SOY Annual Purim Chagiga Sobered

Music Taken Out Of Program

BY ARIK STORFER

The annual festivities associated with Purim at Yeshiva University were somewhat tarnished this year in light of the four suicide bombings which had left sixty dead and hundreds injured in Israel within a period of two weeks prior to the holiday.

SOY President Hilie Cohen, in consultation with RIETS Rebbeim and administration had considered canceling the entire chagiga. MYP Dean Rabbi Zevulun Charlop decided, however, that it would be inappropriate in this instance for YU to follow the lead of the Israeli Yeshivot in making their decision. Charlop called Rabbi Dovid Miller at the Yeshiva University Gruss Institute in Jerusalem who in turn contacted a number of Roshei Yeshivot of institutions whose alumni are represented in the YU student body. The consensus was that the chagiga continue, but without a live band.

Cohen said that SOY was prepared to pay for the band even though it did not play, because they had booked the musicians for the night. However, Jordan Hirsch of Nesho- ma Orchestra called Cohen to inform him that there would be no fee for the cancellation because the Orchestra agreed with the decision and wanted to show solidarity.

Student reaction to the decision was mixed. YC Junior David Greenberg said that the decision to cancel the band was "appropriate." One student, though, mentioned that he thought that canceling the band was ridiculous and it would result in a half-hearted chagiga without the band's encouragement. The student said that if SOY wants to make a statement the whole Chagiga should be canceled. The student did say, however, that once he arrived at the Chagiga he was happy that it was not canceled and was relieved that despite the lack of musical entertainment the party was in full swing. Others expressed reservations as well. Anticipating that the Chagiga would not run smoothly as a result of the emotional trauma students might have felt from the terrorist attacks, Charlop had prepared a speech. Much to his surprise and happiness, however, it was not necessary. The Chagiga, attended by over 500 people, quickly became extremely joyful. "It was a tremendous experience," he said. "There was a sense of Purim and also of joy. It was a sense of Purim and also of happiness, however, it was not necessary. The Chagiga, attended by over 500 people, quickly became extremely joyful. "It was a tremendous experience," he said. "There was a sense of Purim and also a simcha of avodat Jzakodesh."

Girls Stay at Stern

Upon receiving word that there would be no band, Emily Shapiro, secretary of the Torah Activities Council at Stern decided to keep the women at Stern. A small Chagiga was conducted in the Brookdale dormitory which included dancing and dorei torah.

Academic Standards Committee Approves Credit Cap and Sends Proposal to a Faculty Vote

BY STEVEN MIOGWNIK

On Wednesday, February 28, the members of the Yeshiva College Academic Standards Committee voted 9-4 to approve a 44 outside credit cap after error-filled voting procedures required the recasting of a tight 7-6 vote from the previous day. The current proposal - a modified version of a 40-credit Student Senate proposal which could go into effect as early as Fall 1997 - will most likely be presented to the full faculty of YC and Uptown SSSB on Monday, March 18.

Academic Standards Committee resulted in a half-hearted command performance by Rav Yehuda Neuman, invited to the meeting by YC Associate Dean Michael Hecth to share his view of a credit cap's financial implications, raised his hand during the vote and was counted among the seven voters favoring a 44 credit cap versus the six opposed to it.

The seven supporting votes continued on page 15

Israel Terror Dampens Campus Mood

BY STEVEN MIOGWNIK

Harrowing and all-too-familiar, the sights and sounds of terror in the streets of Israel reverberate acutely in the hearts of YU students. Residency thousands of miles from bloody Hamas bombings serves as no solace for Jews nurturing an intimate relationship with that land and its people; muted Purim celebrations and hushed conversation - punctuated by the occasionally shed tear - transformed the campus last week into a cauldron of emotions.

With the customary gaiety of Adar tainted by despair, students strove to balance mirth with melancholy. CNN super-seeded ESPN as the fixture of Morg Lounge, and the images transmitted from Jerusalem and Tel Aviv abounded a holiday season unassociated with sobriety. The slow, heart-rending strains of Shlomo Carlebach nigunim seemed more appropriate than the orchestral offerings of a Dedi or MBD. Instead of traditional pre-Purim antics there were emergency telephone readings and command performance by Rav Aharon Kahn in the Beit Midrash; a Tu it Esther gathering in Lamport Auditorium presided over by President Norman Lamm; and a restrained chagigah without live music to culminate this Adar.

The Yeshiva University Museum is spending its last few months on the Main Campus. The Museum is scheduled to move to New York's Greenwich Village sometime next year. See story, Page 4.
Something From Nothing

A mistake was made in the Academic Standards Committee vote last week, and mistakes are understandable. The ensuing controversy and confusion, however, was entirely avoidable. In fact, it was inexcusable. Dean Hecht's call for a re-vote at a meeting that would be held the following week could easily have nullified the questions raised by the first vote. Instead, however, the hasty and incomprehensive phone polling, whether accurate or inaccurate drew the attention of the students away from the substantive issues and focused them instead on a process which was, for all intents and purposes, relatively inconsequential.

The procedures which shape the policies of Universities world-wide are of utmost importance to the academic community. They have endured for centuries for precisely that reason. Whether or not the Academic Standards Committee vote has any binding significance upon this particular issue, it has undeniable symbolic import. The administration decided to bypass the system; they opted to deal with the Committee as a formality, a chore on the road to the full faculty vote. And they underestimated student interest and, more importantly, student intelligence.

For a University that is so adept at public relations, the actions of the administration in this instance are almost incomprehensible. Student attention had been focused on the Academic Standards committee - a glance at the newsletters flying around campus, or a bit of attention paid to conversations in the cafeteria would have made this painfully obvious. And even decisions which are ultimately designed for the good of the institution must be packaged, they must be sold. When a mistake is made in public, it must be righted in public, not summarily ignored and dealt with behind closed doors.

It seems the administration has become its own worst enemy. The irony is that their essential argument is correct -- what is important here is the substantive issue. And the credit cap has merit; it can go a long way towards warping academic standards here at Yeshiva. But by ignoring the public attention focused on the Academic Standards Committee, and by conducting a re-vote which was, at best, hasty and ill thought-out, the administration did great disservice not only to the students, but to itself as well.

The Beat of the Heart

Dancing and singing without the aid of an orchestra, without question helped us foster the appropriate mood and state of mind that was needed for this Purim chagiga '96. We commended SOY and REIT administrators for their effort. Indeed, I now have erasing "Solitaire" from my computer; leaving the university on a high note: read... I have sat at my desk with patience and as a registered Democrat, the only thing I can think of doing is calling on my government to intervene. So, I propose - on behalf of those graduating seniors bold enough to agree with me - that the current academic policy for second semester seniors be amended.

To the Editor:

As a graduating senior, I have succumbed to an illness of apathetic lethargy, otherwise known as senior "senioritis." Throughout my past five semesters, I have sat at my desk with patience and determination, a goal set in my mind. Through periodic frustrations and depressions, lengthy conversations and exhilarating, I sat and sweat out my grades.

And now I feel nothing; no goal or grade. I sit by my desk reading, Ayn Rand, not Jonathan Swift. I go to bed at 1:00, not 3:00. In short, I lack motivation. I've tried talking to myself, leaving books open on my desk, staying in Thursday nights, even erasing "Solitaire" from my computer; nothing worked. It should be noted that I not resorted to a mere "bed-potato;" indeed, I now have more time to read other books as well as to write poetry.

However, the problem is that I feel terribly incomplete. Although my time is spent enjoyable, in the back of my mind hangs the apprehension of receiving a "C" on a forthcoming paper or exam. As a registered Democrat, the only thing I can think of doing, is calling on my "government" to intervene. So, I propose - on behalf of those graduating seniors bold enough to agree with me - that the current academic policy for second semester seniors be amended.

The only cure to senioritis is to create a new option for all graduating seniors: to have them register for their last semester classes as Pass/Fail. This way, despite the minimized effort, seniors can leave the university on a high note: read their novels without compromising their GPAs.
The Founding Fathers rejected the idea that the people might need a backbone. Sometimes they will not evince even to make them stand tall when they would want to curl up in a ball and hide from reality. But they did not leave governance only to the Senate. The Constitution of the United States guarantees to both the House and the Senate the right to participate in the government. This is why we have two legislative bodies and not one. But they did not leave governance only to the Senate. They also knew, sometimes the people need a backbone. They took the initiative and created a system of checks and balances to prevent any one branch of government from becoming too powerful.

The Founding Fathers established a system of checks and balances to prevent any one branch of government from becoming too powerful. They knew that the people need a backbone to stand tall when they would want to curl up in a ball and hide from reality. But they did not leave governance only to the Senate. They also created a system of checks and balances to prevent any one branch of government from becoming too powerful.

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Hundreds Join 'Rock the Schott' ... Again

BY EZRA TUCHMAN

Nearly 400 YC students crammed into Weissberg Commons last Wednesday night for a second attempt at "Rock the Schott. Students flokked to the celebration that was modeled after the event last fall with the same name, when students turned out to the Schottenstein center to feast and be merry.

This time around, security concerns prevented the event from being held in Schottenstein. Instead Weissberg Commons was home to the activity commemorating the festive Adar spirit with singing, dancing, and the inhaling of Dough's buffalo wings.

The event, sponsored by YCSC, the Stone Beit Medrash Program (SBMP) and the junior Class, was kicked off with a Don'Footsy by SBMP Boss Yeshiva Rabbi David Hirsch, which was followed by a round of vigorous and often frenzied dancing.

Having worked up an appetite, the students converged on the buffalo wings. Within minutes, 1700 Buffalo Wings and 11 threefooters had been devoured.

Student reaction to the event was overwhelmingly positive. Shonno Ozenz, a senior at SBSS, noted the ad kut at the event. "This is the first time that instead of having a non-Yeshivish Guy's Day of the event." Although some students complained that there was not enough food and that more should have been ordered, Eliaha Graff, a junior at YC, responded to this critique by saying, "There aren't enough chickens in the world to satiate YC students."

The chairman of the event, Shraga Goldshlosh, vice president of the Class for Class and Eli Borger, president of the SBMP, were both pleased with the event. Goldenhersh, pointing to a fellow with a fistful of wings, exclaimed, "Now this is what I call a rich orient­ed activity."

Yeshiva College

Communal Affairs Committee to Honor Elected Officials At First Annual Breakfast

BY COMMENTATOR STAFF

Four local legislators will receive awards from YC's Communal Affairs Committee this Friday morning in recognition of their contributions to civic life at the federal, state and city levels. The presentations will be made at the committee's First Annual Legislative Breakfast.

Congressman Charles B. Rangel (D-NY), a member of the House since 1970, will receive the National Leadership Award. Rangel is the Dean of the New York State Congressional delegation and the second ranking member of the Ways and Means Committee. He is also the former chair of the Congressional Black Caucus.

State Senator Olga Mendez and Assemblymember Herman "Denny" Farrell, Jr. Will receive State Legislative Awards. City Councilman Guillermo Linares will receive the City Leaders­hip Award.

Communal Affairs Committee Chair­person Ryan Karben says recognizing the achievements of public servants is in "perfect consonance" with the values YU seeks to inculcate in its students.

"Our heritage is supported by the twin pillars of tikkun olam and hakarat hatov. By demonstrating our appreci­ation for those who have dedicated the better part of their lives to serving others, we affirm our own commitment to that ideal," Karben said.

The breakfast program is expected to draw public officials from across the city, including Public Advocate Mark Green and City Councilman Noach Dear. The keynote address will be delivered by Michael Miller, Executive Director of the Jewish Community Re­lations Council of New York. He is the son of YU Senior Vice President Emer­i­tus Dr. Israel Miller.

Karben says that he and YCSC Pres­ident Josh Fine have long argued for a stepped-up role for YU in the political life of the Washington Heights commu­nity in which the YC campus is situ­ated. In honoring the community's re­presentatives, Karben says, YC students pay tribute to the entire community. The leadership of the local Community Board, including its chairman, YC As­sistant Director of Security Sandy Doh­litz, will be in attendance.

The breakfast will kick-off at 9:30 in the morning in the Gloria and Jesse Weissberg Commons. Attendance is by invitation only. For more information call 568-7730.

YU Museum to be Relocated in Downtown New York

BY J.D. SHULMAN

After 23 years on the uptown Main Campus the Yeshiva University Muse­um will be moving to a new site down­town by December 1997.

Museum director Sylvia Herskowitz accepted an offer to join the YIVO Insti­tute in the newly purchased Helen Keller Center after receiving the formal approv­al from the Yeshiva administration and the Board of Museum Trustees, headed by Mr. Eric J. Isselbacher. The Center, lo­cated on 16th Street near 5th Ave, has 3 buildings and a high-rise on 17th Street which will provide space for storage, archives, and offices. There will also be several large galleries for exhibits, and auditoriums for concerts and shows.

Herskowitz hopes that many prob­lems currently facing the museum will be rectified by the move. One problem noted was the lack of attendance at museum exhibits. "The majority of our visitors are from public schools. There are 12 in this area alone, which are within walking distance of the Museum. But we don't get many people who walk in off the street because of the neighborhood. Even the students don't attend," Herskowitz hopes that moving downtown will attract larger crowds.

The museum's relationship with its uptown host has at times been stormy, with friction between museum officials and the YU administration. "Wearelow on the totem pole here, even after the library" lamented Herskowitz. For ex­ample, when construction was needed for a new exhibit, the University wanted their own union members to perform the work. But "we are usually working right up to the end, with the deadline staring us in the face... and cannot rely on work­ers who will be called away every time a crisis occurs." At the new location, Her­skowitz said, the museum will be able to hire its own staff and workers.

Herskowitz added that since at the

uptown campus, "there is no Art Major, few student come to be a docent or in­tern." The move downtown will give Art majors at Stern College a chance to intern in their own Museum.

New Exhibit

New about the move comes at the heels of the opening of the exhibit, Sacred Realms: The Emergence of the Synagogue in the Ancient World, whose plans were grant­ ed accommodations and acceptances from such diverse organizations as the Royal Ontario Museum, the Museo de L'ouvre in Paris, and the Vatican in Rome, and whose exhibit has been favorably critiqued in the New York Times.

The exhibit, funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, traces the emergence and history of the syna­ gogue from 300 BCE to 700 CE There are 5 models of ancient synagogues, including a contemporary model by the Israeli artist, and YU alumna Catriel Sugar­ man. There are also fragments of gold glass, from the Vatican and The Metro­ politan, inlaid with inscriptions and drawings depicting an era flanked by two lions. This is really a big deal for us," said Rhoda Terry, Adjunct Assis­tant Curator for Sacred Realms, "because it provides us with a continuity from antiquity to modern times."

In addition, the exhibit includes magi­ cal amulets, a pycocandela, an early syna­ gogue chandelier, and examples of R. Yannai's mosaic from the Cairo Geniza on loan from the Jewish Theological Sem­i­nary. Among the many surprises is a model of the Temple of Sweden sculptor.

While Herskowitz agrees that the Museums move downtown is necessary, she will still miss the public school chil­dren that visit the museum. "Most of the schools do not have a program for the arts, and we have been providing them with that necessity. Hopefully, there will be other such schools downtown which we can serve."
Belgrade Wins One

New Senior Vice-President Elected

BY HESHY WILLIG

The senior class recently elected YC senior Michael Belgrade to fill a void created in Vice-President position when Oren Leiber resigned as the class President at the beginning of this semester. Former Vice-President Chaim Haas was promised to the president position immediately following Leiber's surprise announcement that he had graduated in January and would be relinquishing his presidential responsibilities.

Belgrade plans to assist with the three primary functions of the senior board: organizing the Masmid staff, planning the senior event, and coordinating all aspects of the senior dinner. Additionally, he hopes to impact student council decisions. While his actions as Vice-President may not make a tremendous impact, Belgrade wishes to use his voice and influence on the council to better student life.

Belgrade narrowly defeated Isaac Pearlman with 49 percent of the senior class vote; Pearlman received 47 percent. The remaining 5 percent split amongst write in candidates.

Another senior, who had expressed interest to canvassing Committee Co-Chairman Benji Levy several days prior to the election about running for the position, was denied election participation. The canvassing committee, headed by Levy explained that a candidate must declare to the committee intent to run two weeks before an election.

Low Turnout

Less than 70 out of the 180 YU seniors took the time to vote, prompting calls of concern regarding the election process. A number of seniors, when queried about the election, admitted ignorance of the proceedings due to both apathy and poor publicity. The canvassing committee tends, however, that there was ample publicity. Levy says that weeks in advance of the election, yellow signs with big letters were posted in all the dorms. Levy also notes that while in an average situation it is a sizable percentage, "Based on the circumstances it is a sizable percentage," Levy explained. He questions why there was no attempt made to inform those seniors living in the apartments, and why no signs were placed in Belfer or Furst Halls. Belgrade asserts that students have a responsibility to vote; those who do not vote forfeit their right to complain when they dislike the actions of the elected officials.

Low Turnout

Belgrade counters that the committee's sole acts of publicity-placing signs in the dorms-was insufficient. He questions why there was no attempt made to inform those seniors living in the apartments, and why no signs were placed in Belfer or Furst Halls. Belgrade asserts that students have a responsibility to vote; those who do not vote forfeit their right to complain when they dislike the actions of the elected officials.

Sefarim Sale Managers

Begin The Tally

BY ALLI GRUEN

After months of expected record profits at the SOY Sefarim Sale, organizers are still busy tallying up this year's totals, which will then be reviewed by Accounting/Professor Dr. Charles Snow. No decisions have yet been made as to allocations of Sale profits, but Sale board members promise most funds will be granted to those Tzedakahs in which YU students are involved.

According to Chaim Haas, Sale Treasurer, the final numbers of the 1996 SOY Sefarim Sale aren't expected until the end of the month as the Sale must still work out finalized bills with their suppliers. He explained that the suppliers first send their tentative bills to the Sefarim Sale, and that these amounts are then followed by once the Sale returns all unsold merchandise. In this way, the Sale is left with no excess inventory.

In response to questions raised regarding the Sefarim Sale's finances, most recently in the February 7th Commentator, Chaim Haas has asked Dr. Snow to review the Sale's bookkeeping.

SOY Vice-President Stephen Reingold, one of the Co-Chairs of this year's sale, welcomed the assistance of Dr. Snow saying, "We will be more than grateful for any help he can offer."

More funds for YU Tzedakah

Both Sale Treasurer Haas and Reingold have promised most of the money allocated to Tzedakah will be distributed to those funds affiliated to YU.

To year's past the Sale heavily supported many outside Tzedakas, such as Ezras Torah. However, Sale Co-Chair Reingold is "very concerned about giving money to Tzedakah's in which YU students are active such as VUSR and the activities of the Max Stern Division of Communal Services."

Chaim Haass pointed out that although he has received stacks of mail requesting donations for causes as far afield as the Jerusalem Post and the Weizmann Institute of Science, he feels much more comfortable donating the money to causes with at least some connection to YU.

The final decision regarding distribution of funds will be made by the SOY and Sefarim Sale Boards when the bookkeeping is complete.

YU Students Participate in Model Knesset

BY EZRA TUCHMAN

TWO WEEKENDS AGO, 27 YC and SCW students traveled to New Haven, Connecticut to participate in the Yale Model Israel Knesset.

The conference, hosted and organized by the Jewish community at Yale, provided the student delegates with an opportunity to debate the myriad socio-economic crises currently facing Israeli society in sessions that parallel those of the actual Knesset. The event also provided the YU delegation an opportunity to meet college age students of various religious backgrounds from across the East coast and as far as Michigan.

Gad Ya'acobi, the Israeli Ambassador to the UN, opened the Conference with a rousing speech before the participants. Ya'acobi, an accomplished diplomat and author, reiterated the commitment of the Israeli government to the peace process and the security of all Israeli citizens. He concluded his remarks by challenging the student delegates to formulate effective solutions to the problems facing the State of Israel. Inspired by Ya'acobi, the delegates set out to tackle the various topics ranging from peace with Syria to the control of Jerusalem's feral cat population. The assembly meetings and the committee sessions were filled with the vim and vigor often associated with Israeli politics and the Israeli Knesset. As one YC participant put it, "For a second, I actually thought I was in Knesset, not in the Yale Hall House."

Shabbat provided the YU delegates with a welcome rest and opportunity to bring a little inclusivity to the Conference. The Shabbat meals were enhanced with singing and with discussions of Jewish law and philosophy.

After the halah, the delegates returned to official business and passed a slew of bills, including a Foreign Relations Bill authored by YC junior Benji Bailliant and a Constitution Bill co-authored by YC senior Meir Zechick.

SCW and SCW students received any awards, delegates from all schools were impressed with their preparedness and professionalism.

Mazel Tov!

Yaakov Aspir and Yael Orkaby
Michael Frucher and Este Levkowitz
Zev Williams and Lily Eisenstadt
David Merklin and Ariella Herman
David Tfreclander and Aviva Frolich

On Their Recent Engagements

Clinton Economic Advisor Addresses Students

BY COMMENTATION STAFF

With talk of reducing deficits, opening markets, and making government more efficient, President Clinton's top economic advisor described the Clinton Administration economic agenda for the twenty-first century at a Belfer Hall lecture on Monday night, February 26.

Dr. Joseph E. Stiglitz, Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisors to the President of the United States, spent 45 minutes recounting Clinton economic achievements of the past three years and defending the Clinton plan for growing the economy. He also blasted the protectionist policies of Pat Buchanan and the "trickle-down" economics notions of Steve Forbes, labeling them as "wrong way to address" the challenges of the next century.

Stiglitz, speaking as part of the Alexander Brodsky Distinguished Lecture Series, defined those challenges as "stagflation wages" and "increasing inequality." Pointing to the sizable percent differences in annual earnings for college and high school graduates and the college enrollment rates of 18 to 19-year-olds by family income quartile, Stiglitz maintained that such inequality represents a major stumbling block.

Stiglitz fortified his President's position by distributing charts detailing the falling real dollar wages of an average deficit in recent years. In addition, he contrasted Republican and Democrat policies by showing on a chart how the ratio of Federal debt to GDP rose in the 1980s and has now leveled off.

The evening began with a formal dinner in Weisberg Commons for Distinquished Scholar Program students, administration bigwigs, and Public Relations officials. Stiglitz, introduced to the audience of 100 as a modern-day Joseph facing bible-like economic woes, followed with his lecture.
Rebbeim Divided Over Credit Cap Issue

Some praise professors' efforts, others fear impact on Shana Bet

By Ariel Kostovitz

The motivation for ushering in a new, more restrictive outside credit cap is simplistic for the majority of YC's Academic Standards Committee: they believe that keeping students on campus longer benefits will benefit the education that the students receive and the academic reputation of Yeshiva College as an educational institution.

"If you're serious about college, you want to make a living; rather, you really need to become an educated, cultured person. You not only need to learn how to make a living, but also how to live," R. Yisroel Rabinowitz says.

"While many rebbeim agree with the vision of a more restrictive outside credit cap, some fear a possible cap of forty-four credits is too stringent. Especially prevalent in their uncertainties about actual limitations of the credit cap is concern similar to that of R. Rabbi Parnes that the credit cap will adversely affect students attending Israeli yeshiva for a year-and-a-half or two years. Moshe Y. Reichman addressed his concerns on those grounds: 'We have to be careful that changes that are made don't change the way that it's being perceived.'"

R. Rabbi Dovid Tendler, however, thinks that restricting credit cap would benefit the education that the students receive and that "sensitivity should be shown to the students who are involved in the program." He adds that though he doesn't blame the professors, "everybody who wants to study Torah for a year-and-a-half or two years will probably go back on their own." Thus, he believes that expanding the summer school program at YU is a very possible consequence of the new proposal.

In addition to the financial concerns, many feel that the new credit cap will create a dilemma for those who have only been admitted to YU and need to be there for a specific period of time, but not by a fragmented piecing together of credits.

''You have to have a plan, '' he says. "You have to plan on how to get there."
YU Students Bring Yad Ezra to American Shores

By Nick Mazin

The clock is ticking for Rabbi Tzvi Waldman. The popular second-year Bible professor, whose infectious enthusiasm packs his YC and IBC classes every semester, is moving back to Israel in just a few short months. And before he leaves, he is determined to establish on American shores a strong and lasting presence for Yad Ezra, an Israeli philanthropy organization with which he has been involved for over thirteen years.

Together with a few YU student leaders, ranging from IBC President Richie Grossman to SOY President Hillel Cohen, and YSC Vice President Dov Simons, R. Waldman hopes to establish an office for Yad Ezra within YU. He envisions students taking leadership roles in raising funds, spreading the message of tzedakah, and then coming to Israel to plan with Yad Ezra on how to best allocate the money. The group has received approval from Rav Hershel Shachter and other rebeim. This year they have planned a raffle for visitors, ranging from IBC President Richie Grossman to SOY President Hillel Cohen to Yad Ezra ten years ago, when a mentally disturbed patient was sent to them from an upper-class New York family who just couldn't handle his disabilities.

"He was literally crawling on all fours and I thought the situation was hopeless," said R. Waldman, "but then one of the Yad Ezra workers proclaimed 'this man will build buildings one day.' Sure enough, within a few years he was completely rehabilitated."

Rabbi Waldman pointed out that just last week he saw a picture of this former patient on the cover of Yediot Aharonot, as one of the volunteers who was helping tend to victims of the Hamas bombing.

"I was depressed and felt my life was going nowhere," Cohen explained, "but Yad Ezra doesn't allow for self-pity. They force you to get up and make yourself productive. Through this you gain the confidence and self-esteem necessary to re-enter mainstream society."

"We just couldn't handle his disabilities," Cohen explained, "but then one of the Yad Ezra workers proclaimed 'this man will build buildings one day.' Sure enough, within a few years he was completely rehabilitated."

Rabbi Waldman pointed out that just last week he saw a picture of this former patient on the cover of Yediot Aharonot, as one of the volunteers who was helping tend to victims of the Hamas bombing.
Giving Credit Where Credit Is Due

The Senate's purpose in formation was to be the voice of the student body. The Senate would represent the ideas of the students and the Senate members could only attain their position by approval of the Student Council. The senate's purpose in formation was to be the voice of the student body. The Senate would represent the ideas of the students and the Senate members could only attain their position by approval of the Student Council.

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Such is the story of play-making anywhere in the world: give us time, time, and more time. But who, studying on a YU undergraduate schedule, has that much time for a play? The answer is a list too long to include in one issue of the Commentator. That list includes many students who have made long-lasting contributions, not only to the Yeshiva College Dramatics Society, but to Yeshiva College itself. Another question then arises: how do these guys want to get a job? 

Sure, there are people who live for the thrill of winning the basketball or hockey intramurals. Sure, there are those guys who love to see their lines in print. And of course, some taddikim whatever they do just for the sake of doing it. But most of the YCDS guys will reluctantly admit that his or her outline and their own line of sight to the College Dramatics Society's vocabulary. They drive their families and friends crazy, constantly scurrying off somewhere to memorize more and more and more. As their line-load wouldn't be enough, they spend night upon night upon night of countless rehearsals, going over their blocking (basic movements on stage) and running through these lines. Then, as their academic calendar begins to get seriously cluttered with exams and papers, the director, Dr. Anthony Beukas, presents them with music, lights, costumes and special effects — the items that make the YCDS stage more than a mere backdrop, that provide the audience member with a feeling of enchantment, a feeling they take with them even after the curtain falls. With all the new perks included, the unimaginable becomes reality, with rehearse's becoming even more difficult and complicated. Know how to walk, know how to talk, know what job to sit, know how to stand. Know how to be heard, know how to be seen. As the days fly by, as weekends come and go, the adreneline level rises, and the desire for perfection becomes even more acute. Sound volumes need to be raised, attitudes need to be calmed, nerves need to be bared, voices need to be raised. Lines need to be re-worked, attention need to be calmed, scenes need to be added, cues must be perfected. The team must pull together. As show-time approaches, everyone must give all they've got, for the theater lives on the motto belonging to the Three Musketeers: “all for one, and one for all.”

The average theatergoer needn't be aware of the fact that numerous individuals devote time and effort to set design, to set construction, to set painting, to light design, to setting the lights, to making the props, to publicizing the event, to coordinating the lives of the over fifty people intimately involved, and a hundred more not-so-intimately involved. Not only must they be setting the props, to setting the stage every night, to caring for the costumes, to preparing the makeup, to cleaning the theater, to putting up on the smiles that get money from that alumni year after year. People sometimes forget that the actors are merely the first floor of a skyscraper, the display window in which certain items are on display. The outer casing of a showroom, the outer casing of an intricate and delicate shell. If even one person fails at his particular task, he performs a disservice not only to himself, but to the countless other people who count him to come through for them with his own assignment. An actor forgetting his lines, a technician losing control of his lights or sound, a director forgetting his assignment - all hinge on the fact that the production manager got the signature he needed to ensure that the set would be built before the next century.

The cast party which takes place immediately after the final performance brings the entire cast and crew together for a few moments of nostalgia before they plunge back into their academic studies, often in an attempt to salvage a sinking semester. All those involved receive a shirt commemorating the particular play which they've performed. Those not involved get the signature he needs to clean the theater, to putting on the smiles that get money from the alumni year after year. People sometimes forget that the actors are merely the first floor of a skyscraper, the display window in which certain items are on display. The outer casing of a showroom, the outer casing of an intricate and delicate shell. If even one person fails at his particular task, he performs a disservice not only to himself, but to the countless other people who count him to come through for them with his own assignment. An actor forgetting his lines, a technician losing control of his lights or sound, a director forgetting his assignment - all hinge on the fact that the production manager got the signature he needed to ensure that the set would be built before the next century.

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In respect to those who gave of their time during their academic career, YCDS has established an intricate connection of alumni who return year after year to see the work of their mentor, Dr. Beukas, comemorative. They reminisce of their times at Yeshiva molded their lives, and that YCDS had molded those days.

But what is the purpose, Heaven forbid, goes even slightly awry. To state all his tasks serves no purpose, to illustrate his power emphasizeing nothing. It suffices to say that he has his whole body and soul engaged in everything and, undying dedication to his students. Famous to his students for his drive for excellence, Dr. Beukas never lets his students get lax for a moment. He constantly and consistently pushes them to perform to the best of their ability, inopsins crucially the audience members, but themselves as well. He coordinates the team effort, instructing the many students of his Theater Workshop on the fine points of theater life, the many tribulations and jubilations. Towards that end, he was only recently recognized by the Senior class for his honesty, integrity and efforts on the students' behalf, and awarded the prestigious Professor of the Year award.

All in all, YCDS is, in and of itself, a production. They give every ounce of their being to performing their job to the best of their ability. By any standard, they perform a difficult task. And although in previous years their accolades have been mainly from fellow members, they hope that the upward trends in student interest in the past two productions will continue into the future. After all, everyone loves an audience.
High School Board to Take Some Control From YU

BY DANIEL RUBIN

After months of speculation and with little fanfare, the Yeshiva University administration and the board of the Yeshiva University High Schools, headed by Mr. Elliott Gliber, have reached an agreement that will shift much of the decision-making power over the high schools from YU's upper administration to the High School Board.

Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. William Schwartz explained that the board will take on "a more active role" with matters such as the high school curricula, although most financial affairs will still be under the administration's auspices. The Yeshiva University cause and motto will still influence significant decisions like appointment of principals.

YU High School for Girls Principal Chaya Hirschman said that the idea for the shift in command was offered to her and MTA Principal Rabbi Michael Taubes by "the powers that be" to allow for a more efficient decision-making process in the high schools. The principals and teachers of the schools agreed to the idea because, as Hirschman explained, the high schools' problems often fell on Dr. Schwartz's list of priorities, due to his myriad of responsibilities, and a more independent High School Board could handle such matters with greater expediency.

Currently, YU high schools are subsumed under the RIETS umbrella rather than under Yeshiva University in order to exempt them from technical legal obligations that are related to non-sectarian University status. Dr. Schwartz adds that MTA and "Central" will maintain their RIETS-like "affiliation" with YU so as to remain sectarian, but at the same time the schools will seek "corporation" status for tax purposes and greater financial independence.

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Find out which High School is best in the United States

Thursday March 21-Monday March 25
Schedule of games posted on game day
Cheating And Campus Immodesty Denounced at Dorm Talks

Excerpts From Dorm Talks

"There's nothing less real about dishonesty in college than there is about dishonesty in the so-called 'real world'. There's nothing to debate regarding the fact that cheating is absolutely forbidden. One can in no way assist or be complicit in such actions. Every moment of a person's life, he is in the presence of Hashem and is obligated to maintain and live up to certain basic ethical standards and demands, whether in Yeshiva College, a law firm, or trading on Wall Street. There's nothing less real about your years in college than there is about your years in the workplace."

-Rabbi Twersky on cheating

"Students are in nothing less than a mishloach. This is a major test for us. Is it easy? No. We recognize that there is a certain business to the body, and therefore think all behavior is in the category of 'pilnim'. The way in which we conduct ourselves with a young lady is very significant. There is no negotiation on what the Halacha says. This is wrong; it is prohibited.

-Rabbi Yudin on immodesty

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A Salute to the Winners of the First Annual Yeshiva High School Wrestling Tournament

MTA
Ida Crown
The Frisch School
Yeshiva of Atlanta
Torah Academy of Bergen County

YCSC and Student Senate Clash Over Possibility of Senate Elections

continued from page 8

back to the procedures of 1969 is a subject of heated disputations between the Senate, the faculty, and Student Council members.

The Student Council cites Article 1 Section 2 (b) of the Senate Constitution as an indication that the Senate was meant to preside only under the authority of the Council. Alas, there is another rendering of the text.

Dr. Will Lee, the Chairman of the "Undergraduate Student Senate" explained "That’s not what the phrase means at all." Flabbergasted, he pointed out that this phrase refers only to the earlier part of passage, which discusses senators’ being aloud to partake in student tutorials with Dr. Lee, the chairman. Sasson disapproved the notion that members are representing the students or are they attempting to accrue favor in the eyes of other students?

Isaac Sasson, a current Senate member, admitted that "one of the things that has come out of his work on the Senate is a close working relationship with Dr. Lee," the chairman. Sasson disapproved the notion that members are representing the students or are they attempting to accrue favor in the eyes of other students?

The Senate has definitely done things. It enables our select senators’ every whim then surely the college in mind when they propose significant matters. Others at Yeshiva may not hold them in such high regard.

Daniel Anziska believes the Senate exists for one sole purpose. "Do not misunderstand: it is definitely very crucial that a Senate exists at Yeshiva; the Senate serves to provide extra padding for the resumes of YU’s best students. It enables our select few at the top to one day move on to a top-notch institution.” Many others share this view.

As the situation currently stands, Senators are chosen by past Senators. Dr. Lee noted that he would be amenable toward a situation where the students select the Senators. And this is what the student council desires as well. If the Senate is, as originally presented, supposed to represent the student body then the students should have a direct say in its election. However, if the Senate has evolved into an effective body precisely because it does not answer to the students’ every whim then surely the present situation must continue.

The diverging translations in the rendering of the text have enormous ramifications. The results will determine how future Senate members will be elected. Yet with many seething at the recent credit cap proposal, some students suggest that the Senate be abolished altogether.

Of course it does not answer to the student body then the students should have a direct say in its election. However, if the Senate has evolved into an effective body precisely because it does not answer to the students’ every whim then surely the present situation must continue.

The credit-cap proposal is an attention getting maneuver by a bunch of prima donnas who seek self-contentment, respect, and most importantly a sense that they are doing something.”

The Senate has definitely done things. It is a body that has proposed matters of great import. For instance, a long time back, it was the Senate that proposed weakening the required stay on campus from four to three years (see sideline), and it was the Senate who helped found the Writing Center. Last year it began work on a student tutorial center and updated a computer task force. This year alone, the senate has passed proposals for a course and faculty guide, which will include a listing of all the courses with descriptions in detail mentioning the syllabus and a biography of the faculty. They have also continued work on a tutorial service with the help of Dean Horowitz and Cwilich.

The above proposals were beneficial for the school certainly and for the students as well. But in matters such as the credit-cap proposal, students question whether the senators are representing the students or are they attempting to accrue favor in the eyes of other students? Others at Yeshiva may not hold them in such high regard.

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When a friend of a Senator applies, then that Senator usually steps out of the room for the selection process.” If one thing is clear it’s that the Senate members take their position very seriously. The recent appointments and resolutions also seem to indicate that Senate members definitely feel that they have absolute probity and only the well being of the college in mind when they propose significant matters. Others at Yeshiva may not hold them in such high regard.

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Tuesday
March 26
9:00 P.M.

Wednesday
March 27
9:00 P.M.

Thursday
March 28
9:00 P.M.
Confusion Over Academic Standards Vote continued from page one

A new vote.

Recognizing the imperative for a new vote, Hecht advocated the next morning that the Academic Standards Committee re-conduct, following week in order to expedite the process. Under pressure from Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. William Schwartz and YC Dean Norman Adler, however, a phone poll of the committee’s members was conducted by Horowitz which openly admitted he is not a standing member of the Academic Standards Committee, and brought its findings to the dean. Adler immediately telephoned Hecht at home, and the two decided to strike Harris’ vote from the record, transforming that one-morning’s vote into a 6-6 deadlock.

Shana Bet still possible.

By approving an outside credit cap of 44, Academic Standards Committee members would allow students to complete their YU education - albeit with great difficulty - in two and a half years. But they acknowledged the prospect of taking 17 credits each semester is daunting and will reduce the number of students annually availing themselves of this option. Accord­ ing to Hecht, Shana Bet would still be a “potential option,” but not a “practical” one. He notes that it is “important not to drag on” the idea which “started several years ago.”

Vice President Schwartz, in an interview with The Commentator, indicated that there is a perception in the administration that the Student Senators who initiated the original 40-credit proposal represent all YU students, a proposal emitted from the mouth of Student Senators consequently carries great weight. According to Hecht, Shana Bet would still be a “potential option,” but not a “practical” one. He notes that it is “important not to drag on” the idea which “started several years ago.”

The disparity between the two votes, which was generated by defections from the “no cap” camp by Kranzler and Davis, and a grudging nod to the cap by Horowitz, who ideally prefers one of 40 or less. Hecht abstained from the vote, Harris’ opinion was not solicited, and Owaya reiterated his stance English professor Richard Nochimson, a Committee member, was neither present at the original meeting nor polled by Horowitz.

didn’t “start a game in any sport since my first little league game.”

Wein’s game is one of the flashiest ever to be seen in a Mac uniform. While he possesses a deadly shot from the outside, his offensive forte is his driv­ ing to the hole, and in creating shots for himself and his teammates. On defense he’s a menace - a hard-nosed one on one defender, who also reads the passing lanes to steal the ball of a pass, and blocks shots coming over to help from the weak side. In addition to all the fundamentals that Wein pos­ sesses he is a solid rebounder at 6’4” with the speed to finish the break­ ignit­ ed by his rebound. But he is most noted for his Herculean dunks that dazzle the crowds and cause uproar in the FedEx Medrash. Yet, despite all these unique abilities Wein possesses, who never questioned his lack of playing time. “The only question that entered my mind was ‘what can I do to earn more minutes?’ I respect the coach’s preference to play the guys more experienced within his sys­ tem. I just look forward to starting next year and being a leader on this team.”

Although the mystery behind why Brian Wein is might be gone, his unpar­ alleled talent is not. Fans still have two more seasons of Wein highlights to be able to share with their grandchildren fifty years from now.

Any Sefarim which were lost before this year may be claimed in the old Belz School of Music (near Klein Hall - exact location to be announced) on the following days: Tuesday, April 23 & Wednesday, April 24 between 8:00-9:55 pm.

Any Sefarim not claimed will become property of the Beis Midrash.

For further information contact:
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By defeating Stevens Tech in the Max Stern Athletic Center on Sunday, February 25, the TC. Tauberman finished off their IAC season as the league's undefeated champions. The Tauberman, named after Olympian and former TC fencing head coach Arthur Tauber, have not lost to an IAC team in two years - a TC record.

The next Sunday, the Tauberman traveled to Blacksburg, VA, for the MACFA championships. In order to fence more teams throughout the season, the Tauberman are also part of the Mid-Atlantic Conference Fencing Association. After grueling day of fencing - six and half hours straight - the Tauberman went home proudly, in fourth place out of fourteen teams - shy of the number three spot by just one bout. Johns Hopkins University came in first place. The oppo' squad came in third place, lead by Rebbe Levy who brought home a meal, making "sec-ond team."