Kahane Lectures on Territories
Draws Full House of Students

by Jonathan Greenblatt

On Tuesday evening, February 14, the Student Council sponsored a Torah lecture given by Rabbi Meir Kahane entitled, "A Perspective on the Halachic status of Non-Jews living in Israel." Rabbi Kahane, a controversial peace activist, is both founder and leader of the rightist Kach movement and the banned Kahane 9 party. Interviewed by Dr. Handel, with queries regarding his theory, Rabbi Kahane said that he would not forsake, nor mistake the other precepts such as Sabbath, Yom Kippur, if one is very ill or Yorn Kippur, if one is very ill.

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- YU Rabbis Involved in Politics On Campus and Off pp. 8
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MYP Secretary

The retreat concluded with dinner and a speech by Rabbi Michael Rosensweig of MYP. Rabbi Rosensweig emphasized the idea that the means should be fused with the ends. A further question is whether the Jew must choose between democracy and Judaism, as was the case of Yiftach, one of the Judges, and the nation of Amon, and that of David and the nations of Amon and Aram, the Jews went out to fight rather than relinquish control of any land in Israel to foreigners. "Abraham our forefather was pardoned and furthertested by God because of his signing a treaty with the Philistines relinquishing land in Israel. Only in our days," said Kahane, "does the enemy come offering ‘peace’ and we say, ‘here, take this, take that’ but not immediately, Peace in ten seconds.

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EDITORIALS

Where Are Our Leaders?

Meir Kahane spoke at YU last week to a crowd of mostly enthusiastic students that filled Rubin Shul to capacity.

One of the few surprises in the otherwise predictable evening was the introduction delivered by a rather sincere student who welcomed the speaker "on behalf of YCSC."

Well, who was this person? He was Shmuel Speiser, the YC junior responsible for bringing the founder of Kach to Yeshiva.

What is his position on YCSC? He has none.

Why was he acting "on behalf of YCSC?" Because our student council seems to have confused sponsorship of a lecture with endorsement of its contents and therefore established as a condition of approval that Mr. Speiser must preface to sponsor an event and then attempt to abdicate all responsibility by not showing up is not an act of leadership. The next time YCSC sponsors a controversial speaker, an official representative (beyond members) should attend to ensure the orderly conduct of the affair and to demonstrate that it is a student council that not only tolerates but encourages open discussion on important issues of the day.

Faculty, administrative and rabbinical representatives also failed to appear. Granted, few of these groups attend any student function, but a speaker that can attract and apparently persuade such a large number of students as did Kahane deserves attention.

Furthermore, the fact that the self-proclaimed visionary perpetually claims that the great halachic minds of today quietly agree with him but fear to openly admit it warrants either confirmation or denial from our own rebbeim. The speaker's implicit attacks on Dr. Norman Lamm, and all of modern Orthodoxy, increase the necessity of response from the YU Presidential Suite.

Our students deserve courageous leadership from their elected leaders, rebbeim and faculty. So far they don't seem to be getting it.

Peace Now

In a school in which official dormitory policy requires students to use headphones for their late-night stereo playing, it seems incongruous that four noisy engagement parties in Morgenstern lounge were allowed to rock the dormitory during a recent seven-day period.

These long, raucous affairs obviate any chance for effective study in one's room, not to mention sleep. Meanwhile, spacious Weissberg Commons sits quiet and empty, a fine facility relegated to infrequent use. The slight inconvenience of walking to Belfer for engagement parties would more than be compensated in the peace and quiet granted long-suffering Morgenstern residents.

There is no conceivable reason not to implement this simple solution now.

Societal Accomplishments

Kudos go to the Sephardic Club and Cultural Society for setting an enviable standard in partially filling the usually barren YU social calendar.

The Computer Age: Closed at 11

Belfer's computer room offers a vast array of terminals, printers and qualified supervisors yet lacks the one essential — accessibility. After 11 p.m. access is limited to those lucky enough to contact someone on the one available phone line in the room who does not mind the inconvenience of leaving his terminal to open the side door downstairs. And if no one is present, or the line happens to be busy, the student is out of luck. On these cold winter nights the reality that students are being deprived of easy entry into computer facilities is made all too clear. The solution is apparent: established as a condition of approval that Mr. Speiser must preside. To sponsor an

The Office of the Dean of Students has relocated to Furst 416

ON-SITE SURVEY

1. In which dorm do you currently live?
   Morg 33.3%
   Rubin 33.3%
   Mus 33.3%

2. In which dorm would you most like to live?
   Morg 50%
   Rubin 28%
   Mus 24%

3. Where do you study most?
   Dorm room 55%
   Library 28%
   Opened class room 6%
   Student lounge 5.5%
   Other 5.5%

Survey conducted by David Ottensoser. Total polled: 60.

More "On-Site Survey" on pages 6-7.
The reality is that admitting students to a YU dormitory would process riskeworking the underlying root of almost all of the secular religious right/left tension at YU; the fact that YU admissions policy is not, and perhaps never has been, consonant with YU religious mission housing, and is even more plainly, YU does not confine itself to recruiting the students with whom YU insists on pretending it has entertained. Attempting to fit the student to a preconceived mold of behavior to such an extent as requiring that mold to the student seems a bit like the cart pulling the horse.

Finally, the idea of a resident appraisal form, filled out by faculty advisors who, though almost invariably well-meaning and sincere, are not qualified professionals, offenders. These are all attempts to guide the student away from the root of the student's appearance to his ideas. If the answers would tend toward measure someone's hashkafa, and of what possible relevance either of these categories has to the latter type including a ban on regulation applies unevenly and prohibitive of television sets in the rooms.

Overzealous Security

To the Editor: On February 8, I bought $40 worth of groceries at Key Food on 187 St. and Broadway. Upon leaving the store, I was not div¬ lered. They were not delivered until 27 hours later.

On February 9, after hearing nothing from the store, I went there to investigate the problem. I talked with both the store manager and the YU Food District manager. Both informed me that the YU security prohib¬ ited the deliveries and banned the delivery vehicle and person¬ nel from YU grounds. When Mordy Leifer, the district manager, told me that the deliveries were not coming for the student's dormitory, I was told what's next. The YU Food Force director informed me that the deliveries were not coming to the YU dormitories.

One of those students, David Sloan, was outraged at this deception. "I think it's disgusting and unfair," he said. "It's like taking money, dollars to subsidize the cost of the bus. No prior mention was made of this before, and the students were effectively coerced by Mordy Leifer, most of the students put up no resis¬ tance and coughed up the toll. Nevertheless, there was a group of students that refused to go, and the price and 5d payment were refused on the road." On February 9, after hearing the bus was banned, it was decided to discuss the issue to make decisions regarding television sets in dorms, then don't regulate it. The end result: those students who did not pay were not allowed on the bus for the return trip.

One student who did not pay also felt strongly on the matter. "I would have gladly paid the two dollars. What bothers me is that they made it seem that the ride was for free." Marty Jacobs, one of those who paid, commented, "We should have been informed prior to the bus leaving, not halfway there before trying to blackmail us for money," he said.

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Senator Replies

To the Editor:

"...I would like to briefly inform your readers of the deliberations which occurred in the Senate during this past semester concerning these evaluations. A task force consisting of Senators Avi Morell, Mrs. Rebecca Stearns, and myself was instructed to research the distribution evaluation forms for the year 1989-1990 and make appropriate recommendations. We came to an initial conclusion that the forms could be used for two purposes: to help teachers improve their courses and teaching methods, and to decide if the security that could help the administration make decisions regarding television sets in dorms, then don't regulate it. The end result: those students who did not pay were not allowed on the bus for the return trip.

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Philanthropy Society Off to Good Start

by David Firestone

The newest student organization at YC is the Philanthropy Society, headed by Daniel Wolff and Dani Rapp. It was created toward the end of last semester and has already raised $1,750 through can and bottle collection, student donations, and concession sales at the YCSC Chanukah Concert. The money helps students at YC who are in need of emergency funds and also contributes to the Shabbat meal program, which is coordinated by the Jewish Community Council of Washington Heights.

Dean Nulman said, "This is one of the best projects I've seen in my five years at YU. I've seen two similar projects fail, but this time I think it'll be different: the Philanthropy Society is under good, strong leadership."

The idea was conceived by Daniel Wolff during the "Asre Y'mai T'shuva." He wanted to give "tzedakah," but he didn't think it could be done properly. It was a small-scale operation, but it achieved its initial goal.

Wolff's friends later convinced him to try to create a club, using the infallible logic that if they were an organization they would be able to raise more money and help more people. Wolff commented, "Getting started was the hard part. Facilities Management was against setting up can/bottle dispensers, because they were afraid the dispensers wouldn't be emptied on a regular basis, thus possibly causing a rodent problem. YC has witnessed similar projects that have failed due to the fact that the dispensers were not emptied on a regular basis. Thanks to the help of Dean Nulman and Assistant to the Dean Jeff Chaioff we were able to reach an agreement with Facilities Management."

Thanks to the generous support of YCSC and SOY the Philanthropy Society received the money it needed to get off the ground. The next step was to get student involvement. Volunteer forms were mailed to everybody. "The response was amazing," said Dani Rapp, "We're almost at the point where we have more volunteers than we can actually use."

The Philanthropy Society would greatly appreciate donations of your time, money, and/or suggestions. Their next effort will be a Purim raffle.

The idea for the SOY Sefarim Sale was conceived by Mr. Rosengarten during the Joint Business Society (JBS) meeting. Mr. Rosengarten, the director of Supporting Services, was interested in sponsoring a sale of used books at YC to generate money to help the Shabbat Council. Mr. Rosengarten described the idea to the JBS officers, who were enthusiastic about the idea. They immediately agreed to provide the necessary financial support for the sale.

The SOY Sefarim Sale was held on Monday, February 20, 1989, at the YCSC. The sale was a success, with many people coming to purchase books. The sale benefited the Shabbat Council, and some money was also donated to the Philanthropy Society. The SOY Sefarim Sale was a great example of how the students at YC can come together to support each other and the community.
"Yemenite Delight" Attracts Large Crowd to Sephardic Club Shabbaton

by A. Jeff Ibrah

The most well-attended shabbaton so far this year took place at Stern College for Women on February 10-11—the Sephardic Club’s “Yemenite Delight.” With as many as 159 people in attendance it was certainly one of the most successful Sephardic Club shabbatim in the club’s twenty-five-year history.

After introductions by club presidents Jason Ohayon and Ruthie Gabay, Rabbi Carmy, president of the club, welcomed the kids back to the Stern Dormitory lounge for a stimulating lecture by Dr. Ephraim Isaac. Mr. Isaac, a former student of Stern, brought a wealth of knowledge to the conference “enabled the kids with talents and interests to explore journalism from a Jewish perspective, to hear observant Jews in the field address some of the issues and conflicts, and that one can still maintain integrity in the media.”

On Thursday night, the editors were treated to dinner and a roundtable discussion with YU’s student editors. Representing The Observer were Assistant Editor-in-Chief Behnam Daya-nim and Executive Editor Dov J. Picknot. Hamevevei Torah board members, Gil Feldman, Shulamit Blu, Zvi Bornstein of Hamash-shuf, Amy Mehler and Joan Weiner of The Observer and Chana Freiman of SCW literary journal, Besamim were also present.

Among the questions asked of THE COMMENTATOR editors were how they find time for social activity in view of the amount of paper required and how administrative and self-censorship is avoided. Among the events over the rest of the weekend were “Ethics in Journalism/Communications” by Mr. Stephen Labaton, the Legal Affairs reporter for the New York Times, and “Saturdays the Producer Stayed Home” by television producer Molly Resnick. The topics complemented the purpose of the conference which, according to Assistant Director of Admissions and co-organizer Judah S. Harris, “provides an introduction to media, to see Jewish role models who acknowledge their interests and incorporate them into their religion.”

YU Hosts H.S. Editors

by Dov J. Picknot and Steven M. Weiss

Approximately 30 high school editors from all over North America came to YU for a special conference—The STERN College Admissions Conference, February 16-19. The conference was jointly sponsored by YU’s Office of Admissions and the Stern High School Network, an organization comprised of students from high schools in the United States and Canada.

According to co-organizer and Stern High School Network—work director Jeff Lichtman, the goal was “to enable the kids with talents and interests to explore journalism from a Jewish perspective, to hear observant Jews in the field address some of the issues and conflicts, and that one can still maintain integrity in the media.”

Some things are better the second time around—applying to Medical school isn’t one of them!

Did you know that only 1 in 4 students accepted as a repeat applicant? That’s why it’s important to make sure your grades and your MCAT scores measure up on THE FIRST TRY.

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R. Carberry Discusses: "Yemenite Delight" at Sephardic Club Shabbaton

by A. Jeff Ibrah

Dr. Isaac, dressed in traditional Yemenite and Ethiopian garb, spoke of differences in current versions of the Hebrew language. He explained with great detail the differences inherent in the Yemenite Hebrew contrasted with those of North American, European, and Middle Eastern dialects. In addition, he answered questions concerning the effects of music on the body’s neurological system and speculated concerning the earliest settlement of Jews in Yemen.

Following a well-stocked Oneg Shabbat, sponsored in part by YC student Ben Zalta, was a workshop concentrating on the future of Sephardic culture. Sephardic culture faces extinction here in America due to high rates of intermarriage possible, and, therefore, they are now a minority, to non-Jews.

Following lunch on Shabbat afternoon, those in attendance were greeted again by Rabbi Najar before eventually attending New York University Medicine Center for the traditional Shabbat Bukh Cholim visit.

Sephardic Club events, such as this shabbaton, this year have been quite successful both in terms of attendance and satisfaction. YC Sephardic Club President Ohayon explained the success this way: “It’s dependent on two things, consistent, large turnouts and programming that is both educational as it is social. Because they enjoyed themselves at the club’s first few programs, they came back time and time again.” Ruthie Gabay, SCW Sephardic Club president, adds, “everybody wants to see the events attract as many people as possible, and, therefore, they give it their all.”

The next club event is planned around Purim. The club also plans on postponing another shabbaton for Pesach.

Among the questions asked of THE COMMENTATOR editors were how they find time for social activity in view of the amount of paper required and how administrative and self-censorship is avoided. Among the events over the rest of the weekend were “Ethics in Journalism/Communications” by Mr. Stephen Labaton, the Legal Affairs reporter for the New York Times, and “Saturdays the Producer Stayed Home” by television producer Molly Resnick. The topics complemented the purpose of the conference which, according to Assistant Director of Admissions and co-organizer Judah S. Harris, “provides an introduction to media, to see Jewish role models who acknowledge their interests and incorporate them into their religion.”

YU decided to host the conference to show the students that “YU is the only university that provides any atmosphere where one can incorporate one’s interests in life into one’s religion,” explained Mr. Harris, “and not simply feel that religion is just one part of his or her life.”

The program also included an evening with Sara Lee Kessler, anchorwoman on WWOR-TV. In the end, Ramon junior Debbie Sambam, “the conference was a good idea, to meet new people, exchange ideas with them and write together.”

R. Carberry Discusses: "Yemenite Delight" at Sephardic Club Shabbaton

by Mike Eisenburg

On Thursday, February 9, Rabbi Shalom Carmy delivered a lecture in the continuing Torah U’Mada series within the broader topic of Yirat Hashem. Rabbi Carmy dealt with three specific issues. He began by dealing with essentiality of understanding our spiritual experiences such as Teshuva Tefillah and Yirat Hashem. Rabbi Carmy asserted that the study of Mada is an avenue to understanding our inner feelings. For example, Aristotle’s treatment of the tragic hero and SOY—Cont. from p. 4

(continued from page 4 from SSJ) with a campaign to raise money for sending sifarim to the Soviet Union, as the Soviet Union is now allowing Hebrew books to be published. He explained an innovative method whereby purchasers could simply add a dollar for a one-time price on their checks. SOY has agreed to keep tabs on such additions and present SSJ with one lump sum at the end of the sale.

R.Carmy concluded by saying that YU is “going toward a better-organized department based on everyone’s cooperation. The final winner is the student.”
Unrest With Shabbat Program

by Doug Rosenthal

Shabbat, considered the "memorial of the Exodus from Egypt," has evolved into a modern-day exodus for Yeshiva dormitories. Despite the Yeshiva's continual attempt to upgrade Shabbat programming, the multitude of local students still retreat each Thursday evening to the comfortable confines of their homes. The Yeshiva's deflated attendance on Shabbat weakens any possibility for a truly spiritual atmosphere.

Students were eager to share their feelings on the subject, in an attempt to clarify the reasons for the problem. "The best way to explain it, is the 'domino effect,"' said Scott Bugay, a junior from Chicago. "Once a handful of guys leave, many more follow suit."!

One student, a sophomore, echoed Mr. Bugay's sentiments claiming, "You need more people on Shabbos!"

Yet an aspiring semikha student, wishing to remain nameless, sharply differed. "It is not the number of people which constitute the essence of the problem, but rather, a sterile and educational atmosphere," he said definitively. He continued, "YU on Shabbos is exactly like YU during the week albeit without melakha [forbidden types of work]."

Sadly enough, the performance of melakha in the dorms on Shabbat opens a Pandora's Box of embarrassment, yet real problems. One student recalled a Shabbat when he had seen two other students clicking the light switches on and off repeatedly, simply to defy the observance of Shabbat.

To quote what a YU alumnus once said, "the television must have been wired Saturday night. After all, it had not slept all Shabbat."

Dorm Decor: Aesthetically Speaking

by Joseph Wolf

"A man's home is his castle," the Yiddish proverb declares. Yet at YU, students select their living quarters from the big (the only three), the best a junior Wolf than not base their selections on ambiance/ atmosphere and rep.

One junior complained of the TV checkers, "dodos" who occasionally take place arguing, "A person's rights shouldn't be trampled upon on Shabbat in the dorms."

Such incidents have prompted students like Keith Landsman, a senior from Forest Hills, to regretfully comment, "Shabbos is simply not treated with a 'Yeshivish' atmosphere." Mr. Landsman is not alone. Other students have called it "apatheity," "a void," or "a lack of electricity." Call it what you will, the facts remain there is some key ingredients missing in Yeshiva on Sundays.

The problem seems to lie outside the Yeshiva residence hall program, which, according to Rabbi Joshua Cheifetz, Director of Residence Halls, "trades to provide additional and yet warm Shabbat atmosphere."

Rabbi Cheifetz stated the programs keep within the boundaries of the Torah U'Mada philosophy, explaining that the residence halls provide students with an outlet to voice their opinions on Judaism and Orthodoxism, allowing them to consider their secular classwork from a new perspective.

In an ongoing effort to improve the caliber of Shabbat programming, the administration has introduced an additional minyan this year. The minyan, comprised mainly of students from the James Striar School, is led by Rabbi Maury Wrubel, a JSS faculty member and resident of the neighboring Yeshiva dormitories. Despite this, Rabbi Wrubel and resident of the neighbor- ing Yeshiva dormitories. Despite this, Rabbi Wrubel and resident of the neighbor- ing Yeshiva dormitories.

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by Shlomie Grosman

Not too removed from Manhattan’s illustrious Waldorf Astoria, embedded in the heart of historic Washington Heights, rests Yeshiva University’s Uptown campus, home to almost 10,000 students who occupy the University’s dormitory facilities. At first glance, a newcomer might not equate the elegance of a YU dorm with that of the Waldorf Astoria, yet in a relative sense, that equation might not be too far-fetched. Considering what many larger, more affluent universities offer as housing facilities for their students, occupants of Yeshiva College’s three residence halls may very well inhabit the creme-de-la-creme of New York City’s myriad of collegiate housing. Though certainly each of YC’s splendid trios of dorms possesses drawbacks as well as advantages, there can be no doubt that the latter outweigh the former.

The close proximity of all three locations to the classroom buildings affords a YU student the convenience of returning to his room without treading all the way, alleviating the burden of a rigorous schedule ever so slightly, and enhancing the consciousness of virtually every room on campus provides comfort and maneuverability in excess of many of Manhattan’s more expensive studio apartments. In fact, with a homely furnished room, food service at half the price of the Purim Tagiga or such a Shabbat this semester. If the switch is only sixty-cents in the base-room on campus provides comfort and maneuverability in excess of many of Manhattan’s more expensive studio apartments. However, Rabbi Joshua Cheifetz, Residential Hall Director, feels that “Muss Hall is far superior in terms of basic structure.” In addition, of the three dorms, Muss provokes the fewest complaints from residents. This no doubt results from the “modernizing” and refurbishing of Muss Hall, which has elevated its rooms to aesthetic heights far above Morg or Rubin. Still, Rabbi Cheifetz concedes that Morg is more popular, for several reasons, most notably because “it’s closer to the center of student life.”

However, Rabbi Cheifetz also sees a psychological reason for Morg’s popularity. He feels that residents of Morg are presumably mature enough to behave and reasonable enough to make their own rules. The rules exist merely to help students in making these choices. These rules, whether students like them or not, help keep order just a bit better.
Rabbinical Involvement in Politics: Right or Wrong?

by A. Jeff Iraha

Sporadically, at this time of year, upcoming Student Council elections have encouraged certain Rabbinic faculty members, almost exclusively in MYP, to endorse or oppose candidates for student offices. YC senior Behnam Dayanim remembers his unsuccessful bid for YCSC Junior Class President of 1987-88. "I recall when I was running for Junior Class President certain rabbinim, one in particular, would both denounce events and issues with which I had been associated and would urge their students, usually by implication, not to vote for me."

Although students in the shiurim related several stories of such occurrences, Mr. Dayanim asserts that the overall impact was minimal. "I don't think anyone who was going to vote for or against me changed their minds, but it probably made those who hadn't intended to vote come out and vote against me."

During last fall's presidential campaigns, students again heard the voices of their rebbeim, one in particular, which said they voted as they did for or against me changed their vote. One YC Senior told Jewish Community and Israel. "I don't think either candidate and issues with which I had been involved, but did mention why he didn't feel strongly about the rabbi's view which the rabbi votes himself."

For the readers, it might have appeared as if Yeshiva University actually endorsed Mr. Bush. However, the endorsement by Yeshiva University rabbinic faculty, according to Dr. Efrem Nulman, Dean of Students, was not an official Yeshiva University institutional endorsement on vote as does his revered rabbi. "My personal view points are irrelevant, " noted the rabbi, who doesn't endorse either candidate. "While Dean Nulman has been a member of the rabbinic faculty, he has consistently replied, "No, my personal view points are irrelevant."

Director of MYP Rabbi Zebulon Charlop replied similarly yet felt his rabbinic faculty had not acted indirectly. "My personal view points are irrelevant, " noted the rabbi, who doesn't endorse either candidate. "While Dean Nulman has been a member of the rabbinic faculty, he has consistently replied, "No, my personal view points are irrelevant."

Rabbi Charlop answered, "I can imagine in some circles this would be the view, but I think that our rabbinim have a sense of what democracy is and what free elections will mean in elections and how the rabbi feels things are decided. "I think most, if not all, rabbinim do not feel strongly about the rabbi's view which the rabbi votes himself."

In late September, the dilemma of who to vote for was complicated yet further. The Jewish Press released an endorsement of then Vice President Bush for the presidency, as did a long list of prestigious American rabbis, many of them from YU. Mr. Libb, the editor of The Jewish Press, would not comment on how the paper received the names of Yeshiva University rabbis, but did mention why he didn't feel compelled to endorse Bush despite a more popular journalist interest in non-endorsement.

"Nobody can represent Yeshiva University [but] the rabbi," noted one anonymous source. "so anyone else who wants to must receive his permission," he declared. Officially Dr. Lamm, and/or Yeshiva University, did not endorse either candidate.

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Rabbi Charlop also stated that it is an erroneous view held by some students who believe "Kavod HaRav," respect for the rabbi may retract from his view which the rabbi votes himself."

Such rebbeim told of their own personal visions of what a rabbi like Jackson would do to the Jewish community and Israel. They, therefore, felt obligated to come out and endorse Bush, or not endorse Dukakis.

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The Commentator
February 21, 1989
Page 9

— Responsa

Senate Reply

No, the resolution does not call for the use of such forms to determine whether a faculty member is an asset to this institution and should be rewarded accordingly.

Avram Goldstein, Student
YC '89

Security

I think that this policy is ridiculous. The delivery service is of great benefit to YU students who cannot carry their groceries up the hill. A great many people use this service. Mick informed me that the YU students are good business and he is more than happy to deliver to them. However, he has had too many altercations with security lately to continue service to YU students.

When Mick dropped me off at YU, a security guard immediately ran up to us and vehemently ordered that the van be removed from the property. I am glad to see that the YU security force is alertly protecting us from our groceries.

J. Steiner
YC '92

“Who is A Jew”

Op-ed Attacked

To the Editor:

Barry Kaye’s opinion piece in last week’s Commentator (“Who is a Jew? Is Thankfully Dead”) in which he dismisses the issue of halachic conversions as being “for all intents and purposes” dead, misses the point behind the legislation. He fails to realize how important it is for both the State of Israel and world Jewry to adopt a single universal standard for conversion.

While the number of people who convert to Judaism in the diaspora and then make Aliyah is pitifully small, nevertheless any gentile undergoing a specious conversion process should not be labeled a Jew for the purpose of acquiring citizenship in the Jewish state or for marrying a Jewish spouse, because such a person, in the eyes of the Torah, remains a gentile in every respect. Such a person has no connection with the Jewish people, their history, or their destiny. And such a person is totally incapable of fulfilling the sacred task of raising a new generation of Jews.

Mr. Kaye errs in his example of a non-observant Jew who, failing the “litmus test” of Sabbath observance, kashrut and other commandments, nevertheless establishes criteria for his “Jewishness” in other areas such as synagogue participation. According to Mr. Kaye, such a person may still “feel” Jewish, implying that such a nebulous standard should suffice for determining who is an active member of the Jewish people, as opposed to the “narrow-minded” (read “halachic”) view espoused by the more divisive elements of the Jewish community.

One’s membership in the holy nation of Israel (yes, holy!), whether active or inactive, is not subject to the vagaries of human emotions or to any subjective criteria whatsoever; rather, the Torah lays down the sole standard for Jewishness: being born of a Jewish mother or conversion as specified in the Shulhan Arukh.

Anyone failing to meet these requirements is not a Jew and never will be a Jew until he fulfills them. To label gentiles who have not met these condi-

Mr. Speiser would make the

Kahane Lecture

Continued from page 1

lengthy arrest record and reten-
tion of U.S. citizenship, Rabbi Kahane vigorously defended himself. He claimed responsibility for bringing the Soviet Jewry issue to the world’s attention through his bombing of a Soviet building in New York and asserted that he needed Ameri-
can citizenship to enter the country in order to raise funds. He seemed to lose his care-
fully controlled composure, however, when dealing with that same student, labeling his adver-
sary’s remarks the “arrogance of ignorance.”

Alluding to his last, much more tumultuous visit here three years ago, the politician denounced picketers who had disrupted his speech as disre-
stinct of his status as rabbi.

After the lecture, THE COM-
MENTATOR talked to Shmuel
Speiser, the YC junior who
planned the lecture, for com-
ment. “I have been active in
Kach since my first year in Israel two years ago,” said Mr. Speiser. He complained of the “difficulty in the Yeshiva college society system” in scheduling the event.

“The Israel Affairs society was originally going to sponsor it, [but didn’t] as they said, they had no one to introduce him.” The Political Science society also refused to touch it, he stated. Last week, YCSC agreed to sponsor the Torah lecture if Mr. Speiser would make the necessary introductions.

Mr. Speiser also complained about the YU’s lack of cooperation. “We originally asked for Belfer Commons. Rubin Shul was simply not adequate for this lecture; 50 people were turned away and not permitted to enter. “Obviously”, Mr. Speiser said, “many students wanted to hear Rabbi Kahane.”

The Commentator - YCSC Junior Class proudly announce:

YU MASCOT COMPETITION

Creative Maccabees or any other idea accepted.

Prize for best submission

See Eric Rothman M602
923-1780
Deadline: March 1

The Political Science society

The Israel Affairs society was

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security force is alertly protect-

mentally ordered that the van be

ery, in this case the student

THE YESHIVA UNIVERSITY FOOD SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT WE WILL BE SELLING SHALACH MANOS PACKAGES FOR PURIM. THE PACKAGES COME IN THREE SIZES. THE PRICES ARE $10.00, $15.00, OR $20.00. WE WILL EVEN DELIVER ANY PACKAGE PURCHASED FOR AN ADDITIONAL FEE OF $3.00. HOWEVER, WE CAN MAKE DELIVERIES TO ADDRESSES ON CAMPUS ONLY.

SAMPLES OF THE PACKAGES ARE NOW ON DISPLAY IN THE CAFETERIA.

ALL ORDERS MUST BE PLACED NO LATER THAN MARCH 15th.
Handicap Access at YU

Continued from page 1

for the handicapped. Rows of steps line the entrance to this classroom building while a ramp descending from a side door on Amsterdam Avenue, which connects the basement seems too long and too steep to safely transport a wheelchair-bound student. Inside the building, there are no bathrooms or telephones which would accommodate such a student. Tannenbaum Hall, the Gottesman Library, and the three residence halls also lack facilities for the handicapped. The only exception is Beiler Hall whose bathrooms feature wider toilet stalls, lowered sinks, and tilted mirrors to assist the handicapped.

The campus sidewalks and street corners are less inviting. In 1987, Mayor Koch initiated a citywide cut-back program, but the Washington Square area appears to have been overlooked. Of the ten corner crossings spread along Amsterdam Avenue between 184th and 187th Street, only the Southeast corner of 18th Street near the campus merges the smooth descent from sidewalk to street level. And since a similar depression is not provided at the south end, a person in a wheelchair would have to ask for assistance if he wished to cross the street.

Some of these conditions may be the responsibility of the city, but some have questioned YU's own legal standing. Responds Louise Zacherman, Director of Affirmative Action for the University, "Our position, and this has been our position throughout, is to make reasonable accommodations for the handicapped as required by law."

In 1987, the state approved "required accessibility legislation" to provide for the needs of the handicapped, but Ms. Zacherman points out that required accessibility only applies to construction begun since then. "If problems arise with older buildings, then this has to be brought to the institution's attention," she says, and "it has been immediately taken care of." Ms. Zacherman cites a case where the Affirmative Action office was contacted about a problem of wheelchair access at Stern College and had a ramp installed in twenty-four hours. Ms. Zacherman has not been made up front. Ms. Zacherman responds, "I think students should have faced the handicapped students because nothing has ever been brought to our attention."

But many YU students know Ms. Zacherman's assumption is wrong. Despite being severely paralyzed and confined to a bulky wheelchair, YC graduate Yossi Altstein has become a staple at morning seder in the Tannenbaum Bim Eldridge and is a veteran member of Rav Aharon Kahn's shur. Ms. Altstein also continues to take advanced calculus courses in the college. Ms. Altstein may be well-known by many YC students, but the Affirmative Action Office seems to have remained oblivious to his existence. Although he needs the assistance of two helpers to hoist him up the Tannenbaum stairs each morning, Ms. Zacherman complained about the lack of provisions for the handicapped on campus. When asked why, Yossi responds that the yeshiva has been helpful in other ways, and he does not want to cause trouble.

YC junior Michael Bramson is Mr. Altstein's chavurat and frequently assists him around campus. The final piece of Mr. Altstein's wheelchair comes up curves especially frustrating. But because he usually willing to help, so he, too, has never voiced a complaint. Ms. Altstein is another handicapped person on campus whose identity might be obscured by the Affirmative Action Office. A YU employee for over ten years, Ms. Altstein slipped on a patch of ice in front hall last December, injuring her spine, and is now confined to a wheelchair. But because she works at the most accessible Beiler Hall, Ms. Altstein has been able to avoid major problems. She has not encountered any obstacles Yossi Altstein must face.

However, she too has complaints. "The wind outside Beiler is terrible," she says. "Also, there are no indicators lights outside the elevators, and the doors are much faster than the elevators."

Ms. Zacherman's eyes may have been closed to the construction, but even she has realized the need for better facilities. She recognizes the problem as a serious one, "There is a need, then we have to provide for that need." Ms. Zacherman also reminded the students that the University Director of Support Services and Administration will be investigating the problem and our actions will be based on what findings are made, and what the law requires," she stated.

Mr. Rosengarten also assured me that financial considerations will play no part in these decisions, "if there is a need, then we have to provide for that need."
Volleyball Macs Come Home

The volleyball Macs ended their seven-match road trip showing flashes of their exciting potential while winning their first game of the year.

The Macs traveled to Bard College for a tri-match against Bard and New Paltz. After quickly taking the first match against New Paltz, the Macs continued to falter, losing the first game against Bard, 15-8. In the next game, the Macs finally caught fire, blazing to a 6-1 lead. The momentum began to swing, and the score moved 8-8 in favor of YU. At that point, the crisp setting of Yehuda Lifdenberg, sharp hitting of Harry Zemun, and acrobatic digging of Dow Pinchot thrust the Macs into a 13-8 lead. The Macs fought off a late Bard comeback to take the game 15-12. In the last game, the Macs lost their consistency and the match, 15-6.

The long road trip ended on February 15 in a tri-match against NYU and Bridgeport in the MSAC. The Macs, playing without starters Lifdenberg (injured shoulder) and Mehrzad Kohnanisch (injured arm), extended Bridgeport to 15-13 receiving a tremendous boost from the vociferous home crowd.

The exceptional setting of Yehuda Lifdenberg, the blocking of Shai Shemetzer pushed the Macs within points of a major upset. However, Macs then dropped the third game, 15-6.

Down two games in the regionals against YU, the Macs managed to salvage their self-respect by outplaying NYU in the final game. With outside hitter Dow Pinchot recording three kills and two blocks and Jeff Irah and Adam Fishman serving well, Macs continued to rally and made one of the Macs' points, the team rallied into the lead before finally succumbing through their early round games. The Timberwolves defeated Team Silber 58-38 to earn a berth in the final. Team Silber was hampered by an injury to star player Yehuda Blinder.

The second semifinal game was "probably the most exciting game I've ever seen," stated tournament organizer Stanley Weisstein. The Timberwolves and the Silverbirds were tied at the end of regulation. After the first two minute overtime, the score remained even. In the second overtime, Jeff Silverberg drove the basket and was fouled. He went to the line and made one of his free-throws. The Silverbirds received the ball after the foul but proceeded to turn it over. With time running out, Freddy Schwartz swished a three-pointer to give his team the victory.

The final score was 36-23 in favor of Yeshiva. The Elmen hope to maintain the intensity they displayed in controlling their battles with John Jay as they continue the team's finest season (5-4) in many a campaign.

**Schick Concludes**

by Avrum Aaron

It was just like "Hoosiers,"" said Richard Scharlat, describing Freddy Schwartz's three-pointer at the buzzer which earned Team Schwartz a place in the Schick Superhops three-on-three tournament finals. They fell, 48-46, to the Timberwolves in the championship game. The winners advanced to the regionals at Seton Hall.

The Timberwolves started off the evening with a 71-33 blowout over Superhops. They earned the right to play Team Silber, who defeated Team Muehlgay 36-30. Team Muehlgay was hampered by sickness as both Mordy Leifer and David Weinstein were ill. Bruce Tanagin and Danny Saks filled in but they couldn't match Team Silber's all-around ability. Coach Gregory Rhode of Team Silber modestly attributed his team's win to "my coaching ability. We came out flat, but due to my mixing in, putting key players in key roles, we won."

In the other bracket, Team Schwartz defeated the Cougars, despite Jeff Moe's absence from three-point land. At one point, he hit six consecutive treys. The Silverbirds defeated the Killers in overtime 65-19 to earn a final-four spot.

Continuing in the same fashion that breezed them through their early round games, The Timberwolves defeated Team Silber 58-38 to earn a berth in the final. Team Silber was hampered by an injury to star player Yehuda Blinder.

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Brian Goldberg was first in submitting correct puzzle answers. The first to submit a correct puzzle was Brian Goldberg. He/She should receive a "Big J," french fries and soda.

**Ellmen Continued from page 12**

middleweight duo, defeated their opponents in their respective weight classes with extreme ease. Edetkpin led off the John Jay matchlive in little more than half of the first period (1:55). Garfinkel needed less than one minute of the first round to dispose of his overmatched opponent.

In other victories: David Schlussel at 118 lbs., Seth Gerzberg at 134 lbs., and Shimon Soelica at 142 lbs. Lastly, recognition of determination and a fine effort is due to Efdreem Zinkin, who wrestled at 155 lbs. Zinkin, who normally weighed in at 158 lbs., Zinkin, who wrestles at the 134 weight class, said Richard Scharlat, describing Freddy Schwartz's three-pointer at the buzzer which earned Team Schwartz a place in the Schick Superhops three-on-three tournament finals. They fell, 48-46, to the Timberwolves in the championship game. The winners advanced to the regionals at Seton Hall.

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**New Hockey Club**

by David Mayres

Ice hockey is no longer a dream at Yeshiva; it is fast becoming a reality. The new club has begun to create a stir on campus. Spearheaded by President Baruch Rattner, the society has been welcomed by widespread support. Already, over twenty students have signed up to join the club team, where all are invited to participate. Mr. Rattner and his committee are currently negotiating with YCSC President Mordy Liefer for financial subsidy and funding.

Mr. Rattner informed THE COMMENTATOR that he has been in contact with the authorities of the available ice rinks in the metropolitan area. Apparently, skyrink on 33rd street and 10th Avenue in Manhattan has accepted YU as a client. Mike Bernstein, a club member, says the club has secured the 12AM-2AM slot on Thursday nights at the Midtown rink. Hopefully, this ice time will enable the players to practice together and become comfortable on the ice as a unit.

Club VP J.J. Hornblass sums up the aim of the newly formed society: "Our goal is to mold a strong club team during the remainder of this semester. Starting in the fall, we plan to join the University Metropolitan Hockey League whose members include NYU and Columbia. A certified NCAA team is in the near future at Yeshiva." Judging from the intensity of J.J.'s tone, this society is on a mission and will not rest until they have succeeded in bringing ice hockey to Yeshiva.
**Maccabee Milestone: Teichman Hits 1000**

by Shmuel Bulka

Yudi Teichman has established himself as perhaps the best free-throw shooter in Yeshiva history, so it was fitting that his 1,000th career point should come from the charity stripe. The shot was vintage Teichman, touching nothing but net. With it, Teichman has installed himself in a select group of 16 players who have achieved this plateau at Yeshiva. From his first day here, Teichman had to live up to high expectations, and he did so with a very productive first year. Many people believe that the conference "rookie of the year" award should have gone to him and not to Tony Murphy of Western Connecticut. "I think he (Teichman) should have been rookie of the year two years ago," said coach Jonathan Halpert. "I think Yudi deferred because he has played on the same team as Lior and Ayai and, therefore, he didn't get a lot of the league recognition."

But Teichman, who has always put team goals ahead of personal goals, was not bothered by this lack of acknowledgement. "It doesn't make any difference to me."

When it comes to play on the court, first and foremost on Teichman's list of priorities is to behave in a way befitting a Yeshiva student. Anybody who knows Teichman realizes that his off-court conduct is mirrored on the floor.

"He is a very coachable player. Kids aren't different on and off the court. If you're a difficult student, you're usually a difficult kid to coach," said Coach Jonathan Halpert.

Teichman's accomplishments at Yeshiva are many. Not only has he scored in double-digits in scoring and rebounding every year but he has always been around 90% from the free-throw line. The 1,000 points, though, is not just another achievement for the senior forward. "It's an important milestone. It says that..." Coach Halpert with 23 and Yudi Teichman added 18 in a losing effort. The Macs lead by 4 with 10 minutes to go but fell apart late and let the game get away. Yudi Teichman scored his 1,000th point but the ceremony was set aside so more fans could attend a weekend game to give him his much-deserved moment in the spotlight.

Yeshiva 90-Stevens 48

Five players scored in double figures as Yeshiva defeated a weak Stevens team. The "Ducks" floundered consistently turning over the ball and looking more like a bad intramural team then the power they used to be. Yudi Teichman scored his 10th career point, prompting a celebration by the fans who attended to do him honor.

**Ellements Rebound After Hunter Loss**

by David Maryles

After receiving much recognition at the St. John's Invitational, the Ellements went up against a superior squad from Hunter. Despite a valiant effort, the Hunter wrestlers stopped them at every turn. Yeshiva managed only three wins and all were forfeits.

On February 8, however, while most people watched the Macs - NYU basketball contest, the Ellements journeyed to Jay College with the bitter taste of defeat lingering in their mouths. The charge was led by Jeremy Poupko who remained unbeaten (11-0) with a pin in the first period. Poupko has been very impressive throughout the season and seems to get stronger with each match. David Edel­creek (177 lbs.) and Andy Gar­finkel (167 lbs.), the dynamic duo, along with 7 steals while Yudi Teichman added 18 in a losing effort. The Macs lead by 4 with 10 minutes to go but fell apart late and let the game get away. Yudi Teichman scored his 1,000th point but the ceremony was set aside so more fans could attend a weekend game to give him his much-deserved moment in the spotlight.

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Yeshiva 79-Polytech University 63

The Macs improved their record to 10-10 and 6-3 in the conference to assure themselves of their first winning conference record and undisputed third place. Ayai Hod ran all over Poly with 27 points and 23 boards. Eric Davis pumped in 21 along with 7 steals while Yudi Teichman added 18. David Gottlieb, Jon Ehrman and Danny Cheifitz were all out but the team came together to pull out the victory. Greg Rhine was ejected for fighting along with his counterpart on Poly, putting quite an end to his gallery of supporters including the stands. High for NYU was Danny Martinez with 23.

**Macs Sweep League Rivals**

by Jeff Lummerman

Yeshiva 73-75 Maritime 59

After playing to a 1-point halftime lead, the Macs pulled away to defeat NY Maritime for the second time this season to raise their IAC record to 4-3. For the first time this year Ayai Hod was held below 10 as he scored only 9 but still came up with 16 boards. Yudi Teichman, who was the Macs with 24 and David Gottlieb added a career high 15. Greg Rhine, still recovering from an ankle injury, came off the bench to add 8.

Yeshiva 65-NYU 86

In a game marred by a bench-clearing brawl, Yeshiva lost to the Violets in the closest game in four years. In a close first half the Macs played tough and pulled within 5 to a half-court shot by David Ehrman. But the stronger NYU team, playing before a boisterous crowd, slowly pulled away. With a heroic effort led largely by Eric Davis (16 pts) and Ayai Hod (19 pts) the Macs pulled back to within 5 with 5:46 remaining, only to see it build to 19 within 2 minutes. Then, with 5 minutes remaining, a bench clearing brawl initiated by an NYU player resulted in an extended stoppage of play and the ejection of all but 5 players from each team. Ayai Hod, who was the first player who was hit, was quoted as saying, "I'll never throw the first punch, but if they do, they better be ready for what's coming." David Gottlieb, with a strained back, was unable to participate in the fight and chose to observe from the stands. High for NYU was Justin with 28.