YC Faculty Join National Professors’ Group

by Meir S. Zaitchik

In the latest shot fired in the ongoing battle between yeshiva faculty members and upper-level administrators, over a third of the faculty have coalesced to form a chapter in the American Association of University Professors (AAUP).

Faculty has been seeking to increase their power since the Supreme Court struck down their petition to unionize in the late 1970s. Even though one professor coin the chapter in the national organization as, “just a sound-board,” and the YU administration does not officially recognize the chapter, faculty members still hope that membership in a national organization will provide them with the leverage necessary to accomplish their goals. And those goals have a singular focus.

“It boils down to one thing—the faculty are not well-paid,” said Music professor and Vice president of the new chapter, Dr. Noyes Bartholomew. According to the latest statistics, the median salary for full professors at YU (defined by the University as instructors who teach at least twelve hours a week) falls almost $9,000 below the average median salary at other AAUP affiliated schools. The latest payraise bolsters those numbers, but many faculty members point out that its does not go far enough.

“Our administration is not made up of evil people. But they claim they don’t have the ability to pay us properly and then keep the numbers to themselves,” said one professor who requested to remain nameless.

YC Set to Announce Honors College for Fall 1996

by Nick Mizrahi

In a bold initiative to strengthen the academic program at YC, the Committee on Academic Excellence has drafted a proposal to create an Honors College within the University starting in Fall 96 that would provide exceptional students with the ability to pursue an enriched program of study.

The Committee’s proposal, dated September 6, stated that the aims of the Honors College were “to attract more bright, talented students and ... to enhance the already excellent education offered at YC.”

Students in their Senior year at high school who possess top GPA’s and SAT scores would be eligible for admission into the program. The proposal specified that the Honors track would function as a “semi-permeable system” whereby students not enrolled in the program would be able to take select honors courses.

The complete program would require spending three full years on campus and taking 7-8 honors sections of “bread and butter” courses such as Jewish History, English Composition and Literature, and a four-credit Bible. The program would contain a strong emphasis on interdisciplinary and writing-intensive courses. It would also include advanced quantitative courses, such as a physics & chemis- try “supercourse.” Honors students would pursue special research projects in their desired field of study and would be required to submit a three-credit honors thesis in their senior year. Students who completed the honors track with a minimum B average would have this distinction noted on their diploma.

Printed this program is the brainchild of Vice President for Academic Affairs William Schwartz and YC Dean Norman Adler. The program is needed, according to Adler, to help students “move into the worlds of pure thought.”

“Our kids are the best in the country,” tells Adler. “You don’t believe me, but I’ve been around long enough. And yet [they] write terribly. [They] haven’t been sufficiently intellectualized.”

In fact, according to Dean Adler, even the Hebrew courses at YC are “not good.” He would like to see an honors program implemented in Judaic Studies whereby top students would take courses at the Ber- narad Revel School.

Another committee member, Dr. Will Lee, would like to see continued...
Rabbi Lamm, The Time is Now

Rav Aharon Kahn’s speech in the Beis Medrash created a sensation on the Yeshiva College campus, and the reason for all of the excitement is very clear. Students have been waiting too long for the leaders of Yeshiva University to stand up and assert their beliefs; to fight for that in which they believe. Rav Kahn did just that, and his impact was profound.

But the students here at Yeshiva, and, throughout the University community, are not satisfied. Yeshiva University is, for all intents and purposes, under siege. Gay clubs and fraternities are calling into question the reason d’etre of a University that has survived and thrived for over 100 years, and yet YU’s leadership is all but silent.

The time has come end this silence. We, in this very space, were quick to applaud Dr. Lamm’s decision to stay out of the media circus and preserve the dignity of both himself and the University. But that was then, and this is now. Then we thought that Yeshiva College would never have a gay club; now, we believe differently. Then, we never could have envisioned a fraternity on our campus; now, we know differently. There is no longer any room to equivocate. The University has a imminent need for its leadership to take a firm stand on these issues that are so central to its existence.

Politics and public opinion aside, only the President and Rosh Yeshiva of Yeshiva University can take that stand. For several decades, Dr. Lamm has been centrist orthodoxy’s foremost spokesman and intellectual advocate. Only he possesses the University tongue, communal platform, and oratorical power to redeem the position and perception of Yeshiva University in the Orthodox Jewish community.

Rabbi Lamm - the room is packed, the seats are filled, the podium is ready, and the audience awaits you to address the crowd. You will have their attention for only so much longer.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Think Before You Schedule

To the Editor:

I would really like to address this letter to those members of the administration who were responsible for the school schedule over the Yom Tov period. The schedule that was established was made with a complete lack of consideration for the students of Yeshiva University. The hundreds of students at YU and Stern who do not live in New York or New Jersey, despite the obvious implication by the administration, highly value their few week a year at home with their families. Rosh Hashanah is a time that I and many others would much prefer to spend in my own community and with my family. YU made a schedule such that only two days of school, the 28th of September and the 2nd of October, kept me and my fellow “out of towners” in the New York area for Rosh Hashanah. I could have left on September 21st, but instead I have to leave on October 2nd. I guarantee that if the administration would have taken their precious time to ask students if they would mind having the semester end two days later if they could be home for Rosh Hashanah, the answer would have been unanimous “NO”. Maybe YU doesn’t care enough about the best interests of students when making decisions of this nature. The fact that there are morning classes the day after Rosh Hashanah and afternoon classes the day after Succos only confirms my feelings all the more. The former causes those who were fortunate enough to go home for Rosh Hashanah to return late Tuesday night no matter how far away they are. The latter does not even allow those who were either in Israel or the West Coast for Succos to return in time for class all together. I admit that on paper it may have seem practical because re-starting school on two Thursdays makes YU look a little foolish, but I also believe that a University has the responsibility to look out for its students and only then to look for itself.

Sincerely,
Ezra Genauer, SSB’96
Seattle, Washington

Responsa Continues on Page 3
Thank Goodness for the Commentator’s Editors

To the Editors:

As flegding editors, do you want to earn a reputation for exaggerating, weak inductive reasoning, anecdotal evidence, inaccuracy, glitches in writing, and failure to understand the factual context necessary to take a stand on the issue at hand, as your editorial on the Advise-ment Center implies?

1. Y.C. advisers actually intend to work as a TEAM - so that a humanities advisor would rightly send a science division question of a higher order of complexity to an advisor from that division. Beyond the Center, we work closely with our peers at Deans and with other professionals boasting complimentary brands of expertise, including Senior Professors in the various majors. Naomi Karp should know, as a student need Career Advisement, and David Himber in the Dean of Students’ Office should a student need psychologically informed counseling. Obviously, the only way for a student to get reliable advice or effective help is to get it, directly or indirectly, from the right person.

2. In the Yeshiva College Advisement Center, Syna School of Business has always ably provided its own academic advisement through Dean Ira Jaskoll. While a Y.C. advisor may help a first-year student weigh SSBS vs. Y.C. options or register for basic courses, we rightly direct a student seriously interested in SSBS to Dean Jaskoll.

3. Lacking eidetic memories, we provide advice with reason. “Details of requirements, course descriptions, and comprehensive outlines of specific majors should really be advising [sic] languages.” By that standard, Dean emeritus Norman Rosenfeld might qualify as an advisor after well over a decade of experience, but no one else in the College possibly could. Thanks to training, handbook, and support from Dean Avery Horowitz, we know many of the answers, we know where to find most of the rest more quickly than students could, and when exceptional cases come up, we usually know whom to consult on students’ behalf.

4. We agree that we should offer “assistance on a personal and friendly level,” and ordinarily, we do. So what about the heart-wrenching story of “one new student,” which seems to have bypassed the entire editorial? It seems the student, mystified as to what majors to choose, was advised to read the catalog. True, as advisors, we often refer students to the relevant section of the catalog, the legal basis for curriculum, college require-ments, requirements for majors, and so on. Also true, every student is technically responsible for becoming familiar with the catalogue. Still, as reported, the answer sounds a bit discourteous and impolite, not to mention incomplete. Under similar circumstances, I might have sent the student to Career Counselling, which does initial assessments of interests, abilities, and matches between various lines of work and individual students. I probably would have tried to initiate a conversation on strengths and interests, and I would almost certainly have advised the student to come back two or three hours later, unless they wanted to do serious good and give. But in fact, the student was asking about the nitty-gritty, course-by-course requirements of a particular major, so that the catalogue did hold the precise answer, and in fact, the advisor thought of himself as offering the suggestion good-humorley in the middle of one of the busiest registration days of the year. Regardless of the circumstances, the weakest possible induction arises from one anecdot which the editors did not bother to check against other students’ impressions or to place into context of the way the Center functions.

5. Did the editors ever go through registration before last year? Our feedback is that for the past two years, partly because of the Center and partly because of Registrar Mel Davis’s initiatives, registrations no panic at any college have run much more smoothly. Senior checks, which we have begun to handle, have relaxed many seniors worried about passing graduation requirements with some technicility. Many individual students have thanked many of us for making their lives a bit easier and clearer. Even so, thank goodness for the Commentator’s editors, responsible journalists to the rescue. They have seen through this PR smokescreen and reinforced widespread student cynicism just in time! Perhaps some students were actually in danger of beginning to believe that the College has made some logical and substantive improvements in their overall education!

Sincerely but incompetently,
Dr. Will Lee

P.S. Any student who wants to offer reasonable, constructive criticism which will help us advise people better, please send a signed or anonymous notes to the relevant individual advisor. If the problem is systemic, to Dean Horowitz or Dean Adler. Seriously.

From the Editor’s Desk

Ari Hirsh

Message From the YCSC President

Dear Students,

During these days of Iavana, we want to focus on what we as a Jewish student body need to change. Most importantly, we must examine how we relate to one another, especially how students of different Yeshiva programs speak to and act towards each other. This is the time for us to come together with the theme of unity - Kol Yisroel. Aravim Zeh Loh Zeh - If not now, when.

How may we achieve this? Each of us should be introspective and work through his individual attitude. Collectively, we need to structure programs which will bring all of us together as Yeshiva students and Jews. To this end, I urge your strong participation in our campus and student activities. Let us transcend the divisions of our four Yeshiva programs and see ourselves as one Yeshiva.

Therefore, urge the so-called “fraternity brothers” to expand their divisions and to return to us as full partners in the Yeshiva College community. By redirecting our energy and talents towards communal goals, a common life they will surely be able to achieve the professional goals of dedication to community service and charitable work.

Join us in pleading. Let us pledge to create a new harmony among students. Let us pledge to include and involve every student in campus life. Let us pledge to build a true Yeshiva atmosphere on campus.

These are not simplistic pledges. They touch the heart of our tradition. They are pledges that reflect our values as Jews. So long as it is the time to sail against the wind. While the world around goes to pot, our Yeshiva must resist the forces of decadence. We cannot wait for a full and fair wind, unless we are willing to risk having Yeshiva University be blown off its charted course. A New England poet once said: “In a calm, we shall keep the rudder true.”

May Hashem give us the wisdom and the strength to pull together, to keep the rudder true and to emerge as a stronger, Torah-oriented student body.

Josh Fine
YCSC President '95-'96

Mazal Tov to Executive Editor Ryan Karben on his Engagement to Lauren Berkritski

No matter how long I wait in between haircuts, two weeks, two months or two years, I inevitably experience the sensation of time paralysis. Here I am, back again, sitting in the same chair, staring at the same decorations and listening to the same conversation being spoken by the same people, using the same barber to cut my hair.

Yom Kippur plays a similar time game. 364 days separate each successive holy day; yet, every Kol Nidre I enter the synagogue noddling my head in amazement, wondering how a year can translate into a yesterday.

And here I am again, sitting in the same chair, praying with the same people in a joined effort to cut and shape my spiritual growth.

The parallelsism sounds nonsensical, and demeaning towards the holiest period on the Jewish calendar; yet, last Yom Kippur it was appropriate to compare my Kol Nidre experience to that of a barber shop.

I entered the synagogue pondering my life’s past, present, and future: What do I need? How can I improve spiritually? How can I move closer to God? These worries were pure, honest, uplifting, and very grocerient.

Much like a barber shop, I found myself looking directly in the mirror and only concerned with fixing my hair. I came to synagogue ready to direct my haircut without taking notice to the hair of our community or Jewish nature.

The mirror in the barber shop can only reflect personal and individual flaws; a person looks in and sees no one but himself. But Yom Kippur represents a time when community obligation, commitment, and survival takes greatest significance. Obviously a unique mirror must be designed which casts images of community, where the person gazes in and sees the deficiencies of a nation.

Approaching this Yom Kippur, during these Ten Days of Repentance, I shuffle many issues which I am using to build my mirror. The coming year presents a myriad of uncertainty to our Jewish community. Will Israel achieve peace or destruction? Can Yeshiva University, the bastion of Orthorad Judaism over the past century, find a means of protecting its Torah values without sacrificing its existence? And with the passing of Harav Shlomo Zalan Auerbach T”ZL, Can the Jewish World hold strong without a universal leader?

Although these issues do not appear resolvable, such prayer and community awareness will elevate my Yom Kippur from the barber shop to the holiest day of the year.

Therefore, urge the so-called “fraternity brothers” to expand their divisions and to return to us as full partners in the Yeshiva College community. By redirecting our energy and talents towards communal goals, a common life they will surely be able to achieve the professional goals of dedication to community service and charitable work.

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Josh Fine
YCSC President '95-'96
Yeshiva College

Campus News

Large Disparity Between MYP Shuir Popularity

BY KENNIE WIESELKAT

New numbers released by the MYP office indicate a wide gap between the more popular and less popular shuirim in MYP. Although there are twenty MYP shuirim for the 605 students enrolled in the program, approximately half of them attend four popular shuirim.

R. Bronspiegel’s shuir heads the list with an enrollment of about 90 students. R. Kaminer’s shuir is second with about 80 students. R. Zuckerman’s shuir is third with about 60 students, followed by R. Kamenetzky’s shuir with about 50 students.

The least attended shuir is R. Schnaps’s, which is attended by about 10 students.

The obvious problem for the popular shuirim is space. The lack thereof. The solutions, however, are far from obvious, especially with an overall increase in the number of students enrolled at YC/SSBB and with 215 RIET students not figured into the official MYP numbers.

"Certain shirurim are very popular and we need more study rooms to accommodate them, maybe even one lecture hall," said MYP dean R. Zevulun Charlop. Charlop even suggests the possibility of offering the number of students in particular shuirim. "The idea would be that every shuir would not have more than a certain, equal number of Talmidim," he said.

For the less popular shuirim, Charlop hopes to pursue a policy of gentle encouragement rather than firm coercion. "We try to persuade a student to try to do a different shuir, since all of our Rabbiim are great shuirim," he said. "We don't want anyone to lose out on the chance to be where they want to go, but we rather they be open to all the wonderful shuirim here in YU."

Senate Sets Agenda in First Meeting

BY EFRAIM LEITZ

Dr. Will Lee, YC/SSBB student senator moderator and chairman, opened the academic advisory board’s first meeting of the year explaining how they were entering a "full age for Senate" with the potential for accomplishment because of the involvement of new "innovation-minded" YC/SSBB students, Dr. Norman Adler.

Student Senator Isaac Sassen proposed the creation of a YU Student Council Guide on the Internet which would contain relevant information about professors and the courses they are teaching. This would include a detailed course description with an up to date syllabus, required tests list, a short biography of the professor (degree, past research, office hours, etc.), and most importantly an evaluation of the teacher: past and current students along with a grade distribution record.

Administrators were apprehensive over the prospect of placing this catalog on the Internet. "I am a little concerned about putting this on the World Wide Web on a computer which many people have access to," said Dr. William Schwartz, vice-president of Academic Affairs. "(40) you put it on a computer it may be difficult to limit access to people outside the University....make the material available to those who need to know who the consumer, the students," Dean Adler commented. "(40) I would that I wanted that distributed anymore. (40) I would want your students grades to put it on the World Wide Web. This is for family examination (only)."

However, both agreed that if the information could be "contained in the university" it would be feasible and worthwhile endeavor. Preliminary plans for this course guide, or at least the non-controversial items within it, may be at the top of the agenda.

The senate continues to grapple with the notion of limiting outside credits granted to students. The most talked about legislation is that of placing a credit cap on the number of Israel, summer school, and AP credits allowed. The ultimate goal of these limits would be to encourage students to spend an extra semester or two on campus. Senator’s hope that as students stay on the YU campus increases, the number and range of courses that can be offered would increase, thereby raising the academic level of the school.

In a related issue, the Senate has also introduced the idea of creating an "Horizons College" within YC (see front page related story) which would offer more challenging and interesting courses in various majors for students entering the school with a certain GPA and SAT score.

Finally, the Senate is working on enhancing the tutorial system in all majors and considering giving it some authority to increase their efficiency in reaching and helping as many students as possible. They are also looking into considering the possibility of getting members to help acquaint the student population with what is available through the Internet.
Karben Victorious in Rockland County Primary

GETS ENGAGED ONE DAY LATER
BY STEVEN MEDWONEK AND MIK S. ZETLIN

If you walk into the second-floor Morg room of YC senior Ryan S. Karben, nothing will strike you as out of the ordinary. A desk, bookshelf, a Norton’s astrology almanac perched on the desk and a bottle of Snapple, stays chilly in the fridge.

But Ryan Karben is anything but a typical YU student. And last week was anything but a typical week. He won a primary on Tuesday, got engaged on Wednesday and had a double-victory celebration on Thursday.

Life moves fast for the darling of the Democratic party, and will get even faster in the coming weeks. With the victory on Tuesday in the Rockland County Legislature Democratic primaries over a candidate more than twice his age, he now faces his toughest challenge yet—general election on November 7. If he is successful, he will earn $20,000 salary and will arguably become the most powerful twenty-one year old that the state has ever seen.

Not that he hasn’t made his mark until now. As a member of the Town of Ramapo planning board, he has aggressively fought for the rights of the underprivileged, and championed fair values by promoting legislation which would ban sex shops in residential areas.

Known as “Rockland County’s Boy Wonder,” to many of his peers and potential voters, Karben has become experienced in handling the attention. News of Karben’s victory was publicized on WNBC-14, WVBS Newsradio-88, and 1010 WINS. With oratory skills eclipsed only by Rav Aharon Kahn’s, the Karben mouth feels at home in front of the reporter’s microphone, and in front of the podium as well. Constant speechmaking is the mark of a successful campaign.

Given the frenetic pace of the campaign trail and a courtship—where does school enter Karben’s equation?

Simple. It doesn’t.

“School isn’t even in the backseat. It’s in the trunk,” Karben admits.

Adjunts Hired Filling Late Faculty Exodus

BY J.D. SHUMAN

Several adjunct professors were hired at the last moment in order to replace a number of professors that departed Yeshiva University. Consequently, the most ubiquitous professor “Staff” was scheduled to teach a number of courses for the course Catalogue.

Some faculty members left unexpectedly while others had given ample notice. Edward Jacobs, a former adjunct assistant professor of music, left the college for a full-time position at another college. He has been replaced by an adjunct teacher, Mr. Glazer.

Rebecca Stearns, an instructor in Speech and Drama, and Irving J. Borowitz, professor of Chemistry, have both retired after each having served YU for more than thirty years. Professor Borowitz has since been replaced by Wayne Schnatter.

“Dr. Stearns retired because the commute was too much... we were surprised, saddened, and disappointed to see her leave, but people do retire,” commented assistant dean Dr. Avery Horowitz.

YCSC Allocates Clubs Budgets for Coming Year

BY DANIEL RUBIN

The YCSC Executive Board has designated over $90,000 between 50 clubs, societies, and journals at its annual session of reviewing, cutting, and allocating student council funds. The remaining ten thousand dollars will be spent on the Chunuk Cucumber, The Chargers, and other YCSponsored events.

YCSC President Josh Fine adds that this year’s budget will be a “rolling budget,” meaning all clubs will receive more funds later in the year if deemed worthy by the Board. These allotments will be decided upon by the Board, which will reconvene every two-and-a-half months to review each club and observe whether or not they are properly taking advantage of the money they were allocated.

While most clubs generally received the same amount of money as they did last year, some club Presidents were visibly happy at their allocations. Rich Grosman and Steven Oppenheim, co-presidents of the Culture Society, had requested $250 to expand their club’s budget purchase. Grosman and Oppenheim were tentatively allocated $1100, but Fine informed them that they had received $1500, still enough money for a couple of shows. However, they were subsequently allotted a mere $50, just enough to pay for signs to be posted around campus. “If the Society can’t work with us, we can’t buy tickets without money up front, and we can’t expect anyone to give us twenty dollars for a ticket when we don’t even know what show we’re seeing,” said Grosman. Also disgruntled by his apportionment was Eytan Marcus, editor-in-chief of the Yeshiva University Medical Journal. Marcus explained in his proposal that the cost of two journals, including production and office costs, amounts to $7500, toward which the SCWSC would allot $1000 and the Dean’s Office would kick in $2000, leaving a request of $1750 to YCSC. The Journal was allotted $800 by YCSC, less than half of what Marcus had requested.

“I’m not happy about it,” Marcus said.

There is no equal distribution of funds. “There’s an ongoing trend to keep the Dean’s office out of the way,” said Grosman.

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Confusion Surrounds Club Status of YCDS

BY ARON STOUFFER

For many years the Yeshiva University Dramatics Society was considered by many to be the largest club under the umbrella of Yeshiva College. But these days, calling YCDS a club might be a mistake since it is being offered as a one credit college course with "club status," entitled Theater Workshop. At this point in time no one knows if the society—nor its members, and certainly not the Yeshiva University administration—will turn over the status of the dramatic society to the spring semester of 1994 following the release of the YCDS production of Lips Together Teeth Apart, a play dealing with the dual personality inherent within each person. The play contained overtones about homosexuality and sterilization. In what appeared as an effort to prevent a reoccurrence of the type of negative publicity that ensued, the Yeshiva University administration assembled a subcommittee of the Executive Committee of Academic Standards. Its purpose is to review potential script submissions by the YCDS faculty advisor, Dr. Anthony Beukas, and to recommend revision should committee members determine necessary. According to Martin Tollinsky, President of YCDS, the committee's emergence did not come without compromise. YCDS requests what it calls the minimum credit allotment for the Theater Workshop be increased from one to three credits. In addition, Yeshiva College Dramatics Society would have the status of either a "curricular activity," or "club," and become an official course. Their request was denied.

During the fall semester of 1994 students enrolled in Theater Workshop were allotted up to three credits based on the nature of their involvement in the productions. The next semester the Curriculum Committee met and concluded that allowing Theater Workshop receive three credits would undermine the legitimacy of the speech and drama major and minors, since a student involved in just four productions will have earned him a minor. Therefore, the Curriculum Committee adjusted the maximum allotment to two credits.

When students enrolled in the theater course at the beginning of this semester, they were shocked to find out that Theater Workshop had been reduced back to the original one credit, and "club" status. Tollinsky relates how the chaos surrounding the issue of credits has left potential actors hesitant to participate in YCDS, as they fear they won't graduate with the correct number of credits.

But the uncertainty of credits is not the only unresolved issue plaguing YCDS. In becoming an official course, as thought to have happened in fall 1994, YCDS should have been able to permit students on academic probation to participate in plays. For according to university policy, students whose grades are below standard are only denied admittance to extra curricular activities. In last year's production "Commotions With My Father," one student was indeed found to be on academic probation during the final weeks of rehearsal. Due to its new status and regulations governing academic courses, the student was permitted to continue in the production.

Seth Dimbert, stage manager for both "Envy of the People" and "Commotions With My Father," pointed to the Yeshiva College administration as the source of the confusion. Dimbert said, "There is no communication. Where as one committee might determine that more than one credit be given to a student for working on a play, the information never filtered down to the registrar... no communication occurred..."

Dr. Beukas declined to answer questions regarding the current state of YCDS, stating that he had not received the notes from the latest meeting of the curriculum committee nor from any deans who have been discussing the issues. Professor Beukas did mention that a meeting would be arranged following the holiday vacation, in which he, the dramatics society, deans of the university, and the curriculum committee, would be able to iron out everything.
Rav Aharon Kahn’s Powerful Assault on the Alpha Epsilon Pi Fraternity

Transcribed by David Swidler

Moral Verobasisi: Chodesh Elul is almost at an end. We stand at the portals of Yomim Noraim. What say to you, believe me, was composed leshaim shomayim; was reviewed by myself leshaim shomayim. And I stand here before you with a solemn commitment that what I have to say is truly leshaim shomayim. That does not mean that I cannot err. Nor does it mean that I cannot be misconstrued. Both you and I have to be on平行 at the outset. I, that I am not nichehal, and you, that you truly understand.

The Rambam tells us in Hilchos Teshuva Perak Gimmel: Al si pi shatikias shofar beriah hashana gezeras hakosov, remez yesh bo. What ever the gezeras hakosov, we can find a remez in the blowing of the shofar. Kolosar-what is that remes? What is that reminder? Uru ye-shalim mishalnechem- you who are asleep, wake up from your slumber. Ve-nidromim, hakitu zichrach leshanim vechispa bema’asachem- Search, examine your actions-veichur bishihva-and return, do teshuva-veichur boraachem-and remember your Creator. I’ve always had a start when I read these words, because the sequence is jarring for the mind that’s trained in the meticulous sedor of the Rambam. (This is the legacy of the Rov z”l in the entire yeshiva). How can you do teshuva and then remember hakkib’i? Chizru bishuva veichur boraachem. It should have said, lichora, the reverse: wake up from your slumber, examine your deeds, remember hakkib’i, and return in teshuva to him. What then shall we make of these words in the sequence that the Rambam presents to veichur bishuva, veichur boraachem-do teshuva, and then remember your Creator.

In the sequel to Yomim noraim, we’re going to have the greatest yam tov of Succos. And during that yam tov, on a shabbos, we will lain Koholes. There’s something at the very end of Koholes that kept coming to mind when I read these words of the Rambam, over and over, and finally something happens and an association is formed: veichur boraachem.- Why daveka “remember your Creator?” Why not “zichru Elokeichem,” or “zichru hakkib’i,” or any other term of reference? Why, “remember your Creator” - “zichru boraachem?” And I felt compelled to come to the following conclusion: that the Rambam here means to convey to us a very special sense -not, “remember the Ribono shel olam” - “zichru boraachem” lends us, as if by the hand, to that pasuk in Koholes: “Zehor es berechoh biynai bechuroseo.-” Remember your Creator in the days of your youth.”

Life, whether we like it or not, eventually piles upon us burdens and trials, pains and sufferings, and we, boy do we, cry out to hakkib’i. There’s nothing like a little macholot, chas vesholom, each monoisation, to send us running into the bosom of hakkib’i: “Ribono shel olam, help me!”

But we are all well. We are in the exuberance of youth! We don’t even know what it means, that we may not even have a tomorrow. Youth is only tomorrow! Youth is springtime! Youth is Shir Hashirim! Youth is excitement and enthusiasm! The world- if you’ll pardon the trope of the metaphor- is your oyster!

Rabbioshi: we get older; we have families; we have responsibilities; we have children- we worry about their health and their development; we worry about promises and hopes and yearnings that we have had for them that need fulfillment, and it doesn’t always happen, certainly not the way we imagined, or hoped.

And we cry to Hashem. And we know that Hashem is there. But in our youth? Who knows? On the occasional moment, an MCAT, an LSAT- “Ribono shel olam, I need you on this one!” - but the thought itself makes us laugh! And the rest of the time we are well- we are of limb and of vigor- and the Ribono shel olam is somewhere- somewhere else. We daven; we learn; and there’s a Ribono shel olam somewhere-out there. We acknowledge continued on next page
that Hashem sustains our very breath of life, but who takes heed of the inherent frailty, the existential frailty of our existence in youth? That is the meaning of this Rambam: what is teshuva gemurah? A teshuva with all your capacities intact, to do the same again and yet we withhold, we refrain, we withstand the temptation. You know that kind of teshuva in old age. In old age, we have admitted, we have capitulated, we acknowledged the Ribbeno Shel Olam by default, we have to have Him in our equation! We simply cannot live without Him anymore. We are too weak, we are too humble. But “biynai bechoruserecho” there is to be the challenge of “zechers es berecho.” That is the meaning of this Rambam Chizru bishiva-va: what kind of teshuva? a teshuva of “zechiru bornachem!” We still have time to ignore, chas vesholom; when we still have the capacity to accomplish that “zechiru bornachem” to be remembered: in our youth! That is the teshuva of “vechizru bishiva vezechiru boro-achem.”

But Kohles’s request, that we remember our Creator, is very heavy. Hashem asks, of course, that we take up the yoke of “b’cheilchol!” That is the image which is described in the gemoroh in masches Yuma and which has its echo today in the Tashlich travesty. Chazzal tell us in masches Yuma, daif choth, that like the kohain golod who was kept awake on the night of Yom Kipper by people gathering around the Rees Hamdok, so too, big- vullin, there was such a custom. And it tied to terrible deeds, as men and women mingled in this gathering together. Thanight of Yom Kipper! This is the yeter horas’s delight! When I was a child, I remember- how could I forget?- there was a break on Yom Kipper, and everybody piled out of the porch and onto the sidewalk. And on the corner of Broadway and 111st St., there was a Davvego store—an outlet for televisions. And they kept the televisions going 24 hours a day as an advertisement, even when the store was closed—it was for Yom Kipper. And it was the World Series! And the same people said, “Oshammnu, bogadaru,”—who said, “Al chai shechetom,”—who said, “vechel”—the whole world—“ni’arun lekem”—pass by you, for judgment—butter. This is his delight! In the mikoah! In the mikoah of Tashli- ch! In the mikoah of Yom Kipper! A tzelem b’cheilchol!

Yeah, there’s nothing more exciting to a yeter horas than the Epsilion Pi. In the mikoah! It’s not enough that it’s in NYU; or in the 30 or 40 or other institutions- it has to be in the mikoah! Other- wise, we cannot live. But doesn’t it have merit? Values? Pur- "College. Our Ye- shiva College possibility. Even- hour, there’s so- You could be a yeter horas bornachem.

"The banner of the Fraternity" brot- left empty bod- had no connection to the Ribbeno Shel Olam whatever.

Torah Umitzvos, even when we are young- but the yeter horas has other plans: “Sem- ach bochor beyadaluecho.”—Rejoice, O youth.” “You’re young,” Coaching and prodding and threatening and cajoling- here pushing, there pulling (If you’ll forgive me, here pushing, there blaming). He sings, this yeter horas, indefatigably, the song of youthful exuberance: Live it up! Enjoy! Sing, dance, drink, enjoy the pleasures of the flesh; take it all in—life is a celebration. In thousand ways the yeter horas argues his point. It’s an ancient song, but somehow nobody ever gets bored hearing it: Eat, drink, and be merry. And he roa: is a mask, this yeter horas- and suggests, and warns, “don’t lose a minute—don’t waste a breath—there’s so much out there for the taking! The world is a rich tapastry; a bounteous weave; a sumptu- ous feast; a smorgasbord of infinite possi- "I could not believe my ears! ... That anyone in his right mind could bring into a yeshiva, whose values are ancient and profound, the Shtusi- the assumption that they have something to teach me!”
“Sichat Mussar”

Transcribed from a speech delivered on Monday, September 8

Samuelson. Or, to put it in more Jewish terms, “All for one in [the violation of] Lo Sinein,” and one for all in [the violation of] Lo Sitzach.

And tell me something. You know that Rav Moshe Feinstein—It’s in a tehuva somewhere [Yoreh Deah 223]—writes that a certain sefer makes the point that Moshe Rabbenu didn’t immediately break the luchos when he heard from Hkb’h, “laich, rach, ki shishmah amcho.”

Why? Because when you see something with your own eyes, that’s me ‘over your heroes infinitely more. When he saw with his own eyes “ki shishmah amcho,” then he broke the luchos. Rav Moshe said no, itamotne. Chas veshalom. If Hkb’h says, “ki shishmah amcho,” he sees the hashchados with his eyes—and then! Hkb’h says it! it’s the ultimate truth—it’s the ultimate validation. He doesn’t have to sense for himself—he has already seen it for himself, in the words, “ki shishmah amcho.” So then why didn’t he break the luchos after all?

So Reb Moshe offers an astonishing perception. It’s quite possible, he said, that Hkb’h said “ki shishmah amcho,” that they made the egal. But he didn’t tell Moshe Rabbenu of the mechos! The dancing! The living it up! The licentiousness! That he didn’t tell Moshe Rabbenu about, So Moshe Rabbenu thought to himself, there’s still hope. I’ll go down, and I’ll be masbir to them. And he came down. It’s not an inyan to break luchos! You try to be maapacha—try to explain! Why break luchos? Until he saw the mechos! When he saw the mechos he said, “It’s impossible—I can’t break through there—no one to talk to—there’s no one to explain anything to!” The yetzer horah has them! They’re not mine anymore! And he takes the luchos and he smashes them. It’s pilat pil’oim.

Ribbosis, we’re all reading, “atem nitzovim hayom kulchem”—you are all there, every one of you. Is that not the ultimate camaraderie? The ultimate bond? Kulchem? Atem nitzovim hayom kulchem? We need to be tough by goyim how to declare communards? I can’t believe it. We, who in a few days—it’s just a few days—will no longer be ye’eyou kulam agudah achas la’sas reztoncho belavshev sholom. One band, one group, one union, one chavurah, one brotherhood, one fraternity. We need a guy and a girl’s way? It’s mind-boggling! Rachmonos litzion! We’re abandoning our mother—Ayberater should forgive me, in front of the Aron kodesh—we’re abandoning our mother for a prostitute! Look what we’re doing! We have an entire Torah that teaches us brotherhood and fraternity. What are we giving it up for? For what?

I’m not saying, for collegiality, the writing. I’m in the shiur room a few hours ago, pondering—worrying sick about the sudden success of the yetzer horah! And one of the talmidim—he’s not a talmid of mine in the shiur room and he notices I had the blue book—that’s the book—the handbook of this fraternity. I read it from cover to cover. You have to do your homework, Rabboh; I don’t watch chas vesholom that someone should come to me the next day and say, “Rabbi Kahn, you spoke, and you spoke, and you spoke—a lot of words (a lot of big words)—what do you know about this fraternity? How do you have the chutzpah? I read the whole book. Cover to cover. Certain sections I read several times. And you know why? Because I could not believe my eyes! You know why? You couldn’t believe my eyes! You know what? From the chutzpah— the book—also the content was different. I just can’t believe it! I’m telling you, if you want, we’ll pass it around, you don’t have to trust me there’s no way in a million years, and the mind of a Sholom Aleichem, I could not have conjured this up. I have to reveal No one could read that I’ve been that it’s gentlemanly not to assault a woman? Rachmonos! How can you sing an Aishes Chayil Friday night and join such a fraternity? It’s impossible! I closed it. I read the whole book. Avromos Ovino and the midas hachados was not mentioned even once. The closest I got was Charlie Moskowitz. He’s one of the founders, YUCh. I can’t believe it. I just can’t believe it. I was looking for the word “Torah.” Somewhere—towards the very, very end—I got to the Constitution. I read that, too. Even the book sprang my eyes! Even the mechos, even the content. And somebuddy, buried in there, there’s something; a member has to believe in God. It doesn’t speak well to God, but he has to believe in God. Doesn’t have to be Jew.

This talmid of our yeshiva whom I befriended—a wonderful, sweet fellow, beautiful mosheh-kezys, “oh-he-hey you saw the book?” Just learn about it. From that distance. “Oh, I used to be a member. We had an Arab,” they had an Arab. He believes in God, probably more than the rest of them. “Real animal house!” And then he said goodbye to me and he went on his merry way. Now, I’m not exactly sure what he had in mind. He saw that he’d check out your face, and he said, “you know, the movie!” I didn’t know what he had in mind. But I can tell you one thing: I know what he has in mind! Actually, the handbook didn’t give me that sense at all. On the contrary—it says, black on white: No Aquaintance Rape.

We need to borrow someone else’s bylaws to teach us “shavah vevechah veshelem veyeyem,” which is said under the consecration of a chuppah, in the bonds of shavah? We need someone to teach us “achim kal ba-kol Yisroel” that we say every Monday and Thursday in shiul—this Beis Medrash and in all the other betekhnot/knasios campuses of which, baruch Hashem, there are many? Achim kol be’Yisroel—we need to tell “brotherhood” when we know, “bonim im Hashem elokeichem!” And we learned the Rambam, “I lay vorech le’ach’al achat yisroel yoshe halev ravים...” and instead, lift this up, new Five Books of Moses. I just can’t believe it. I am mamish speechless—I can’t believe it. Before the book, I had a different drosho to present. The maskanot were removed. All that into the waste basket: all of those seforim; all of the chochos belevroos, and the ma’arei tehuva, and the Rambans, and the Ra’avads, and the R’Akiva Egoirs...and instead, lift up this, new Five Books of Moses. I just can’t believe it. I am mamish speechless—I can’t believe it.

“This is for a person who has no Torah, no mitzvos, and the fact that he’s a Jew is a marginal reality and plays no role whatsoever in his thinking, in his value system— he is one big cheftza of a goy!” ready. I couldn’t believe it. It couldn’t believe what my eyes saw. I can’t believe what’s happening—to your yeshiva! All of you. How do you feel when they don’t want to join, it’s your yeshiva! How could you do this to your yeshiva? A telem Chayil! How could you run to bankrupt your school? That’s why you, who have a rich uncle, run to some-one who’s penniless and ask him to help you out? It’s the right thing!

There is only one, and there always will be, only one initiation ride that is completely kabolas haTorah and shiru misvatmos; there is one and there will always be one motto, and that’s “Mi LaHashem Aylay.” There is one and there will always...
"Give the yeshiva a chance. Give yourselves a chance. Seek out the truth. Seek out the true wellsprings instead of the empty pits ... We abandon wellsprings of living water that keep bringing forth life. For what? How could you do that? ... Fight it! Resist it! Insist- but insist on the right things! Fight for the right things!"

There are all the mashchigim! Where are all the people who are "with it," and aware, and dynamic, and real, that they can relate to? That they can hang on to? That they can see the real fraternity in front of their eyes? So they don't have to go to the empty wastelands and go out the blue books, and read page 74. Don't establish it [the fraternity]. Give the yeshiva a chance. Give yourselves a chance. Seek out the true wellsprings instead of the empty pits. "Osi ozvu mekor mayim chayim lachator" lohmem koros boros nishboros acher to yoshul ha'amayim. "Ki shaytan im ro'o so oso 'ami...." Not only do we abandon in the Ribbono shel olam, but where do we go? To page 74! Boros nishboros broken distant that cannot even hold water. We abandon wellsprings of living water that keep bringing forth life. For what? How could you do that? Because you're uncomfortable? Fight it! Resist it! Insist- but insist on the right things! Fight for the right things!

during the late middle ages, there were great universities in Europe. Bologna, Paris—all of them—and in those universities, there were students getting drunk on a daily basis. How do I know? Because they left a legacy, because their skulls and their bones. They left a legacy: thousands of drinking songs. Thousands. And people get doctors for themselves. Translating them, explaining them, inside, outside—good, solid doctors (listen, anything for a parnosah). One of them, "Gadmeus Ignor," is very famous because Brahms—Johannes Brahms—wrote a piece of music that’s very popular: the Academic Fes
tival Overture. "After delighted youth, after troublesome old age," goes the poem, "the Earth will cover us all." "Gadmeus Ignor": "Let us therefore rejoice, for it will soon come to an end, the Earth will cover us all." In those days they still spoke Latin in the colleg
es and universities. The debauchery was identical, however. It was the same page 74, except then it was being rec
commended. In Tzfas, there was the meholach of the sefer charedim, who was always trying to get people of love, and he wrote a poem that had the words in it, "maftir shoras avocho." My soul is lost for you, Hashem. And you know that poem. You sing it every Shabbos: Yedid nefisoi ve hovanim hanachim. And he wrote another poem that nobody knows. But part of it became a song, and it goes by the words, "b'loso mishkan enoch." I will make for myself in my heart, a mishkan, a mishkan to Hashem. And there I will sacrifice a korbos to Hashem.

Rabbashoal, this yeshiva is a Yeshiva University. There is times when I am very excited about the idea; there are many times when I am absolutely mindless with excitement. I don't think that this fraternity is going to happen. It can’t happen. I can’t believe that even a young person whom the yeterer hora might happen to be a disciple of the shiur, that he can’t see that of the two poems, the university poem—oh, the poem speaks about the professors’ Yidn ak
 demis! Vintz pengeppl! You don’t have to know Latin—l can believe that

"We’re abandoning our mother—the Abyershter should forgive me, in front of the Aron kodesh—we’re abandoning our mother for a prostitute! Look what we’re doing! We have an entire Torah that teaches us brotherhood and fraternity. What are we giving it up for? For what?"

who is not yet a talmid? Who does not yet have a rebbe? Are we going to throw him out like so much sewage? An error? Can we? Dare we ignore him? Dare we violate "lo sa'amod al dam reyso." But I'll tell you one thing: if our agenda is kirov, pure and simple, we will fail, and we must fail, and we deserve to fail. The fellow in front of you is a borsor vodom, I mean, a telem elokim, a real, living, breathing person just like you. And Rabbofohal, it has already been said by greater than myself: "hevey mishmar shel Aharon"—we want to see him end and end with sequence—"hevey mishmar shel Aharon, ohaiv sholom veradait holam, ohaiv hallalim" uro oto kevura l'oros. "I am not going to charge a price—namely, that your absolute religious commitment—before I say I want you to have anything to do with him. I dare not! And who am I to charge that price when I know that one little twist in the pathway from the ghetto to Vilna, where my father was led to be shot three times, and was saved miraculously— to Lodz, where my mother was killed— to Prague— to New York— what little twist of events, and I would have been that fellow! What, it could not have been? Look at my cousins, and you shall see. Where do I have the chutzpah to deny him the absolute right to be what he is as a human being? As a person who feels and thinks and wants and craves? And what does he crave, after all, the same fellow who wants the fraternity here? He does not find blessing here! He does not understand "zecher es bor echo binyan bechuresoco." And you can’t blame him. Because no one taught it to him. And if someone tried, then he failed, and if someone succeeded, he for
got! But he’s there in your daled amos, and that’s where “lo sa’amod” begins. We’re so busy being mekarev every body that we’ve forgotten the behind that agen
da there’s a human being!

And I’ll tell you something: I fail first and foremost the administration. This is not a political statement, and chas veshol
om is it should be misconstrued. You have to spend the money. You have to have the facilities, the personnel— you have to do what it takes to make, we heard and see and understand. For many years in the midbor, and Moshe Rabbofohal tells b’nei Yisroel, "...velo neson lochen ayinayim li’er vooznayim lishmo’s ‘ad hayom hazeh!" What do we want from them? We spend so much money—it’s the old vort, "making the campus pretty." Where are we?
BMP Independence Still Underminded

BY STEVEN MICHOWICZ

As the second semester of its existence commences, the newborn Beit Midrash Program is struggling to secure its identity among the trio of larger Jewish studies programs by creating a distinct student community.

Currently subsumed under ICB leadership by administrative decree, BMP students are petitioning student council leaders and deans to permit elections of a student BMP council in order that it be regarded as an independent program.

BMP, a program which concludes at 1 p.m. like JSS and ICB but involves multiple style class/learning and shiurim, consisted of only twenty students in Spring 1995. In the past three years, however, that number has more than tripled and BMP is increasingly finding favor in many students’ eyes. The result has been the struggle for greater representation in the form of its own student council. Should that council become reality, it will be the first overlapping student government structure after YCSS, SSBSA, SOY, BCS, and JCSSC.

Size and money are concerns. Besides fears over the consequences of adding another such structure, the issue of BMP’s relative meager size has cast aspersions on its attempts to create something official. At several recent meetings between the five student council presidents - YCSS’s Josh Fine, SSBSA’s Sam Wald, ICB’s Richie Grossman, SOY’s Hillel Cohen, and JSS’s David Merklin - and University Dean of Students Efrim Nulman, the issue of BMP’s size has been discussed.

Although Fine, along with the other four presidents, approve of the ICB student council plans, he noted that SSBSA was not granted official status until it represented over one hundred students. Moreover, however, it is written that a minimum of one hundred students must exist before representation can be obtained.

BMP students have petiected the implementation of a BMP student council, lack of funding was never a motive: in calling for change, rather, it was recognition of BMP as “an independent, bona fide Jewish studies program.” The petition, delivered to student council presidents, states: “that now that the program has grown tremendously, we feel it is crucial that we are given equal representation.”

Decision expected tomorrow

Indeed, Fine, Cohen, Merklin, Wald, and Cohen all concurred at a September 20 meeting of the Student Life Committee that BMP should be granted independent status. Nonetheless, Nulman deferred the final decision-making; the five presidents will meet with Nulman to discuss the matter once again tomorrow, and a definitive ruling on whether or not there will be a sixth president is expected then.
Message from the SSSB President

Dear students,

After getting the year off to a successful start with the Student Reception, we are now looking forward to a Shabbaton at Stern on the weekend of November 4th. Efforts have been put into planning the events so that they will be enjoyable and entertaining. Rabbi Neil Fleischman and Rabbi Shabbaton will be one of America’s funnest rabbis, Rabbi Neil Fleischman. The weekend promises to be both fun and relaxing, and it is my hope that all will attend.

As plans for the program remain unfinalized, please feel free to speak to myself or Andrew Davidson if you have a new or interesting idea that you feel would be worthwhile and enjoyable.

Have a happy and prosperous New Year. Best wishes to all students during the Fall semester.

Sam Wald
SSSB Student Association President

High Anxiety: Accounting Interviewing Takes Its Toll

BY BENJAMIN SCHMUTTER

The onset of every school year seems to bring with it an atmosphere of tension that pervades the classroom, the dorm room, and especially the fourth floor of Belfer Hall. There, the anxiety of recruitment reaches its climax as the interview process for accounting positions begins.

Suddenly, many students are discovering second homes at the Office of Placement and Career Services, with their newly-adopted parents Adrienne Wolff, Hal Tannenbaum, and Naomi Kapp. Almost every spare second seems to have been replaced by workshops and seminars. When others finally catch a glimpse of their long-lost friends, their faces seem to bear the weight of the world as they iron out the wrinkles of their suits and personalities. Mumbling about Big Six firms from their lips.

Adrienne Wolf, Assistant Director of the career office, warns students to keep things in perspective. While the job market is more competitive than in years past, the placement office has maintained remarkable success in placing SSSB students. Of the thirty-five accounting seniors in last year’s graduating class, approximately 90% of them landed positions in Big Six firms.

In response to concern over the large turnover rates in these firms, however, Wolf is quick to point out that the number is inflated by those who use these firms as training grounds. She notes that even in competitive markets, those who work hard and possess the determination to go through the often frustrating recruiting process usually find their efforts rewarded.

However, she urges sophomores and juniors to shed their ambivalence towards the on-campus recruiting process: “You would be surprised how many faces recruiters remember after seeing them at three years worth of events. And it certainly does not hurt to go through the motions of recruiting before actually recruiting.”

Avi Gruen, a senior accounting major, emphasized that it is “very stressful to know that the next few weeks will directly affect my career path,” but concluded by saying, “A touch of worrying is healthy. However, an excessive amount will only damage the situation.”

SSSB Hosts Student Reception

BY ANDREW DAVIDSON

The annual SSSB Student Association student reception was held on Tuesday night, September 22. The event was attended by several modifications in the program schedule. Rather than subjecting the student body to numerous speeches by the various club leaders, the program allowed for a shorter amount of time for presentations, and a greater amount of time for students to individually pursue their own interests.

The reception, which was hosted by SSSB Presidents Sam Wald and Barbara Pollock, featured SSSB Assistant Dean Ira Jaskoll who welcomed students to what he hopes will be an enjoyable and prosperous year. Wald began the evening by briefly introducing his board and each club leader, and concluded by thanking all those who had made his job a bit easier thus far.

The real draw of the evening, however, was the mysterious “free gift” that was promised to each student who attended. As the formal presentation ended, a table was set up with the “gift,” to be distributed as students left. Most seemed pleased with the business folders, and one student commented, “It will help me be more organized for future interviews.”

Before exiting, students were urged to mingle and gather information about club or programs that may be of interest to them. Representatives of the JBS, AMU, the Investment Club, and the new SSSB newspaper, the Exchange, were available to answer any questions which students may have had. Leaders of the Big Brother Program and the Tutoring Service were also present trying to recruit new blood.

With more than 250 students present at the reception, Wald was “pleasantly surprised that so many students were willing to give of their time for the school,” and hoped that the student body, both uptown and downtown, would, “continue to support the various clubs and services that have come to be expected of Sy Syms.”
JBS: Still Relevant?

BY RAPHAEL C. GROSS

The SSSB Joint Business Society is desperately seeking its niche in an increasingly diverse SSSB student body and among a growing number of vibrant clubs within the Sy Syms Student Association. The JBS successfully walked through the 1994-1995 year, two semesters best noted for the January graduation of the club's president and the ensuing disbandment of the group. With poorly-defined objectives for the 1995-1996 academic year, unimaginitive programs, no operating budget, and miscommunication between the society and all levels of the SSSB hierarchy, the JBS is simply trying to survive.

The Joint Business Society functions as an umbrella organization for all non-accounting business majors at Yeshiva University. Included in its delilates are four SSSB disciplines: finance, marketing, management, and MIS, coupled with VC's economics. In its original form, JBS concentrated the resources of the newly developed SSSB majors and served as its mouthpiece in the new business school. The JBS also served as a counterpart to the Accounting Society to ensure that SSSB functions would not be dominated by a strong accounting presence.

JBS President Shlomo Drazin explains that as long as some business students are not represented by major-sponsored clubs, the Joint Business Society plays a viable role on Main Campus. But with the advent of an American Marketing Association chapter, and strong interest in the Investment club, new groups are usurping JBS's role in the Sy Syms Student Association and making society increasingly less relevant to the average business student.

Responsibilities reduced

Traditionally JBS coordinated the Sy Syms Big Brother Program, through which new students are paired according to major with seasoned upperclassmen for guidance in course work, managing schedules, and selecting teachers and extracurricular activities. This year, the project was removed from the JBS's jurisdiction and placed under the control of Bennett Schacter, the SSSB treasurer.

Sam Wald, President of the SSSB Student Association, explained that the Big Brother Program is an integral part of making new business students comfortable in their new environment. Based on JBS's recent track record, he questioned whether Big Brother would be more effective under their control or his own. According to Drazin, JBS control of the Big Brother Program was not even brought to his attention this year.

Morg Mart in Jeopardy

Questions were raised early this semester over JBS management of Morg Mart, the small grocery store operating in the basement of the Morgenstern Residence Hall which has traditionally been the JBS's other pet project. Morg Mart has carved out its market of disgruntled Caf Store holders by offering them many Caf Store favorites at greatly reduced prices. In addition, its location has attracted a large number of Morg residents who have little interest in venturing outside in their pajamas to get a late night snack. Despite its marginal success and some student support, the store has not opened yet this year, and was originally going to be run by the Accounting Society or closed altogether.

Drazin explained Morg Mart's importance to SSSB and the entire student body. Besides offering an alternative to the Caf Store, it gives students first-hand experience operating a store, allowing them to manage employees, track inventory, and market the store's products. Furthermore, it enables non-accounting majors to "compete" for business with the late night Caf Store, which is run by the Accounting Society.

Drazin attributes Morg Mart's slow start to problems between JBS and the Office of Facilities Management, which has yet to produce a key to open the location. The JBS has also been unable to secure a temporary loan from YCSC to fund start-up costs. Drazin, in his budget proposal to YCSC, had requested some funds which would be paid back to the YCSC treasury as soon as Morg Mart breaks even. While noting that a profitable Morg Mart could be used to fund future JBS events, he stressed that as long as Morg Mart could hold its own, it's value to the student body should be measured by the business experience it gives to managers and employees.

The And-Budget raising ideas include opening a concession stand outside the MSAC during Mac games, which might be run as a JBS-AMA joint venture. Drazin is certain that this idea will face opposition from YU Food Services and the Accounting Society.

The JBS plans to inaugurate a seminar on business and halachah which would be open to all YU students and taught by the rebbekah on a rotating basis. This series would expand the bi-annual business and halachah lectures, which have been a SSSB staple for years, and give students more direct and frequent contact with rebbekah in discussing issues that face religious Jews in the business world. Drazin also desires to bring in outside executives to lecture about their respective fields. However, he claims that his efforts have been stymied by the both the Sy Syms Student Association and the Office of Placement and Career Services, which maintain firm control over the nature and number of speakers business students will hear.

The JBS President also voiced his opposition to what he sees as the Accounting Society's "virtual hold" on the Office of Placement and Career Services. Drazin complained that he never received a congratulatory phone call from the office upon winning his election nor has he ever been asked to work closely with them on any Sy Syms projects. He asked, "Why don't teach of the other business majors have a "Big Six Night" equivalent? Why haven't I been asked to participate in any mock interviews?"

On the positive side, JBS is excited about participating in the new Sy Syms newspaper, the Exchange, which will be published twice a semester and replace the annual Sy Syms Business Review. The JBS section will be topic-specific by featuring articles on one major per issue: finance, marketing, management, MIS, and economics. It will also include a briefing by Drazin on upcoming events involving JBS.

COMMENCEMENT

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 11:00 AM

THE PARAMOUNT

MADISON SQUARE GARDEN

SENIORS, HAVE YOU FILED FOR GRADUATION WITH THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR?

IF NOT, PICK UP KIT FROM THE REGISTRAR ON YOUR CAMPUS
Fraternity Leaders Agree to Re-think Position in Light of
Rav Kahn’s Message
continued from page one

“I was incredibly moved,” said a fra-
ternity leader who wished to remain an-
onymous. “Most of the brothers listened
to the tape and were also moved.”

But the leader insists that “we’re
doing exactly what he expects of Jew-
ish boys;” he pointed out that among the
planned events are no parties, only cele-
bations consistent with Torah values.
In fact, one celebration is intended to
further religious goals.

“We’re planning a learn-athon for
Aseert Y’mei Teshuva,” he said. And
the pressure from Kahn and other MYP
roshai yeshiva members, say, was not
even necessary—plans were in the works
for the program long before the brocha.

But he does promise to keep an open
mind, and he hopes students, faculty
and administrators will do the same.

“We’re looking at our positions again,
” said the leader “That’s not to say the
frat is dead. But we’re listening.”

Kahn spent most of the lecture con-
demning the presence of a fraternity at
Yeshiva and urging students of all
stripes to repent in this critical time
period on the Jewish calendar. But in
a remark which caught many students
off-guard, he offered an explanation for
the formation of the controversial group
on the YC campus.

“I had first and foremost the admin-
istration. This is not a political state-
ment, and chas v’shalom should be
misconstrued. You have to spend the
money. You have to have the facilities,
the personnel. You have to do whatever
it takes to make them see and under-
stand.”

While many students were im-
pressed with Kahn’s presence and re-
spected his firm stance against the
fraternity, they disagreed with his idea
that more maschichim would change
things significantly. “I don’t think the
issue is that simple,” said one YC soph-
omore.

Medical and Law School
Admissions Holding Strong
by Efraim Tuchman

Despite worsening job prospects for
Yeshiva University students, for the most part, main-
tained an extraordinary rate of acceptance, par-
particularly at the nation’s most prestigious
and highly competitive schools.
In recent years, the academic community has witnes-
sed an explosion in the number of
students applying for admission to law and
medical schools. In response to this deluge of
applications, schools have been forced to
raise their standards and tighten their admissions
policies. This “lightening of the belt” has
limited enrollment in the country’s better
universities to an elite few and has forced the
remaining majority to reevaluate their em-
ployment goals.

Consider the results of last year’s appli-
cants to law school. Out of the 327 students, 37
at Yeshiva and 35 at Stern, 48 received at least one
acceptance into an American Bar Associa-
tion accredited law school. Still more impres-
sively, a total of 23 students gained admission
to Harvard, Columbia, and NYU, three of the
countries most prestigious institutions.

Undergraduates who applied for medical,
dental, and podiatry schools met with similar
success as nearly 85% of applicants were
accepted. While the percentage is slightly
lower than in the past, it is still three
times better than the national average.
Both Deans Michael Hecht, pre-law advis-
or, and David Weiszbrod, pre-med advisor,
repeatedly stressed that this past year’s re-
sults were not out of the ordinary, but rather
were indicative of the standard of excellence
established by the University over the past
twenty years. As Dean Hecht explained,
“Baruch Hashem, YU students have done
extraordinarily well at all schools. We have
developed a close relationship with these
schools and are considered a major feeder
school to Columbia and NYU. In this busi-
ness, history is important.”

In addition, Hecht stressed the sig-
ificance of the University’s dual-curriculum
in the admissions process. He reiterated his
belief that Talmudic study has the “unanti-
cipated but very real benefit of sharpening
the skills which law schools test for.” “Simply
put,” Hecht equipped, “Talmudic study is
desirable in Academia.”

While the statistics and percentages of
past years may be of little value to students
applying to medical and law schools this
year, they certainly can take comfort in
knowing that they have the full support of
a “business” that has been extraordinarily
successful for over two decades. Those are
prayer-good odds no matter what game you
play.

To the Yeshiva University Community

In this period of celebration and reflection, we continue to serve your needs.

As we endeavor to gain a fair and decent contract for ourselves and our families, we wish
to express our best wishes for a healthy, happy and fruitful New Year.

From the Members of
1199 National Health & Human Services Employees Union

Serving:

the Main Campus, Stern College for Women, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law,
Ferkhman Graduate School of Psychology,
and the Yeshiva University High Schools for Boys & Girls

You Don’t Have to Play the Lottery to Get WINNING NUMBERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LSAT</th>
<th>GRE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>average increase</td>
<td>215 points*</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>GMAT</th>
<th>MCAT</th>
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<tr>
<td>average increase</td>
<td>6.5 points**</td>
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*Verified by Big 6 & BSA Accounting Firm
**Verified by Roger Scott Worldwide
(Score Improvement not guaranteed in the current actual events.)
Concerns Raised that Honors Program Will Cause Divisiveness

continued from page one

honors situation given in MYP. Dr. Lee, who drafted the committee's proposal, currently teaches Freshman Honors Computer Science, a course not required for all Distinguished Scholars. The course serves as a model for the Honors College.

Dr. Lee suggested that the proposal is "very, very preliminary" and added that the program is "not going to happen without a major donation." In fact, Vice President Schwartz is currently taking the proposal to major donors. Schwartz is adamant that the Honors College will not be a drain on YU's budget, but will instead have a beneficial impact on students. In addition, Dr. Lee mentioned that the Honors courses will be taught by newly-hired professors, so that YU does not experience a drain in teaching talent to the Honors track, leaving adjuncts to teach the regular courses.

Contributing further to the success of the program is the possibility that all honors students will be given high-powered Pentium computers for internet-based research. Dean Adler mentioned the possibility of using the computers for molecular modeling in physical chemistry as well as to create a "virtual writing center." For many students, the honors track might seem like it would add an unbearable strain on an already oppressive dual-curriculum. To allay these fears, Dean Adler insists that the program would not necessarily be geared toward pre-med or pre-law students, who make up the majority of YC's. Rather it would cater to students who are in search of a solid liberal-arts education for its own sake.

Although the committee has yet to vote on the proposal, the implementation of the honors program, at least in part, seems assured. Dr. Schwartz emphasizes the importance of being "very optimistic" about this program. It will lead to a significant enrichment of the curriculum for all students. It's a win-win situation.

Tennis Team Looks Promising

BY RONNI SAMET

If you add infinity to infinity, what do you get? Infinity. If you add six incredibly talented rookies to eleven undefeated conference champions what do you get? The 1996-97 Yeshiva University Tennis Team.

With ten returning players from last season's championship team twenty newcomers competed for no more than eight spots. The tryouts, conducted on the third and seventeenth of September, displayed athletes really competing as if they were YU-pre-med students fighting for a spot in medical school.

"It was really competitive," remarked one student, "and I was pretty nervous throughout." Although this player did secure his place on the team, ten solid sophomores were turned down. Second year Coach Jonathan Bardiller, a captain of the YU tennis team in the late 1980's, claimed that it was truly difficult for him to make the cuts. "I was very impressed with all the new talent," he said, "and I believe that the new players will intimidate the returnees to work harder for their rankings!"

After last year's spectacular 9-0 season, this year's squad realizes the tremendous expectations demanded of them. In spite of this, all members of the team are confident and enthusiastic about bringing home another winning season. The three co-captains, Gabe Slottnick, Avraham Ciment, and Michael Fiefer have already guaranteed repeat of last year's performance, yet they all agreed that it will take hard work, dedication, and self-confidence to achieve this feat. Ciment noted that they have "a great team with a deep bench," and Fiefer added that the "team chemistry is fantastic."

The mixture of experienced winners and promising stars, coupled with an outstanding personal coach truly guarantees another successful year. Besides the captains, other returnees include Tzvi Zilbershteyn, Jon Heller, and Daniel Wolfinson, along with Avrom Elbaum, Daniel Kraft, and Ari Ciment. Second year players, Ronni Samet and Ari Hirt, will be joined by their Los Angeles brothers, Shai Samet and Edon Hirt who both show much potential as rookies. Other new talent have come from Bennett Schachter and Jeff Rothman, in addition to Doron Katz, and Indiana super sensation Josh Hasten. Although this seventeen member crew is already a powerful unit, last year's top seed, David Samet, may also add his winning skills to the team. (Yes, he is another brother.)

With five players from Los Angeles, the phrase "Repeat" and the hopes of "Three-peat" are more than familiar. Thus, it is not a surprise for Coach Bardiller to ensure another great year. "We are all one big family," he said, "and we hope to bring home one again as the league titans!"

Carmy Analyzes Rav's Approach to Halacha

BY CHAIM LAZAR

The Yeshiva University's Torah U-Madda Project got off to a roaring start this year with a fiery discourse from Rabbi Shalom Carmy, which at times sounded like an attack on the Torah U-Madda philosophy.

Rabbi Carmy, Professor of Bible and Philosophy at both Yeshiva College and Stern College, addressed Rav Soloveitchik Zil's approach to "Pluralism and the Category of the Ethical". Carmy began by maintaining centrist-Orthodoxy's mantra that Halacha and ethics do not always coincide.

"Actions which may be in accord with the letter of Halacha, can nevertheless become reprehensible because of our moral judgments condemn them."

Backing up this idea, Carmy cited the recent misuse of Kidahav Katanos, in which a Montreal man married off his young daughter to an unknown man in order to get back at his estranged wife. By the same token, "many duties enter Halacha through the side door of ethical intuition, (via ve-sielsa ke-loo ve-ino-ya-shar and other similar principles), and morally repulsive actions are contrary to the will of G-d even when the formal Halacha doesn't rule them out."

The bulk of the lecture was devoted to investigating various models of interaction between ethical categories and religion (Halacha).

Then, Rabbi Carmy declared that "ethics cannot retain its unique authority unless it is tied to the religions. As the Rav taught and wrote, "ever important ethical values must mediate and receive their final expression from the "One of the major failures of Modern Orthodoxy," stormed Carmy, "stems from a unwillingness to practice this gesture of withdrawal."

Yeshiva University MAJOR CAMPUS UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT COUNCILS

Dear Fellow Students:

Shabbat on campus has begun to generate great enthusiasm among students and the first two Shabbatons have been very well attended and were extremely successful and rewarding. The Shabbaton Enhancement Program has already contributed to the elevation of the Shabbat environment in our community. As we look forward to spending more Shabbatot together at the University, we need your assistance to ensure the success of these programs. In order for the appropriate preparations to be made for each student staying with us on Shabbat, it is essential that we know in advance how many students are planning to stay.

The Shabbaton Enhancement Program's reduced student rate of $5.00 for the Shabbaton meals is only for those students who follow the program's procedures and sign up during the appropriate time period. Anyone signing up for Shabbat later than Wednesday evenings at 8:00 P.M. will not receive a Shabbaton Program stipend and will have to pay the regular student rate of $15.00 plus a $5.00 late fee.

We look forward to your participation and cooperation.

Thank you.

Hillel Cohen President, SOY
Richard Grossman President, IBSC
Joshua Fine President, YCSC
David Merklin President, ISSBC
Samuel Wald President, SSSBSC
Macs Basketball: A Pre-Season Preview

BY DANIEL WOLFSON

After struggling last year with only eleven players and various injuries, Coaches Johnny Halpert and Steve Post chose fifteen Macs to represent the Yeshiva University basketball team for the 1995-1996 season. Coach Halpert asserts, "the only thing that can beat this years Macs is themselves." With six new additions and nine returning players, the Macs may surprise a great deal of people this season.

Guards

After a stellar rookie season, starting point guard Barry Aranoff hopes to direct traffic for the Macs once again this year. The NCAA Division III leading kleptomaniac adds direction and stability to the Macs; only time will tell if he can once again endure the rigors of the one-guard. Niether Wiener, one of the six first-year players on the Macs this season is a quick and unselfish point guard. He has the ball handling skills that the Macs have long needed and will surely help the front line. Returning point guard Steve Ruditsky will be joining the Macs this season. After playing for the Francis Lewis High School championship basketball team, this 6' 7" center from Queens, NY decided to attend Yeshiva University and will hopefully prove to be a great success.

The Mac's also welcome back the defensive ability and strong rebounding skills that the Macs have long been looking for. Returning forward and co-captain Ira Landsman, who has forfeited his year of eligibility in order to play in Canada next season.

Forwards

After playing a year of junior varsity basketball at Rutgers University, sophomore Brian Wein decided to attend Yeshiva University and join the Macs. This Teaneck high school phenom may be the complete package of basketball talent. Brian is a strong swingman with good ball-handling skills and his thunderous dunking ability should attract capacity crowds to the MSAC. Alon Zalbert, another newcomer hailing from Eretz Yisroel, comes to YU as a junior after having played professional ball for Hapoel Tel-Aviv and most recently for Crossmont Community College in San Diego, CA. After serving in the Israeli Army, Alon should have no problem handling the near four night practice schedule. Alon has a sweet three-point shot and may develop into the backbone of this year's team.

Three point specialist Jake Rosenberg will return for his third and final season as a Mac. His sweet touch and leadership should carry this year's squad. And swingman Neil Bronstein's surprising quickness for a big man will have opposing teams fooled when he steps onto the court.

The Macs are scheduled to participate in the Annual Molloy College Basketball Tournament in Rockville Center, NY on Thanksgiving weekend. They also have a road trip to participate in the Annual MTA Basketball camps. He is expected to improve the Macs conditioning for the upcoming season.

By JONATHAN NEISS

WARRIORS 46 - LAKERS 46

David Wild's crucial free throw with 9 seconds left in the game proved to be the difference for captain David Katzoff's Warriors, as they defeated David Samet's Lakers. Sparked by guard Yechiel Rosman's defensive play the Warriors were impressive throughout the second half. Steven Brandsdorfer and captain David Samet lead the scoring for the Lakers.

GRIZZLIES 47 - RAPTORS 42

This game was a see-saw match throughout. Hillel Cohen, and center Seth Poloner (14 points) helped the Grizzlies prevail. The Raptors were led by Donny Appel and Kenny Ripstein, while Andrew Wurzburger (7 points) was a key contributor off the bench.

TURNPIKES 46 - THIRD WORLD 27

Adam Melzer's Turnpikes led by a backcourt combination of Steven Mandel, Donny Hochberg and Marc Goldberg, crushed Third World, otherwise known as the "Sephardic team," for their first win of the season. The Turnpikes dominated from the opening tip, looking impressive throughout the game.

Basketball Intramural Season Begins

BY JONATHAN NEISS

After an off season without any fear of potential lockout or strike, the 1995-96 intramural basketball began with a 120 player draft late Tuesday night. Captain Donny Davis selected S.O.Y. President Hillel Cohen with the first pick of the draft.

Other first round picks included Ari Rockoff, Hillel Oshin, Ari Eckman, Donnie Appel and Daniel Lowe. In the league's inaugural week many analysts have noted a decrease in talent due to the absence of past intramural standouts - Ari Ciment, Arkady Abraham, and Chaim Zackheim. Nonetheless, this intramural season will hopefully prove to be a great success.

76ERS 33 - CELTICS 30

Opening night featured an exciting and competitive low scoring duel. Despite first-half sloppy play, Shlomie Friedman's 76ERS were able to overcome a late seven point deficit to win. Hillel Oshin and Doug Rothchild led a balanced attack for the Sixers, while Celtic captain Andy Davidson topped all scorers with nine points in a losing effort.

The Commentator

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New York, NY 10033