig, who, after personally interviewing students regarding the quality of food in the Caf, created a list of suggestions. In order to improve the quality of the breakfast and dinner meals, Billig recommended that the Caf offer a larger variety of dishes. Food Services responded by providing more entrees for breakfast, improving the meat recipes, and by introducing Vegetarian and cholesterol-free alternates for dinner. Both Greenspan and Lieberman expressed with the swift response.

SSSB contemplates Five Year Accounting Program

In response to the recommendation of the American Institute for Certified Public Accountants and recent government legislation, YU is exploring the possibility of a five year program for accounting majors. The AICPA is advocating a new program which would require 150 credits as opposed to the regular Bachelor of Science requirement of 128. This new program reflects a revised standard that has already been adopted by thirty state legislatures and is being considered in another twelve. SSSS Dean Harold Nierenberg believes it is only a matter of time before New York mandates a similar program.

According to Nierenberg, the University has virtually ruled out keeping the current system, which requires students to complete their studies at a different school, and is considering several alternatives. Possibilities under review include another year of undergraduate study specifically for accounting students, or a special one-year graduate program for accounting majors which would offer a new Master's degree. An MBA is open to all students, where accounting majors could complete their requirements, is also being considered. The new program would not affect any students currently in the school; Nierenberg does not expect the new requirement to be implemented for several years.

--- Chanoch Kanovsky

YU Library Goes High Tech
by Pedram Farzhanfour

Yeshiva University has given clearance to the Midtown and Uptown undergraduate libraries to implement a Library Automation Project (LAP). Dean Pearl Berger, Dean of Libraries, pointed out that it is difficult to predict exactly when the system will become operative, since the Administration has just started the selection of a contractor.

With the planned computerization, the JCC and Midtown libraries join the array of YU schools that have an automated system, such as Albert Einstein School of Medicine and Cardozo Law School. Dean Berger made it clear that the YU Administration is moving forward at a steady pace, and their interest lies in executing the plan as quickly and as efficiently as possible. The computer terminals will ultimately replace the card catalogs.

Once LAP becomes operative, it will be accessible via the Internet, a network that would provide access to the information in the library catalog from any other computer that can access the Internet. Dean Berger hopes to keep the computer facilities up-to-date with the latest developments in the area of computer technology.

Dean Berger commented that “We feel very pleased about the LAP. It is a project which we hoped for, and planned towards, for a long time. It is very exciting.”

Dean Berger also enumerated the new features of the undergraduate libraries currently available. With the cooperation of the faculty of the Belz School of Music, in conjunction with Deans Rosenfeld and Bacon, 150 CDs and a number of CD players equipped with headphones are now available at the Undergraduate libraries. Additionally, with the assistance of Mr. Larry Brandwein and the YU Computer Science faculty, the CD-ROMs will be connected to the ON-LINE service by the end of the fall semester, further expanding the availability. Furthermore, people who wish to access an article which is not available at the libraries, and are unable to wait for an inter-library loan, will soon have the option of ordering the article and receiving it via fax at the library.

Fire Scare in Gottesman Library

At around 8:15, on Sunday night, October 19th, the Gottesman Library's fire alarm bells sounded, forcing all in the library to evacuate. Two fire engines from the local 13th Battalion arrived on the scene to investigate and after a exhaustive search, discovered that the fire alarm had been caused by a harmless steam leak in one of the lower floors of the library.

The scare, which lasted about 40 minutes, forced an estimated 60-80 YC and SCW students inside the library to evacuate. The students exited the building via the fire stairs located on the 185th St. side of the library. The evacuation was calm and orderly, though a number of students were a little taken aback by the unforeseen development. Initially, the students presumed a fire drill was in progress and were a bit disturbed by the seemingly inappropriate timing of a fire drill. Exclaimed YC Junior Jonathan Landa, “We were annoyed by it.”

As the evacuated students milled about in front of the library, anxious to return to the building, firefighters searched the building thoroughly to ensure that no fire had been started. After roughly twenty-five minutes, they discovered the steam leak in some of the piping on one of the lower floors in the library and, with the assistance of maintenance personnel and Burns Security officers, corrected the problem.

YU Chief of Security, Mr. Donald Sommers, explained the steam leak as something that “can happen anywhere, anytime,” and that no one was placed in any danger by the leak. He also stated that, in retrospect, the leak was a good chance to “keep 'em all on their toes.”

--- Moshe I. Kinderlehrer

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Student Court Going Into Gear

by Sander Bak

After months of study and discussion by members of the student body and the administration, the Student Court of Yeshiva College has been reestablished and will resume its sessions this semester.

The effort to revive the Student Court was spearheaded by YC Senior Avi Greenbaum, Greenbaum, who now serves as Chief Justice of the Court, began lobbying for the Court's reinstatement at the Second Student-Administration Retreat last March, where he outlined the aims, goals, and functions of the Court.

The bylaws for the Court were agreed upon by Dean of Students Efrem Nulman and the Student Court Committee. The seven-page document by Rabbi Jeffrey Chaitoff, Assistant Dean of Students, outlines the jurisdiction, policies, and procedures of the Student Court. The proposal passed through the Steering Committee, composed of four members of the student body and administrators, last Friday.

The seven-member court has jurisdiction in a variety of cases. According to Chaitoff, "the Office of the Dean of Students will serve as a type of filtration system. When a complaint is brought against a student and there is reason to believe the student's conduct may have violated the University's rules, regulations, or standards of appropriate behavior, then we will determine if the case is appropriate to be heard by the Student Court." A panel of three judges will hear each case; students must represent themselves, and may not solicit the services of an attorney.

The Court does not have jurisdiction over cases involving psychological matters, confidential issues, or illegal actions.

After the Court has heard a case, the judges will issue a written decision and recommend appropriate sanctions to the Dean of Students. While the Court does not have the power to impose those sanctions, the Dean of Students "shall give great weight to the recommendation of the Student Court in imposing sanctions, but may... modify the recommended sanctions or decline to impose sanctions.

The Student Court will also serve as a grievance committee to advocate on behalf of students who feel that they have a legitimate grievance against a faculty member, administrator, or other university employee. The Chaitoff memorandum makes it clear that this committee is intended to be used only as a last resort in cases where the matter could not be settled directly between the parties involved or through the office of the Dean of Students.

Gurock Appointed Assistant VP of Academic Affairs

by Dov Kalton

After six years of serving as Academic Assistant to YU President Dr. Norman Lamm, Dr. Jeffrey Gurock has assumed the newly created post of Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs. He moves in as the number two man to recently appointed Academic Vice President Dr. William Schwartz.

Gurock, a scholar of American Jewish history, came to Yeshiva in 1977 after receiving his Ph.D. in Jewish History from Columbia University. In 1986, he was appointed Libby Klarperman Professor of Jewish History at the University, and was made a professor at the Bernard Revel Graduate School a year later. He is the author of many books, including The Men and Women of Yeshiva (New York: Columbia University Press, 1988).

In his previous administrative position as Academic Assistant to the President, Dr. Gurock formed a very close relationship with Dr. Lamm and aided Lamm in the publication of his book Torah u-Maddah. Dr. Gurock is perhaps best known to the student body as Assistant Coach of the Macs basketball team. Because of the great demands of his new position, he will no longer be able to attend practice regularly, but promises to be at all the games and at practices when his schedule will allow.

Although his position gives him responsibilities over the entire Yeshiva University system, he will probably be spending most of his time dealing with the undergraduate schools and the Bernard Revel Graduate School, places where he is known to have a good rapport with both faculty and students. Gurock said he will continue teaching Jewish History because, "there is no better way to know what's on the students minds than to teach."

Gurock has begun to meet with Deans as well as with the deans and dean in an effort to get a perspective from both the faculty and the students regarding issues that they feel may need improvement. Both he and Dr. Schwartz attended the YC/SRS Senate meeting on October 14, and both have intentions of meeting with the Senate in the future. Gurock intends to have an "open door policy with the teachers and students and to address their needs to the best of his abilities." Major issues he feels need to be addressed include curriculum adjustment and boosting admissions.
Perspective on Simchat Torah

by Isaac Sasson

On October 4, the second day of Chof HaMeez Succot, SOY held its annual Simchat Bait HaShoreshah in commemoration of the festive celebration in the Bait HaMikdash at this time. However, this year, out of the approximately 840 students in the YU undergraduate program, only 75 were in attendance at the event. In addition, SOY was unable to conduct a planned Simchat Torah program because of low registration. This lack of interest has prompted the question of whether students have become indifferent to religiously oriented, non-academic programs.

The Bait HaShoreshah began with a 45 minute shirah by Rav Schacter which began at 8:15, followed by an hour of singing and dancing. Dean of MYP Rav Charlop spoke and the ruchah continued until 11:00. Rav Goldwicht, Rabbi Blau, and Rabbi Chatzetz were also in attendance.

"Guys are not going to show up. Understand, its vacation," answered Lavi Greenspan, president of SOY, to the students who requested a

simultaneously for events during Succot.

Rabbi Blau expressed the view that the Simchat Bait HaShoreshah was not a "big deal" of a program to setup and..."some years you get a big crowd and some years you get a small crowd." However, he added, Simchat Torah is much more difficult to organize, because no one is here...therefore, all preparations and registration must be made more than a week in advance. He commented, "With a three day Yam Tov, don't even bother trying. You need to have a whole program, and the numbers were just not there."

Rabbi Blau listed several reasons why he felt programs like these are not as attractive as in past years. He explained that the number of older Bo"al HaBaitim left in the neighborhood has dwindled to less than a minyan, so they are unable to contribute strongly to the programs attendance. Rav Blau recalled when YU had been a tremendous center for Simchat Torah. The larger community in the immediate neighborhood as well as the community in the Bronx would all join in the festivities. "It wasn't just a matter of guys staying. It was fellow students, supplementing a neighborhood of communities where it was safe to walk. All those factors are gone."

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The Simchat Bait HaShoreshah was open to the whole college. Yet, some IBC/JSS students felt as if they were left out. "That might have been our fault," admitted Greenspan. "Maybe we should have pushed them more. I understand why IBC/JSS guys feel that the YP guys don't have any connection to the Yeshiva," added Greenspan. "With a three day Yam Tov, don't even bother trying. You need to have a whole program, and the numbers were just not there."

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He felt that the Administration does not provide a personal touch for the students. "Parts of the Administration does not show caring for them. You come in and spend two or three years here and you are dying to get out. Which other university do you have guys graduating in two and a half years? It's ridiculous. People adopt the attitude, 'Why now should I come back, I am going to finish up and get out of here as fast as possible? Why now should I stay in for Shabbos. I don't feel that anyone cares if I stay in for Shabbos or if I come to the Simchat Bait HaShoreshah."

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When approached about the student attitude toward the yeshiva as being a contributing factor in the poor attendance of the Succot programs, Rabbi Lamm rejected the idea that such an attitude existed. "Then why would so many people come for Yom Kippur?" he asked. "I think that it is unfair and not true. A vacuum opened up and other things took its place. I don't think it is in their feelings towards the Yeshiva. I have never heard of that as a problem."

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A View From Israel

by Michael Eisenberg

I got into a taxi on its Celved Street in Tel Aviv a number of days after the "Gaza disengagement" was announced. The driver turned toward me, and in a typical Israeli manner, inquired 1:00 about my name. "It's Michael," I replied. "Michael. Eisenberg." He nodded understandingly. "Michael. Eisenberg. "It's like a big name," I said, "but it's so common."

"It's not common. It's the name of a big city," the driver replied.

"You mean Milan?" I asked.

"No, you stupid American," he said, "It's Tel Aviv."

"Tel Aviv," I clarified. "It's the name of a city in Israel.

"Yes, but it's the name of a big city," he continued.

We continued to drive, discussing the political situation in Israel, the current government, and the future of the peace process. The driver was a knowledgeable and informed individual, and our conversation was both enlightening and entertaining.

One of the most interesting aspects of our conversation was the driver's perspective on the current political situation in Israel. He was critical of both the Israeli government and the Palestinian leadership, suggesting that both sides were to blame for the current impasse in the peace process.

We discussed the recent diplomatic efforts made by the United States, as well as the ongoing negotiations between Israel and the Palestinian Authority. The driver was optimistic about the prospects for a lasting peace, but also cautioned that much work needed to be done on both sides.

Overall, our conversation was a valuable insight into the current political and social climate in Israel, and the challenges facing both Israelis and Palestinians in their pursuit of peace.

Michael Eisenberg, Editor Emeritus of The Commentator, now resides in Jerusalem.
Pre-Health Students Consider Clinton's Health Plan

by Ryan S. Karben

President Clinton's Health Security proposal has elicited strong reactions from YC Pre-Med students, with opinions sharply divided between those who believe the program to be vital to the country's health and those who view it as an assault on the medical profession. When Clinton proposed the ambitious program in a September address to the nation, he challenged the Congress to "write a new chapter in the American story" by embracing his plan's proposals for managed competition, malpractice reform and paperwork reduction. Many students, however, are skeptical.

YC Sophomore Ben Levy says that no matter what Clinton says, "the plan is socialized medicine. And socialized medicine means socialized medical schools and debt for the rest of my life." YC Junior Yosef Helft believes that the plan is a prescription for disaster. "Without medical training, patients would join regional health alliances that Medicine means socialized medical insurance companies for a package of maximum benefits. The proposal has elicited strong reactions from the country's health and those who view it as an assault on the medical profession. Some future doctors are already on board. Caucus Chair, First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, has been travelling across the country touting the merits of "health care that's always there." The Democratic National Committee plans to spend up to $3 million to generate public support for the legislation.

Some future doctors are already on board.

Senior Aryeh Ciment calls the plan "good for America" and hopes that its passage will end the current system which, he agrees, "caters to the educated classes." Biology major Elie Neidle agrees that "something radical needs to be done."

While some students like Helft say the "best and brightest" will no longer go into medicine because of potentially smaller paychecks, YC Junior Michael Kupferman says he needs to change his plans. "Doctors will always be able to make a fine living, but that's not the reason to go into the field," he said. "You do it because you want to. And if people back out because of bucks, well, they probably shouldn't be doctors in the first place."

Kupferman says he has been paying close attention to the health care debate because of his professional aspirations, but most pre-med students seem content to let events take their course.

YC Sophomore Ariel Hirschfeld is not worried. "I'm not really following this," he said, "Whatever happens, happens."
YU Boasts High SAT Scores

continued from page 1

applicants, remarked that "the average SAT score for incoming students tends to hover between 1180 and 1220." Furthermore, he pointed out that of those students who get low scores, many are transfer students from other universities who are accepted on the merits of their college index rather than their SAT scores.

Newly appointed Vice President for Academic Affairs William Schwartz asserted that YU’s SAT scores were analogous to many top colleges. For example, the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA), ranked 22nd in the nation, has an average SAT score of 1160. “Our scores were better than 17 of the 26 schools listed in the First Quartile,” (schools ranked 27th to 51st) said Schwartz “which may very well be where we belong.”

YU in Top 20

Another area where YU ranked extremely high was university spending per full-time student. YU spends $21,554 persistent per year according to federal government statistics; only 19 national universities disbursed more than this amount. Kransz attributed this figure to the dual curriculum; YU must pay salaries to both Rebbeim and college professors. Only one school in the First Quartile, the University of Rochester, spent more money per full-time student ($22,850) than YU.

Low Student/Faculty Ratio

YU’s student/faculty ratio of 1:9, lower than all but seven U.S. colleges, and lower than Columbia, New York University, and Cornell Universities. Schwartz accredited this statistic to the fact that Yeshiva University does not have large, impersonal seminars classes like many other schools. However, not all students are cognizant of this low ratio. YC Senior Andrew Lamm said that he was in a class of 30 and thought that the ratio of teachers to students is 1:9, why do I get closed out of so many classes each semester? I shouldn’t have to work harder to get into classes that I wanted to take as a sophomore.

Ambiguous Alumni Donation Rate

Not all gave this impression in the categories of alumni donations and graduation rate. The report indicated that only 18 percent of YU graduates donated money to Yeshiva, whereas many universities who have a higher donation rate. However, Alvin Schwartz, who is a member of YU’s fundraising staff, emphasized that the alumni number must be put into perspective. “I think 18 percent is a respectful figure, since most of our students come from middle income families. Many students may in fact find it difficult for them to contribute,” said Schwartz. He also noted that most of YU’s donors are over 50 years of age, but there aren’t many alumni in that age category due to small graduating classes in the past. Additionally, many graduates are paying multiple Jewish Day School tuitions, which means they keep a large cash bite out of their income.

Director of Public Relations Sam Hartstein offered a simpler explanation. “Alumni donations do not go to the alumni office, where the 18 percent figure came from,” commented Hartstein. “It’s definitely a lot higher than that number. Frequently, benefactors earmark donations to specific projects or schools, hence, some of these contributions are not calculated in the official alumni tally.

Distorted Graduation Rate

Perhaps the most surprising figure in the survey was YU’s average percent of graduates within six years of matriculation, only 77 percent. In an article appearing in the New York Jewish Week, Hartstein declared that the figure was wrong, stating that “our actual graduation rate is very high. Students who come here, graduate.” William Schwartz explained that the low figure is primarily due to the Joint Israel Program. Many students who spend their freshman year in Israel under this program never step foot into YU, yet they are counted as YU non-graduates. Hartstein then proceeded to give the audience a greater understanding of the Viduy prayer of Yom Kippur. From there he went to the second part of the shirah, which dealt with Aggada (halachic lore), and shed light on the topic of Sod Ha’tahara (the secret of purity) in Mayim Chayim (“living waters.”

Rav Goldvicht proceeded to explain the difference between Tishuvot Ha’hachid (an individual’s repentance) and Tishuvot Ha’haram (a community’s repentance). He stressed that when alluding to Tishuvot Ha’haram he saw YU students as distinctively possessing the proper world view and broad perspective on life, and that these students would stand tall and stand at the front of the nation, to uphold all those who are lost, and bring them back to Derekh Hashem.” Rav Goldvicht maintained that Y.U. students need to be more involved in the community, and that they learn in the right place; a place in which they can get all the right tools for building their individual personalities while in the Yeshiva and after leaving it. “If we will be discriminating in acquiring all that we get in the Yeshiva, it will protect us and those who surround us. This is the answer that we can give to the confusion that encompasses our nation, to the unforeseen future as a result of the peace talks with the Arabs.” He emphasized the obligation of religious Jews living in the United States to not stand on the sidelines, but to contribute and to build a sense of community. He concluded by stating that “unless you know the orientation and background, you can’t understand the statistics.” Schwartz then dealt with the different components of these figures are very distorted. Our program is atypical, and can’t be measured. This is not a scientific study, it’s a highly subjective study. If you look at the objective material, we clearly should be in the First Quartile. Additionally, too much weight is attached to the reputation rank, many people simply don’t know about us.”

Ernst & Julio Down By The Schoolyard

I think that Kol is a $7+6$ fine literary journal.

-Anonymous

As told to Avi Sussman

Lecture Title Choices

Either “From Fast Food to Fish Bait” or “One Man’s Kippur Journey” or “Tsitrit: A Haasidic Tail” would be a far more interesting lecture title than, say, “Yom Kippur” or “Friday Night’s Doo Doo.”

Sitting in Synagogue

I was sitting in synagogue over Sukkoth, listening to Rabbi’s sermon, when it hit me. I bit back a scuffee expression, while a brief\

Following Services

Following services, the congregation was invited to “nlakhat to the Kaddish for kidukkan” (this story is somewhat ethnic, Jan 19). We accepted. A heavy morning drizzle had just subsided, and the shul’s normally “normal” sponge was as clean as its annual moisted. That morning’s shower, however, had been nothing compared to the previous night’s downpour. Of course, my family waited until the rain stopped before eating. I wish we could have waited indoors. Not our shabbat wasn’t beautiful. It was fully decorated, right down to the man in the blue dress. Old tradition. Indian corn. What is Indian corn, anyway? Have you ever heard of a recipe that calls for it? And how does it taste? I hate it. I was agonizing over these very questions when the candy-man approached again and asked me if I was feeling quite alright, and I said yes, I was. I’m not only agonizing figuratively, and thanks for breaking up the light before, but if you had it, I could have taken that jerk.

Sure you could have,” he retorted sarcastically, and then added before walking away, “Now shake my hand of Yomtov and give it to your father. He’s a strange man, really.

New Segment Introduced

At this point I would like to introduce a new segment of this column, henceforth to be known as “The Question or Questions Later To Be Statistically Analyzed Segment.” This is a segment in which I will answer the following better describes you?

A. “I enjoyed the film, Yentl.”
B. “I was disturbed by the film, Yentl.”
C. “I had a headache watching the film, Yentl.”
D. “I want a refund for the film, Yentl.”
E. “I’ve just never heard of Yentl.”

Please circle either “A” or “B” and send your answer sheet to The Commentator marked: Attention: Dimwits.

And Then I Thought

Just now I hit me... I ignored it and toll it to grow up - and then I thought, is it fair for us to ask for mail from you without ever having written you a letter? You bet it isn’t! So, here goes. Dear [Your Name Here], How are you? I’m fine, thank you. How are [Your Mother’s Name] and [Your Father’s Name], your wonderful parents? Seriously, how is everything with you? Anyway, gotta go. Love, Ernst and Julio.

Don’t Say I Never Wrote There. Don’t say I never wrote.

Graceful Close

Or why the hell am I even writing and trying to think of something serene and uplifting with which to gracefully close - something about the richly colored autumn leaves, perhaps, or the crisp clear, winter breeze beginning to blow here in the diaspora - I began hallucinating and decided it was time to get off the sauce. All the best.

Rav Goldvicht Delivers Annual Kinos Tshuva Shliur

by Uri Schechterman

Over 700 people gathered in Weissburg Commons on September 21, 1993 for the annual Kinot Tshuva delivered by Rabbi Meir Goldvicht. The ninth annual Kinot Tshuva Drasha. Among those attending were Y.U. president Rabbi Norman Lamm and Dean of MYP Rabbi Zevulun Charlop.

Rabbi Charlop introduced Rav Goldvicht and commented that this was the first year that the drasha in the United States was given in Hebrew and still drew a large audience. He added, ironically, that the drasha delivered in Jerusalem this year was given in English.

Rabbi Norman Lamm and Dean of MYP Rabbi Zevulun Charlop.

Rav Goldvicht then proceeded to give the audience a greater understanding of the Viduy prayer of Yom Kippur. From there he went to the second part of the shirah, which dealt with Aggada (halachic lore), and shed light on the topic of Sod Ha’tahara (the secret of purity) in Mayim Chayim (“living waters.”

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Rav Goldvich t Delivers Annual Kinos Tshuva Shliur
RAV BARUCH SIMON APPOINTED ROSH YESHIVA

BY AVI LOWELL

This semester, Rabbi Baruch Simon was added to the rabbinic staff of the Mazer Yeshiva Program. Rabbi Simon has been on the YU campus since 1978, the last time the Yeshiva learned the tractate Pesachim, the tractate currently being studied. His Yeshiva University affiliation began in tenth grade in MTA, and spanned Yeshiva College and the school's program. Rabbi Simon has assisted Rabbi Yaged in MTA and has taught halacha in IBC.

Rabbi Simon, who was in Rabbi Herschel Schachter's shiur for over seven years, emphasizes the importance of giving talmidim a practical derech, or way of life. "The goal of Yeshiva education is Aharonic Torah and Yirat Shem VaYosher above and beyond learning Gemara." In shiur, whenever applicable, he connects the Gemara to practical Halachot.

Menachem Scheckter, a freshman in Rabbi Simon's shiur, says that "the guys like the shiur. He's very warm; people outside of his shiur come to him for advice. He's also a very funny guy... although most people don't know it." Students find it easy to talk to Rabbi Simon because he's down-to-earth and modest. Noted Rabbi Simon: "I don't like to be in the limelight. I hope it's a short article."

JEWISH PHILANTHROPY DECLINING

Continued from page 1

and things like that." Among the programs most affected by the changing of the philanthropic guard are the Max Stern and Jacob Burns Academic Merit Scholarships. While there are no indications that these programs are in immediate jeopardy, due in part to provisions in the wills of their founders, their long-term existence, especially the Burns, is not guaranteed.

In addition to the prospect, and in some cases, the reality, of diminished philanthropic donations, administrators continue to deal with several aspects of the University's internal structure which complicate financial prosperity. "Everyone should understand that a medical school is a much more expensive operation than even a law school, and much bigger than an undergraduate school," reflects Zysman. Roughly three-fourths of the University's annual operating expenses are devoted to the AECOM, and harboring one of the nation's largest and most successful medical research operations, the College accumulates a proportionally smaller deficit than the other University divisions. Because of their relative financial well-being, AECOM and the Cardozo School of Law are obligated by University regulations to assist the less prosperous undergraduate schools. The undergraduate schools, because of their double curriculum-single tuition and split campus arrangements, "lose money across the board," according to Pittinsky.

A further economic problem is presented by the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary, which, because of Federal separation of church and state statutes precluding any government funding, and because many rabbinical students do not pay tuition, must rely heavily on other University divisions to support its $15 million annual budget. While to date, the wealthier graduate and professional schools have supported the undergraduate programs, some divisions, according to Pittinsky, are "coming under [greater financial] pressure" amid rougher financial circumstances.

In the face of these serious financial concerns, YU administrators continue to mount a wall of confidence in the financial stability of their institution, stressing innovative money management and fundraising techniques. "Our problem now," comments Zysman, "is to find young leadership, new leadership to take over. We are very carefully evaluating a lot of younger Jewish leaders in the community to come into the picture... When a person passes away and does not leave us funds... then it is our responsibility to find others who will replace him. I feel reasonably confident that we will do it every case." Pittinsky cites Symms, who, before founding the University's undergraduate business school in 1987, "had not been a regular donor," as an example of the "brand-new donor" sought by the University. Zysman also said that the development Office plans to announce several large donations from the estates of recently deceased benefactors in the near future.

The University's financial dilemmas have had a mild effect on undergraduate student life and academic programs. While food costs-find tuition have grown consistently over the last several years, future increases are not projected to exceed inflationary rates, according to Pittinsky. The two largest mens' undergraduate divisions both expanded their faculties this year, with the addition of two new rebbem to MYP and the hiring of six full-time Yeshiva College professors, the largest staff hiring in many years. According to Norman Rosenfeld. Echoing the general sentiment among academic and admissions administrators, Dean Rosenfeld commented, "It's expected that it would be more difficult to meet our educational costs. It's a problem we've faced before, it's a problem we're facing now, and it's a problem we'll face in the future successfully... We are not being impelled by financial constraints but rather by academic quality improvements."
English Writing Contest. All contest entries were submitted to and judged by the Yeshiva College English Department. Winners of the contest are automatically published in the following issues of the journal. One professor interviewed stated that if a student is chosen winner of the Writing contest, the English Department did not feel that the language was gratuitous in any way, and the department knew that it would be published. In addition, Haber felt that "since it [the language] was the voice of the person, it did not necessarily reflect their [the author's] opinion, the Editor's or that of Yeshiva University." "As a matter of fact," continued Haber, "Boyfriend was indeed partially edited with the approval of the writer." Haber also pointed out the disclaimer on the second page of the journal, which states that although aware of the possibly controversial content, as a result of the previously stated reasons, it was important to keep the stories as is.

Haber made a final point that the faculty advisors, Dr. William Lee and Dr. Joanna Jacobson, at no time ventured their opinion on the matter. They presented the facts and considerations and according to Haber "Didn't recommend their way or the other." Other board members also counselling with Haber at the time, were under the impression that the faculty was less involved. The English Department is part of the English department that throughout the controversy no one in the department was ever notified of the problem, or of the action taken to rectify it. Dr. Haar, head of the English Department, said that she was "offended at never having been notified of the situation." As of the writing of this issue, the English Department still hadn't been officially notified.

Dr. Haar expressed the necessity of discussing the situation in an open forum. Both Dr. Haar and Dean Nulman stated that they have never encountered a situation like this in regard to Kol, and as a result, Dr. Haar feels that it is imperative that the issues be brought to the surface so that it can be avoided in the future. Joel Haber said that he was distraught at the entire position and would like to bring the concerned parties to reconsider their actions.

In response to Nulman's and Gurel's handling of the situation, Haar stated that when the English Department evaluates a work of literature they use strict literary standards to judge. "We are not qualified to make any other judgements, nor were we ever told that we were supposed to do so." Haar noted that the concerns of the Yeshiva do indeed have to be taken into account, then that must be brought up and discussed by the Administration. Haar also explained that the English Department can't and won't be held responsible for judging "halakhic," literal and if that is to appear in the journal, then they cannot be excluded and participate in the publication of Kol.

Was the banning of Kol considered censorship? Did it infringe on the freedom of speech that the English Department was expected to be granted? Dr. Nulman felt it was not a case of censorship because of the way that he handled the situation. Since YCS is the publisher of the journal, they have a right to decide that it is not acceptable and "this does not impinge on the actions or judgements of the English Department." Haber disagreed with Nulman's reasoning and actions. Scheinfeld felt that freedom of speech was not an issue here. "We, as rish yehudim, have our own constitution given to us by Hashem/rish yehudim to live by." He continued "YU plays a very important role in the Jewish community. It has a goal, and I felt that putting articles like this under the YU headline was contrary to what the student stood for, therefore degrading and dragging YU's name through the mud." If in fact Kol is a student publication, as stated by Nulman, rather than a Yeshiva College publication, then the "YU symbol on the back cover needs clarification." Dr. William Lee stated that he [Joel] may have had the naive assumption that YU has the room for Kol; the students who wrote and edited it, and the pieces that appeared in it. "Haber explained the YU symbol and assisting the kol was a publication "purely about students and paid for by a body of the University namely YCSC." In defense of Haber's decision to include the stories in question, Lee stated that "He [Joel] made a decision that represented a real struggle for him and he made it out of a real sense of integrity for the publication and the institution as a whole, despite the fact that he deserves a lot of credit." Rabbi Charlop, Dean of Yeshiva Program expressed dismay in regard to the journal and strong concern over the publication of this article. Furthermore, Rav Charlop verbalized disbelief that there were people in this institution who have no qualms about writing things that he, as an 'alumnus,' would never happen. Dr. Joanne Jacobson, as Faculty Advisor for this edition of Kol, stated that "the issues that are giving rise here are very important and must be dealt with. I hope and urge that The Commentator will serve as a forum for this meaningful and imperative discussion."
Two Sides to Every Story?

To the Editor,

In response to the letter by Shmuel Herzfeld, I would like to write the following. First of all, Mr. Herzfeld is going against all the rabbes at YU who also have a “flyer” out with what he calls “cheap propaganda tricks.” Secondly, I would like to respond to his arguments: He states that there is a vocal and peace movement here at YU. This is false. Nobody is anti-peace. We simply believe that this is not a peace treaty, but a “piece” treaty, which will C.G. forbid lead to war. If Herzfeld states thatitchak Rabin has a mandate to give away parts of Eretz Israel. This is not true. Before the election, Rabin said whoever gives away the Golan is committing Israel’s security. Then when he became prime minister he reneged on this promise. In other words he lied to the Israeli public about what he was going to do. And even if he did yet the majority of votes while saying he would give away land, he still has no mandate because the land is not in his do to with as he sees fit. It is the land G-d gave to the Jews and we have no right to give it away.

Shmuel then states more Israeli boys died fighting to control Gaza and Jericho than YU boys die at demonstrations. This is a sick and bizarre statement. If YU boys were dying at demonstrations in NY something would be terribly wrong. And as for Israeli soldiers dying in Gaza and Jericho this is the Israeli government’s fault for not allowing the army to crush the latufa by all means necessary so as to prevent needless Jewish deaths. The army that beat the armies of combined Arab nations in six days and rested on the seventh cannot put down stone throwing women and children in six years! Incredible?

Shmuel then states it is immoral to keep people living in refugee camps their entire lives. He is right. Transferring the Arabs to their own countries where they can live with their own people and be first class citizens in some Arab state. The Jewish state took in hundreds of thousands of Jews from Arab lands and now it is time for the Arab states to take their people from the Jewish land. Shmuel then states that the YU boys who put the flyers up have not visited all of the “Palestinian Refugee Camps.” Obviously Shmuel hasn’t either. For he would probably not be with us today if he had.

He then says that there are two sides to every story. I hope to G-d Shmuel knows which side he is on. The Arabs have gained measurably in their cause by leftist Jews like this. Remember, why wasn’t there peace in 1966 Shmuel? The Arabs had all the lands that they now claim (West Bank, E. Jerusalem, Gaza). Why wasn’t there peace then Shmuel? Why did they go to war and try to annihilate the Jews? Because of the occupied territories? Come on, Shmuel it is because they want all of Israel— all of it.

Shlomo Kirschen
YC ’96

Editor’s Note: The Commentator does indeed seek rabbinic advice from YU faculty on issues involving halacha.

The Gold Card Plan

To the Editor,

In the last edition of The Commentator, we were inundated with articles quick to condemn the Caf for what certain students perceived to be an injustice. The outrage echoed in response to the Gold Card Plan currently being implemented and the rise in price of certain foods. Since neither writer was in attendance at this summer’s meeting of the Executive Food Services Committee, we decided it was only fair to set the record straight.

Heeding the call from many students to extend the possible use of the caf card, and realizing the number of people who eat out on a regular basis, Supporting Services decided to offer to anyone interested the gold card option. YU is receiving NO money from this plan. The purpose is purely for the student’s benefit, a point not conveyed in the article. If students do not feel like spending their money at the caf, they have the option to do so. The caf is not going to be inundated with articles quick to condemn the plan. It has been a success and the caf is relieved of the possibilities of food waste.

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With the advent of the new season just around the corner, the coaches, the fans, and the writers are all coming to preview and predict the upcoming year. This season will certainly be one of high expectations because of the "above average" talent of this year's team. In addition, Daniel Aaron, the team's "franchise player," is now a senior. Therefore, look for Macs fans to expect nothing less than an E.C.A.C. Division III title. Since N.J.L.T. is always a tough foe, the Macs will be in for a much tougher contest.

The Macs are solid at this position. Donny Furst returns to lead the Macs at the point. He is a leader who will definitely be instrumental to the success of the team. Furst must play well for the Macs to win the big games, which means he has to be a key weapon outside shooting touch to keep opponents' defenses honest. This year will be the first year (and the last) where we will see shooting guard Israel ‘Arc’ Starks temper-tantrum. He is the most interesting player on the team is Michael Dube. Dube should be a solid contributor this season because of his toughness, strong defensive play, offensive talent, and spiritual leadership. Look for Dube to have a very important role in the team's overall strategy. Isaac Newman is another returning forward who is very talented. Newman is a solid finisher who is an offensive threat. The most heralded prospect this season is forward Ari Ciment. Miami faithful make him nothing less than Steve Smith. Ari has a terrific outside shooting touch that will get more dangerous with each passing season. An important question to this year's success is: Will Coach Halpert pull the trigger and use this new weapon?

Forwards-Captain Miko Danan returns for his last hurrah. He has already provided us with many memories and will hopefully give us another productive season and even a banner with his outstanding play. Look for Aaron to contend for Most Valuable Player honors in the L.A.C. or even among E.C.A.C. Division III teams. Steven Kupferman is a workhorse in the low post and a tenacious rebounder and shot-blocker. This prospect must be used to spell Aaron and therefore has a very significant role.

Strengths-Daniel Aaron ("nuff said")-lots of speed and a garden variety of outside shooters.

Weaknesses-Free throw shooting has perennially been a weakness on the Macs. This year free throw shooting has often been so bad that if this were football, the Macs would be accused of intentional grounding. The Macs also occasionally had a bad tendency to get into foul trouble (both personal and team fouls).

Keys to Success-Kupferman spells Aaron enough to keep him fresh and most of all healthy. Danan, Wallach, and Furst provide consistent scoring. Ciment becomes a pleasant surprise and Danan, Levy, and Dube lead a ferocious defensive unit.

Sure Signs of Trouble-Aaron is forced to play the entire game with no rest. Teams surround Aaron and the outside-shooters do not respond to the double and triple teams. The Macs lose twice to Mr. St. Vincent.

That's a Fact-The Macs had a 12 point lead on New Jersey Tech last season shooting to 24 points. The Macs have not had a losing season in over a decade.

Overall Picture-The Macs will finish with a 16-7 record and will once again be the bride's maid to New Jersey Tech. They should qualify for E.C.A.C. post-season play but to predict an N.C.A.A. berth would be stretching it a lot. The Macs are going to be exciting, but of course it was also exciting when the Titanic went down.
The “Big 10” Comes to YU Intramurals

by David Goldenberg

On Wednesday night, September 22, the intramural basketball season opened up featuring the “Big 10 teams.” A breakdown of the events:

Michigan Wolverines 61
Wisconsin Badgers 49

Captain Barry Aronoff led his Michigan team to victory by scoring a game high 19 points, as the Wolverines broke open a close game midway through the second half with a 15-2 run which was keyed by Ari Hirt’s 6 straight points. Shlomo Kimmel added to Hirt’s 12 total points with 14 points of his own. The Badgers were led by Yoni Epstein with 13 but his eight three-pointers were not enough.

Indiana Hoosiers 35
Minnesota 30

In a very low scoring game, the Hoosiers prevailed by 5 as they played a tenacious defense led by co-Captain Andrew Leibowitz. Their offense was supplied by co-Captain Jason Horowitz (10), and Ephraim Gensberg who led all scorers with 16. Minnesota was led by Yoni Epstein with 13 but his eight three-pointers were not enough.

Northwestern 33
Ohio State Buckeyes 47

This game started out as a blowout as Northwestern jumped out to a 27-11 halftime lead, but Joel Kornbluth (17), and Jeremy Fox (17) brought back the Buckeyes as they keyed a 21-5 run to tie the game at 32. But late in the game Northwestern was just too tough. The winners were led by Ranan Well (18) who went 4-for-7 from the three-point range. Hillel Schechter added 11, and Doug Rothschild had 10.

Pitt State 3
Michigan 31

In a tough and physical game that resulted in 34 fouls, the Nittany Lions squared out a 4-point win. They were led by Sam Maryles who scored 13, including 9-of-10 from the line in the closing minutes. The only bright spot for the Spartans was point guard David Cohen who led all scorers with 19, including 4 three-pointers.

Purdue Boilermakers 41
Illinois Fighting Illini 32

This was a game of streaks. Avi Greensbaum’s Fighting Illini came out smoking from the outside, and jumped out to an 18-8 lead, but after that it was all Purdue. Melzer’s Boilermakers exploded with a 31-6 run that broke open a close game. They led by as much as 15 late in the second half. The winners were led by Wes Kalmar (13, 7-8 from the line), Yosef Bednarsh (8), and Sam Wald with 7. The run was sparked by Mikey Fruchter, and David Ruditzky.

Wisconsin 34
Minnesota 47

In a battle of winless teams, Jon Fischer’s Badgers won their first game of the season. Avi Roth led Wisconsin with 16 points. Jon Fischer scored 13, and Yoni Epstein had 11 points and numerous key rebounds late in the game. In his intramural debut, Hillel Oshin led all scorers with a league-high 24 points, but if the Golden Gophers are going to win, he will need more support.

Michigan State 35
Northwestern 33

The Spartans won their first game of the season, but it did not come easy. They had to survive a last second three-pointer by Dori Davis that rolled off the rim to preserve the win. David Cohen led the winners with 13 points. To date, he has 5 three-pointers, and is averaging 16 points a game. Ranan Well led Northwestern with 12. Both teams are now 1-1.