Faculty and Administration Meet to Resolve MYP Credit Debate

Israel Credit ReductionReported to be Part of the Solution

BY MEIR ZEITCHIK

In a February 22 meeting attended by prominent members of both the YU and MYP faculty and administration but not by any student representative, significant steps were taken to achieve a resolution on the issue of mandatory shiur credit. The meeting saw participating members take a definite direction in reaching a solution appealing to all. "To my mind, a possible solution was reached which has elements all three constituencies, YC, MYP, and students will find very beneficial," commented YC Associate Dean Michael Hecht, who attended the meeting. While Hecht declined to specifically outline any proposal, The Commentator has learned that this solution involves mandating shiur credit in exchange for a reduction of Israeli credits.

According to Hecht, the talks will now proceed with meetings to be convened by the Academic Standards Committee, which he chairs, and the Curriculum Committee, chaired by Bible professor Dr. Moshe Bernstein. Bernstein also noted that there will also soon be a meeting attended by a "long list of Yeshiva College faculty" to discuss the issue.

The proposal, as noted by Hecht, is intended to appeal to all parties. The MYP administration is clearly pleased, as they will attain their long-awaited goal of mandatory shiur credit. Rabbi Zevulan Charlop, the MYP dean, in fact began to attempt to gather students support for the idea, visiting various shiurim last week. "We've done a lot this year with the Academic Standards Committee, which he chairs, and the Curriculum Committee, chaired by Bible professor Dr. Moshe Bernstein. Bernstein also noted that there will also soon be a meeting attended by a "long list of Yeshiva College faculty" to discuss the issue.

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Whose Awards?

Congratulations to Samson Fine, Ziv Mendelsohn, and Professor Mordechai Cohen on their respective victories in the Senior Awards balloting which took place nearly two weeks ago. Unfortunately, the whole election process was a sham. Signspublicizing the nomination process — simply recommending any one candidate — went up one week before the election; those announcing the time and location of the voting were posted 24 hours in advance. Moreover, rather than placing the elections in Morgenstern Hall, the unofficial senior dormitory, the Canvassing Committee placed the election in Rubin Hall during club hour, when very few seniors were likely to have anywhere close. The result of all this? 46 members of a class of well over 200 voted in the election.

It seems particularly ironic that an umbrella student council which so capably advertised longer pool hours and increased van service fell so short on this old tradition. Rather than allow the award process to perpetuate its long-time reputation as meaningless, the Canvassing Committee and YCSC should have seized the opportunity to make the entire process credible.

They should start right now, with the first step to declare the face of two Thursdays ago invalid. Choose a date for a new election, publicize it well, and then attack the ridiculous nomination process. Why should they allow someone who has done absolutely nothing the chance to win awards based on service to YU and the Jewish community, respectively? Nominees should be required to meet at least a simple requirement, if nothing more than a submission by their nominators of one paragraph listing their credentials. Such information, when verified by the Canvassing Committee, could then be given out to voters, since that committee recognizes the possibility of voting seniors not recognizing all the names on the ballot.

We do not aim to strip Ziv and Samson of their awards, and in fact, we endorse their “re-election.” We just want the senior class to elect them.

 Speakers, Anyone??

In recent years, Bob Dole, Colin Powell, Dan Quayle, Mikhail Gorbachev, and Jack Kemp have comprised the list of marquee names who have spoken under the YU ceremonial bunting. But few undergraduates have ever been afforded the opportunity to hear these prominent national and international speakers at dinners costing $500 a plate. While the upper administration, YU Board members included, faces few problems in landing the big catch for its black-tie fundraisers, when it comes to the undergraduate schools, they feed us slim pickings.

One only has to read the newspapers of any major college or university to see that such prominent speakers are regular guests at other schools. For YC students, on the other hand, almost two years have passed since a major figure (Israeli Prime Minister Yitzchak Rabin) has visited our campus. It seems particularly ironic that an umbrella student council which so capably advertised longer pool hours and increased van service fell so short on this old tradition. Rather than allow the award process to perpetuate its long-time reputation as meaningless, the Canvassing Committee and YCSC should have seized the opportunity to make the entire process credible.

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I am writing this letter in the hope that all those putting up signs in the dorms give the fourth and fifth floors of Muss the courtesy of putting up their signs on those floors as well. I assume that if they would have known how many residents of the fourth and fifth floors feel about the matter, more signs would make it up to the top floors of this dorm. Hopefully, this letter will make people aware of our current situation and signs will start appearing on now-barren walls.

Josh Friedman YC’96
Doing A Grade ‘A’ Job

To the Editor:

Although I am extremely flattered by the fact that you helped me to achieve a new world record by having been quoted in a single issue of The Commentator, I must take exception to the statements attributed to me that I need to correct.

The inaccuracies in your statement include:

1. That I received the issue of The Commentator containing my remarks precisely as I was coming to YU after spending the morning in Queens College, pertinent to the subject of physics, to the subject we were debating, and I mentioned that we cannot compare that institution with YU in that respect.

2. That I received the issue of The Commentator containing my remarks approximately two days after my eighteenth birthday. I had great difficulty maintaining my composure even later that evening when my seven-year-old niece, not fully (so far) avoided our physics courses.

3. That the book store to bear the Yeshiva College name must be told. I think the administration or store to the high prices, policies, and customer treatment. I have had a long history of collaboration and discussion with many of my colleagues in the Physics Department there. I have met them in almost every international conference in our area of research and have organized visits of researchers in our field to the New York area. Even some of our own YU Physics students have spent time at the store. I have spent time at the store in research activities there in the group led by Professor Azriel Genack, who, besides being one of the leading experimental physicists of our generation, is himself no stranger to our institution where all his sons have been educated.

4. That after having scolded you let me finish this letter by saying that I have found this year’s Commentator more exciting, more polemical and more devoted to the discussion of the really important topics that affect our University than in any other year that I have been in YU.

5. That I do not have a chance to grade many of the members of your editorial staff, since they have successfully (so far) avoided our physics courses, if I had to base my grade in your journalistic performance, you would be definitely getting an A from me.

Gabriel Cwilich
Assistant Professor of Physics
(Editor’s Note: The Governing Board of The Commentator would like to thank Dr. Cwilich for his compliments on this year’s newspaper. However, we are somewhat regretful about his remark in the editor’s last paragraph pertaining to being “misquoted” in the forementioned letter and one cartoon. Since the exact misquotations are not mentioned, save for referring to “hymn derelict” and “one cartoon.” Since the exact misquotations are not mentioned, save for referring to “hymn derelict” and “one cartoon.”)

YC Bookstore: A Disgrace

To the Editor:

After several negative experiences with the Yeshiva Bookstore, I have finally decided to expose the unfavorable encounters I have had there. This past week I purchased a financial calculator from the bookstore (the only model of financial calculators the store carries). Later that day, I discovered that the same model is sold for less at a comparable store. The bookstore refused to take the item back or give me a credit card receipt. The bookstore refused to take the item back or give me a credit card receipt. The bookstore refused to take the item back or give me a credit card receipt.

Not only does the bookstore have a complete lack of customer-oriented goals, but they also refuse to accept refunds, exchanges and credit card receipt. The bookstore refused to take the item back or give me a credit card receipt. The bookstore refused to take the item back or give me a credit card receipt.

Also, smoking is continuously being outlawed in public places. This is a privately-owned store, but it is absolutely necessary for YU students to be subjected to strong uncomplimentary frames that wreck our clothes for days afterwards.

I know for a fact that I am not the only student who has a legitimate gripe about the bookstore and its policies. In fact, there are worse stories to be told. I think the administration or student council must step in and demand that some changes be made. These changes should be made in regard to the high prices, policies, and customer treatment. It is a disgrace to the prestigious university to allow the bookstore to bear the Yeshiva College name under policies by which the bookstore currently operates.

An easy alternative, and very appealing one, is to boycott the bookstore. Nevertheless, there is a bookstore on campus for student use. Is it necessary to tarry and thin witted about the loss of numerous dollars of the bookstore before deciding to enter? Must we dread having to go there for books and supplies? Or, can the bookstore be changed to make it a more decent place to go?

Lon Smolensky
SSB ‘97

Purim Contest

The Commentator is Accepting Submissions of Humorous Articles for Publication in the Upcoming Purim Issue. The Top Submissions Will Be Published in the Issue, and the Authors Will Be Awarded $50 Each. The Articles Must Be Submitted to Moshe Singer, Kidnerlehrer (Mo223) Within the Next Three Weeks to be Considered.
Seferim Sale ‘95 Raises Most Profits Ever

BY DAVID SWIDLER

The annual SOY Seferim Sale drew to a close this past Sunday after two weeks of supplying the greater New York area with seforim, Jewish music and software. From February 12th to 26th, the fifth floor of Belfer Hall teemed with customers whose purchases provide the bulk of SOY’s operating budget each year.

SOY Vice President Daniel Davis, who began organizing the sale in October, noted the contributions of the twenty or so people who devoted their time and effort to Seferim Sale ‘95, most of whom were volunteers. Special thanks, he said, should go to Josh Hossinoff, who set up the computerized checkout system used by the cashiers to tally simultaneously each customer’s purchase and the total number of each item sold.

Among the best-selling items were a number of works that commemorate The Rav z’t and his teachings: Ne’emot HaRav, by MYP Rosh Yeshiva R. Herschel Schachter, Zichron HaRav, and a newly-published Hagada, Nefesh HaMaor chumash.

Due in part to widespread advertising, throngs of people who needed to purchase Judaica, or who simply wanted to browse the selection of 3500 titles, made their way to the sale, at times causing severe crowding problems, especially on the checkout lines. Despite such uncomfortable circumstances, volunteer Michael Buchsbaum noted that very few of the customers he encountered showed a great deal of annoyance. “I worked the register for eight hours last Sunday, and only came across two or three cranky people,” he said.

Supplier Rabbi Yakov Levitz commented that this year’s sale was “the busiest it’s ever been.” Ordering Manager Moshe Kesselman said that there was a constant necessity to replenish rapidly depleting stock of fast-selling items. Last Wednesday night, Davis said, “We’re on track to sell more this year than in any year before.”

Many shuls in the area, he added, use the annual sale to supply their Judaica needs. He declined to provide figures on how much SOY netted from the endeavor, but one worker estimated that sales were in excess of $75,000 per day of business. One needed only to witness the sheer numbers of people who crowded into Belfer Hall and the cartloads of seforim with which many of them departed to find such an assessment plausible.

Clean-up will take another few weeks as volunteers return surplus merchandise to suppliers and clear out the room.

Who’s Who Nominations

BY NACHUM LAMM

Over sixty YU and Stern students have been nominated by the undergraduate deans to be in this year’s publication of Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.

According to Dean of Students Efrem Nulman, the number of slots in the directory allocated to Yeshiva University has recently been increased to sixty-three, with all those nominated by the school almost certain to be included in the publication.

The academic deans, athletic director, and others receive an allotted amount of names to submit, and each submits a list of students to be nominated, judged by grades and involvement in extracurricular activities. Approximately seventy names are submitted in total, but there are repeats between lists, so almost all names suggested by the deans are passed on by the Dean of Students to be included in the Who’s Who. All are students in good standing, and most are upperclassmen, usually seniors.

In addition to those nominated for the reasons above, the office of the Dean of Students may add students who are distinguished for other activities, such as work in their communities, and names are occasionally suggested by third parties. Most, if not all, student leaders are nominated as well.

For reasons that Nulman “would rather not disclose,” the names of the students who were nominated for the prestigious award is being kept secret for the time being.

Arrogance, Apathy & Purim Intoxication Discussed at Dorm Talks

BY NEHEMIAH GREENBAUM

Over one hundred students gathered in the Morg Lounge last Thursday night for the third Dorm Talks program of the year. The panelists, MYP Rosh Yeshiva Aharon Kahn and Rabbi Reuven Fink, Instructor of Talmud in IBC and JJS, discussed a wide range of issues, from among the YU community to drinking on Purim.

Most of the two-hour program, which was broadcast on WYUR for the first time ever, consisted of emotional speeches given by both rebbeim, who beseeched those in attendance to adhere to the principles of “V’ehagam Li Ravoch Kamascha” and “Horav Dum La Kol Adam B’Kof Z’chus,” as well as reaffirming from Lashon Hara. Both rebbeim stressed the fact that everyone in YU, the Jews from a wide variety of backgrounds and situations, are occasionally suggested by third parties, so almost all names suggested by the deans are passed on by the Dean of Students to be included in the publication.

Nearly all of the seforim dealing with the Tractate Shavuos, which will be learned in the yeshiva next year, were sold out. Many students expressed apprehension that the decision might be changed, which would mean everyone spent their money on the wrong seforim.

Artscroll Mishnayot and Gemaras, perennial favorites, sold well, as did the relatively new Stone edition of the Chumash. Other big sellers included small sets of the Talman Shas and Mikraos Gedolos HaMaor chumash.

im. Much of the computer software available for the first time this year was sold, including a full line of CD-ROM material.

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Chinuch Job Fair On Sunday
BY RYAN S. KARREN

The Azrieli Institute for Jewish Education and the Max Stern Division of Communal Services will host a job fair this Sunday afternoon for students interested in pursuing careers in chinuch.

Rabbi Morton Summer, the coordinator of the program, says that the job market for Jewish educators is the best it has been in a while. “There are a lot of job openings, and fewer applicants than last year,” he said, “and salaries have gone up considerably.”

Summer says one day school in the metro region received a job listing and was willing to pay $50,000 for a Jewish educator with four or five years experience. He says entry-level salaries start at about $30,000.

Principals from both New York and out-of-state yeshivas will interview applicants on site for full and part-time positions. Students are urged to bring their resumes.

The job fair kicks off at 1:30 in Furst Hall 501. It will run until 4:30 and is open to undergraduate seniors at YC and SCW and graduate students of YU and RIETS. For more information, call Rabbi Summer at 960-5265.

Rav Romm Returns
BY JOSH EPSTEIN

After a medical leave lasting several months, longtime MYP Rosh Yeshiva Rav Shimon Romm has returned to giving shiur. Although they appreciated his temporary Rebbe, Rabbi Elchanan Adler of the Mentor/Hadracha program, R. Romm’s students were overjoyed at the return of their respected Rebbe. They demonstrated their joy by throwing a kiddush in his honor, which also served to celebrate the occasion of him becoming a great grandfather.

Romm has been a pillar of the chinuch community since the 1930s. He was educated and received his semicha in Europe and has continued many of his great grandfather’s efforts.

Ben-Gurion Professor Speaks in Furst
BY SANDOR BAK

Herman Broniver, Professor of Thermodynamics at Ben-Gurion University, addressed a crowd of twenty YU administrators, faculty, and students over lunch in the Furst Hall faculty lounge on Wednesday, February 15. The informal talk was arranged by Dr. Erem Nulman, the University Dean of Students.

A former Soviet refugee himself, Broniver spoke about his organization, which helps recent immigrants from Russia find jobs in Israel. While he serves as an advisor for Prime Minister Rabin in helping to integrate Russian scientists into Israeli society, Broniver mentioned his disappointment over the lack of government attention to this vital issue.

“This is a terrible tragedy. We have all the texts in their native language. He has also published many books dealing with the issue of integrating religion and secular science. As Rabbi Dr. Israel Miller commented in his introduction, ‘Prof. Broniver has succeeded both in his own calling of science and in a higher calling of yiddishkeit.’

Fine, Mendelsohn, and Rabbi Mordechai Cohen Win Senior Awards
BY JOSH ENGLAND

On Thursday, February 16, elections for senior awards took place in the Ruben Hall lobby. These awards are bestowed annually by the senior class to recognize service to the university and, to the Jewish community. The elections were characterized by low voter turnout and new election procedures.

In a close vote, Samson Fine was elected the recipient of the Philip Lieberman Award for service to the university, which carries a $200 award. Fine was tied with YCSC President Daniel Ritsma in the first-place votes but edged Billig in second-place votes, giving him the victory under new election procedures.

In a second vote, Samson Fine was elected the recipient of the Daniel Billig Award for service to the Jewish community, which carries a $200 award. Fine was tied with YCSC President Daniel Ritsma in the first-place votes but edged Billig in second-place votes, giving him the victory under new election procedures.

Low Turnout

Only 46 of approximately 150-200 seniors voted, leading some to question the integrity of the process. “If most seniors are living in Murray Hill, why are they [the elections] being held in Ruben?” asked one irate senior. Other seniors attributed the small vote to lack of publicity. Jonathan Lifshutz, co-chairman of the Campaign Committee, which sponsored the elections, blamed the low turnout on voter apathy. "Signs were posted all over the place," said Lifshutz. "People didn't vote because they were too lazy.”

Van Service Extended to Friday Mornings
BY SIDNEY SINGER

The Student Security Council, in conjunction with the Department of Safety and Security, has announced extended van service on Friday mornings. Students will now have the option of taking the vans to Penn Station or Brookdale Hall, the dormitory of Stern College, at 10:30 AM and 12 noon.

The current plan for the service came together fairly quickly, Jonathan Lifshutz, co-chairman of the Student Security Council, told with Don Sommers, Director of the Department of Safety and Security, about one month ago, and suggested his idea to provide students with shuttle service into midtown on Friday mornings. His suggestion came “partly for selfish reasons,” he quipped, since he lives on Long Island, but more importantly, since nearly every van was empty at that time.

Sommers was very receptive to the idea, according to Lifshutz, and said it was merely a question of arranging drivers.

Lifshutz stated that he hopes the service will eventually be expanded to every half-hour on Friday mornings, but said the security department explained that the students will have to warrant it with their numbers. Dean of Students Erem Nulman, with whose office Sommers co-arranged the service, sent all the credit Sommers’ way, and explained that neither office is against maintaining or possibly increasing the service if need demands.

“If it’s something helpful to students,” he said, “then we’d like to be able to continue.”

Guide II Aims to Improve on First Semester
BY OREN KEISER

This year’s “Guide to the Perplexed” has certainly seen more than its share of controversy. Whether it was the debate over its nominal one-dollar fee, the unexpectedly long delay, or the significant oversight in printing incorrect Hatzola numbers, the Guide seemed to be a constant source of controversy and discussion.

However, the Guide to the Perplexed II seeks to improve on the efforts of the past semester. Under the leadership of Daniel Ritsma, the scaled-down and less colorful sequel to the ever-popular and necessary Guide hopes to be published in a matter of days. According to Ritsma, the Guide II will correct mistakes from the first Guide such as the aforementioned Hatzola blunders, as well as add important information like room changes and new enrollees.
Dean Adler Prepares to Take Over

BY RYAN S. KARVEN

The book shelves are looking a little less empty these days, and the desk is getting a little messier. But Norman Adler has retained his calm confidence as he listens and learns in anticipation of assuming the YC deanship on a full-time basis next month.

His biggest challenge has been understanding the unique culture of Yeshiva College. No small task.

"The University is 800 years old, the Yeshiva is 2000 years old. That's 2800 years of complexity. It's incredibly exciting. I've had more intellectual stimulation in the past three months than I have had in years," he said.

In those three months, Adler has become a cheerleader for the college he is to lead, stressing repeatedly in the course of an interview that YC is home to "the best and the brightest." This latest leg in a very impressive professional journey has taken on the era of a mission for Adler. In an interview with The Jewish Advocate in Boston, he described the job as "coming home."

His resume includes a stint as Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Pennsylvania, where he taught psychology for many years. He is currently a Vice Provost at Northeastern University. In two recent conversations, Adler stressed that the Jew has always been a "citizen of the world" and he sees Yeshiva College as the heir to that legacy. "We are supposed to be anohr la'goyim, we have a higher mission. The world needs an infusion of Jewish values, and the rebbeim infuse Western knowledge with an informed tradition," he said. "Our civilization thrives through that dialectic.

On a practical level, Adler says one of his major priorities is salary enhancement for the undergraduate faculty. "We have a first-rate faculty, first-rate intellects who are more devoted than in other places I have been. I'm optimistic that the university will do something.

He also wants to introduce more inter-disciplinary courses and is working to secure a larger share of the Golding dollar pie for undergraduate science laboratories. And he is anxious to return to the classroom.

"I'm excited (to teach a course in the Psychology Department). I really enjoy it. It is the core of all we do. I went into administration because I got older," he said.

Adler says the challenge at YC is to nurture the identity of a small college in a large university, a position that has been filled on an interim basis by SSSB Dean Harold Nierenberg since the summer. Dr. Norman Rosenfeld stepped down last year to assume the Jekuthiel Ginsburg Chair in Mathematics after a tenure than lasted more than a decade.

Adler faces a slew of challenges, and enters a campus environment alive with discussion of numerous academic issues, from transfer credit for time spent in yeshiva in Israel to faculty authority over academic matters. And concerns persist over YC's "academic reputation."

None of that has deterred him. "I've met with pretty much everybody. I am determined to make this place truly excellent in all dimensions."

Academic VP Schwartz Hosts Open House Meetings

By Ryan Hyman

On February 16, an "open house" was held by Dr. Woulchak, Academic VP President for Academic Affairs. Students from different classes were invited to this informal meeting which was also attended by Dean Harold Nierenberg of YC and SSSB and members of faculty. In coming YC Dean, Dr. Norman Adler, was also present.

At the meeting, which is one in a series of student meetings and discussion on various issues under discussion at YU. The bulk of the meeting, however, was devoted to the debate on the mandatory chapel requirement in the Mazer Yeshiva Program.

Although most students disagreed with the extra credit being imposed on the already heavily burdened MYP students, there was a consensus that problems regarding poor attendance and lack of "serene time" at MYP were being addressed. Many students were concerned that by imposing a credit, those students in "difficult situations" would suffer. Dr. Schwartz responded that if students writing their GPAs were adversely affected, they could move to "easier" shirurim. He also noted that it would be advantageous for students to experience the different methods of learning and teacher relationships with many rebbim. YC Junior Shalom Ba-

bani, one of the YC students present, replied that "there is no way to show that students are being adversely affected" and that by changing shirur every year one would "lose the relationship you'd started because you no longer see that person as a whole.

Several suggestions were proposed for solving the dilemma and Dr. Schwartz agreed that some of the ideas were valid and would be considered. Among the recommendations was the possibility that students who did not attend shior and shior regularly would be required to do three hours of community service in the following semester. As Zevi Halitsky, a junior noted, "it's not really fair to harass people who are learning steadily." One of the most drastic proposals was that students not meeting MYP standards be required to join IBC where a more rigid schedule is enforced. A sophomore who wanted to remain anonymous, disagreed with this approach as he remarked, "The fact that they [IBC and SSSB students] have to take courses because they can't stop them from sleeping until 10:30 in the morning when the first class, for many, is held!" He continued that the credit system does not necessarily provide the accountability that it should.

In concluding his remarks on this issue, Dr. Schwartz maintained that the MYP faculty are highly qualified to make decisions and, as far as he has faith that they have, will, and take all factors into consideration when reviewing the situation.

Many other discussions were brought under discussion, including the upgrading and acquisition of computers in many departments of the university, and the employment of personnel to supervise the computer center. Those present were informed about the upgrading of the computers used by the administration and registrar's office, and the computerized cataloging of the campus libraries. Under consideration are the proposed plans for an information center, and computer and course electives.

These proposals were well received by all present.

Dr. Norby Scherbick, Professor of Sociology, said that she felt unsure where the meetings, including a similar one held the week before, would lead, but that they had been constructive. She did note, however, that had a larger number of students been present at the gathering, greater diversity in responses would have been achieved and the discussions may have been more productive. Dr. Scherbick found it interesting that most students were opposed to the MYP credit and she added that the reasons given for opposing it were "idealistic" and valid.

Closing the "open house," Dr. Schwartz assured his "office, as in everything, it is a learning process." He stressed that the school itself was taking steps to improve and that, in the future, new students would be given a chance to discuss the academic reputation of the school.

Jeff Mor, YU alumni (91), guarantees to save you at least $1000 with honest wholesale prices. Also specializes in emerald, ruby, sapphire, pearl jewelry (Earrings, rings, bracelets & pendants)
No Course Evaluations for Fall Semester

by Menashe Shapiro

With discussion about the academic standards of the university ranging on one critical measure of the academic level at YU, the performance of its institutions, administrators have discovered that it is not always possible to respond to some questions. For some questions, the response is not available from the academic unit.

Fall semester, a task force has been concentrating on outside credit. Picking up right where they left off at the last meeting of the Fall semester, a task force has been convened to investigate the issue. Led by YU President Ari Hirt, the purpose of the group is to discover exactly how many credits YU students take off campus as well as to measure the impact these outside credits have on the academic standing of the University.

In Interdisciplinary Majors and Concentrations Discussed

In addition to these vital concerns, the Senate also debated other ways to enhance academic opportunities at YU. A majority of students agree that a clearer statement of the need for interdisciplinary minors, which would allow students to take a minor comprised of courses from several different disciplines, would be beneficial. The Senate also emphasized the need for more academic options, particularly in the humanities and social sciences.

Senate Looks to Raise Academic Level at YU

by Oren S. Keiser

In a February Senate meeting, the Student Senate addressed a number of critical issues facing Yeshiva, including the controversial mandatory MYP credit, as well as outside credit. The Senate also floated possibilities on modifying the current structure of majors and minors, in keeping with the hopes of increasing academic opportunities available to students.

On the MYP credit issue, several students expressed the need for a clearer statement of the criteria used to determine MYP credit, as well as the process by which students are granted this credit. The Senate also discussed the possibility of incorporating more interdisciplinary minors, which would allow students to take a minor comprised of courses from several different disciplines.

More than sixty students from Yeshiva and Stern College participated in the conference, what an array of voices. YC Senior Matt Goldsmith, who served as Undergraduate-General, remarked that "the fact that this year's conference was the most successful ever is definitely a credit to the quality of the student YU students." Besides the scheduled plenary and General Assembly sessions, the delegates also had the opportunity to hear an address from Rabbi Ari Weiss, Rabbi Weiss urged the student body to continue promoting the values for which they truly believe and reminded them that "the right cause is not always the one that is most popular." At the close of the conference, the authors were given the individual delegate awards as well as the best school in the conference. This year's award went to the Ramaz Upper School, which represented Brazil, Cuba, and the United Kingdom.

RIETS Publishes Compendium in Honor of The Rav

by Ayaf Raviv

In tribute to the late Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik, RIETS recently announced the publication of Zichron HaRav, a book which discusses contemporary issues in Halacha. Thirty-seven students, Talmidic scholars from across the globe contributed essays to the book, which took a year to compile.

The articles examine in concise detail varying sources on specific Halachic issues and combine the viewpoints to form a comprehensive perspective. The book's 342 pages cover a wide variety of topics, ranging from publicizing a miracle to whether charity can be distributed to non-Jewish causes. The book is available in bookstores and sells for ten dollars.

The Zeidman HaRav includes essays by some of the Rav's most distinguished talmidim. In addition, some of the book's authors are current members of the faculty and administration of Yeshiva University, including Rabbi Herschel Schachter, Rosh Yeshiva and Rosh Kolel of RIETS' MA and Adina Katz; Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik, Rosh Yeshiva in RIETS and brother of the late Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik and Rabbi Dr. Sol Roth Professor of Talmud and Contemporary Jewish Thought.

Weider, an assistant Masaghiach of MYP, received his S'micha from RIETS in 1994. "We've all been touched by the Rav's spirit," he said. The work is an effort to keep alive the spirit with which he imbued his students. According to Abie Shmidman, "This project is a labor of love" and "it's our chance to honor and privilege something for the memory of the Rav."
We learn that man tends to most appreciate the luxuries of this world when he is deprived of them. People, for example, enjoy eating food but are most enthusiastic and excited about food when they are starving. Similarly, when individuals are deprived of sleep they more strongly appreciate its worth. Needless to say, one of the most treasured commodities at Yeshiva University is sleep.

When we were younger and more innocent, we assumed sleep was an automatic component of our day-to-day experience. We breathed, we ate, we drank and we slept. Sleep had for us a definite function: to put us to sleep. As we grew up, we were no longer tired and did not need to worry about sleep until the following evening.

Now, however, sleep no longer seems to fit into our routine. We no longer designate certain times for sleeping and other times for staying awake. Although we can keep approximate track of various sections of the day by observing which prayers we are uttering at any particular time - whether Maariv, Shacharis or Mincha - as well as occasionally attending classes which meet at fixed time, such as, say, 3-4-5 Tuez; 3:45-5:00 Thurs, we can never precisely determine when to be awake, we find now that any experience. We breathed, we ate, we drank and we slept. Sleep had for us a definite function: to put us to sleep. As we grew up, we were no longer tired and did not need to worry about sleep until the following evening.

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Of course, many of us are simply inundated by a massive sleep-forbidding quantity of work to complete. Grinding our term papers, completing computer programs, and struggling over difficult homework assignments can occupy us until 4:00 A.M. or later. Remaining little time remains for substantial sleep.

The fabulously famed playwright William Shakespeare seems to have suffered from the same hassles. Although he needed his sleep just as much as the next fellow, he had so many plays to write that he probably hardly ever got to bed. He expresses his frustration through the speeches of some of his main characters, the fiends who forced him to stay up scribbling about their miseries. In the middle of Hamlet's serious contemplation of death, for instance, Shakespeare's sleep-starved mind suddenly strays for a second: "To die - to sleep! - and then he starts to get carried away: "and by a sleep to say we end the heartache...that flesh is heir to. Tis the sleep of others. Although some fellows may not hit the sack until 4:00 or 5:00 a.m., or never, they should not disturb others who are attempting to sleep earlier. While some students can go to sleep even while a band rehearses next door there are others who can be awakened by the slightest disturbance and they deserve consideration. Students have a right to converse with each other in their dorm rooms late at night? Only so far as their voices remain unheard in adjoining rooms. Similarly, students can adjust their radii to be loud enough to grant themselves enjoyment without turning up the volume so violently that the light sleeper who lives next door will be awakened or have difficulty falling asleep.

We learn in YU that sleep doesn't just come by itself. We have to work at maintaining our regular sleeping hours every night and sometimes this pursuit requires a little effort. Last year my roommate and I had difficulty sleeping for several nights because we thought we heard pencils dropping on the floor of the room above us every thirty seconds. Finally, after I became reasonably certain that my senses could not be completely deceiving me, I walked up to that room on one around 2:00 in the morning and simply announced to the residents "Please stop dropping pencils on your floor. We'd like to get some sleep. They both looked at me very kindly and contentedly and replied "Okay." And they stopped dropping the pencils. So you see, nobody really wants to keep others up. If your neighbors are disturbing you, tell them. With a little responsibility and cooperation, we can all get some sleep.

This feature is a reprint from a 1988 Commencement.

BY JONATHAN REISS

We learn that man tends to most appreciate the luxuries of this world when he is deprived of them. People, for example, enjoy eating food but are most enthusiastic and excited about food when they are starving. Similarly, when individuals are deprived of sleep they more strongly appreciate its worth. Needless to say, one of the most treasured commodities at Yeshiva University is sleep.

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Pre-Med In YU: Tough Competition

BY JOSE FINE

This past semester, an organic chemistry lab instructor assigned an extra credit assignment, hoping to help only those students whose grades were foun-
dering. However, not only did the struggling students rush to do the assign-
meth, they had already received the taking strong 'A's in the course pleased with the instructor for permission to do the extra credit assign-
ment as well.

This incident is a premier example of the fierce competition between all YU pre-med students trying to reach their goal of being accepted to a medical school. Students are aware that while the number of med-school appli-
cants across the nation is growing, the number of seats in these schools is re-
mainning constant. A degree in medical school is, obviously, a primary con-
cern for all pre-med students in the country.

The pre-med students, recognizing academic success as the determinant used by medical school admission boards, have grown obsessed with achieving "A" majors.

The fear of fellow pre-med students getting ahead, and the constant need to know where every body is holding is unique," claims YC junior, Daniel Hershenson, "each year it becomes more and more difficult to get into good medical schools and pre-meds feel that they are fighting with their friends for entry into schools." Hershenson explains that most YC pre-meds, students being orthodox Jews from the New York area are com-
peting to get into the same 4 or 5 medical schools in the Northeast; whereas many universities most students have many viable options across the country. Dr. Vaisman than points to the dual cur-
riculum as being the source of the com-

Dr. Viswani adds, "I think its very competitive, but the very fact that some pre-meds are interested in learning Torah seriously, fortheyhave to catch up on sleep and study tim-
est, [is] the whole, there seems to be a major contradiction in the student body.4

Some pre-meds, however, contend that because of the inordinate pressure put on them by the students during lab, Horowitz has witnessed students being incoherent during one of them. "They'll try to cut off each other, or if they want to keep up their question answered, they don't want to wait."

Shnorring for Grades

With pre-meds obsessing over how to get a better grade, faculty members bemoan dealing with the students who "shnor" for grades. One faculty member explains, "When it comes to giving out grades, I would say that they are very competitive. How can I say that they are not crazy?" Horowitz recalls her first semester at YC when a student seriously re

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YUPR's David Rosen: The Man Behind the Message

BYRAN S. KAREEN

Interviews come easy to David Rosen. They should. He’s been through them nearly twenty-seven years. Rosen has been at the helm of the university’s public relations efforts for nearly a year and half now, introducing innovations both major and minor in his quest to tell the story of Yeshiva. Nationally recognized as a leader in university public relations, Rosen has drawn on years of experience as a reporter, consultant and public affairs maven as he moves YUPR into the future.

He finds it an imposing task.

“One of my major concerns coming in here,” the former Harvard Associate Vice President says, “was succeeding Sam Hartstein (the previous director of the department).” He launched it as a “nominally Jewish institution,” he knew the challenge of YU was unique. But, he says, the support of top university administrators, including President Norman Lamm and Senior Vice President Emeritus Israel Miller, has eased the transition. “I have been made to feel welcome,” he says.

In the past year, Rosen’s top priorities have been improving and expanding publications for key constituencies and developing and expanding the professional skills of the department’s staff. He launched Yediot Today, a bi-monthly newspaper that serves as “an internal vehicle to convey to faculty, administrators and students some sense of the scope of what’s going on.” He says his goal with the paper has been to “create a sense of community.”

The format of Alumni Review/Inside YU was also revamped to reflect President Lamm and Vice President for Academic Affairs William Schwartz’s desire for a publication with the “look, feel and content of a serious university alumni magazine.” That meant ditching the old magazine’s peculiarly large gape and expanding features on prominent alumni.

Rosen stresses that this has all been done within budget. In fact, three issues of YU Review out the same to produce as two issues of its predecessor.

Started as a Reporter
Rosen’s first job was a general assignment reporter at The Day in New London, Connecticut. The Boston native then moved to the Boston Herald before serving as Capital Bureau Chief in Massachusetts for United Press International. He has taught at Boston University and Harvard’s Graduate School of Education and worked as a political commentator.

The BU grad (whose physical likeness to Prince Charles has been noted on the front page of the Harvard Crimson) shifted from journalism to public relations in 1977 and has held posts at The University of Chicago, Brandeis University and Harvard University. He served as Chief of Staff to a former Massachusetts Lieutenant Governor and was vice president of Nico­lazzo & Associates, a Boston public relations and marketing firm.

His wife Nina still works as an attorney in Boston, where Rosen tries to spend weekends. He expects his wife to move to New York when his younger daughter graduates from college this May.

The Public Relations Department has a nearly thirty-person staff, who are assigned to one of five depart­

ments: graphics, media, photography, development and Cardozo/Midtown. An associate PR director has just been assigned to CSL and plans are underway to deploy a second person to work jointly at CSL and SCW.

A typical day for Rosen begins at half-past eight, when he scans the Times and the Post or the Daily News, “depending on which one my secretary puts in my box.” Priority one is reading the obituaries to see if any friends of the university have passed away.

Seeking the “Big One”
Rosen stresses that this has all been done within budget. In fact, three issues of YU Review out the same to produce as two issues of its predecessor.

“...Looking Ahead
In the coming year, Rosen hopes to continue to focus on the academic strength of the university, particularly the accomplishments of the undergraduate faculty. He feels that academics have traditionally gotten short shift in publications and press releases and plans more aggressive attempts to find “vehicles to convey the YU/RIETS story of excellence in teaching, research and community service.”

The department will soon distribute the first “Media Guide to Faculty Experts at Yeshiva University” and plans to place advertisements highlighting academic excellence, in addition to fundraising, in The Jewish Week. By seeking out regional and national media more aggressively, Rosen hopes to “reinforce the perception of YU as a Jewish-sponsored institution devoted to academic excellence,” thereby promoting student recruitment efforts, creating a positive fundraising environment and assuring the recruitment and retention of faculty and administrators.

Role is Educational
“The best part of the job is the pace, the people, the challenge and the impotence of YU’s mission,” Rosen says, “It has been exciting, though not always for the same reasons I imagined.”

He concedes that he finds the controversy over an organization for gay and lesbian students at CSL “strange.” It is the most frustrating challenge. A couple of students are cranking this thing up and the religious right outside of YU sees some advantage in bringing critical. They are envious.

Rosen notes that YU is the “biggest and the best, the only one in town in Orthodox Judaism with the only serious university level faculty and the best rehlim and an endowment in excess of $300 million.”

This will be Rosen’s last stand. He plans to retire in five years when he turns fifty-five, returning to writing (he has some book under his belt), some consulting and a sideline as a professional musician. “Maybe I’ll do some bar mitzvahs and weddings,” he says.

He’ll miss the students. “Part of my role is educational. I was the faculty advisor for an alternative student newspaper at Chicago. I’ve written recommendations and counseled students seeking professional careers in journalism. The institution—every institution—is about students, that is what the place is here for.”

Another successful interview.
Former Lyndon Johnson Advisor
Among Visiting Professors
continued from page one

and Nozick's excellent classroom reputations were crucial to the decision process. Both Hoffman and Nozick were reportedly surprised to be hired before speaking with professors from the philosophy or chemistry departments. R. Carmy noted that only "following the selection of [Nozick] were the full-time members of the department and incoming dean Dr. Norman Adler consulted about the most effective utilization of his presence."

R. Carmy, however, is looking forward to team-teaching with Nozick, a Harvard University scholar whose book, Anarchy, State and Utopia, won the National Book Award in 1975. Nozick will also be team-teaching with Dean Adler in a course dealing with the interaction of philosophy and psychology, as well as with Stem philosophy department chairman Dr. David Schatz.

A Renaissance Man

Despite the unsettling hiring process, Dr. Borowitz allowed that Roald Hoffman "would have been the best choice for the [chemistry] position anyway." Hoffman, whose Nobel Prize was for quantum mechanical studies of chemical reactivity, is also a well-published poet and is in the process of writing a book about Judaism and science. A Holocaust survivor, he now is the John A. Newman Professor of Physical Science at Cornell University.

Speaking from his office at Cornell, Hoffman told The Commentator that he accepted his two-semester position because he was attracted to both the students and professors of YU. Citing a fascination with Torah U'Madda, Hoffman claimed he is interested in working with the likes of "R. Moshe Tendler, Professor Haym Soloveitchik, R. Carmy," and others. In addition, he looked forward to "interaction with the students of YU."

Hoffman's affiliation with YU is a product of his 1991 appearance as the inaugural scholar in the Kukin Lecture Series. Dr. Blau, who is coordinating Hoffman's schedule, said the YC faculty was extremely impressed then and is confident now that Hoffman will prove to be a valuable asset to the chemistry department: "He is an exceptional person and is very interested in the Jewish aspect of life," she explained. Hoffman will be teaching general elementary chemistry at YC and Stem during the fall semester and hopes to lead a seminar course on science and culture. He met with various faculty members at a campus visit three weeks ago.

The Gottesman Program's third "acquisition" is that of former Presidential national security advisor Dr. Walt Rostow and his wife, political scientist Dr. Elisabeth Davies Rostow, who will be at YC and Stem for the Spring, 1996 semester. The Rostows, both professors at the University of Texas, Austin, are authors of numerous books and recipients of a substantial number of national awards. Walt Rostow served under President Lyndon B. Johnson.

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Shechita Students on Cutting Edge

by Steven Modownik

If Yeshiva University didn't qualify for the word "unique" before, it certainly does now: YU has officially become the first university where students can explore the use of metaphor in the works of Shelley in all its sublime glory, then proceed to ritually slaughter a chicken, all in the same day. A new shechita course, offered on Friday mornings in a biology lab in Belter Hall, is the cause of this newfound status.

On Fridays, a select group of knife-wielding undergraduates has chosen to learn the intricate laws of shechita from Rabbi Mitchell Serels, International Student Advisor. The twenty apprentices have purchased special knives, sharpening stones, and polishing stones for the course. Before attempting to actually perform shechita, they will be studying its complex and difficult laws and learning how to detect the much-loathed "nick" in the knife. Soon afterward, the grim melee will begin when students test their proficiency.

If R. Serels accedes to a student's competency at the end of the course, the student will be granted "kabbalah," the license to perform kosher slaughter passed down for centuries.

This will usher in a new generation of computer scientists, accountants, and attorneys who have been qualified to sit in the nation's top slaughterhouses.

Participants in the course are mainly motivated by a desire to learn more about Jewish tradition and ritual, and are pleased to have such a chance. One student joked about the therapeutic nature of taking out pent-up frustration on small, flightless birds after a long week. But the overwhelming feeling is that of awe at the wide spectrum of diverse educational opportunities available at Yeshiva University.

That diversity has its limits, though. The course, which focuses only on the biological aspects of sheep and goats, will not be expanding to the bovine world any time soon.

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Office Hours
By appointment
**The Management Seminar: Opening New Doors**

**FOR YU STUDENTS**

**by JOSEPH GILDO**

Summer Redstone, Ronald d'Pertusha, Andrea Cusano, Jean Rennert, SySyz, and Michael Gold, three of the most wealthy and powerful CEO's and chairmen in the business world today; they also happen to be bilingue and well-protected Syn Syn School of Business lecture series entitled, "Contemporary Problems in Business."

Four weeks into the semester, the 70 students in the class rave about the enthusiasm and excitement of the entrepreneurs generated throughout the lecture hall. "When the CEO of Visco, Toys R' Us, or Boeing Steams is addressing you face to face, you make sure your mind absorbs every syllable," said a SSSS junior and seminar student Andrew Davison.

While all students, faculty, and alumni are marvelling over the group of highly-famed businessmen, the YU community is still wondering how this course came into being.

In a meeting last Monday, Dean of SSSS Dr. Nierenberg, Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Schwartz, and Assistant Dean of Student Affairs, Fred Palumbo, came to discuss the fact that the business world has not been satisfied with the skills of college students across the country. Although students are well trained in business theory, businesses also wish to see college recruits to be better equipped with practical knowledge. Everyone agreed that a bridge between business theory and its practical aspects was needed in the Sy Syn School of Business. A decision was reached to try to alleviate this problem by expanding to a curriculum which will attempt to foster greater links with prominent businessmen who could share their "practical knowledge" with students. This semester's Management Seminar under the aegis of the School's Ira and Doris Kukin Distinguished Visiting Professorship program, is only the first in what SSSS hopes to be a series of even more exciting partnerships in the business school.

When devising the class, Dr. Palumbo created a list of possible candidates from many sectors of the business world, hoping to give a student a broad spectrum of major companies. Many of the CEOs were also chosen based on the varying challenges that their companies were experiencing, for instance, foreign competition, government regulations, downsizing and environmental problems. Ultimately, the list was narrowed down to the present diverse group of entreprenneurial all-stars.

The course provides an opportunity for students to write critically, which helps benefit companies in the future.

Besides student benefits, Dr. Palumbo also realized the importance of the course. "It is critical for students to gain an understanding of how a business can have an impact on the entire YU community. The course enhances the academic quality of YU and what many prominent donors want to see at a development of their contributions. The course also helps promote relation between students and the best leaders in the business world, who have had little previous connection with YU. This new relationship will hopefully progress into increased recruiting by these companies at YU."

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**ANNOUNCING YISHIVA COLLEGE PRIZES FOR WRITING**

**Fiction**
Best Short Story: Jerome Robbins Memorial Award
Best Essay in a Freshman Composition Course
Best Essay in an Interdisciplinary Course
Best Essay on Any Subject

**Poetry**
Best Poem not yet unsupervised
Best Poem based on a theme in the Hebrew Bible

*(Yeshiva University Press Academy of American Yeshiva College Poetry Award Contest)*

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**YU to Face Financial Consequences if Gay Issue Goes to Trial continued from page one**

*is specifically contrary to its inherent religious values. In the interest of maintaining our present position, it would not be easy for YU to meet either of the two criteria.*

Since 1988, when the Attorney General of New York State sent a questionnaire to all universities asking whether they would comply with the statute or claim exemption, YU has specifically claimed that it is not a religious institution. In fact, in the late 1960s, YU specifically separated itself from RIETS in order to allow itself to maintain its status as an institution not governed by religious values. RIEATS was given its own charter and is affiliated with YU only by a very specific agreement which, again, specifically states that it is not a religious institution.

In the opinion of the presenting attorneys, arguing against such over-reaching self-incriminating actions, the court would indeed be an impossible task. When pressed, they said that if forced to argue the issue in court, they would point to the practical religious aspects of the case. "Yeshiva University schools in order to establish it as a religious institution. Even if YU were to establish itself as a religious institution, despite the difficulties, it would still be necessary for it to prove that providing facilities for the gay club specifically negates its religious purpose. Richard Davis, one of the two attorneys, argued that even if this claim is accepted, the court would be difficult to meet because the statute specifically says that providing equal facilities is not amount to condoning the religious activities of the court. Thus, YU could not argue that simply by providing office space it is condoning the club, because the law says that is not so. Even the attorneys, however, did allow that it would be easier for YU to meet this test than the first test of proving that they are a religious institution. Interestingly, under this second criterion, even RIEATS, clearly a religious organization would be unable to take action against gay club.*

Although high legal precedent in this area is far from abundant, there are two relevant cases. The first is the well-known Goldman case. In Goldman v. the Univer of Wis., the University attempted to deny equal access to gay organizations and the Washington DC Court of Appeals decided against the university. Though the Georgetown case is similar to YU's situation, the law is different in the two states and thus the case is of marginal importance. More relevant to the New York State case of Schelber v. St. John's. In this case, St John's University removed a Jewish student leader, arguing that his occupying the position prevented the university from achieving its religious purpose. Here, the Court decided that although St John's did qualify as a religious institution, it would still not be able to demonstrate that the position at issue is forbidden by a person of the same religion. This decision is viewed as extremely damaging to YU on this issue because while St John's, which previously could not be a religious institution and refuses to state funds, YU does not, and would thus in a much worse position than St John's.

**Collateral Consequences**

The meeting ended with a discussion of the collateral consequences that YU could face if it were to take this matter to court. If YU were to argue in court that it was a religious institution, it would be specifically contradicting the Attorney General's claim that YU is not a religious institution. Furthermore, it would be condoning the club, something that YU itself is a religious institution. In the opinion of the presenting attorneys, arguing against such over-reaching self-incriminating actions, the court would indeed be an impossible task. When pressed, they said that if forced to argue the issue in court, they would point to the practical religious aspects of the case. "Yeshiva University schools in order to establish it as a religious institution. Even if YU were to establish itself as a religious institution, despite the difficulties, it would still be necessary for it to prove that providing facilities for the gay club specifically negates its religious purpose. Richard Davis, one of the two attorneys, argued that even if this claim is accepted, the court would be difficult to meet because the statute specifically says that providing equal facilities is not amount to condoning the religious activities of the court. Thus, YU could not argue that simply by providing office space it is condoning the club, because the law says that is not so. Even the attorneys, however, did allow that it would be easier for YU to meet this test than the first test of proving that they are a religious institution. Interestingly, under this second criterion, even RIEATS, clearly a religious organization would be unable to take action against gay club.*

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**Ohavei Shalom Tzedakah Fund**

Your Contribution helps needy families in Israel.

Contributions can be given to:

Judah Wohlgelernter
Pollack Library, YU
Rav Shimon Schwab

BY NICK MUZIN

After a lifetime of service to the Jewish community, Rav Shimon Schwab, beloved leader of the nearby Breuer’s community passed away last week at 86 years of age. Born in Germany and educated in the Lithuanian Yeshivas, Rav Schwab was considered one of the last great Torah giants from a generation that is all too rapidly fading away.

In 1957, after serving as a Rav in Baltimore, Rav Schwab joined the Rabbanut of K’hal Adath Jeshurun in Washington Heights and later took over the duties of the famed Rav Breuer at 37.

Rav Schwab was known throughout Klal Yisroel as a dynamic Talmudic scholar whose advice was widely sought. He was a brilliant thinker and a prolific writer who delivered his many themes with a fiery oratory. His famous sefer “Elu VaElu” (These and Those), is considered a basic handbook today for many Jewish educators. In addition, his collections “Selected Speeches” and “Selected Writings” testify to his wide scope of expertise, ranging from piercing Divrei Mussar to an essay on the miscalculations in the timeline of Jewish History.

Rav Schwab also composed a beautiful Kinah about the Holocaust which is recited in many shuls today on Tisha B’Av.

Rav Schwab was instrumental in the operation of the Kehillath Adath Jeshurun Kashrus division, which is considered by many to be of the highest standard. He was also involved in the growth of the Breuer’s Beis Medrash and Kollel.

Rav Schwab was one of the last gedolim who promoted the unique philosophy of Torah Im Derech Eretz, an ideology based on the writings of Rav Shimon Raphael Hirsch. While many have compared this to YU’s Torah U’Madda philosophy, Rav Schwab was a staunch opponent of YU and spoke many times about the problems he foresaw with a way of life “that couldn’t make up its mind about priorities.” It is perhaps because of Rav Schwab’s close proximity to YU, both physically, and with regard to ideology, that he felt so inclined to speak out against it.

In his will, Rav Schwab stipulated that no hespedim be said at the levayah. Instead, a large hesped was held on Monday night February 20 at which both the Novominsker Rebbe and Rav Shmuel Kamenetsky, Rosh Yeshiva of the Yeshiva of Philadelphia, spoke.

Rav Zecharia Gelley, who joined the rabbinate of the Kehillah eight years ago in order to help Rav Schwab with the day to day operations, will be taking over as Rav of the community.

OBITUARY

Harav Shlomo Zalman Auerbach

BY STEVEN MOODENICK

HaRav Shlomo Zalman Auerbach, one of the most respected halachic authorities in Eretz Yisrael and the world, became the third pa”h to leave us this month when he passed away in Jerusalem on Sunday, February 19. Rav Auerbach’s passing was marked by mourning worldwide, and the recognition that an irreplaceable Torah figure had been lost.

Rav Auerbach, who was 84 at his passing, was reportedly the first child to be born in a fledgling Sha’arei Chessed neighborhood of Jerusalem, a community he served his entire life. Under the guidance of his father, HaRav Chaim Leib Auerbach, the world-famous Jewish mystic, Rav Shlomo Zalman attended the renowned Eitz Chaim yeshiva. He gained a reputation as a preeminent halachic authority at quite a young age and was a mainstay at Sha’arei Chessed’s Ger Shul for fifty years. Rav Auerbach’s first sefer, “Ma’adan Tzvi,” was a highly acclaimed work concerning the laws of hilchot. After years of private study, Rav Auerbach became a master in all areas of halachah, having written thousands around the world relied solely on him for halachic guidance.

Rav Auerbach’s grasp of Jewish law included a firm ground in science and technology, upon which he could form complex halachic opinions, especially in the area of Shabbat. In a moving eulogy delivered last Tuesday night in a packed, Main Beit Midrash, MVP Rosh Yeshiva Rav Meir Goldwicht recounted how Rav Auerbach met with the greatest physicists in Israel, who were awestruck at the breadth of his knowledge.

But most significant, asserted Rav Goldwicht, was Rav Auerbach’s perfect middos, especially his modesty: “His uniqueness was that he did not see his own uniqueness! He made everyone feel that he existed purely for them.” Rav Goldwicht described him as one who hated machloket and constantly fled from it, as a supporter of orphans and widows, as one who subjugated his will to that of others. MVP Dean Rabbi Zevulun Charlop characterized Rav Shlomo Zalman as “a world personality. His greatness was that he belonged to all camps, that he was the friend of all enemies.”

Connection to YU

Rav Auerbach had strong ties with the Goldwicht and Charlop families. Rav Goldwicht’s family, which settled in Sha’arei Chessed before moving to Kerem B’Yavneh in the mid-fifties, has maintained extremely close relations with the Auerbach family. Rav Charlop’s grandson married Rav Auerbach’s granddaughter just last month, but the two families go decades back. Rav Auerbach’s grandfather, HaRav Yaakov Moshe Charlop, who was head of Sha’arei Chessed and Rosh Yeshiva of Mercaz HaRav, was the one who first approached Rav Shlomo Zalman about leading the community.

In a 1945 letter recently discovered by Rav Charlop, Rav Yaakov Moshe writes about a thirty-something scholar whom he had just met and felt was destined for greatness. In the letter, Rav Yaakov Moshe implores his son to see to it that the young Shlomo Zalman Auerbach is properly supported and given every opportunity to grow in learning.

In his final letter, Rav Auerbach requested of his mourners “not to overindulge in pain...but to accuse...not meager, and love Torah.”

ABSOLUTE

It’s official! A recent study conducted by a Big Six accounting firm has verified The Princeton Review’s outstanding average score improvements! Our MCAT students have an average score improvement of 6.0 points. Our LSAT students improve their scores by an average of 7.5 points. The average score improvement of our GMAT students is 72 points, and our GRE students raise their scores by an average of 214 points. So, how do we do it? Simple. Small classes (no more than 15 students) grouped by ability and great teachers who give lots of personal attention. The Princeton Review is the most effective, efficient and enjoyable way to get great results! No more wondering who’s the best. Now, we have PROOF! 100% PROOF!
BERNIE "RED" SARACHEK
YESHIVA HIGH SCHOOL
NATIONAL INVITATIONAL
BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Competition for the Number One
Yeshiva High School Team in North America

**PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS**

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**GAMES**

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Yeshiva University Max Stern Athletic Center

Game Schedules Will Be Posted In The MSAC

INFORMATION: CALL THE OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS (212) 960 5277
Expansion of Maximum Credits per Semester Not Expected

continued from page one

clarity referring to the mandatory shir
credit program final.

The VC faculty would also like to lose, their fears about shir
credit replacing college elective credit as
assessed by the counterbalance of reduc
ing Israel elective credits. In fact, they may even gain. Rabbi Charlop presently
seeks four semesters of mandatory
shir credit. But according to sources, some in the debate have expressed in
terest at reducing Israeli credit down to
twenty four, thereby freeing up even more elective credits.

SOY President Book Not Invited

The administration also hopes that
students will not feel they are losing
under the proposal, as the total credits
taken outside of college classes will re
main approximately the same. Strik
ingly absent at this past meeting how
ever,SOY president Misha'el Book, who attended the previous meeting and has been the predominant voice of the
students on the issue. Book argues that he was promised at the previous meeting that he’d be invited but he was left uninformed. “They told me I’d be invit
ed, yet I only found out about the meet
ing from someone after it had already taken place,” remarked the SOY presi
dent.

The incident has heightened stu
dents’ fears that they are being shut out of the process.”Many members of
the administration are very good at paying lip service to the idea of student input, but when it comes down to it, they make little effort to include them in the pro
cess, noted an anonymous and clearly agitated student. “It seems almost as if they view students as an interference instead of an integral part of the pro
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Dr. Bernstein, however, points out
that despite agreeing with the notion that students should play some role in
the process, he believes that in its early
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mainly to faculty and administration. He explained, “Often, student involve
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heat than it does light. Students will have their say, later at both the Aca
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members point out that this will not
impact on current students anyway, be
cause all discussions on the issues have been under the assumption that
those now enrolled in the college will
have a “grandfather clause” and will never apply to them.

Other concerns have been voiced.
Some students maintain that the man
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classes they are able to take in a given
semester. The possibility of YC expanding this limit, though, is quite improb
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“After the YC meeting several weeks ago which passed the resolution set
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**Mac's Finish Second in the IAC League Standings**

**Team Earns Respect by Overcoming Adversity**

BY ADAM MELZER

Now that the season is over, it is time to reflect a little on how far the Macs have gone and how much adversity they have overcome. The Macs wanted respect this year and they earned it. After beginning the season 3-6, the Macs finished with a better record than last year.

The Macs were a team that not only had a very productive season in doing so, but also had a team that overcame adversity. Danan. The Macs finished with a better record than last year.

The 1994-95 Macs will be remembered as a team that overcame adversity. Though many had thought the Macs would simply fall apart this year, they surprised all and overcame a number of factors which figured against them in the beginning of the season. Here is a list of some of them:

1. The loss of Daniel Aaron and Miko Danan. The Macs finished with a 1-3 record.
2. A 3-6 start. The Macs won 10 of their final 14 games.
3. The injury to Issac Neuman. A key player who emerged as a solid player in only his first season as a Mac.
4. The media - 'nuff said.
5. The injury to Isaac Neuman. A key role player was replaced by Neil Bronstein who emerged as a solid player in only his first season as a Mac.

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The second opponent to face YU was IAC newcomer, Polytechnic. After watching this team play earlier in the day, Coach Shensheng Jiang figured on giving his rookies some quality time. He got his wish as the Macs defense remained solid. There was no doubt, they were beating themselves! Finally the team came alive late in the second game, but it was too little too late. The final score was 153, 151, 15:3 in favor of York.

**Macs Beat Bard in First Round**

The Macs qualified as the second seed in the Independent Athletic Conference after defeating Stevens Tech in the season finale. The Macs first round opponent in the IAC tournament was Bard College. The game was played before a large crowd in the Max Stern Athletic Center. The Macs ground out a 12- point win without star Alan Levy who sat out due to injury. Beat Bard allowed the Macs to move on to the semifinals against Mt. St. Vincent. For the Macs, the win also demonstrated that they could win without Levy, a graduating senior. Barry Aaronoff (the nation's steals leader as of tournament time) played his best game as a Mac, scoring 26 points on 11 for 14 shooting (4 three pointers). Neil Bronstein was also a force with 14 points and Stephen Kupferman (8 points) was superb in filling in for an injured Alan Levy.

In the semifinal game, the results were much different. The game was over quickly as Mt. St. Vincent trounced the Macs 97-53. Mt. St. Vincent hit their first seven shots of the game (the eighth shot, which was missed, was quickly tipped into the basket).