President Lamm Delivers "State of YU" Address

by Behnam Dayanim

Dr. Norman Lamm, President of Yeshiva University, delivered his annual fall address on the state of the University at an open meeting of the Executive Council on October 11. The Council, composed of top administration members and responsible for conducting the general affairs of the institution, opened the meeting to those students and faculty members deemed "active and interested" in the University's well-being, according to YU Executive Vice President, Dr. Eric Melzer.

The audience was composed mostly of administrators, however, with less than a dozen faculty members and a handful of students, all from YC, in attendance.

Though much of his speech focused on the various graduate divisions of the University, Dr. Lamm did list several accomplishments and shortcomings of the past year within the undergraduates as well as objectives for the future.

Among the achievements cited was the significant increase in enrollment, attributable to increased demand for the dual program and efforts to improve YU's academic and physical environment, according to President Lamm. He also pointed with pride to the success of the Max Stern Scholars Program and the establishment of the similar SSSB Jacob Burns Scholarship, named in honor of the major YU/SSSB benefactors.

Dr. Lamm heralded the growth of the Torah U'Mada Project from a "modest program" involving a few students to one that has "raised the level of discourse" on both under- and graduate campuses. Furthermore, he praised the quality and dedication of the faculty in all of YU's divisions and particularly needed additions to the Cardozo School of Law.

Finally, Dr. Lamm expressed hope that the Albert Einstein College of Medicine would soon resolve the delicate concerns of both Montefiore Hospital and Long Island Medical Center over a perceived "incongruity" in its relations with the two hospitals and called on the various departments of the University to view the impending Middle State accreditation review, conducted once every ten years, as a valuable opportunity for introspection and improvement rather than as a tedious chore.

Addressing the need for improvements, Dr. Lamm specified the need to improve the Jewish studies curriculum for all undergraduates and to continue in attempts to alleviate the space problem endemic to all YU campuses.

Much of the remainder of the President's speech dealt with fiscal concerns of the University. Characterizing the financial picture as "not rosy," Dr. Lamm revealed that fund-raising had not been able to keep pace with the needs of the University.

He pointed to the immensely successful Centennial campaign and the simultaneous last-minute rush of many philanthropists to contribute heavily before tax reform laws took effect as factors in an inevitable decrease. Add to that the more forbidding economic climate in the wake of the stock market crash of last year and the reason for caution becomes apparent, he stated. YU lost twelve million dollars in that calamity, a figure Lamm called fairly modest compared to prudent management by the Investment Committee. Nevertheless, he said the loss still hurt, particularly since much of the money pledged in the aforementioned Centennial drive and at such events as the annual Chanukah Dinner is not readily available for a variety of reasons.

These include the nature of the time spans of the gifts, some pledged years in advance, restrictions on the purposes for which gifts may be spent, and the potential for lagging donor contributions. Dr. Lamm clearly explained that the University was in need of a more concerted effort to ensure the well-being of all such endowments and major gifts.

On Wednesday evening, October 25th, on the one-anniversary of the 1987 stock market crash, the SSSB Dean's Forum hosted Dr. Kenneth Grossberg, Professor of Marketing, to lecture on the business perspectives between Japan and the Jews. Dr. Grossberg earned his M.A. and Ph.D. in Politics and East Asian Studies from Princeton University. He also studied at the University of Tokyo for several years. In 1973, he was elected a Junior Fellow of the prestigious Harvard Society of Fellows and spent the next several years teaching, writing, and continuing his research. In that period, he published three books. In 1983, he founded Orient West Consultants Inc., a firm that specializes in helping American companies succeed in Asia-Pacific markets. In 1984, Citibank hired him as their full-time strategy chief in Tokyo for their consumer branch in the Asia-Pacific region.

Dr. Grossberg began his lecture with the topic of anti-Semitism in Japan in order to fully explain the business relationship between the Jew and Japanese. He stated that over the past several years many articles have appeared in Japanese newspapers with anti-Semitic overtones. He addressed the question of why the Japanese would increase their anti-Semitism now and, especially with the Japanese so economically powerful, why would they attack the Jews with such a venom? At present, the maximum number of Jews in Japan has been placed at around two thousand. Dr. Grossberg explained that the sources of anti-Semitism are the Christian missionaries and Western anti-Semitic literature, translated into Japanese. There had been a ban on these missionaries, but it was lifted in 1873, resulting in

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EDITORIALS

YU’s Poll Tax

Once again, the YC student body finds itself complaining of insincerity on the part of the Administration. The subject this time is Election Day. The Administration provided notice for November 8th for students to either vote at home or at a nearby booth in the Heights. For most schools, this would pose no real obstacle for the students, however, for a YC student who finds no respite in his schedule between the morning and evening, this insconsiderate policy poses a most disturbing possibility of students not voting.

Not Another Council, Please

Last year, amid much controversy, two new positions were created on the YCSC Executive Board. The Vice President for Business was divided into two, one representing the liberal arts division and one the new business school. In addition, the Vice President for Business Affairs was granted by the Student Council the right to form an SSSBSA. The philosophical base of this “executive council” is more closely comparable to that of the Vice President for Liberal Arts or the president of any society on campus. The very fact that the remaining officers of the Council are elected by all of the students attests to the fact that every undergraduate male student of YU is represented by YCSC.

The wording of the amendment to the YCSC Constitution, as distinct from those provisions adopted at SCW, deliberately emphasized that the new SSSBSA is not to be a council, but rather a subsidiary organization of the umbrella Council. The “president” of SSSBSA is not a Council President on par with the YU President of yesteryear, nor is the new Business Studies President, in any function, a principal more closely comparable to that of the Vice President for Liberal Arts or the president of any society on campus. The very fact that the remaining officers of the Council are elected by all of the students attests to the fact that every undergraduate male student of YU is represented by YCSC.

Already we can see the first fruits of the unwise acquiescence of last year’s Council to this confusing, byzantine arrangement. The Vice President for Business Affairs has been surprisingly included in the weekly Presidents’ meetings held with the Dean of Students to discuss various issues of concern, diluting the already fragmented student representation to the administration even further. Additionally, the SSSBSA is planning to write its own constitution independent of that of YCSC, a privilege specifically denied it by virtue of its status as a subsidiary of the Council and, at any rate, entirely superfluous as the association’s functions and responsibilities are clearly delineated in last year’s amendment to the YCSC Constitution calling for its founding. Any desired changes may be made through that route. Now, SSSBSA indicates that it is determined to be included in council’s sponsorship of various events, none of which are remotely related to the specifically business-oriented functions for which it was intended. The COMMENTATOR is unaware of any other society on campus ever being accorded that prerogative.

Much of the blame for this year’s chaos, which has caused regrettable acrimony on both sides of the dispute, lies with Dean of Students, Dr. Nulman, who, after initial hesitancy, vigorously pressured the Council into last year’s agreement and, during the final weeks of this term, encouraged the practice of the sort mentioned above. However, it seems Dean Nulman has realized his excesses as he has publicly stated that any constitution drafted by SSSBSA must be approved by YCSC or his office will not honor it. Even more welcome is YCSC President Moshe Leifer’s tough stance on the whole issue. He has believed that any constitution for the Association is unnecessary in light of the already adopted amendment. Both these figures should maintain their positions in the face of the intense pressure that is sure to follow from an administration so intent on stifling and publicizing the creation of the valuable business school itself that it ignores the merits of the arguments concerning other aspects of its existence.

Regrettably, much of the fallout from this debate may hurt the fledgling SSSB in its attempts to establish itself as a vital part of the University or stir up resentment among the students already in leadership positions. A viable outlet for SSSB students can be maintained through the continuation of the two Vice Presidents concept and the academic dean of the various schools at YU should attend to the business for which they are uniquely qualified: academics. Should the academic office of SSSB devote its energies solely to those areas, it would do more to envoke SSSB in the consciousness of the University than any amount of political posturing and interference in student governmental affairs. A harsh bit of mussar, but, in light of what we are all witnessing, entirely justified.

Trashing Torah U’Mada

THE COMMENTATOR will not sit idly by as Yeshiva University takes in attack after attack against its philosophic foundation, Torah U’Mada — whether the aggressor be found without or within the University itself. The latest recent assault was an article in the October issue of The Jewish Press, written by last year’s visiting professor at YU, Paul Eidelberg. Professor Eidelberg, claiming the ability to speak without prejudice, expressed not the slightest humility in viciously discrediting a philosophy supported by such men of immense stature as Rav Joseph B. Soloveitchik, Rav Aharon Lichtenstein, and Rav Aharon Lamm. The Professor of political science seems quite at home lecturing these Rabbinim (all of whom have received Ph.D.s in the humanities) on what truths may be gleaned from a purely Judaic education. Professor Eidelberg pettently accuses these men, and in fact all who support the ideal of Torah U’Mada, of obliviousness to the corrosive effect of moral relativism. But he cannot withhold himself from going one step further: “The salesmen of Torah U’Mada are misleading Jewish students and, of course, philanthropists who support such programs."

Ironically, by presenting his over-simplified analysis in such a surprisingly unprofessional manner, it is the vainglorious and opinionated Professor Eidelberg who is culpable of misleading.

There exists a different, but nevertheless, serious challenge to Torah U’Mada: the argument of the壤ed solution" of which he would be “President.” The Vice President for Liberal Affairs, as is known from this fiasco is that, at the end of this school year, in order to avoid unnecessary harm to sincere and dedicated students already in leadership positions, the experiment known as the SSSBSA should end. A viable outlet for SSSB students can be maintained through the continuation of the two Vice Presidents concept and the existence of a Joint Business Society under the auspices of YCSC. Furthermore, academic deans of the various schools at YU should attend to the business for which they are uniquely qualified: academics. Should the academic office of SSSB devote its energies solely to those areas, it would do more to envoke SSSB in the consciousness of the University than any amount of political posturing and interference in student governmental affairs. A harsh bit of mussar, but, in light of what we are all witnessing, entirely justified.

In the future THE COMMENTATOR will only announce engagements submitted to THE COMMENTATOR mailbox in the Dean’s Office.

engagements

Robert Levinson & Esty Hochbaum

Schlomo Goldstein & Susan Eichbaum

Mazel Tov

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THE COMMENTATOR “On-Site Survey” appears in this issue on page 14.
In this area from which the pronounced Jewish predilection toward economic liberalism springs comes also the severe backlash toward social freedoms to pursue "evil" actions. When one person hurts himself, he or she spiritually wounds the entire community and offends God. Though in the past the struggle for civil rights and economic equality has induced the Orthodox Jew to identify with liberal ideologies, the increasingly visible social agenda, combined with increased economic success, is now pushing that same Jewish and his children steadfastly rightward.

For me, an unabashed liberal in an age when such an appellation seems more of an epithet eerily reminiscent of the "Communist" during the darkest days of the conservative McCarthy era (two can play the label game, Mr. Bush), this presents severe philosophical difficulties. I appear as either an intellectual hypocrite or a well-meaning observant Jew unfortunately contaminated by Western culture antithetical to the true path. Neither explanation is flattering and I believe neither to be accurate.

We live in a pluralistic society founded upon a premise of diversity of thought and freedom of action. Though I, as a "frum" Jew may find abortion upon demand morally unacceptable, I may not impose my value system on someone who does not share it. Even the seven Noahide laws, guidelines of behavior for all peoples regardless of religion, may be subject only to the jurisdiction of a Jewish Beit Din, and by extension a Jewish society, and in none of these classically liberal issues do I find incontrovertible proof that a Noahide prohibition is indeed violated. In order to participate fully in a democratic society, we must free ourselves from the flickering, the reflexive subservience to authority, that dominates our religious perspective. We must instinctively recognize that secular political authority is not necessarily synonymous with superior wisdom or scholarship and constitutional interpretation does not rely on masorah and oral transmission.

More significantly, this intellectual renaissance must cut both ways. We may pay more attention to the ultimately accepted maverick elements in our own religious history, the Pharisees for example, and the wide range of divergence and dissent on almost every conceivable hashkafic issue. More recently, we can look with pride to the bold leadership of Rav Yosef Soloveitchik, "the Rav" who influenced more than any other the present state of Modern Orthodoxy (now "Centrist") at YU and at large. For those who forget or have never heard, his pronouncements at times defied the strongly expressed collective opinion of his few peers yet today many of these are regarded among our community as settled.

None of us nor our leaders can lay claim to the immense wisdom and piety of such a man. Nor do I ignore the unfortunate, temporary lack of both a Sanhedrin and true Semikha in the original sense. Yet I have always been responsible for educating ourselves in our religious heritage and in rigorously critical thinking, so that we may challenge, probe, and ultimately arrive at points of view concerning the innumerable areas of hashkafic uncertainty.

Within the realm of thought, distinguished from that of law, much room for informed disagreement exists within our Orthodox tradition. We should not forego that opportunity for constructive engagement of these problems, studying the numerous opinions of Chazal and modern Gedolim and formulating our own purely personal responses that may or may not directly coincide with a previously recorded position. The current absence of such an atmosphere in all Orthodox circles, even the most progressive, speaks ill of our academic integrity and precludes the reemergence of a truly liberal Orthodox Jew.

Many internal contradictions inherent in the arena of the Orthodox Jew who professes a socially liberal political agenda are the result of divergent understandings of the nature of authority and communal responsibility. The modern liberal advocates an essentially libertarian agenda, encompassing the implicit constitutional right to privacy, while the Orthodox leader seeks to accept strict rabbinical authority in all religious matters of interpretation and accords a strong sense of responsibility for the welfare of members of the community.

Within the purely social sphere, the liberal tends to adopt a somewhat anti-authoritarian aura, rejecting governmental intrusion into sensitive aspects of an individual's lifestyle and personal moral code, with which the traditional Orthodox Jew can never feel entirely comfortable. The nature of religious tradition relies heavily on rabbinic authority, to the point where, even on matters of religious philosophy rather than actual law, the most vocal dissenter invariably seeks to find some respected rabbinical source to support his or her contention. This ingrained inclination toward an oligarchic structure in the theological sphere negatively influences the Jewish attitude toward perceived rebelliousness in the secular realm as well.

Additionally, John Locke's concept of individual sovereignty and independence of action finds scant concurrence in the traditional Jewish mindset. While the liberal may proclaim the freedom to pursue any action that does not directly harm another, the Jew views members of the community as interdependent. The individual is "his brother's keeper" and as such bears responsibility for preventing harm and suffering, even that which is self-inflicted.

To the Editor:
In your two comprehensive and informative articles on the Macs (September 8, 1988), you wrote about a fine young prospect from Miami, John Lasco.
What you didn't tell the readers, though, was that Sam Lasco, John's father, was the manager of the Macs (then known as the Mighty Mites) in the mid-1960's. At YU, history and tradition are precious commodities, even concerning the basketball team.

Joseph C. Kaplan 'YC'68
Teaneck, NJ
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The Commentator

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Improved Cafeteria Salad Service

by David Sheffey

There is now an alternative to junk food at Yeshiva University. With the new fruit/salad bar in the cafeteria, you can put your money to better use than by buying simple carbohydrates.

The man responsible for this new addition to the cafeteria is Mr. Lieberman, the new Director of Food Services at Yeshiva University. Basically, he explained, a new level of health consciousness prompted the creation of this service.

The fruits and vegetables are delivered each week and are then being purchased from the Hunt Point Market. Mr. Lieberman maintains that his “highest priority in running this service” is that “they have to be happy with the food they eat.”

One question that students have about this new addition has been the cost of twenty cents per ounce for a salad and fifty cents for a fruit. Lieberman explained that this is a valid complaint for students living on a budget, but, in comparison to the prices of similar services at other universities’ kosher cafeterias, the YU cafeteria prices seem fair. N.Y.U. also charges twenty cents per pound for a salad, while Columbia requires students to buy salads with their meal, which almost always cost a flat fee of six dollars. (The salad bar there, though, is an all-you-can-eat-bar.)

Mr. Lieberman says that he is “always open for new ideas.” Yet he needs serious and regular input from the student body. Although he has received some feedback, he feels that it has not been enough. In two to three weeks, a survey will be distributed by the Food Services Committee, says Shmuel Katz, the Committee’s head, to uncover student opinions regarding the food service.

He added that it is important for each student to make suggestions and voice any displeasures.

Campus News

Forum on Academic Integrity Discusses Student Honesty

“Forum on Academic Integrity,” a recent symposium sponsored by the Faculty/Student Affairs Committee, turned out to be a very stimulating and meaningful discussion for the very few who attended.

Dr. Richard Nochimson, chairman of the committee and master of ceremonies for the evening, called the forum “potentially very valuable” and did not understand the low turnout. “I suppose people felt they had other things to do,” he said. A lack of publicity may have been the culprit; many students surveyed on campus said they were unaware of the event.

Still, any program designed to reduce the cheating problems of the past has to be viewed as a step in the right direction.

According to student panelist Jeff Iarah, a senior, teachers could do more now to prevent cheating than they currently do. He told the story of a teacher who, new acopy of his test was circulating among students before the exam and did nothing except give the very test he knew many of them had already seen. Iarah also called for mandatory attendance and more assignments to keep students “on their toes.”

Other student panelists suggested the “honor system” be an alternative to current YU policy. Some had taken courses at other colleges under that system and were impressed with its results.

Dr. Carl Feit, a biology professor, agreed that the system could work at YU but only in an environment where the notion is prevalent that “cheating is shameful.”

Rabbi Yosef Blau outlined the pressurized, career-obsessed atmosphere of YU as the major cause of cheating. Students, he feels, will act dishonestly if it means good grades, good graduate schools and good jobs.

The most significant thing about “Forum on Academic Integrity” is that it took place. Students and teachers have realized the need to actively combat cheating and have joined forces to create an academically honest YU.

Swimming Facility Delayed

by Bruce Schanzer

The Gottesman Pool, a multi-million dollar facility donated by the Gottesman family of Rye, New York, is one of the most ambitious undertakings in the University’s Centennial Development. The facility will have a 25-meter pool with five lanes, a whirlpool, a sauna, and a water conservation stall. Scheduled to be completed in the fall of 1988, this project has met with a number of delays and, according to YU Vice President for Business Affairs Sheldon Socol, will not be completed until the weather permits in late spring.

According to the Forbes 400 1988

List, Universities with the Highest Net Worth Among Graduates are:

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Dr. Socol comments that preliminary tests and architectural plans have been completed, and that the University is still in the process of organizing the subcontractors and the materials, as well as gathering further funds.

Concerning its use by SCW students, Dean of Students, Dr. Efrem Nulman, states emphatically that “the pool is for YC students only—and you can quote me on that.”

In two to three weeks, student leaders will have a meeting to provide input concerning the blueprints before the plans are to be finalized. After this meeting the final plans for the pool will begin to take shape.

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With the money may be used, and the YU will need to draw only on the interest of those funds donated to the Endowment Fund of the University. Dr. Lamm explained that the second type of gift, that with restrictions on use, accounts for the somewhat mysterious decisions by YU to proceed with some worthy project while neglecting more immediate needs.

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He added that it is important for each student to make suggestions and voice any displeasures.

Dr. Lamm stressed the need for a YU education to deserving students and that YU does eschew such gifts on the part of students.

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JAPAN

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popularityization of the image of the Jew as Christ killer. That same year saw the translation of The Merchant of Venice and its popularization in the high school curriculum. Japanese dictionaries define the word Jew and itshelpers, sinners, and evil merchant. Past alliances and experiences have badly tarnished the image of the Jew in Japan. Among these were the anti-Semitic propaganda in the era of the Bolshevik Revolution, the alliance in the Second World War to the Nazis, and an anti-Semitic platform in the election of 1935, calling for the murder of all Jews under Japanese control. Dr. Grossberg also pointed out that there have been Japanese who have rejected the anti-Semitic propaganda, citing the example of Sugihara Sempo, who secretly provided visas to Jews escaping persecution.

After World War II many American businesses were afraid to do business with Japan, but some small Jewish firms did start transcating with the Japanese. However, instead of feeling gratitude toward the Jews for helping them recover, the Japanese began to spread the image of Jewish traders coming to exploit the Japanese.

Dr. Grossberg points out that the Japanese have consistently towed an anti-Israel line, due to their strong reliance on Arab oil. In 1973, they joined in an embargo on goods to Israel. "Ironically," Dr. Grossberg explained, "this was a blessing for Israel - if the Japanese would export their goods to Israel this would destroy the Israeli economy."

There are many examples of open anti-Semitism in Japan today. Jewish literature in book stores is labeled under "Jewish Problems," creating the impression that even legitimate works somehow grant insight into solving the "Jewish Problem." Uno Masami, a popular fundamentalist Christian Minister, has written a number of anti-Semitic books. He believes that the recent rise in the value of the Yen is part of an international plot to destroy Japan. He has stated that the United States is trying to exploit Japan's powerful Jewish families: the Rockefeller, Mellons, Morgans, and DuPonts - while the President is advised by Jewish advisors, Shultz and Weinberger. Dr. Grossberg emphasized that to the Japanese it is not obvious who is not Jewish, since the accepted image of the Jew is someone politically strong and financially successful. Masami concludes that only Japan and the Soviet Union can stand in the way of Jewish dominance in the world. Dr. Grossberg feels this is a tremendous liability; the embassy can only affect the Japanese. He met with much opposition in his efforts to settle in Palestine. He spent one year in a camp for displaced persons in Germany, three months in a D.P. camp in southern France, and nine months in jail on the island of Cyprus for attempting to enter Palestine.

Shortly before the United Nations decided to establish a Jewish homeland, Dr. Don was born in Budapest, Hungary in 1930. Through the intervention of the King of Sweden and a series of foreign papers, he was saved, along with a large number of other Budapest Jews, from deportation to the death camps. After the war, in which he lost a large part of his family, he refused "to believe the demons of the past" when they offered safe return to their remaining Jewish populations and decided to emigrate to Palestine. For the next two years he met with much opposition in his efforts to settle in Palestine. He spent one year in a camp for displaced persons in Germany, three months in a D.P. camp in southern France, and nine months in jail on the island of Cyprus for attempting to enter Palestine.

Dr. Grossberg believes that Israel is suffering from what he calls an "American disease, a short term profit orientation and a lack of strategic vision for our company or industry." He refers to it as "American" because "the Americans are the major power guilty of this disease; the Europeans have a longer term perspective and as a result European companies tend to do better than American companies in the Japanese market." The Japanese have offered Israel the opportunity to set up a fishing industry, but due to the cost involved, Israel has shown little interest. Dr. Grossberg feels this is a tremendous error. He points out that the economic institutions of Japan are not just banks, but also a foreign country for trade and relations. Without them, there is a tremendous liability, the embassy can only do so much.

Dr. Grossberg concluded the forum expressing that he personally feels Japan is a very important country for the Jews in the coming century and that outreach to the Japanese in the forms of banking, building a cultural center or University, and more person to person communication is necessary to be highly beneficial. It is imperative to teach who the Jewish people really are since the most part the information available to the Japanese about the Jews and Israel is disinformation. Thus, Grossberg felt it was necessary to lay open the historical foundations of Jewish anti-Semitism in Japan to express the extreme importance of developing outreach programs. The Japanese have not given the Japanese enough importance to friends and trading partners who will be significant in the future to come for both the United States and Israel.

Wisdom 新的 sóng of the School of Economics in 1961. Dr. Don has taught at many American universities, including Harvard and U.C. Berkeley.

When speaking of his YU students, Dr. Don's voice sounds a joyful pitch. "I love YU students because they are smart. Most are very gifted in their potential intellectual abilities." He compares YU students to those at Harvard and Berkeley. On a less laudatory note, he adds that "they try to optimize their presence in class, in an attempt to achieve "the highest grade with the least amount of studies." On the whole, he considers his job a "challenge, most interesting and pleasing."

Dr. Yehuda Don, SSSB Professor
Survived Nazis, Fought in Palmach

by Avram Aaron

From the calm and soft-spoken manner in which Dr. Yehuda Don expresses himself, one would have been hard pressed to imagine the many hardships of his earlier years. Dr. Don occupied the Ludwig Jesselson Chair in Economics and he teaches Principles II and Microeconomics. Dr. Don was born in Budapest, Hungary in 1930. Through the intervention of the King of Sweden and a series of foreign papers, he was saved, along with a large number of other Budapest Jews, from deportation to the death camps. After the war, in which he lost a large part of his family, he refused "to believe the demons of the past" when they offered safe return to their remaining Jewish populations and decided to emigrate to Palestine. For the next two years he met with much opposition in his efforts to settle in Palestine. He spent one year in a camp for displaced persons in Germany, three months in a D.P. camp in southern France, and nine months in jail on the island of Cyprus for attempting to enter Palestine.

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The President Speaks

by Mordy Lefler

The Student Council would like to welcome everybody back from their vacations and we hope that everyone will once again acclimate themselves to University life in both academic and extracurricular activities.

The Yeshiva College Student Council will play a vital role during your years at Yeshiva, supplementing your education by meeting the student need for a "life outside of the classroom."

The general functions of the Student Council are to represent the needs of the students of YC/SSSB to the administration and to enrich the YC/SSSB student's extracurricular lives. In order to succeed in performing the former, the Student Council will allot designated times throughout the semester for open meetings, at which students from all classes will be able to address their needs and express their individual opinions on appropriate subjects of concern. In addition, my room and telephone numbers are available to those who wish to speak with me privately or to draw my attention to a matter of immediacy. To succeed responsibly in the latter goal, the Council has charted scores of clubs, societies, and organizations that appeal to the students' interests. These groups are for you. I urge you to utilize fully on the potential to become involved in the organizations that appeal to you.

Yet a primary obligation of the Student Council is to manage your monies, our budget, responsibly. Consequently, at times we will be forced to deny the monetary requests of particular clubs or societies.

It is in this mind that we would appreciate your understanding our goals and objectives. YCSC sought not to sponsor every event, but, rather, the individual clubs and societies should sponsor the events with reasonable fiscal constraints.

Nevertheless, YCSC has thus far staged a very successful theater party for all freshmen during their orientation. In addition, the turnout at the Senior Class' annual "Welcome Back Party" was unprecedented. The Junior Class, under the direction of Eric Rothman, sponsored a 300-night on the ice at Sky Rink, which also proved to be a spectacular event.

These events have paved the path to what I am sure will be considered an outstanding year for all students and YCSC.

Science Test Postponed; Rumors Abound

by Steven Major

Nervously awaiting his arrival in order to start the exam, Professor Irving J. Borowitz stunned his organic chemistry students by angrily proclaiming that their exam could not be administered at that scheduled time. The exam, therefore, would be postponed. Professor Borowitz explained that he had been informed by Dr. Egon Brenner, YU Executive Vice President, that "the exam was for sale.

An aura of shock and outrage permeated the room in a matter of seconds. The level of intensity radiated by a class of eager and devoted students no longer prevailed. The tense mood, derived from a mindset based on an anticipation of their first exam in organic chemistry, was shattered.

A group of frustrated students appropriately proceeded to Dean Rosenfeld's office. In a statement to these students, Dean Rosenfeld declared, "there is a rotten apple in the organic chemistry class; somebody has acquired the exam and is selling it." Upon being questioned on the verity of this charge, the Dean contended that the administration's source of information was probably true; that is, a "trustworthy and reliable student" had informed Dr. Brenner of this incident. Furthermore, Dean Rosenfeld said, on Professor Borowitz's behalf, that the new test would be completely comparable to the original exam. Reassuring these students, Dean Rosenfeld added, "Professor Borowitz is a very fair grader and always goes to extremes to protect his students."

Professor Borowitz offered yet a different account of what had transpired. Not mentioning any contact from a student informant, Professor Borowitz said that Dr. Brenner had told him that "a copy of the text paper had been found in a waste paper basket." As of yet, no concrete proof has been presented to substantiate either version.

So, what really happened? Which one of these two stories is true, if any? Or was this entire episode merely the result of a rumor? Indeed, many Yeshiva College students are eager to ascertain the answers to these questions; to determine what is fact and what is fiction.

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YCSC Sophomore Class Comedy Event

Thursday, November 3rd
Torah O'Muda Lecture Series Continues

Wednesday, November 9th
Faculty Stress Management

Thursday, November 19th
Kristelachts Ceremony

Thursday, November 17th
Talent Show (at Stern)

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October 25, 1988

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Sephardic Studies Department:

Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

by Jeff Ilrath

While students at Yeshiva University are predominantly Ashkenazi and the school is usually regarded as an Ashkenazi institution, Y.U. began providing for its Sephardi students in 1964 when it established the Sephardic Studies Department and the Sephardic Studies major. Y.U. has been faced with the challenge to integrate the Sephardim while helping them to maintain their unique cultural heritage. Rabbi Blau, mashgiach ruchani at Yeshiva, explains that “there’s a lot to be learned from the Sephardic world; why should it be right to Ashkenazify (sic) them?” The Sephardic Studies Department was thereby created to preserve and solidify Sephardic culture and identity. Rabbi Mitchell Serels and Dr. Haham Solomon Gaon currently direct the program.

Rabbi Serels attended Yeshiva University as an undergraduate and as a semicha student. He was the second Sephardi to earn both his B.A. (’68) and Semicha (’71). Rabbi Angel, currently rabbi of the Spanish-Portuguese Synagogue in New York, was the first to do so (Semicha ’70). Rabbi Serels and Angel were the first students involved with the Sephardic Studies Department. Rabbi Angel remembers those years fondly, “We would study Shulchan Aruch with Dr. Gaon in addition to taking regular courses and participating in a Sephardi minyan every now and then.” Rabbi Angel credited Dr. Gaon for influencing his career choice. “Dr. Gaon was a great inspiration; without him, I wouldn’t be a rabbi. He was a great influence...all my memories of Dr. Gaon are just wonderful.”

With the invaluable assistance of Dr. Gaon, Dr. Dobrinsky, the late Ivan Solomon, and the late Dr. Belkin, the Sephardic Studies Department has expanded, providing some 18 courses in IB, MYP, SCW, and the Belz School of Music. These courses include hazzanut, history, philosophy, safrut, and other subjects. Currently, a special course in Yemenite hazzanut is in preparation. The Sephardic Studies major, offered through IBC, covers all of these courses in addition to, or in some cases as a substitute for, the regular coursework requirements of that school.

According to Rabbi Serels, course offerings have increased over the years but only five students have earned a degree in Sephardic Studies. This June, two more students will complete the degree.

The department is also responsible for a variety of cultural events. This year’s “Semana Sepharad” (Sephardic Week) is just a preview of the upcoming events which the department will sponsor to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Spanish expulsion. The primary purpose of these events, which will take place a total of seven times in different locations, is to present the history and music of Sephardim and to explore their Spanish roots. Featuring a scholarly lecture followed by a musical presentation, the program will premiere at Stern College for Women on December 11th. The remainder of its itinerary includes stops in Highland Park, N.J., Canarsie, Cedarhurst, the Sephardic Home for the Aged—all in Brooklyn—and the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue in Manhattan’s Upper West Side. The series of presentations concludes on December 17th at La Casa de Espana at 314 East 39th Street.

Among the many dignitaries who will be on hand at the final event are the President of the Jewish Community of Spain, Samuel Toledano, Ambassador to the United Nations Francisco Vaillar, and His Excellency, the Ambassador to Washington, Julian Santa-Maria. The latter’s presentation, the program will conclude on December 17 at La Casa de Espana.

According to Rabbi Serels, the main objective of the Sephardic Studies Department and the Sephardic Community Activities Program is “the revival and maintenance of Sephardic Heritage through the education of students, the development and strengthening of the community, and ensuring public knowledge of the Sephardic population.” He feels that his goals are being accomplished, as evidenced by the increasing number of Sephardic students attending Yeshiva University. Presently 110 Iranian, Syrian, Moroccan, and Balkan Jews attend Yeshiva College, while another 42 Sephardic women attend Stern College for Women. Rabbi Serels attributes their interest in Yeshiva University to the Sephardic Community Activities Program. “Although,” he points out, “there is never just one factor alone that brings a student to Yeshiva University.”

Rabbi Serels noted proudly that the Sephardic Studies Department of Yeshiva University is one of the few institutions to receive funds from Sephardim all over the world. The Sephardic Studies Department’s programs have also helped to raise Sephardic consciousness and curtail anti-Sephardic prejudice. “There isn’t as much anti-Sephardic feeling as there used to be among faculty or students at YU. I remember when someone would say we Sephardim have accomplished anything since Maimonides.”

Nevertheless, the majority of the Sephardim involved with the department are Americans. For the most part, they are from Brooklyn or have become naturalized citizens after fleeing Iran. There are others from communi ties like Seattle, Washington, where Sephardim of Turkish descent have settled. This diversity, according to Rabbi Blau has actually become a hindrance in some areas. “It is very hard to integrate the Iranians with the rest of the Sephardim (who were born in America).” Rabbi Serels illustrated a different problem related to the topic. He feels much more needs to be done to attract more than merely a third of the Sephardic community in Brooklyn to Yeshiva. “Our community is very mercantile. The image of the University has to be transformed for YU to reach those who maintain a high school-straight-to-business mentality.”

Continued on Page 12.
U.S. Election 1988
Dukakis: Time for a Change

by Behnam Dayanim

Within walking distance of New York City street at any time of the day or night and count the homeless who beg for money or sleep on sidewalks, in doorways, and bus shelters. That's one reason to vote for Mike Dukakis. Take a look at you’re neighbors. Do you wonder how you're ever going to pay for it. That's another reason to vote for Mike Dukakis. Stroll down the winding streets of Jerusalem's Old City to the Kotel and think about how nice it would be if Israel's staunchly
ally joined tiny Costa Rica in recognizing the "City of Gold" as the official capital. That's a third reason to vote for Mike Dukakis. Finally, think about how badly the environment has been neglected. The only real issue of our time. And if you're like 99% of the world you would like to live just down the winding streets of New York City at any time of the day or night and count the homeless.

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<td><strong>DUKAKIS</strong></td>
<td><strong>BUSH</strong></td>
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<td>Improve tax enforcement.</td>
<td>Flexible freeze on spending.</td>
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<td><strong>Increased income taxes</strong></td>
<td><strong>LAST RESORT</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Up to employer.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Guaranteed basic health insurance</strong></td>
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The Unpopular President

Three presidential elections in the 1800s denied the popular man the presidency. Andrew Jackson received far more votes than John Quincy Adams in 1824, but Adams won the presidency. Rutherford B. Hayes won the office in 1876, but Samuel J. Tilden had 250,000 more votes. In 1888, Benjamin Harrison had nearly 100,000 fewer votes than Grover Cleveland, but the following year Harrison took office as president.

In each case, the candidate won the most votes in the Electoral College. The Electoral College isn't always the final word. The House of Representatives decided the 1800 elections after two candidates tied in the Electoral College. Thomas Jefferson became President; the defeated candidate, Aaron Burr, was chosen Vice-President. 

---

Candidates Offer Plan On College Education

by Barry Kaye

In the 1988 Presidential campaign, college students are faced with two candidates who have distinctly different views on the issue most pertinent to our college education - cost.

Governor Dukakis has made a proposal, labeled the Student Tuition and Repayment System (STARS), which would allow education to be paid for through guaranteed loans in exchange for a three percent tax on income. The Bush administration has also proposed a plan, the College Savings Bond program, which would allow a family to purchase a bond and receive tax breaks for future college tuition payments. Both candidates have proposed plans to make college education more affordable, but the details of the two programs are quite different.

---

Peace and Prosperity with GOP

by Don J. Pinchot

Too many of us have lost sight of the wonderous goal for which this country was founded: freedom. By freedom, I do not mean freedom from foreign intrusion, but freedom to do what I please, provided it does not damage the nation. Freedom of opportunity was and still is the most unique aspect of the United States of America. With this freedom of opportunity comes the freedom to grow, to expand. Thus, progress becomes the result of natural ambition. Now it seems trite to say that the Republican party stands for this freedom of opportunity, while the Democrats somehow stand against it, but it is true in many respects, such is the case.

The Republicans want to see the country return to the way it used to be run by the people, not by the Federal government. The Bill of Rights was written to limit the Federal government, to preserve the energy and ambition of the states. The Democrats want Washington to run too many details of the country's life. For example, the Republicans are dedicated to the idea of freedom to education. It is untruthful that merely because you are white or Jewish, a school will not accept you if they have filled their quota for white students. The Republican Platform calls for the abolition of quotas.

The greatest danger faced by the Republicans in this election is that the voters will take for granted the achievements of the last year and look only to the shortcomings and the areas left open for improvement. Once the "biggies" are out of the way, these being peace and prosperity, we all focus on other issues. We will not belittle the importance of education, assistance to the poor, child care, or the environment. But we must not overlook the fruits of the Reagan agenda: family income is up 9.1% since 1981; unemployment is at its lowest level in fourteen years; productivity is rising; industrial output is increasing. Ronald Reagan turned the country around, despite the almost daily predictions that his plan would fail. It has not yet, and this fact both disturbs and baffles the skeptics. Everyone claims that taxes must go up, the next President will have to raise taxes. But what do you think they said to Ronald Reagan? Yet, he has remained true to his word.

The next President will have the opportunity to appoint several important Supreme Court judges. Many see this as cause for alarm, should the Republicans stay in office, as being that under the dominance of liberal judges, the court has backed itself into such a corner on the issue of private rights that they would be hard pressed to even outlaw incest (see Eisenstadt vs. Baird).

There have been areas where the Reagan Presidency has fallen short. But the benefit of an election is that it forces the candidates to address those areas of weakness. Thus, George Bush has concentrated on such issues as the environment, education, drugs, and child care more than his predecessor has. Combine this with the already strong Republican policies which have led us into peace and prosperity and you should have an unbeatable combination.

Foreign policy cannot be overlooked in a day and age, where strategic weapons are spreading across the globe almost as quickly as communism does. In this area, the Republicans hold all the cards. Reagan held tough on SDI and suddenly the Russians were at the table, willing to talk. The result was the monumental INF treaty. Still, the Russians have demonstrated no change in the size or intentions of their army. Communism is trying desperately to spread throughout Central America; only a strong foreign policy will deter it.

Finally, we turn towards Israel. This Republican Platform is the most pro-Israel one ever. It recognizes that the foundation of U.S. Middle East policy should be the moral and strategic relationship with Israel; opposes creation of an independent Palestinian State; calls for specific steps to institutionalize the strategic partnership with Israel, among which is the Arrow project: a new anti-missile defense system.

The party that brought you peace and prosperity is now poised to improve the weak and troubled areas in American life. They will not do it by handing money through corrupt bureaucracy. They will do it the old fashioned way, by giving the freedom back to you.
they'll want is my living room. I reserve duty. If we give them a doing two months per year of can't make enough money to even go to see a movie on Friday nights without ultra-Orthodox who agrees with this agenda can Economically, the Alignment political choices seem growing in popularity, Binya- the "tighten their belts," thereby withdrawing of Israeli troops from Lebanon in 1985 and claims that his economic actions forced the Alignment to "tighten their belts," thereby braking the previously snowballing rate of inflation. In spite of his claimed success, most of the Alignment's television ads and public appearances tell more of Shamir's shortcomings than of Peres' accomplishments. In fact, it sounds like a Republican campaign. As far as dealings with the Arabs, Peres favors a international conference with P.L.O. members present to voice their views. In essence, this amounts to recognition of the P.L.O.
With the upcoming elections to the Israeli Parliament only a few months away, the political party is gaining impressive popularity in its attempt to position itself as the mainstays of Meimad's philosophy and political agenda.

In order to begin solving the political deadlock with the Arabs, in order to commence movement on the road to peace, there must be a willingness to communicate and discuss. This absence of awareness has been widely discussed and is the basis for the political deadlock with the Arabs. In order to begin solving these problems, Rav Arnita!, who has been a vocal critic of both extremist right and left, urges that not every minor in reality, not fantasy.

This story best illustrates the reason why Rav Arnita! left the Hesder student is the synthesis of Talmud scholar and soldier. Rav Arnita! fought in the Israeli War of Independence and was the most heralded of these military losses. Perhaps the most salient reason why Rav Arnita! left the Israeli Parliament only was the case in the recent term in Parliament, resolutions of these staggering issues will be rendered ineffective by an iron anchor of endless argument and insufficient action. The more current parliamentary elections are due to be held in the near future, and the reader is encouraged to follow the developments further, but the reader is advised to visit the website of the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs, www.mfa.gov.il, for further information on Meimad and its platform.

Finally, far to the left Ratz cronic its "Peace Now" slogan. Whether that implies the granting of autonomy or independence to the Arabs with the speed with which Crazy Eddie offers electronic sales or the invitation of Arab neighbors to Jewish children's bar-mitzvot and weddings remains quite remote and even more frightening.

The above-mentioned parties represent some of the issues facing Israeli voters. Others include the established religious parties such as Shas, the ultra-Orthodox Sephardic party whose supporters include the Sephardic Chief Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, and Aguda, Shas' Ashkenazi counterpart. Meimad, the Mizrahi party, cares most deeply about education, retention of religious prerogatives, and growth in the public sector. Its positions on the intifada and the economy float somewhat in the shadows of its emphasis on education and are rarely explained. There exists a particular party that the P.L.P. that exclusively represents the Arab citizenry. The list of all classes of every classification extends further, but the reader may now be baffled by our hopeless cab driver, so I will cease any additional introductions.

One can see that much of the debate rotates around the Arab demographic situation; however, it were for the relentless pressure exerted by such foreign dignitaries as U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and the warped pen of the international media, this issue would not occupy a place of such enormous concern. The issues that should be at the center of public debate are the economics and internal social and political chaos. First, the paradigm perpetually infecting Israel's political structure stand second to some stone throwing rebels.

Whatsoever the end result of the elections, one can only hope for two eventualities. First, the substantial victory of one party should be sought, allowing prompt and decisive action to solve the existing dilemmas facing the state. Should another national unity government be formed, the peace process could be reversed.

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Sephardic Studies

Continued from Page 7

However, for those who have chosen to interrupt their careers for Yeshiva study, a comfortable atmosphere exists in the Sephardic Club. The club began around 1965 as a picture session. But when Rabbi Serels attended, it blossomed into “the organization of the Sephardim on campus.” Rabbi Serels adds that “It conducts its own miyanim, Shabbatons, and special events and being Sephardi is not the only thing they do. They’re accounting majors, pre-health majors, etcetera. They’re a good group of guys, who help one another to ensure minyan attendance and they help tutor each other in English. The group is rather cohesive for its size.” Rabbi Blau also mentioned that the integration of the Sephardim extends beyond the Sephardic Department. He attributed the students’ progress to Rabbi Serels, asserting that “a lot of progress has been made, and a lot of it has to do with Rabbi Serels because he fights for the Sephardic students.”

Rabbi Serels boasts of such Sephardic graduates of the program as Rabbi Kassoria (RIETS ’83) of Greater Washington. Rabbi Benzaquen of Leeds, England; and Rabbi Angel (YC ’67, RIETS ’70). Rabbi Serels serves the Scarsdale Sephardic community. Interestingly enough, Rabbi Blau points out that “the Sephardim haven’t produced enough rabbinic to service their communities yet, although there has been improvement.”

When asked to identify any problems that the department is facing, Rabbi Serels singled out the lack of a Sephardic Rosh Yeshiva (although Haham Gaon is temporarily the Rosh Yeshiva, and they help tutor each other in English.) He explained that the nature of the program simply does not allow for such a flexibility. JSS is a block program mandating enrollment in certain courses every semester, though during the senior year the students may choose electives, if there are no outstanding requirements. Rabbi Yudin hopes that eventually, “depending upon the numbers,” a senior elective specifically for Sephardim will be scheduled. Rabbi Yudin added, discouragingly, that students seemed ambivalent about the idea of creating “Sephardic” courses.

Conversely, “IBC has been the most helpful in promoting the program, both in concept and in scheduling, as well as in dedication. Rabbi Serels asserts, “It began in IBC, and since Rabbi Rabinowitz’s appointment as Dean, it has continued to flourish.”

Rabbi Rabinowitz responds, “My warmest wish is that the bright Sephardim will go back and teach in Sephardic Communities. It’s the Sephardic students who can really relate because of their community background, whereas an Ashkenazic student has to prove himself. Most students have other professional interests—I don’t deny them that right. We hope we can entice more bright students and entice them to pursue such careers.”

Echoing Rabbi Rabinowitz, Rabbi Blau added, “We haven’t found the avenue of finding enough Sephardic fellows who can become counselors or teachers, for example, in an informal sense. We need to work on this area.”

Rabbi Dobrinsky (who came to be known as Haham Bueno on account of his name, which in Slavic means “good”) is not Sephardi, but he has always encouraged the program since he was appointed as its director in 1964 and as University Vice President in 1973. “He gave a tremendous amount—and set the wheels in motion,” according to Rabbi Serels. The Haham and Rabbi Serels came here permanently mostly because of Rabbi Dobrinsky’s help. Rabbi Angel echoes these sentiments. “Dr. Dobrinsky was a very positive force in raising consciousness. As a human being he was a superstar, a tremendous friend, a lifetime friend.”

Dr. Dobrinsky’s recently published dissertation, “The Tsurey of Sephardi Laws and Customs,” can be found in many Sephardic homes. Rabbi Serels commented that he was one of the most helpful in promoting Sephardic Studies department.

“The lack of a Sephardic Rosh Yeshiva...(who teaches) a gemara shuir and lack of cooperation in scheduling Sephardic courses in J.S.S.” are problems facing the department.

Rabbi Serels concluded by reiterating his hopes that courses will soon develop, especially in JSS, and that more Ashkenazim will become involved in the courses. Rabbi Serels is very happy to note that at Yeshiva University, Sephardim constitute less than 12% of the student body. “It is very large, considering that overall we are but 3% of American Jewry.” He added jokingly, “We must be doing something right, or perhaps we’re just lucky.”

Rabbi Blau mentioned the terrible disasters Israel experienced last year specifically, solving all the problems, the Sephardic Studies Department is helping preserve and enrich Sephardic identity and culture. “It cannot force itself upon the students. It can only encourage the students and make the program more attractive.” In the end, each student is ultimately responsible for enriching his culture and perpetuating it.

“Rabbi Yudin added...That students seemed ambivalent about the idea”
"I was just looking for a way to earn a little extra money while I went to school. "I ended up with a labor of love."

Izzy Bromberg

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“Gee, boss,” she said, “how do you do ration and amazement. “Gee, times in the ankle. Finally his grafted a double-edged carving knife and stabbed Hank nine long; your next client, a Mr. Burnstein, is here.”

“Pure genius, sweetheart.”

Myrna stared at me in admiration and amazement. “Gee, boss,” she said, “how do you do it!”

“Myrna handed me a tall glass of grapefruit juice and said, “Don’t rest on your laurels too, my dear.” She added, “How do you do it?”

Burnstein was a short, conning fellow with hexagonal glasses.

“What can I do for you, Mr. Burnstein?”

“Does second floor Morgenthau, Yeshiva University, mean anything to you?”

I put down my grapefruit juice and nodded. The second floor of the Morg dorm is where all the student hotshops live: Newspaper editors, student council presidents, hall monitors. Burnstein produced a crumpled piece of paper and handed it to me. It read:

“To Whom It May Concern: The 2nd floor of Morg has been kidnapped. At gunpoint. If you ever want to see the 2nd floor again, have one million kiwi fruits at the basketball court next week. Don’t try any funny stuff or we’ll drop the 2nd floor down the elevator shaft. We’ve killed before and we won’t hesitate to kill again.

Singed,
People Against Tripling Up P.S. A couple of tickets to Hawaii would be nice, too.”

I put down the ransom note and squinted at Burnstein. “That’s the most ridiculous thing I ever heard. How does one steal a floor of a building?”

“Nevertheless it’s been done. I’m Ralph Burnstein, owner and manager of Burns Security at Yeshiva U.”

I laughed. “You must have a top notch team of guards over there to let an entire floor slip under their noses.”

Burnstein got defensive. “I have no doubt that my men will locate the missing floor and apprehend the bandits.”

“If you’re so confident in your boys, why are you hiring me?”

For our image, detective. For our image. Let me explain. Up at YU we’ve got Burns security guards posted at every building. They sit at little desks and gaze into space, their walkie-talkies jabbering noisily about the guards. They appeared to be a bunch of incompetent simpitons, but when we met at midnight in the biology lab to discuss our progress, they talked like satellite information systems.

“I’ve checked out Daniels and Lerner. Although they do have brothers with plaid shirts, the teeth marks I lifted from their toothbrushes don’t match the singing voices we recorded in the shower.”

“We all agreed that the culprits had to be among the discontented students living three to a room, who had vented their rage against the most privileged in the student body. But I questioned all the triplets; none of them seemed to be the type of kid you’d catch sneaking out of the dorm with a floor under his shirt.”

By the end of the week, the guards were successful and their deductions were baffling. “Quite simple really, detective,” said Burnstein, “in fact we got most of our clues from the ransom note. Two facts pointed to the Southern Hemisphere: kiwis and Hawaii. So the kidnappers were two guys from Australia. And it wasn’t three to a room, they were protesting, but the term ‘tripling up’.” Apparently, south of the equator they say ‘tripling down’.

I collected my paycheck from Burnstein’s office and took one last stroll across the campus. I waved at the guard in the booth between the dorms. He ignored me. I saluted the guard at the library. He feigned sleep. I watched kids run out of Rubin without even acknowledging one of the world’s greatest law enforcers. If they only knew. If they only knew.

The COMMENTATOR “On-Site Survey”

Do you plan to vote in the Presidential election? If yes or unsure, do you support Bush/Quayle or Dukakis/Bentsen?

| Yes | 73% |
| No  | 19% |
| Unsure | 7% |

Bush/Quayle 70% Dukakis/Bentsen 8% Undecided 14% Other 7%

What exactly is this latest addition to the Y.U. campus? Submit your responses — The Commentator will print the best replies.

How closely have you followed the campaign?

Very closely 32% Somewhat closely 52% Note very closely 16% Not at all

Which of the following is your primary source of information: on the campaign and the candidates’ positions on the issues?

T.V. 33% Radio 5% Daily paper 54% Magazine 3% Other 5%

If a daily paper, which one?

| New York Times | 81% |
| Wall Street Journal | 3% |
| New York Newsday — | 6% |
| New York Post | 6% |
| New York Daily News | 3% |
| USA Today | 6% |

TOTAL RESPONSE: 63 (Percentages have been rounded)

This survey is a random sampling of YC students on campus conducted by Jeff Fleisher. It is not intended as a scientific survey, but merely as a candid indication of the feelings and opinions of the student body. Conducted every issue, each respondent’s name is recorded solely to prevent duplication of results.
Although it has yet to be seen if Team Seneca, commanded by Stuart Nussbaum, Jeremy Garber, and Yitz Wernick, has the unity to play well as a team, this expansion franchise is quite powerful on paper. The dangerous combination of J.J. Hornblass and Kenny Yaeger, along with the goal tending of Alan Laifer, makes Seneca a force with which to be reckoned. But the heart of the Honesdale bunch is their unusual depth. With a year of experience under their belts, the next two teams may be battling for the fourth playoff spot. The Saints, captained by Gary Ganchrow, return with some of last year’s regulars. Led by dov Elefant and Moshe Adler, the Bruisers are very defensively, despite lacking the offensive firepower of some of the other teams. This defense, along with goalie David Sheer, may be tough to beat. There are, three additional expansion teams called the Freshmen, led by Harris Pearl, and South Kings, who are captained by Michael Cohen and Jan Wimpfheimer, and the Sabres, directed by Mitch Nathanson and A.A. Witty. Due to the overwhelming number of incoming freshmen on these teams, an accurate prediction of the final results is not possible. Whether the Irish eventually will take the coveted Cup or a dark horse will emerge, it is evident YU is in for its most successful season. However, the Bruisers seem to be headed for a very long year. So when the team comes out into the first full court press and Ayai hits a three-pointer, just look at the bench at the man next to Coach Halpert. He’ll be the one wearing the smile.

NEW ASSISTANT-Cont. from Page 16.

They have made great improvements,” he said. The coach’s intensity is matched only by his caring. He arrived over an hour early one day to practice with Yudi Teichman on three-point drills. He also seems determined to transform Tzvi Hamber and Michael Oz, who previously have succeeded in basketball primarily by virtue of their height, into solid ballplayers who can compete on the Division III level. Both of these players participated in “Big Man Drills,” which included jumping and repeatedly striking the board with a six pound medicine ball. Although both were thoroughly exhausted by the time official practice had started, perhaps this extra practice and conditioning may be pivotal in a Macs’ victory sometime this year.

The coach is realistic about the team this year. He realizes that much height has been lost from last year’s team, but he feels that this year we may see more of a pressure defense to create turnovers. Perhaps a better conditioned team may even resort to a full court press at times. If the team can deny the ball inside, then height is not as great a factor as it might be otherwise. As far as offensive chores, the coach says that our two big men may be able to set some pretty good screens to give Teichman the open shots we all know he can hit. Coach Podias predicts sixteen wins, but they may come in more dramatic fashion than many of last year’s victories. Perhaps a split with Western Connecticut and a buzzer shot against N.Y.U. will result in two of our wins.

The Macs of ‘88—89 are shaping up to be a different ballclub than one we have previously seen at YU. Ayai Hod might not take the ball inside as often. Perhaps he’ll even develop an outside shot. Nothing should surprise us this year. So when the team comes out into the first full court press and Ayai hits a three-pointer, just look at the bench at the man next to Coach Halpert. He’ll be the one wearing the smile.

SAINST’S 6 BRUISERS 2- Cont. from Page 16.

The team many had expected. The team’s hustle paid off immediately, and, in a matter of minutes, the Bruisers had a two-goal deficit. However, they forced the first half out of the Saints, an accurate prediction of the final results is not possible. Whether the Irish eventually will take the coveted Cup or a dark horse will emerge, it is evident YU is in for its most successful season. However, the Bruisers seem to be headed for a very long year.

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Track Team

For the first time in Yeshiva's history, the Cross Country team swept its competition in a five mile race, raising its two match record to 4-3. The October 23 meet matched YU against City College, Kean College, Polytechnic University, and John Jay College.

The team primarily competes at Van Cortland Park in the Bronx. The grueling course includes many hills, puddles, and other hazards. These conditions greatly increase the overall difficulty of the five mile course.

On this day the Yeshiva runners overcame these obstacles and the opposing runners to compile their best showing ever. The unique point of this race was that not only did one or two team members have successful outings, but the entire team ran exceptionally well. Newcomer Naptali Levine set the YU record for the course in a time of 32 minutes, 32 seconds. This was Naptali's first race for Yeshiva. He possesses the potential to compete against the league's best including division powerhouse, N.Y.U. co-captain Victor Fishman was Yeshiva's second place finisher with a time of 33:41, knocking a minute and a half off his previous best. Veteran Jon Kattzauer finished 50 seconds quicker than his prior best by posting a time of 33:51. First year student Dan Shiller registered an incredible 34:20 considering it was only his second time in competition. Co-captain Avi Berger rounded out the top five with his top time to date, 35:42. Primarily a road race specialist, senior Moshe Adler finished with a respectable 38:30. Junior Jerry Hawk, who had never run four miles let alone a tough five mile course, finished in 44 minutes. To illustrate the improvement of the YU team, no one in at least the past two years has run under 35 minutes. On this day there were no YU runners outside of the team's top five.

On November 13, the YU runners faced Stevens Tech and Pratt, two strong teams but could reach in terms of Yeshiva's upset runners. Hopefully, this race will mark the start of a successful season and future for YU Cross Country.

Santiseh Defeat Bruins

The intramural hockey season began Wednesday, Oct. 12, for two of last year's most disappointing teams. In a rather evenly matched game, the Saints cruised past the Bruins, 6 to 2.

The first period proved to be a defensive struggle for both sides. David Miller opened the scoring for the Saints with a goal midway through the first period, but the lead was short-lived. One second later, Alan Seiger retaliated for the Bruins, knotting the game at one apiece. After the intermission, the Saints began to play like the continued on p. 15

Yeshiva Sports

Rod Strickland's H.S. Coach Joins MACS Staff

by Jeff Lumerman

Over the past few seasons, the Maccabees have dropped many heart-breaking games. The two losses to N.J.I.T last year, both of which came down to the last few minutes, brought much criticism. Some blamed the coach. Others blamed the lack of conditioning. Still others claimed that, although the team had talent, they lacked "fire" and the desire to win. In hopes of ending the criticism, the Maccabees have named Steve Podias as the new Assistant Coach, to fill the void that was left by Jeffrey Gurock, who left after last season.

Coach Podias fits neatly into the ideology of Yeshiva University. "I am happy to be at Yeshiva University because academics are stressed over athletics," he said. In addition to his role at Yeshiva, he teaches History and Language at Rice High School, while coaching the Junior Varsity basketball team. He also is acting as the assistant coach of the Varsity team. Coach Podias has coached many successful teams in Rice High School, most notably Rod Strickland, the Knicks' first round draft choice this past year. However, he would be just as happy coaching future lawyers, doctors, and businessmen, so long as he is able to help them along the road to success. When asked how he could be an asset to the team, the coach responded that he would instill in his players intensity, desire, and a never-say-die attitude. He added that a team can be involved in as many as ten close games in a season. By drilling and conditioning, it is possible to win most of them, but, coupled with determination and intensity, it is possible to win all of them. Anyone in his Basketball can attest to his intensity. A stereotypically easy gym class has metamorphosed into a menagerie of drills, from suicide sprints to medicine ball workouts. Many students were surprised to learn that home-work is an integral part of the class. Coach Podias, however, has already seen results. "While at the beginning of class perhaps two students looked as if they had handled a basketball before, at the last practice there was a good basketball game going on."

Track Team Wins First Meet

For the first time in Yeshiva's history, the Cross Country Team swept its competition in a five mile race, raising its two match record to 4-3. The October 23 meet matched YU against City College, Kean College, Polytechnic University, and John Jay College.

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The varsity basketball team made its first post-season tournament appearance ever last year. This took many years, including numerous others without the benefit of a home court. Upcoming success for a varsity sport is not expected, nor is it anticipated. Presently we have a number of varsity sport teams that have become respectable over a number of years of inter-collegiate play.

Further, how can a university in New York explain the formation of a soccer team over a baseball team? Soccer has never caught on in the United States, and baseball is the national pastime.

To play varsity basketball, one must possess exceptional athletic ability, height, and a strong heart. To compete in wrestling, one must possess exceptional strength. To play baseball, one must have good coordination, along with a modicum of speed and strength.

In short, of course, there is a love for the game. At YU, this love is very strong. I await your reply.

Mitchell Nathanson
Sports Editor

An Open Letter To The Athletic Director

Dear Dr. Shevlin:

With the varsity basketball season not yet underway, it would appear to many that there is not much happening on campus. It is an illusion that that is. Yet there is one sport that remains on the minds of a majority of students: baseball.

YU needs a varsity baseball program, and measures must be taken now. Baseball season does not begin until the spring, yet the students alone are incapable of forming an inter-collegiate schedule. Dr. Shevlin, the student body is calling for your assistance in this matter.

All the excuses have been heard, yet none are really satisfying. The student interest is unquestionably there. I cannot believe that fear of controversy is a valid reason to hold back on forming such a squad. The newly formed golf team has played its first match. No one reasonably expects this team to turn heads immediately. Nor is it expected that this sport will develop much fan interest on campus. Granted, golf can be a fun pastime, but it is not a sport for the majority of students.

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