Yeshiva College Senate Discusses Suspension of CLEP Examinations

By Jack Stroh

The Yeshiva College Senate at meetings on December 22 and 29, and on January 5, discussed safeguarding the procedure for awarding summation honors at graduation and the suspension of the CLEP examinations.

A column appeared in COMMENTATOR on November 28, 1977 concerning the value of the CLEP examinations for exempting and college credit. Dean Kurtzer told the Senate that the article was not the cause of the current reevaluation of the exams. Dean Kurtzer pointed to the lack of security at test centers, the availability of the test answers prior to the testing, and the questionable standards of the exams.

Two Alternatives

Dean Kurtzer proposed that the tests be suspended retroactively from the date of the COMMENTATOR article, and that other types of alternatives for exemption or for credit be considered. One alternative would be for each department to develop its own test. The Dean, after learning that Princeton has changes most tests only once a year, suggested as a second alternative, that YC students be allowed to take CLEP exams once a year. The new test would be given at YU to insure proper security. The Dean also made it clear that he is not accusing any YC student of cheating, but feels that the integrity of the test has been compromised.

Debate ensued concerning the retroactive suspension of the December tests. Rabbi Miller, Vice President of Student Affairs, stated that even though backdating might not be valid, the faculty has accepted them until now, so that unless a student was found cheating, students who took the December test should not be penalized. Dr. Moshe Sokolow stated that since students who took the exam in December had to register before the COMMENTATOR column appeared, and since they registered in "good faith," they should not be penalized.

The consensus of the Senate was against cancelling retroactively and thus the suspension of CLEPs will take effect in January.

"An Act of Courage"

During the discussion over the CLEP, Rabbi Finkelstein emphasized another point. There is no reason, he said, that the suspension of CLEPs should be harrased simply for following his own conscience and voicing an opinion.

Changes In School Policy Discussed At Meeting Of Admissions Council

By Matthew Jay Tropp

A prospective business program and a new credit policy for study in Israel should enhance YU's recruitment program, according to Paul Glaser, Assistant Director of Admissions at Yeshiva. Speaking at a January 5 Admissions Council meeting, Mr. Glaser also emphasized student involvement in the recruitment drive.

Although the administration has announced neither a business program nor a change in credit policy, Glaser spoke assuredly of their implementation. He revealed no details about the business program but called it "exciting." Glaser said he expects details of the plan to be announced "within the next year." Glaser, who had maintained, had been a roadblock in the school's admissions drive.

Israel Yeshiva Credits

Glasser also noted that numerous students had chosen other schools over YU because of Yeshiva's conservative policy regarding transferring credit for a year of study in an Israeli yeshiva. Many YU students on leaves of absence also transferred to other colleges because of their more generous credit transfer policies. The new policy at Yeshiva, he said, is "a new challenge."
A Sincere Farewell

It is with mixed feelings that we view the impending departure of Dr. Mayer Herskovics, Professor of History. We are sorry to lose him as he is an excellent teacher whose love for his students as well as Yeshiva and what it represents has been unparalleled.

We are happy for him, however, as he is about to realize his dream of making Aliya.

We, therefore, thank Dr. Herskovics for his devoted service and wish him all the best in his endeavors.

Shortcomings

With students in the process of reviewing for upcoming exams, it seems an appropriate time to review and assess the full term performance of the Yeshiva College Student Council.

The recent accomplishments of Council are undeniable. The Robert Klein concert was a success. Lounges have been refurbished with new furniture and electronics. The union has finally been installed in the basement lounge of Rubin Hall. Two shabbatonim sponsored by Council have taken place and gym shorts carrying the YU emblem have gone on sale to the student body. Council has also accomplished thus far and to reevaluate their purposes in going to college. For seniors, this is a time for reflecting back on a term spent by most doing less academically than they have ever done in the past, and looking forward, ambitiously or with a feeling of insecurity, towards graduation in June. For the others, it represents a time of irrelevance and a yearning for something new.

In our September 24 issue, a front page article applauding Rabbi Yosef Eliahu, Mushisch Eucharti of the College, regarding the YCSC Intercollegiate Shahbaton. He was said to have expressed on how the Yiddish respect of Yeshiva University had "degenerated over the past few years" and that "Yiddish as a spoken language should never have taken place when he was a student at Yeshiva University in New York City, Rabbi Eliahu explained. The Robert Klein concert should be conducted merely as a social event, as this Shahbaton, as with most cultural and educational, as the Student Council shabbaton had been run when he was a student.

The inaccuracy in the article is unfounded and incurable. I would like to apologize for this error, as well as express my respect to Rabbi Eliahu for having the courage to speak up on this matter, in the manner in which he did.

Editor-in-Chief
Phil Klein

The Editor-to-the-Editor

To the Editor:

COMMENTSATOR's article on the intercollegiate Shahbaton left me disappointed. The surety, inaccuracy, and even my being misquoted were only part of what students have come to expect from the press. The review of the Music students on January 3rd from Yeshiva's Cardwun Samlll in fact became fully clear. A clear ostracism emerges between seeing seventy-five teenagers who had prepared to celebrate "New Year's Eve" singing instead at a kumzitz in the Lau­ neshen Center until 11 AM, and the enthusiasm I had witnessed in New York the week before. I sincerely wonder what could be at Yeshiva and what actually took place on December 24.

Rabbi Yosef Eliahu

To The Editor:

It was with great dismay that I read the opinion of the Governing Board of THE COMMENTATOR regarding the Yiddish issue just two weeks ago. Although I sensed that the faculty might be opposed to allowing Yiddish to fulfill its language requirement for various reasons — educational and otherwise — I was personally shocked to learn that THE COMMENTATOR Governing Board, which is composed solely of students, was against the Senate's resolution in favor of allowing students to study Yiddish to fulfill the language requirement.

It is not very surprising to me that the students should be strongly in favor of the Senate resolution, but perhaps I should start by bringing up something which may not be evident to the reader of the students at Yeshiva. It is a fact that Yiddish is accepted as fulfilling the language requirement at many schools, including New York's City University; this is also true even at most of the prestigious Ivy League Schools, including Harvard University. If these schools can say that if one studies and masters Yiddish, he has truly mastered a bona fide foreign language and culture, it is intriguing to me how Yeshiva University can then come out and say anything to the contrary.

Of course, many teachers might then argue and say that since Yeshiva students come from Jewish households where many of them have had previous exposure to Yiddish, most students would be taking it as an easy way out. It is my opinion that if considered this point and its philosophy, it is very alarming to me personally, since I come from the South where, unfortunately, Yiddish is a dying language. Where­ as there is a decade or two ago, a great majority of the student body at Yeshiva had extensive familiarity with Yiddish as a spoken language, today there is an even greater unfamiliarity by many students here among us who could not carry on even a limited conversation in Yiddish. Therefore, I do not think anyone can actually justify claiming that Yiddish would be an easy way of fulfilling one's language requirement.

Furthermore, I believe that taking Yiddish as a language requirement will be culturally more beneficial to many students than taking the normal two years of another foreign language. In fact, I would include in this statement even the small number of students who already have some knowledge of Yiddish. Normal­ ly, after five years have passed since one entered college, it is the general consensus that a student for­ gets the vast majority of what he learned regarding another language. However, if one were to take Yiddish for two years, one would most certainly retain even a great amount of what he has learned because the Yeshiva stud­ ent is constantly exposed to Yiddish. Those people who speak Yiddish and having gained a limited ability to understand and use the language, he will most probably in­ crease this ability as well as learn to converse in the language himself. In this itself we should make an adequate incentive for students to study Yiddish diligently.

Therefore, in conclusion, I feel that before a grievous mistake is made by vetoing the Senate resolu­ tion, both the Governing Board of THE COMMENTATOR and the Student Council starters should reconsider the issue and convey their strong support of the Senate resolution to our esteemed Student Council and the class officers. This point is illu­ strated by the imbalance in the distri­ bution between the Executive Council and the other class officers. Problems arose where the Intercollegiate Shahbaton could possibly have been avoid­ ed with a clearer understanding by the or­ ganizers of what their specific responsibili­ ties were.

In a separate issue, the purchase of the aforementioned gym shorts was done without soliciting competitive bids as to price and quality.

However, we are all suddenly and rudely awakened to the reality of the present — in the form of final examinations. And it is in this spirit of reality that THE COMMENTATOR extends to all stu­ dents wishes of good luck on their exams, as well as wishes that everyone has an en­ joyable, but brief, intermission.

Letters To The Editor

The Editor-in-Chief and the entire Governing Board of THE COMMENTATOR wish to express their sincerest wishes for a refuah shleimah to Mrs. Sylvia Benaim, Director of the Yeshiva Univer­ sity Museum.
Dr. Kurtzer Speaks To YC Students About Government Policy In Mid-East

By NORMAN KINEL

Dr. Daniel Kurtzer, Dean of Yeshiva College, spoke at a lecture sponsored by the YESHIVA College Political Science Society on December 8. The topic of the lecture was "Israel: Cooperation or Conflict?" Dr. Kurtzer is a former for-...
Cleveland Crusader

DOC

By SHELLEY SENDERS

The Recorder has an impact on the students as has Rabbi Dr. Mayer Herskovics. As the new quarter begins, Doc will be leaving Yeshiva next semester to fulfill what we, as his students, have always perceived as his fondest dream, to go on a y'elis to aretz. And so, I feel the need to express my thanks of thanks to the robbie, teacher, guidance counselor and friend, to no other character that we know.

Dr. Herskovics has been teaching Jewish History and Bible in Yeshiva College and Erna J.H. and Bible with Dr. Herskovics. He is also the gilyonot, massive collations of pertinent material culled from many sources. He does his office some day and witness the shoozof of gilyon which he has culled. And you will only begin to appreciate the vast amount of work done while doing the gilyon. Doc infuses into his courses. Of course, with all the information there is, there are always questions, and yes, I believe, no student ever complained that Doc was "out to get him." He is simply interested in the learning experience and if the answers are to be obtained from the text, benefit from the course can still be achieved.

This same teacher-rebbe philosophy is also translated into his Biblical classes. Talmud and Bible are not two isolated pursuits; rather, they are meshed into a homogenous entity in Doc's late courses. In the other courses, he has a new approach. He wants to draw some Frank Ezekial or Isaiah in terms of a few concrete recurring ideas which are unique to each of them for a better understanding of the subject material and helps the student clearly identify the different Jewish prophets in terms of irrefutable fundamental principles. And as the gilyonot themselves, he clearly emphasizes the need to remove religious facades and misinterpretations that exist, and a rationalized mechanistic approach to Judaism practiced to such an extent, invoking simply Mitzvah Anashim Meshulam.

There is another aspect of Doctor Herskovics' personality which is indeed laudatory and de servable. He is so engrossed in what is that he is unดนted devotion to, and support of, Yeshiva University, which has a large number of listeners to teach every opportunity to castigate the "Powers that Be" in the administration, and the school itself, without realizing that the students are most of the time not aware of these unfortunate tirades are the ones who ultimately suffer. Doc's devotion is confirmed by his involvement in the opportunity afforded him by YU to teach a gen gen of Jewish and religious students is refreshing and the para paragon of the ideal teaching approach.

Finally, there is that special warmth which Doc exudes; it is a feeling of closeness with the students. The framed expression he has on his face when a question is answered is not in contrite; it is one of genuine concern for the welfare of the student. That warmth is characteristic of the European type scholars, having a future on our hands and warmth with intellectual er- dition and scholarship.

Such is the man whom I honor. He is one of the last of the students of Yeshiva past and present, I would like to take this opportunity to express to Mr. Mayer Herskovics mazal and bracha, good luck and our bless bings, on the coming fruition of their dreams and their forthcoming move to Israel.

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Israel For the Touring Bicyclist

(Continued from Page 6, Col. 4) courier service and ease of type of baggage. It is also wise to be up-to-date on all relevant custom laws to avoid any hassles that may occur later on. For shorter trips, where the bicycle quality is not all important, it is easier to rent the vehicle in Israel. They, however, small, are best equipped and come with only one gear.

In addition to the bicycle itself, one should bring along a short metal framed back pack and a small tool kit. Knowledge of the workings of the bicycle is essential. Remember, if you are stranded far from any town, it is much easier to walk down a road back that will take both you and the bicycle. Israel for the Touring Bicyclist usually encountered is in the trans- porting of the bicycle from one place to another. The cheapest and most expensive way is to put it on top of a shorty (public taxi). In most cases an extra fare or more is charged. Gusty people with a good command of Hebrew can attempt to talk their way to the top of an Eked by. Need less-to-say, this method rarely meets with success.

One started it will take while the Israeli roads and drivers. The cars come pretty close and it is not unusual to feel oneself in a ditch by the side of the road after a big bump. In any case, however, it is generally helpful and full of ad ministration for the cyclists.

The somewhat unique and studied. Small-scale contour maps can be purchased from any of the several bookstores and they will aid greatly in the choosing of the easiest and fast est routes.

One possible route for those wishing a simple, one day outing, is to join one of the cycle tours organized by Professor and Ruch Hanukah. Bicycles for the twenty kilometer round trip are available at a cost of any. Most of the way along the road there are special bicycle lanes along which the other am amuses the traffic is square. The trip is very scenic with an al most constant view of the sea. The highlights, of course, is the cable-car ride down to the grot tons of Rosh Hanikla.

A more involved and strenuous trip that can take anywhere from three to seven days is through the valleys of Lower Galilee. First, to start this trip from Haifa heading in an easterly direction. After a short while, the noise and dirt of the city to the brad exan in Ezytmir. All along the way there are many places along the route of great historical and his torical significance. The next trip is to go on into the Beth Shean valley, here one can visit Neot Kedumim and a trip with a swim in Gan Sachau. It's a good idea to continue through the valleys of Lower Galilee and finishing up in Tiberias. All along the route there are many places to stop for lunch and down for the night and food is available at regular intervals.

Israel for the Touring Bicyclist

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 1)
Renewed Commitment To Strong Admissions Effort

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 1)

Mr. Paul Glaser, Assistant Director of Admissions

The admissions officer strove to make the overbearing importance of YU students’ presentation in their school in “an honest light” to friends and families in their community. Glaser declared, that too often while promoting YU, he is confronted with an isolated incident of error that occurred at Yeshiva that has since been exaggerated into a major catastrophe.

Mr. Blank, all emphasized one point: before he recognized the important role of the individual student’s choosing whether or not to apply for financial assistance. The admissions office concludes by further explaining that he was sincerelyviz.

By the time the week begins, you're too tired to study and you're relieved for a few seconds before you realize it was just a momentary escape. You wish you made a more serious effort to see if that nice curly guy who comes to your Shul on Shabbos. After day three, the excitement is over, and you're left with one vivid impression. A short question and answer period followed the boding speech, a simple question and answer period. When the "hottest" issues around Yeshiva that has since been exaggerated into a major catastrophe.

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On Monday, January 16, 1978 THE COMMENTATOR

Renewed Commitment To Strong Admissions Effort

Mr. Paul Glaser, Assistant Director of Admissions

Dr. Kurtzer Speaks To YC Students

About Government In Mid-East

(Continued from Page 3, Col. 1)

Facing Reality

By ROBERT FRIEDMAN

The author is a student at Baruch College and a "close observer" of the YU community. I only have a good time to inject some humor into studying for the upcoming exams.

All right! You have a final scheduled for Monday morning; you don’t have to worry. There will be plenty of time over the coming week to study. Besides, you’re already familiar with your course material. I find index 32 is sufficient. The week passes quickly and suddenly you realize that exams are coming. Shabbos always comes quicker during final week. But, so need to panic, you’ ll study. Over Shabbos. Right? Wrong! Friday night ends early with you falling asleep at the table before Baruch Hanaus. Saturday day is spent in Shul after which you realize you have about an hour before Mincha (you take 10 minutes out to ask your parents what to cook- looking (g’d who come to your Shul on Shabbos). After day three, the excitement is over, and you’re left with one vivid impression. A short question and answer period followed the boding speech, a simple question and answer period. When the "hottest" issues around Yeshiva that has since been exaggerated into a major catastrophe.

New Dean Of Sciences

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 1)

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Language Is Alive

By ELI BERNSTEIN

While I finish the remnants of my Monday lunch, my mind mulls over the schedule for the rest of the day. Today and Wednesday are rather long days in terms of class hours, as I go from one-thirty to six-thirty without a break, save for the ten minute intervals between classes. However, I don't let the school-day's length dampen my interest for the subjects. I take a final sip from my milk, gather my books together and rush out the door. Exuberantly I run to First Hall.

In a quaint cottage in London, 


The market place fills with Jewish laughter and pride — however, screams of pain are soon to follow. In a tiny cheder, the children sit intently absorbing the rebell's words — the lesson though is to be cut short. Bride and groom walk proudly in a candlelit wedding ceremony — but their flame will soon be put out. The small thatched-roof houses stand exotically, unaware they will soon collapse into ashes.

The voices still ring, and the tears still fall, and the soul cries, "Never again..."

As the class ends I leave with

this proves useless or insuffi-

(Continued from Page 5, Col. 5)

(Continued from Page 5, Col. 5)

FACI NG REALITY

At 6:00 am you figure that you don't need the extra sleep. You must arise, and the realization hits you. You have to study all night. By 10:00 am you find yourself falling asleep in class.

As the class ends I leave with

I have nothing but a great deal of respect for Dr. Lamm and the Yeshiva administrators. I feel that the reality that "excellence" does not presently describe Yeshiva College academically, but rather is an attainable goal for which we must strive.
Ahology, let them come in and graduates of Ferkauf's third de- children - handic apped and retard- ed. The government is providing­ in-ofe; Trnal administrators . and cato1-s in Jewish day schools. Ferkauf's priority list."

the students for masters degrees in education will be very high on new generated by student interest, If Yeshiva College students would

THE COMMENTATOR, Dean

summa cum laude candidates need the Commit-tee to consider the student's case, The evidence should show that the student is not a les­ser actor who made an impres­sive— all of these factors

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 3) in education and psychology. "The key to this kind of develop­ment," said Dean Berger, "is graduate and not master's degrees in education, preparing them for positions as principals and edu­cators in Jewish day schools. "Jews exist," said Dean Berger, "to raise a new generation, and they are very concerned with the education and development of a new of Jews. Thus Jewish education will be very high on Ferkau's priority list."

The second area is that of roo t•• we have

The scenic reality and the acting intense — all of these factors add to the atmosphere of authenticity, As always

with incapable of downgrading unless it mars his integrity enough to warrant denial of summa honors. The student should be allowed to submit his claim to the disciplinary committee. The student is responsible for proving that his actions were not negligent or contrary to the spirit of the discipline committee.
Yeshiva Ellmen Participate in Tournament At John Jay

By Shmuel Charlap

With the fall schedule completed, the Ellmen took part in a tournament held at John Jay College on Tuesday, December 27. Wrestlers from colleges all over the northeast, including Boston State, Union and Orange County Community, weighed in at 8:00 in the morning to compete.

At 119, Mitch "Mean" Merlin, who had captured the John Jay title at 177 lbs. for the previous two years, easily advanced to the finals by his usual quick pin. Mitch was outclassed by a City Champion from NYU and pinned in the second period. While suffering a neck injury, he finished the match in a respectable second place — winning only the medal for second place.

Heavyweight Robert Marcus showed his "feareness" as he pinned his first opponent two times. The highlight of the tournament was when Robby wrestled a 318 lb. wrestler from Manhattan College. Although outweighted he pinned his opponent in the second period to the accompaniment of raucous cheers. In his next match, once again he pinned an immense wrestler in the second period. Advancing to the semi-finals he lost in the first period to a hockey-masked wrestler from Bergen Community College. In his consolation match he beat his first opponent from NYU, but was overcome by a wrestler from Keen College, attaining fourth place. The tournament ended at 9:30 pm.

The Ellmen will be participating in a tournament to be held at Hunter College on Feb. 19th.

Junior Wins Basketball Title: Defeating Former Champs

By A. Wolf

The two top ranked intramural basketball teams met last Wednesday evening for a chance to be crowned champion. The seniors were playing for the title. The juniors were playing for their second straight conference championship.

The seniors continued to control the game, which was finally iced at 80-68 in favor of the seniors. The seniors easily won the defensive battle, holding the juniors to 35 points.

The seniors played a strong defense, jumping to a quick lead, but were unable to maintain it. The juniors came back strong in the second period and were able to score 30 points.

The seniors played well, but were unable to keep up with the juniors. The juniors played a strong defense, holding the seniors to 35 points.

Physical Basketball

Early in the second quarter the juniors began to feel the consequences of the physical game. Steve Solomon, their 6'4" center, picked up his third personal foul and was forced to leave the game for good. The seniors took advantage of this and were able to score 14 points in the quarter.

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