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 Wilmington, DE 19801

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Toni Young, JFD President, presents Steven A. Dombchik with a print of Synagogues from around the world as a token of the community's appreciation for his two years of dedicated service as JFD's President.

## Smooth Transition at JFD Annual Meeting Bodes Well for Future Challenges

By DAN WEINTRAUB  
 Editor of The Jewish Voice

Israeli food was the taste, and Congregation Beth Shalom was the place, for The Jewish Federation of Delaware 59th Annual Meeting on May 20. It was a time for the Delaware Jewish Community to assess its accomplishments and celebrate its future. Steve Dombchik, completing his tenure as JFD President, passed the torch to Toni Young, and Judy Wortman was welcomed as the JFD Executive Vice President. Highlights of the evening included a presentation by Joe Yucht on the recent United Jewish Appeal Hineni Mission, the elections of officers and awards to special members of the community.

Suzanne Grant opened the JFD Annual Meeting with the remark "tonight is indeed a celebration of our past and our future." She added, "we have moved forward during an

### Reform Jew Alarmed by Religious Rights Creeping Success

By RICHARD COHEN

NASHVILLE — The zealotry and rising strength of the religious Right should serve as a "wake-up call" for moderates of all persuasions to join forces in addressing the real concerns of ordinary Americans, a spokesman for Reform Judaism has warned.

Rabbi Eric Yoffie, vice president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, told members of the UAHC national board of trustees that the efforts of Right-wing religious groups to inject extremism and intolerance into politics, education and other aspects of society were "especially dangerous because they are exploiting real and understandable fears."

"The time has come for the forces of moderation and tolerance to muster some passion on behalf of our own mission, which is not to purify a country to but to unite a people."

The UAHC leader said that "high stakes are involved in the struggle. This is a fight," he said, "for the soul of America and also for the security of the Jewish community — a battle for basic liberties and separation of church and state, a struggle to defend the Bill of Rights and the protections it offers to every citizen."

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extremely challenging year. We're looking forward to our new year with a new administration." As Toni Young begins her term as JFD President and Judy Wortman starts as Executive Vice-President of JFD, optimism abounds.

“The recurring major themes of the event were Israel and Jewish survival”

Dombchik called the recent hiring of Wortman "a wise decision" resulting from "a good selection process." Dombchik singled out the work of Toni Young's Priorities Committee as "the lead process, emerging from the Vision process, to discern the community agenda and prioritize communal needs."

Holding the meeting in a synagogue was intended to stress the need for increased cooperation between Federation and the syna-

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## Jeffries Wins Court Battle in Effort to Get Reinstated

By JOSEPH POLAKOFF

WASHINGTON (PNR) — City University of New York is being urged by the Anti-Defamation League to seek reversal in the U.S. appellate courts of a federal jury's verdict in New York May 11 that the school had violated an African-American professor's right of freedom of speech in removing him as chairman of its Black studies department.

Removal of Dr. Leonard Jeffries from the post followed his speech in July 1991 on multicultural curricula at the Empire State Black Arts and Cultural Festival in which he talked about a "systematic, unrelenting" attack against him and other Black scholars. "Russian Jewry had a particular control over the movies," he said, "and their financial partners, the Mafia, put together a financial system of destruction of black people." He also said in the speech that Jews had helped to finance the slave trade.

The verdict by the jury, which included five

blacks, left to Judge Kenneth Conboy of the U.S. District Court in Manhattan to decide whether Jeffries should be reinstated. University trustees had removed Jeffries as chairman because he was a poor administrator but his lawyers claimed his removal resulted from his festival speech. The removal did not affect his tenure as a professor and he continues to teach at the university where he has been since 1972.

"Disturbed" by the jury's verdict "in light of the well-documented public record" of Jeffries' "racism and anti-Semitism," the ADL said in a statement that the University should "review the trial record and consider an appeal of the court decision."

"As with any other university teacher," the ADL statement said, "Professor Jeffries enjoys the full protection of academic freedom and constitutional guarantee of free speech. However, his outrageous attacks against Jews and

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## David S. Wyman Deplores the Abandonment of the Jews

By CELIA GANS

Special to The Jewish Voice

After 27 years of studying the Holocaust, including 10 years of research and four years of writing *Abandonment of the Jews: America and the Holocaust 1941-45*, scholar, historian and author David S. Wyman can state with certainty that the American State Department and the British Government did not want to rescue the Jews of Europe. This is not interpretation, Wyman told his approximately 150 listeners on Sunday evening, May 23rd, at Beth Shalom Synagogue, this is fact.

Document after document from files of the U.S. State Department, the U.S. Treasury Department, the Congressional Record and

the White House evidence a policy of fear and avoidance of rescue of the Jews of Europe. Why? asks Professor Wyman. Because neither the British nor American governments had a place for tens of thousands of European Jews.

The British didn't want to admit Jewish refugees to Palestine, they wanted to placate the Arabs. The Americans didn't want to admit the refugees: American anti-Semitism, commented Wyman, peaked in 1943-44, with about 40% of Congress reflecting the bigotry of their constituents. Our anti-Semitic State Department's policy toward Jewish immigration was obstruction and opposition: from 1942 to mid-1945, there were 210,000 places for European refugees under then-current immigration quotas. We admitted 21,000. The department also slowed the flow of private rescue funds into Europe.

In January, 1944, after 14 lost months of callousness and inhumanity, the American government acted: it established the War Refugee Board, which saved 200,000 Jews and 20,000 non-Jews in 1944-45.

Voices — and private funds — were raised to protest our hands-off stance, notes Wyman, but he could find no Protestant or Catholic leader who took a clear stand against govern-

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Photographer Jane Levine captures the juxtaposition of a giant purse and an older American. Read about Jane Levine on page 10.

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in The JEWISH VOICE

## Power Struggle by Schneerson's Inner Circle Highlights Leadership Vacuum

By DEBRA NUSSBAUM COHEN

NEW YORK, May 18 (JTA) — As the Lubavitcher rebbe withdrew from public view during a setback in his recovery from a major stroke, a power struggle was taking place among his most trusted lieutenants.

Several of his closest aides who worked for their beloved leader for decades, were fighting over control of the most important jewels in the Lubavitch crown of organizations.

It is likely to be the first of many battles for control over the engines that run the Chabad machine, as the movement begins to grapple with the realities of an incapacitated leader and a lack of clear succession.

The fight is about control over the Lubavitch empire and, ultimately, about directing the future course of the movement.

Because the 91-year-old rebbe has no heir apparent, the movement's future will likely be decided by those who control power in the various parts of the Lubavitch organization.

The current tension among members of the Lubavitch inner circle is "a barometer of the realization that they're headed into a period of a vacuum at the top, where the key power will be the people who run the bureaucratic organization," said Samuel Heilman, author of "Defenders of the Faith," a book about fervently Orthodox Jews.

"Whoever is running the bureaucracy will be that much more important in the absence of a charismatic leader," added Heilman, who is a sociologist at the City University of New York.

This most recent power struggle began following the death last month of the man who had run the central Lubavitch organizations for 40 years, Rabbi Chaim Mordechai Isaac Hodakov.

The vacuum left by his death and the struggle that ensued may have portent for the future.

Hodakov, who died at the age of 91, came with the previous rebbe to America from Riga, Latvia. He led every major Lubavitch organization, including the rebbe's secretariat, which is comprised of Schneerson's five closest aides.

The other key groups he ran include Merkos L'Inyonei Chinuch, which directs Lubavitch's educational activities and its network of thousands of emissaries worldwide; Agudas Hassidei Chabad, which represents policy set by Lubavitch leaders; Machne Israel, the movement's social service and youth-program arm; and Kehot Publication Society.

It did not take long after he died for the in-fighting to begin over who would control the finances and management of these supra-organizations, which each serve as umbrella groups for dozens more.

Another member of the secretariat — Rabbi Nissan Mindel — has shared responsibility with Hodakov for running the organizations.

But for the last several years Rabbi Yehuda Krinsky, who is in his 50s, has taken over day-to-day responsibilities for the organizations from Mindel, who is now in his early 80s, said a Lubavitch insider.

Three of the rebbe's five secretaries — Rabbis Sholom Menachem, Mendel Simpson, Yehuda Leib Groner and Binyomin Klein, are at odds with Krinsky over who is to control the organizations.

Krinsky has long been the spokesman for Lubavitch. And behind the scenes, Krinsky has been the most powerful member of the inner circle of the secretariat.

With Hodakov's passing and Mindel's decreased activity, Krinsky has been left responsible for the two nearly all-encompassing umbrella organizations of Lubavitch: Merkos L'Inyonei Chinuch and Agudas Hassidei Chabad.

"Ultimately Rabbi Krinsky is in charge of the money angle" too, said the Lubavitch insider, referring to disbursing the donations sent to Lubavitch.

So to Krinsky it apparently seemed natural that he would inherit the responsibilities earlier handled by Hodakov.

But the troika of Groner, Klein and Simpson do not agree. Instead, they believe that financial control and authority should be shared among all of the secretaries.

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## NATIONAL • INTERNATIONAL

### Flow of Jews Leaving Syria Dries Up Despite Assad's Countless Pledges

NEW YORK — President Hafez el-Assad of Syria has broken his promises to the United States that he would permit Syrian Jews to leave the country without restriction, a spokesman for Jewish organizations charged Thursday, May 13.

The statement was issued by Seymour D. Reich, chairman of the National Task Force on Syrian Jewry, convened by the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations with the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council.

"President George Bush and Secretary of State James Baker were both given assurances by President Assad last year — and Secretary Christopher this year — that Jews would be permitted to travel from Syria and that they would not have to leave family members behind as hostages in order to receive exit permits, Mr. Reich said.

"Initially, those pledges were honored, and about 2,600 of Syria's 4,000 Jews were permitted to depart freely. Then — suddenly and without warning — the movement was halted; from Oct. 20 last year to

Jan. 16 of 1993 not a single Syrian Jew was allowed to leave the country.

"Secretary Christopher took up the matter in his meeting with President Assad in February, expressing his concern at Syria's failure to fulfill its commitments and pointing out that the United States intended to hold Syria to them. In response, the Syrian leader again pledged that Jews would receive permission to travel outside the country without restriction.

"But that has not happened. In the past three months, only a handful of Jews have received permission to depart — perhaps two or three persons a week. And those who do must leave one or more family members behind.

"The separation of families is especially painful to those Jews who leave the country. It also has an inhibiting effect on the 1,400 Jews still living in Syria. I recently spoke with members of the Syrian Jewish community in Brooklyn. They expressed deep anguish over the fate of their family members still in Syria, those who wish to leave and those

who have been left behind as hostages. They pray each day for their well-being."

Mr. Reich concluded: "Syria has a two-fold obligation that it has thus far failed to meet.

"The first is Syria's fundamental responsibility, as a member of the family of nations, to permit departures on human rights grounds. The right to leave one's country is a basic human right. Syria violates that right by denying its Jewish citizens permission to travel abroad. In protest against Syria's failure to meet its human rights obligations, I would point out, the European Parliament recently rejected a \$50 million aid package for Syria.

"The second obligation is Syria's pledge to the Bush and Clinton Administrations. I cannot believe that Syria truly intends to ignore this commitment and thus defy our country.

"There is another obligation as well, a humanitarian one: to end the separation of husbands and wives, parents and children, brothers and sisters, whom the Syrians have cruelly kept apart."

### Religious Freedom Restoration Bill Wins Unanimous Approval in the House

By DEBORAH KALB

States News Service

WASHINGTON, MAY 11 (JTA) — A bill that would make it harder for the government to encroach on free exercise of religion cleared the House of Representatives, much to the satisfaction of Jewish organizations.

The Religious Freedom Restoration Act was approved in a unanimous voice vote.

"This is the most important vote for religious freedom we will see in our lifetime," a jubilant Rabbi David Saperstein, director of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism,

said in a statement.

Supported by a broad coalition of Jewish and other religious groups, the bill is designed to circumvent a 1990 Supreme Court ruling that gave states greater leeway in outlawing certain religious practices.

Supporters of the legislation are now awaiting an upcoming vote on the Senate floor. The Senate Judiciary Committee voted 15-1 last week to send the bill to the full chamber.

The only issue that could harm the bill's chances for passage at this point, observers say, is the question of

whether prisons would be exempt from the proposed new standards, which would force governments to prove a compelling state interest before regulating religious practices.

If an amendment exempting prisons is added to the Senate version of the bill, some observers think this could derail the legislation. But other observers hope this issue will be resolved satisfactorily to enable quick passage in the Senate.

The Clinton administration has come out in support of the legislation.

### Four Shot to Death in Gaza Strip as Unrest in Territories Continues

By GIL SEDAN

JERUSALEM, May 16 (JTA) — A month and a half after the government sealed off the West Bank and Gaza Strip to stem terrorist attacks against Jews in Israel proper, Palestinian gunmen have stepped up assaults within the territories.

The latest attack took place May 16, when Palestinian gunmen in the Gaza Strip shot to death four people: two Israeli vegetable merchants and two Arab vendors.

The gunmen left leaflets at the scene saying the attack was a joint act by the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas group and an armed cell affiliated with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The incident marks the first time the two rival organizations have claimed joint responsibility for a killing and may signal a new turn for terrorist operations in the territories.

The attack took place near the

settlement of Moshav Gadid in Gush Katif, a bloc of Jewish settlements in the Gaza Strip. The four victims were standing outdoors, apparently discussing a business deal.

Arab witnesses said they saw a white Peugeot car approach the men. The gunmen got out of the car, spraying bullets from automatic weapons at all four victims. Before driving off, they walked over and shot each man in the head to make sure they were dead.

The two murdered Israelis were identified as Nissim Balas, 33, of Dimona and Avshalom Halfon, 21, of Ofakim. The two Palestinians killed were Ziad Abu-Jurab of Hebron and Tawfit Jurab, 19, of Khan Yunis.

Reacting to the slaying, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin warned Israelis who are not residents of the West Bank and Gaza Strip to avoid the territories and not to trust Palestinians "even if their intentions are

good," since they are unable to protect Israelis from terrorists.

Although Rabin noted that Israelis are not forbidden to enter the territories, he advised: "Don't risk a man's life because of a profit of a few hundred shekels."

"Everyone believes that nothing will happen to him," said Nitzan Hadari, an Israeli security officer at the nearby Ganei Tal settlement, "and then it happens."

Sunday's shooting, the bloodiest attack since the territories were sealed off at the end of March, came on the heels of several other bold and successful attacks in recent days.

Last week, militants stabbed two soldiers inside a building serving as an observation post in downtown Nablus in the West Bank.

Two soldiers were wounded in that attack, one of them suffering serious wounds. The stabbings were followed

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BRIEFS

NATIONAL • INTERNATIONAL

Peres Goes to India and China

By CYNTHIA MANN

JERUSALEM, May 16 (JTA) — Foreign Minister Shimon Peres left Sunday morning for India and China to solidify business ties with those two countries.

He is accompanied on his weeklong trip by a group of top Israeli businessmen.

In India, Peres is expected to sign agreements in areas of technology, culture, aviation and tourism.

In China, Peres will open a faculty in international relations, dedicated to David Ben-Gurion, at Beijing University and will be awarded an honorary doctorate.

Likud Convenes in Golan Heights

By CYNTHIA MANN

JERUSALEM, May 16 (JTA) — Proclaiming itself against Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights, the opposition Likud party kicked off its national convention in Katzrin, the Golan's regional capital.

Party Chairman Benjamin Netanyahu told Likud delegates that Israel's posture must be that the Golan was captured and should not be returned to Syria as part of the ongoing peace process.

Former Foreign Minister David Levy, Netanyahu's archrival in the party, boycotted the convention in protest of what he claimed were Netanyahu's efforts to grab sweeping powers over the party.

Newly inaugurated Israeli President Ezer Weizman opened the conference, saying he had been proud to serve as a Cabinet minister under the late Likud leader Menachem Begin.

Weizman later, however, abandoned the hawkish policies of the Likud and defected to the Labor Party.

Weizman hailed the Likud party for being the first to sign a peace treaty with an Arab country, namely Egypt.

Arabs Say Aussies Biased in East

By JEREMY JONES

SYDNEY, Australia, May 9 (JTA) — Australia is finding itself in murky waters with Arab countries as revelations surface in the Israeli media that the Australian government has been assisting Israel in developing diplomatic relations in Asia.

Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organization, for example, have accused Australia of "taking a biased policy on the Middle East."

In an interview published in the Israeli daily Ha'aretz, Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans took a measure of credit "for the opening of dialogue between Israel and India, Singapore, Thailand, Japan, China and Korea."

In interviews in Australia, Evans described the country's policy as one of "trying to help the process of bridge-building (and) the institution of dialogue which may, in some instances, ultimately culminate in the establishment of diplomatic relations."

Australia's efforts have reportedly been low-key and aimed at facilitating meetings rather than arguing Israel's case on its behalf.

Saad Bataini, Jordan's ambassador to Australia, said that the news is evidence that Australia is biased in its dealings with the parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

"Australia is always talking about being evenhanded about the Middle East," he told journalists.

"Why don't you act evenhandedly?" he asked.

The PLO ambassador to the tiny Pacific island state of Vanuatu, who represents his organization in Australia, said that "Evans is deluding himself if he believes that no one in the region is in doubt that Australia is pursuing an evenhanded Middle East policy."

In response to the Ha'aretz report, Evans said that improved relations between Israel and Asian countries, including some of the Moslem states in the region, could move quickly toward normalization if the peace process currently under way is successful.

JNF Growing Jobs in Israel

More than 3,000 formerly unemployed individuals, including immigrants, demobilized soldiers, and residents of development towns, have already started working for the Jewish National Fund as part of an agreement with the Ministry of Labor and Welfare.

The new employees are tending forests, reclaiming land, establishing recreational areas, and developing infrastructure for tourism projects throughout Israel.

Some 500 of the 3,000 have been in JNF's employ for more than six months. The rest have been working for a few weeks as part of the Ministry's "instant jobs" program. The drop-out rate from JNF's employ is very low.

The added labor force made it possible to open up new recreational areas and build new forest roads.

According to the program, JNF is to provide work for 3,500, a total which, according to JNF officials, will be filled ahead of schedule.

Israel's Seventh President Likely to Have Diminished Role

By DAVID LANDAU

JERUSALEM, May 11 (JTA) — It seemed only fitting that the inauguration of Ezer Weizman as Israel's seventh president should take place this week in the midst and in spite of the dramatic coalition crisis that engulfed Israeli politics.

For Weizman, who was to be sworn in Thursday, will have a much less political role than his predecessors when a new reform goes into effect with the next Knesset elections.

Until now, one of the president's key functions in a largely ceremonial post was to choose, after general elections, the Knesset member whom he judged to be best-suited to forge a stable political coalition and form a government. The president also now performs that function should the government collapse after losing a Knesset no-confidence vote.

In the next Israeli election, however, citizens will vote twice: once for the party of their choice and once for the politician they want to be prime minister.

This direct ballot for prime minister means that in no political circumstance will it fall to the president to choose between vying leaders — a role that can assume much importance if the competing parties and blocs are closely balanced.

It was a realization of the post's diminished political influence that the Knesset's election last month of Weizman, a politically controversial dove, caused no political ripples, even among the right.

To the contrary, Weizman's winning smile and engaging personality have prompted a wall-to-wall warmth in the Knesset that ensures a happy inauguration.

Weizman and his many well-wish-

ers hope and believe that these same qualities will ensure a sustained non-controversial atmosphere around his presidency.

If so, Weizman will have broken with a penchant in his long career, as an air force officer and then politician, for being at the center of every passing storm.

Irrepressible, with a vocabulary often spiced with bad language picked up during his days with Britain's Royal Air Force, Weizman has managed to offend most leading Israelis at one time or another over the years.

But most of those offended have ultimately been reconciled by his great charm and infectious bonhomie.

Weizman started out in politics on the right. He orchestrated Likud's election victory of 1977 and was appointed minister of defense by a grateful Menachem Begin.

Weizman nudged and prodded Begin toward signing the Camp David accords and the peace treaty with Egypt, but resigned in disgust at what he felt was the late premier's renegeing on peace commitments, including those involving Palestinian autonomy.

Weizman went on to lead a small but influential Yachad party he founded, which sided with Labor in the unity governments of the 1980s and moved steadily toward the more dovish wing of Labor, advocating talks with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

He managed to emerge from all of this a popular and well-loved national figure.

Weizman's hardest task as president, as he himself acknowledges, will be to keep some of his more controversial thoughts and feelings bottled up inside.

Prime among his victims has been the prime minister himself, Yitzhak Rabin.

In 1974, as Rabin contended against Shimon Peres for leadership of the Labor Party, Weizman stood outside the conference hall urging members to back Peres, because Rabin reportedly had suffered a nervous breakdown when serving as army chief of staff on the eve of the Six-Day War.

Rabin, however, has claimed he suffered from temporary nicotine poisoning.

In his autobiography published in 1979, Rabin recalled with scorn and bitterness "Dr. Weizman's diagnosis." He wrote of his profound regret at having put his trust in Weizman, then deputy chief of staff, at that pivotal moment of physical weakness in 1967.

The elder Weizmann died in office embittered because he felt that Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion had constructed the presidency specifically to keep Weizman at arm's length from the real seat of power.

The younger Weizman, though having lost his only son in a fatal accident last year and suffering from a military injury, seems to harbor no bitterness in his makeup.

Weizman follows in the footsteps of his late uncle, Chaim Weizmann, who served as Israel's first president (and spelled his last name differently).

Approaching 70, he appears reconciled to his detachment from power. But sources close to Weizman believe that despite the limitations of the role, he intends to play his party — perhaps a vital part again, as he did at Camp David — in bringing Israel and its other Arab neighbors into an era of peace.

Jeffries

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whites represent a blatant appeal to bigotry and they cannot be ignored. They are reprehensible and an affront to the democratic and pluralistic values which underpin our soci-

ety. They are the very values which Jeffries, as a faculty member at one of the most esteemed public universities in the country, is entrusted to transmit to future generations.

"Given his record, which has now

been made public, Professor Jeffries should have long ago been removed as chairman of the department," ADL said. "If the jury's finding was based upon City College's failure to act for more than a decade, then the system has failed everyone."

Nuns Leave Auschwitz Convent

By DEBRA NUSSBAUM COHEN

NEW YORK, May 24 (JTA) — After years of international diplomatic wrangling, four of the nuns from the Carmelite convent at Auschwitz have moved into a new convent, built across the road and off the grounds of the former death camp.

The four Carmelite nuns moved into their new cloister on Monday and consecrated the new convent, participating in the first mass to be held there.

According to Bishop Tadeusz Rakoczy, who conducted the mass at the new convent and oversees the archdiocese which includes Auschwitz, the remaining nuns will leave the old convent by the end of June.

There are believed to be 10 more nuns in the old convent, all of whom

plan to go to other convents.

The news of the four nuns' move was made public by Kalman Sultanik, vice president of the World Jewish Congress, who received a letter from Rakoczy on Monday stating that the move to the new convent had taken place.

"This marks a new positive chapter in Catholic-Jewish relations," Sultanik said.

Plans for the move had been discussed since 1986, when negotiations first took place between representatives of the Jewish community and the Catholic Church over the controversial and sensitive issue of the convent.

The building at the center of the dispute, the old convent, served the Nazis as a storehouse for the poisonous Zyklon-B pellets which were used to gas the Jews during the Holocaust.

Settlers Clash With Shas Supporters

By GIL SEDAN

JERUSALEM, May 16 (JTA) — Right-wing settlers clashed over the weekend with fervently Orthodox supporters of Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, the spiritual leader of the Shas party, over the influential rabbi's backing of the Labor-led government's peace policies.

Settlers demonstrating outside of Yosef's home, protesting Shas' participation as a partner of the ruling coalition, were assaulted by hundreds of Yosef's adherents Saturday evening. Two settlers suffered serious wounds.

Ironically, the clash came as Shas was in the midst of a political crisis with Labor and threatened to pull out of the coalition, though over issues unrelated to the peace process.

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## EDITORIALS

## Challenge and Hope: Will the Jews Survive?

The threats which most menace Jewish survival are not anti-Semitism or oppression but intermarriage and indifference. Today Delaware's Jews are moving forward to meet the challenges of Jewish survival. The ascension to Delaware Jewish Federation leadership positions of Toni P. Young and Judy B. Wortman, and other new leaders, indicates

our community is developing a response to troubling times. Building upon the contributions of such capable leaders as Steven A. Dombchik, and other experienced members of the community, the new leadership seems ready to begin addressing high intermarriage rates and increasing indifference of many Jews to being Jewish.

## Speech and Bias on Campus - Revisited

Eden Jacobowitz, an Orthodox Jewish freshman at The University of Pennsylvania, was accused of violating Penn's racial harassment code for shouting *water buffalo* at five loud sorority members who were interrupting his late night studies. Jacobowitz was translating the Hebrew word "behemah" which, literally, means water buffalo but is used to refer to someone acting thoughtlessly or foolishly. The sorority members, who happen to be African-Americans, misinterpreted his call for quiet as a racist statement. By *water buffalo*, Jacobowitz means "foolish," not "black." After First Lady Hillary Clinton's call for unity at Penn's commencement, and national attention to this farce of political correctness gone wrong, Aryanna Taylor, and the other sorority

sisters eventually dropped their complaint against Jacobowitz. If, like former CBS Broadcaster Tom Brookshier, Jacobowitz had referred to an African-American as a *monkey* it would have been reasonable to assert that racism was involved. Historically comparisons of African-Americans to primates have been made by racists. It is noble to guard against intolerance but folly to find prejudice in every comparison of a person to an animal. Is bias meant by *stubborn as a mule, sly as a fox, or working like a dog*? If the sorority sisters are really looking for prejudice they should denounce Farahkan, Jeffries and their ilk. Let's stop talking about as versus them and start talking to each other.

## A Tax on BTU's... Is It Good for the Jews?

President Clinton's economic package includes a tax on British Thermal Units (BTU's). This tax is a pocket book incentive for the American people to use less energy in manufacturing, transportation and other everyday activities. This encouragement of conservation should make perfect sense to the children

of the Maccabees who saw one day's oil last eight days. As supporters of Israel, we should welcome any measure which reduces our dependence on its oil-producing enemies. Write your Senators and Congressmen to pass into law the unchanged tax.

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Suzanne Grant, Annual Meeting Chairperson, opens the JFD 59th Annual Meeting.

The JEWISH VOICE

Published semimonthly, and monthly in July and August, by the Jewish Federation of Delaware.

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Member of the American Jewish Press Association and Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

©1993 The Jewish Voice

Printed by Dover Post Company

Second class postage paid for The Jewish Voice (USPS-704160) at Wilmington, Delaware. Subscription price: \$10.00. Circulation: 3,200. Mailed to subscribers and contributors to the Jewish Federation of Delaware. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Jewish Voice, 101 Garden of Eden Road, Wilmington, DE 19803. (302) 478-6200.

The JEWISH VOICE DEADLINES

Publication Date	Advertising feature	Copy/Advertising Deadline
May 28	Single Living	May 20
June 11	Bridal	June 3
June 25	Family Living	June 17

Editorial copy should be sent or brought to The Jewish Voice office at the Jewish Federation of Delaware, 101 Garden of Eden Road, Wilmington, DE 19803 by noon on the Thursday deadline. (302) 478-6200 or FAXed (302) 478-5374. All copy is must be typed and double spaced.

The Jewish Voice welcomes signed letters from its readers on subjects of interest to the Jewish Community. For verification purposes, include home address and phone number (day and evening). The more concise a letter is, the less likely it will need to be condensed. A name will be withheld upon request. Send letters typed, double spaced, to The Jewish Voice, 101 Garden of Eden Road, Wilmington, DE 19803.

## LETTERS

### British Reader Urges Caution on Socialist Contacts

Sir,

For close to a year Israel's Foreign Minister, Shimon Perez (sic), has been traveling about Europe, renewing friendships with old Socialist cronies, some discredited and many discarded by their nations.

He has been welcomed as he attempts to strengthen old ties and create new ones. He has considered himself so successful that he has now disbanded Hasbara. Let us hope he has been able to influence old line Socialists to be more inclined to be friendly to Israel than they have been in the past.

The EC has always urged Israel "to take risks for peace." It is very much in their favor to renew trade options with Israel. If the Arab boycott is shortly lifted it will be to everyone's advantage and benefit.

Yet the nagging question remains.

With the EC urging "still greater risks for

peace" while half-heartedly mentioning as an after thought "behind safe and secure borders" the focus now becomes this terrifying thought.

"Will the EC, the UN and America come to the aid of Israelis as quickly and as stridently as they have responded to the Bosnian crisis?"

Woe be to those Israeli leaders who place their safety and security in the hands of those who promise, "Trust us, the EC, the UN and America will guarantee Israel's safe and secure borders!"

Former Yugoslavia is the stark, glaring, graphic and horrifying example of the international communities "guarantee" for the safety and security of the Jewish state of Israel!

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OPINION

# Dennis Prager's Thirteen Principles of Inter-marriage

By DENNIS PRAGER

With intermarriage rates running at about 50 per cent, intermarriage has become the most emotional issue in American Jewish life. After 20 years of dealing with the topic, I have developed Thirteen Principles.

I

The issue is not intermarriage. The issue is whether or not Judaism is important to the Jew. If Judaism is important, no arguments against intermarriage are necessary. If Judaism isn't important to the Jew, no arguments against intermarriage are effective.

II

Organized Jewish life has for too long depended upon ethnic identity to keep Jews Jewish. Only Judaism — i.e., only a religious commitment — will keep Jews Jewish.

III

In order to keep Jews Jewish, modern Jews must be given *rational* convincing reasons to be Jews. Jewish life, from Orthodox to secular, rarely does this. The Orthodox rely on faith, and most others rely on ethnicity or

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emotions.

IV

With rare exceptions, once a Jew is romantically involved with a non-Jew, it is too late to convince him or her not to intermarry. Love is more powerful than ethnicity (but it is not more powerful than religious commitment).

V

Intermarriage is a risk we take by living among decent and tolerant non-Jews. Outside of Israel, the only way to ensure that your child will marry a Jew is to lead a fully Orthodox life in an Orthodox ghetto.

The problem with that solution is that it places preventing intermarriage on a higher plane than affecting the world. But influencing the world — "repairing the world under God's kingdom" — is the *raison d'être* of the Jewish people. Better, therefore, that some of our children intermarry, while the majority lives Jewish lives in the world, than keep every Jew Jewish by hiding from non-Jews. We are Jewish, not Amish.

VI

Intermarriage is the marriage of a Jew to a non-Jew, not a Jew to a new Jew. If your child wants to marry a non-Jew, find out if the non-Jew would consider converting to Judaism. Judaism desires and loves converts, and Jews need more members.

VII

Jews who intermarry and think that their

children will be Jewish are usually fooling themselves. Jews who intermarry and think that they can give their children no religion or two religions are cheating their children of any authentic religious experience. And nothing is more valuable.

VIII

Conversion prompted by love for a Jew is fine.

Ideally, non-Jews convert to Judaism because they are overwhelmed by its truth and beauty. However, since few Jews communicate the truth and beauty of Judaism to non-Jews, few non-Jews are given an opportunity to experience Judaism.

Jews should therefore not dismiss conversions that were motivated by a person's love for a Jew. A non-Jew adopting Judaism out of love for a Jew is little different from an irreligious Jew adopting Judaism out of love for a committed Jew — and that happens all the time. Loving a Jew is a beautiful way to come to love Judaism — provided, of course, that the born-Jew helps cultivate this love.

IX

In our desire to combat intermarriage, we should not overlook Jews' humanity and pain. I am thinking, in particular, of single Jewish women over child-bearing age. After a lecture in a medium-sized Texas city, I was approached by a 55-year-old Jewish woman who told me her story. She was a widow for 20 years, and

in her quest not to be alone for the rest of her life, she "dated every eligible Jewish man in the city." Finally, she found a non-Jewish man whom she loved and who loved her. He did not want to convert, but he was not active in any other religion, and he wanted her to continue her Jewish commitment.

What did I have to say to her? "That God doesn't want you to be alone for the rest of your life."

X

Many Jews correctly perceive their parents' objections to intermarriage as racist.

When Jewish parents who have never been concerned with preserving distinctive Jewish values, become obsessed with preserving Jewish blood, it is racism. It is therefore racism to equate Judaism with liberalism, tolerance or some other value, and then object to a child marrying a non-Jew who holds that value.

Only objections to intermarriage based on Judaism as a distinctive religious/moral value system are not racist.

XI

With the exception of specialized Jewish groups such as defense agencies, all of Jewish life must make outreach to Jews its primary activity — even taking precedence over funding Israel. If it doesn't, there will be very few Jews to help Israel in the next generation.

XII

The danger posed by intermarriage is not that the Jewish people will die out. We will never die out.

The danger is that the Jewish people will become so small and isolated that we will become irrelevant. And if we become irrelevant, our survival won't matter.

XIII

Intermarriage cannot be stopped once embarked upon. It can only be prevented. And it is relatively easy to do so: Make Jewish homes and build Jewish schools.

## Pardoned Weinberger Was No Friend of Israel

As the saying, attributed to Henry Kissinger, goes — "even paranoids have enemies." And if the memoirs of former Secretary of State George Shultz and former Reagan White House Middle East advisor Howard Teicher are accurate — Israel's paranoia with regard to certain U.S. leadership was well-founded. Both Shultz ("Turmoil and Triumph") and Teicher ("Twin Pillars to Desert Storm") cite their former colleague, former Defense Secretary Casper (Cap) Weinberger as having been openly hostile to Israel. Shultz, as could be expected is the more diplomatic of the two authors in fingering "Cap the Knife" as the most anti-Israel top official in the Reagan Administration.

Among other things Shultz states that during Israel's 1982 invasion into Lebanon "President Reagan was more hesitant than anyone else about cracking down on the Israelis... Cap Weinberger was at the extreme; he seemed almost ready to sever relations." The Teicher book is more direct in ascribing to Weinberger a belief that U.S. support of Israel was responsible for all of America's difficulties in dealing with the Arab world. Throughout his tenure at

DOD Weinberger pushed for the harshest punishment of Israel - and is the one person most responsible for the draconian life sentence meted out to Jonathan Pollard for spying for Israel. But when it comes to going after the *Achille Lauro* terrorists - according to Teicher - Weinberger did everything he could to prevent any military action to capture them.

This all comes as no great surprise to those of us who, over the years, witnessed Weinberger's antipathy to both Israel and his own Jewish antecedents firsthand. Poor Cap - imagine how he must have felt as a Harvard undergrad in the 1930's tagged with a Jewish family name - and not being Jewish! Small wonder that in later years in California upon being introduced at social gatherings, a number of people said he would make it known within thirty seconds into the conversation that not every Weinberger was Jewish.

Jimmy Carter, who has become increasingly more anti-Israel in his pronouncements with each passing year, also comes out poorly in Shultz's book. For instance, the Georgian's advice to the then Secretary of State, was -

"you have to throw the book at Begin. Tough talk is the only talk Begin understands." Conversely, when the question of granting a visa to Yasir Arafat to come to the United States was raised, Carter on his own telephoned Shultz to urge him "in the strongest terms to approve the visa." Shultz's references to then Vice President George Bush and then White House aide James Baker are also predictable - and no doubt, overly kind. And predictably also, the State Department Near East Bureau's pro-Arab bias comes through loud and clear time and time again.

It would be too simplistic, and unfair (with the possible exception of Weinberger) to attribute only negative actions to Carter, Bush and Baker. After all, it was Carter who forged the Camp David Accords which produced peace, whatever its temperature, between Israel and Egypt. It was Bush, who forged the coalition abroad and the consensus at home, which enabled him to take the courageous step to commit U.S. forces to battle in Desert Storm. And it was Jim Baker who first got all the parties together in Madrid to finally meet

## In Search of a Jewish Strategy

By DOUGLAS M. BLOOMFIELD

Even if all 3.6 million Jewish voters had cast their ballots for George Bush last November, he still would have lost the election by some 2 million votes. But in a close race, they could make the difference. More importantly, Jewish votes and contributions have become increasingly significant for Republican candidates at every level.

Interviews with Jewish Republican activists, former Reagan-Bush office holders and others indicated it may be too soon to tell whether 1992 was an aberration or a watershed, but they agreed change is needed. They called Bush the number one problem for Jewish Republican voters last year, followed closely by the religious right and its emphasis on divisive issues like abortion.

What to do about that is another matter. With Bush having lost two-thirds of the usually

dependable Republican Jewish votes he got four years earlier and with 90% of all Jews voting against the 1992 Republican ticket, one might suspect his party has a "Jewish problem."

Some political pros contend the problem was the candidate, not their party. One whose job it is to build Jewish GOP support said, "Bush lost the votes and (conservative columnist-candidate Pat) Buchanan was a reinforcing agent. The votes are still out there; they don't belong to anyone else."

The matter is particularly worrisome to GOP Congressional incumbents and candidates who have been successfully courting Jewish votes for some time. Some openly distanced themselves from Bush, especially before Jewish constituents.

Many of the national party's largest contributors over the years have been Jews. One

in four \$100,000-and-up GOP contributors in 1988 were Jews, according to a party source, and 1992 should be similar. Detroit industrialist Max Fisher, a founder of the party's National Jewish Coalition, was the 1992 chair of that fundraising effort, known as Team 100. Hundreds of thousands of dollars more are contributed to individual campaigns at all levels.

For most Jewish contributors and voters, Israel tends to be the bottom-line issue, but it is far from being the only one. On the domestic side, most Jews still feel more comfortable in the Democratic Party, with its more liberal-progressive social agenda.

The Houston GOP convention scared away Jews in droves, especially when combined with Bush's perceived hostility towards Israel.

It will take more than a pro-Israel candidate to win them back, much less make significant

gains. Even Jack Kemp, the most popular of all presidential hopefuls among Jewish voters, will find being pro-Israel is no longer enough for post-Houston Republicans.

Many Jews are asking whether there is a place for them in a party where Pat Buchanan advocates "religious and cultural war," and that sends out what Rep. Connie Morella (R-MD) called a "mean and intolerant" message saying, "If you don't talk a certain way, raise your kids a certain way, love a certain way and pray a certain way, you are most certainly not welcome here."

The Republican party is clearly more cul-

continued on page 16

LOCAL

Cantors Assembly Convenes in Philadelphia; An Inside View

By CANTOR NORMAN P. SWERLING

Special to The Jewish Voice

The 46th annual convention of the Cantors Assembly was held at the Adams Mark Hotel from May 9th through the 13th. Approximately 450 cantors, their families and guests, gathered from all over the world to sing, pray, study, deliberate and socialize. At times, as one observer stated, it seemed that the entire Delaware Valley was vibrating to the glorious sound of Jewish music.

The theme of the convention was "TZEY UL'MAD" (Go and Learn). In a major address to the Assembly, Hazzan Sam Rosenbaum, the organization's Executive Director, suggested that one might change the second word of the theme from "L'mad" (to learn) to "L'mod," (to teach) for that is one of the prime functions of the contemporary cantor. He went on to explain that in today's over-secularized society it is the hazzan's art, skills and knowledge that offer the best hope for touching the hearts of today's Jews

and leading them back to the synagogue and their spiritual heritage. This was a theme repeated continually in workshops and meetings. It was also the keynote of an address by Rabbi Aaron Landes of Congregation Beth Shalom of Elkins Park as he opened the final concert of the week which was held at that synagogue.

In addition to the daily worship and special musical presentations participants could elect one of four continuous study workshops. The workshops included, Children's Choir, Talmud, Baal Tefillah Institute and a Masters Class in Hazzanut (Cantorial Recitative).

While prayer, study and sacred music are the main ingredients of any cantorial convention the Philadelphia event, in this writer's opinion, was marked by two very special touches. The first occurred at the close of the opening night dinner when a typical Philadelphia Mimmers Band burst,

unannounced, into the dining room. Many, if not most of the diners, who had come from all over the world, had never seen or heard of the Mimmers and were brought to their feet cheering and singing with the fantastically costumed band. The session ended with a spirited Horah, danced by the conventioners accompanied by blaring brass, banjos and bells.

The second highlight took place at the final luncheon when a thirteen year old recent immigrant from Russia led the group in Zemirot, the traditional singing following a festive Jewish meal. What made this such a spiritually uplifting event was the fact that the boy was a victim of Cerebral Palsy who had lost the use of his voice and both hands. He was able to lead the singing by the same method which allowed him to become a Bar Mitzvah just a few months previous, he sang with the assistance of a computerized voice box programmed and operated by ... his big toe.



Another Former Soviet Celebrates Delaware Bar Mitzvah

By PAULA HAIT

Special to the Jewish Voice

"Many of you don't realize it, but I am the first member of my family in three generations to be permitted to celebrate this occasion."

Those words brought tears of happiness to more than a few eyes on Saturday morning, April 24, when 13-year-old Lev Yampolsky of Fairfax stood before the members of Congregation Beth Shalom in Wilmington to celebrate his bar mitzvah — the event which marked his passage to adulthood in the eyes of the Jewish community.

Lev is a seventh grader at Hanby Junior High. He takes weekly karate lessons and is a member of the Boy Scouts. A typical teenager, he tries the patience of his parents and annoys his younger sister — intentionally and regularly, they claim. He does extremely well in school and plays sports. At a glance, anyone would think he is an average American kid.

But he isn't. Lev was the first of Delaware's recent wave of immigrant Russian Jews to celebrate his bar mitzvah.

Four and a half years ago, Lev and his family left the former Soviet Union carrying little more than the intense hope for a new life — a new life that, for one thing, would allow them to reach this special celebration. The celebration on April 24 was the realization of those dreams for Lev and his parents, Michael and Olya, his sister, Annia, and his four grandparents who live in Stamford, Connecticut.

"We arrived in the United States on election day in '88," remembers Olya. So the family has not yet lived here long enough to have been granted citizenship. But other than the

time factor, the family has quickly become the "typical American family."

The kids speak fluent English (with a Delaware accent) and their parents, although the accent is Russian, are not far behind. After being resettled in Stamford, the family spent a difficult first year coping with temporary employment situations. After a year, they opted to relocate to Delaware where the promise of jobs was hopeful. Michael and Olya settled in quickly. Here they both found positions and Lev and Annia enrolled in Albert Einstein Academy. They established friendships and got involved in organizations. Up-to-date on current events and always willing to discuss politics, Olya proudly and assertively sported a political bumper sticker on her car during the 1992 presidential campaign.

Hard work, patience and perseverance have paid off for the Yampolsky family. They own cars and a home in Fairfax. But financial security and professional success are only a part of their American dream. Denied the freedom to practice their religion in the Soviet Union for three generations, they have made strong connections to the Jewish community and the Jewish faith since their arrival. The recent bar mitzvah celebration was a milestone for them. It seems as though they had a second half of a dream they weren't even aware of.

Rabbi Yoskowitz refers to this phenomenon as "mysterious." He notes the concept of the "pintele Yid," or the point of Jewishness, that every Jew has in his soul. This, he says, would account for the family's ability to be refused access to their faith and, yet, maintain a sense of connection. "I am exhilarated," by this, he added.

Michael has a more down-to-earth explanation for it.

When he and his family arrived in Stamford, the Jewish community did a great deal of work to settle the family, Michael remembers. "I asked the woman who was working with us how I could repay the community for all it did for us. She said that she would like us to do whatever we could in the future to help the

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[Editor's Note: The very first of Delaware's immigrant Russian Jews to celebrate Bar Mitzvah was some 16 years ago, according to Roberta Berman of Jewish Family Service. Recently two 13 year olds celebrated their bat mitzvahs in Delaware. Mazel Tov to Lev Yampolsky for his personal achievement.]  
Delaware's Paula Hait is an occasional contributor to The Jewish Voice.

INSIDE ISRAEL

UJA Hineni III Mission Bolstered by Delaware Participants



Hineni III Mission participants gather in the lobby of Laromme Jerusalem Hotel.

This text is excerpted from Shelden Sandler's diary written during the Mission.

4/27/93

Travel to Ashkelom, an incubator or laboratory for technological innovations - scientists, including many recent immigrants from the former Soviet Union, work on such things as a laser acupuncture device for neurological illness and software for managing Universities.

We then visited an absorption center and talked with new arrivals from Brazil, Argentina, Ethiopia and Russia. A Brazilian family had emigrated a few months ago because their son was beaten by neo-Nazis.

Return to Tel Aviv - particularly good falafel lunch at outdoor market.

We spent the evening in Holon, south of Tel Aviv, at the Project Renewal Neighborhood called Jessie Cohen, named for a woman from Wilmington whose family contributed to the early development of the neighborhood. The Project is jointly supported by the Dayton-Columbus Ohio Jewish community and the Wilmington Jewish community, but it is apparent that the Ohio support is considerably greater, and there are regular programs of interchange between young people from Jessie Cohen and the Ohio communities, but virtually no contact with the Delaware Jewish community. Perhaps this can be rectified, and if so, as we discovered, it would not only benefit Jessie Cohen but introduce our community to many wonderful people as well.

When we arrived, we went to a senior center and Dad conversed in Yiddish with a few ladies from eastern Europe. One who walked to the bus with us said that most of her family was murdered at Dachau. We had a delicious Middle Eastern dinner, with hummus, pita, various salads and pastries.

4/29/93

Drive to Safed, pronounced "TSFAHT," a mountain artists' colony. Lunch at a small hotel called the Ron. Walk to small sephardic synagogue that was the center of the Kabbalah movement.

We arrived at Tiberias and had dinner at a Kosher Chinese restaurant. Tiberias is a graceful resort town on the Sea of Galilee, Israel's only substantial body of fresh water, which is also known as Lake Kinneret or Lake Tiberias. Because of its great biblical significance, the area attracts many Christian tourists.

4/29/93

Mayor Yossi Goldberg, showed us the border with Lebanon and drove with us near the Good Fence, where Christian Arabs cross to Israel. Many of their basic social services are provided by Israel.

Drive to the Golan Heights and to Syrian bunkers overlooking the valley, where for 19 years Syrian artillery periodically shot at the Israeli settlements below. We were told about Elie Cohen, Israel's "Man in Damascus," who suggested the Syrians plant trees to hide the bunkers, and then passed the word to the Israelis that they could tell where the bunkers were by the nearby trees.

Afterwards, we drove through Katzrin, the "capital" of the Golan, and then to the Golan Winery, which makes Yarden, Gamla and Golan

4/30/93

Visit Beit Shean excavations. A striking area where, in the last few years a sizable Roman city has been unearthed, including the main street or Cardo, a coliseum, living quarters, etc.

Arrived in Jerusalem - an extraordinary site - in the hills - the impact of seeing Jerusalem in the distance from the top of Mount Scopus was the first of many emotional highs, as geographic locations that are common in music, art, literature and religion are packed closely on top of each other, literally and figuratively.

On arriving at Mount Scopus, which is near Hebrew University, we recited the Shehecheyanu, which is traditional upon entering Jerusalem. The City is built on a series of hills and is a polyglot community of orthodox and secular Jews, Christians and Muslims.

... The Second Temple, which was built by Herod and destroyed by the Romans, was inside the Western Wall and when the Temple was destroyed by the Romans, the Western and Southern walls remained more or less intact. The site is now the location of the dome of the Rock, which is in the Moslem Quarter and off limits due to the Intifadeh.

5/3/93

We began the day with an enjoyable archaeological seminar by Naomi

Miller. She then took us on a walking tour of two Roman-era houses that had been excavated under the Old City. We then stopped at the Byer Old Age home, run by the Jewish Distribution Committee (JDC) and met with Yossi Natani, the man who spoke with us at the JCC in Wilmington a few months ago. He is apparently very respected in Israel for his efforts on behalf of immigrants and those who wish to emigrate to Israel, and in his early 70s, he continues to advocate for the JDC, which helps resettle people in Israel.

reestablished on the same site where it was overrun by the Arabs in 1948, and the defenders killed.

5/4/93

Our last day in Israel - we had a trip to Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Memorial. We were especially moved by the Children's Memorial. We went from Yad Vashem to a cemetery in an adjacent area, where the 1967 Six Day War began, to pay tribute to Israel's soldiers. One could not help noticing that most of the dead were 18 to 25. Theodore Herzl, the father of Zionism, is also buried there.

We took the rest of the day off to shop on Ben Yehuda Street and nearby. We purchased a painting depicting Jerusalem, at the Ariel Art Gallery near the King David Hotel.

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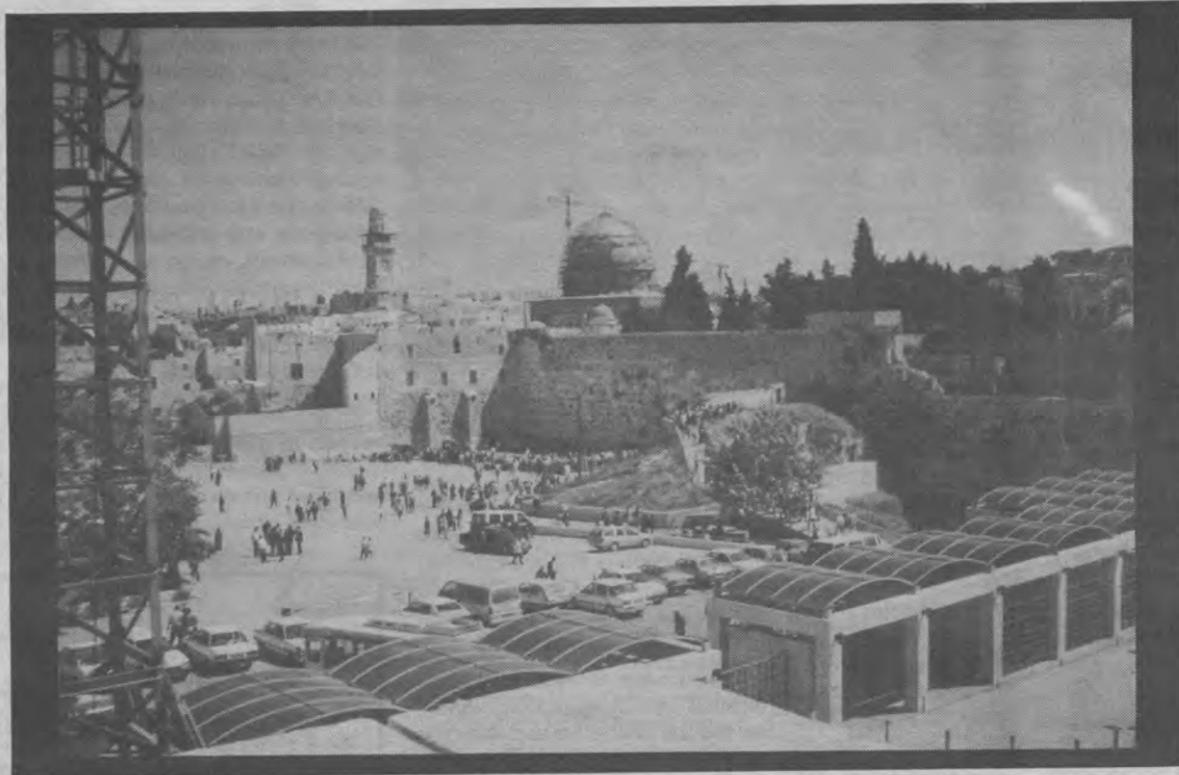
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LOCAL

Bar Mitzvah

continued from page 6

Jewish community. We are doing that," he said matter-of-factly.

"They had to choose to be free," stressed Rabbi Yoskowitz. "They made the choice not only to be free in the physical sense, but also to be aligned with our congregation and, with the help of our congregation, with the community."

Attending Einstein, Delaware's only Jewish day school, for three years, Lev and Annia were given the foundation upon which to build the Jewish aspect of their lives. Since transferring to public school in the fall of 1992, they have continued their religious education at Congregation Beth Shalom after school. Michael sets his example by serving on the boards of directors of both the synagogue and Einstein Academy. He also works with a committee at Beth Shalom to plan and hold services on holidays and the Sabbath for other Russian Jewish families who have been resettled in Wilmington. Setting an example of connection to their faith, Michael and Olya — unable to have a Jewish ceremony when

they were married in Russia — were re-married two years ago at Beth Shalom.

"A great moment in my life," noted Rabbi Yoskowitz, "was officiating at Michael and Olya's wedding. They are the only Soviet Jewish couple to make such a request." It was a great moment for the community, he said. "And with Lev's bar mitzvah we see another step along the path."

For past and future generations

"We made the move for them," Olya pointed out, referring to her children and, one imagines, to future generations.

Michael and Olya, who have embraced Jewish culture and the Jewish faith here, had somehow managed to grasp small bits of Jewish culture from their parents and grandparents, even though religious practice was strictly forbidden in the Soviet Union. They remember with smiles, for example, the Simchat Torah celebrations in Moscow — there were huge crowds in the street around the synagogue but the religious meaning of the date was not celebrated in the same way as it is here.

Religion is a difficult concept for Russians to come to terms with

For Lev, the process of coming to the point in his life when he is expected to become an adult in the congregation and accept responsi-

Photo by Paula Hait



Lev reading from the Torah on his bat mitzvah.

bility has proven to be easier than accepting belief.

"In the Soviet Union I was taught from the time I entered school that there is no God," he explained. Even though he accepts the concept of God now, it has been a difficult process to come to believe in something that his early teachers claimed didn't exist — teachers he trusted, he noted.

His father notes that this is a problem shared by almost every Russian

Jew who has tried to settle into the Jewish communities across the United States. "There is no concept in Russian of God. There is no concept of sin. Sure, there is an understanding of what is morally right ... but sin? The word for sin in Russian is almost never used ... there is no situation that would call for its use," the elder Yampolsky explained. He noted that, in the new atmosphere of freedom in Russia, that may have changed.

Living a "dream"

The Yampolsky family is living their "American Dream." But they are living more than that. They are living the dream of the American Jewish community — a community that spent years raising consciousness and money for the release of the Soviet Jewish community.

It is, however, the dilemma of the American Jewish community that the Jews who have been allowed to emigrate from Russia over the last few years have been denied religious freedom and persecuted simply for being Jewish, even though these Jews have very little recollection of what it actually means to be Jewish. When the Soviet Jews are resettled, they tend to have very little or no Jewish feeling or commitment and less interest in learning.

The Yampolsky family is not typical.

"I am proud of them," Rabbi Yoskowitz said. "I am honored to be

the rabbi at Beth Shalom at the time when they are affirming themselves as Jews. Michael has done exemplary work for the community. I am proud of him. I am proud of them."

This is what the American Jews dreamed of

"We have fought for many years to fulfill the prayer in the blessing said on the Shabbat when we ask God's blessing for the new month. We have asked God to help us take those who are enslaved to freedom and to gather our exiled brothers and sisters from the four corners of the earth," said Rabbi Yoskowitz. "Michael and Olya lived in Russia at a time when Jews were not free to be Jews fully religiously or culturally. They were gathered from a part of this earth to be in another part in which they could be free to be Jews — Jewishly — both in the cultural and in the religious realms."

A guest at Lev's bar mitzvah summed it up: "For so many years, we marched on Washington and we protested in front of the Soviet Embassy there. We wrote letters to the editors and we wrote to our legislators. We dared to hope and we never stopped praying. And our vision was that one day, families like this one would settle into our communities and that is what this family is doing in Delaware. There is a tremendous sense of gratification."



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# Portrait of Jane Levine

## A photographer with a unique focus

By JESSICA MAYERS

Special to The Jewish Voice

The fire engine red cloth hanging on the clothesline is blown by a gust of wind, revealing the plush, green countryside in the background.

In attempts to bring relief from the scorching Texas summer heat, Mr. Elizondo, a folk artist who was performing as the devil in a Mexican pageant, shed his cape costume and hung it on the line.

Photographer Jane Levine, who was hired to take pictures of Elizondo in the pageant, thought the cape looked magical blowing in the wind.

"Mr. Elizondo's Cape," one of Levine's three photographs featured during the University of Delaware Fine Arts exhibition at the Delaware Center for Contemporary Arts (DCCA), is among a larger selection being shown at the university's graduate arts program senior thesis project in Old College.

Steve Lanier of the DCCA said Levine's pieces were surrealistic and provocative.

"We thought they had something to say," says Lanier. "They had a strong, artistic statement and she was clearly looking at the world around her in a certain way."

Levine, who wants her photographs to be "surreal, or kind of like a fantasy," was selected from among nine students to show her photographs in the juried exhibition during the month of May.

Jessica Mayers, a graduating senior at the University of Delaware, has worked as an editor and reporter for the Record.

### Holocaust Denier Banned Down Under

By JEREMY JONES

SYDNEY, Australia, May 16 (JTA) — In a ruling hailed by Jewish groups, the Australian Federal Court upheld the government's decision to ban Holocaust-denier David Irving from entering the country.

The court struck down the arguments put forward by Peter Bates, lawyer for the British writer, who said his client had been "denied natural justice" and that the ban was the result of a government acting improperly in response to Jewish lobbying.

A trial had revealed that the Prime Minister's Office urged Immigration Minister Gerry Hand to keep Irving out of the country, on the basis that such a visit would antagonize community relations.

It was shown, though, that the country's security agency, ASIO, indicated it did not oppose his entry and that the immigration minister's own department recommended that the Irving visit be approved.

Nevertheless, the court apparently heeded the testimony from the lawyer representing the newly elected immigration minister, Sen. Nick Bolkus, who told the court that Irving



Photo by Jane Levine

"Mr. Elizondo's Cape," is the title of Jane Levine's photograph of a Devil's cape on a clothesline.

She began her professional career as a photographer six years ago when she was hired to take pictures at a small newspaper.

After graduating from Haverford college in Pennsylvania as a French major, Levine says she chose to enter photography as a career.

"My mother is a photographer so I've done it as a hobby on my own since elementary school," says the 28-year-old of her career decision. "I decided that was the thing I really enjoyed most."

"Everyone in my family is an artist. Some parents think if their kids want to do art they won't make money. I could always do whatever I wanted,"

she says of her supportive family who gave her "huge amounts of help and equipment."

Levine moved to Texas for three years after college graduation and then decided to pursue her interest in photography.

"I wanted to work on my photography and have people critique it," says the Maryland native, who chose the University of Delaware's graduate fine arts program because she "wanted to be back in the area."

Her colorful pictures are taken with a Holga camera, which is a plastic camera with a plastic lens and produces a bigger negative than most people use.

continued on page 11



Photo by Jane Levine

In Jane Levine's vision of Texas a gunslinger in chaps is set against a background of a pawn shop.

was legally refused entry on the grounds that his views created disturbances and could lead to violence.

He also noted that Irving had been deported from Canada and convicted in a German court since his last visit to Australia.

Stephen Smith, the federal member for the seat of Perth, welcomed the decision, adding that the government "should do everything we can to avoid racism and incitement to racial disharmony and particularly, in this case, anti-Semitic activity."

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## 1993-94 Tentative Schedule



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**Robert Goulet**  
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**W**endy Wasserstein, author of the critically acclaimed "The Heidi Chronicles", is back with an uproarious comedy blended with insightful social commentary. Three sisters take center stage exploring relationships, searching for elusive love and self-definition. **The New York Times** called it "Funny. Observant. A play with wit as well as acumen . . . Ms. Wasserstein is, as always, the most astute of commentators." Spring '94.



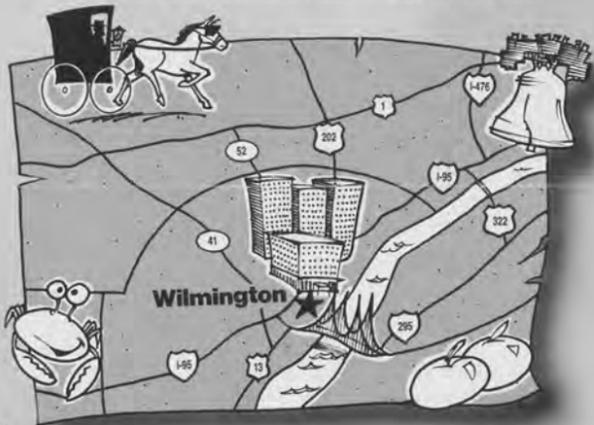
**The Sisters Rosensweig**  
By Wendy Wasserstein



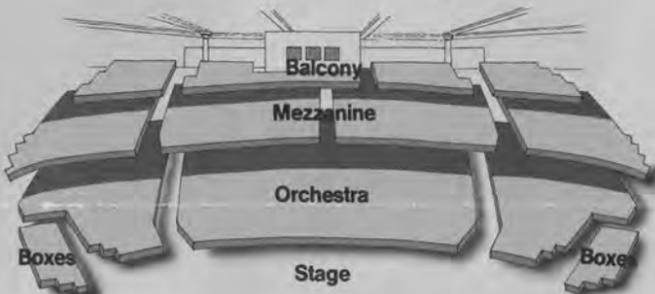
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Levine

continued from page 10

"It's easy to use," says Levine of camera. "It gives a different effect than a regular camera because the edges grow dark and slightly out of focus."

She says she was amazed at the vibrant colors the \$14 camera produced because, "it really interested me to have bright colors and simple photographs."

"I like the toy camera because I wanted my pictures to look child-like. I like for people to be able to concoct a story and allow my pictures to spark their imagination."

"I don't want to necessarily show the horrors of the world. A lot of current art is only political but that's not my only interest."

Another picture chosen for both exhibitions, called "Untitled," shows a black dog staring into the camera lens with its coal-colored, ominous eyes, reflecting the Delaware landscape surrounding the large power plant.

"When I first came to school here I took a bus trip to New York and I looked off the bridge and saw a huge power plant with smoke coming out of it," says Levine.

"I had never seen one and it scared me. It was raining and dark so it made it look eerie. The black dog reminded me of the fear I feel when I see those things," says Levine while reflecting on the motive behind taking the photograph.

"My pictures aren't like anyone else's that I know, says Levine. "A lot of people inspired me but it doesn't show in my work."

She particularly likes the work of Ruth Thorne-Thompson, who she describes as being surreal.

"She uses black and white cut out pieces in her photography," says Levine, who was inspired to create "Angel Garden," a picture of angels flying around in a cornfield that she made by setting cut out images in a different environment then where they naturally belong.

"She sparked my thinking for that picture."

Holocaust Play to be Performed by Mt. Pleasant High School Students

A one-act cutting of "I Never Saw Another Butterfly," will be performed June 8th and 9th at Mount Pleasant High School at 7:30 p.m. The play tells the story of 15,000 Jewish children who passed through Terezin, a ghetto, which became a station for hundreds of thousands of children on their way to the gas chambers of Auschwitz. One hundred children survived when Terezin was liberated in May, 1945. The cutting of the play is by the original author, Celeste Raspanti, and is based on the

story of one child who survived.

Mr. George Allen Ruth directs Mt. Pleasant students, Kimberlee Campbell, Jaime Cutter, Ellen Hofmann, Dawn Johnson, Gretchen Kaufman, Allison Parker, Kellyanne Scanlan, Ben Tolpin and Wendy Wellman. Admission is \$4.00. Tickets may be purchased at the door. Mount Pleasant High School is located on Washington Street Extension between Marsh Road and Philadelphia Pike.

Kutz

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aide. Several residents received certificates of recognition for their assistance with the Home's activities program and their frequent visits with other residents.

A special award was presented to the people of the MBNA "In recognition of their generous spirit, their deep concern for the comfort and well-being of our residents, and their

efforts to enhance the quality of life at the Home." The people of MBNA were thanked for their weekly pet therapy program and also for providing a special bus and driver for excursions. They have funded a number of other projects, such as refurbishing the board room, and the social worker's office, and have completed significant improvements to the landscaping and grounds.

Mr. Parsons paid special tribute to

former Executive Director, Daniel Thurman, who has accepted a position in Boston. Mr. Thurman was presented with a Steuben Glass sculpture engraved with words of appreciation for his devoted leadership from 1976 to 1993. The Home is under the competent direction of Sheila Mensch, Social Worker, and Aimée Prange, Business Manager. A search committee is currently seeking a new director.

Going to Canada? Bring Your Visa!

By GIL KEZWER

TORONTO, May 16 (JTA) — Canada has imposed a visa requirement on visitors with temporary Israeli travel documents because of the rapidly increasing number who have claimed refugee status here in the last three years.

The new regulation, announced last week by Employment and Immigration Minister Bernard Valcourt, is intended to halt a stream of bogus refugee claims, many of them filed by Jews from the former Soviet Union, said Canadian Immigration spokeswoman Wendy Bontinen.

Israel issues laissez-passer papers to newly arrived immigrants desiring to travel abroad. The orange-colored "Travel Document in Lieu of National Passport" is replaced by a permanent blue-jacketed passport after one year in the country.

Shas Clash

continued from page 3

The settlers, led by Rabbi Menahem Felix, have been staging a sit-in strike for the past four weeks, in protest of the ongoing alliance between Shas and the Labor Party.

Yosef supporters regarded the demonstration as an unacceptable attempt to drag their rabbi into politics, and a personal harassment of their leader.

The weekend clash followed an outburst by Yosef in front of his followers during the weekly Torah lesson. The rabbi reportedly burst into tears, complaining that the demonstrating settlers were making life miserable for his family and would not leave him in peace.

The complaint apparently was enough to spur his adherents into settling accounts with the settlers.

Shortly before midnight Saturday, supporters of Yosef showed up at his house, in Jerusalem's prestigious Talbiyah neighborhood, and physically attacked the demonstrators.

Felix and another settler were injured in the face and rushed to the hospital. Yosef's followers then threw furniture into the street and set it afire.

The settlers filed complaints with the police against the attackers, as well as against Yosef himself.

In response, dozens of settlers showed up at Yosef's residence Sunday morning, in a gesture of solidarity with the sit-in strikers, led by Felix, who had returned from the hospital.

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*Panim El Panim*  
Face to Face with JFD

## Operation Exodus... It's Not Over Yet

In 1987, more than 250,000 Jews from across the U.S. marched on Washington chanting "Let My People Go." In 1989, Glasnost opened the sealed doors to Jewish emigration and more than 200,000 Soviet Jews

fulfilled their dream of emigrating to Israel. In June of 1990, the world Jewish population responded and launched the Operation Exodus fundraising campaign designed to help Israel absorb the massive immi-

gration. The Delaware Jewish community participated at record-breaking levels surpassing its goal of \$720,000 by raising close to \$900,000.

"But the book is not yet sealed on this great miracle of our time," commented Arlene and Howard Simon and Ellen and Garth Koniver, Co-Chairpersons of Delaware's Continuing Operation Exodus Campaign. "The latest chapter finds Israel receiving more than 400,000 Soviet Jews and close to 200,000 Ethiopian Jews, an amazing surge of excitement in Israel and at the same time an incredible financial burden on the Jewish homeland." In 1992, the world Jewish community responded again by launching Operation Exodus ... the Commitment Continues, designed to raise another \$450 million for the estimated 1,000,000 immigrants expected to arrive in Israel by the year 1996.

Delaware's fair-share portion of this goal is \$1.2 million, toward which the community has pledged close to \$900,000. Efforts are currently underway to complete this vital campaign by personally speaking to every member of our community about their commitment to the campaign. Volunteers will participate in a solicitor training session Thursday, June 3

or Tuesday, June 8, 7:00 p.m. at the JCC in order to be comfortable to speak one-on-one with members of the community.

New volunteers are welcome — and needed — to attend the June 3 or June 8 session. No experience is necessary ... just a commitment to the freedom of hundreds of thou-

sands of our Soviet and Ethiopian brethren enjoying their new Jewish lives in a country which was once only a dream.

To volunteer or obtain more information about how to be a part of Operation Exodus ... the Commitment Continues, please contact Seth Bloom, JFD Associate Executive Director, 478-6200.



Liana Gebel, now employed as a seamstress in Upper Nazareth, made a hasty departure with her husband and daughter from Tadjikistan to Israel last year. Now, they worry about their son who stayed behind to complete his education. (UJA Press Service/D.R. Guthrie)

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## Second Annual Israel Bowl Delivers Fun and Promise

The Kinneret is known by what other name? Who was the only woman Prime Minister of Israel? The mountain fortress Masada overlooks what body of water? These and other questions about Israel were answered successfully by student teams from area Hebrew schools and Albert Einstein Academy in the Second Annual Israel Bowl sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Delaware on Sunday, May 16, 1993 at the Jewish Community Center. The Bowl was instituted last year to promote study and understanding of Israel in the fourth to sixth grades. The year's study culminates in a celebration featuring a competition in the "Jeopardy" style.

This year the program was augmented by the Jewish Community Center which provided a Shaliach, a sale of Jewish books and items for adults and children and Israeli food. The program started with the distri-

bution of Israeli candy and a description of the rules. Parents and families were on hand in the audience to cheer the competing teams. The lead changed several times before the team from Albert Einstein finally emerged triumphant.

Stuart Nemser, Chairman and moderator of the event commented: "We wanted to plan something to promote and encourage love of Israel and judging by the remarkable knowledge of the 4th, 5th and 6th grade students as well as their infectious enthusiasm, the Bowl has become a fun part of their learning. We are encouraged by the interscholastic participation in an intellectual but fun event."

The teams were:  
°From Congregation Beth Emeth (third place) — Aaron Kirschner, Marna Lew, Elliot Parsons, Maya Rich, Rachel Schenker, Jeffrey Shurak, Jennifer Wiener.

°From Temple Beth El (second place) — Jill Bock, Beth Gelman, Joseph Novick, Jeff Oster, Danielle Solan, Julia Temko.

°From Albert Einstein Academy (winning team) — Morgan McGee-Solomon, Pamela Rothenberg, Anna Schenker, Joshua Zimmer.

Nemser added that he feels that all the children participating in a program about Israel are winners and that this is the reason that everyone receives a trophy. Since the Israel Bowl has occurred near Yom Ha'atzmaut or Yom Yerushalayim, the Bowl concludes with ice cream or cake for the participants and audience alike.

The Israel Bowl is a cooperative program coordinated by the Jewish Federation of Delaware. Other than the participating Hebrew schools and Albert Einstein Academy, other contributors to this community program are the Gratz Hebrew High School and the Jewish Community Center.

For more information, call Lelaine Nemser at the Jewish Federation of Delaware, 478-6200.

## Gertrude F. Shar Bequest for JFD

It is with deep gratitude that the Jewish Federation of Delaware announces a generous gift from the late Gertrude F. Shar. Miss Shar, lifelong resident of Delaware, left the bulk of her estate without restrictions to the Federation.

This legacy is another building block in the Federation's program to establish an endowment to serve the community, now and in the future. Through her gift Gertrude Shar has expressed her desire to see the Federation and its beneficiary agencies continue to serve our People here

and abroad.

The future of the Jewish community in America is not assured. Programs and services which will counteract the assimilation and apathy among our young people must be a priority for our agencies and synagogues. Gertrude Shar's bequest will help us meet this need.

Your legacy today will insure generations tomorrow. For more information about the Federation's endowment program call Connie Kreshtool, 478-6200.

The Jewish Voice gratefully acknowledges the efforts of Bob Moyer, our proofreader.

### Corrections

\* Kutz Home Auxiliary Donor Luncheon Photos which appeared in our last issue were taken by Shiela Mensch.



## Maimonides Brunch Features Professor

"Body and Soul: An Overview of Jewish Medical Ethics" was the subject of an address to Maimonides Society physicians and spouses at a brunch on Sunday, May 16. The brunch was held at beautiful Hagley Library, an historic setting matched by a discussion covering centuries of thought by Professor Velv Greene of Ben Gurion University in Israel. Professor Greene is currently on sabbatical leave in the United States doing teaching and advising on medical ethics.

Prior to his aliyah to Israel in 1986, Professor Greene spent most of his academic career at the University of Minnesota's School of Public Health. He was one of the original participants in NASA's exobiology program (searching for life on Mars) but is better known for his publications in the fields of nosocomial infection control, disinfection and sterilization and environmental sanitation. In 1983, he was awarded both a Bush Fellowship for excellence

in undergraduate education and a Fulbright Fellowship for research and teaching in Israel.

The Jewish Federation of Delaware Maimonides Society modeled after similar societies throughout the country, was established in 1992 to provide a forum for Jewish physicians to interact while participating in dynamic programs. Co-chairs Dr. Susan Jonas and Dr. Edward Goldenberg believe in gathering Jewish physicians together on a periodic basis for mutual benefit. "The opportunity to meet and socialize and to learn from a program such as Jewish Medical Ethics provides a warm and mutually supportive atmosphere for Jewish physicians which results in a more cohesive group."

Further Maimonides Society events will be planned for the 1993-1994 year. Information about Maimonides Society is available by calling Lelaine Nemser at Jewish Federation of Delaware, 478-6200.

## Kutz Home Annual Meeting Held on Mother's Day

Over 100 residents, relatives, staff and friends enjoyed a beautiful Mother's Day at the Annual Meeting of The Milton & Hattie Kutz Home. Donald F. Parsons, Jr., President of the Board of Directors, presided.

Ann Greenstein, Kutz Home Chaplain, presented the invocation and an introduction to the Home's Judaic program, with which she is assisted by Dr. Laurie Cowan. Ms. Greenstein described the religious services and pastoral care program she has developed for the residents and their families. "Preserving human dignity ... respecting the sanctity of life, is what the Kutz Home is all about," she said. Ms. Greenstein further explained that "We owe it to our residents to provide meaning, purpose, connection, continuity and community through the environment we create."

Jack Jacobs, Past President, presented the nominating committee report. Eileen Conner accepted the position of President Elect. The slate was approved as presented.

The annual report of the Kutz Home Auxiliary, given by the Auxiliary President, Ethel Parsons, revealed a substantial financial contribution from the Auxiliary to the Home this year, as well as the completion of several projects designed to further improve the residents' rooms. Mrs. Parsons was assisted by Interim Co-Administrators of the Home Sheila Mensch and Aimée Prange in presenting awards to several of the staff members in recognition of continuous outstanding service, ranging from five to thirty years. She also presented the Employee of the Year award to Tressy Turner, a dietary

continued on page 11



Photo by Abe Mensch

Donald Parsons, President of the Kutz Home, presents plaque to Kutz Home Treasurer and MBNA 1st Vice President Craig Lewis.

## Making Connections

Making Connections - Reaching out to the Jewish Family of the 90's was the title of the 21st Annual Conference of the Association of Jewish Family and Children's Agency meeting in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Jewish Family Service of Delaware was represented by Arnold Lieberman, Executive Director, Joan Wachstein, President, and David Krigstein, President-Elect.

Rabbi Rachel Cowan and Rabbi David Wolpe were the keynote speakers at the conference. Both addressed the issue of Jewish Family Services approaching the 21st century, as agencies whose role will be the supporting and strengthening of the Jewish Family, by providing services of

education, outreach, and therapy, to participate in the continuity of the Jewish People. Services provided by Jewish Family Services are needed more, now than ever, because of the conditions in the society in which we are now living.

Associated Jewish Family and Children's Agencies awards annually a "Distinguished Service" Award to agency Executive Directors for distinguished service. Arnold Lieberman, of Wilmington, was the recipient of the award this year. Jewish Family Service of Delaware congratulates him on his achievement, and we are proud that he is associated with our agency.



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## Summer Fun Begins with JCC Pre-Camp

Summer is just around the corner, school is over in a couple of weeks, and there's a week between school and Camp JCC. The JCC Pre-Camp offers a week of fun, trips, and excitement. According to Elyse Greer, JCC Youth Services Coordinator, registration for Pre-Camp is "tremendous. We're seeing more campers sign up earlier than ever!"

An exciting program has been set

up for "pre-campers." Monday, June 21st, is a trip to the Family Fun Spot for a picnic, waterslides, and mini-golf. The Franklin Institute in Philadelphia is the destination for Tuesday, June 22nd. On Wednesday, June 23rd, campers can root for the Phillies against the Atlanta Braves. Campers will ride the Ferry to Fort Delaware/Pea Patch Island on Thursday, June 24th. For Friday, June

25th, campers will be guided through the Old New Castle & Battery Park areas.

Pre-camp hours are 7:15 a.m.-5:45 p.m. The fees are \$105 for the entire week or \$75 for a Monday, Wednesday, Friday option. Families must be members of the JCC. Spaces are limited and pre-registration is required. For more information, call Elyse Greer, (302) 478-5660.

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Shavout

By NAOMI ARBIT FOX POINT, Wis. (JTA) - Shavuot commemorates the receiving of the Ten Commandments by Moses on Mount Sinai. This Jewish holiday, which is celebrated seven weeks after Passover, marks the arrival of spring, and in biblical times, the harvest of the first fruits. It is customary to serve dairy foods during Shavuot, and kugels and blintzes are served traditionally. This year Shavuot was May 26 and May 27.

Beth Shalom Sisterhood

Congregation Beth Shalom Sisterhood Donor Dinner and Installation will be held on Tuesday, June 8, 1993, at 6:30 p.m. at the DuPont Country Club in the Wedgewood Room. Lillian Balick will present "The Life and Music of Victor Herbert" which is being made possible by a grant from the Delaware Humanities Forum, a state-based agency of the National Endowment for the Humanities. The program is open to the public at no charge for the program only. There is a plate charge of \$22.00 for non-sisterhood members and \$15.00 for members. For more information or to make reservations, call Sande Turnauer at 571-1168 or Linda Drowos at 478-1329 by June 1. The new slate of officers for 1993-94 is: President - Sharon Rosen Vice-Presidents: Membership - Sandra Belfer; Program - Danna Levy; Synagogue - Dr. Irene Plotzker Secretaries: Corresponding - Susan Gutter; Financial - Marlene Gold; Recording - Linda Drowos; Treasurer - Fran Freedman Board Members: Vivian Balick, Arlene Davis, Sandra Glassman, Debbie Grossman, Karin Karel, Elaine Morganstein, Sue Rubenstein, Marcia Shephard, Sande Turnauer, Eva Weissman.

DELAWARE'S SYNAGOGUES ADAS KODESCH SHEL EMETH (Traditional) Affiliation: Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America Washington Blvd. and Torah Drive, Wilmington 762-2705 Rabbi Sanford Dresin Rabbi Emeritus Leonard B. Gewirtz SERVICES Friday -- 8 p.m. Saturday - 8:45 a.m. Sundays, holidays -- 8 a.m. Monday through Friday -- 7:30 a.m. Monday through Thursday -- 5:30 p.m. BETH SHOLOM CONGREGATION OF DOVER (Conservative) Affiliation: United Synagogues of America Queen and Clara Sts., Dover 734-5578 Rabbi Moshe Goldblum SERVICES Friday -- 7:30 p.m. Saturday -- 9:30 a.m. Discussion of Torah Portion takes place following Saturday morning service. CONGREGATION BETH EMETH (Reform) Affiliation: Union of American Hebrew Congregations 300 Lea Blvd., Wilmington 764-2393 Rabbi Peter Grumbacher Assistant Rabbi Sarah Messinger SERVICES Friday -- 8 p.m. Saturday -- 10 a.m. A Torah study group meets on Saturdays at 9 a.m. CONGREGATION BETH SHALOM (Conservative) Affiliation: United Synagogues of America 18th and Baynard Blvd., Wilmington 654-4462 Rabbi Herbert Yoskowitz SERVICES Friday -- 8 p.m. Saturday -- 9:30 a.m. A Torah discussion is led by the rabbi during Saturday morning services. MACHZIKEY HADAS CONGREGATION (Traditional) B'nai B'rith Building 800 Society Blvd., Claymont 798-6846 Friday -- 8 p.m.; Saturday -- 9 a.m. TEMPLE BETH EL (Reconstructionist) Affiliation: Federation of Reconstructionist Congregations & Havurot 301 Possum Park Road, Newark 366-8330 Rabbi David Kaplan SERVICES Friday -- 8 p.m. Saturday -- 10 a.m. A Torah study group meets on Saturdays at 9 a.m.

Words & Music will return next issue!

LATE BREAKING NEWS... The German Parliament approved stricter new asylum laws on Wednesday. This story will be covered in our next issue.

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Shane Tyler Hart Born

Sheri and Robert Hart, of Wilmington, announce the birth of Shane Tyler Hart, March 11, 1993.

The grandparents are Netty and Stanley Hart, Wilmington, and Sandra and Stephen Seidel, Wilmington. The great-grandparents are Dorothy and Robert Akell, Wilmington.

Rappaport to Japan

Alyson Rappaport, a sophomore at Brandywine High School, has been chosen to represent Delaware on a 17-day all-expense paid trip this summer to Japan, sponsored by the Sony Corporation. She will be one of two young adults from Delaware in a group of 52 students. Alyson is also President-elect of Wilmington BBG. She is the daughter of Dr. Jay and Bryna Rappaport.

Rebekah Jay Mennies Born

Beverly and Howard Hoffman are grandparents of Rebekah Joy Mennies, newest daughter of Janet and Richard Mennies of Newtown Square, Pennsylvania. She was born on May 4.

Paternal grandparents are Bernard and Eve Mennies of Elkins Park, Pennsylvania. Great-grandmothers are Shirley Provisor of Los Angeles, California, and Margaret Schonwetter of Philadelphia.

Fredman earns Ph.D.

Jeffrey Fredman has received his Ph.D. degree in Biochemistry from the University of Alabama, Birmingham, AL. Jeff is the husband of Debra Panitz Fredman. He is the son of Ted and Harriet Fredman of Silver Spring, MD. and the son-in-law of Bernard and Sylvia Panitz of Wilmington.



Karaite Jews are Back in the News

By RABBI BERNARD S. RASKAS

The Karaites are a sect of Jews who have almost been forgotten by history. Suddenly, several events have propelled them back into the news.

In San Francisco, Karaite Jews have purchased a house to establish their first synagogue in America. In Israel a Karaite wedding took place in the presence of 500 guests and 10 rabbis clustered under the *chuppah* (wedding canopy). In Russia the St. Petersburg (Leningrad) Library opened to scholars the Firkovitch collection, which contains the greatest numbers of Karaite works and altogether is a true mother lode for Jewish history.

The Karaites came into being at the beginning of the eighth century. The name of the sect, *Karaim*, means "people of the Scriptures." It implies the main characteristic of the movement, which is the recognition of the Hebrew Bible, as the sole and direct source of Jewish religious law. This, of course, is a rejection of the Oral Law, which is based on the talmudic-rabbinic tradition.

The founder was Anan ben David, an ascetic sage, who lived in Babylonia in the eighth century. He was influenced by the writers of the Dead Sea Scrolls, the Sadducees, and contemporary Muslim thought. However, his main thrust was the assertion of the Bible as the literal and almost sole source of Jewish practice and thought. He expressed his basic philosophy in this teaching: "Search thoroughly in the Torah and do not rely on my opinion."

In the centuries that followed, there was much controversy between the Karaites and the Rabbinites. The first systematic theological work in Judaism was written by the eminent rabbi,

Rabbi Bernard S. Raskas is Rabbi Emeritus of the Temple of Aaron in St. Paul. Distinguished Visiting Professor in Religious Studies at Macalester College, and author of the trilogy, "Heart of Wisdom."

Saadiah Gaon (882-942), entitled *Beliefs and Opinions*, as a response to the challenge of the Karaites. The Karaites produced many scholars, but the greatest mind was Abu Yosef Yacov al-Kirkasani, who lived in the 10th century.

The Karaite sect spread all over the world. This included Egypt, North Africa, Babylonia, Persia, and as far as the Crimea. Jerusalem became a very strong center of activity and thought.

Today, the majority of Karaites, some 25,000, live in Israel — primarily Ramalah, and in Ashdod Ofakim, Beersheba, and Bat Yam. Several thousand reside in the United States, mostly in San Francisco. Another 2,500 more are in the Soviet Union, mainly in the Crimea.

Although they are recognized as Jews in Israel, according to the Law of Return (a large number were airlifted from Egypt by the Israeli government in 1948-49), the chief rabbinates call them a "cult" of "non-Jews." Shlomo Ovadiah, a Karaite leader, responded, "They call us 'goyim' because we don't put on *tefillin*. But the Bible doesn't mention *tefillin*. Is it better to put a verse in a box on your forehead, or give it to your son and say, 'Read it and remember it?'"

An interesting aspect as to the identity of the Karaites is to be found during the '40s. At the beginning of the Holocaust the German Ministry of the Interior expressly stipulated that the Karaites did not belong to the religious Jewish community because "social psychology" was considered non-Jewish. On the other hand, in the Arab lands following the establishment of the State of Israel, the persecution of the Jews caused the Karaites in Egypt, Iraq and elsewhere to settle in Israel, where they were welcomed and enabled to carry on their particular form of Judaism under the protection of the state.

It was a Karaite Jew named Abraham Firkovitch who established the best collection of Hebrew manu-

scripts in the St. Petersburg Library. Now known as the Firkovitch Collection, it numbers 15,000 Hebrew manuscripts and is the largest such private collection amassed in the last two centuries.

In 1830, Firkovitch accompanied the chief *chacham* (spiritual leader) of the Karaites in Crimea to Palestine. There in the Karaite synagogue in Jerusalem he retrieved old manuscripts from the *geniza*, a synagogue storeroom where worn-out holy books are kept until they are buried. Later, as a Karaite rabbi in Turkey, he continued his collecting. At the age of 76, Firkovitch visited Jerusalem again, as well as Nablus and Cairo, where he obtained many rare manuscripts and books.

In 1962, Firkovitch sold the bulk of his collection to the Imperial Public Library, as it was called in St. Petersburg. The sum for the purchase was the substantial amount of 25,000 rubles. This year the library was visited by Prof. Malachi Beit-Arie, director of the National Library of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He has arranged for a team of four to photograph and record all of the dated items. It will be a harvest for Hebrew scholarship.

In 1980, during a visit to Cairo, I had the extraordinary opportunity to become acquainted with the few remaining Jews of the once large Karaite community. I attended services, but there were only six or seven people present. The synagogue resembles a mosque with no seats, but rugs. The service is Moslem-style during which men remove their shoes and prostrate themselves. The *tallit* they wear contains a blue thread.

I was presented with a Karaite prayer book which was published in 1900 in Cairo. It is entirely in Hebrew with an Arabic index. The prayers are mainly taken from the Psalms and prayers written by Karaite leaders. Of course, what is most striking is that there are no *berachot* (blessings) that were created by the rabbis and which most of us associate



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By great good fortune I was privileged to see the famed Ben Asher manuscript which is owned by the Karaite community of Cairo. It is so precious that it is kept in an iron box with two locks. Two different persons have keys so that it can never be removed independently. The codex was written by Moses Ben Asher, probably a Karaite scholar and scribe in the second half of the ninth century in Tiberias.

The manuscript is important because it carefully preserves the *massoretic* (official) text of the Torah. It contains the former and latter prophets with points, accents, notes, and decorative art. As one looks at the manuscript closely, one feels the presence of history and the hand of the writer.

Karaite Jews in the news today seem to be saying to us, "Remember, Karaites, too, are part of the Jewish experience."



Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin comments to reporters May 16 about the shooting by Palestinian gunmen in Gaza earlier which left two Israeli and two Arab vegetable merchants dead, as President Ezer Weizman looks on. Rabin told Israelis not to risk their lives for a few shekels profit by buying cheap vegetables from Palestinians. (RNS PHOTO/Reuters)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Entries for the Calendar of Events are due on the Copy Deadline, published in each edition of *The Jewish Voice*. Copy should be typed and double spaced. Please include day and date, time, place, brief description and contact person.

JUNE 1993

Friday 18

**Jewish Community Center** - Wilmington/Delaware Valley Jewish Singles 30's, 40's and 50's. Cheer the Wilmington Blue Rocks to Victory! Pre-game drinks and snacks in stadium picnic area, 5:45 p.m. Game starts at 7:05 p.m. RSVP by June 4 with check for \$10 payable to H. Nadler. Send to WDJ, c/o Pressman, 1008 Park Drive, Wilmington, DE 19803. For information, call 655-8240 or 478-7798.

Sunday 20

**Jewish Community Center** - Trip to Holocaust Memorial Museum and B'nai B'rith Klutznick Museum in Washington, D.C. Pre-register by June 6. Cost for JCC members is \$24 adults and \$18 for children ages 12 and under. Cost for non-members is \$32 for adults and \$26 for children ages 12 and under. For more information call Amalia Snyderman at 478-5660.

Tuesday 22

**Jewish Community Center** - The Blended Family, 7:30 p.m. Remarriage after divorce can be full of challenges. When you add the issues of bringing together two new families with children, the challenges become even more dramatic. This session will address some of the issues confronted by a blended family. The participants will have an opportunity to explore different ideas that can help build positive relationships. Led by Myrna Ryder, Director of Family Life Education, Jewish Family Service. Pre-registration required at JCC

Front Desk by June 17. For more information, call Sharon Richman at 478-5660.

Thursday 24

**Jewish Community Center** - First Annual Sports Classic at the DuPont Country Club. Golf, Tennis and Lawn Bowling Tournament. Advance registration required. For more information call the JCC at 478-5660.

JULY

Wednesday 21

**Jewish Community Center** - Family Matters, 7:30 p.m. Do you have

unresolved issues or conflicts with other family members? Do you and your siblings get along? Join us as we explore our participation as adults in our own families, and gain some tips to making the time spent together more pleasant. Led by Myrna Ryder, Director of Family Life Education, Jewish Family Service. Pre-registration required at JCC Front Desk by July 16. For more information, call Sharon Richman at 478-5660.

Ongoing

**National Museum of American Jewish History**, 55 N. 5th Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 215-

923-3811 exhibit: "The American Jewish Experience." About Jewish settlement in this country from 1654 to present.

**Yeshiva University Museum**, 2520 Amsterdam Avenue, New York City exhibition through July 30 of paintings by Russian born artist Berta Kuznetsova. These vibrant Impressionist style paintings of faces reflect her transition from a closed society to an open one. Hours Tuesday through Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday noon to 6 p.m. Admission \$3 for adults, \$1.50 for senior citizens and children ages 4-16. For more information call 212-960-5390.

YJAD

On June 6, join YJAD (Singles 20's and 30's) for its Annual Canoe Trip down the Brandywine. Meet at 10:00 a.m. at Wilderness Canoe

Trips (behind Bennigans on Concord Pike.) Contact Suzanne Messinger at 792-1594.

On June 7, YJAD (Singles 20's and 30's) begins its outdoor volleyball season. Contact Michael Schenk

at (215) 558-3781. On June 10, YJAD (Singles 20's and 30's) will enjoy Cocktail Party at Gallucio's, on Lovering Ave., Wilmington. Contact Michael Bank at 738-4542.

Manual to Combat Hate Groups

ATLANTA (JTA) — The Center for Democratic Renewal has published a 192-page manual, "When Hate Groups Come to Town," which it is making available free of charge to all Jewish agencies.

The cost of distributing the book was underwritten by the Nathan Cummings Foundation. The book is designed for Jewish agencies, affiliated rabbis, Hillel directors, federation executives and regional office directors.

The Atlanta-based center, formerly

known as the National Anti-Klan Network, is a national, non-profit clearinghouse for information on white supremacist and neo-Nazi groups.

Included with the book is a four-color illustrated diagram, like a family tree, of the relationship among white supremacist and neo-Nazi organizations in the United States.

To order the book, write to the Center for Democratic Renewal, Special Book Offer, P.O. Box 50469, Atlanta, Ga. 30332.

Hillel Annual Meeting

The 1993 Annual Meeting of the Hillel Student Center Advisory Board is scheduled for, Monday, June 14 at 6:00 p.m. at the Abe & Pearl Kristol Hillel Student Center at 47 West Delaware Avenue, Newark, DE.

The business part of the meeting will begin at 7:00. Prior to the meeting there will be a light meal served.

At this meeting a new board and officers will be elected for the coming year. Other business will be conducted as well. The nominating committee consists of Leni Markell, Yetta Chaiken, and Linda Oster.

Jewish Strategy

continued from page 5

naturally conservative and will always have in it elements and forces that the Jews may not be excited about, but I don't think they control the party," said a former Reagan-Bush official. "They got more emphasis in the last election because the center [of the party] was weak and because of Bush."

"If we can neutralize the abortion issue," he explained, the party will fare better "because the other family values issues like gay rights, school choice and prayer don't raise the same passions."

The GOP's outreach to the Jewish community was moved in the early 1980s from the Republican National committee (ANC) to a quasi-independent group called the National Republican Jewish Coalition ("Republican") was subsequently dropped to broaden its appeal.

A source familiar with Coalition views said it believes, "We don't need a Jewish strategy. If we focus on what it means to be a Republican, the Jews will come. We have to go back to the core beliefs: free market, traditional values and strong defense."

Not all Republican Jews share this "Field of Dreams" vision. A former Reagan White House aide said, "They're concentrating on making Clinton look bad, but there is no long-range thinking. If the Republican party wants to win elections it has to stake out a middle ground. It's not a matter of Jewish issues but issues of minority rights, civil rights,

privacy, people who side with the underdog."

Marshall J. Breger, Jewish liaison in the Reagan White House, said Jews will gain influence in the GOP when those who live in the big cities and now vote Democrat switch parties. "Build up locally a base of Jewish Republican constituents and you'll have real influence in the party," he explained.

A former ANC staffer said, "There is no Jewish strategy because [party chair Haley] Barbour is occupied with bigger problems right now. He needs one because Jews vote in a higher percentage than anyone else and can be the swing vote in a number of key states."

If anyone has a Jewish strategy, it is Kemp, the former housing secretary who was a pro-Israel leader in the House of Representatives and remains highly thought of in the Jewish community. He has the most pro-Israel record among the party's 1996 hopefuls.

"Kemp got support from the Jewish community because in addition to being so pro-Israel he focused on the core values of what it means to be a Republican," said a source close to the Coalition.

But Kemp has his problems. His Empower America says it "will welcome America's 24 million Protestant evangelicals."

It's a Catch 22. A Republican candidate probably can't win the nomination without the religious right, and probably can't win the

general election with it. Meanwhile, it has not given up trying to take control of the party — and the country — and is moving aggressively in several states.

The battle for the GOP heart and soul is important to the Jewish community and to friends of Israel. During the Cold War it was easier to speak to conservatives in terms of Israel as an anti-Communist bastion in a hostile and often pro-Soviet region. But in these more complex times of changing foreign policy priorities abroad and economic constraints at home, the task of forging a pro-Israel coalition is more difficult.

Jewish political activism must be confined to a narrow band on the political spectrum or one party. It is in the community's interest to be in both parties and it is in the interest of both parties. But gone is the day when being "right" on Israel could be enough to compensate for being "wrong" on the broad range of other issues also important to the Jewish community.

The Democrats also have their problems, but in 1992 Bill Clinton turned away from elements in his party considered hostile to Israel and the Jewish community and even partisan Republicans interviewed for this report generally agreed he has been doing a good job on relations Israel and the Jewish community.

To the extent that Jewish votes and Jewish support are important to Republicans, the party needs a strategy that is more responsive to a broader range of Jewish concerns.



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LOCAL

Delaware Momentum

continued from page 1

gogues in Delaware's Jewish future, according to its planners. "If there is going to be future generations of Jews they are going to come through the synagogues — that's the battleground for commitment and against intermarriage." Serving Israeli food was meant to reinforce our connection to Israel. The recurring major themes of the event were Israel and Jewish survival.

Toni Young cautioned those who mistakenly believe that, since the center of Jewish population has shifted to Israel, after thousands of years, it's okay not to help Jews anymore. Young said Jews in Israel, and other parts of the world, still need US Political clout and financial support. When studies show one-third of Jews say it doesn't mean much to them to be Jewish; the challenge is *What kind of Jewry will survive?* Young outlined her objectives to see through to completion the first ever 'community agenda' which will prioritize communal needs.

Ellen Koniver applauded Joe Yucht's discussion of the recent UJA Mission to Israel, which was enriched by Delaware participation. Koniver, who also participated in the Mission, noted the Mission was "not a vacation but an experience... It's exciting to be in Israel, you

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**New Board Members attending the JFD Annual Meeting are (clockwise standing) Rick Geisenberger, Toni Young, JFD's new President, Craig Lewis, Clara Hollander, Connie Sugarman, and Joan Spiegelman. New Board Members not photographed are Karen Morris, Bob Pincus, and Carol Rothschild.**



Lori Barbanel receives congratulations from Barbara Friedman on receiving the Gilbert J. Spiegel Young Leadership Award. Barbara is the daughter of Pat Spiegel Chalphin and the late Gilbert J. Spiegel.

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Steve Dombchik, JFD President, congratulates Connie Sugarman on receiving the Volunteer of the Year Award.



look around and everyone's Jewish." Koniver stressed the expertise of UJA in assuring Mission participants the best of Israel in a short taste of Israel. Reflecting on a more somber aspect of Israeli life, Koniver added, "It touches me to see the children in the military. How can you not be affected by it?" Koniver was elected Secretary of Federation; her portfolio will include volunteerism and missions.

Judy Wortman addressed the issue of Jewish Survival, which Toni Young referred to as the central challenge of Jews in Delaware and elsewhere. Wortman examined changes in the Jewish experience with the anecdotal example of her own family's history of five generations in America. Of thirteen family members in her generation, today only ten were married, of whom only five were married to Jews and of whom only two were living Jewishly. Wortman spoke of the challenge indicated by a National Jewish Population study in 1990, which chronicled a diminishing population of Jews. She artfully contrasted this study with the tribe by tribe census of Jews in Sinai recited in the first chapter of the Book of Numbers, which indicated growth from fewer than 100 Jews in the time of Joseph to about six hundred thousand Jews in Sinai. "The threat today is that with America's freedom, we don't have to be Jewish and so we are losing our numbers," Wortman said. "Our hope lies with (empowering Jewishly) the next generation," Wortman said regarding prospects for Jewish continuity.

After the meeting Stephen

Dombchik elaborated on his year in review presentation to look back on JFD's many accomplishments during the two years he served as President. One of the foremost achievements was the effort to "reenergize the annual campaign," said Dombchik, "last year was a great success and this year it is up 20% from last year on a card per card basis." Dombchik noted a number of people recognize how many recent successes were also due to the steady leadership of Seth Bloom as the interim Acting Executive Vice-President for many months. Dombchik said he was inspired "to interact with such a diverse and dedicated group of people," as Delaware's Jewish Community's "Federation Board, agencies, lay people, volunteers and professional staff." Dombchik is eager to meet new challenges directing Endowments for Federation, which have more than doubled over the past two years.

Both outgoing President Dombchik and incoming President Young emphasized a commitment to Jewish continuity and toward including more people in the process. As President Dombchik sought for Federation to "touch more people, to get them to understand Federation and to be a greater part of Federation." Young said she wanted to "encourage all viewpoints and people to participate in the dialogue from Northern Delaware and Southern Delaware, big contributors and small contributors, old and young. "Without the wisdom of the older people we are bound to repeat the mistakes of the past; without the insight and vision of younger

people we will arrive late for the future." Both Dombchik and Young agreed it was vital to build on the success of the Campaign, which Dombchik described as "the key to funding the priorities in the community, the work of the agencies and our commitments overseas."

Connie Sugarman received the JFD Volunteer of the Year Award for her efforts with Federation, Albert Einstein Academy, the Jewish Community Center and ORT. Lori Barbanel, who has chaired the JFD Young Leadership Cabinet and has been active in the leadership of Congregation Beth Shalom, was recognized with the Gilbert J. Spiegel Young Leadership Award.

Other officers elected at the meeting included Vice Presidents Cas Anolick (allocations), David Margules (outreach and education) as well as Barbara Schoenberg (fundraising). Helaine Gordon, elected Assistant Secretary, will oversee leadership. Alfred Green was elected as the JFD treasurer. Leslie Newman is now the Assistant Treasurer responsible for planning. New Board Members elected include Rick Geisenberger, Clara Hollander, Craig Lewis, Karen Morris, Robert Pincus, Carol Rothschild, and Connie Sugarman.

In a moving moment, at the end of her remarks Wortman led those assembled in singing *Hiney Mah Tov Uma Nayim, Shevet Achim Gam Yachad*, or, translated, behold how good it is for sisters and brothers to live in peace.

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## Hedy Goldman

Hedy Goldman, 90, of Clearwater, Florida died April 18 after a long illness.

A former resident of Detroit, Michigan, Mrs. Goldman had lived in Florida for almost 15 years. She was a professional beautician and an excellent baker and homemaker. A native of Germany, Mrs. Goldman was a Holocaust survivor. She is survived by a daughter Dorothy Preisler of Oldsmar, Florida; son Robert of West Bloomfield, Michigan; and grandchildren in Wilmington, Delaware, and Michigan.

## Isadore Levy

Isadore Levy, 93, died May 24 at Kutz Home for the Aged, 704 River Road, Bellefonte, where he was a patient.

Mr. Levy was an insurance agent for Home Life Insurance Co., Wilmington, for 25 years, retiring in 1965.

He was a member of Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation, Machzikey Hadas Congregation, past grand chancellor of state Knights of Pythias, and a member of Lodge 4 Knights of Pythias, Clayton, and Lodge 470 B'nai B'rith, Wilmington.

His wife, Shirley Levy, died in 1992. He is survived by two sons,

Melvin J. of Kingsridge and Allan H. of Point Pleasant Beach, N.J.; three brothers, Dr. Charles and Burton, both of Wilmington, and Dr. Leon of Hockessin; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation, Wilmington, or Machzikey Hadas Congregation, Claymont.

## Charles Akell

Charles Akell, 69, of Townsville, North Queensland, Australia, died May 20 of heart failure in a North Queensland Hospital, where he was a patient.

Mr. Akell, born in Boston, was stationed in Townsville in the U.S. Army during World War II. He returned in 1948 and had been its city clerk.

His wife, Hannah, died in 1991. He is survived by two children, William A. of Victoria, Australia, and a daughter, Caroline Kohler of Townsville; three brothers, Robert B of Green Acres, Brandywine Hundred, Del., William of Brockton, Mass., and Harold of Medford, Mass.; a sister, Frances Cohen of Swampscott, Mass.; and three grandchildren.

A service and burial will be in Australia.

## Israel's 'Spy on the Horse' Dead in Munich at Age 72

By HUGH ORGEL

TEL AVIV, May 16 (JTA) — Maj. Ze'ev Gur-Arye, a German Jew who as Israel's so-called "champagne spy" worked undercover for years in Egypt, died last week in Munich at the age of 72, following a long illness.

Gur-Arye, earned the sobriquets of the "champagne spy" and "the spy on the horse" because of the opulent lifestyle he led in Egypt, where he owned a ranch and riding school.

Posing as a rich German businessman in Cairo in the early 1960s, Gur-Arye earned the confidence of high-level friends who unwittingly fed him with information about the activities of German rocket and missile scientists working for the Egyptian authorities.

Gur-Arye was born in Hamburg to the non-Jewish manager of the Hamburg Theater and his Jewish actress-wife. His fluent knowledge of German and his Hamburg accent, coupled with the fact that he had not been circumcised, enabled him later to pass as a German non-Jew.

When caught and charged with espionage in Egypt, he was thought to be a German citizen and therefore received a relatively short sentence.

If the Egyptian authorities had

known he was an Israeli Jew and a major in the Israeli army, he would certainly have been sentenced to death.

Gur-Arye came to Palestine at the age of 12 and, while serving as a career officer in the army, was picked and trained for spy duties in Egypt.

His popular ranch in Egypt was frequented by both German scientists and senior Egyptian offices and government officials. He was well-supplied with money and quickly became a social star. Frequently acting against standing orders by his spy masters in Israel, Gur-Arye married a German woman named Waltrude and recruited her to help him in his espionage duties without informing his supervisors.

After the couple's release from jail in Egypt, they came to Israel via Europe.

The master spy tried to make a go at business, but having failed, he moved back to Germany, where his wife died some years ago.

For the past 12 years, Gur-Arye had lived with a West German journalist who cared for him when his health deteriorated seriously in the past few years.

## Markowitz Monument

The unveiling of a Monument dedicated to the Memory of the late Cantor Morris Markowitz will take place at New Montefiore Cemetery, Pinelawn, Long Island, New York, Section 4, Block 10, Row 9, Grave 152, Sunday, June 27, 1993 at 1:00 p.m.

Directions: From Wilmington, Baltimore, Washington D.C. and points South: I 95 North to New Jersey Turnpike to Exit 10 off turnpike. Take Route 440 East to I 278 East cross the Verazzano Bridge to Belt Parkway, exit at Exit 25A off Belt Parkway to Southern State Parkway to Exit 35 off the Parkway, off Exit 35, get on Wellwood Ave. and follow signs to cemetery.

## Algerian Born Jais, Former Paris Chief Rabbi Dies at Age 86

By MICHEL DI PAZ

PARIS, May 18 (JTA) — Meyer Jais, a former chief rabbi of Paris, died here Saturday at age 86.

Born in Medea, Algeria, in 1907, he came to Paris when he was 13. He was educated at the Paris Seminaire Israélite, where he was one of the first pupils from Algeria. He was ordained in 1930 and later earned a degree in philosophy from the Sorbonne.

He started his career as rabbi of Hagenau, Alsace, where he remained till the outbreak of World War II. He joined the army and became chaplain at the Tunis headquarters.

In 1940, he was appointed chief

rabbi of Constantine, Algeria, and chaplain of the pro-De Gaulle French troops in Africa.

Following the liberation of France, he became the chief chaplain of the French army, and rabbi of two synagogues in Paris.

Elected chief rabbi of Paris in 1955, he was the first Sephardi to hold this position. He played an active role in the integration of the over 200,000 Sephardi Jews who fled Algeria after the country gained independence in 1962.

He was given the Legion of Honor, one of France's highest awards. He also wrote books on Jewish religious thought and the Hebrew language.

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Menhale Dessie, 14, clutches a cloth as her sister Ziva hugs her and cries when the Ethiopian Jewish girl is reunited with family members May 17 at Ben Gurion Airport. Menhale was separated from her family in 1984 while they were trekking from Ethiopia to Sudan to be airlifted to Israel and was located nine years later. (RNS PHOTO/Reuters)

# "Wake-up" to Success of Religious Right-Wing

continued from page 1

## 'Extremists in Every Religion'

Religious extremism, Rabbi Yoffie said, "is not confined to any one religion. When we think of religious extremists," he continued, "we think of the fundamentalist mullahs of Iran. We have yet to accept that we are now faced with a domestic version — of Shiite Baptists, Shiite Catholic and even Shiite Jews, Bibles in hand, running amok in politics."

Citing recent efforts of the religious Right to impose its beliefs on American society, Rabbi Yoffie noted the attempt of Pat Robertson's Christian Coalition to win control of New York City schools through a highly-organized campaign to elect candidates to the city's 32 school boards. Similar occurrences have taken place in Shreveport, Louisiana; Davenport, Iowa; San Diego, California, and Kirkwood, Missouri, he said.

The UAHC head of a Commission on Social Section also described the successful effort of some Orthodox Jewish leaders to exclude a predominantly gay and lesbian temple from marching in the annual Salute to Israel Day parade, a secular event, two weeks ago in New York.

Growing concern about the religious Right's attempts to gain control of governmental policy and secular institutions, Rabbi Yoffie said, is

intensified by its successful use of state-of-the-art technology.

**Why Americans Are Listening**  
Strides made by the religious Right raise the key issue of "why Americans are listening to the message of intolerance" preached by its leaders, Rabbi Yoffie said.

The answer lay in the success of Right-wing fundamentalists in touching on "the real fears of average people, including crime, the deterioration of the schools, and a collapse of personal morality."

"Jews and others who believe in moderation must confront these problems head-on and not be reluctant to talk about them, whether the issue is crime in the streets, dangerous and failing schools and the failure of parents and teachers to inculcate discipline and respect."

"Liberals and moderate must not be reluctant to promote an ethic of personal and sexual responsibility," he said. "These issues belong to us no less than they do to the fear-mongers of the Right."

The Commission on Social Action, which Rabbi Yoffie directs, has launched a campaign to confront the religious Right by distributing detailed information to Reform congregations on how to defend local school boards against organized attack, how to defeat anti-gay referendums, and how to expose so-called "stealth" candidates who run for public office with-

out divulging their Right-wing affiliations.

Growing public support for the religious Right, he concluded, "is an expression of legitimate anxieties about deeply-felt social and cultural concerns. We who are not on the Right must offer a compelling and sympathetic response to these anxieties."

## Gaza Strip

continued from page 2

by a series of daring attacks against army targets in the Gaza Strip.

On Saturday, a hand grenade was thrown at an army observation post inside the Shati refugee camp near Gaza, wounding five soldiers, some of them suffering serious wounds.

As in the Nablus attack, the Hamas movement claimed responsibility, saying it was in retaliation for the killing of six wanted Hamas militants who were shot by soldiers last week trying to flee Gaza and cross into Egypt.

The increasing violence within the Gaza Strip and West Bank had been predicted by military and political analysts as an inevitable result of the decision to seal off the territories.

Security experts said the move would create growing political frustration and economic distress, since jobs were lost in Israel proper.

However, they have been surprised that the level of violence did not rise much sooner after the closure was imposed, but only now seems to be materializing.

And they have been heartened by the fact that not one fatal terrorist attack has occurred inside Israel proper since the territories were sealed off.

## Wyman

continued from page 1

ment policy. The Christian community responded, admits Wyman, the grandson of two Protestant ministers, and a man of high moral courage, with "deafening silence." This pattern has continued, Wyman told listeners, as only 20% of his 361 lectures since the publication of his 1984 book have been for non-Jewish groups.

In response to questions following his lecture, Wyman commented on the War Department's unwillingness to bomb rail lines and death camps: the department claimed they didn't want to divert air power from other targets, but official records say heavy bombers were sent into the Auschwitz region on August 20, 1944 and on September 13, 1944 to bomb its labor camps. He also addressed the issue of "revisionist Holocaust history," (the Holocaust is a myth, not fact) and the less-than-accurate portrayal in the Holocaust Museum of the United States as rescuers of the Jews. (Beth Shalom will sponsor a trip to the Washington, D.C. museum on Sunday, November 7, 1993.)

Dr. Wyman's lecture was sponsored by the Rabbi Jacob Kraft Educational Foundation, created in 1988 to honor the late rabbi. In his intro-



Dr. Wyman and Sheldor Weinstein at Beth Shalom.

ductory remarks, foundation chairperson Sheldon Weinstein reminded the audience of Rabbi's Kraft love of learning, his belief in the "living of Torah, and the Torah of living," and his insistence that we must never stop learning about ourselves, each other, and history. With \$250,000 in funds raised under the chairmanship of Toni and Stuart Young, the foundation presents two or more programs per year, appealing to all age groups. Previous participants have been Carol Snyder and Peninah Schram, storytellers, and week-end scholars in residence including Dr. David Fishman of the Jewish Theological Seminary.

## Lubavitch

continued from page 2

And last week they approached the rebbe and asked his permission to take the reins of power.

According to a statement they made, which was broadcast over the Crown Heights Hotline — a taped message which can be accessed by telephone — the three rabbis went in to see the rebbe about this issue.

They phrased their questions simply, in a way that only required a nod or shake of his head in response.

"There is a suggestion that members of the secretariat should all become members of the board of directors of these organizations. Is this appropriate or not?" they asked the rebbe.

He nodded his head, according to a statement made public by the three.

Then they asked the rebbe for approval to control the organizations' finances.

Should "each member of the secretariat be authorized to sign" the organizations' checks" they then asked.

Again, the rebbe nodded his head, according to their statement.

However, said the Lubavitch insider, while the three rabbis asked the rebbe to approve the spreading of power among all the secretaries, they did so without the approval of the other two — Krinsky and Mindel, who already control the organizations.

The troika have generally been quiet, behind-the-scenes figures in

the Lubavitch movement and it is not known how, if at all, they differ in philosophy or approach from Krinsky and Mindel.

The internal battle has not finished playing itself out.

So it remains unclear whether authority over the worldwide Lubavitch network remains effectively concentrated in the hands of Krinsky, of if, in the end, his three colleagues will be successful in their effort to wrest some of the control from his hands.

Referring to the description of the rebbe giving permission to these men, sociologist Heilman said that even "the idea that the rebbe is making decisions really strains credulity."

"Whoever is interpreting those decisions is really making them," he said.

This latest episode illuminates the beginning of a period of difficulty and dissension for Lubavitch, as those who will lead the organization during the interregnum between this rebbe and the next emerge, say observers.

"At a time like this people are going to be drawing up sides, and to judge by the past it's going to be a tough changeover," said Jerome Mintz, a professor of anthropology at Indiana University and author of "Hasidic People: A Place in the New World."

When the previous rebbe, Yosef Yitzhak Schneersohn, died in 1950 he left two sons-in-law and a grandson, all of whom were possible successors.

The current rebbe, who is his cousin as well as a son-in-law, took over a

year later.

But the current rebbe has no heir. He and his wife never had children, his brother-in-law is dead and his brother-in-law's son, Barry Gurary, became estranged from Lubavitch long ago.

More than a year after his stroke, any chance of the rebbe's recovering enough to run the movement effectively seems unlikely, if not impossible.

And in the vacuum left by his incapacity, speculation about what the future holds for the movement abounds among those who do not believe that he is the messiah and will never die.

It seems unlikely that Lubavitch will be able to sustain itself without a living rebbe, as the Breslov Hasidim have for over 150 years, according to observers.

"They need a rebbe to energize the troops," said Heilman. They need more than an efficient bureaucracy, he said. Lubavitch needs its charismatic leader.

"In the meantime the organization will move along by inertia," he added.

It is equally unlikely that movement's many financially autonomous organizations, including the schluchim, or emissaries, who are in 900 locations worldwide, would turn each of their fiefdoms into full-scale independent enterprises.

"The reason they are able to exist is because of the prestige and name of the rebbe and the central organization, without which they're nothing," said Mintz.

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