March 14, 1995 / 12 Adar II 5575

Beren Jewish Studies Department Dedicated

BY EZRA TUCHMAN

Noted philanthropist Robert M. Beren, who recently donated ten million dollars to YU university for the creation of a YC Jewish studies department, was honored on Monday, March 6, in a special dedication ceremony for the department, which will bear his name. Giving the keynote address at the dedication ceremonies, which were held in Furst Hall, was visiting Jewish history professor Steven Katz. He spoke of the why the Kabbalistic and Chasidic Movements of Europe can provide valuable lessons for Jewish continuity today. YU president Dr. Norman Lamm also spoke at the dedication and applauded Beren’s commitment and continuing support of the University and the entire Centrist Orthodox Community.

In his address, Beren reflected much of this praise, speaking instead about the early beginnings of his family in Marietta, Ohio, and their involvement in Jewish activities and organizations throughout America. He closed his remarks by expressing his gratitude to the hundreds of YU emmies who have contributed to the growth of Torah in cities throughout his home state of Ohio.

The guests concluded the event by moving to the Furst Hall lobby to officially dedicate the plaque which commemorated Beren’s donation. Because of the time of the dedication (it was held in early afternoon), many students stopped by to join in the ceremony. As YC junior Marc Rosenbaum said: “We have an obligation to show our hakarat hatov.”

As of next year, all YC undergraduate Jewish studies courses will be taught in the newly-created Robert M. Beren Jewish Studies Department. This will include the Bible, Jewish History, and Jewish Philosophy departments. The new Jewish Studies department will be open to all YC students beginning in the Fall of 1995.

Hearings Held to Discuss Amendments to YCSC Constitution

BY NICK MULVIN

In an exhausting, ground-breaking meeting, YCSC entertained proposals from student leaders to amend its constitution for the first time since 1986. The meeting, which often erupted in heated exchanges, was called by YCSC president Daniel Billig in order to clarify the common misconception that the Rev. Louis Farrakhan speaks for all African Americans, when in fact, he represents only a small group.

In another session, affirmational action was the debate centerpiece, with the group concluding that “wemustcontinue to enforce equal opportunity, but we should not demand equality of results.” Another group discussed media influences on ethnic conflicts and decided that “mainstream is irresponsible and often misrepresents the views of minorities.” As an example they pointed to the common misconception that the Rev. Louis Farrakhan speaks for all African Americans, when in fact, he represents only a small group.

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The First Amendment

The Yeshiva College Student Council's decision to critically review its constitution should be both commended and questioned. The willingness of a governing body to take a close look at itself signals its desire to better serve its constituents. Nonetheless, as the framers of this nation's own constitution knew quite well, written constitutions do not come easily, and should be treated delicately. At Sunday night's student council meeting, YCSC president Daniel Billig circulated copies of a facsimile sent by his office to The Commentator earlier this week, outlining current guidelines for YCSC to address potential grievances with the newspaper. Under the current constitution, the fax asserts, YCSC could reduce The Commentator's operating budget to $50 per issue. A second option would have the student council fire the staff of the paper. This item proposes that the inevitable problem of finding qualified replacement staff be solved by "hiring an editorial staff from outside the school," and preventing former staff from printing a pirate copy by obtaining a court order if necessary. The third and final option is to write a letter to the newspaper.

Clearly, neither YCSC nor The Commentator looks favorably upon the eventuality of either of the first two options. In lieu of this, Mr. Billig plans to propose (the meeting was cut short on Sunday night) a constitutional amendment which will allow YCSC, if its majority vote in favor of it, to "unfrock" a letter space in response to our content, provided it removes the ridiculous stipulations which allow it unrestricted content anywhere in the paper. What Mr. Billig fails to see, however, along with anyone else who may support the current language of the proposed amendment, is that threatening budget cuts and personnel changes in response to specific newspaper content violates not only the constitution of YCSC, but of this country as well.

Article VIII, section 3 of the YCSC constitution states that "The Governing Board of YCSC alone shall determine the editorial policies of the newspaper and shall be responsible for its content." Does anyone really believe that threats of severe punishment will not dissuade a university board members from criticizing YCSC, even if the student council's actions warrant it? Mr. Billig likes to state that The Commentator must have accountability, and that under its current format, in the absence of competition, it does not. His assertion is well-intended but misguided. Freedom of the press is not about a competition of ideas, but rather, the freedom to state them without fear of repercussions.

Nonetheless, we would support an amendment guaranteeing YCSC letter space in response to our content, provided it removes the ridiculous stipulations which allow it unrestricted content anywhere in the paper. More importantly, the amendment must prohibit even the suggestion of disciplinary action which takes on the form of "unfrocking" a letter space in response to our content. The Commentator has always constituted a proper method of airing grievances in a vibrant democracy. YCSC must ensure that our own student body can lay claim to those same ideals.

How About A Course Catalog?

Virtually every YU undergraduate student owns a copy of the "brown book" — the YU 1991-1993 course catalog. The book is a handy and much-needed reference for current and prospective students who wish to learn about courses, majors, and the various schools of YU. However, over the past two years, the course catalog, filled with old course requirements and missing many of the curriculum revisions that have recently been passed, has become less than a resource as important as the course catalog.

A revised and updated catalog has been "in the works" for the last few years only underscores the immediate need for a new one. Publishing a catalog — which is, essentially, a course Yeshiva listing of courses, majors, and curriculum requirements — should not entail years of effort, especially when it involves a resource as important as the course catalog.

Our message is clear. Getting the course catalog published as soon as humanly possible should be established as an immediate priority for the university. Even before the catalog makes it into print, an effort should be made to put the catalog on-line, much like the catalogs of a number of other universities, so that students can access a wide range of information.

We are eagerly awaiting.

The Law Cuts Both Ways

Over Cardozo Controversy

To the Editor: Your recent article regarding the meeting between student editors and Yeshiva University's outside counsel which discussed the presence of the Lesbian and Gay Student Alliance of Yeshiva University's seems to have accepted, without challenge, the administration's line that the law does not permit YU to refuse funding and accommodations to the club.

There is no New York case law supporting YU's contention. Furthermore, the New York City Human Rights Law, the applicable statute, provides two explicit exceptions under which Yeshiva University qualifies. Section 8-108.1 provides an exception for "any religious or denominational institution or organization, or any organization which is operated, supervised, or controlled by or in consultation with a religious organization." Yeshiva University, affiliated with RIETs, is undeniably operated in connection with a religious organization. Therefore, Yeshiva University is covered by what the highest court in New York has called a "broad" religious exemption.

Further, the Human Rights Law explicitly gives Yeshiva University as an educational institution. The law provides that "the provisions of this subdivision as they relate to unlawful discriminatory practices by educational institutions shall not apply to matters that are strictly educational or pedagogical in nature." A private educational club whose practices are not in accord with the institution's educational goals. Lastly, not allowing a club to use Yeshiva University's office space is not discrimination. We are not calling for Yeshiva University to discriminate against homosexuals. We are merely asking Yeshiva not to endorse, through office space and mandatory student activity fees, a club that seeks to promote homosexuality as accepted lifestyle.
Senior Awards: Solutions

To the Editor:

I am writing in response to the editorial "Take a Year Off" in the February 28, 1995 edition of The Commentator. Twenty years down the road, will the recipient of a YU Senior Award recall the occasion with shame or with pride? We must see to it that the memories are filled with pride.

Let me begin with sincere congratulations to Samson Fine and Ziv Mendelsohn on their outstanding achievements and efforts in making Yeshiva University a greater center of living, growing and learning. Samson and Ziv are leaders of our university and represent the best among us. I was also gratified to read that the highly respected editorial staff of this publication endorsed this year's recipients of the 1995 Senior Honors.

As chairman of the canvassing committee, I feel the present problems must be addressed. I agree that the publicity and planning behind the Senior Awards process were bland and a better job must be done in the future. I believe that the responsibility lies with the canvassing committee and the "apathy" displayed by the student body. This was clearly evident by the low vote turnout. Only 46 seniors voted for their fellow classmates.

Therefore, I'd like to urge all yeshiva students to strongly consider returning for at least one post-collegiate year of learning. Even (perhaps, especially) one who plans to move on to a profession or graduate school should take this opportunity for development. Any legitimate set of priorities should list religious growth well before an extra one or two years of "the real world." It's simply a matter of "chayei olam" versus "chayei y'reim".

I'd like to call on the YU administration to consider the possibility of creating a mechanism by which a "new committee" should consist of representatives from the students, faculty, administration, alumni, and The Commentator. In addition, I will recommend that the "new committee" consider the following proposals:

1. Establish minimum guidelines for award nominees.
2. Construct a formal nominating process.
3. Describe material containing a summary of qualifications of the nominees.
4. Publicize the Senior Awards as efficiently as possible.
5. Devise a plan to increase voters. This plan can be done by holding the elections over several days and providing voting areas in several locations.
6. Set a date for the 1996 Senior Awards immediately.

I welcome and appreciate any suggestions from any interested party concerning this important issue. It will only serve as beneficial to the whole student body. A lot can be done on this campus, but devoted students must have a more dynamic role in activities, committees, and clubs. More student involvement will mean a better life on campus and a more vital Yeshiva University.

Jonathan Lifschutz
Chairman, Canvassing Committee

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Message From the YCSC President

Daniel Billig

I would like to take this time to reflect on this year's events at YCSC and our student council. The one that resides in midtown. We sometimes forget to appreciate the SCWSC. Many of our events would not be successful if not for the outstanding cooperation of the SCWSCboard. I would like to single out Cross as my counterpart and the reason for a great many of our successes. I look forward to future joint ventures with the women at Stern and a smooth finish to a prosperous year.

Daniel Billig
Scaffolding Up in Schottenstein

BY MENASHI SHAPIRO

It's a beautiful building, one that houses the offices of important organizations like WYUR, The Commentator, and Hamevosar. It has also come under scrutiny for being under-used and under-appreciated. But there have recently been signs that things at the Schottenstein Center are moving in a positive direction.

Much of the debate has revolved around the majestic Schenk Shul. Despite being equipped with a mezzanine and domed ceiling, the shul has fallen into disrepair, and for a long time, served as little more than a storage facility for, among other things, the Belz School of Jewish Music.

Minyan Planned

But as of a few weeks ago, scaffolding has been erected in the shul, signifying the beginning of much needed renovations. Students, too, have taken up the cause. YC Sophomore Michael Resnick has led a small but dedicated group of students in the effort. The group, known as SCROSS (Students Committed to the Restoration Of The Schenk Shul), plans on establishing a minyan there in the near future.

However, a number of questions still remain. One question is why it has taken such a long time to begin the renovating process. Resnick attributes much of the early obstacles to the building management. "Every time that it was brought up we have been brushed off," stated Resnick. Director of Supporting Services Jeffrey Rosegang explained that renovating the building is no simple matter. "The nature of the building's structure is such that you could just not put down a scaffolding; the ceiling is unique," noting that experts had to be brought in to study the situation. He also suggested that when the building was first built there were "laws in the way the ceiling was installed, with different layers of plaster not being mixed properly."

It is unclear as to how long it will take to complete the renovations. "It could take a couple of months or longer," said Rosengarten. And as for all the possible uses for the shul when it is fully renovated, SOY president Yitzchak Brody suggested that it function both as a Bima Midrash for the new BMP program as well as for "the overflow in Furst hall shiurim that now have seder in their shiur rooms."

Joint Business Society Receives Face Lift

BY ANDREW DAVIDSON

It has been a transition year for SSB's Joint Business Society. Emerging from a state of confusion, Michael Bazelon assumed the JBS presidency three weeks ago after the previous president, Jack Berlin, graduated in January. The former vice president, Eli Duker, had switched his major to history and stepped down from his position. Bazelon, the lone survivor on the JBS board, was appointed president. Within three weeks, a new board was in place, and with fresh blood, the JBS is ready to revamp a sluggish program.

First on the JBS's agenda is Morg Mart, which is currently managed by Stephen Gordon under the supervision of YCSC. Morg Mart will once again become the responsibility of the JBS due to arrangements made by Bazelon. In addition, to insure the president

Economics Nobel Prize Winner Speaks

BY EPHRAIM LEIBTAG

On March 6, YU welcomed Nobel Prize Winner Dr. Robert Fogel to the YU campus to deliver the annual Alexander Brody Distinguished Service Lecture.

Speaking on "The Economics of Slavery in the Ante-bellum Period," the University of Chicago professor used mathematical techniques to refute the commonly-held notion that slavery was economically inefficient in comparison to the free-labor system in the North. In reality, he argued, laborers in the North actually worked more hours per year than slaves, and had less nutritious diets than the slaves did.

Nevertheless, Fogel concluded his lecture with a "modern indictment of slavery," in which he made clear that despite the economic efficiency and profitability of slavery, any system which denies citizenship and freedom to the people involved should not even be an option. He also pointed out that a slavery system prevents the laborers in the market (in this case, the slaves), from realizing their true value wage, thus denying the workers what they truly deserve.

Mashgichim Give Hachana Shiur

BY RYAN HYMAN

At 9:30 AM on any Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Kevin Rodbell and Stuart Werben join one of the MYP sha'arim in a hachana shiur designed to enhance the quality of morning seder.

The evening was not all highbrow discourse. Economics department chair Dr. Aaron Levine, who coordinated the lecture series, introduced Fogel by delivering several "economics jokes" as well as an amusing anecdote or two. Fogel received the Nobel prize for his research on the railroad transportation system and its role in the growth of the United States in the 19th century. He proved through empirical economic analysis that, contrary to common historical belief, the railways were not indispensable to the economic growth of America at that time.

At the conclusion of the lecture, those in attendance were treated to a "friendly debate" between Fogel and YC History professor Dr. Albert Marrin on some of the historical issues of the lecture, as the floor was opened for questions.

Though the program, endowed through the Alexander Brody Distinguished Lecture Series, "drew a sparse student audience, Economics major Elieb Graff noted. "It proved to be very informative, on a topic that many people probably never thought about in this light before."

ECONOMICS NOBEL PRIZE WINNER SPEAKS

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Only a few months after YU honored Edgar Bronfman, former CEO and current Chairman of Seagram Co., at its annual Chanukah Dinner, Mr. Bronfman visited the Main Campus and addressed SSSB students this past Tuesday afternoon, February 28.

Bronfman began his presentation with a thirty-minute lecture, then opened the floor for a forty-five minute question-and-answer session. The lecture focused on the role of the CEO in a major company, but also touched upon family involvement in business, and how Bronfman’s background and upbringing has guided him through his career. He stressed the importance of a strong Jewish education, and cited his recent promotion to the position of Chairman of the National Hillel House as a way he is working to strengthen it.

During his sojourn to YU’s uptown campus, Bronfman lunched with President Lamm, visited a Bible class taught by R. Yaakov Elman, continued on to tour the YU library and museum, and concluded with the aforementioned lecture.

While he had reportedly been interested in sitting in on a SSSB class as well, Bronfman was asked to speak to a mid-sized audience comprised of faculty and students instead. SSSB Assistant Dean Ira Jaspon explained that Bronfman was “very impressed with the high-level questions, based on the information he received.”

Dr. Katz speaks at a luncheon in President Lamm’s office

When YU visiting professor of Jewish History, Dr. Steven Katz began teaching this semester, it was supposed to be a brief stint — two courses, each one consisting of three and a half hours a week, to be completed by the first week in April. The reason — he was slated to assume the coveted position of Director of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington on March 16. But several weeks ago his reputation came under attack in the mass media, in articles in the New York Times and the Washington Post. Allegations regarding the veracity of publishing claims on his resume and the violation of a 1989 study leave began to surface, and support amongst the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council, in charge of selecting the Director of the museum, waned. The accusations soon turned into a full blown controversy, and on March 3, Katz resigned from his position at the museum.

Katz, who is currently on leave from Cornell University, stresses that the decision to resign was made in the best interest of the museum. “I had accepted the position because I wanted to do good things for the museum,” Katz told The Commentator in a phone interview from his home in Binghamton, NY last week. “I have been wronged.”

Museum Council chairman Miles Lerman, who has voiced strong support for Katz’s selection throughout these past turbulent weeks, affirmed Katz’s assertion that the decision was his own. “He has withdrawn. He was not fired,” said Lerman.

However, according to Washington Post sources, Lerman and fellow Council leaders Ruth Mandel and Gerard Laval were assailed for their choice, and they began to realize that the staff no longer held Katz in particularly high regard. According to these sources, the leaders yielded to the pressure and urged Katz to resign.

Ironically, Katz is pleased at where the strange turn of events has left him. “I got seduced by a public and glamorous position, but I really enjoy teaching and scholarship more,” he stated. “Now I have time to do what I like. It seems like G-d is anxious for me to finish volumes two and three,” referring to the continuation of his epic work on the Holocaust, which, among other things, attempts to demonstrate that the Holocaust was a unique event in history.

It was the first volume of this work which has caused many of his current troubles. According to a report in the Washington Post several weeks ago, Cornell reprimanded berated him in 1991 for claiming for more than ten years that the volume was to be published by Harvard University Press, when in fact he had signed no such contract with them. The book was eventually published by Oxford University Press. The Post reported that Katz had been punished by Cornell for both the book fraud as well as for violating a 1989 study leave to take a paying job at the University of Pennsylvania. His salary was allegedly frozen for three years, and he was denied privileged study-leaves for the remainder of his stay at the university.

Katz responded that he had made “two unintentional errors” and that they were nothing more than “technical violations.”

More Time in YU

Katz’s resignation has changed his status at YU significantly. He now hopes to stay on at Yeshiva as a visiting professor next year, as his contract originally stated. He also expressed interest in maintaining a long term relationship with YU. “If I were invited to teach at YU past 1996, I’d seriously consider it,” Katz remarked.

And he’s been pleasantly surprised by what he’s seen at Yeshiva thus far. “I’m enjoying it more than I thought I would,” he commented. “It’s a very nice environment, the students are engaged in the class and participate nicely.”

The success of last year’s setup, which resolved logistical and halachic problems, and the use of two separate facilities for men and women. This year SOY president Yitzchak Book, unlike his counterpart of last year, encountered little difficulty orchestrating the chagiga. Book is concerned, however, that there will still be crowding this year; Columbia University’s chagiga, which regularly draws students away from YU, was held on Rosh Chodesh this year due to a spring break on Purim.

This year, Neshomah Orchestra, a common sight at YU events, will be on hand to perform for the hundreds of students expected to attend. An order for mountains of hamentashen and donuts has been placed, and a $5 admission fee has been set.

A clandestine Purim shpiel committee has been appointed by Book to entertain the hundreds of students expected to attend. While security guards are prepared to accompany the women across the street for the aschken and donuts has been placed, and a $5 admission fee has been set.
Sara Lee Kessler Sues WWOR-TV

Claims to be Victim of Religious Discrimination

by David Schertz

Sara Lee Kessler, an Emmy award winning broadcast journalist, and adjunct professor at YC and SCW, is suing her former station for breach-of-contract, fraud, disability discrimination, age, and gender discrimination. Kessler told The Commentator that she was fired just days after filing a civil complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

Until March 1994, Kessler, who teaches broadcast journalism, was the longest running female news anchor in the country. She was also the only Jewish person on staff.

Kessler explained that she first began to sense problems when William Wright was hired as news director at WWOR - Channel 9 in 1992. Upon his arrival at the station, Wright announced that he intended to change the news format to appeal to a younger MTV audience. Kessler's, "News at Noon" show was canceled and she was told that she would not be transferred to "The News at Ten" because they were looking for a male anchor.

She was shocked when the anchor chosen was Sean Mooney, former announcer for the World Wrestling Federation. Kessler said, "It's not illegal to change format or to decide you want to go after younger 'MTV' viewers. To me, what happened to me was so illegal because when you know there are people of different religions in the country. If you're selling diversity, you should be selling religious diversity, not excluding it.

Kessler was assigned to weekend news and reporting. While on a story, she fractured her tailbone in several places due to a poorly maintained news van. While her contract specified that she was allowed an 8 hour day, she was required to work more time with her husband Robert Miller, a YC graduate, and their two young children.

Broadcast Journalist Professor Sara Lee Kessler

On Wednesday, March 8, bone marrow testing for Jay Feinberg was held at Yeshiva University in the Morgenn trough. This was part of a citywide testing drive, with drives also held at Stern and Columbia.

This was also the third drive held at YU. The best, held four years ago, was run by Jason Schwartz and Mordy Rothenberg. For the past two years, the Main Campus drive has been coordinated by YC senior Chaim Motzeman.

With testing only being required once, and many YU students having been tested either in previous years or in drives in Israel or elsewhere, the coordinators were pleasantly surprised to have over 300 students and faculty come for testing, bringing the total tested at YU, including those who came to over 700.

Jay Feinberg, who is 26, was diagnosed with leukemia five years ago. Since then, he and his family have run a massive testing drive around the world to find someone with an identi cal marrow type to donate. Over 40,000 people have been tested at over 100 drives, but a suitable match has not been found - and time is running out. Jay has the best chance of finding a match within his ethnic group, namely, Eastern European Jews. Therefore, drives have been held among members of this group, for instance, here at YU. All those tested are added to the 1.4 million people registered in the National Marrow Donor Program listing, where searches can be made for other patients. In fact, a number of those tested for Jay Feinberg have been found to be matched for others in need of a marrow transplant.

For instance, Steve Cheiffetz, a student at YU several years ago, was found to be a match for Aiden Stanleigh, who was found to have leukemia while in Israel. Stanleigh is now recovering after a donation of marrow from Cheiffetz.

Each test costs fifty dollars, and the Feinbergs have spent over two million dollars so far, much of it raised through the Friends of Jay Foundation. This drive was sponsored by the New Jersey Association of Bone Marrow Donors, as part of Bone Marrow Drive Awareness Week. Jay and his parents were on hand to help out in the testing themselves. Besides being pleased at the large number of donors who turned out, Motzeman commended the many YU students who helped out on the drive. He stressed that more help is needed for various drives.

To find out more information, donate money, organize a drive, or help out in any other way, contact the Foundation at 1-800-MARROW.

Big Brother-Alumni Networking Program Underway

by Aaron Klein

In an attempt to promote the involvement of alumni in student affairs and generate closer relationships between students and alumni, the Big Brother-Alumni Networking Program will kick-off on April 27 with a Manhattan reception.

Approximately seventy-five alumni are expected to join fifty students at the event, which organizers hope will be marked by an exchange of advice, phone numbers and business cards. The alumni will be encouraged to get to know the students and make follow up calls with the students.

Dan and Jonathan Lifschutz, twin brothers and SSSB sophomores, along with YC President Daniel Billig, designed this program to respond to what they perceived as students’ need for entry into the larger community with respect to employment opportunities.

The program is in its formative stage, and already a couple of students have dedicated countless hours to planning the event. Eight student volunteers plan to call approximately 2,000 alumni to invite them to join the program. The program will cater to Yeshiva College juniors and seniors only and the first social event will involve a speaker, food and heavy-duty socializing. If all goes well, the program may expand to include SCW students as well.

Jonathan Lifschutz says one of the biggest strengths of the program is its ability to unite all YU students, past and present. He believes everyone involved benefits because of the connections that can be developed with the real world.

The initiative is also expected to enhance alumni association efforts to expand its membership. By bringing more people back to their alma mater, the YU message will be more widely disseminated.

The event will aim for a 1.5:1 alumni-student ratio, which will make it easier to strike up a conversation with one of the students and hopefully, form a real relationship.

Students are already praising the program. Meir Pollack, a YC junior, was ecstatic because “it is helpful for both student and alumnus, the student in his quest for a job, and the alumnus is able to return to his roots in YU.” Yoni Kahan, a SSB junior summed up the impact of the new program with one sentence: “It will help bridge the gap between the university world and the real world.”
Speakers Preach Jewish Pride

By Daniel Rubin

On Wednesday, March 1, the Yeshiva University College Republicans sponsored an evening of three lectures dealing with Jewish relations with the media and secular society, entitled “Issues of Jewish Pride.” Over 60 students and staff members were in attendance to hear Ateret Kohanim President Dr. Joseph Frager, Jewish Alliance Action President Beth Gilinsky, and the evening’s main attraction, Guardian Angels President and WABC radio talk show host Curtis Sliwa.

Dr. Frager, whom College Republicans president Eli Pieperz characterized as “an exceptional man responsible for many monumental accomplishments,” spoke about the importance of publicizing through mainstream media the successes of most Orthodox Jews, including the right wing, concerning the current Midwest peace process and its pitfalls. He urged all students to become politically active and “make realities happen according to your opinions,” much like Mordechai, whom he described as “the first lobbyist” and a man who “changed the political thought in the Washington DC of that era.”

Dr. Frager further spoke about the protest against the Norwegian Mission when Yasser Arafat was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize and the nine advertisements that he has put in New York Times, explaining that “the New York Times (Sliwa) Peres’ report card, more than Isreali newspapers.” His request for students to join him in his efforts did not go unanswered, as many students approached him after the program’s finish inquiring how they could help out with his ongoing campaign.

Beth Gilinsky, the evening’s second speaker, is the founder of the JAA after the 1991 Crown Heights riots. Since that time, he has led a constant struggle against antisemitism, stress that the new breed” of Jews.

Mr. Sliwa then went on to illustrate in his trademark fiery and poetic language the need for Jews to extol their values of hard work and not hide from it, and to continue the “pursuit of education to achieve excellence.” Mr. Sliwa also explained that “Judaism is marketed terribly,” in that by calling ourselves the Chosen People and maintaining that all our hardships come from G-d, gentiles receive the impression that they are mere “facilitators of destruction,” and that Jews believe that they are better than Gentiles. He advised that Jews try to converse with non-Jews about the differences in our religions “without being preachy,” in order to combat this anti-Semitic stereotype.

At the same time, Mr. Sliwa expressed amazement over the willingness of many Jews to allow themselves to bear the brunt of blatant Anti-Semitism without raising a finger. He noted that when the Lubavitch community of Crown Heights held a memorial service after the riots ended, there was no representation whatsoever from any major Jewish organizations, including B’nai Brith, and that he himself had to be asked to speak to fill the time.

Mr. Sliwa also told of an episode at the Park Ave. Synagogue where Jesse Jackson, who was invited to speak at the synagogue’s function, on his own invited Al Sharpton, and that when Sharpton arrived, not only was his presence at the affair not protested (until Beth Gilinsky and the JAA arrived) but he was even cheered in the dixietone section of the synagogue. Mr. Sliwa then advised that Jews not say hard to offend non-Jews because of their achievements or cover up the fact that they control disproportionately large amounts of Hollywood and the media, but that they be proud of their accomplishments and advise others on the benefits of hard work.

Guardian Angel Curtis Sliwa at YU in bombings in Buenos Aries and London shortly afterward. Ms. Gilinsky additionally emphasized the need for all Jews to protest when an injustice is carried out against us and the necessity for all Jews, including women, to become trained in self-defense.

Curtis Sliwa, sporting the red beret and jacket of the Guardian Angels, began his speech by complementing Dr. Frager and Ms. Gilinsky as people who “have the warrior spirit and are part of the new breed” of Jews.

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Students Transition to the Workplace

By Stuart Milstein

No Pesach vacation, no Fridays off, and attendance even required on Purim. No, these are not alterations that the Yeshiva University administration plans on implementing next year; these are the changes of lifestyle that YU students encounter when they enter the secular world of employment. Each year many YU alumni opt to work after graduation in the business world. Some students choose accounting, while others enter careers in finance, computer consulting and numerous alternative fields. Regardless of the profession, they all agree that many adjustments must be made in the transition from the YU student lifestyle to that of a downtown businessman.

According to most of the graduates the most difficult adaptation was adjusting to a new and more rigorous schedule. “Early mornings are painful,” expresses Sender Cohen, a YC graduate in ‘94 who, as a financial analyst at Oppenheimer & Co., wakes up daily at six o’clock in the morning. He added that “not having vacations is also difficult,” referring to the fact that he has not had a vacation since he began working last summer. Others, like Messenger, SSSB ’94, currently an accountant at Ernst and Young said that with his new schedule, he has learned to appreciate vacations a lot more. However, he adds that one of the main differences between a long work schedule and a long class schedule is that while working you cannot rely on an afternoon workout only accruing three or four hours of sleep a night. You can no longer look forward towards sleeping during lunch.

One of the easier changes that the new employees face is working on Fridays. According to Assistant Dean of Sy Syms School of Business Ira Jaskoll, working on Fridays is mainly a mental adjustment. Cohen agreed that adjusting to working full time on Friday was not difficult even though it does limit his free time.

Working and dealing with individuals from the opposite sex is another challenge. As a financial analyst, one of the most difficult adaptation was adjusting to working full time on Friday was not difficult even though it does limit his free time.

Working and dealing with individuals from the opposite sex is another challenge. Cohen found working with girls to be the way. He also mentioned that adjusting to working full time on Friday was not difficult even though it does limit his free time.

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The following are the winners of the Purim Contest:

Neil Lauer

Steven Miodownik

points to one potential concern. "Girls have a totally different frame of mind; you have to be careful to not lead people on." An additional worry is being sure to carefully sustain a friendship while still maintaining a professional relationship.

Successfully abiding to a business schedule is many times easier for YU students than for newcomers from other universities. Yeshiva’s rigorous dual curriculum and wide participation in student activities forces its students to develop effective time management skills. It trains them to adhere to taxing agendas.

“YU definitely helped me adjust,” said Feiler. He explained that the university gave him the background to get involved in activities, which is a lesson that carries over to a work world where employers value those who can multi-task. At larger schools more students become accepting of passive involvement. Zimmer- man, last year’s SSSB president, believes that working late at YU and having classes until 8:30 at night prepared him physically and mentally for the longer days and longer schedule of the working world. “That is not the case with students from other universities,” asserts Zimmerman.

Cohen, former commentator editor-in-chief, is reluctant to credit YU for his transition to Wall Street. “The long day is a joke and is very excusable,” states Cohen.

While few alumni struggle with the lengthy regimen, A.J. Schreiber feels that adjusting to a more serious work ethic poses major difficulties. According to the YC graduate currently working for Swiss Bank, problems arise because the students don’t try to do their best and do the minimum. “On the job you are accountable for your actions, you do not have the luxury of missing a day and asking a guy at work for his notes. At YU that’s what is done,” asserted Shreiber.

After hurdles the barriers of joining the work force, those who join will likely adjust as effortlessly as in years passed. According to Tiger working enables you to "make money and be independent," while Zimmerman said it allows you to "spend money because you are earning it." These are only few of the advantages that make the minor complications of joining the work world worthwhile.

The following are the winners of the Purim Purim Contest:

Neil Lauer

Steven Miodownik
Finding the Perfect Dryer

BY SIDNEY A. SINGER

A few quarters, a little soap, and two hours on a Sunday afternoon. That’s what the naive first-year YU student perceives his first trip to the laundry room will require of him. But as the out-of-town veterans of the laundry rooms deep in the dungeons of our university dormitories will tell you, washing your clothes around here is similar to choosing a place for Shabbos: the process is not as simple as it may seem.

The quest to walk around in fairly odor-free clothes does not begin in the laundry room itself. Rather, the out-of-towner must begin his efforts at least a few minutes earlier, accumulating the necessary four quarters per load (fifty cents for the wash, fifty cents for the dryer). When the laundry rookie living near Morg heads for the change machine in the Morg lounge, his counterpart in Rubin must often settle for the quarters he has been hoarding in his pockets, masquerading many Cokes in the absence of a change machine. The veteran, having already discovered the Morg machine’s inefficiency (giving 25 cents in nickels), anticipates the attempt by the change owner must make to force him to spend more than he would like, and heads to the local eateries, only to have Rollie and Grandpa tell him they have already given out all their quarters. Only the true local, however, knows that it is a secret too prized to be revealed on the pages of this publication.

Once the laundry-goer finds the quarters, he heads for the basement of his respective dormitory (or the new laundry room on the first floor of Muss), only to realize on his arrival that the detergent he hoped for three loads will barely suffice for three loads. Frustrated and confused, he has no choice but to head directly back upstairs to his roommate for some Tide, Cheer, or whatever else was on sale at Woolworth’s back in September. When his roommate is nowhere to be seen, it’s Family Grocery time.

Dear Joe, journey through the forest of laundry will thicken with the conclusion of the washing cycle as the veterans of the dungeons know fully well, getting one’s clothes dry after only one cycle can be harder than attaining an “A” in an impossible course. However, the measures required to attain a quality dryer can often raise ethical questions, especially if you live in Morg, where two out of three dryers work at all (The answer to the obvious question lies next to the endless quarters.)

When Joe’s clothes complete their washing cycle, Joe heads over to the dryers, and having done his laundry work, knows fully well that two days have passed.

Unfortunately, both of them contain someone else’s clothes. Dryer X has concluded its cycle, but the clothes in it are still wet; Dryer Y still spins at full speed, but the clothes within are clearly finished. Joe now finds himself asking a number of questions: Do clothes still dry in the absence of heat? Are all clothes dry out of dryer X, even though they remain wet? Does the heat emanating from the clothes in dryer Y, cause the clothes are still wet, does it change the method of the clothes are dry? Is a wash a wash?

A dormitory laundry room resembles a neighborhood basketball court in the sense that it runs not according to official rules, but rather, the procedures of those who use the facilities. On a park basketball court, however, players do not enter games fearful that someone one will return ten minutes later and remove them from the game. The questions posed above have no absolute answers, as many casual conversations about this topic have revealed. Nonetheless, some students have chosen to ignore even the most obvious policies of laundry-room decency, removing other people’s clothes with willful disregard of the incomplete status of the cycle. A far worse infraction which has also entered our laundry base-
mates has taken shape in the form of disappearing clothes, particularly jeans and denim shirts.

Despite the difficulties and challenges the laundry rooms may pose, they constitute a significant component of dormitory life here in YU. They offer a chance to meet fellow students with whom you share nothing more than similar detergents and brand of T-shirts. They provide comfortable atmospheres in which to worry about beating your competitors to the good dryers. Most importantly, where else can you find washers and dryers for 50 cents each?

The quest to walk around in fairly odor-free clothes does not begin in the laundry room itself. Rather, the out-of-towner must begin his efforts as soon as he arrives on campus, accumulating the necessary four quarters per load (fifty cents for the wash, fifty cents for the dryer). When the laundry rookie living near Morg heads for the change machine in the Morg lounge, his counterpart in Rubin must often settle for the quarters he has been hoarding in his pockets, masquerading many Cokes in the absence of a change machine. The veteran, having already discovered the Morg machine’s inefficiency (giving 25 cents in nickels), anticipates the attempt by the change owner must make to force him to spend more than he would like, and heads to the local eateries, only to have Rollie and Grandpa tell him they have already given out all their quarters. Only the true local, however, knows that it is a secret too prized to be revealed on the pages of this publication.

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Quiet Advisement

by Michael Sussman

At the start of the school year, upon returning from winter break, and after a
registration time the student academic advi-
sement center's inaugural year has been
a smashing success. During these periods this advisory hub is loaded with
a mix of both neophyte and foreign stu-
dents seeking academic assistance. “The guidance an academic advisor gives me
is very helpful, from a personal perspec-
tive,” a first-year student reflects, “especially with regard to the course
choice and planning.” Said Baerzelt Beckt, a foreign student from Sweden.
However, while the center has quietly prospered during these academic
offices, the learning environment associated with this program has
been on the variety of courses given, as well as the content of new course offerings
and major requirements. The gains for the academic advisors are
nuanced. But what is often a reality for the out of town student do not intend
during the week. During the

Convenient from page 8

making the shabbos more
Convenient, pleasant, and.

What About Law School?

by Chaim Zuckriem

Contrary to national figures indicating a major decline in law school appi-
cants for the ‘94-‘95 school year, Yeshi-
va University undergraduate students are applying to law schools in
higher numbers than last year’s class. But the numbers are still lower than the 1993
crop.

An article in the February 17 edition of the Wall Street Journal reported that
law school applicants had plunged by 13% nationally and as much as 18% in
some universities. A shrinking of the potential job market, low morale at
law firms due to layoffs, and a glut of gradu-
ating law school students are some of
the reasons given for the applicant drop. The most interesting rationale the story
attributed to the drop is termed the “O of Factor.” The constant exposure to
the public of the defense team in the OJ
Simpson trial has allowed prospective
lawyers to see a very firsthand the
seamy side to the law profession.
Still, these factors have not seemed
to affect Yeshiva University undergradu-
ates. YU’s prelaw advisor, Associate
Dean Michael Hetcht, attributes the
year’s increase in law school applications to an improvement in the job market.

Interestingly, YU law school appli-
cants significantly dropped last year. According to official statistics issued by
the dean’s office, law school appli-
cants reached a peak in 1993 when 36
people applied for the total three.
The following year by almost 33%, a
substantial drop by all standards. Although over 40 students have applied this
year, the law school applicant pool is
still a shadow of 1993’s figures.

Why have the numbers fallen? It could be that students are finally re-
cognizing the fact that being a law
yer does not only entail counting a
huge paycheck once a month. The
stories of lawyers quitting their positions due to the unethical demands
of the legal profession have been circulating the YU scene for quite some
time.

The ability to find a job has also be-
come a concern. The 1980’s was a
time when prospective law students
were seeking in the halls of YU. YU’s
decade, as accepted into
law school

While medical school applicants has implied, the an-
other reason for
the future of law school. In the near
future, the 1993 law degree

(YU students

‘94-‘95 school year, Yeshiva

University of New York. Nonetheless, many students see
themselves to 14-year-old workdays simply be-
cause of the parallel thought processes of law and talmud. The majority of YU law school applicants go on to become either medical
or financial advisors.

Arri Bruger, a student in the Sy

Stern Talmudical Academy, agrees.
Many of the successful lawyers pro-
duced by Yeshiva University were big

A decade has past since the
Yeshiva administratively merminated the whole unsubstantial advisement program
which once existed. In recent years, with literally hundreds of YU students
floating about without adequate advice for
so long, English Professor Richard
Nochimson, then chair of the Stand-
ning Committee on Student Affairs
spurred interest in student advisement.
During a crucial University re-
credentialization period, Dr. Nochimson
realized the weakness in the previous
advisement and set about creating a
fresh program to inform students about
the necessary requirements, and
more importantly, "get students think-
ing about education and their lives."

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From Moscow to New York City

Three years ago, Alex Migirov left Russia with his father to visit America. After a short vacation Alex's father returned to Russia; Alex, however, remained and has extended his originally planned "short trip."

Alex is just one of 53 Russian students here on campus who share a common similiar story and life experiences. Yeshiva University's warm welcome combined with its persistent efforts in helping these immigrants adapt to a new environment has resulted in a steadily growing Russian population on campus.

Even though the Russians all carry one title, they do not come from one homogeneous background. The first group that arrived on U.S. soil emigrated from the Asiatic Republics. Many of these Sephardic Russians came from traditional and orthodox Jewish backgrounds; a number of teenagers even studied at Yeshivas Ner Yisroel for high school. A second group of immigrants from the suburbs of Moscow and Leningrad arrived in America on refugee status. Many such Russians came solely with their mothers because it was easier for divorced, single parent families to leave. The third and most recent type of immigrants are those who come on student visas. America's good relations with the Russians have ended refugee status, so now the third and most recent type of immigrants are those who come on student visas. Many of these Russian students, especially the Fi's, arrive in this country with close to nothing making it nearly impossible to pay tuition. The government will not give grants or scholarships to foreigners on student visas. Therefore YU takes full responsibility. Currently school policy grants 50% scholarships to the Russians. Rabbi Yudin and Rabbi Goldin raise additional funds to make up the remainder. Furthermore, the YU Women's Organization provides pocket money, and while the Lawrence Fund supplies free medical services. Still, many Russian students find it absolutely necessary to find side jobs.

One essential service provided by Rabbi Serels' office is attempting to obtain granting permanent status for students who have included Broadway shows, Jewish concerts, and other social events. Unfortunately, only about half of the Russians have applied for student visas. The majority of Russian students are very appreciative of the warm welcome of assimilated Americans and therefore stay away from the club. Indeed, YCSC really is here to serve us.

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New Mentor Program Set To Begin

BY COMMENTATOR STAFF

Under the direction of YC seniors David Price and Sandor Bak, a Student Mentor Program is currently in the planning stages and will begin in the next few weeks. The program will link students from local high schools and junior high schools with student tutors from Yeshiva College.

Price explained that this type of program is intended to help the local community and is very common at colleges and is intended to help the local community.

The program will take place one night a week and, perhaps, Sunday afternoons, will involve students from YU helping out the high-schoolers with their schoolwork. Bak explained that "the plan is to place students according to their majors. Math majors can volunteer to help students with math coursework, history majors can work with students needing extra help in history, and soon." He added that while many students have already volunteered to serve as student mentors, there are still spots for any student willing to devote some of his time.

Josh Feldman, an SSIB junior, explained the importance of such a program. "It is sometimes too easy for us to forget that, as students in college, we are getting tremendous opportunities that many are not lucky enough to get. Acting as a student mentor is a way to help others out and put our education to a good cause."

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MAKING CHANGES

BY DOV SIMONS

Last week, the YC Curriculum Committee approved the first of a series of proposals that Committee member Michael Nelson said "begins the revising and revamping of all the existing majors in Yeshiva College to get more in line with the curriculum of the nineties."

Under the new measures, Introductory Physics would be expanded by one hour, turning it into a five-credit course. In addition, the Committee explored the possibility of combining the two semesters Introductory Psychology course. They also approved the creation of a writing minor and a new quantitative mathematics course.

The new five-credit Introductory Physics course includes a four credit lecture and a one-credit lab. The extra time will allow classes to probe into practice problems with greater depth. One professor felt the current four-credit setup did not adequately prepare students for the MCATs. The consequent proposal was to restore the pre-1992, five-credit framework for the physics course. When he learned of the proposal, YC junior Aryeh Pearlman commented, "The new setup is good. Physics is at least as time consuming as other sciences like Biology and Orgo, which are already five-credit courses."

Additionally, in an effort to make the Music program more viable, the Committee voted to change the main sequence of core courses from six semesters to four, increasing each of the courses to three credits.

The committee also looked into condensing the two semester Introductory Psychology course. The course now includes two courses, one focusing on biological aspects, the other on psychological and social development. The change is hoped to bring Yeshiva University in line with other universities, and allow students to take an additional elective. The committee will review the current requirements of the psychology department later this semester.

Writing Minor Established

A writing minor was also established in what is hoped to become a popular and useful program for students. YC Assistant Dean Avery Horowitz said, "Writing is one of the most important skills one could have. The more writing courses students take, the better off they are." English Composition and four other classes with an emphasis on writing courses such as Print Journalism and Play Scenario Writing will be required to complete the minor.

The committee then discussed possible changes in the accreditation of the Theater Workshop class. Students involved with the Yeshiva College Drama Society's biannual production register for Theater Workshop for up to three credits, depending on the amount of time vested into the play. Modification of this policy in the future has been put aside for the time being. According to YC senior Jonathan Schloss, who sits on the Curriculum Committee, students with a major role in this semester's play will receive two credits and others will receive one. "It was strictly an ad-hoc decision to be looked into later," Schloss said. Another innovation in the YC curriculum is the possible establishment of a Drama major that would draw on courses from both Speech and English departments.

Upcoming sessions of the Committee are scheduled to continue discussion of the revisions in Psychology, and other majors and minors will be looked into as well. To a similar end, the Senate discussed a new proposal for a series of new majors and minors that would utilize courses from many departments simultaneously. YC junior Dov Kolton hopes, "they will encourage the students to pursue an area of knowledge they might not otherwise have pursued." Such minors include Ancient Studies, Communication, and the Biological Basis of Behavior based on the program that incoming YC Dean Dr. Norman Adler founded at the University of Pennsylvania.

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“Our children are our pride”
Nelson Proposes Election Reform
continued from page one

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The Quilted Visions' exhibit at the YU Museum

YU Museum Could Be History on Campus

by Stuart Milstein

The Yeshiva University Museum, a campus anomaly that is rarely used by YU students, is discussing a possible move from its current home, at 2520 Amsterdam Ave, to a downtown location to form a consortium with YIVO, the Leo Black Institute and the American Jewish Historical Society. YIVO, the Yiddish Scientific Institute, purchased the new location, located on West 16th Street near 5th Avenue, and invited the other organizations to join it to create the "Center for Jewish History." The move is expected to occur within the next two years.

Bernard Pittinsky, Director of Finance for YU, said that YU is "talking about the possibility of moving to form a joint enterprise with these organizations." He added, "We aren't cost efficient up here," complained Herskowitz. "In terms of attendance, we aren't getting our money's worth." She explained that, other than group tours, there are only about 100 YU students each month who visit the museum. By moving downtown, the museum could attract tourists off the street as well as regular museum goers. Since most of the current visitors come by car or bus, the museum could continue to serve them as well.

Another advantage of relocating, according to Herskowitz, is leaving the Washington Heights area. "Because of the neighborhood we cannot have any night activities," she said. Also, there have been instances when art critics would not review exhibits, claiming they did not want to come to the community. "Downtown we won't have these problems," Herskowitz maintained.

There are, however, certain functions that will be lost when the museum departs. David Rosen, Director of Public Relations, noted that a move could be good for the museum, but it will be a loss for the neighborhood; for the community and for YU's own students. While Herskowitz feels badly about leaving the main campus, she hopes that the move would grant the museum "the ability to have the programs . . . play to a larger audience."

petition. To whom are they accountable? I would like to sponsor two newspapers, who would have offices next door to each other and would be forbidden to cooperate. Since that's not in the students' best interests we have to keep The Commentator accountable to YCSC."

In another controversial motion, Constitutional Amendment Committee member Michael Nelson proposed clearing up election procedures. Last year Nelson himself was bounced from the ballot less than a week before the election when it was discovered that he was two credits short of being a senior and therefore not eligible for the presidency. Nelson responded that this year all candidates must be approved by the canvassing committee before they begin to collect the signatures needed to be an official candidate. Nelson also proposed allotting a place on the student council for part-time students in order to allow them equal representation.

Announcing that he will not seek the presidency in April, Nelson expressed that he "loves academics" and "is glad to be making a difference in the lives of YU students without being under the glare of the presidency."

In other motions, YC junior Dow Simon proposed allowing sophomores to run for Secretary of YCSC and juniors to run for Treasurer. Student Senator Patrick Amor proposed raising the minimum GPA required for students running for student council from 2.0 to 2.5 since these students should be "role models" for others. The meeting was held in Schottenstein Center because Billig felt that gathering 40-45 students in the oft-neglected building would spark participation "in other activities run from our student center." Though Billig encouraged students to attend, he maintained a tight control of the meeting. At one point he asked YC junior Eli Duker to leave the meeting after Duker called for "an abolition of student council in favor of rule by popular vote." Billig said he would exercise his right to have "a man of arms" forcibly remove Duker from the meeting.

The brainchild of former YU President Dr. Samuel Belkin, the museum has been located in the Mendel Gottesman Library building since its opening in 1973. According to Museum Director Sylvia Herskowitz, Dr. Belkin felt that the university needed a museum because, as a well-rounded Jew, a student should know and understand Jewish art and culture. Since then the museum's raison d'être has grown and its current objectives include interpreting Jewish history through art, encouraging contemporary artists to create Jewish ceremonial objects, and teaching children Jewish themes through visual experience.

Poor Attendance, Poor Neighborhood

Although these goals are being accomplished, the situation is not ideal. "We aren't cost efficient up here," complained Herskowitz. "In terms of attendance we aren't getting our money's worth." She explained that, other than group tours, there are only about 100 YU students each month who visit the museum. By moving downtown, the museum could attract tourists off the street as well as regular museum goers. Since most of the current visitors come by car or bus, the museum could continue to serve them as well. Another advantage of relocating, according to Herskowitz, is leaving the Washington Heights area. "Because of the neighborhood we cannot have any night activities," she said. Also, there have been instances when art critics would not review exhibits, claiming they did not want to come to the community. "Downtown we won't have these problems," Herskowitz maintained.

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At the stage of the process, the parties might disagree as to the stage of the process, they concur that no decisions or agreements have been made yet. The brainchild of former YU President Dr. Samuel Belkin, the museum has been located in the Mendel Gottesman Library building since its opening in 1973. According to Museum Director Sylvia Herskowitz, Dr. Belkin felt that the university needed a museum because, as a well-rounded Jew, a student should know and understand Jewish art and culture. Since then the museum's raison d'être has grown and its current objectives include interpreting Jewish history through art, encouraging contemporary artists to create Jewish ceremonial objects, and teaching children Jewish themes through visual experience.

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Muss Lounge
Construction Underway

BY NOAM KRANZ

Muss Hall is finally getting a lounge. However, the exact date of the lounge's arrival is still unknown. Providing a little history, years ago, only the Rubin and Morgenstern dormitories were used for housing undergraduates, while Muss Hall was used primarily for semicha students. As the student body has grown, the Residence Hall Office was forced to open Muss for college students, and today there is not an empty bed in the dorm. Over the years, however, many dozen of the dorm have complained that the residence hall lacks the basic amenities that are standard in any college dorm. As a result, Muss Hall consistently gets the fewest requests and has the lowest return rate of any of the dormitories on YU's uptown campus.

In an attempt to address this problem, several steps have been taken this year to improve the quality of the dorm. The addition of a brand new laundry room earlier this semester was a welcome sight to the residents of the dorm. Now, in an even more ambitious move, plans have been drawn for a lounge on the second floor of Muss.

According to YCSC president Daniel Billig, the lounge will be broken into two rooms. One room will be used as a quiet place for students to study while the other room, which will include two couches and a vending machine, will be a place for the students to relax and hang out. Although some students have suggested that the lounge also include a ping-pong table or bumper pool, similar to the game room in Rubin, most Muss Hall residents are satisfied that their concerns are being addressed. Some students, in fact, hope that the plans for the lounge do not grow too grandiose, as YCSC sophomore Doron Goldschmidt explained: "the most attractive part about Muss is the serious atmosphere and the lack of distractions."

Work on the lounge is expected to begin shortly.

Intramural Football
Tackles YU

BY COMMENTATOR SPORTS STAFF

For the first time in over a decade, intramural football has returned to YU. Initiated by temporary-commissioner David Perez, the league plays all games on Sunday evenings in the MSAC between 6:45-9:30. The games kicked off with a bang last Sunday as six teams took the "field" and the school's Director of Residence Halls, Rabbi Joshua Chaifetz, commenced the opening ceremonies as he threw the first football pass of the season.

The six captains and team names include Marc Mandel (The Tavern), Andy Davidson (Ohr Yerushalaim), Shlomi Herschmann (Cheese Cake), Aaron Blumenthal (Home Pizza), Jeremy Renna (Pizzeria Efrat), and Ezri Schecter (Miami Connection). The first three games were all lopsided victories, indicating an existence of three dominant and three mediocre teams. As a matter of fact, the commissioner has hinted at separating the teams into an AFC and NFC because the games are so one-sided. In the first game of the season, Cheese Cake dominated the Miami Connection. The score was tied early on at 14-14, but after Shlomi Herschmann hit Akiva Aaronson on a long touchdown pass for the go ahead score, Cheese Cake never looked back, running off 35 consecutive points to win the game in a laugher.

The second game pitted Ohr Yerushalaim against Home Pizza in another one-sided victory. Ohr Yerushalaim opened the game with a safety and touchdown and led 16-7 at the half. From there it became the Ari Wartelsky show, who ran and threw for six second half touchdowns and played brilliantly on defense as well deflecting numerous passes as Ohr Yerushalaim finished strong with a decisive victory.

The final game of the week was a clash between the Tavern and Pizzeria Efrat in yet another blowout as Mandel picked apart Pizzeria Efrat's defense with the help of his 5'7, 320-lb offensive lineman, Dan Roth, who provided Mandel with excellent protection enabling him to complete his precision passes.

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This past season was quite an impressive season for the Maccabees, as they reached the semifinals in the postseason conference tournament. Instrumental to their success was the stellar leadership of starting point guard Barry Aranoff, who led Division III in steals per game. This marked the second time ever that a Mac led the nation in any category (Dave Kufeld lead the nation in rebounding in 1977).

Barry began his basketball career at the Moriah School of Englewood, under the tutelage of Coach Mark Van Benschoten, who taught Barry the fundamentals of the game. After directing his team to a championship in eighth grade, Barry went on to play in the Macabiah Games, coming away with a silver medal. Following that summer, he then joined the MTA Lions, for which he played two seasons on junior varsity and two seasons under varsity coach Steve Podias, who helped Barry hone his defensive skills.

Besides leading the nation in steals per game, Barry also set this season's highest mark in all of Divisions I, II, and III for most steals in a single game, accumulating 12 against SUNY Purchase on February 13. Barry attributes his steals to the "good defensive play of the team as a whole and to Coach Post, who worked the team really hard in practice." Barry plans to work on his overall game during the off-season to help the team improve on this year's success.

Cornell University doctors and researchers have proven that drinking grape juice more often can actually help lower one's risk of heart disease. The New York State College of Life Sciences has evidence that resveratrol, a compound released in the production of grape juice, can dramatically reduce cholesterol. Interestingly enough, you've always enjoyed the wonderful advantages of using our pure and flavorful Redmond Concord Grape Juice on Shabbos and Yom Tov... now, you have more than enough reason to enjoy Redmond every day of the week!
Tennis Team Slams First Opponent

BY COMMENTATOR SPORTS STAFF

In their first match of the season the YU tennis team mechanically disassembled Polytechnic College by a count of 7 wins to 2 losses. The competition which took place this past Sunday, March 12th, was played at Flushing Meadows USTA tennis complex, home of the U.S. Open Tennis Championships.

The highlight of the day was rookie groundstroke phenom Michael "Chaim" Pfeiffer skillfully gliding through the #2 player 6-4, 7-5, while #4 seed Tzvi Zilberstein crushed his competitor 6-2, 6-1. Gabe Slotnick, the team's other co-captain, relentlessly dismantled Polytech's #3 seed by an embarrassing 6-0, 6-0. The team's only two losses came in the #5 and #6 singles matches. Avraham Ciment, returning from the flu and upsetting his inflamed knee in his first game, incredibly stretched the match to three sets. At the end Ciment could not accrue enough strength to pull out the victory, 6-2, 2-6, 4-6. The other loss bounced off the raquet of Ron Samet 5-7, 2-6.

With YU entering the second half of the season by a 4-2 match count, the team only needed one victory in doubles to clinch the victory. Tzvi Zilberstein paired up with Ari Hirt to take on the #3 seeded team. Zilberstein and Hirt remarkably sealed the YU victory in a 35 minute 2 set match, winning 6-0, 6-0. In similar fashion, the Michael Pfeiffer - David Samet tandem (6-2, 6-2) and Gabe Slotnick - Jon Heller duo (6-0, 6-2) methodically crushed any hopes of Polytech gaining respect.

Gabe Slotnick, who yielded only two games out of four sets, commented on the team's pummeling of the helpless Polytech school by grudgingly mumbling "no mercy." The phrase seems to capture the attitude of this year's team -strong, overpowering, and determined to take no prisoners.

For the first time in Yeshiva's fencing history, the Tauberman have won the IAC title. After beating NJIT and Stevens Tech at the Yeshiva megamatch on Sunday, February 12, YU clinched first place in the conference. The Taubermen went undefeated in the league.

Although veteran Ari Lifschitz was 1-2 fencing 6-0 for the day. Veteran foil fencer, Joseph Herman finished his season on a high note, going 2-1. The Saber squad enjoyed the best day of all, beating both opposing squads. Captain Jonathan Korn led with a 4-2 record for the day. Although veteran Ari Lifschitz was 1-2 against Lafayette, he fenced strong, losing two bouts 4-5.

The highlight of the day was rookie saber fencer, Baltasar Bekheld, who went an impressive 4-2. Baltasar, who fenced epee all year, switched weapons to saber in the second semester, since saber was short a man (senior fencer Robert Williger had to stay in Chicago for a week after fall break for job interviews) when YU went up to the MIT megamatch in the beginning of the February. Fencing the top-sabermen in the country from teams like Columbia, MIT, and Brown, Baltasar finished the day with a mouth-opening five victories, second best in the squad. Nobody had any expectations for Baltasar, since he trained in saber for a mere week before going to Boston. Commenting on Baltasar's accomplishments and the unique combined epee-saber style Baltasar pursues, Coach Petet Rosas said, "We have found a naturalnch for him."

Epee also had a strong showing against Lafayette, beating their squad 7-2. Co-captain Reuben Levy and veteran Shai Canaan both went 3-0 against them. Shimon Oppenheim finished the week in fencing with an astounding eleven victories (including his 9-2 record at the YU megamatch a week earlier).

The Tauberman went to their first Mid Atlantic Conference Fencing Association (MACFA) championships ever on Sunday, February 26. It was an especially successful outing for the epee squad, who finished in third place out of the fourteen teams in the league. The epee squad, which throughout the season was the team's most powerful weapon, placed two fencers in the MACFA top ten, with Levy capturing fifth place and Canaan seventh. Coach Arnold Messing expressed that "Every team in the league is scared of our epee squad."

Overall, this year marked a huge improvement from last year's Tauberman. With a strenuous schedule consisting of twenty five opposing teams and three megamatches, the Tauberman's busiest schedule ever, the team is establishing themselves as one of the more competitive teams in the region. Since most of the veteran fencers will return to the team next year, the outlook for the upcoming season is very optimistic.

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