Billig Captures YCSC Presidency

Mendelsohn Takes SSSB Top Spot

A Year of Transition: Dealing With Change

by Ari Hirt

In this 1993-1994 school year, while students continue to contemplate Torah U'madda, take issue with the KOL, or remain puzzled regarding the new Bible requirement, YU's administration maybe facing one of its most formidable challenges - change.

In the last 12 months, six prominent administrators, some of whom have been fixtures at YU for over fifty years, have either passed away or resigned: Chairman of the Board Mr. Ludwig Jesselson, President of the Israel Club, the President of the College Student Council, and the Vice-President of Development, who maybe facing some of whom have been fixtures at YU for over fifty years, have either passed away or resigned: Chairman of the Board Mr. Ludwig Jesselson, President of the Israel Club, the President of the College Student Council, and the Vice-President of Development, who

YCSC and Israel Club Quarrel Over Loans

by Sandor J. Bak

The Yeshiva College Student Council recently cut off all funding to the Israel Club, demanding that the club reimburse the student council the $1000 it borrowed earlier this year. Since the money in question went towards a fundraising project. They made an arrangement whereby the Student Council loaned the club the necessary $1000 to pay for printing and the shirts themselves. Unfortunately, the money-raising scheme failed. The Israel Club sold fewer than seventy T-shirts at $8 apiece, collecting just over $500.

According to Igal Carmi, President of the Israel Club, the club respectfully passed away; Vice-President of Academic Affairs Dr. Egon Brenner resigned; Vice-President of Development Mr. David Zysman stepped down; Senior Vice-President, Rabbi Dr. Israel Miller announced his retirement; Director of Public Relations Mr. Sam Hartstein is leaving; and Dean of Yeshiva College, Dr. Norman Rosenfeld handed in his resignation. Clearly this "Year of Transition" bodes to be a critical year for YU's future. "In all the years I have been here [since 1954], we have never seen a year as interesting as this," he said, "and we have never continued on page 15

Billig's assertion of experience against opponents who questioned his claims of achievement. At one point in an election-eve debate sponsored by the Commentator, Ciment held up a list of promises Billig made in his successful campaign for YCSC secretary last year and rhetorically asked students how much he had really accomplished. Billig responded with a laundry list of issues he had taken on, from the coming Academic Advisement Center scheduled to open in the fall to the Caf Card. Schloss pointed to his service as a member of the committee that picked the new registrar and in one campaign flyer, touted his efforts to stop the caf from charging students for a cup of hot water. He promised to bring a "vision of excellence" to Yeshiva College, including Phi Beta Kappa and autonomy for class governments.

Ciment declined to take the promises route. He appealed for support based on character, arguing that a candidate cannot anticipate most of the decisions he will have to make if elected, and that personality and integrity were the most important criteria for service.

Cynicism Still Around

Despite the issue-oriented campaign, many students remain cynical about the power of the student council. YC sophomore Richard Bolder, who showed up at the polls shortly before they closed, said the opportunities for those elected to do anything were limited. "They don't do much;" he said, continued on page 7
End the Election Mess Now

In the weeks leading up to this past Thursday’s elections, an unfortunate sideshow unfolded as candidate after candidate was disqualified, some only a scant two days before the polls opened. While the reasons for their sudden disqualifications may have been valid, ranging from not enough credits accumulated to insufficient semesters spent on campus, the rushed manner in which their names were removed surely was not.

There is no question of propriety here. Those who made the decision do, of course, act swiftly and responsibly, casting aside emotions to carry out the interpretation most true to the language of the YCSC constitution. However, late-night meetings to reinterpret rules simply have no place in a democratic electoral process.

That language in the Constitution has remained vague and ambiguous for so long is regrettable. SOY, YCSC, SSB, and, in turn, the Canvassing Committee all learned their lessons the hard way. Although the outgoing presidents of the respective student councils are certainly not at fault over the mishaps, they must take immediate action to improve the text of the current constitution, written over a quarter of a century ago. Time is always precious, particularly as final exams approach; but the student councils currently in office must ensure that the events of this year’s elections never repeat themselves. They owe it to the students who voted them into office, and more importantly, to those who will succeed them in the years to come.

Shavuot: Not Another SOY Event

As the academic year nears its completion, most students set their sights on their finals just over the horizon. Yet a major non-academic opportunity arrives next week for the entire student body of Yeshiva College in the form of two days of Shavuot. Though currently billed as another SOY-sponsored event entitled “Shavuos in Our Yeshiva,” this Yom Tov should not be casually dismissed as many SOY shabbatonim unfortunately are. As Orthodox Jews, all of us, JSS, IBC, and SOY students alike, will celebrate the Chag. Why not do it here, on the campus of our yeshiva, learning with our regular chavrusas, listening to shiurim from our Roshei Yeshiva, and sitting at Rav Goldwicht’s tisch on the second night of the Chag?

For those graduating and moving on, this could be, regrettably, their last chance to learn seriously in a yeshiva. For those going on to summer schools and jobs, this could mark their last chance of the year. Shavuot is always an excellent reminder for students, before leaving for the summer or forever, of what being part of a bona fide yeshiva environment entails. And for those whose Caf cards have hit empty, don’t be dissuaded by the cost. SOY President Lavi Greenspan is ready to help those in need of financial assistance, in order to ensure that NO ONE be excluded from participation.

Think about it. It may be your last chance.

Yasher Koach Sender and Robert Fagin

Upholding a long running Commentator tradition, this last issue of the academic year was produced by the newly appointed Governing Board of volume 59 of the paper. As such, the incoming Governing Board of the Commentator Volume 59 expresses its deep, heartfelt gratitude to the outgoing Board of Volume 58 and most notably, to outgoing Editors-in-Chief Sender Cohen and Robert Fagin for their incredible devotion and attachment to the Commentator throughout the year. It was truly an honor to have worked under and learned from both of them. We wish them all the best and a hearty yasher koach for an outstanding year at the helm.
Remembering Yeshiva

by Alexander Z. Cohen

Editor Emeritus of The Commentator.

Yeshiva College elections are a time when students must take the responsibility of choosing their leaders. It is crucial that the candidates are well-prepared and knowledgeable about the issues at hand. The candidates must be able to think critically and make informed decisions. The leaders of Yeshiva College are expected to have a clear and well-defined vision for the future of the college. The candidates should be able to address the concerns of the students and work towards creating a positive environment for everyone. It is important for the students to have a say in the leadership of Yeshiva College and to have a voice in the decision-making process. By voting, students can ensure that their voices are heard and that the college is moving in the right direction.
The Comeback of the Clarion: Political Science Journal To Be Revived

After a four-year absence, the political science journal known as the Clarion featuring articles from both students and professors on topics of contemporary interest in the field will once again be published.

Editor-in-Chief Michael Fragin noted that a number of good articles had been submitted. "People were interested in publishing work they had already done as well as original articles," Yehuda Jacoby, the executive editor of the journal, concurred, saying that "excellent" material meriting publication had been submitted.

According to Jacoby, the decision to publish had been reached at the end of March and The Clarion should be available by mid-May. The editors hope that with funding from YCSC, the journal will be distributed to all students. Barring that, the journal will be given to political science majors and minors, as well as faculty members.

In addition to articles submitted by students, the journal will feature essays by Political Science department head Dr. Ruth A. Bevan and Associate Professor Dr. Ross Zucker.

The Constitution of the Isaac Breuer College Student Council in II, Section A states: "The President must have two years previous attendance in YU Undergraduate programs." Shimon Oppenheim is currently a freshman. However, Article II, Section B also states: "The President must have three years previous attendance in Yeshiva University undergraduate programs."

Nevertheless, outgoing IBC President Reuven Falik served this year even though he was only a junior during his term. Also, Article IX, Section A states: "A copy of the IBSC Constitution shall be made available to all IBC students."

The IBC Dean's office did not even have a copy of this constitution. They had a copy of the Jewish Studies Program constitution which stated, "the secretary-treasurer shall be a student in the JSP for at least one year." With this clause, Oppenheim would have been able to run for the office.

This complaint was brought to the attention of Rabbi Jeffery Chaithoff, Assistant to the Dean of Students, after the announcement of the election results that Shimon Oppenheim had defeated Saul Mond and Yakov Beim for the position of IBC Secretary-Treasurer. Saul Mond explained why he had waited until after the results were announced to speak with Rabbi Chaithoff.

A week before the elections, Mond had heard that Oppenheim was running, so he informed current IBC Vice President, Richie Maron, who was in charge of IBC elections. Mond requested that Maron check the IBC constitution vis-a-vis Oppenheim's eligibility. Maron responded that "The matter will be taken care of."

A week later, while voting, Mond noticed that Oppenheim was still on the ballot. So at his earliest opportunity he spoke to Falik who showed him the IBC Constitution, but said, "unfortunately, it's after the election." Mond had a meeting with Rabbi Chaithoff, who has since turned the matter over to the Student Court.

A few possibilities have been mentioned as to how the situation will be resolved. One scenario has Oppenheim being disqualified, with another election to be held between Mond and Beim.

Another scenario is that the post of Secretary-Treasurer will be split in two, with Oppenheim getting one position, and Mond and Beim in an election for the other. A third possibility has Oppenheim being named to a special position, with Mond and Beim in a second election for Secretary-Treasurer.

When told of the current situation, Beim responded, "It's pretty ridiculous that this came out after the election. This was caused by the irresponsibility of the current IBC Administration, and Oppenheim doesn't need this aggravation." However, Beim admitted that if there would be another election, he would retain his candidacy, "Why not?"

What certain is that Adam Cohen is the new IBC President, having defeated Reuven Falik in his bid for reelection. He plans to keep the current IBC activities such as the Rosh Chodesh Breakfast and the Shabbatonim. He said that he would work with VP Steven Gordon and the rest of Student Council in improving IBC.

The SOY elections also were marred by controversy. The SOY elections had their share of confusion as well. Zachary Hepner, candidate for SOY President, was removed from the ballot by SOY President Lavi Greenspan only a few days before the elections, because he did not have the junior status necessary for candidacy.

The new SOY President is Yitzchak B. Book, who defeated fellow Sha'alvim alumnus Michael Fragin. Book commented that "This book hopes to be more accessible than the seforim in the Bais Medrash, and that situation should be improved as well." He also commented that he hoped to introduce many new SOY programs, including shabbatonim, Melave Malkas, and a Career Day for a Shoel U'Meishiv in the Purim Hall Bais Medrash. Another of Book's ideas is the availability of Friday shiurim for those interested. Book said he was open to suggestions and would meet with Michael Fragin and Zachary Hepner, both "of whom had some great ideas."

Donny Davis was elected SOY Vice President, and has the un-enviable position of running the annual Seferim sale. Benyamin Lauffer was elected Treasurer, and J.J. Jussam won the heated battle for SOY mascot. The new JSS President is Jake Freiman; his new VP will be Ron Yaish. Ari Grover was elected Secretary/Treasurer.
Chanan Porat On Campus
by Meir Zeitchik

On Monday, April 18, a standing room only crowd gathered in the Rubin Shul to hear Chanan Porat, founder of the right-wing Gush Emunim party, speak about the situation in Israel. In an emotional speech calling for heightened spiritual and political awareness, Porat attacked the Rabin government's policies in the peace talks. Advocating a peace marked not by territorial concessions, but by firm political and military positions, Porat stressed the importance of demonstrating, in the face of the Israeli government's policies. He compared the demonstrations to "screaming at a small child before they are about to do something dangerous." He also called for a spiritual repentance in order to "abolish the evil decree," a phrase clearly denoting the peace talks as a punishment from God.

While impressed with Porat's fervor and speaking ability, Shimon Oppenhein, an Israeli-born YC freshman, disagreed with some of the Permer Knesset member's points. From a moral standpoint, I feel that the current situation in the West Bank and Gaza is intolerable. I do not, however, agree with the course of action the Israeli government is currently taking because it poses too much of a threat to Israel's security.

Shmuel Hertzfeld, a YC sophomore who recently returned from a year of study in Israel, said that "the current Israeli government is taking a pragmatic approach what is best, has proven to be very successful."

Porat supported the recent pace of several rabbis in Israel which forbids soldiers from evacuating Jews from the territories. He added that if leading soldiers from evacuating Jews from the territories, he would prepare the de.

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Responding overwhelmingly to a fellow Jew in need, over 450 people participated in a blood testing drive held two weeks ago sponsored by Friends for Jay Feinberg and YU in the hopes of finding a compatible bone marrow donor for leukemia-stricken Jay Feinberg of West Orange, New Jersey. Jay's father, Jack Feinberg, ran the drive with the help of a rotating staff of volunteers in Morgenstern Lounge. He hopes to "exit quietly" without saying anything, and that it was the help and efforts of the volunteers that allowed it to go so smoothly.

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The largest problem in continuing to test is the fifty dollar cost of the procedure. This money is primarily because the family, though sometimes half is provided by the National Blood Center.

Another testing will be held Thursday, May 5, at 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. in Stern College in the 11th floor gym.

YU Blood Drive to Receive Award
For the second straight year the Yeshiva College Blood Drive will be present at the Rubin Shul to hear Chanan Porat, founder of the right-wing Gush Emunim party, speak about the situation in Israel. In an emotional speech calling for heightened spiritual and political awareness, Porat attacked the Rabin government's policies in the peace talks. Advocating a peace marked not by territorial concessions, but by firm political and military positions, Porat stressed the importance of demonstrating, in the face of the Israeli government's policies. He compared the demonstrations to "screaming at a small child before they are about to do something dangerous." He also called for a spiritual repentance in order to "abolish the evil decree," a phrase clearly denoting the peace talks as a punishment from God.

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Dr. Sykes Forced Out
by Howie Beigelman

The revised and reduced Bible curriculum has already produced its first faculty casualty. Dr. David Sykes, one of the more popular Bible professors at YC and SCW, will be leaving at the end of the current academic year, one year before achieving eligibility for tenure, Sykes, who has no firm plans yet for next year, explained that he "partly freely without the exception of receiving "just a short teitzaem T'shalom article."" Sykes' association with YU began as a student at the Berdell Reveal Graduate School. He began teaching at IBC in 1983 and joined the YC Bible department in 1985. During that time, he endeared himself to many with his personality and approachability. His telephone, the "exegesis hotline," became a ready channel of communication between a faculty member and students.

Sykes considers his departure to be "bittersweet. "It's truly been a great ride," he admitted. "I learned much from my teachers and from being in Revel, the Rothe Yeshiva here, my colleagues, but it militiyo yoder miyum (from my studentsmore than anybody else)."

Reflecting many students' sentiments, Uriel Lubetska, a YC junior, said "he's a good man" and Elie Hecht, a YC senior remarked, "he was one of the finer Bible teachers in the department. I'll be sorry to see him go."

Sykes hopes to maintain a strong keshem with his talmidim and to continue the tradition of bumping into former students "wherever I am: in the US or Israel." He hopes these students will "internalize" his message that "it's Torah and you can take it with you."

450 Turn Out For Jay Feinberg
by Stuart M. Milstein

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Dean Nulman Gets A Promotion
by Nachman A. Troodel

Dr. Efrem Nulman, YU's current Dean of Undergraduate Students, has recently been promoted to University Dean of Students, gaining responsibility for students in all of the school's graduate and undergraduate divisions, including AECOM and Cardozo.

In spite of his new responsibilities, Dean Nulman stressed that his first priority will remain the undergraduate students. His office is on the uptown campus, and he intends to spend the majority of his time there.

Nulman has been with the university since 1984, serving as a liaison between students and the administration. His responsibilities have included all aspects of student life outside the classroom, from counseling to housing. Convincing students at all YU schools that the Administration cares is Nulman's first priority in his new post. He also aims to improve student life at the University.

Nulman notes that every YU campus presently has someone involved in student affairs. He says he is looking forward to working together with these individuals in maintaining the relationship between the students and their respective administrative bodies, as well as looking for ways to improve it.

Schwartz Heeds Commentator's Call
by Moshe Kahan

In response to an editorial in the last issue of The Commentator calling for greater student input in the selection of the new Yeshiva College dean, Vice President of Student Affairs William Schwartz has consented to additional student representation on the committee reviewing applicants for the post.

Schwartz says the lack of student input so far has not been intentional, but is the result of a lack of communication between the student body and the Administration.

Originally, only one student, the outgoing YCSC President Danny Gurell, was selected to serve on the committee. The Commentator had questioned the wisdom of limiting student representation to one graduating student and argued that locking students out of the process threatened to undermine the credibility of the committee's decision.

Early Friday morning, Assistant Dean of Students Jeffrey Chatoff, at Schwartz's request, invited incoming YCSC President Daniel Billig to attend the committee's next meeting. A replacement for Danny Gurell will also be designated if the committee is unable to complete its search by the end of the year.
IBM sponsoring shabbos in our yeshiva?

by Ilan Haber

The administration is slated to review a proposal, recently submitted by YCSCh Secretary and President-elect Daniel Billig, designed to hold down cafecard prices, and, consequently, the Yeshiva's Shabbos Program.

The proposal, while stopping short of completely eliminating cafecard prices, is designed to curtail the losses brought on by indirect expenses, cafeteria food purchases; addresses the need for a more efficient cafeteria system in order to cut the expenses incurred from the cafeteria's net loss, and leaves those increases.

The proposal would only cut the relative small portion of the cafeteria's net loss, and leaves those increases brought on by indirect expenses virtually untouched. Even if he succeeded in holding off a cafecard increase for a number of years, such an increase would still ultimately be needed on the current administration's plan in order to cut back on otherwise unnecessary expenses. The plan's cost to students is $15 for the first year, $30 for the second year, and $45 for the third year, paid out in the cafeteria.

Based on the practices of other universities, Billig proposed seeking out corporate sponsors in order to generate fresh income that would cut away the disparity between the price and the actual cost. He expressed a willingness to contact 1,000 different corporations in order to sign on the 10 needed to completely reduce the Shabbos deficit. Those corporations would in turn receive advertising, a good name, and possible tax breaks. Each donor corporation would have its name associated with both the publicizing the Shabbos and also on a large sign placed inside the cafeteria. At the same time, Food committee would not donate the extra money earned towards enhancing Shabbos. Billig envisages a nicer Shabbos table, with black cloth, table flowers, and dear, plastic plates. Perhaps, the corporations would even send YU alumni to listen, on discussions of what it like to be an entrepreneur, or Jews that participate in Yeshiva.

Soy President Lavi Greenspan, however, seemed unimpressed with Billig's method of improving Shabbos. He expressed a feeling that the idea of this is impossible. IBM sponsor Shabbos in our yeshiva would be problematic and "take away from the whole atmosphere of Shabbos." Billig dismissed the idea of an above mentioned idea suggested by Billig that substitutes corporations with family sponsors who might donate money in order to connect Yeshiva, and other special occasions.

Some students, when informed, also expressed concerns over the plan's viability. YC senior David Flato said, "I don't think that corporations would be interested in sponsoring Shabbos programs that attract limited numbers of students. Some of them who will go on to professions like chinuch that would provide them with limited income. Theoretically it's a good idea, but, realistically I don't think it will ever work in our environment.

Vice President of University Affairs, Dr. Herbert C. Dobrinisky praised the proposal's creativity, but pointed out name agreement because it is not an originally conceived by Billig. He expressed skepticism over the students' ability to woo corporations into sponsoring Shabbos. He said a number of these corporations, he claimed, "are run by people whose sole occupation is to fend off people who solicit funds. Corporations are very aware of the need to donate for matters that reflect the interests and responsibilities of their top executives. They may also prefer not to get involved in religious events, preferring instead to support events with a more secular orientation than Shabbos in a Yeshiva.

Dr. Dobrinisky did, however, find promising the innovative idea of seeking private sponsorship, but visualized it slightly differently than did Billig. Dobrinisky pictured a student-related drive that would draw sponsorship from synagogues and Jewish communities, cultivating a stronger relationship with the Joint Business Society President Yehuda Stark. Dobrinisky did, however, point to the difficulty of the plan in that it requires a large amount of time on the part of the students.

Contrary to popular belief, the dinner is not just for juniors and seniors. As Dinner Co-Chairman Joshua Halickman noted, "I attended the first two years ago and was able to make a contact. At the career fair, the people I met at the dinner remembered me. I got an internship for the summer." The cost of the dinner to students is $20.

Sssb Student Dinner on May 9

by Moshe L. Kinderlehrer

The annual reception of the SY Syms School of Business will be held this coming Monday, May 9, starting at 6:00 P.M. The dinner, which will be held at the UJA-Federation building in Manhattan, is being sponsored by the students of the Joint Business Society and the Mildred Schlessberg Accounting Society. The scheduled speaker at the event is New York State Comptroller H. Carl McCall.

The dinner is being chaired by a group of four SySyms students from the U.C. campus and two from Midtown. The dinner will feature recruiters from a number of well known corporations, including General Electric and Exxon Gas. Students will be given the opportunity to ask about career paths, and establish contacts for the future.

The dinner, which will be held at 11:00 am to 1:00 pm in the 11th floor gym.

SSSB Investment Club Scores Big

by Andrew Davidson

In its first year ever, the SySyms Student Investment Club's performance has exceeded even the rosiest of expectations. Since mid-December, the investments of the twenty participating students have earned between 28 and 30 percent on their initial investments—a fantastic gain in a shaky market period.

The club, headed by Ezra Lightman and Adam Lowensteiner, opened an account with accounts with Schwab, with all transactions handled by Joint Business Society President Yehuda Stark. Lightman and Lowensteiner would decide what and when to buy, but the purchase would need to be approved by Stark.

Over the last four and a half months, stockholder meetings have been held to inform the students in the club what stocks they owned and how they were faring. Additionally, quarterly reports with graphs, figures, and analysis were sent out to all investors. The club also hosted a discussion with Malcolm Lowenthal, one of Money Magazine's top ten stock pickers, on "How to Build Your Wealth After Graduation."

Looking ahead to next year, Lowensteiner hopes the group will be able to attract more investors and to secure other investment opportunities, like mutual funds. He also said that he and Lightman were considering looking for a third person to help run the club, because of an expected increase in the investment capital. Lightman was equally enthusiastic.

"Given the fact that we beat the market by approximately 30 percent, I expect there to be greater student interest in participation in the future, and hope that the investment club can be a place for students to learn about investing, in addition to reaping potential profits," he said. Both Lowensteiner and Lightman will be looking to hold more meetings and to gain more student input. Lightman noted that "although we made a handsome profit, the recent eight or nine percent drop in the market, proves that people can lose money as well as make it, and that is why it is so important to invest wisely."
Refusing to be left out of the constitutional crises that forced no fewer than ten students off the ballot in recent weeks, the Sy Syms Student Association kept everyone guessing about not only who its candidates would be, but when its election would be held, until less than fifteen hours before the voting began.

Writing last Wednesday's COMMENTATOR-sponsored debate, YCSC President Danny Gurell made three different announcements about the Sy Syms elections, each one overriding his previous ruling and, according to what SSB Treasurer candidate Gary Elbaum called a "bad atmosphere" over the proceedings.

The previous evening, Gurell had been informed that the business school's constitution required that the vice president of the Sy Syms Student Council be a senior. Five candidates—Harry Mizrachi, Danny Aharon, Shlomi Hirschman, Adam Lowenstein, and David Rudzik—did not meet this requirement and were thrown off the ballot after Gurell had the chance to consult with SSB President Eric Zimmerman.

At the debate, Gurell announced that because of the confusion, and to permit the disallowed candidates to seek other posts, all Sy Syms elections would be postponed a week. Furious protests from presidential candidates Josh Halickman and Ziv Mendelsohn changed Gurell's mind and he announced that elections for both president and vice president would be held as scheduled, but that the choice in the secretary/treasurer race would be made the following Thursday.

That decision led Elbaum to contact one of his opponents, the ultimately-victorious Genn Pfeiffer, who wanted the secretary/treasurer elections held as scheduled. The two approached Canvassing Committee Chair Josh Segal and Zimmerman, who acquiesced, pending the concurrence of the other candidate, David Blatt, whom they had been unable to reach.

When Blatt's agreement was secured, arrangements were made to call the race an election for treasurer, with an election for secretary from the former student leaders as president.

The program includes "In a Life," which celebrates the work of Duke Ellington and Eubie Blake, and "Memories of You" by Eubie Blake.

"And they can't make a difference." It's that cynicism that Billig has sought to overcome, spending his year as YCSC Secretary talking with students about the things the student council can do. His campaign, too, was ful of promises, from longer pool hours to tuition by credit card. While dismissed by some as either too idealistic or full of hot air, Billig pledges that his tenure will be marked by accomplishments.

Here's how his victory by opening the window of the dormitory door deters him for Morgand screaming, "Twot" to whomever was willing to listen. In his first official act, he called SCSC President-elect Laura Gross to pledge joint cooperation.

An exultant Billig said he felt "awesome" upon learning of the results. "I am so excited I don't know what to do with myself," Billig said as he was congratulated by IBC President Reuven Falik and Student Court Chief Justice Avi Greenbaum.

"Right now, I am just looking forward to moving to other side of the hall," Billig said, referring to the dormitory rooms with bathrooms.

Administrators expect Billig's approach to differ markedly from his predecessor. "Every president brings his own style," one administrator who deals extensively with students told the Commentator, "and he certainly does not hesitate to speak his mind."

Billig, whose ties to YU stem from his father's twenty years on the RIETS Board, also plans to hold meetings of the full student council and to release YCSC's budget, practices that had been standard operating procedure for years, but have not been favored more recently.

The relationship between YCSC and the Sy Syms Council was touched on by candidates in the debate and all indications point to new cooperation between the respective student leaders. Indeed, Billig is the first SSB student to ever assume the YCSC Presidency.

Mendelsohn, the SSBB President-elect, in a post-election interview, said he felt himself as "an extension of the students." He wants students to stay in touch with him and is interested in utilizing the energy of every member of the student community, including his election opponent Josh Halickman.

The SSBB election focused, predictably, on finding better job opportunities for students. Both candidates promised to pay more attention to recruitment and to seek ways to build bridges to Syms alumni in the business world.

"A disappointed" Halickman said he was surprised by the election results. "There are no hard feelings, but I was pretty sure I was going to win. Ziv just had more support. I'll stay involved. There are no hard feelings."

In other races, YCSC sophomore Jeremy Lustman was elected YCSC secretary, and junior Adam Lefell won an uncontented race for treasurer. Glen Pfeiffer won the treasurer's race on the Sy Syms ballot.

The whole election process had been rocked by ever-changing lists of candidates and newly-discovered lists of requirements for holding office. Two candidates for YCSC president, Chanoch Kanovsky and Michael Nelson, were disqualified a little over a week before the election, and a total of ten candidates in regular and Judaic studies elections were thrown off the ballot.

The soothng souls of Duke Ellington and Eubie Blake will fill the Schottenstein Student Center tonight when the YU Jazz Ensemble delivers its long awaited concert. Directed by Drs. Noyes Bartholomew and Edward Levy, the event kicks off at 8:00 in the Recital Hall on the building's second floor.

The concert, presented by the University's Music Department, features five students performing a variety of older and more contemporary jazz tunes, including "Take the A" by Ellington and "Memories of You" by Eubie Blake.

"Strengthening the Religious Connection Between the Diaspora and Erez Israel." On the same day, he met with President Lamm in a private session and with Sephardic students for breakfast. Payin Kado, who is one of five students who attended the breakfast. Overwhelmed by his meeting with the Rishon LeZion, he said, "It was a wonderful opportunity to watch the Rishon LeZion—I was truly impressed with his modesty."

At the conclusion of the conference, Rabbi Serel accompanied the Rishon LeZion to Los Angeles for a similar conference over the weekend.

The former director of the Philup and Sarah Belz School of Jewish Music at Yeshiva University, Macy Nulman, the father of the current Dean of Students, Dean Erem Nulman, has just published The Encyclopedia of Jewish Prayer, a book which has drawn praise from Jewish religious leaders for its comprehensive and clear presentation of virtually all aspects of Jewish prayer.

In the work, Nulman provides historical, practical, and religious answers on the traditions of synagogue prayer, as well as on anything said at weddings and funerals, after meals and before going to bed, including prayers from both the Ashkenazic and Sephardic traditions.

Nulman has been on the faculty of Belz since 1951 and, since his retirement in 1984, has continued to teach nationally, as well as in cities throughout the former Soviet Union.

Students at YU can receive a twenty percent discount on the Encyclopedia at the Belz School of Music.
The Year in Review

Those looking back at the timeline of YU history will definitely remember 1993-1994 for the excitement of its major stories. The Dramatic Society and KOL sparkled significantly, as did the attacks on Rabbi Dr. Norman Lamm’s views about hashkafa in our yeshiva. Over 140 semicha students entered the rabbinate, and YU’s fundraisers enjoyed a rather lucrative year, to say the least. The year definitely provided students with plenty to talk about; we therefore would like to provide you with a look back.

Gays on Campus

Student of the Yeshiva University School of Social Work (WSW) this year in Belle Hall to discuss gay and lesbian issues. YCSC President, Daniel Gurell, and the English Department also expressed their objections to the journal’s recall. The YCSC President’s stance was clearly focused on the theme of the journal itself as “obscenity” as “educated individuals.”

A Woman in RIETS??

Harvia Kranen-Davidson, a 24-year-old resident of Washington, went down in history as the first woman to apply to the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary (RIETS). Although she did not anticipate acceptance, she applied with the hope of helping “the way for someone down the road.”

A Man Dies in RIETS??

A Yeshiva University student was murdered in an accident. The student was identified as a student of the YU Dramatics Society (YCDS), “Lips Together Teeth Apart.”

Golding’s Gold

From YU’s financial standpoint this year was BIG. Particularly $95 million, $5 million, a prominence communal leader, and former board member of the 5y YU’s Board of Directors, passed away leaving YU the largest benefactor of its history. The gift of $95 million will be used to endowments, and the interest will pay for various programs. $30 million will be dedicated to constructing a new science center in Einstein, $6 million will be used to enhance pre-med undergraduate programs, $10 million will be used for Judaic studies division, $12 million will be used for scholarship funding, and $1 million will fund RIETS.

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LIberman’s Legacy

With the passing of Mordecai D. Lieber, YU lost a significant figure in its history. Lieber was instrumental in the development of the university’s facilities and was a strong advocate for higher education in Israel.

KOL The Highs and Lows of 1993-1994

KOL celebrated its 40th anniversary with a gala event in December. The event included a performance by the KOL choir and a speech by YU President Dr. Saul H. Schapiro. However, the year was not without its challenges. KOL faced criticism for its coverage of the Hebron massacre, as well as for its stance on gay rights.

December 31, 1994. Mr. Zysman was in charge of the fundraising for all divisions of the university. He headed YU’s Centennial Campaign and raised over $100 million. He also was instrumental in establishing the 94th S. School of Business.

Bernstein still is experiencing speech problems and some loss of vision. He decided not to return for the spring semester in order to recuperate. “I wouldn’t be fair to the students,” he said.

Mike Danan Reaches Top Point Mark

Mike Danan scored his 1000th career point at YU early in the season. It was a three-point shot. Unfortunately, Mike was injured later in the season. He tore a ligament in his knee. Mike fell to injury later in the season, tearing a ligament in his knee. It is anticipated that he will be back for the spring semester.

Hebron Massacre - Heightened Security

Due to the massacre in Hebron by YU alumna Baruch Goldstein, YU stepped up security to discourage any acts of revenge. Extra Burns security guards were placed throughout the campus and identification checks were intensified. There was also an increased police presence on campus. This was particularly true of the annual lectures on the topic of the Hebron massacre. The police were on high alert and were ready to act if necessary.

Chag Haminhagim

144 rabbinical students were honored at the annual Chag Haminhagim, receiving ordination from 1990 to 1993. These rabbis ranged in age from 24-45 and were from such diverse places as England, France, and South Africa. These students join more than 2200 rabbis who have been ordained YU’s Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary since its founding in 1896. The first Chag Haminhagim was held in honor of the ordination of three rabbis in 1906.

Zysman Resigns

David Zysman, who was serving as YU's president since 1993 and was in charge of raising over $100 million for the university's Centennial Campaign, announced his resignation on December 31, 1994. Zysman was in charge of the fundraising for all divisions of the university. He headed YU's Centennial Campaign and raised over $100 million. He also was instrumental in establishing the YU School of Business.

Zysman intends to continue serving YU as a consultant in areas of expertise.

Rabbi Louis Bernstein Fighting Cancer

Rabbi Louis Bernstein underwent surgery to remove a carcinoma tumor from his brain. Rabbi Bernstein is a longtime professor of Judaic studies at YU and serves as the Rabbi of Young Israel of Windsor Park. In addition, he was a member of the YU Jewish student community and played a vital role in the development of the campus.

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Students Concerned about the Placement Office

by Josh England

The Sy Syms Placement Office is well-known for its remarkable placement figures. While the national placement average hovers between twenty and thirty percent, the SSBS placement office boasts an over 90% placement rate. Whereas other placement offices do not necessarily provide even one interview per student, the Sy Syms office arranges a average of eight to ten per student. Still, some students claim that these statistics are highly misleading.

All agree that the placement of Sy Syms accounting majors has been very successful. Since the accounting department is the oldest and most established program at Sy Syms, the school has numerous contacts and alumni within the profession and is able to provide its students with excellent career opportunities. In addition to the accounting firms which have interviewed students in the past, the school is constantly attracting new accounting companies such as NatWest and Paine Webber to the campus.

Non-Accounting Majors Suffer

However, numerous non-accounting Sy Syms majors as well as liberal arts students looking for careers in the business world feel that not enough is being done to attract the high-quality firms in their respective fields. According to figures obtained by the Commentator, roughly forty-one percent of non-accounting Sy Syms majors currently have not found jobs. In addition, some of the students who have procured jobs, have done so by themselves - without the aid of the placement office.

Some students are disappointed that the placement office is unable to attract some of the first-tier firms in the non-accounting professions. Yehudah Stark, president of the Sy Syms Joint Business Society, remarked that "it is easy to be employed. The trick is to be employed in the high-quality firms." Many are concerned that the placement office's impressive record gives them little incentive to get high-quality firms. They believe that the current modus operandi will discourage students from these majors and ultimately hurt Sy Syms in the long run.

Mr. Hal Tannenbaum, director of the Sy Syms placement office, strongly contests these complaints. He explained that while the public accounting firms regularly interview one year in advance, many of the business (non-accounting) firms may not determine what personnel they will require until the end of the fall semester - thus delaying the job process for potential candidates. Tannenbaum pointed to the previously "unheard of" recent visit of an executive vice-president of Kidder Peabody, a leading finance firm, to interview students as a sign that the school is attracting high-quality firms. He also explained that it takes approximately three years to get a firm to interview on campus, and as more companies realize the vitality of Sy Syms (which is only in its seventh year), more firms will become available.

Despite these assurances, many students feel more should be done attract better firms. One suggestion is the hiring of another placement employee to deal exclusively with finance, marketing, and the other non-accounting fields.

Stark, who already has a job, commented that "if we want to attract others, we have to prove to students that the Sy Syms educational program is well-qualified to place the students in the top firms in their respective fields."

"Don't be discouraged" is the advice given by Assistant Dean of Sy Syms Ira Jaskoll, assistant dean of Sy Syms, to the students who are still in the job hunt. "Companies are making decisions later and later. Instead of making decisions in January, companies are now hiring people in June." Jaskoll, whose figures show that of the graduating non-accounting majors only twenty percent are still looking for jobs, asserts that new job opportunities are arising everyday and that by September or October, everyone will be employed.

However, students continue to worry - at least until they get jobs.

Library Schedule for Reading Week and Finals Period

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Dean Search Continues Behind Closed Doors

by Steven Miodownik

The process of finding Yeshiva College's next dean is continuing smoothly. On Monday, May 1, the updated "search committee" convened to review and screen the resumes received thus far. Contents of this meeting, however, remain secret, as the proceedings to locate a suitable replacement for Dr. Norman Rosenfeld, who plans to vacate the seat at the end of this semester, are being handled with utmost confidentiality.

Members of the committee composed of a group of administrators, faculty members, and students, are forbidden to discuss committee members' omissions. After two such meetings, much has been accomplished, says Dr. William Schwartz, Vice President for Academic Affairs and head of the search committee.

Dr. Schwartz outlined the phases that have already been concluded: the organization of a panel, formulation of criteria, advertising of the dean position in trade publications and the receipt of an unspecified "applicable number of resumes." However, Dr. Schwartz noted, "no formal decision has been made regarding the search for the dean's successor." To that end, the committee likely will interview a small number of candidates in the near future before making a selection.

The issue of confidentiality is one that Schwartz puts great emphasis on. Speculation that Dr. Bernard J. Firestone, a YU professor and alumnus, is a possible candidate is denied by the school. Schwartz, who already has a job, is also said to be interested in the position. If elected, Schwartz is reported to be seeking a "cabinet position." The search continues.

The Commentator is Searching for a Director of Distribution for Volume 59 (Starting in Fall 1994 - 1995). Anyone who is interested should contact Moshe Kinderlehrer at (212) 927 - 0535
Winners of Imrei Shefer Contest Announced

by Dov Simons

Reading the great works abundant in Jewish literature, one cannot help but arrive at a pair of realizations. The works, in addition to being scrupulously researched and analyzed, possess an innate beauty. Pearing the second of these qualities has been lost in recent years, the Imrei Shefer contest was begun to encourage students in the Rabbi Yitzhak Elchonon Theological Seminary to compose works in Jewish fields of study that were not only give evidence of masterful scholarship, but exhibit literary beauty as well.

The Imrei Shefer contest, or “words of beauty,” owes its origins to an article written several years ago by Rabbi Emanuel Feldman, of Atlanta, Georgia. According to Rabbi Zevulun Chavel, Dean of MYP and RIETS, Rabbi Dr. Arthur Silver read the article, and agreed with Rabbi Feldman’s point—Orthodox rabbis no longer exercise the ability to write with style. Rabbi Silver then sponsored a contest open to anyone who could write an essay on Jewish theology and philosophy, Halahakah, Bible, and other Judaic fields. He donated money for the prizes, $1500, $1000, and $500 for first, second, and third prizes, respectively.

Last year, the contest attracted 14-15 applications, or about 10% of the S’micha student body. Rabbi Charlop was pleased with the contest, and has more applications this year (16) and even better essays than last year. He credits Kenny Weider for doing a good job publicizing about entering. Some only think of content, some of form. This contest makes people stop and think of both.

The contest winners agreed with Rabbi Charlop’s sentiments. Michael Charish stated, “I think Imrei Shefer emphasizes the centrality of language in attaining the goal of Likudut ol Emunim.” Mayer concurred as well, adding, “I think it represents our Yeshiva’s commitment to encouraging Torah Umda in its most ambitious form.” Hayyim Angel liked it that “gave an opportunity for S’micha students to write on a topic they might not otherwise do. We should have more emphasis on independent research and writing papers.”

The contest entries dealt with a number of Jewish topics, from copyright law to the treatment of the deceased to the Sanhedrin. Rabbi Charlop hopes to publish all the contest entries in book or journal form within the next few years.

College Democrats and Republicans Plan Voter Registration Drive

by Josh England

With the idea of “one person, one vote,” strongly enshrined in our moral fiber, most Americans hold the right to freely elect their public leaders as a precious liberty. Yet large numbers of Americans still do not cast their ballots in local, state, and federal elections every fall. Unfortunately, despite the recent excitement locally about student elections on campus, most non-voters are not even aware of the elections they’re passing over.

A number of factors account for the lack of YU student participation in the voting process. First, since most YU students at YU reside in the local dormitory, they are distant from their designated polling location often in their home county. Students also are not given time off on Election Day to vote and there are no absentee ballots distributed on campus. Moreover, many students do not register to vote before attending Israel. When they enroll in YU, they are still not registered and are thus unable to take part in the election process. Hence, YU student participation in governmental elections has historically been limited.

Recognizing this problem, Administration officials and student leaders have taken steps to combat this lethargy. In a December 3rd memo to Assistant Dean of Students Rabbi Jeffrey Chaikoff, Dr. Gabriel Coalition Chairmen in the Student Senate, stressed the need to increase voter awareness amongst the undergraduate student body. Taking the initiative, Rabbi Chaikoff met with the chairman of the College Democrats and Republicans to contemplate means of increasing student consciousness.

Among the suggestions that emerged from the meeting was the idea to include voter registration information in both the orientation and registration packets. In addition, the sign-up list would be made accessible to all students as well as placed in orientation packets.

In order to publicize the voting campaign, the joint committees of Republican and Democratic clubs have volunteered to post informative flyers about voting and absentee ballots around election time. The placement of advertisements in the undergraduate newspapers during election time reminding the students to vote was also recommended. In addition, it was proposed that voter information packets be sent to the YU Israel office to permit students on the Joint Israel Program to register while abroad.

According to Ryan Karben, chairman of the College Democrats, a dormitory room is considered a sufficient residence to enable a student to vote in the Washington Heights district. He asserted that a good solution for a student’s voting quandary is to temporarily move their legal residence to YU and add that the committee will help students who are interested in doing so. Karben also said that he believed that the above initiatives are very important because they will help “promote the political awareness” of the students as well as “engage” them in the political process.

All the parties agreed that it is essential to improve the lackadaisical attitude of many students towards voting. Every vote that a person casts and every reelection in which a person participates is significant. As Emerson said: “Those who stay away from the election think that one vote will do no good: ‘Tis but one step more to think one vote will do no harm!’

Urgent Appeal!
All Funds Raised From This Year’s Annual YCSC Tzedakah Drive Will Be Used to Aid the Feinberg Family in Thier Quest for a Bone Marrow Donor for their son Jay who suffers from Leukemia.

Contributions can be Sent to: Friends of Jay c/o Chaim Motzen 2525 Amsterdam Avenue (#323) New York, NY 10033 Phone: (212) 568 - 0586

Ohavei Shalom Tzedaka Fund

Your Contribution Helps Needy Families in Israel

Dedicated to the memory of Rabbi Solomon P. Wohlgelernter, z’l

Contributions can be given to: Judah Wohlgelernter, Campus Representative Pollack Library, Y.U. Or can be mailed to: Rabbi Eliahu P. Rovnik, 611 Beach 6th Street Far Rockaway, NY 11691

All Contributions are Tax Deductable
by Ari Listowsky

The call came over the radio as a "burglary in progress"; Officer Vinny Spinola dully turned the car in the direction of Sherman Ave, as Officer Victor Burgos manned the sirens. By now, the light drizzle had transformed into a cascading waterfall from the sky and the driving had become treacherous. After a minute or two of the never-ending ride, passing cars and running red lights, we arrive at our destination. I followed the officers as they raced through the pouring rain, into the building and up to the fourth floor, and finally, into the apartment. However, Victor quickly noted that it was smaller but at least it has all its pieces. While waiting in the lobby and observing the hustle and bustle of uniformed and special narcotics officers (there was to be a big drug sweep that night) shuffling and an occasional prisoner back and forth, I couldn't help but notice the commander's habit of seldom to be seen in uniform. He was actually off to be with two officers crossed without the exchanged a smile or a word. But soon it was my turn. Officer Spinola, six years veteran of the force, almost all of which was spent in the 3-4, extended his hand in greeting, and with that we were on our way.

Waiting in car 4155, the "worst" car in the precinct, was Officer Victor Burgos, a six and 1/2 year veteran who spent his first two years on duty in the Bronx. I slipped into the worm back seat and we pulled out to patrol "34-Frank", an area that covers roughly from Broadway to River Street and from 181st to Dyckman. Anxious for "action," I inquired if anything would happen. After an answering "Everything's under control" and the police officers' reply. After driving around for 15 minutes, we responded to the false burglary report. Once back in the car, we opened up with 34-Frank's main responsibility, patrolling the neighborhood and waiting for calls.

At about 5:35, after giving a woman a ride to Broadway, we pulled into a one-way street and a suspicious car that turns out to be okay. The red Pontiac looked brand new and, with its passengers out of uniformed and special narcotics officers, we turned it over to the DEA. We pulled out to patrol "34-Frank", an area that covers roughly from Broadway to River Street and from 181st to Dyckman. Anxious for "action," I inquired if anything would happen. After an answering "Everything's under control" and the police officers' reply. After driving around for 15 minutes, we responded to the false burglary report. Once back in the car, we opened up with 34-Frank's main responsibility, patrolling the neighborhood and waiting for calls.

We arrived at the 3-4 at 4:00pm this past Wednesday. I encountered my first concrete example of the dangers involved in police work in the Heights in the form of a bullet proof vest. (I must admit I was a little unnerved when the desk sergeant inspected it with a frown and he exchanged it with another one thinking that it was smaller but at least it has all its pieces.) While waiting in the lobby and observing the hustle and bustle of uniformed and special narcotics officers (there was to be a big drug sweep that night) shuffling and an occasional prisoner back and forth, I couldn't help but notice the commander's habit of seldom to be seen in uniform. He was actually off to be with two officers crossed without the exchanged a smile or a word. But soon it was my turn. Officer Spinola, six years veteran of the force, almost all of which was spent in the 3-4, extended his hand in greeting, and with that we were on our way.

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Summer Revamping of Furst Hall Offices

by Issac Sasson

To keep pace with the changes sweeping across all levels of the YU community, the Department of Supporting Services has found itself faced with no alternative other than reorganizing the office space in Furst Hall, maximizing the effectiveness of the administrative offices in the building.

The recent proposal seeks to alleviate the current cramped quarters of the Registrar and Admissions offices. The current plan, formulated by Jeff Rosenzgen, director of the Supporting Services Department, calls for the expansion of the Registrar's office, including the newly formed Academic Advisement Center, into the current Admissions office. In turn, the Admissions office, together with the Department of Student Services, would move to the large office space currently occupied by the Max Stern Division of Communal Services on the fourth floor of Furst Hall. The displaced MSDCS would then fill the vacant offices on the fourth floor in which Student Services can now be found.

Rosenzgen said that the most attractive feature of the design of the fourth floor offices in Furst is that each individual office lines a space that is separate from the problems that plague the Registrar. It is a large, high-ceilinged space, attractive, impersonal, and lacks an area where parents can comfortably wait for their children during an interview. "It is certainly not

The concept behind the project originated from the Registrar's office and has been under consideration for more than five years. In its current configuration, the Registrar's office is not only unattractive, but is unable to efficiently serve the students in a timely and professional manner. This problem stems from the insufficient space that is able to house the numerous, but necessary files.

Problems, however, were not limited to the Registrar's office. It was recognized early on that the Office of Communal Services, a traditional area for the Registrar, was at a disadvantage stemming from the same problems which plague the Registrar. It is, in a highly confined space, unattractive, impersonal, and lacks an area where parents can comfortably wait for their children during an interview. "It is certainly not

The type of office where one would want to have their sales office," Rosenzgen explained, "And it just sort of grew there."

Previous attempts have been made to resolve the dilemma of the Registrar by calling for its relocation to the basement of Furst Hall in Room 024. However, this idea had to be dropped because of its costs. In addition, it has been suggested that the Reservation of Communal Services relocate to Schottenstein. However, this plan was also deemed unfeasible.

Rosenzgen said, "We have been putting some good, practical, wise, and skilled effort into it [the project], and I believe we will end up with a final plan very shortly which will meet all of our needs and most importantly do so with economies realized."
Slow Down, Traffic Ahead

by Yisroel Holczer

“You can check out anytime you like, but you can never leave.”
—The Eagles
Hotel California

Allow me to introduce myself. I attended a high school that often equated Yeshiva University with Apaches. I reside in a neighborhood where a large majority of the community will not let their daughters go out with YU students. Upon learning four years ago of my intention to enroll at YU, the Rev. of my shul telephoned my father and begged him to talk me out of it. No relative of mine has ever walked through YU’s corridors. Only one close friend of mine accompanied me here; several other “ex-close friends” have decided that it is Halachically impermissible to speak to me.

So how did I end up here? Quite simply. I fell in love with everything I saw and experienced during my interview; an interview that came very close to never happening in the first place. The Beit Medrash, the Rebbeim and administrators I met, the met, and yes, even the Caf. Admittedly, YU was not my first choice, but after speaking with Michael Kranzler in the Admissions office, I knew I wouldn’t be interviewing anywhere else. And now, after 128 Yeshiva College credits (no Israel, no summer college, no CLEPs, no APs), my official capacity with YU will come to an abrupt finale. After spending my first year at YU, my ears became attuned to the perpetual griping of my fellow students. The primary targets were the administration, the Caf, the professors, the campus (or lack thereof), blah, blah, blah. Some of the complaints are reminiscent of the incessant whining I haven’t experienced since fourthgrade. All of the complaints fail to encompass one area that I believe may be YU’s most imposing problems: our students.

If the most superlative student I could choose to describe "YU students, it would be "zealous.’ But there is a very thin line between ‘zealous’ and "apathetic.” Odds are, if you are reading this article, I foresee medicine, law or accounting in your future. That’s fine. Odds also are, you are quixotic in your quest to get out of YU and get on with your life. With a little wheeling and dealing, you only have to serve 2 1/2 years in our prestigious penitentiary. You justify it by vociferating that YU is just a springboard that you are forced to utilize in order to receive the piece of paper mandatory to begin your real ‘education. Can college be this shallow?

Dr. Norman Lamm stated during one of his dorn talks this year that he felt a college education should be extended to five full years. While even I think this may be somewhat extreme, I don’t quite understand why so many students look for an easy way out of every conundrum. Sure, taking a CLEP will save you numerous hours of class time, assignments, and tests, but does this adequately prepare you for the solemnity of graduate school? Will the plagiarized term paper that fooled your sociology professor also fool your law school professor? And where do the benefits lie for the student who cuts all but the first and last class of one (or more) of his courses?

YU is exposing us to a panoramic kaleidoscope of ideas and concepts, but we’re just not snapping up the bait. I’ve always wondered what guest speakers and club presidents thought of consistently low student turnouts to lectures and events. When attendance at the Morg Lounge television for a hockey playoff game (not involving a New York team) is greater than attendance for the YCSC presidential debate held a few hours earlier, I can’t help but raise my eyebrows. And what am I to think of the student who vehemently protests the “stupid, complete-waste-of-time, doesn’t-belong-at-YU” Bible program, only to call for Dr. William Sny vertical’s head during a dispute over whether to watch a Ranger game or “The Simpsons.”

Oh, one more thing. I’d like to apologize for a slight fabrication I mentioned earlier; I’m not really leaving YU next month. In fact, I’ll be in YU the rest of my life. Perhaps you’ll see me in the Beit Midrash, at a YU dinner, or a YU Mt. St. Vincent basketball game. And you better believe I’ll encourage (thumbscrews if necessary) my kids to come here. When I ask many of my senior friends if they will miss YU after they graduate, I’m shocked at how many of them respond in the negative. I peer closely at their faces, but alas, I’m not a very good mind reader, and I can’t tell if they truly mean it. But I’m not that wised up, I know they’ll come around soon. Probably around the time when they start graduate school.
Rumor of Fiscal Improperities Unfounded
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problem was not a lack of effort. "We tried in every way possible to sell the shirts. We had stands, flyers, and even went door-to-door in the dorms. We tried our best, but for whatever reason we could not make back the full amount of money."

When it became apparent that the full $1000 loan could not be repaid, the Student Council froze the Israel Club's remaining assets. Carmi, however, feels that Danny Gurell, the outgoing Student Council President, could have handled the matter better. "When Gurell approached me and told me that they desperately needed the money to fund some student journals, I offered him the $500 we had collected and the remaining unsold T-shirts. Instead of taking the money, he responded that they needed the full $1000 immediately. If there was such a shortage of funds, why didn't he at least take the $500 I offered him?"

Gurell answered Carmi's attack rather succinctly, stating that student council would not take money from any club which it suspects of mismanagement while it investigates the matter, and that "we reserve the right to check the books of the club in question. It's purely standard procedure."

It soon became apparent to Carmi that the Student Council did not intend to help fund the Israel Club's planned Lag Ba'omer event, a kumsitz on Brighton Beach. He maintains that the student council went to great lengths in order to prevent the event from taking place. According to Carmi, the YCSC board, together with the Office of the Dean of Students, ensured that no student club would provide funding for the event. Gurell asserts that the student council only dealt with the Israel Club itself, and simply could not extend further credit to a club already in debt. "If another club wanted to co-sponsor the event," Gurell explained, "we would have considered providing the necessary funding."

Unfounded Rumors Spread
Just days prior to Lag Ba'omer, rumors spread that the event was canceled because of a lack of a needed permit. Carmi calls the rumors "an outright lie," and believes that they were simply intended to ruin the planned event. Carmi suspects YCSC of treating this matter personally rather than professionally; Gurell affirms that the entire issue is due to "some financial mismanagement," but that student council is "in no way accusing anyone of impropriety in this matter."

Despite the controversy, approximately fifty students attended the Lag Ba'omer kumsitz, each paying his own way. YCSC has since collected the $500 the Israel Club earned from T-shirt sales, and while the issue was originally slated to be settled in the Student Court, both parties eventually decided that the matter could be resolved more effectively through other means. As of yet, no final resolution has been reached.

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Dealing With Departures

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had a year where so many people in key positions departed,” remarked Rabbi Michael Hecht, Associate Dean at Yeshiva College. In all companies and institutions, gradual change is usually healthy; but when so many positions turn over in a relatively short period of less than a year, uneasiness over the institution’s stability becomes a legitimate concern. How will the University function in the loss of Rabbi Miller’s unique ability to relate with community, while it must also cope with the absence of Mr. Zysman’s incredible fund-raising talents? Will Dr. William Schwartz, the new Academic Vice-President, show the same political savvy embodied by Dr. Egon Brenner? Will the new Dean at Yeshiva College possess Norman Rosenfeld’s understanding and sensitivities towards YU’s special academic and Torah necessitates? In essence, the decisions being made this year will determine what YU will be in the next century.

Rabbi Dr. Israel Miller is especially concerned that YU’s special academic and Torah necessitates will be that of Dean of Mazer Yeshiva Program, agrees that great change always conjures pessimism, but as Charlop explains, “it makes sure that the changes will not alter the basic standards, for an incoming administrator to not merely display administrative and technical capabilities, but to also stress, "having to orient a whole organization, the students won’t have a chance to learn from the old.” Even President of YU Rabbi Dr. Norman Lamm, who exhibits unusual optimism over this transitional year, concedes that the job will still be difficult for the new Academic Vice-President, show the same political savvy embodied by Dr. Egon Brenner; he has a year where so many people in key positions departed,” remarked Rabbi Michael Hecht, Associate Dean at Yeshiva College. In all companies and institutions, gradual change is usually healthy; but when so many positions turn over in a relatively short period of less than a year, uneasiness over the institution’s stability becomes a legitimate concern. How will the University function in the loss of Rabbi Miller’s unique ability to relate with community, while it must also cope with the absence of Mr. Zysman’s incredible fund-raising talents? Will Dr. William Schwartz, the new Academic Vice-President, show the same political savvy embodied by Dr. Egon Brenner? Will the new Dean at Yeshiva College possess Norman Rosenfeld’s understanding and sensitivities towards YU’s special academic and Torah necessitates? In essence, the decisions being made this year will determine what YU will be in the next century.

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Elections, A Meaningless Exercise

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where the problems lie, and they know which things can be reasonably changed. If student leaders feel that there are no important issues, then how can anyone expect the students to think that there are important changes to be made? Is Yeshiva University so perfect? If so, does it really make a difference who the president is?

The YCSC presidential debate did not inform the students. The election was decided by how well the candidates presented themselves not by what ideas they stood for. This was not an election but rather a talent show.

David Schertz
VC ’95

Undeserved Title

To the Editor:

I respectfully wish to register a vehement protest nis-sis-te the reference to Dr. AlexanderSchindler as a “rabbi” in the Commentator of April 19, 1994. It is wholly inappropriate to refer to a member of the Reform clergy in such a fashion. The deep, deep love we have for our non-Orthodox brothers and sisters does not require us to strengthen the Leaders with an implicit stamp of kashrus. Indeed, the inclusion of his title is questionable and in itself for these very reasons.

Let us note here the irony of ironies. Dr. Schindler and his predecessors have always discarded those areas of Judaism that they deemed inconsistent with life in a post-Enlightenment society; they could not have themselves to the existence of a Western, contemporary, halachic Jew. Rabbi Miller, on the other hand, has devoted his life to community service, literally on the global scale, and has been intimately involved with countless high-level politicians — all in the context of absolute halachic fidelity. His life and work give lie to Reform views and testify to the contemporary viability of halacha.

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The cost is $20 per copy + $10 Postage & Handling. On the other hand, the elections could easily be of minor consequence and obliterated from YU history. Rabbi Lamm challenges that this time period will be remembered as an "interesting period," which he notes would read, "as a tribute to the fundamental health of the organization and the stability of the institution - that we were able to weather the transition of last spring and this spring." The Yeshiva University community must draw heavily on its strengths and ideals which have order the president’s challenge for the years ahead.
Mulligans Finish First Among Division III Rival in Tourney

This past April 25, the Yeshiva Mulligans opened their season at Weequahic Golf Course against New Jersey Tech. Although NJIT came better prepared, YU did keep the match close. Five players represented the Mulligans: Captain Andrew Sicklick, Sam Wald, Daniel Gibber, Jeremy Fox, and Joey Seleney, with the top four scores counting. The event was highlighted by Jeremy Fox's birdie.

On April 26, Yeshiva participated in the first Annual Wagner College Invitational Tournament, held at the Richmond County Country Club in Staten Island. Improving on the previous day's results, the Mulligans finished first among Division III schools. The overall tournament champion was Nassau Community College. Again, five players represented YU, with the better four scores counting: Brian Kardon, Kevin Rosenbeg, Andrew Sicklick, Elea Weiss, and Matt Goldsmith. Kardon's birdie led the Mulligan barrage.

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