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# The Indiana Jew POST & OPINION

Volume 57, Number 36 May 29, 1991 ♦ 16 Sivan 5751 \$1



**WELCOME TO ISRAEL** — For the fourth straight week, entrancing photos of Israel have been appearing on the front page of The P-O, seeking to persuade readers who haven't been to Israel for a long period that now is a very opportune time to return to see the Jewish State in all its beauty.

## Reconstructionist head nixes Rabbis officiating at intermarriages

**PHILADELPHIA** — Stating that he is opposed to rabbis officiating at intermarriages, Rabbi Arthur Green, president of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, took a stand which set him outside what the practice is by many Reform and Reconstructionist rabbis.

In a long article in The Exponent, the publication of the local Jewish community, he outlined a program under which he would still not officiate at a marriage of a Jew and a non-Jew, but which would enable him to attend the wedding as a civil ceremony and offer words of welcome from the Jewish community.

The Reconstructionist leader pointed out that "While the Conservative rabbinate officially forbids officiation at mixed marriages, there has been significant pressure brought on Conservative rabbis by congregants in some places to make exception to this position. Reconstructionist and Reform rabbis, whose organizations disapprove of intermarriage but do not forbid officiation, are in the more difficult position of having to make individual decisions on this matter, often in the face of great personal and professional pressures.

"As a Jew and as a rabbi, I disagree deeply with those of my colleagues who officiate at such marriages. I believe the rabbi is not only a religious functionary, but an appointed leader of the Jewish people. That people longs to survive and live on for generations to come.

"Intermarriage is a most significant threat to Jewish survival and rabbinic participation in it is, in the words of one of my colleagues, something like officiating at the funeral of the Jewish people. I believe Jews want rabbis who are people of strong principle and unwavering commitment to Jewish survival and Jewish religious practice. This

has to include distress over assimilation and unhappiness about intermarriage." He then added that "a rabbi who is personally opposed to intermarriage but gives in to the pressures of congregants' demands has become a follower, rather than a leader."

Rabbi Green then explained why neither the parents nor the Jewish person planning to intermarry can be blamed too much. "At the same time," he continued, "we have to face reality. Intermarriage on a massive scale is a fact of American-Jewish life, and we rabbis are not able to make it go away. Putting our heads in the sand and pretending that intermarriage does not exist will not reduce the percentage of such marriages by a single digit.

"If we are committed to life in the open society, sending our children to colleges and universities, to work environments and recreational centers where Jews and non-Jews mix, we have to live with intermarriage.

"Nor is the marrying couple to be blamed. We rabbis and educators can cast aspersions on parents who did not give their kids sufficient Jewish education or on homes where Jewish observance was not carried out. But all of us, by now, know pious Jews — rabbis among them — who have intermarried children.

"The truth is that even Jewish education and commitment do not serve as inoculation against falling in love with a non-Jew. They do predict a higher chance of conversion to Judaism (in which case there is no intermarriage, of course) or of continued Jewish commitment by the intermarried Jew. But the rabbi has no right to blame the couple who come to his or her office seeking help in planning a marriage the rabbi cannot perform.



**CENTER OF DISPUTE** — This is one of the photographs of the mobile home development at Talmon Keva in the West Bank (caravans is the term in Israel) that brought such heated objection from the U.S. It is 2.5 kilometers from another established settlement. Israel claims it is just an extension, while the U.S. says it is an entirely new community.

## Conference explores past through expeditions

The United States is known as the world's largest melting pot. Every one of us can trace his/her roots to a great grandfather, a grandmother or a parent who came to the land of opportunity for a better life for themselves and their children.

A Jewish philosopher once said, "you could trace the history of the world by uncovering the history of the Jewish people." Jews have been all over the world, but perhaps the most concentrated population has been and is in New York.

For the first time, the Sixteenth Annual Conference on Alternative in Jewish Education will convene in Hempstead, NY at Hofstra University on Aug. 18-22, 1991. More than 3,000 people, from all 50 states and several foreign countries including Israel, the Soviet Union and Latin America, are expected to attend, making this the largest gathering of Jewish educators and Jewish learning ever to take place. "Hosting a conference in New York the entry point for most of American Jewry, demands a unique agenda. Our intent is to utilize our venue to the fullest to meet our communal educational goals," according to conference chair Jack Gruenberg of New Rochelle, NY.

One special experience will explore "Ellis Island and the Lower East Side." Led by Rabbi Joseph Schiff, and expert tour leader, this group will discover new ways of teaching the history of Jews in America while uncovering their own roots. Many of us live in ar-

reas with large populations of African-American, Hispanics or Asians, yet our youth groups rarely meet, nor do we offer enough courses on building community relationships. "Blacks and Jews: Learning to Live in a Multicultural Society" will visit an urban Black neighborhood and participants will meet with community leaders to help foster better relations.

The Hassidim constitute another minority group not only misunderstood by Gentiles but by Jews as well. "hassidic New York" will tour the streets of the Lubavitch' community in Crown Heights and participants will learn about their methods of outreach while exploring their perspectives on controversial subjects such as Israel and conversions.

1992 will mark the quincentennial of the expulsion of the Jews from Spain. "A Sephardic Experience in New York" will tour the Yeshiva University Museum's exhibition "Sephardic Journey, 1492-1992" which explores the religious and cultural life of Sephardim in the Diaspora since their expulsion. The Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue founded by the first Sephardic American Jews will be visited as will Kehila Kedosha Janina, the lower East Side synagogue of the unique Ramanote Jews of Janina and Greece.

Jewish museums, Jewish historic sites and landmarks, archives and libraries will be explored. Participants will meet Jewish artists and historians, they'll learn about tzedakah organizations such

*Continued on page 5*

## Federation board OKS loan guarantee plan

The local Federation board has approved use of Federation assets as collateral for guaranteeing loans of up to \$900 million by Israeli banks to Soviet immigrants.

The Indianapolis share of the effort approved nationally in April by the Council of Jewish Federations probably will be .50 percent of \$750 million — or \$3.25 million, said Federation Executive Vice President Harry Nadler. The board's resolution will be presented to the June 17 annual meeting at Congregation Beth-El Zedeck for final adoption, Nadler said.

Meanwhile, the annual campaign has gone well locally, he said, with collections totaling just under \$4.23 million. The total has exceeded last year's figure of about \$4.17 million and is likely to set a new record, he said.

The annual meeting will be at 7:15 p.m. and will include an awards program and a dessert reception. Reservations at \$4 per person are available by calling 637-2473.

## Retirees to hear brainpower talk

An Indiana University expert will tell members of the Indianapolis Northside chapter No. 4124 of American Association of Retired People June 24 how to develop their brain power.

Louis Holtzclaw is associate director of extended studies for IU's general studies degree program. His presentation at 1 p.m. Monday, June 24, will be free and open to the public.

The AARP chapter meets every fourth Monday of the month at the Center for a luncheon at noon and a regular meeting at 12:30 p.m. Reservations for the \$3.50 luncheon are available by calling 251-9467.

## Soviet immigrants thank community that helped

WEST LAFAYETTE — The Greater Lafayette community received a poignant thank-you recently from a family of Soviet immigrants.

The members of the Golinkin family made their gratitude public in a letter to the Lafayette Journal & Courier, quoted here in part.

The letter noted that the Golinkins had arrived June 20, 1990, in West Lafayette and were tugged along toward accommodation with their new life by a "chain of kindness."

They thanked the Jewish community for its material help in finding a place to live, its help in getting medical care and eyeglasses; help in learning English, in gaining employment and in learning to drive.

They thanked so many people in the Jewish commu-

nity and of other faiths that space limitations prevent us from listing them all.

The occasion for the letter was their leaving West Lafayette.

"Now Samuil has a new job as a steam turbine engineer at IMO DeLaval Steam Turbine Division. Soon our family must leave this remarkable place to reside in the Trenton, N.J., area. ... you may be sure that wherever fate leads us, we shall never forget our safe harbor — West Lafayette — and its remarkable people. Now our only answer to the question, 'Where are you from?' will be, 'We are from Russia and West Lafayette, Indiana.'"

The Golinkins are Samuil and Svetlana; their children, Inna and Lev, and grandmother Fania.

## Bureau auxiliary to install officers

Debbie Smaxwell heads the 1991-92 slate of officers for the Bureau of Jewish Education Auxiliary, which will hold its election of officers and installation of directors at its closing meeting 7 p.m. Sunday, June 2.

Also slated are Adrienne Fogle as executive vice president, Patty Goodman and Karen Thompson as vice presidents for development, Susan Reardon and Leslie Wortman as membership vice presidents, Shelli Moss as secretary and Cantor Janice Roger as treasurer.

The auxiliary will honor

Rose Starer for dedicated service.

The meeting also will include presentation of by-laws for approval as revised by a committee chaired by Fogle. Assisting on the by-laws committee were Myrna Fang, Moss, Pam Rappoport, Roger and Smaxwell.

The nominating committee was chaired by Cathy Kravitz and included LaDonna Dunlop, Fogle, Debbie Milkey and Jennie Stein.

The annual BJE board of directors meeting will be 7:30 p.m. Monday, June 3 in the school's Maurer Library.

### FEMALE ROOMMATE

Non-smoker to share apartment, 9900 Allisonville Road. Mid 20's. Call 846-9685 between 7 and 10 p.m.

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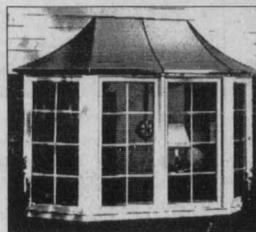
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# I HEARD IT ON TUESDAY

## Glitter, gossip at the President's Ball

By GISELA WEISZ

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**BALL IN THE BROADMOOR:** The President's Ball at the Broadmoor Country



Club is always an event. It is a party for fun.

Well dressed club members assembled at 7 o'clock in the Fairway Room for hors d'oeuvres. They greeted friends around the elegant well-laden table. Waitresses took drink orders and people were happy to see each other after a long winter.

Bonny Glick came in beaming in a turquoise sequined gown with husband Gene. Just by looking at them, one could tell, something felicitous had come into their life. Indeed. They had just come from the hospital. Their daughter gave birth to a little boy that day, on May 18. The baby, son of Arlene and Tom Grande, will receive the name Benjamin Arthur.

Shirley and Herb Backer also were happy. They spent a Florida vacation with their grandchildren from California, a rare treat to them. They

were happily telling everyone of the swimming matches with the little ones. Everyone looked when Bruce Jacobson walked in with a very attractive blond person. He, too, was smiling.

The elegant dinner in the main dining room was served with care. Miss Lulu, the club manager, had seen to every little detail. On tables decorated with black and white — to keep with the Indy theme in May — balloons floated over white and black flowers. Even half the carnations were shaded with black. Following a light salad, a picture-perfect plate presented tenderloins and broiled salmon, surrounded with asparagus and other beautifully arranged light fare.

About 100 people enjoyed the dinner and conversation. Between courses couples danced to the sound of "Jet Stream." It was fun to see Mary K. Falender in her two-piece sparkling silver sequin suit. Over a black shell, her jacket was decorated with colorful symbols of the 500 mile race and so was the skirt. She did not mind advertising that Collection 94 ordered her the glittering outfit.

On the dance floor, as always, Sally and Al Morris moved to the rhythm.

Yudie Becker told her tablemates about her first Passover Seder in Florida. Libby and Dave Fogle recounted the beauty of Alaska, their last cruise.

Maxine Druker was there, too, in a flaming red beaded dress, but without her husband, who was on a business visit to Japan. Irene Goldberg looked majestic in her floor-length dark green silk suit, clasped with one huge brilliant spangle at the waist. She was escorted by Marvin Lasky.

After dinner, Barbara and Whitney Greenberg sat in a secluded corner, holding hands, looking into each other's eyes, oblivious of the crowd at that moment. Elaine Mordoh evoked old Spain in a black deeply ruffled dress with long puffy, see-through sleeves. Her tresses were combed up and to the side to heighten the Spanish look.

The dessert was as splendid as the rest of the meal: raspberry-cheese cake, swim-

ming in Melba sauce, amidst fresh raspberries.

Newly-wed Sylvia Cohen was striking in a simple, form-fitting gray dress. Only three people had suit and tie on. The rest of the men wore tuxes. The jammed dance floor, the warm company of friends and acquaintances, the singer, the meal, the music, all contributed to a beautiful evening.

Present were Lois and James Ackerman, Robert Arkin and companion, Joan Atlas, Bernice and Lewis Benjamin, Ethel Born, Connie and Stanley Braun, Alice and Leonard Berkowitz, Shirley and Herb Backer, Carol and M.J. Bloomgarden, Penni and Ronny Brodey, Yudie and Irv Becker, Ann Borinstein, Karen and Chuck Cohen, Lena and Hy Cohen, Sylvia and Albie Cohen, Ruth and Sam Chernin, Betty and Ernie Calderon, Adele and Ben Domont, Maxine Druker, Mr. and Mrs. Harrison Epperly (Hyland Country Club), Libby and Dave Fogle, Lillian and Fred Tuchman, Mary K. and Byron Falender, Marilyn and Gene Glick, Natalie and Dan Jacobson, Bruce Jacobson and Barb Evans.

Also: Ann and Irwin Katz, Linda and Jack Klausner, JoAnne and Roland Koplou, Marvin Lasky and Irene Goldberg, Joan Larman, Al Mordoh and Paula Lowry, Elaine and Mel Mordoh, Susan and Marvin Mitchell, Sally and Al Morris, Barbara and Brian Nikoloff, Esther and Amos Nahmias, Judy and Fred Resnick, Carol and Arnold Satz, Inda and Milt Singer, Joyce and Maxwell Steinberg, Ruby and Sam Schahet, Sally and Irv Sacks, Harriet and Bud Wolf, Gisela and Zoltan Weisz, Alberta and Sherman Weinstein, Steve Werman and Lea Kody, Roberta and

Allen Wurzman and Jane and Gene Zukerman.

**DESERVING:** Volunteers will be recognized during the shabbat service at the Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation on May 31. On that day a special Oneg will be held in their honor at the temple.

**JEWISH SINGLES WEEK-END:** Meet and spend a weekend with other singles from the region at Camp Livingston, May 31-June 2. For reservation call 251-9467.

**BRUSH STROKES:** Raphael Abecassis is an artist born in Marakesh who immigrated with his family to Israel. His paintings depict Judaica using traditional sym-

bols mixed with the new Israel. On Tuesday, May 28, he had a showing at the Hebrew Academy.

**AND THE NEXT TIME MIGHT BE THANKSGIVING:** Remember the very successful singles party of 1987? By popular demand a repeat performance is in the future. Jewish singles ages 21-39, from Ohio, Kentucky, Missouri, Illinois and Indiana will be contacted.

The date is Nov. 29 at the Broadmoor Country Club, 8:30 p.m. Lists are being compiled. Send names and addresses to be contacted to Shelley Frisch, 1130 Alderly Road, Indianapolis, IN 46260. Volunteers willing to help with the big party also should call Shelley.

### Bowl-A-Thon planned for scholarships

A way to turn bowling fun into money for the JCC Scholarship Fund has been announced by the Center.

The Center is inviting bowlers to gather pledges from people who will donate

to the fund for every pin knocked down in a three-game series. The JCC Bowl-A-Thon will be Sunday, Aug. 4, in Nora Bowl. For more information, call the Center at 251-9467.

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## NORM WEISMAN

Flash! Chuckles. I don't see why "religion" and "science" can't get along with each other. What's wrong with counting your



"blessings" with a "computer?" And... Nothing brings a "closer" examination to a "private" politician that's running for "public" office... And... One bureaucrat to another: "So we made a blunder. Don't just stand there, label it 'top secret' and file it away." And... An elderly Indian stood on a hill and said, "Some day, my son, this land will belong to the Indians again. Pale face all go to the moon." And... Definition of Capital Gains: that is where the middle class supply the capital and the rich gain. This modern camping is having politicians running from one part of the country to another, making personal and T.V. appearances. I wonder if many of them would get more votes if the public didn't get to see them?

Flash! Congrats to Laura Hersh (Gayle/Arnold) and to Joel Durbin (Jim/Joan) who will tie the wedding knot on Saturday evening, June 15th at the Marten House. They will be making their home in Florida. Coming in from Houston will be Laura's grandfather and grandmother, Sidney/Mollie Cutler, who will also celebrate their "60th" wedding anniversary. Also from Houston will be Laura's uncle Monroe/Jackie Cutler! And attending from Carmel, will be granduncle, Shep/Lisa Cutler who will be celebrating their 43rd anniversary. What a wonderful family gathering for Laura's and Joel's wedding. Good luck to the happy bride and groom.

Flash! Sudden thought. I wonder when will the United States realize that charity begins at home.

Flash! Congrats to Shelly Ault (Monroe/Rose) and Darryl Rudish who recently announced their engagement. Darryl and Shelly were waiting for mom Rose and pop Monroe to return from Las Vegas with her aunt and uncle, Al/Sally Rubenstein, and flashed her engagement ring. Wedding plans are being made for next May. Mazel Tov to all.

Flash! Daffynitions. (Alimony) — Another "war" debt that a lot of ex-husbands would like to get rid of. (Beastly Weather) — Raining cats and dogs. (Buck Fever) — Love of money. (Optimist) — A fisherman who takes along a camera. (Braces) — Putting your money where your mouth is. (Beach) — A place where people "lie" upon the sand about how rich they are in town.

Flash! The new officers selected for the 1991-92 season at the B'nai B'rith Bowling League banquet are as follows. Moe Silverman (pres.); Frank Zendell (VP); Doug Seidman (Secy.) and Bob Schwartz (Treas). Starting next season, instead of the usual five-man team, it will be four-man teams. This will give more men a chance to participate and add more teams. It should be a great year. Congrats to the new officers... Flash! A tee hee. When he was asked, "Did the recession affect your business as a door-to-door salesman?" He answered, "I'll say it has. I now find twice as many husband home as before the recession."

Flash! Invitations are out for the premier presentation by the Reconstructionist Movement of the AM V'AM — "The Dual Heritage Award" to be given to Illene K. Maurer. Illene is the first recipient of this distinguished honor. She is presently the president of Congregation Beth-El Zedeck. This lovely dinner event will be held at Beth-

El Zedeck at 7 p.m., on Tuesday, June 18. Guest speaker will be Charles E. Silberman, noted lecturer and author. Illene has received many civic and community awards and has given her time and energy to many organizations in the city. Orchids to Illene.

Flash! Surprise! Surprise! And it was a lovely birthday surprise party for Rinky Weintraub. Hosting this Sunday brunch bash at Broadmoor were husband David, son Jeff/Audrey from Chicago; and daughter Julie/Alan from Cincy. Happy birthday, Rinky and enjoy many more.

Flash! A thrill for me to write about two great "youngsters" celebrating birthdays this month; Sara Marcus (95) and Sam Wides (88). Keep going you two... Flash! Beth-El Zedeck Men's Club is sponsoring an evening with the Indianapolis Indians (and the San Diego Chicken). Families and friends are invited to enjoy a fun evening on Saturday, June 8th, 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$4. Get your baseball tickets at the Beth-El Zedeck office pronto.

Flash! Jest for laffs. Lady to banker: "I'd like to open a joint bank account with someone who has money... Or... A 90-year-old gentleman was telling everybody he was in better shape than when he was born. "I couldn't even walk then." Or... Isn't Nature wonderful? Who else would have thought of growing a "fly-swatter" on the rear end of a cow? Or... Sign on Church bulletin board: "The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind and they can be seen in the Church basement on Friday noon." Or... People just don't take marriage seriously anymore. You can tell — there's a department store downtown that carries its wedding gowns in the sporting goods section.

Flash! Norm's philosophy of the week. No one is ever old enough to know better... Flash! A special love birthday greeting to a

great guy — my nephew Ron Weisman.

Flash! Happy birthday to Mildred Ashkenaz who celebrated with friends last Thursday, lunching at the Whaling Station. Daughter Helene, from St. Louis, came

in to help celebrate with mom. Many happy returns, Mildred.

Flash! It doesn't make sense. Someone gave a gift to a friend, a \$5,000 Persian rug and two beautiful puppies.

## LAFAYETTE CHIT CHAT

By CYRELLE SIMON

**A Bounteous Harvest:** Shavuot is harvest time and confirmation time. Temple Israel reaped much "nachas" from its biggest confirmation class ever. The beautiful ceremony commemorated to rite of passage for Steven Bauer. Lisa Beres, David Bluestein, Michael Calderon, Joe Goldberg, A.J. Marks, Paul Ostroy, Abner Preis, Nicole Stahl, Daniel Weiser, Erin Winsky and Leah Zimmerman. A hearty mazal tov to the confirmands and their families.

**A Letter of Thanks:** Russian immigrant Samuil Golinken thanked the Lafayette community for its efforts on behalf of him and his family in a guest editorial "Farewell to a Chain of Kindness" published in the Lafayette Journal and Courier. The five member Golinken family (including two children and Samuil's mother-in-law) arrived last June and left recently when Samuil obtained an excellent job as steam turbine engineer in New Jersey.

In his beautiful, heartfelt, letter Samuil listed almost 100 individuals and institutions who had opened their hands and hearts to him and his family. He vowed "to pass your kindness on to others." He concluded with the words "...You can be sure that wherever fate leads us, we shall never forget our safe harbor — West Lafayette — and its remarkable people. Now our only answer to the question "Where are you from?" will be, "We are from

Russian and West Lafayette, Indiana." G-d bless you and thanks."

**B'nai Mitzvah:** On Shabbat, June 8, Jeff Sherman will celebrate his Bar Mitzvah at 10 a.m. at Temple Israel. Jeff is an 8th grade student and an accomplished saxophonist who played a memorable solo at the Yom Haatzmaut celebration. A kiddish and melaveh malkah will be held in Jeff's honor. Jeff's parents are Lou and Debra Sherman. Lou is the head of Purdue's biology department.

On the same day, Jeremy Fischbach will become a bar mitzvah at Sons of Abraham Synagogue. Jeremy will chant the haftarah and lead part of the service on Friday night and Saturday. A kiddish and melaveh malkah will be given in his honor. His parents are Ephraim and Jane Fischbach. Ephraim is a professor of physics, and often leads for the congregation on shabbos.

**An Unusual Coincidence:** Whereas 35 years ago Purdue had barely three Jewish professors, now for the first time in its history, there are Jews heading the departments of physics, math, biology, chemistry and veterinary pathology. And Dr. Robert Ringel is vice president for academic affairs. What is perhaps more remarkable, each of these individuals is an active member of the Lafayette Jewish Community.

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## William Deckelbaum Sr., 79, headed Real Estate Board

William Sherman Deckelbaum Sr., 79, a former chairman of the Indianapolis Real Estate Board, died Saturday, May 18, in St. Vincent Hospital.

Mr. Deckelbaum was buried Wednesday, May 22, 1991 in Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation South Cemetery.

Rabbi Jonathan Stein officiated at services in Aaron-Ruben-Nelson Meridian Hills Mortuary.

Mr. Deckelbaum was born Jan. 30, 1912, in Cleveland. He worked as an independent commercial real estate agent before establishing his firm of S.S. Deckelbaum Co. in 1949, from which he retired in 1981.

He was one of the co-founders of the commercial division of the Indianapolis Real Estate Board and was board chairman in 1960. That year he also became a member

of the Society of Industrial Realtors. He was elected first president of the Indiana chapter of the society in 1967.

Mr. Deckelbaum was a former member of the boards of directors of the Federation, the Jewish Community Center and the Jewish Community Relations Council. He was a member of Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation.

He was the widower of the late Rosalind Barskin Deckelbaum, who died in 1971.

Survivors include his wife, Nahoma S. Feibleman Deckelbaum; a daughter, Ann Hunter of Kauaii, Hawaii; a son, William S. Deckelbaum Jr. of Woodstock, Vt.; two stepdaughters, Jean F. Smith of Tiverton, R.I. and Dorothy Feibleman, of London, England; a brother, Irving Deckelbaum of Los Angeles, and two grandchildren.

## Joseph Neubauer succumbs at age 85

Graveside services for Joseph Neubauer, who died Monday at age 85, were held Wednesday at Indianapolis Hebrew Cemetery North.

He and his brother, Sam Neubauer, who survives, owned Neubauer Brothers Market at 19th and Sheldon streets.

A native of Radochov, Austria, he had lived here since 1951.

Mr. Neubauer had received the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve's Award for Employer Cooperation.

He was a member of Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation.

Other survivors are wife, Anna Halkin Neubauer; daughters Arlene Martin and Sheila Dworfen; sister, Pauline Brill and two grandchildren.

## Conference

Continued from page 2  
as Project Dorot (an agency which provides a multitude of services to the Jewish elderly), they'll adopt a "buddy" from Project Ezra's senior citizen community; they'll learn how to use Jewish objects as teaching tools.

"The havayot opens the cultural richness of New York to those who don't regularly have the opportunity," Gruenberg continues,

"we expect this conference to be one of the most influential forces in Jewish spiritual and educational renewal."

A total of 20 havayot are planned for 1000 participants. Reservations will be accepted from conference registrants on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, contact: CAJE, 261 West 35th St., FL 12A, New York, NY 10001 or call (212) 268-4212.

## CRITIC'S CORNER

# Surprise 'Oscar'

By CHARLES EPSTEIN

The film "Oscar" is a laugh riot. It stars Sylvester Stallone but it is the "supporting" cast that makes this film so enter-



taining. Stallone's previous films may have been comical ("Rocky" and "Rambo") but his time the humor was done on purpose. And believe it or not, Stallone came through with flying colors. He had tremendous help though.

Supporting Stallone were a wealth of talented actors. William Atherton and Ken Howard played stuffed shirts to the hilt. Don Ameche was Father Clemente. Yvonne De Carlo was Aunt Rosa. Richard Romanus was Stallone's enemy. Eddie Bracken played a stuttering stool pigeon. Vincent Spano was wonderful as the leading romantic. Kurtwood Smith was the tough-nosed police lieutenant. Peter Riegert ("Crossing Delancey") was Stallone's sidekick who had a running commentary throughout the movie. Tim Curry played a Henry Higgins character. Ornella Muti was marvelous as Stallone's wife. Linda Gray has a surprise role. Marisa Tomei was Stallone's spoiled daughter. As you can tell, watching "Oscar" was like playing "who dat?"

Before the opening credits we are thoroughly entertained by the funniest death scene on the screen. Kirk Douglas plays Stallone's father who, in his last gasp of life, begs his son to give up his shameful life and become an honest man, restoring the family name to honor. Stallone reluctantly agrees to obey his papa's plea in a short but hilarious slap-shticking scene before the credits are even shown. This sets the tone for the marvelous humor to come.

The comedy comes from Stallone's inability to keep his promise to his father. The difficulties mount ever more with the multitude of bizarre characters entering his domain.

John Landis directed this spoof with a genius flair for the French farce. Landis sets his time period for this film in the gangster-ridden 1930's. "Oscar" also has the look of a popular 1930's silver screen screwball comedy. The screenplay was written by Michael Barrie and Jim Mulholland who, incidentally, makes a surprise appearance at the end. The screenplay was based upon a play by Claude Magnier which was a classic farce complete with mistaken identity, people missing each other and doors slamming, the original French farce rapid pace was kept for the movie.

If someone wanted to be picky he could easily select "Oscar" as the most miscast movie ever. Stallone didn't look old enough to have a daughter. Marisa Tomei looked too old to be Stallone's daughter. Tim Curry as a love interest? Oh, come now. Suave Peter Riegert who could charm sesames off a roll as a cigar-chewing hood? And on and on it goes.

However, to director John Landis' credit this movie works and works beautifully. It is one that could be seen more than once. "Oscar" will win no Oscars but will certainly get plenty of laughs.

Jewish Trivia Question: What Jewish comic writer and performer was born Melvin Kaminsky?

Answer to last week's question: Kitty Carlisle.

Footnote: Don't miss the film "The Dybbuk" coming to the Irving Theatre for only two screenings, Saturday, June 15 at 8 p.m. and Sunday afternoon June 16 at 4 p.m. The Sunday performance will be preceded with a talk about this most unusual and celebrated film starting at 3:30. I have seen scratchy and flashing black and white prints of the "The Dybbuk" and enjoyed it thoroughly. What you will see at the Irving is a completely restored version in Yiddish with English subtitles. The original was made in Poland in 1937. This unique film is a must.

## Ruth Cantor, 72, was executive

Ruth Chaplik Cantor, 72, died Friday, May 24.

Services were Memorial Day in Aaron-Ruben-Nelson Meridian Hills Mortuary.

Mrs. Cantor was co-founder of Consolidated Theater Service Co. Inc., a theater management company. She served as the company's vice president and

secretary-treasurer since 1965.

Mrs. Cantor was a member of Congregation Beth-El Zedeck.

Survivors included her husband, Morris Cantor; daughters, Deborah C. Cantor and Carol S. Kominsky; son, Leonard S. Cantor; brother, Arnold S. Chaplik, and two grandchildren.

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**Great day in Israel**

The historic rescue of all the Ethiopian Jews even as it was successfully accomplished at the brink of what could have been a catastrophe or at best a long delay has a number of reverberations. For one there is the current elation over the successful completion of a long and hazardous campaign, a campaign in which the Jewish communities of Israel and the diaspora were engaged over a period of years. Then there are those who have been involved over the decades and who met and overcame impediments of the national and even Israeli forces who put the Falasha question so far down the list of emergencies that they lay themselves open to accusations of callous indifference.

Fortunately readers of The Post and Opinion participated early in the effort of salvation for them.

But that fades in significance to the role played by one American Jew, one who does not fit into the category of a national Jewish leader — in fact a social worker, a category which never has been held in too much esteem in the hierarchy of the American Jewish community.

He is Graenum Berger, who took over as president of the American Association of Ethiopian Jews and vigorously devoted his waking hours over the last 15 or more years to winning the world to what has taken place just this past week. He not only fought indifference, but also opposition, and that from the Council of Jewish Federations and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. He took on these controllers of the destiny of the American Jewish Community and fought them tooth and nail and what we now celebrate had its genesis in his devotion and dedication, a task that engaged his entire life since retiring as one of the top men in his field in the New York Jewish community.

Of course Israel deserves every credit, and the fact that it too dragged its feet for years can readily be forgiven in view of its stacked up problems and in view of its willingness, once the decision was made, to welcome these black Jews as their own brothers.

So it is a time to celebrate.

If the world does not take notice, if the Third World Countries prefer to ignore what the Jewish State has done, that does nothing to diminish the sense of accomplishment nor to detract one iota from the proclamation repeated by Israel that she was reborn as a haven for any Jew in need of a place to live. (Historically the Falasha were discovered in modern times by a French professor who visited Ethiopia regularly from 1904 on and sought support in Europe and America with little success for bringing them back into the orbit of Jewish life. As far back as the early Middle Ages, news of the Falasha trickled abroad, but authentic information awaited until James Bruce in 1790 provided the proof that they were in fact Jews who were practicing biblical Judaism without the changes introduced over the centuries. Through the efforts of Prof. Faitlovich pro-Falasha committees were established in Europe and America which trained teachers and maintained schools at Addis Ababa. The Falashas' origin is buried in history and surmises are that they are the lost tribe of Dan or trace themselves to the Queen of Sheba. Rumor has it that at one time the Falasha ruled Ethiopia under a Jewish queen.)

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We've been importuned by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) to provide space in The P-O for the organization to present its case to our readers, and in a special letter from David Barnes of the organizations, he quotes Genesis 1:26-31 to the effect that torturing and killing animals for purposes of human vanity such as cosmetic testing are clearly not within God's plan for our dominion over all of creation.

So Mr. Barnes is aware also, we can presume, that Jews are not much into hunting, and that whatever the origin of the kashering and prayer when an animal is slaughtered for human consumption it certainly had an effect on banning hunting as a vocation or avocation.

For those who may point out that the logic here is selective, since sacrifice of animals was the foundation of the religion of the Jews in temple days, it should be recalled that other religions of those times sacrificed humans to appease the gods.

In fact, it is the practice of kashrut that ingrained in Jews the abhorrence of hunting. If in fact, the animal killed in the hunt could not be eaten because of the injunction that required the prayer and kosher slaughtering, the joy of the hunt was blunted to the extent that Jews today and in history have never thought of hunting as a

sport, but rather have considered such diversion abhorrent.

Now Jewish women do wear fur coats and other articles that originate from animals, but even in this area the activity of organizations such as PETA is having its effect, and for practices already outlined find a more willing acceptance among Jewish women than in the population as a whole.

The point may be made that as Judaism loses its influence, the distaste for hunting might be weakened, but there are no such signs, even on the horizon. The sport of hunting is seen as senseless by most Jews and, of course, brutal. The chances that there will be a reversal of this almost instinctive feeling are indeed slim.

Dick Netter, the founder of Thanks to Scandinavia, to which we devoted our center spread in our issue of April 10 has suggested that we provide the address for those readers who may desire further information or otherwise contact the organization. That address is Victor Borge, National Chairman, Thanks to Scandinavia, 745 Fifth Ave., New York, 10151.

**Housing industry terrific or a flop**

JERUSALEM — Two articles in the Jerusalem Post only days apart differed almost 100 percent on the housing crisis. "With apartments being built in almost half the time they were a year ago," reported Abraham Rabinowich "the back of the nation's housing problem has been broken." He was quoting chief Housing Ministry planner Uri Shoshani.

The second article by Adek Apfelbaum and Scott Apfelbaum, discredited such reporting.

"Reading newspaper reports of ministerial actions

and statements by senior officials, one gains the impression that the construction industry has made a giant leap," the Apfelbaums wrote. "From chaos, inefficiency and a total inability to meet the country's needs, it has, one is led to believe, turned into a 20th-century economic force which will — or already has — solved all housing problems."

"Yet only a few weeks ago, David Mena, director-general of the Government Employment Service, reportedly stated that today it takes 21 months to build an apartment (compared to 16.5

months in 1973). And last week, Rachel Hollander, the Housing Ministry's acting director of information, is quoted as stating that it now takes 26 months to complete an apartment. The industry, she added, is meeting its obligations and will deliver the needed housing."

Continuing Apfelbaum added, "These facts point to a sad truth: the housing industry is very, very ill. It is inefficient, antiquated, overmanned, mismanaged and totally incapable of delivering a reasonable quality product for a reasonable sum of money."

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# Israel elated, Falasha saved

JERUSALEM — Although the 40 flights that brought 14,087 Ethiopian Jews to Israel within a 30-hour period over the weekend thrilled all Israelis, there is concern about the 2000 Ethiopian Jews that it is now known were not included. Not much is known at this point as to why they were not part of Operation Solomon.

A total of 3000 families were involved, and 10 babies were born during the rescue, four or five of them in flight.

The seats in the planes were removed so that one El Al 747 jumbo jet could transport 1,087 passengers, setting a world record.

Time was of the essence as the rebels finally reached Addis Ababa scant hours before the last of those in the Ethiopian capital that could be rounded up boarded the Israeli aircraft for the 2000 mile flight to Ben Gurion airport.

A contingent of Israel Defense Forces was on hand at the airport in Addis Ababa to supervise the safety of the Falasha.

Now Israel faces the problem of absorbing the Falasha at a time when her ability has been stretched to the limit by the 200,000 Soviet Jews who have arrived in the past 18 months.

Three hundred buses transported the newcomers to 45 hotels, guest houses and mobile homes where the big job is just starting. Bringing families and relatives together will take some time, but the joy of the moment has transformed the yishuv (community) and every problem, while not totally overcome finds willing hands and minds.

Israel radio broadcast special programs in Amharic, the language of the Ethiopians, and names of the newcomers were announced with details as to their destination to alert their relatives where they might be found.

At one leading hotel bursting with the Ethiopian newcomers, so much clothing and food was donated by Israelis that Israel Radio was asked to broadcast that the well-wishers desist.

In many cases where families were reunited, brothers and sisters had not seen each other for years, not to mention parents and their grown children.

There was also the case of thousands of Falasha who had converted to Christianity, who had to be turned back at Addis Ababa. There is the story told in Ma'ariv about the plane carrying Maj. Gen Amnon Shakak, Israel Defense Force deputy chief of staff, who saw five converts lying on the runaway as his plane was about to take off. Leaving the plane, he ordered them to be taken aboard. "I did not want the operation to end with such a tragic scene," he said.

## Anti-Semitic overtones at circumcision confab

SAN FRANCISCO — The four-day International Symposium on Circumcision conference here hid the name of its sponsor, the Organization of Circumcision Resource Centers, which is anti-circumcision, and all 26 speakers expressed that view.

The views of two of the speakers, Lisa Braver Moss and Moshe Rothenberg, were described in the report in the Northern California Jewish Bulletin here as the only speakers to offer Jewish perspectives. The Bulletin said that at times the program took on decidedly anti-Semitic overtones.

Moss, a Reform Jew, told of her problems with circumcision from a Jewish perspective, even though her two sons had been circumcised. Pointing out that Jews are forbidden to cause pain even to animals, or to alter a healthy body even by tattooing and that they mustn't risk life unnecessarily, she said that such laws imply a moral obligation for Jews to re-examine circumcision. The conference participants believe circumcision subjects infants to unnecessary pain, surgery, risk and mutilation.

Another speaker, Martin 'Moshe' Rothenberg, marked his son's birth with a non-circumcision ceremony, "brit b'lee milah."

Moss said that "thousands" of Jewish parents are deciding against circumcising their sons. She conceded that that was a rough, unscientific estimate. She added that

Continued on page 13

## Young Jews turn to rabbinate: salaries a factor

NEW YORK — What was a serious lack of rabbis only a few short months ago is now in the process of being overcome as, according to a front-page report in the New York Times headed, "More and More Young Jews Are Picking Careers as Rabbis."

The article by Ari L. Goldman, the Times reporter who covers the religious field, quotes Rabbi Gary P. Zola, national dean of admissions and college relations of the Reform movement's Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, to the effect that "I sense more of an interest in the helping professions."

Not many months ago, Rabbi Zola and HUC-JIR officials were bemoaning the fact that Reform pulpits could not be filled because of the lack of rabbis.

The article stresses another fact — that

"starting salaries, including benefits, for graduates at the Conservative movement's Jewish Theological Seminary last year was \$60,000. Salary packages of \$100,000 are common for experienced Reform and Conservative rabbis, and some earn twice that amount."

Continuing, the article quoted Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg of Dartmouth University along the same line. "In a falling economy, where the law is overcrowded, where medicine is on its way to socialization, where business is discredited, the rabbinate has become a competitive profession."

The article's approach was that applicants for rabbinical schools are reaching "record numbers," but does not quote any figures.

## Woman rabbi is an Israel first

NEW YORK — Armed with ordination from the Jewish Theological Seminary, Rabbi Gila Dror has returned to Israel where she was born to lead Congregation Eshel Avraham in Beersheva as the first Conservative woman rabbi in Israel. Several women rabbis now serve Reform congregations in Israel. She attended the Yeshiva of Flatbush in Brooklyn and Hebrew University in Jerusalem, and studied at the Beit Midrash, the JTS Israeli affiliate, before finishing here.

## Appeals to Nathan futile to end his hunger strike

TEL AVIV — As some 20,000 Israelis attended a "Serenade to Abie Nathan" here Sunday night, demonstrating support for the peace addict who is in the 29th day of a hunger strike which is endangering his life, in America the leaders of the Reform movement have appealed to him to end his denial of food. He does drink water.

The "Serenade" was performed by popular artists around Nathan's tent in Malchei Yisrael Square in front of the Tel Aviv Municipality Building. Among his visitors was Tel Aviv Mayor Shlomo Lahat who has appealed to the Knesset to amend the law prohibiting contact with the PLO for which Nathan has already served time and is now under indictment for a second visit to Arafat.

In a telegram to the 64-year-old peace activist, Rabbi Alexander Schindler and Albert Vorspan told him that "an unjust policy is worth dramatizing and condemning; it is not worth dying for. There are too many moral challenges in Israel and elsewhere in the world

## Reward offered on video game

LOS ANGELES — The Simon Wiesenthal Center has offered a \$25,000 reward for information leading to the conviction of whoever is manufacturing the neo-Nazi video games in Germany, but Chancellor Helmut Kohl has advised that the games have not appeared since early 1990, and had never been sold over the counter.

Kohl expressed his disgust with the games.

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## 17 of 20 Jewish students marginal

CLEVELAND — Seventeen out of twenty Jews who enter college these days have marginal to no Jewish identity.

This was the view of Richard M. Joel, international director of B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation as reported in The Cleveland Jewish News.

"When they get to campus we are already dealing with the disaster story that is the modern Jewish community," he said. In an address to the Kent State University Hillel annual meeting, he said that the other 15 percent are the "super Jews," the students who were involved in youth groups, attended Jewish camps and continued their Jewish education beyond bar mitzvah and confirmation. The problem with this concept of "Super Jews," he explained was that they remind the other students of their rabbis. "They think these students will be as unresponsive as the Jewish institutional life they've seen throughout their lives. I think the challenge of Hillel is how it transcends some of the historic perceptions." Joel was bullish, though, on Hillel.

In the last few years, he said, "Hillel has burst forth. There is a sense of Hillel being the Jewish institution on campuses in the country." That distinguished it from its

previously perceived role as banding together to ward off anti-Semitism. The main challenge now is "reintroducing Jews to their Jewishness." Hillel may be the students' last connection to organized Judaism.

Part of the problem, he explained, is the view that most of the world looks at Hillel as only for the Orthodox but the Orthodox look at it and say it's for everybody but them."

Joel, who came to Hillel with a background as a professor of legal ethics at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, and as a prosecutor in New York, said that Hillel is currently undergoing a self-review process, and a pilot program is being introduced on three campus Hillels that will become the program on the 400 campuses it now serves.

Joel has his own ideas also.

He said the key to success is to make the students "feel like they own the place," leading to "student empowerment." As for the annual conventions of Hillel student leaders in Washington, he would shift their programs from what he termed was rallies to brainstorming and taking the ideas back to effect change on the campus.

## Aaron Krickstein named by 2 as Mystery Person

Ken Barclay of San Luis Obispo, Ca., and Joyce Levi of Indianapolis named Aaron Krickstein correctly as the Mystery Person and both will receive a two-month extension of their subscription. It required the full complement of five clues, which is the total that is provided before the contest is considered closed, before the pair could win.

The first clue — that the Mystery Person's grandfather and great grandfather were both rabbis — provided little information. But the second clue should have alerted contestants that the Mystery Person somehow was in sports, although it used the category "profession" when it stated that "At age 16 the Mystery Person became the youngest male ever to be ranked in the top world 10 of his profession."

As for the third clue that the Mystery person was hampered by physical problems also indicated that he or she was engaged in sports. The fourth clue should have been a giveaway — that at



Aaron Krickstein

age 21 he had earned \$250,000. The fifth clue, it is conceded, didn't add too much — that the Mystery Person was a world figure — but evidently when all five were considered, it was enough for the two who guessed correctly.

## Rabbi Isaac Swift is taken by death

INGLEWOOD, N.J. — Rabbi Isaac L. Swift, who served Congregation Ahavath Torah for 24 years,

died here. He also served Manhattan's Fifth Avenue Synagogue as guest rabbi.

## Nathan Shainberg, Memphis leader

MEMPHIS — Nathan L. Shainberg, who headed the Jewish Welfare Fund and  
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the Jewish Community Center, died in Hollywood, Fl., at the age of 83.

## BART billboards pillory PLO

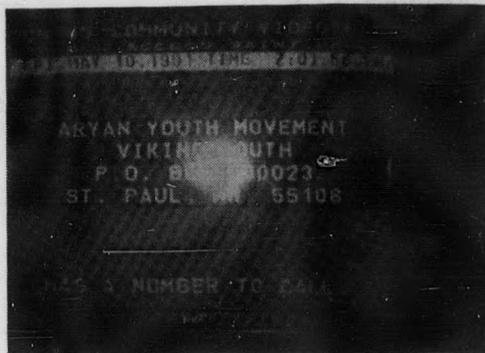
SAN FRANCISCO — The BART, which is this city's perfection of the subway, has sprouted a crop of billboards condemning the PLO. Reading "Let's support democracies in the Middle East, not tyrants and terrorists." The billboards were paid for by the Committee for Democracy and Peace in the Middle East, a new group of about 10 people founded by Berkeley resident Natan Nestel. Not too long ago, ads critical of U.S. support for "Israel's military occupation of the West Bank, Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem" were withdrawn after protest, but restored when the question of free speech was raised.

The billboard shows Yasir Arafat embracing President Saddam Hussein and quotes the Iraqi threat of making Tel Aviv a crematorium. In conclusion the message reads, "The world, and Kuwait, are still paying dearly for having supported Saddam's regime. Let's not make the same mistake with the PLO."

Nestel told The Bulletin that the billboards cost \$10,000 to create and install.

## Flu nasal spray superior to shots

JERUSALEM — A nasal spray against the flu which is more effective than shots has been developed by two Hadassah Hospital researchers, Prof. Zichria Zakay-Rones and Reuven Levy of its Virology Department. The new technique has been successfully tested in animal experiments and will shortly be tested in humans.



— American Jewish World photo

FREEDOM OF SPEECH — Protected by the First Amendment, hate groups use free access channels as this one from the Aryan Youth Movement in St. Paul to get across their message of anti-Semitism.

## Public access cable boon to anti-Semites

ST. PAUL — If you want to propagandize the Ku Klux Klan, the Skinheads, or a program which contends that Jews of today are actually not the descendants of biblical Hebrews, then you have free access to Channel 45 of Continental Cablevision, an electronic billboard which presents continuous Video Text Messages. The person to contact is Neal Gosman, executive director of Cable Access St. Paul, Inc., who told The American Jewish World here that "As a Jew...I have more to gain from the protection of the First Amendment" than from its restriction. "Any Jew who thinks otherwise is fooling themselves in this country."

His company a private, non-profit organization which has a monopoly on cable TV in the city, is required by state and city ordinances to provide free programming to the community. It manages the public access channel under a provision by which any St. Paul resident or group serving St. Paul may submit non-commercial tapes.

"As long as it's not illegal, we can't keep it off," said Gosman. "We don't screen the programs for content."

Even religious programs by hate groups are being aired. The World reported that the American Civil Liberties Union has gone to court to defend the KKK's freedom to preach on cable and legal decisions in recent years have supported the right of hate groups to use public access TV.

Gosman told The World that he would not support efforts to restrict political expression on his channel. He pointed out that advocates of public access are "trying to extend the rights of the First Amendment to television. Until public access, the only way one could have free speech on tv was if you owned the station."

He added that the problem of abuse of public access was minimal and quoted statistics showing receipt of 6,800 tapes, of which only a dozen have been "objectionable".

Jewish sources understand Gosman's position. He has met with representatives of the Anti-Defamation League and the mayor's office. Morton Ryweck, executive director of the Jewish Community Relations/Anti-Defamation League of Minnesota and the Dakotas, said the First Amendment takes priority. "We're not trying to stop the programming itself, because it's generally covered by the law." Instead it provides the station with alternative programs on the Holocaust, racism and anti-Semitism.

## Child survivors exchange stories

NEW YORK — Some 1,600 child survivors of the Holocaust and their spouses mixed with each other at the First International Gathering of Children Hidden During World War II, a joint effort with the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, whose director, Abraham Foxman, was himself a child survivor. He estimated that there were between 10,000 and 100,000 such hidden children

throughout the world.

The two-day gathering included panel discussions, speeches and workshops on such topics as "The Psychological Impact of Being Hidden as a Child," "What Motivated the Rescuers?" and "Memory: Commemoration and Action."

Another international conference is expected to be held within a year or two in Europe and Israel.

# When devout Catholics meet or marry Jews

By **RABBI ELLIOT B. GERTEL**

What happened when devout Catholics met or married Jews during the 1990-91 TV season? Jews and Judaism came across as less



devout, less spiritual, less ethical, that's what.

Consider *For The Very First Time*, an NBC film about when a nice Jewish boy in a small Texas town meets the newly-arrived nice Catholic girl next door, who chooses him to be her "first time." As the girl (Cheryl Pollak) puts it, she knows that she will be under the thumb of mother, religion, or some man, that she will marry a Catholic have Catholic children, and spend the rest of her life going to pot luck suppers, Bingo games and retreats. Her intention, therefore, is just once to "be able to carry around with me at least one thing that was my own decision," that "nobody would be able to take away from me," namely, to choose the first boy that she will "make love" with.

She even devises her own pagan ceremony for the occasion, which she calls "Tahitian."

Yet despite the girl's feelings of resignation to ultimately being "locked in" to Catholic life, Catholicism is consistently handled in this film with affection, and emerges as a faith with moral authority and authenticity. Even the gentle fun poked at Catholic clerics is affectionate, and there is not any fun poked at faith as a faith, thus making the depiction of Catholicism most respectful.

Judaism, on the other hand, is repeatedly put down with nasty one-liners, as are Jews in general. At

the very beginning, the Jewish teenager (Corin Nemec) tells his Catholic neighbor that his parents want him to be a "Jewish priest" — a doctor. When his mother presses him to date Jewish girls, he replies, "Mom, there's no such thing as a good-looking nice Jewish girl" — an assumption (and nasty stereotype) which is

never rebutted in this film. When his father asks, "What about your mother?" our boy wonder responds: "You got the last one." Later on in the film he is allowed to "philosophize:" "Jews don't have confession. They don't want to do anything to relieve the guilt."

With such adolescent "defenders" of the faith, both among film characters and film writers, Judaism does not need enemies.

The Catholic parents in this film are depicted as having religious concerns and values, and as being concerned about their children and as having a sense of responsibility for them. The Jewish parents seem to

Dad (incorrectly) assumes that she is pregnant does he confess: "I know I should have talked to you that night, but I thought that you knew what the hell you were doing."

That's about as morally decisive as Jewish Dad gets. He ventures an opinion only when he finds out that his son is really talking about a friend whose girlfriend became pregnant. He is willing only to take a moral stand regarding someone else's son and daughter.

For *the Very First Time* is the typical teenage film, with the typical "Love Conquers All" rhetoric, though it is somewhat bolder than the usual TV

*Indeed, the writers combine a nostalgia for the Sixties with a nostalgia for interdating. It could well be, however, that the Jewish family depicted here, which suffers so much culturally and spiritually in contrast with their Catholic neighbors, is a faithful depiction of some writer's or producer's experience of growing up Jewish in 1960's Texas. But if so, who cares? Why should this family represent the "Jewish" side of paradigms of Jewish and Christian families, if even to glorify interdating?*

spend all their time going to parties and meetings (including a Christmas party at their neighbor's home). They are never seen with rabbis or in any Jewish activities or even with other Jews. The only thing unique about them as "Jews" is that they are Kennedy supporters. Their social life comes first, though it seems to have no rhyme nor reason. There is never a sense of homelife or family, or of religious or moral values.

In fact, the Jewish parents in this film seem to have no moral standards at all, where their son is concerned. When Dad finds him in bed with the Catholic neighbors' daughter, Dad says not a word about it, not about ethics, morality, propriety, or even the possibility of pregnancy. Only when

films about teenagers, given the blunt way that the teenage girl's plans are expressed and executed. It offers some interesting period customs such as young white couples dating at an all-black dance hall when they do not want to be seen by friends or parents' friends. It has a little cute visual comedy, such as the Jewish teenage boy dressing as a nun to "rescue" his girlfriend from a New Year's Eve party at her parochial school. And whatever moving moments it has are the product more of a universal nostalgia for high school days than of the characters or plot as developed by the writers.

Indeed, the writers combine a nostalgia for the Sixties with a nostalgia for interdating. It could well be,

however, that the Jewish family depicted here, which suffers so much culturally and spiritually in contrast with their Catholic neighbors, is a faithful depiction of some writer's or producer's experience of growing up Jewish in 1960's Texas. But if so, who cares? Why should this family represent the "Jewish" side of paradigms of Jewish and Christian families, if even to glorify interdating? And what publicist for the network or for TV Guide (April 22, 1991) found it necessary to describe the young male protagonist as an "outgoing Jewish teenager" (to go with "his impulsive Catholic sweetheart"), as if "outgoing" is an unusual adjective when set aside "Jewish teenager?" And how is it that this film is so lacking in vision but big on voyeurism? Perhaps we ought to ask producer Randall Zisk or teleplayist Karen Clark or Michael Zinberg, on whose short story this film is based.

For those who cannot bring themselves to watch another teen flick, especially on Catholic-Jewish interdating (and who can blame you there?) an opportunity was provided a few weeks later by ABC TV to see a two-part miniseries on the wealthy and the powerful of modern Hollywood society, entitled *An Inconvenient Woman* and based on a novel by Dominick Dunne.

The well-mounted fanfare starred Jason Robards (impressive in any role), Jill Eikenberry and Rebecca De Mornay, who offered excellent performances as a business tycoon named Jules Mendelson, his wife and his mistress, a saucy waitress whom he finds in his favorite coffee shop after 23 years of sedate marriage to one of Los Angeles' most respected socialites. One gets the impression that this fellow Jules Mendelson may be Jewish, especially from an allusion in the first installment to his being

banned from country clubs even though he married into old money. Yet our Mendelson, whoever he is, does all right with investments, and is a trusted adviser to presidents on the new financial situation in Europe.

As the drama unfolds, one gets the distinct impression that all the coarse, corrupt, blackmailing, mob-connected, European market-exploiting and pornography-producing people have Jewish-sounding names and inflections often used to stereotype "New York Jews." If the film shows at one or two points the kind of prejudice Jews have met, than it also suggests far more often that they may deserve it. While Jules is not evil and while he uses his power to pervert justice only to protect others, and while his Catholic and Protestant friends — and wife — become corrupt on their own, he emerges as a perverter of justice who exploits the law for his own purposes.

About the same time that we discover these bad points about Jules, he dies and we learn that he was Jewish. When his wife wants to give him a quick Catholic burial to throw off the press, her best friend (a nice offbeat characterization by Elaine Stritch) tells her, "he was Jewish, for God's sakes (sic!), wasn't he... No cremation. Jules told me no cremation. He wanted to be buried in Westwood." But burial does take place in the Catholic Church, for Jules' wife, while far from an angel, does respect her church and utter the Christian Lord's Prayer when he does. Likewise, his Catholic mistress resorts to prayer and to "Hail Marys" at critical moments in her life.

And so the message of the three-hours of miniseries of *An Inconvenient Woman* is: Nice Catholic wives and mistresses can become corrupt on their own without a Jewish man, but having a Jewish man around the house may just help.

## Passports double to quit Israel

JERUSALEM — The number of Soviet immigrants who have applied for passports to leave Israel doubled in March to 1,432 from the figure of January of 744. Uri

Gordon, Jewish Agency immigration department head, warned that the trend would continue until job and homes were created for the new immigrants.



## YOUR NAME

By David L. Gold  
Column No. 87

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"Your Name" is conducted by David L. Gold, founder and director of the Jewish Family Name File, who has published widely on the subject. Queries should include a list of all known spellings of the name (in whatever language or alphabet), an indication of the specific place for which each of them is known, any family tradition concerning the origin or meaning of the name, and anything else that might help to elucidate it. When indicating places, try to be specific (for example, Minsk rather than Russia) and try to give both the Jewish and non-Jewish names of the place (for example, Yiddish Tsoymer/Polish Sandomierz). Almost all queries will be answered in this column. Address inquiries to David L. Gold, The Jewish Post and Opinion, P.O. Box 44097, Indianapolis, IN 46202. Please include SASE.

### Which names are Jewish?

Two readers have asked me to define the term Jewish family name. Jewish family name is not a Platonic concept, existing someplace out there and waiting to be defined. Rather, you can define it any way you like. The Jewish Family Name File has given it the broadest definition possible: a Jewish family name is any family name borne by anyone who considers herself or himself to be a Jew (whether or not any non-Jew also bears the name). Jewish family names may thus be solely Jewish (like *Maymades*, instalment 66), largely Jewish, typically Jewish, usually Jewish, sometimes Jewish, rarely Jewish, etc.

Non-Jewish family names may become Jewish as a result of conversion to Judaism; through intermarriage (as when a Jewish woman acquires the family name of her non-Jewish husband); and when Jews adopt non-Jewish family names. Inversely, Jewish family names may become non-Jewish.

Demographers, historians, etc. who use telephone directories outside Israel to determine the number of Jews or their residential patterns should beware that the "Jewish-sounding" name is not objectively definable because of the continuum between [1] the exclusively Jewish family name and [2] the name one of whose tokens is borne by a Jew and all the rest of whose tokens are borne by non-Jews (see the end of the first paragraph above). Also, what may "sound" Jewish may not be exclusively Jewish (Cohen and Levy, for example, are also non-Jewish family names of completely different origins than the identically spelled Jewish family names) and what may not "sound" Jewish may be exclusively Jewish (for instance, *Introligator*, instalments 83 and 85). Furthermore, what "sounds" Jewish depends on the area: *Steiner* "sounds" Jewish in the United States but not in any German-speaking country.

In instalment 49 we saw the Eastern Ashkenazic FN *Khaper* (literally "grabber" in Yiddish), which was acquired either by someone who on one occasion grabbed something or who, during the reign of Tsar Nicholas I of Russia, snatched Jewish boys and turned them over to military authorities for induction into the Russian army for twenty-five years of service (these "snatchers" are called *khapers* in Yiddish).

In instalment 69 we saw how certain Jews tried to avoid induction into the Russian army by changing their FNs and in instalment 81 we asked whether any Jews were uhlans. Here are three more Eastern Ashkenazic FNs with a military connection: *Kantonist* (from the Russian and Eastern Yiddish words designating a Jewish soldier who had to serve in the Russian army for 25 years), *Zelner* (from a Yiddish word meaning "soldier"), and, possibly, *Nikolajewski / Nikolajewsky / Nikolayvski* (these could be adoptions of the Russian [i.e., non-Jewish] FN *Nikolaevski*, in which case they have no military connection, or a shortening of the Eastern Yiddish term *nikelayevsker soldat*, meaning "soldier during the reign of Tsar Nicholas I," in which case reference is to the Jewish soldiers serving for 25 years).

A Dictionary of Surnames interprets the Ashkenazic FN *Harzstark* as an ornamental name meaning "heart-strong" (from Yiddish *harts* and *shtark*). *Harzstark* is a German-based romanization of these two Yiddish words, and the name also occurs in a Polish based romanization, *Harcztark*. It may well be an ornamental name, but another possibility is that this is the Yiddish word *hartsshtark*,  
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## ROAMING IN LITERATURE

### On Bialik and the bird

By RABBI ELY E. PILCHIK

On my way home from the West Coast where I fulfilled the bitter commandment of eulogizing and escorting to the Eternal Home



my dear friend of sixty years, I stopped in famed, fabled Santa Fe, N.M., in the hope of restoring a modicum of balance to my jangled nerves.

The museums were illuminating and calming. The inn was charming and the room had a nice porch in the shade of a tree.

I awakened early the next morning, before the sunrise. Wondering what the sun looks like when she wakes us in the New Mexico morning, I took myself to the porch and watched her glorious rise. She, in all her radiance, was greeted by an undersized sparrow, so I thought, I was not at all sure as the bird landed on a limb near me — was this indeed a common male sparrow or a male mountain linnet? I took a hard look at the little bird and registered her in my computer-

meaning "sal volatile, smelling salts."

More frequent than *Harzstark / Harcsztark* is the Ashkenazic FN *Hirschhorn / Hirschorn / Hirshhorn / Hirshorn*, which the same dictionary explains as an ornamental name meaning "deer horn."

Here is an explanation for both of the aforementioned FNs, which also accounts for the higher frequency of the second one. The first one can come only from Yiddish, since German has no word that could be its source. The second name, on the other hand, comes from Yiddish *hirshhorn* or German *Hirschhorn*, that is, the availability of two sources increases the possibility of the FN's frequency.

Another factor may account for the higher frequency of the second name. A Dictionary of Surnames may be right that both of these FNs are ornamental names (and I may be right that the first one may also be from the Yiddish word for "sal volatile, smelling salts" mentioned above — and both explanations may be right, depending on the token of the name), but it is also possible that in certain cases these names were taken by men whose Yiddish given name was either *Herts* (which in Central Yiddish is pronounced /harts/), in the case of the first FN, or *Hirsh*, in the case of the second FN. My impression is that *Herts* has been a less frequent GN than *Hirsh* and, if so, that could account for the greater frequency of *Hirschhorn*, etc. (when compared to that of *Harzstark*, etc.).

Still another possibility is that these are occupational FNs, acquired by makers of smelling salts (ammonium carbonate, used to make such salts, was once made from deer's antlers, hence the possible connection between *Hirschhorn* and smelling salts; how *Harzstark* might be so connected has already been explained). And all of these explanations could be right, depending on the token of the names.

memory.

Subsequently, at home, I looked her up in my old, ragged, "The Birds of America," that almost Scriptural classic of John James Audubon. (Later I learned that this four volume Audubon, "The Birds of America," published in London in 1838, the first edition, was to bring over \$2 million at auction by Southeby's in New York on June 6, 1989). The pictures did not help — to this day I do not know whether that "faygele" was sparrow or linnet.

There he/she was, chirping lustily if somewhat choppily, as the sun rose higher and higher. When her little voice would occasionally rise to a bravado my sleepy ears identified with Barbra Streisand erupting with "People."

Hardly had I got acquainted when another winged one flew along with a chirp seemingly more feminine. Soon I thought I caught a duet and hardly had the chirps blended when the pair flew.

The nerves did indeed catch a touch of respite as the sun rose high enough to shine "Good Morning." At that moment Bialik's "El Hatzipor," "To the Bird," flashed across my nerve-quieted mind:

"Greetings! Peace to you, returning/Lovely bird, unto

my window.../Chirping, singing, dearest birdling,/Tell the wonders of that distant/Land from which you came.../Do you bring me friendly greetings/From my brothers far in Zion,/Brothers far yet near?/O the happy! O the blessed!/Do they guess what heavy sorrows/I must suffer here?/Chirping, singing, whisper, birdling,/Secrets of the shrubs and bushes,/Murmuring of their shoots,/Have they news of mercies coming,/Have they hopes, as Lebanon's humming/Soon to swing with fruits?/Gone all tears, and gone each hinted/Year of Messianic tidings,/All is gone but pain;/Yet I bid you, birdling, welcome./From the warmer climes returning,/Sing your song again."

The translation of this abbreviated version was by the late Jessie Sampter back in 1916.

Chaim Nachman Bialik (1873-1934) was born in a little village of Volhyn, Russia. At 16 he was sent off by his very firm grandfather to a Yeshiva to study for the rabbinate. Here Bialik was introduced to the magnetism of the Haskalah, the Enlightenment sparked by Zionism, charged by Achad Haam (Asher Ginsberg [1856-1027])

Bialik moved to Odessa (the Jerusalem of the Russian-Jewish Arousal) in 1891. That year he published our poem, "El Hatzipor" (To the Bird). This established him as "the" modern Hebrew poet. By 1893 Bialik published most of his major Hebrew poems in such gems as "Ha-matmid" (The Talmud Student), and "B'Ir Haharegah" (The City of Slaughter).

In 1924 with the help of the Russian writer Maxim Gorky, Bialik managed to leave Russia and get to Tel Aviv. There he continued to write precious Hebrew poetry especially for songs. In addition to his living poetry Bialik wrote a series of superb short-stories (in Hebrew of course). Together with Yehoshua Rawnitzki he produced a wonderful collection of Rabbinic Aggadot — beautiful moral stories of the Talmudic Rabbis; this is the "Sefer ha-Aggadah" published in 1911.

Nor did he forget the classical medieval Hebrew

Continued on page 14

## WHAT I HAVE TO SAY

### The heart of the problem

By JIM SHIPLEY

Before you solve a problem, you have to identify it. Not the symptoms — the problem. Until you've done that, forget solutions. It has



been fashionable for years for Arab apologists (and unfortunately, may Jews) to pitch the legend that the core of the Arab/Israeli conflict is the Palestinians. Matter of fact, the litany runs something like this:

1. The core of the Arab-Israeli conflict is the Palestinians.

2. "The land" belongs to the Palestinians.

3. U.N. Security Council resolution 242 calls on Israel to withdraw from "the territories occupied in 1967."

4. There is a parallel between the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq and the occupation of Judea, Samaria and Gaza by Israel.

If the core of the conflict is the Palestinians (read, Palestinian State) how is it that Palestinian "self determination" never surfaced even as a concept between 1947 and 1967, when Arabs controlled Gaza, Judea and Samaria? No, the core of the conflict is the refusal of major Arab powers to accept the reality of the Jewish state. The Gulf war notwithstanding, nothing has changed for a century.

"The land" so often referred to is the original partition of the remaining area of Palestine by the UN in 1947; agreed to, by Israel, rejected by the Arabs. They did not then and they do not now want a Jewish State to exist in any way shape or form.

UN resolution 242 does not call on Israel to withdraw "the" territories. It does call for peace negotiations between the parties.

We are again at the crux of the problem. No Arab state outside of Egypt has ever even made a gesture towards peace with Israel.

The UN resolutions that sent the Desert Storm into Kuwait were crafted to give the United States a cover of legitimacy as they overwhelmed the Iraqi army.

Kuwait was invaded by Saddam Hussein in a bold, blatant act of aggression.

Any land which Israel occupies, including Tel Aviv, Haifa and Jerusalem, is theirs because they were forced to defend the land and their lives. They were attacked four times in twenty-five years to eliminate them from the earth. In none of those wars were a Palestinian State or border an issue. The life of the Jewish State was the only issue. If Israel had lost — there would be no Israel. And therefore on that point the Arabs and their apologists are right, there would be no conflict.

The "window of opportunity" that the Bush administration felt it had in the Middle East is not gone. It never existed. In the latest issue of Saudi Arabia, the official publication of the Saudi Embassy in Washington, there is an article about Desert Storm. It describes in some detail the ground war against Iraq. The article describes the armies in their "desert dash north along the Arabian Gulf coast straight toward Kuwait City," and the effort in taking on several Iraqi divisions dug in west of Kuwait City." Nowhere in the description of the battle are American forces even mentioned. It is as if we never showed up.

This is typical Arab thinking. If reality clashes with what they want, change reality. Never mind what happened — here is our version of what we

would like to have happened. Now, we repeat that enough and spread our money around and it will become accepted as the truth.

Well, I don't think the half million Americans who ate sand for all those months will ever accept the Saudi version of the truth. I doubt the families of the Iraqis who died in the futile dash north of Kuwait City will ever believe that Saudi or Syrian or Qatari troops devastated the Iraqi army. But the fact remains that the Arabs have begun to diminish the American presence. And in Arabia, legend has more weight than history.

No Arab government has changed its attitude vis a vis Israel. They see no advantage in sitting down and negotiating with the Jewish state. They would rather, as would their apologists, even in the Jewish World keep the straw man of Palestinian self determination in the spotlight and ignore reality.

Secretary Baker and President Bush had better face up the to the fact that whether UN shows up at a peace conference is not important. Nor is the make up of the Palestinian Delegation. Failure to recognize the true nature of the problem will prevent its solution. Every time.

James Shipley may be reached at 283 W. Lake Faith Dr., Maitland, FL 32751

### Palestinian factories get tax breaks

JERUSALEM — Years of waiting by Palestinians for authorization to set up new plants and factories in the West Bank ended as 29 businessmen were granted licenses. The decision by Israel authorities indicated a new policy. The establishments created will be exempt from taxation for three years.

More permits may be issued, it was indicated. The

### Soviet Jews display technological work

TEL AVIV — Displaying their inventions, technical knowledge and research and development projects at the Third International Convention for Technological, Industrial and Agricultural Projects were more than 1000

new plants include 10 specializing in building materials and nine in food products.

One of the new plants will cost \$2 million, to be raised through shareholders, said William Habib Shichade, who waited six years for his license. It will produce and supply oxygen and other commercially used gases to industry and hospitals.

immigrants, mostly from the Soviet Union. The three-day exhibition is being held to provide an opportunity for investors and manufacturers to meet immigrant inventors, researchers and developers.

## FLEISHMAN'S FLIGHT

### Semantic dealty

By ALFRED FLEISHMAN

Pull up a chair folks. This will be a very brief lesson in General Semantics. This is a term made famous by what some of us call the



guru of human communication, Alfred Korzybski.

He wrote a famous book called Science and Sanity in which one of themes is how words and their meaning affect the nervous systems of people, and not necessarily the dictionary meaning.

The book itself is more than 900 pages in length and more or less technical. Its principles are of the utmost importance in our relationships with others.

This is about a very small portion but I happen to believe it applies to the current situation in Israel.

And so here it is. Korzybski makes a big deal out of what he calls the "semantic delay." For most of us that's very simple and is known as "count from one to ten" when you are angry or upset. So, when you write that letter under stress, don't send it, at least until the next day when you have had a better chance to cool down.

How does it apply to Israel? Well, lets take a couple of examples. Go back to the original so-called Reagan peace plan.

Most of us remember the Begin reaction to the Reagan peace plan. It was something like "who do you think we are, a banana republic?"

The whole Arab world turned it down anyway and we could have been spared rejecting at that time the advice or suggestions of friends.

More recently, Mr. Baker, who ought to be given an "E" for effort, came up with another plan.

No need to discuss it here. It didn't look good either. But here also the semantic delay didn't work.

There wasn't any delay,

Israel rejected it almost at once. But so did Syria and others. Did we accomplish anything by rushing in to be among the first rejectors?

We should have known that one of the big things was to find out who was going to be blamed for rejecting the Plan.

Israel's quick rejecting could be used to point up that it is the obstacle instead of all the other reasons why the plan could not work or was not feasible.

I used to hear about Jewish "sechel." When and how we answer a question with a question. How is business? How should business be? How do you feel? How should I feel?

I grew up on that kind of diplomacy.

If I had a small recommendation to make to Israel, (and you can bet your bottom dollar nobody is listening), it would be consider the general semantic principles of semantic delay.

We just may have a better way to say no than to rush in as quickly as we can and reject one thing after another.

Old Korzybski had another very good principle of general semantics and human communication. It ran something like "small talk is the language of social cohesion."

Most of us know about that when we talk about the weather or our grandchildren, or anything else to break the ice.

You can do your own experiment. You don't have to be a diplomat dealing with the weighty problems of the Middle East.

Just talk to strangers in an elevator. Make small talk. Talk about the weather. How hot or cold or wet or whatever. Watch the people warm up. Sometimes of course, it's "let's get down to business right off the bat." But mostly small talk paves the way for serious discussion.

How's your grandchild is a better starter than let's get to the point right away.

Well, that's our very small lesson for the day.

Class dismissed!  
Alfred Fleishman may be reached at P.O. Box 12806, St. Louis, MO 63141.

## SUBSCRIBE TO THE POST!

May 29, 1991 Page National 7

# An American couple in wartime Israel

By MYRON E. SCHOEN, F.T.A. and CHARLOTTE SCHOEN

When I learned that because of the tense situation in the Middle East, NATA had called off its 1990 convention scheduled to take place in Israel, I called the Chair of NATA's Metropolitan (N.Y.) Chapter. I advised that my wife and I would be making our annual visit to Israel in December, precluding the outbreak of a war, and that we'd like to report on our experience upon our return. Sylvia Pressman immediately accepted our offer.

Charlotte and I began our visits to Israel in 1969 when our daughter did her junior year at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. On our visits we keep a daily diary; whom we meet, what we see and what our reactions are. We don't go as tourists; we don't meet with government officials; but we do count many Israelis as our friends. We are entertained in their homes and we entertain them in our apartment hotel. We meet with educators, rabbis, business people, kibbutznicks. In the past we visited the homes of Israeli Arabs, friends of my son.

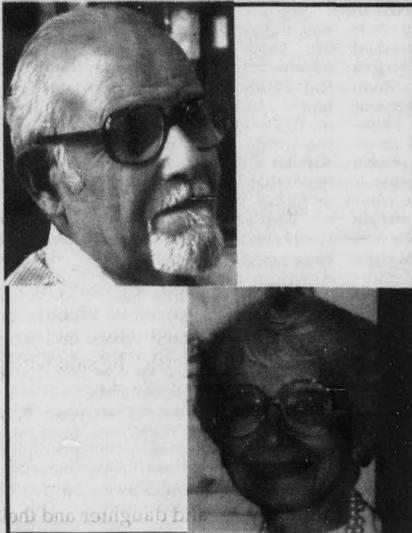
In all fairness you must know that I am not an impartial observer of the Israeli scene. You must know "where I come from,;" Why I feel the way I feel about Israel and Israelis and the Jewish people. Four major incidents in my life will answer those questions.

The first took place when Adolph Hitler was in his ascendancy. My family was a Jewishly observant one living in Brooklyn. After my grandfather concluded the Shabbat with an Havdallah ceremony we frequently went to the movies. Preceding the feature film was the newsreel and almost invariably there were scenes from Germany about the activities of the Nazis. One such scene I'll never forget. Jews, many of them with well-trimmed beards such as my grandfather wore, were being forced to scrub the street on their hands and knees. Jews with longer beards had them cut off by Nazi Storm Troopers.

I went to my grandfather and asked, "Why don't the Jews leave Germany if they are treated that way?" He reminded me that no country would admit them, not even the United States! Only one place wanted them... Palestine. And he urged me to go out and collect more money for the Jewish National Fund to help settle Jews in Palestine.

The second incident happened when I entered the United States Army in 1943. I was going to do my part to rid the world of Hitler. I did my basic training at Fort Storey at Virginia Beach. There were about 100 Jewish men from New York City in the Coast Artillery Battalion of 700; the rest came from Arkansas, Kansas and Missouri.

The Jewish communities of Norfolk and Newport News sent a bus to pick us up after Saturday Parade and brought us back to our



Myron E. and Charlotte Schoen

barracks Sunday night. On one weekend we returned long after lights-out, so the seven of us went to the lighted latrine. As we prepared to retire, some of our barrack mates entered, called us "Heeb" and began to rough us up. Every American soldier had an initial on his identification tags (commonly called "dog tags"). "C" for Catholics, "P" for Protestants. Jews had an "H" for "Hebrew"; hence, the "Heeb."

Our Sergeant broke it up readily; the "Heeb" had only a few bruises. I had never before experienced overt anti-Semitism having lived in a community populated mainly by Jews. I now knew that it existed in my country as well as in Germany.

The following day the battalion commander asked if we wanted to press charges. Serving as spokesman I responded "no," but requested that at the weekly hour of "Information and Education" the battalion be told about how the Nazis treated the Jews. When they could find no battalion officer for the assignment I volunteered. It introduced me to the U.S. Army's Information and Education division and I eventually went to the European theater of operations as an "I&E" Specialist."

When VE Day came I was in Detmold, Germany. The Army needed men who knew foreign languages, among them German Yiddish, to work with "displaced persons."

I volunteered to work with the "DPs"; that's what they called those liberated from concentration camps and slave laborers from factories and farms. The emotionally intensive three month experience with these people reminded me of what my grandfather had told me when I was a teen-ager... no country wanted the Jews and the British were creating road blocks for their entry into Palestine.

Though the war in Europe was over, the army had to keep the roads clear for military traffic. One morning through my binoculars I saw hordes of what at a distance seemed like dwarves filling the highway. As they came closer I realized they were children, hundreds of children! They were Jewish children, taken from Hungary to work on German farms and in factories. They were dirty and malnourished.

For days the American doctors, dentists and nurses worked to restore them to a semblance of humanity. Hopefully they were among the thousands of Jewish children that managed to reach Palestine in the post World War II Youth Aliyah. How I rejoiced when Palestine became the State of Israel in 1948! Now there was a country that welcomed Jews. But the creation of Israel made some of my fellow Jews apprehensive.

In the 1960s I participated in a regional convention of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations at which the relationship of the US and Israel was being discussed. Following my contribution I was deemed to have revealed my "dual loyalty" and was challenged to

state whether I was "an American" or "an Israeli?" I strode to the microphone and declared. "I am an American Jew. I may change my nationality but I am and will always be a Jew!"

That's "where I come from." And now Charlotte and I will tell about our stay in Israel, contrasting what we experienced before and after the UYS went to war, as well as some of the pictures and images we are given in this country about Israel. We arrived in Israel on Dec. 27. Our plane was filled to capacity despite the threat of war. We had read that we'd be given gas masks when we touched down but disembarkment was routine except for one thing. Ben Gurion airport was filled with hundreds of Soviet Jews and their luggage. Unlike the photos we had seen in the Jewish press, the scene was grim; many were elderly and in wheel chairs. No flag waving, no smiles... except for the children. They smiled and laughed as Charlotte tried to communicate in English and Hebrew but to no avail.

While in Israel we stay in a Tel Aviv apartment hotel close to our son's apartment. In 1980, while on sabbatical, we lived for three months in Jerusalem. Where one stays in Israel can give a totally different view of the country. For instance Erev Shabbat in Tel Aviv is in sharp contrast to Jerusalem. In Tel Aviv people of all ages walk the streets; cars crawl bumper to bumper along the main thoroughfares; the city is ablaze with lights. It's difficult to find a seat at the open air cafes and the lines to get into the movies are reminiscent of Manhattan. Israel is predominantly secular; its people are Jewish but not "religious." I have met few Israelis who go to synagogue except to attend a Bar Mitzvah. I recall that while living in Jerusalem in 1980 we went to Shabbat services at the Hebrew Union College. Most of the attendees were tourists or American students. The prime reason for going to Israel at this time was to see our son perform in his third lead role for the Tel Aviv Community Theater. "Arsenic and Old Lace" was the vehicle and one of the performances was given in Netanya, a city on the Mediterranean. Netanya's streets were awash with people, children, teenagers, senior citizens. Charlotte asked rhetorically, "Are these my people?" for there were Ethiopians, Russians, Roumanians, as well as many very proper English speaking people from Britain and South Africa.

During intermission I spoke to an Englishman living in Israel for 20 years. I asked him if he was happy with his decision to make aliyah? "Israel is far from the perfect place to live but it does have two things that are important to me, my Jewish children and my Jewish grandchildren." Emphasis was upon Jewish.

New Year's Eve is not celebrated in Israel although hotels advertise "partys." We marked the onset of 1991 in a church! We were invited by my son's neighbor, a retired merchant seaman from Holland, non-Jewish, long time resident in Tel Aviv (Hebrew and English minimal), to attend an organ and trumpet recital at the Emanuel Luthern Church. Our son couldn't join us but we headed out in our car with his directions. We got lost. We asked people in English and Hebrew (Charlotte is far more proficient in the latter than I am), "Where is the church?" Never having seen a church in Tel Aviv we thought Tel Avivians would certainly know if there was one in the neighborhood.

Finally, Charlotte managed to say in Hebrew "the place where the goyim pray?" The word "church" brought no recognition but "goyim" and "prayer" in Hebrew worked. The church was thronged; the Pastor rose. Would he talk English? Dutch? Lutheran? His greeting was in Hebrew. No crosses visible. Atop the Christmas tree was a large silver Magen David!

New Year's Day we visited a retired Israeli diplomat. The war had not broken out but it dominated discussion. "Saddam Hussein is a menace to the Arab World, not only to the United States and the western world. He must be destroyed!" he declared. And what was

Israel's greatest challenge?" Properly handling the influx of Soviet Jews," he stated, noting the fact that among the immigrants were 2,400 medical doctors. "Israel can use 200-300 doctors a year. We must 'retrain to retain.' If we don't retrain these educated Soviet Jews they will not stay in Israel; they will find ways to go elsewhere," he advised.

At a dinner party that evening attended by 20 long-time residents of Israeli who had come from Europe, England and the US all were in favor of immediate military action against Iraq; except the Americans who urged continued sanctions. On January 2 our son took us to lunch in Jaffa, a small Arab restaurant, open to the street, with trucks and cars rumbling by. At one table sat Arab workmen with big, rough hands. At an adjacent table were Israeli soldiers, guns slung on the back of their chairs. At the next table some Jewish businessmen. And two senior citizens from New York with their American born, Dutch citizen, permanent Israeli resident son and his ladyfriend, born in Israel of parents who came from Libya in 1949.

After dinner we drove to Mazkeret Batya for coffee and desert with Colonel Joe Josephs and his wife Signore. The "Colonel" was acquired in the Indian Air force. I asked him why he came to Israel about 20 years ago with his Pakistan-born Jewish wife? They showed us pictures of their three handsome sons, their beautiful Israeli wives and several delightful grandchildren. "They are all Jewish," he said with pride.

As the days went by we realized the Middle East was on the verge of war. The owner of our hotel told us that the Australian embassy had called to advise that all those with Australian passports should leave. "Israel has been my home for 30 years; I'm not leaving; that would be cowardly," she responded. She asked her teen-age son and daughter and their response was "We can't desert our friends and our country." Then Australian-born Leah stated, "I and my kids are staying; we'll fight if necessary, not only for Israel but for Jews everywhere."

Despite the ominous news reports we drove to Jerusalem so that Charlotte could have an Hadassah-arranged tour of the hospital on Mt. Scopus. In the pediatric division, in room after room we saw Arab mothers sitting at the bedsides of their children. In many rooms we saw Hassidic parents sitting with their child on one bed and on the adjacent bed was an Arab child and parents.

On January 9th we visited a retired American engineer who has been living in Israel for many years. Phil and I were celebrating our 71st birthday and his family had cake and candles. Helping us celebrate was his American-born daughter and three dark-skinned beauties, his grandchildren. The children's father comes from Cochin, India. Because of their skin color they're called "Black Jews."

I noticed sheets of plastic, rolled up like a venetian blind, on the door leading to the rear of the apartment. Should a gas attack happen the plastic would be rolled down and the rear of the apartment would be sealed off and safe.

January 10, our 47th wedding anniversary, we drove to Eilat. We took the back road through Mitzpah Riamon and we saw that the Israeli Defence Force was preparing. Scores of tanks were maneuvering in the desert. Soldiers in full gear moved through the sands and planes zoomed overhead. The IDF was on the alert.

After three days in Israel's tropical paradise we returned to Tel Aviv and immediately acquired our gas masks and began to stock up on food, water and batteries for radio and flashlights. We also sealed off the three windows of our apartment. However, on January 15, the date of the US government's deadline, we took a leisurely drive to lunch with an American friend who was visiting the Jerusalem yeshiva where his son was studying.

*Continued on page 14*

*The Forward's humorist* **Miami's Memorial to Holocaust**

By RABBI SAMUEL SILVER

The Forward's resident humorist is Abraham Shulman who does literary reviews as well as facetious feuillitons. He is the author



of a cluster of books; the most recent one is in English and is entitled, "The Prophet Jeremiah Is Living and Doing Well in New York." In the Forward we learn that the book combines autobiography with the writer's sarcastic comments about "Holocaust galas and Holocaust dances." It's available from the author for \$10 at 3729 Lyme Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11244.

In a recent humor page Shulman offered the following, among others:

Wife: I always feel sad when I play the piano.  
Husband: I do too...

A neighbor tells a woman she feels terrible that her husband ran off with the cook. Replies the wife: I feel terrible too. I'll never find a better cook.

Says the judge to the woman: Do you admit that you broke your umbrella over your husband's head? Replies the woman: Your honor I had no intention of breaking that umbrella.

Woman to husband: It's about time our daughter got married. Husband: She's only 28, let's wait till she finds a good man. Wife: Why should she? I didn't.

A man complains to a friend that his new wife is ok except she talks too much about her former husband. Says the friend: My wife is always talking about her future husband.

When a man says to a friend he's worried because his wife will be caught in rainstorm downtown, the friend replies not to worry because she'll probably take shelter in some shop. That, says the first, is what worries me.

A woman asks a neighbor how she got her husband to stop coming home so late from card games. Reply: when he comes home, I say: Isn't that you, Manny?

**Restoration**

Even before Lech Walesa  
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visited Israel to offer apologies for Polish anti-Semitism, a Polish periodical reported that new measures were being taken by the government's department of justice to find the Jewish owners of houses and restore them to those owners. The Forward quotes the Warsaw Folks-Stimme of March 1 in which it was recorded that Jewish-owned homes were being sold at very low prices. This practice has now been stopped by Polish officials, according to that dispatch, and efforts are going to be made to track down Jewish survivors and return their property to them. When owners are undiscoverable, some of the houses will be given to Jewish institutions.

**The 'alliance'**

The incubus for the Americanization of Jewish immigrants in New York was the Jewish Educational Alliance. In its East Side quarters, English was taught to the "greenies," classes in art and literature and social gatherings galore took place. Some of the leading rabbis of America, as well as actors, writers, and artists got their start in that institution. Recently the Alliance, which now has 18 branches in Manhattan and Brooklyn, celebrated its centennial. An exhibit of Alliance-trained artists took place at the New York Historical Society and a gala banquet and ball assembled many of the alumni at the Waldorf-Astoria. Guest of honor was the philanthropist Roy Neuberger, a banker, an Alliance "graduate." (The Forward)

**Yiddish anyone?**

Want to study Yiddish? You can do so at Columbia University, in Manhattan. In tandem with YIVO, Columbia offers a summer Yiddish program from June 17 to July 26. For info, write Ms. Jessica Klingman, YIVO Institute, 1948 Fifth Ave., New York City 10028; 212-535-6700. Want to bask in a Yiddish ambience? You can do in that North Carolina aerie called wildacres, from August 22 to August 25. Besides lodging, and just gemutlichkeit. For rates and routes, write Charlotte Yiddish Institute, Box 3369,

Continued on page 14

By RABBI MAURICE DAVIS

It was a warm, sunny day in Miami. And when it is warm and sunny in Miami, it is hot! My dear friends, Joe and Rose Greenspan, and



I were there for a memorial service in the evening, but that afternoon we headed for the Holocaust Memorial at Meridian Avenue and Dade Boulevard.

We had heard about it, but we had not seen it, and we certainly were not prepared for what awaited us. Circling the area we saw it before we saw it. What we saw from a distance was a giant, four story high sculpture of a hand.

It seemed to say, "Here I am. I dare you to look."

We parked the car, and approached on foot. We saw the bright Jerusalem stone, the basic building material of the Memorial, and we saw the black granite wall with its panels of that period of horror.

To gaze at those photographs in the bright sunlight was a contrast beyond belief. At Yad Vashem, at least, we peered through darkness. And that somehow had seemed appropriate. But here in the bright sunlight, it suddenly seemed even more appropriate, reminding us that this was a part of the real world, not apart from it.

And then came the causeway. A dark and lonely stone tunnel, with bright light at the end seeming to bathe a picture we could not quite make out. We walked the tunnel toward the light. The walls along the way were carved with the names of the cars, and we continued walk toward the light.

The object we could not quite distinguish became clear as we approached. It was a crying child crouched on the ground, but as we approached the vista was enlarged, and suddenly we were standing before that 42-foot sculpture of the hand.

The hand is pointed upward, but the arm had more than that tattooed number

from Auschwitz. The arm was covered with bronze tormented figures grasping, clinging, holding on and holding each other. I swear I could hear their cries. The anguish was beyond description. The desperation was mingled with scenes of compassion, as men, women and children tried to save each other.

You stand there, and you gaze at the upstretched hand, and suddenly you realize that you are not alone. For all around you are life-sized statues of men and women and children, and now you can see their eyes, and you feel their pain.

And you are no longer a visitor. You are a participant. You are a part of the picture, a part of the story.

Then back to the wall. This time there are no pictures. This time there are

only names. Name after name after name after name, until the names themselves seem to come alive, which is why the names are there.

There is no building to enter. There is no escape from the sun or the reality. You must have to be there, and walk the perimeter, and breathe it in. All of it.

The Holocaust Memorial dared to combine beauty with horror. The sculptor, Kenneth Treister, said, "The totality of the Holocaust can not be created in stone and bronze... but I had to try."

And he did. And he did it magnificently. With the pain and beauty and anguish all mixed up together, the story has never been more eloquently told.

Rabbi Davis may be reached at 20 Narragansett Ave., Apt. 1-C, Narragansett, RI 02882

**YAACOV'S WORLD**

*Turning husband into lover*

By YAACOV LURIA

Once there was a young man named Harry who fell in love with a young woman named Carrie. He wrote poetry praising both her



ardent, over incandescent lovers. Some men just don't see the light.

When Harry had once praised Carrie's mind, he wasn't imagining things. A plan took shape in this good mind of hers. She made up a sign named Choice Bits which included the following items: Kissing, \$10; Continental breakfast equivalent, \$25; American breakfast equivalent, \$50; Complete seven-course equivalent, \$100.

Harry was devastated. Up to this point, Carrie had been so available that he had lost a sense of urgency. Now, he foresaw the time when inflation could price him out of Carrie's arms altogether. He pleaded with her to stop being so mercenary. Their marriage contract never mentioned paying for the usual privileges. Since when had marriage become a business? Carrie was adamant. If Harry was interested, he had the price list. If not...

beauty and brains which convinced her that he appreciated her best parts. Before long, Harry had swept Carrie off her feet into a nuptial four-post bed.

It was a good marriage, at first. Ultimately, alas, Harry got so wound up in other things that he began to neglect his wife. She was as beautiful as ever, and sometimes he remembered to tell her that. But what with his business, B'nai B'rith meetings, weekend golf, the bowling league, his poker game and the Sunday paper, the nuptial bed became musty through disuse. Carrie languished in frustration. Women, the books tell us nowadays, are

Continued on page 14

Jordan's king still on the fence

By SAMSON KRUPNICK

Perching on a fence for a brief period is an uncomfortable experience albeit tolerable, but continuing in this precarious position on a



permanent basis is virtually an impossibility. Yet our gifted neighbor, King Hussein of Jordan, has accomplished this feat for almost four decades, thereby managing to weather many storms in our area and skillfully outliving any of the other heads of state in the Arab countries.

What of his position today? Is he on the verge of being toppled and like Humpty Dumpty have a great fall? Or does he continue to manage his shaky seat and survive this crisis — his foremost challenge to date? "Experts" disagree. Some give him but a few months. Others are at the other end of the pendulum and insist that while he has many new problems with which to contend, he is nevertheless in a solid position—at least no worse than before the Iraq-US and allies conflict.

Each viewpoint has its good and logical reasoning. In view of the fact that any peace plan must take into account the relative stability of Jordan and its ruler, it becomes very vital to get an eye-witness account of what is truly transpiring there and what are the implications of Hussein's lashing out at the United States as an aggressor against Iraq while the fate of Saddam Hussein is in the balance.

We had just such a golden opportunity in the person of John Nichols, the national editor of The Toledo Blade. Nichols, an affable young man with a keen insight into events and personalities, was able to give us a first-hand account of the atmosphere in Jordan and of the roles being played by King Hussein and by the Crown Prince Hassan. Mr. Nichols was amazed at the almost universal support of Saddam Hussein by all the elements of the diverse pop-

ulation in Jordan. In true journalistic tradition Nichols met with and interviewed not members of the Government, but with representatives of various sectors of the population. The Palestinians, about 65% of the population had looked upon Saddam Hussein as a Savior of Palestine — sort of George Washington who would free Palestine from the hatred Zionists. (Some drew a difference between Jews and Zionists. "We can live with Jews, but not Israel," stated a wealthy Palestinian

The fundamentalists saw Saddam Hussein as the Defender of the Faith — symbol of the conquering power of Islam over the infidels. To the secularists, Saddam

with a leash, reported Mr. Nichols with some surprise. They always hated and envied both Saudi Arabia and Kuwait — so there is no sympathy whatsoever for them.

Mr. Nichols noted that King Hussein was wise enough to ride the crest of the admiration for Saddam Hussein and thus unite all elements as never before. A prominent Palestinian confided to Mr. Nichols, "I never used to like King Hussein, but now he's on our side." The King is now popular with the masses and also closer with the Imams (the religious leaders). His recently sprouted beard goes well with the fundamentalists. He made well-publicized visits to the

*Each viewpoint has its good and logical reasoning. In view of the fact that any peace plan must take into account the relative stability of Jordan and its ruler, it becomes very vital to get an eye-witness account of what is truly transpiring there and what are the implications of Hussein's lashing out at the United States as an aggressor against Iraq while the fate of Saddam Hussein is in the balance.*

Hussein united the pan Arab community against the West and its domination over the Gulf and the entire Middle Eastern area. Even the women the liberated ones—western style, admired Saddam's stand against the hated veil.

Pictures of Saddam Hussein are everywhere. Souvenirs in the form of toys, jewelry, Scud pins are the fashion. Mr. Nichols showed us a wrist watch with Saddam's picture in the center.

The Jordanians to a man appear to have a high regard for Israel's power. Some even feel that Israel was in the war and directing it from behind the scenes. They have a great disdain for Britain, and look upon Mubarak and Assad as traitors to the Arab cause." They view Israel as an organ grinder leading a big gorilla (The United States)

wounded truck drivers shot by U.S. fighters (for transporting Scud parts to west Iraq). He has introduced more democracy. He attends services in the Mosques regularly — also well publicized — and feels quite secure.

Playing it safe, he continued to cater to the United States and to the American public with the message that he is for peace and is most willing and able to act as mediator. The fact that he is ignored for this vital role is a source of great disappointment to him. Mr. Nichols saw him on numerous occasions and was shocked at his gaunt appearance. He seems a shadow of his former self. His brother, Crown Prince Hassan, has appeared more often, particularly on TV and radio, in contacts with the 700 foreign correspon-

*Continued on next page*

POSTMARK ISRAEL

Israel policy sabotaged

Imagine if you can the following scenario:

The US Government is engaged in delicate diplomatic negotiations with the Soviet Union in matters involving arms control, mutual inspection of nuclear facilities, destruction of all chemical and biological weapons by both sides, and a number of other associated matters. Much depends on the outcome of these talks, and on mutual respect for integrity as well as recognition of the ability of the other power to stand by its obligations. President Bush and his cabinet are displaying a high degree of responsibility, bearing in mind not only world peace, but the long term security of the US even the Democratic Congress, putting aside partisanship for the time being, is backing his efforts loyally.

At this juncture, a very small group of maverick senators and congressmen who favor a policy quite different from that proposed by the US Government leave for Moscow to agitate there for their own particular program. They tell the Kremlin, and all in the USSR who are willing to listen, that Bush does not represent the American people and that only they, the so-called peace mission, have the real answer to the problems of America.

Leading Democrats disavow the mission, but the Congressional Peace Now delegation defends its right to explain its position anywhere and any time. Can you imagine the furore that would ensue in America?

Well, that is precisely a parallel to the recent visit to the US by the Israeli Peace Now delegation which, in opposition to its legal government, to its parliament and to the wishes of the majority of the population of Israel took upon themselves the task of sabotaging government policy

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## SOCIAL CALENDAR

By Jean Herschaft

M/ Inc. Magazine, a high-powered publication for the elite named the "Powerbrokers of New York City" recently with an introduction. "To be a power broker it's not just to have a power themselves; they influence those who do. Their weapons are ideas." A full "bio" of each was provided, herein listed sans bio, are familiar Jews listed; Leonard Lauder, cosmetics executive; Norman Teisler, the Mayor's right hand; Michael Milken, the Wall street wiz (now serving a prison sentence.); Arthur Ochs Sulzberger, New York Times, CEO; Sanford Weill, CEO, Primerica, parent of Smith-Barney Investments; S.I. Newhouse, chairman numerous publications; Ralph Lauren, CEO, Polo Corp.

Also Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, "The Rebbe," world leader, Lubavitch Movement; Jerry Nachman, editor-in-chief, New York Post; Joseph Lelyveld (son of rabbi Arthur Lelyveld) managing editor of the New York Times; Michael Eisner, chairman and CEO, Walt Disney Company; Lew Wasserman, King of Hollywood, CEO MCA, Inc.; Steven Spielberg, director, writer and producer; Marcia Weisman, art patron; Brandon Tartikoff, Chairman, NBC Entertainment Group David Laventhol, president Times Mirror Co.; publisher the Los Angeles Times, and Lawrence Tisch, CEO WCBS TV.

We share the grief of organizational USA in the loss of Sholom Comay, president of the American Jewish Committee whom we had seen at A,C's annual the early days in May and Donald Klein, the executive director of American ORT, who died a few short weeks following ORT's annual meeting at the Grand Hyatt and his visit to Israel shortly thereafter. Then too of Chaim Gross, world renowned artist and sculptor, a warm personality. He personally not only autographed a book of his art to us some ten years ago, but ink-sketches a full opening page that makes the large volume especially precious to us.

For good news: Rabbi Alvin Kass, East Midwood Jewish Center, Brooklyn spiritual leader and Chaplain/Shomrim and Mrs. Kass celebrated "an exciting spring," they told me. All three of their children marked significant academic milestones in their lives. Lewis Kass received his M.D. from SUNY (State U. of New York), Sarah Kass, an intern at the New York Times, achieved her Masters Degree from New York U. and the youngest Kass, Daniel was graduated Midwood High School.

On the musical front, The Winds of Freedom, a concert dedicated as a symphonic tribute to the human spirit inspired by the recent dramatic changes in the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe and elsewhere in the world was a triumph at Carnegie Hall, this month. Russian Jewish emigre Emilian Sichkin was the driving force in the world premiere and American concert debut of his symphonic New Age Suite. He was at the piano. Alex Ayzin was the producer. Both had met, in 1979 when their families left the Soviet Union with the help of the Joint Distribution Committee.

Meanwhile, a Jewish rock concert featuring the Safom, young performers from Canada and Boston, was a rare occasion of rock that was melodious with historic Jewish lyrics. Kudos to the New York Metropolitan Region of the United Synagogue of America who sponsored its appearance at Post College Theatre in Long Island for its U.S. Youth and friends. We were so enamored that we purchased a Safom Cassette for our tape recorder.

### Prisoner exchange is seen as likely

TEL AVIV — The exchange of prisoners that will free the six Americans, three Britons, two Germans and one Italian believed to be held in Lebanon by Hezbollah became a possibility as Israel indicated its willingness to participate. Israel's concern was over two Israelis captured by Hezbollah in the Israeli-held Southern Lebanon security zone, one of whom may have died of his injuries. In addition there are the bodies of

five Israelis captured in the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982 that Israel wants returned.

"There is room for a certain degree of optimism, said Israel's Moshe Arons. "We are willing to do a lot to achieve this. First we must get some sign of life" from the Israeli prisoners.

Israel holds Sheikh Abdel Karim Obeid, who it abducted in July 1989, plus a number of Lebanese prisoners.

## Kurdish Jews making it in Israel

By MOTI ZAKEN

Israeli tourism to Turkey has been growing in recent years. Many of the tourists are, in fact, native Kurdish Jews, and the focus of their trips is the eastern Kurdish districts. A number of the tourists are originally from Zakho, in Iraqi Kurdistan, an anonymous town until a month ago. Zakho is the town around which a security zone has been drawn to ensure safe haven for Kurdish refugees.

Most of the Kurdish Jews had immigrated to Israel, en masse, in 1950 and 1951. Since they cannot visit Iraqi Kurdistan, the only option left for them if they wish to visit Kurdistan is Turkey, with which Israel has diplomatic relations.

Kurdish Jews have been visiting Turkey in search for the Kurdish flavor of life they left behind when they immigrated to Israel. All these years since their immigration, they have been longing for Kurdistan; the land, the people, the scenes, the cultural climate in which they were raised. Kurdish Jews in Israel are highly attached to the land of their birth and some of them would pay a fortune if they would be permitted to visit their hometowns in Iraq.

In July 1988, a group of young Israeli dancers went on an official journey to West Germany and Italy. The teenagers were from the neighborhood of "Katamonim" (or "Gonenim") in Jerusalem. The significant point is that the youth group performed Kurdish dances rather than Israeli folk dances. This fact might be surprising, but only at first glance. "Gonenim," where these teenagers were raised, is a neighborhood where many Kurdish Jews live. They are the first generation born in Israel to Kurdish immigrant Jews.

The Neo-Aramaic language is still heard in the streets of these communities as if these people had not left Kurdistan, where it was the common spoken language among Jews. A stranger who passes through "Katamonim" will be surprised to see the elder Kurds walking on the streets with their traditional Kurdish costumes and "kafiyya," speaking Neo-Aramaic.

Most of the Kurds still live together in the same neighborhoods or agricultural communities where they compose, in fact, a majority of the population. The more homogeneous the community, the easier it is for the Kurds to preserve their unique traditions.

Those traditions include the Neo-Aramaic language, which was spoken by Jews and Christians in Kurdistan for countless generations.

The favorite music in these houses is usually "Eastern music" (Arabic, Greek and other Mediterranean melodies composed of Hebrew songs) rather than Western (European, American or even the mainstream Israeli) music. In every Kurdish house one can find dozens of tapes of Kurdish music.

Kurdish dances, performed to the sounds of "Dohla," Kurdish drum, and "Zurne," traditional Kurdish wind instrument, are an indispensable part of any Kurdish wedding or other cheerful occasion.

Almost all the Jews of Iraqi Kurdistan immigrated to Israel by 1951. Two main waves of immigration took place, one in the mid-thirties and the second in 1950-51. The Kurdish Jews from Turkey and Persia, on the other hand, were less restricted in their immigration to Israel. Thus they came more gradually. Today, approximately 100,000 Jews of Kurdish origin live in Israel.

The Kurdish Jews, as new immigrants from various Arab countries, were not spared from being stigmatized according to their land of birth. The Kurds were regarded as ignorant. They were a favorite subject of ethnic jokes. The phrase "Ana Kurdi," which literally means "I am a Kurd," symbolized them. It implies that Kurds speak in a straightforward manner, without hesitation. It also signifies someone who is simple minded and ignorant.

According to a survey taken in 1972, 30,000 Kurds lived in the capital. I estimate that now there are between 40,000 and 50,000 Kurds in Jerusalem alone.

In the beginning of the 20th century the diligent

### Krupnick

Continued on prev page dents and in interviews on U.S. and other foreign TV. It appears that Hassan may be grooming for a possible replacement of Hussein or a continuance of the Hashemite Kingdom.

Meanwhile his position on the fence is more secure than ever. How did Mr. Nichols manage with censorship in Jordan, as compared to that in Israel? "Not too bad," offered Mr. Nichols. "My problem in Jordan was censorship of movement which was moni-

and hardworking Kurds held various occupations (mainly in Jerusalem). Many earned their living in the quarries, as builders or in the pioneering work of road paving. Throughout the years many others found work as shopkeepers in "Mahane Yehuda," the biggest 'Shuq' of Jerusalem, and they own vegetable and fruit stores. Therefore, Neo-Aramaic is commonly spoken in the market between shopkeepers and Kurdish clients, either out of acquaintance or in order to gain a better price in bargaining.

Portage is another occupation Kurds have monopolized. Kurds now control the moving company business. "Havatazelet" street in downtown Jerusalem, which is known as the center for porters, is equally famous for its strong and large Kurdish figures.

The children of former Kurdish builders, following in their fathers' footsteps, have become contractors and managers of huge companies. Jerusalem is the home of at least a dozen Kurdish contractors whose wealth is legendary. The last two presidents of The Contractors Association in Israel were Kurds. Some of these wealthy contractors are involved in large projects overseas, in Africa, Europe and the United States. More than a dozen Kurdish families, from Jerusalem, have also established themselves in the hotel management business and own hotels in Jerusalem, Eilat, Tiberius and Netanya.

At the same time, many second generation Kurds have broken with their parents' business heritage by matriculating in the universities and other institutions of higher learning. Some of those educated Kurds hold high positions in governmental ministries and serve as high-ranking offi-

Continued on next page

tored very carefully. In Israel I had a free hand."

We had an excellent discussion and an exchange of views on the situation in Israel and its relationship to Jordan and the various options for peace.

Mr. Nichols had visited Project Renewal's sister city of Ekron to Toledo, Akron and Canton and was much inspired by its progress. He looks forward to many more visits to Israel.

Samson Krupnick may be reached at 22 Pinsky, Jerusalem 92228, Israel

# NAMES IN THE NEWS

## TV harmful: Minow

When Newton Minow, who headed the Federal Communications Commission, told a convention of TV broadcasters 30 years ago that their medium was a "vast wasteland" that didn't earn him many friends in the field. Now a professor at Northwestern University, he said in a speech prepared for a meeting at the Gannett Foundation Media Center that television has shown "little improvement." He added that it has become an impediment to political discourse. "In 1961, I worried that my children would not benefit much from television," he said. "But in 1991, I worry that my grandchildren will actually be harmed by it."

## Almost first in space

How the first man in space almost became a Jew was related in an article in *The Jewish Chronicle* of London which carried a photo of Col. Boris Volynov taken in 1969. He and Col. Yuri Gagarin were the two leading candidates for the first space launch in 1961, but the Russian general who made the final selection disqualified Volynov even though he was better prepared "because his mother is Jewish. The first Soviet man in space," he explained, "has to be of a workers' family," a euphemism for ethnic Russian. It wasn't until eight years later that Volynov was given command of the Soviet Spaceship Soyuz-5



Col. Boris Volynov

which carried out the first link-up between two spaceships.

## The Kollek tulip

A Dutch tulip has been named after Mayor Teddy Kollek, as he attended the Keukenhof, the great Dutch flower festival, and sprinkled champagne on the orange-bronze bloom now called the Kollek. He was invited to the occasion by the Christians for Israel organization and the Netherlands-Israel Committees, which is also Christian. Since 1981, protesting the move of the Dutch embassy from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv, the Committee has donated 100,000 bulbs annually to the Jerusalem municipality. To add to the occasion, the people of Volendam, the historic fishing town near Amsterdam, made up mostly of conservative Protestants, gave him a check for 500,000 Dutch pounds, to aid in the absorption of the Russian immigrants to Israel.

## Circumcision

*Continued from page 3*

Jews have substituted symbols for acts such as animal sacrifice and suggested a symbolic circumcision could suffice, and then said that a few rabbis who perform non-circumcision ceremonies prefer to remain anonymous.

Moss said she was unsure whether, if she had another son, she would agree to circumcision again.

## Postmark Israel

in the very midst of delicate negotiations. They came to tell America that the Israel government cannot be trusted and that only they, the rebels, have the answers to all the problems.

Most of Israel's newspapers, except the extreme left wing, condemned the trip, arguing that if there are differences of opinion within Israel, the place to fight these out is in the arena of Israeli public opinion.

Of course, those of the media in America who are not too friendly to Israel in any event, received the delegation with open arms. The sad part is that some American Jews fell into the trap as well, and afforded the visitors respect and a hearing and publicity — all of which they would have denied to the American Congressional representation to Moscow, described above. — C.A.

## 2 columns missing

The columns from Mary Hofmann and Arlene Peck were not received by Monday's deadline. The Memorial Day holiday may have caused a mailing delay.



## Israel's 'Arrow' gets funding

WASHINGTON — The Israel "Arrow", considered to be the world's first sophisticated defense against short-range ballistic missiles and which should be operational by 1995, has received an additional grant of at least \$200 million from the U.S. Under development for the past three years, Israel was granted \$158 million for the start up.

Although the U.S. is producing its own family of new anti-missile missiles, the U.S. will have access to technical data from Israeli testing. The first test of the Arrow at this point is scheduled for this summer.

## Soviet family to be deported

BINGHAMTON, N.Y. — The Jewish community here is signing petitions pleading for a Soviet Jewish family living in nearby Vestal for a year not to be deported. Nellie Nabokin and her sons, Sergy and Dima, came from Kishinev on a visitor's visa to be with her sister, Svetlana Budman, whom she had not seen for 10 years. Her plea to receive asylum in the U.S. has been denied by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, stating that she had not proved that she had been persecuted in the Soviet Union.

## Kurdish Jews

*Continued from prev. page*

cers in the police forces and the army. (Currently, there is one Kurdish major general, Itzhak Mordechai, who is the head of the Israeli Army Northern Command.)

The immigration of the Kurdish Jews to Israel has been, from many aspects, a turning point. Economically, it has been a story of success. The economic transformation of the Kurds in Israel from the 1950s to now was described by journalist Dani Rubinstain. "The tin huts in which they lived were burning from the heat of the summer... and they were freezing in the winter..." "Today some of the streets of Kasteel are more luxurious than those of 'Savion,'" a suburb of Tel-Aviv, perhaps the most expensive location in Israel.

## TASTE OF TRADITION

By Mildred L. Covert and Sylvia P. Gerson

## Wine in cooking

Wine has always played an important role in Jewish life. It begins with the "brit milah," when the Mohel gives the baby boy a taste of wine to comfort him. From very early childhood children are introduced to wine. They eagerly look to the kiddish on the Sabbath because they always get to taste delicious wine which is usually a sweet one. Every holiday is ushered in with wine and particularly during Seder children are encouraged to taste and sip the wine. On Passover not only do we drink wine but it is incumbent upon us to drink four cups of wine. So in Jewish homes, wine is not taboo, but on the contrary, we imbibe freely, albeit in moderation.

Noah was the first to plant the grape and definitely the first to savor what was eventually to become what we know as wine. So it was only natural that when Israel became a state, the Rothschilds started a winery there that would make a liqueur that would be indicative of Israel. The wine masters developed not only a perfect name, "Sabra," but a liqueur with the subtle flavor of tangy Jaffa oranges, oranges blended delicately with just a hint of the world's finest chocolate. Sabra has a zest, lively and smooth, all its own. This liqueur has a perfect balance of potency, good taste and bouquet one would expect from Israeli wine makers. The exceptional taste of Sabra is also pleasing in food as well as a drink.

Sabra's exotic internationally acclaimed flavor has been enjoyed in festive after-dinner drinks and delectable desserts. Today, imaginative cooks have used Sabra in every manner. This unique liqueur adds a distinctive taste to vegetables, fruits, poultry, noodles, meats, cakes and even fish dishes.

Be creative and use this unusually delicious and versatile Sabra. Add the following tasty recipes to your repertoire and enhance your reputation as a "Gourmet Cook." Sabra adds a distinctive tangy taste to fish, and you can't miss with this recipe.

### Fish broiled with sour cream

- 4 Red Snapper or White fish fillets
- 4 teaspoons Sabra liqueur
- 1/4 cup seasoned bread crumbs
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 1/2 teaspoon onion powder
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
- salt and pepper to taste
- seafood seasoning (optional)

Place fish fillets in a broiling pan, without rack, skin side down. Over each fillet, sprinkle 1 teaspoon Sabra. Sprinkle a layer of bread crumbs. Spread sour cream in a thin layer over crumbs, using a knife to spread. Sprinkle lightly with onion powder, garlic powder, salt, pepper and seafood seasoning. Broil for 15 to 20 minutes, or until browned and fish flakes easily. Serves 4

There's nothing every-day about this roast, especially when it's perked up with a touch of Sabra liqueur.

### Roast with a touch of Sabra

- 3 pounds of chuck beef roast
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 8-ounce can tomato sauce
- 1-1/2 cups water
- 1/2 cup apple juice
- 1/2 cup Sabra liqueur
- 1/2 cup raisins
- dash of seasoned salt (optional)

Brown meat in oil over medium heat. Add tomato sauce, water, apple juice, Sabra, raisins, and seasoned salt. Cover and simmer 2-1/2 to 3 hours, or until tender. Serves 6.

Sabra adds zest to this vegetable.

### Orange carrots with a glaze

- 1-1/2 pounds small carrots, peeled
- 1/2 cup water
- 2 tablespoons pareve margarine
- 1 teaspoon salt (optional)
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 2 oranges, peeled and sectioned
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch

*Continued on next page*

## An American couple

Continued from page 9

Charlotte's diary reveals that the war came to Israel in the early hours of January 17. "At 2:50 a.m. the telephone rang and a voice declared, 'Charlotte, the war has started. Take out your gas mask; turn on the radio!' My hands and legs shook and I felt some nausea but I proceed to fill the bucket with water and bleach (in case of mustard gas) and stuffed wet towels under the door to the corridor. We turned on the radio and listened intently. Although the Hebrew was beyond us, it was soothing.

When the all clear was sounded we began frantic efforts to telephone our family in the U.S. realizing that they couldn't get to us during the alert. We learned that our grandson, age 11, was particularly distraught, asking, "Will we ever see Grandma and Grandpa again?" I'm happy and proud to say whatever their concern they never raised the question of our return and understood that we were not going to be pushed out of Israel by Saddam Hussein.

"Spent the evening of January 18 at our son's, returning to our apartment about midnight. It was 2 a.m. when the phone awakened us and a voice shouted 'Don't you have your mask on? The siren sounded 20 minutes ago!' Shaking, we put on our masks. It wasn't comfortable in the mask, particularly around the chin, but we were able to converse and telephoning every 15 minutes was reassuring."

"We called home and spoke to our children and grandchildren. They had more information about the Scuds than we did. Our grandchildren sounded very excited, very interested and asked a lot of ques-

tions. The conversation lasted 40 minutes; will we have a telephone bill!

Suddenly we heard three loud, heavy booms, not far away. Later we learned that two neighborhoods in south Tel Aviv, where our hotel was located, were hit and that eight missiles in all had been launched. A lot of property damage, 15 people injured but, fortunately, no deaths.

"We were exhausted but I couldn't fall asleep; I was having a panic attack. It was dawn so I did some exercises, took a shower and walked to the local grocery store to buy more food. People were grim; not as talkative as they usually are in this neighborhood store.

"Telephoned many Israelis and they tried to reassure me. They seemed to think we were doing a very good and brave thing by staying in Israel at this time.

"The 19th we returned to our hotel by 8:45 p.m. agreeing that we would take turns sleeping (2 hour shifts) so we would avoid sleeping through the siren. No sooner had Myron laid down than I heard the alarm. On with the masks. It was a false alarm. A short time later, the sirens sounded. Another false alarm; a Russian satellite falling to earth."

"The following morning we had the first daytime alert, at 7:30 a.m., a long one; we wore our masks for 45 minutes. What a relief to remove the masks. Listen to the World Service of the British Broadcasting every hour for news and commentary. Israeli radio and TV now announcing alerts and all clear in seven languages, including English. Hear that U.S. has airlifted Patriot missile batteries to Israel. BBC says this was done to keep Israel out of the war.

"Leah, who owns our hotel, tells us that she will be housing in 15 of her vacant suites families who have been bombed out. Myron making arrangements to see an Israeli physician so as to get renewal of his medications should we be unable to leave on the 21st. Can't get through to Tower Airlines to reconfirm our flight. Marc puts the number on his automatic re-dialling mechanism. Suddenly, a human voice at the Tower Airline office. Yes, they have our name on the roster. Usually the flights depart for the US at night. Because of the missile attacks they'll depart in the afternoon. When? They aren't announcing departure times; must keep it from the enemy.

"Be at the airport by noon, check in, and we'll leave when the plane is full," we are told. We don't sleep much the last

## Pilchik

Continued from page 6

poets: Solomon ibn Gabirol and, as though to add to the treasure of Hebrew culture, Bialik translated Cervantes' "Don Quixote," and Schiller's "Wilhelm Tell."

In a superb volume titled, "The Modern Hebrew Poem," published by Schocken Books in 1966, Stanley Burnshaw, the fine poet T. Carmi, and my friend, professor, Ezra Spicehandler, perform a great service for Hebrew Poetry and Jewish Culture. They give us Bialik's original Hebrew text, excellent translations into English, and an illuminating introduction to Hebrew Poetry revived.

"Yes, I bid you, birdling, welcome/Sing your song again."

Dr. Ely Pilchik may be reached at 5 Cherrywood Circle, West Orange, NJ 07052

night in Israeli even though the sirens are silent for a change. We get up early, the sky is overcast; they predict rain. We begin to pack."

"We leave \$50 with Leah to buy clothing and toys for the children who have been taken in to the hotel after the bombings. Hugs, "Throat" and we drive off to Ben Gurion Airport. It begins to drizzle as we get on the highway outside Tel Aviv. We begin to crawl. An accident? People fleeing to Jerusalem to avoid the missiles? We are anxious to get to the airport.

"We note the large mobile anti-aircraft guns on every

## Luria

Continued from page 10

avoidable for him, she rented a bit. She began to serve breakfast specials and, because he was such a steady customer, to let him have an occasional meal on the house.

When Harry is really strapped these days, Carrie cannot suppress her compassion. "Pay what you can," she tells him. Then realizing that sentimentality could spoil everything, she catches herself in time and adds, "But you must pay something." She assures him that his financial burden

## Silver

Continued from page 10

Charlotte, N.C. 28226. How would you say "surgical strike" in Yiddish? Well, a surgeon is a *chirurg*, and strike could be *klop*, but that's not strong enough. So better say *zetz*. So a surgical strike is a *chirurgiger zetz*. And how in mame lashon would you say "paper

## Gerson and Covert

Continued from prev. page

- 1/2 cup orange juice
- 1/4 cup honey
- 1/2 cup Sabra liqueur
- 1/2 cup sliced almonds

In a saucepan, place carrots, water, pareve margarine, salt and sugar; cover and cook until tender. Remove cover and boil rapidly until moisture is evaporated, shaking pan gently to avoid scorching. Place carrots and orange sections in a greased 1-1/2 quart casserole. In a small saucepan, blend cornstarch, orange juice and honey. Cook over low heat, stirring constantly, until smooth and thickened. Remove from heat, stir in Sabra and pour into carrot mixture. Sprinkle with almonds. Bake, uncovered, in a 350-degree oven for 30 minutes or until thoroughly heated. Serve hot. Serves 4 to 6.

When prepared with Sabra liqueur, this can be a salad or dessert.

### Sabra Mold

- 1 package Kosher orange gelatin
- 1 cup boiling water
- 1/4 cup Sabra liqueur
- 1/4 cup sour cream
- 1 cup seedless grapes

Dissolve gelatin in the boiling water. Then combine Sabra and sour cream. Stir into gelatin. Pour into a 3-cup mold. Carefully drop grapes evenly around mold, distributing grapes evenly. Chill until firm. Unmold. Serves 4 to 6.

Kosher Klues: All the above recipes can be made ahead of time. Sabra poured on the rocks is a "machaya." Sabra added to coffee is a great picker-upper.

overpass. People are opening their car windows and pointing to the right. There they are, in a huge field beside the highway, the Patriot missiles, that have been guarding Tel Aviv!

"We promise Marc no crying when we ascend to the gate area. Hugs and kisses and the escalator separates us. We manage smiles but tears are streaming down his face. May God bless him and sustain the people of Israel."

Editor's note: For many years wrote a valuable weekly column for us on synagogue management when that was a relatively new field.

will ease with time. She may institute a flat rate for the year or, perhaps, one free day (or night) a week.

The other day Harry was emboldened to ask her what she was doing with all the money she was earning. "I'm saving it for the day you get your Medicare card," she confided. "Then, I will start paying you."

This made Harry so happy that he did five pirouettes before collapsing.

Yaacov Luria may be reached at 3364 Sixth Ave., Apt. 112, San Diego, CA 92103

shredder?" In the quarterly, Oifn Shvel (On the Threshold), put out by the League for Yiddish, there are several suggestions, viz. *tzepitzler* "papeer-masheen tzeshneider, and papeer pitzler.

Rabbi Sam Silver may be reached at Temple Sinai, 2475 W. Atlantic Ave.,

## MYSTERY PERSON

Do you know who's who?

The Mystery Person graduated high school at the age of 15.

The winner of the Post and Opinion Mystery Person will receive a two-month extension of their subscription. Responses must be made by mail.

# LETTERS

**FREEDOM OF THE PRESS** — *The Post and Opinion encourages readers to send letters. All letters to the editor should be addressed to The Jewish Post and Opinion, P.O. Box 449097, Indianapolis, IN 46202. All letters should be typewritten and may be edited for publication. Unsigned letters will not be considered, but signatures may be withheld upon request.*

## Sturm letter had dual-loyalty fix

Dear Editor,

In Herman M. Sturm's letter to the editor of *The P-O* May 15, he demonstrates a major flaw in his comprehension of the Jonathan Pollard case. His letter states "Pollard, a confessed and well-paid spy received a fair trial and got a life sentence."

How much of Mr. Sturm's reasoning is influenced by this incorrect statement and how much is influenced by dual loyalty paranoia?

Jonathan Pollard never went to trial. He was guilty of providing Israel with classified information. He and his attorney at the time of his apprehension were guilty of poor judgment in not requesting a jury trial. His agreement to forgo a jury trial was based upon his understanding that his wife would receive adequate medical attention while she was incarcerated and that their sentences would be proportionate to their perception of the severity of the crime.

He acknowledged his guilt and cooperated with the Justice Department incorrectly assuming his sentence and the sentence of his wife would be much less severe than was later declared. Jonathan Pollard assumed the sentence would be mitigated by the fact the Israel was an important defense partner of the US, not an adversary, and rightly or wrongly he did not believe his action would in any way adversely impact on the security of the US. Moreover it served the interest of the US to avoid a trial. A trial may have required an explanation of why information critical to Israel's security was not provided through normal channels to their defense partner. It may also have touched on critical intelligence matters.

Jonathan Pollard made a grievous error. He should not have violated the trust of his very sensitive position. He may indeed have been naive and had fantasies of being a master spy. He was manipulated by some of the world's most skillful and ruthless intelligence agents. The compensation he received through these agents has been reported as relatively modest when compared to the very substantial payments made

to American service men who were found guilty of providing classified information to the Soviet Union. At the time the Soviet Union was considered our number one adversary.

When Pollard initiated his contacts with Israeli agents he did not request payments, his actions were presumably motivated by his sincere belief that Israel should have the information for their security and also motivated by an immature dream that he could become a world class intelligence agent. He was ill-equipped to deal with the real professionals in the world of spies who abandoned him when he was discovered.

Despite his poor judgment on all counts, his sentence of life imprisonment was far too severe. The manner in which he was sentenced makes it highly questionable whether he would be paroled in 1997 as conjectured in Mr. Sturm's letter. The prosecutor stated at the time of sentencing "It is likely he will never see the light of day again."

This comment was reinforced by a statement attributed to Caspar Weinberger that if it were possible he would like to see Pollard executed.

The severity of the sentence was acknowledged by the prosecutor to be influenced by the secret letter that Caspar Weinberger sent to the judge. The contents of this letter have still not been revealed to Pollard's attorney.

I do not know on what grounds Mr. Sturm questions the finding of the American Section of the World Jewish Congress. He discredits the vote taken by 40 US Jewish groups to support commutation of Jonathan Pollard's life sentence. He states that he does not agree with their democratically reached decision.

The suggestion of Mr. Sturm that some of the Jewish organizations place newspaper ads advocating their lack of support for actions advocating the release of Jonathan Pollard is the height of dual loyalty paranoia.

The pending appeal to overturn the sentencing of Jonathan Pollard may lead to a full trial and evaluation of his sentence. This is the proper course. If indeed a trial reveals that he provided information to Israel that was conclusively harmful to the US than he should be sentenced accordingly. As of this

moment I do not recall reading anywhere that any of the information he provided to Israel has been harmful to the US. Nor has any information come to light that information he provided to Israel found itself into the hands of an enemy of our country.

On the other hand if the Justice Department concludes information such as that contained in Mr. Weinberger's letter to the judge is too sensitive to reveal and therefore cannot be revealed in a trial, than Jonathan Pollard should not be treated differently that Oliver North, Robert McFarlane or John Poindexter. Much of the testimony against them was allegedly excluded because it was considered too sensitive for the security of the US. Not one of them spent a single day in prison. Although they too broke the law and may indeed have compromised security matters, they acted out of their own conscience as to what they thought was best for our country.

Unless the information provided to Israel by Pollard can be proven to be harmful to the US then in my judgment the six years he has spent in the most harsh prison facility in the US (including eight months in a criminally insane facility) seems like punishment enough. He never belonged in the psychiatric ward and it was only through the intervention of a Congressman that this practice was stopped.

In summary, Jonathan Pollard was wrong and deserved to be punished. Our Judicial system should function in a manner to provide proportionate justice. At this moment it does not appear that proportionate justice has been administered and I applaud the World Jewish Congress for their position.  
Harold M. Miller  
415 Woodmere Dr.  
Indianapolis, 46260

## Why didn't he wed a nice Jewish girl?

Dear editor,

The anecdote by Rabbi Yaakov Haber that you printed in your Editor's Chair on May 15 has all the makings of an urban legend.

I suggest that you check the delightful short story written by Rufus Lears several decades ago called

"Marvin Marries a Shikse."

I'll summarize, but I won't do justice to Lears's prose: Marvin calls his mother from college to announce that he is engaged to a non-Jewish girl, but "Don't worry. She's studying with the Hillel rabbi to convert to Judaism." She converts, after which she won't eat in her mother-in-law's home because it isn't kosher. Says the mother-in-law in the punch line, "Why couldn't Marvin have married a nice Jewish girl?"

Rabbi Richard E. Dreyer  
2411 Shadow Cliff  
San Antonio, TX 78232

## Hashoa observed but not celebrated

Dear editor,

I take difference to your choice of the word "celebration" of Yom HaShoa, describing the commemoration of Yom HaShoa in Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation — Editor's Chair Column (P-O, May 8, '91).

As a Holocaust survivor, it is hard for me to understand how one "celebrates" the death of 6 million Jewish victims of the Holocaust.

My choice of the word would be "observance," as Mr. Samuel Krupnick did (same issue) or as most news releases refer to "commemoration" of Yom HaShoa or "remembrance" of Yom HaShoa.

Perhaps you will agree with me that most of us "celebrate" happy occasions, e.g. bar or bat mitzvahs, weddings, anniversaries, birthdays, etc., but not *yahrzeits*.

Siegmund Izakson  
6 Gessner Road  
Houston, TX 77024

Editor's note: We stand corrected. Sorry.

## P-O said opposes territory housing

Dear editor,

Some of us, Zionists and anti-Zionists, would strongly disagree with your views, as expressed in the May 8 issue in your editorial titled "A Voice for U.S. Jews."

You therein support the "consensus view" of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council (NACRAC) to the effect that the State of Israel should be prevented from erecting housing for immigrant Soviet Jews in Samaria, Judea and Gaza

(i.e. the West Bank and Gaza).

It is quite certainly the business of the sovereign government of the Republic of Israel to determine where and how enormous numbers of Soviet Jewish immigrants are to be settled. It is the government of the Republic of Israel, and quite certainly not NACRAC, which has got to find ways and means of establishing these immigrants insofar as homes and employment are concerned.

Neither is it NACRAC's function to act as a sort of "running dog" to the United States Department of State, merely because the secretary of state is opposed to the settlement of immigrant Soviet Jews in Samaria and Judea and Gaza. Thankfully, American citizens are still free to voice disagreement with our Department of State whenever we choose to do so.

As is well known, the undesigned is among those Reform Jews who militantly are opposed to the intrusion of Israeli nationalism and Israeli musical "culture" as well as Hebrew into our temples, synagogues and rabbinical seminaries.

When, as is pitifully the case, the Hebrew Union College brainwashes its seminarians and future Reform rabbis with kibbutz and Israeli nightclub or bordello "music" that passes for contemporary Reform liturgical art, every single communicant of Reform Judaism is called upon to protest these outrages.

When, however, the government of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, for good and sufficient reason, regards the settlement of Soviet Jewish immigrants in Samaria/Judea/Gaza as necessary and beneficial, it is with much insolence that NACRAC and similar American-Jewish organizations howl like injured wolves, injecting themselves into Israeli governmental policy and decision making.

It is, furthermore, no secret that ARZA (the American Reform Zionists) consistently supports Shimon Peres and his Labor Party against Shamir's Likud; there is sufficient evidence available so as to substantiate such "Progressive" (Reform) Judaism in the Republic of Israel. This "Progressive" Judaism advocates Zionist nationalism, glatt kosher foods, wearing tefillin (amulets), refusing rabbinical officiation at

Continued on next page  
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## Intermarriages

"What are we rabbi to do? We simply cannot turn away nearly half the Jews who come to us in hope of getting married. The truth is that marriage is one of the few times in life when Jews still turn to rabbis and when a rabbi has a chance of making a significant impact on the life of the young couple at a crucial moment."

Rabbi Green then presented his own proposal. It called for the couple planning intermarriage to agree to attend a 16-week course named "Introduction to Judaism".

After eight sessions, the rabbi would meet with the couple to discuss the possibility of conversion. If agreement to convert is acceptable, the couple would continue for the other eight sessions and Rabbi Green would officiate at the conversion, hopefully through a communal beth din, and then at the marriage.

Continuing, he wrote, "Should you decide, at this point, that you are not interested in conversion, I would like to discuss the reasons with you. If I am satisfied that the non-Jewish partner would be truly welcoming of Judaism in the home and supportive of Jewish education for children, I will happily attend your

### French Open tough for leading Jews

PARIS — All three Jewish entrants in the French Open fell in the first round, most importantly Brad Gilbert, seeded 16, but including Gilad Bloom of Israel and Jim Grabb of Tucson. Unseeded Cedric Pioline of France ousted Gilbert by the

civil wedding ceremony as a guest. After the conclusion of the ceremony, I will be glad to offer words of welcome from the Jewish community.

"You must understand that this is not a Jewish wedding ceremony, and I will not be able to attend if elements are introduced into the wedding to make it appear as though it were such a ceremony. But I have great respect for the seriousness with which you have studied Judaism and the openness with which you approach the question. It is in recognition of these that I feel it appropriate for me to offer such a public greeting."

Rabbi Green then outlined what he believes are the "several advantages to such an approach. In it, Judaism will be taught without a 'gun' held to the head of the prospective convert. Such an open-ended approach, allowing for and respecting freedom of choice, will serve to remove pressure and to make the possibility of conversion more attractive."

He also stated that "When the non-Jewish spouse is deeply committed to another faith and seeks to raise children in that faith, the rabbi should actively try to discourage the marriage."

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## SPORTS SCENE

# The struggle of pitcher Alan Sontag

By **SHEL WALLMAN**

It started out like Gangbusters for pitcher Alan Sontag. After signing with the Minnesota Twins, he pitched for Kenosha (MWL)



in 1985, went 15-11 with a 2.33 ERA and led the minor leagues with 213 strikeouts. But, then, pitching for Orlando (SL) in 1986, he injured his shoulder, struggled through the season, and finished 9-12 with a 4.84 ERA.

In 1987, the Long Island native was moved to the bullpen where he wore out his sore shoulder. Arthroscopic surgery followed in August, but it failed to take and after pitching just three innings in 1988, he was released by the Twins organization. Not ready to call it quits, Alan signed with the Cardinals and pitched for Arkansas (TL) going 3-6 with a 3.45 ERA. But the Cardinals released him after spring training in 1989, and Alan returned to Long Island where he took a job tending bar.

Last fall, he saw some old baseball friends on TV who had just been brought up to the big leagues. Motivated by their success, Alan contacted a number of scouts, threw some pitches and, as a result, was signed by the Angels. Now 27, Alan is back in baseball, pitching for Palm Springs (CL) and doing well, but it's a long season and the shoulder remains a question mark.

**In basketball**  
Late word from Swarthmore College, winner of its first MAC-SE conference crown in 41 years, indicates that Mike Greenstone, a 6:2 senior (F) from Chicago, had an outstanding season. Mike scored 14.6 ppg (#2) on 42% shooting, 78% from the foul line, with 6.9 rebounds, while leading the Garnet with 53.134 three-point attempts for 40%. He was named All-Conference, 1st-team, and to the MAC Academic Honor Roll. "Basketball is like a real passion," said Greenstone. "Doing well in my law boards affects the rest of my life, but in the short term,

at least, the winning at basketball makes me much happier."

From the UC at Davis (20-8) comes equally late word regarding Matt Cordova, a 6:3 senior (F) from Lake Oswego, Or. If Matt were a baseball player, he'd play all nine positions. Named All-NACAC, 2nd team, and an Academic All-America candidate, Matt leaves UC Davis as the only Aggie ever to make the school's all-time Top 10 in scoring (10th), rebounding (10th), assists (4th) and steals (2nd). His stats read 11.3 ppg (#4) on 50% shooting, 81% from the stripe, with 6.5 boards (#1), 3.4 assists (#2) and 43 steals (#2).

**In memoriam**  
The Jewish sports world has lost a number of its members over the past two months.

Farewell to Jack "Kid" Berg, 81, The Whitechapel Whirlwind, born Judah Bergman in London. A non-stop puncher, Berg was the world junior welterweight boxing champion 1930-31. He beat Mushy Callahan for the crown, handed Kid Chocolate his first defeat and then lost his title to Tony Canzoneri. After serving in the RAF during WW II, Berg attempted a comeback but quit in 1945 with 162 wins, 26 losses and 9 draws.

An especially sad goodbye to Craig Solomon of Miami Beach who died at age 34 of liver cancer. In his junior year at Southwestern College in Memphis, Craig QB'ed his team to the NCAA semi-finals while posting stats that made him the #2 QB in Division III. He had passed for 2401 yds

with 29 TD's and only 12 interceptions. After playing briefly in Canada (CFL), Craig returned to Miami Beach and began a career in teaching.

Adieu to Davy Day, 78, a Chicago Golden Gloves Champion who went on to fight for two professional crowns. In 1939, Davey was beaten by Henry Armstrong in his bid for the world welterweight title, and in 1940 he lost to Sammy Angott in a world lightweight title try. Day retired in 1941 with only six losses in 89 pro bouts, winning 40 by KO.

So long to Morris "Chuck" Klein, 68, who played on the U of Miami offensive line, was their MVP in 1943 and was inducted into the Hurricanes' Hall of Fame in 1974. "He was quick, he was fast and he was tough," recalled his former coach Walt Kichefski. "He was a hell of a fine athlete." Klein remained close to football and coached the Toronto Argonauts of the CFL.

Finally, farewell to Irving "Icky" Orenstein, 72, an All-Southern HB at small college power Southwestern U in the late 1930's.

**For the records**  
Corey Pavin parred the 2nd hole of a sudden death playoff to win the Atlanta Classic, his ninth tour victory and earn \$180,000. Pavin now leads the 1991 tour in earnings with \$634,092. Amy Alcott is #7 in earnings on the 1991 LGPA with \$123,313.

Help write the Sports Scene. Send items of interest to Shel Wallman at 70 West 95 Street, Apt. 27 G, New York, N.Y. 10025.

### P-O said opposes territory housing

Continued from prev. page  
mixed religion marriage ceremonies and similar Orthodox-religious principles. This "Progressive" Judaism as well opposes the use of organ music in its temples: This is Reform Judaism? Prof. Klaus J. Hermann Sir George Williams Campus 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West Montreal, Quebec H3G 1M8

Editor's note: Prof. Hermann is in error. The entire tenor of the editorial was in

connection with the emergence of NACRAC as the voice of the Jewish community. That editorial went into some depth on the way in which the NACRAC position was arrived at, and follows along the line of previous editorials on the emergence of the Council of Jewish Federations, the parent of NACRAC, as the principal agency of the Jewish community and the decline of the national Jewish organizations as a concomitant development.

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