



**TOURO COLLEGE &
UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

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Touro College

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THE TOURO INDEPENDENT

VOL. V, No. II

TOURO COLLEGE

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 26, 1975

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INSIDE OUT

The editors of *The Independent*, rather than beat a dead horse have decided to go outside our twelve floors for some of their stories. It isn't that we don't relish tongue lashings from the administration. Quite the contrary, it is one of the few pleasures left in life. However, we are looking to broaden our horizons and that of our readership. We hope this will appeal to the baser literary instincts of our readers and will motivate them to pen a masterpiece for our journal.

For the first time on these pages, we have an article from members of the opposite female. Hello there Women's Division. We invite your comments.

Epistles to the Reactors

Letter to the Editor

Despite numerous polite requests, many students still insist on smoking in the classrooms. Their habit is unlawful (in the room), but even worse unhealthy, rude, and disrespectful of the rights of their fellow students. Most non-smokers find the odor unpleasant and many suffer headaches as a result of inhaling the smoke. It is unfortunate that all too often teachers and students are too polite to ask the offenders to refrain from smoking.

The Committee for a
Healthier Student Body



As Touro enters its fifth year, it can marvel at its expansion, and take pride in its numerous accomplishments. Touro's

student body has grown over 500% since the charter class in 1971.

With this growth of student population has come a growth in the full time and adjunct faculty. The Touro faculty is of the highest calibre and excels in communicating with the students. A professor at Touro is not only the object of respect, but also the object of friendship. The condescending attitude present elsewhere is erased by the small class atmosphere.

The seniors of Touro, however, have witnessed a change in the foundation of this institution by the administration. Upon coming to Touro I was led to believe that the administration's primary concern was the provision of the best type of education possible for the student body. Incoming freshmen were told that any course necessary for a major would be offered, even if it had to be in the form of a tutorial. The school, although catering to a small student body, offered



disproportionate numbers of courses. It was not rare at all to find classes composed of one, two, or three students.

Those days are over. Courses are currently given only if a sufficient number of students register for it in advance. This poses a number of problems, notably to Psych majors, of which I am one, since only one psychology elective is offered this term. Upon requesting the addition of another course, abnormal psych, I was told that the course was not required for my major.

Touro has grown, but with its growth has come the end to the "Old Touro." During the first three years of Touro's existence, there was a sense of camaraderie between the faculty, student body, and the administration. The 1976 graduating class has seen this camaraderie replaced by apathy. They have been constantly frustrated in their attempts to change some of the policies of the school.

My frustration has led me to write this letter, as I have just been informed that I have no senior thesis advisor, since there is no psych department. It has been tragic to witness the destruction of a beautiful dream.

Jack Miles

Note: Since the above letter was submitted, the following has transpired. The following letter is a response by and for Mr. Miles:

Many students, particularly upperclassmen, felt frustration at the outset of the term. However, things may have taken a turn for the better. As a result of his persistence and thanks to the helpfulness of Dr. Lander, Mr. Miles was granted a tutorial in his psychology course. What's more, the Psych major at Touro is being reinstated for the Spring '76 term, with a battery of eight courses being offered. Besides getting his course, Mr. Miles and many others were encouraged by the action taken by the administration. It seems that the administration is again listening to students and are sympathetic to their needs. There is still much to be done, but this is certainly a step in the right direction. We applaud the administration for the sagacious handling of this situation and look forward to the rectification of other student problems in a similar spirit.

Opinion: Student Apathy

by Shimon Shaw

We have frequently voiced the opinion that the students are apathetic. Is this necessarily true? What constitutes apathy? We understand it as a lack of involvement in school spirit, but is there really that much to be involved in? The only viable extra-curricular activities are the school newspaper, the student government, and a very limited athletic program. If a student wishes to run for office and loses, there is little else for him to turn to. Important school issues are handled by the student government. After all, it's easier for the Dean to speak to one person rather than to two hundred. So where does that leave the average Touro student?

Is it then illogical to call a student apathetic when there is nothing to be apathetic about? Conversely, is the fact that there is nothing to be apathetic about an indication of student apathy?

Student apathy is a much debated issue. What are your opinions? If you wish to be heard, please submit your views to this author, or to any other member of *The Touro Independent*.

I Didn't Know That

by Pseudonymity Innominate

Las Vegas and David Gleicher have made our own Dr. L. a darkhouse candidate for the presidency of another institution which emphasizes Jewish heritage and western culture. Say it ain't so, Bernie... Student protest has subsided with addition of banana-flavored pudding to the "cafeteria" menu... A number of mazel tovs: To Ben Katz on his acceptance to Downstate. To editor Alan Kalker, who has his foot in the door at Illinois College of Podiatric Medicine. To Larry Neuman on his acceptance to the Pennsylvania College of Podiatric Medicine. To Jack Miles on his acceptance to Touro's Psych department. To David and Alona Schapiro, to whom we wish many happy joint returns. To Dean Greenberg, otherwise known as Dean Greenberg, on becoming a grandfather for the second time. To Roberto Navvaro. You'll have to ask him why, as this is a self-censored publication... To our Who's Who students, Ben Katz, Jerry Gontownick, Harvey Friedman, Danny Lander, editor Robert Tracer, former Editor-in-Chief H. Alan Schnall, and Mark Respler.

While our preliminary Middle States visit is regarded with cautious optimism, the Marble floor is beginning to pay divi-

dends. Touro is being flooded with requests from Walter B. Cooke and Schwartz Bros. for "Sunday Rentals!"... According to our catalogues, our French Department has grown from four courses offered in '73-'74 to a full ten course program in '75-'76. Amazingly, the professorship remains small... A sigh of relief was heard when the course in "Kant" appeared in the '75-'76 catalogue as a result of strong student demand... SG President, Harvey Friedman, has arranged a class in hair-dyeing to be taught by the elevator operator... The student caught smiling on the second floor during the Middle States visit has been released in the custody of a Psychiatrist. Administration has called him "another Josh Marcus." *The Independent* has obtained the exclusive rights to the story of his experiences...

This month's Touro Quiz: List, in chronological order, the Academic Deans of Touro College. (Open to freshmen only). Answer to last month's quiz: Santiago and Eugene Hollander.

Big News: Touro's South Hall Concert Series will feature Bob Dylan and Eugene Ormandy and the Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra during December. Watch for announcements

THE INDEPENDENT

Editorial Board: Ruvan Cohen, Alan Kalker, Simmy Saffier, Shimon Shaw, Robert Tracer, Noah Umlas, Gil Bloom, David Frier.

An unofficial student publication of editorial opinion, creative writing, and thought. *The Independent* is meant for student consumption only, and is not to be used by outside agencies. The opinions expressed herein are the view of the editorial board as expressed by one of its members, and are not to be construed as the opinion of the student body as a whole.

Shimon Grilius: Hero In Residence

by Shimon Shaw

In Dec. 1974, Simon Grilius arrived in Israel after having served a lengthy prison term in a Soviet labor camp because of his desire to live as a Jew in Israel. But Shimon's story is a unique one.

Following a questionable Feb. 1970 trial, Shimon received a five year prison term, the last two spent in an especially strict regime camp under very harsh conditions.

Prior to his arrest, Shimon was not religious. By the time of his detention, however, he had become observant, and throughout his imprisonment he courageously upheld the tenets of Jewish law and tradition. Shimon ate only the foods he knew to be kosher, thus drastically reducing his already meager calorie intake. He would work continuously, without a break, during the week to meet his required quota early and be able to refrain from working on the Sabbath. He was constantly beaten & harassed because of his desire to grow a beard and wear a 'keepa' (yarmulke) while in prison.

Mr. Grilius, in the States as a guest of the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry, addressed the student body on Tues., Nov. 4. Speaking in a fluent Hebrew, Shimon told of the trials and tribulations of the Jews remaining in Russia. Emigration has been limited by the Soviet govt. to 10-12,000 people per year. He has friends in prison who are desperately trying to uphold all the mitzvot. When questioned about a Soviet Jewish underground, Mr. Grilius replied that it was no longer in existence. The present situation is a very dangerous one. To illustrate this fact, Soviet Jews have been arrested for attempting to learn Hebrew! Mr. Grilius added that many of his colleagues are now learning judo and karate, "just in case".

Why do the Soviet Jews emigrate? Many of them are economically secure—Shimon, in fact, is a college graduate with a degree in engineering. Yet they wish to be free spiritually—to be practicing Jews.

It's unfortunate that many Jews are still apathetic concerning their Soviet brethren. So please, give a damn!!!

Notice

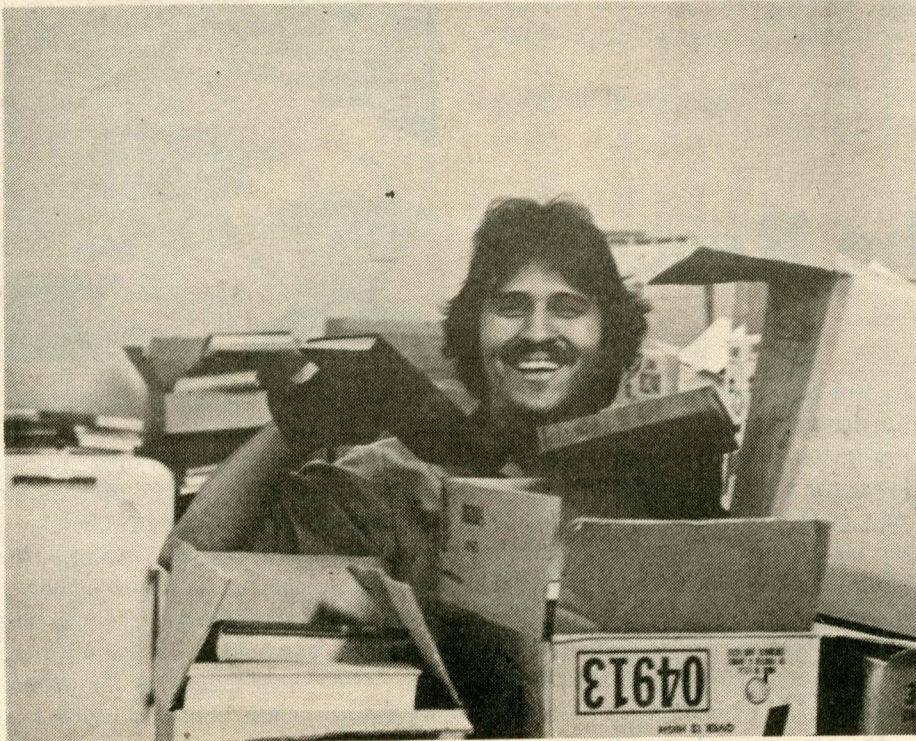
From the Editorial Board:

Anyone interested in working for *The Independent* next term must be at the board meeting on Wednesday December the 3rd, on the Eight floor.

Membership on next year's Editorial Board is contingent upon working for *The Independent* next term. In turn, working on *The Independent* is contingent upon attendance at this meeting.

ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN

by Gil Bloom



Three Stops Away

by Cyclops

The Kollel of Touro College has been such a smashing success that it has branched out and taken up what seems to be permanent residence at 55th & Lexington.

In recent months, there has been a severe outbreak of "kollelitis." The movement even has its own lingo. "Takah," "Tosfos," "The Baal Haturim," and "Im yirtzeh Hashem by you" are the more popular terms in use. For the second semester, (with G-d's help) we hope to publish a Kollelet-English dictionary, and, a booth is being erected in the seforim library for a translator.

The Kolleletes are a happy group, and very athletic. Eyes glowing and all smiles, they walk to school, up stairs, and on people. They have a marvelous sense of direction, each one instinctively knows that Mizrach faces the boy's school. And should inclement weather prevent their trek, the time on the bus is spent in worthwhile fashion, poring (sic) over the last few pages of the Jewish Press.

The Kollelet, however, does deviate from her father image in one major respect; the uniform. While the male version is partial to long pants and covered heads, the female counterpart shudders at the thought of covered calves, but wear something on their heads only during the evening practice session at the dorm.

There are membership requirements apart from kneesocks and a calligraphic Rashi script. They are minimal compared to the benefits which include weekly excursions to Rabinowitz's and a personal introduction to Leibel Bistritsky.

The Kollelet is forming its own publishing house, having already bought everything ever written of pertinent Jewish nature. The first fruit of this exciting endeavor is a treatise by Rabbi Dovid Lukinovitchinskysteinberg on "Kallalitis", an outgrowth of the Kollelet. Evidently Kallalitis is a worthwhile and stimulating movement, because those members who have not already been afflicted are still hard at work at their studies.

To join the Kollelet, kindly contact your nearest class or student representative. If you wish, however, to attend Touro College's Women's Division, a search party is now being formed.

Notice

The Student Government wishes to announce the fourth annual Touro Chanukah Chaggiga at the Jewish Center on 86th Street (between Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues) on Saturday Night, December 6th at 8 o'clock. Watch for further details.

Notice

For the past few years, we students have been complaining about the administration, saying they have failed to honor commitments made to us when we were recruited. However, the administration is not the only party at fault. The student government failed to provide the leadership, unity, and commitment to make its views felt.

This year, a student government was elected that is working to correct many of the problems. For this movement to have any lasting effect, students must join the committees set up by the student government. The following committees are still looking for members:

Student Activities—teams, clubs, intramurals.

Jewish Affairs—Community activities, UJA drive, rallies, films, speakers.

Building—lounge, lockers, bull board.

Recreation—chaggigot, entertainment.

Student Welfare—Medical insurance, blood drive, discounts.

Anyone interested in joining any committee, contact Andy Koenigsberg, or leave your name, and that of the committee, in the Student Government office.

Coming Attractions

by Gil Bloom

The sight of a publicly displayed swastika has always had a negative effect on me. You can imagine my shock upon seeing a huge red swastika hanging about a block in front of me. With frames of holocaust pictures flashing through my mind, I headed down the block to investigate. What I found was a new movie entitled "The Hiding Place." My anxiety was eased when I learned of the content of the movie. It is the story of the Ten Boome family, a Dutch Christian family who hid escaping Jews after the Nazi takeover of Holland.

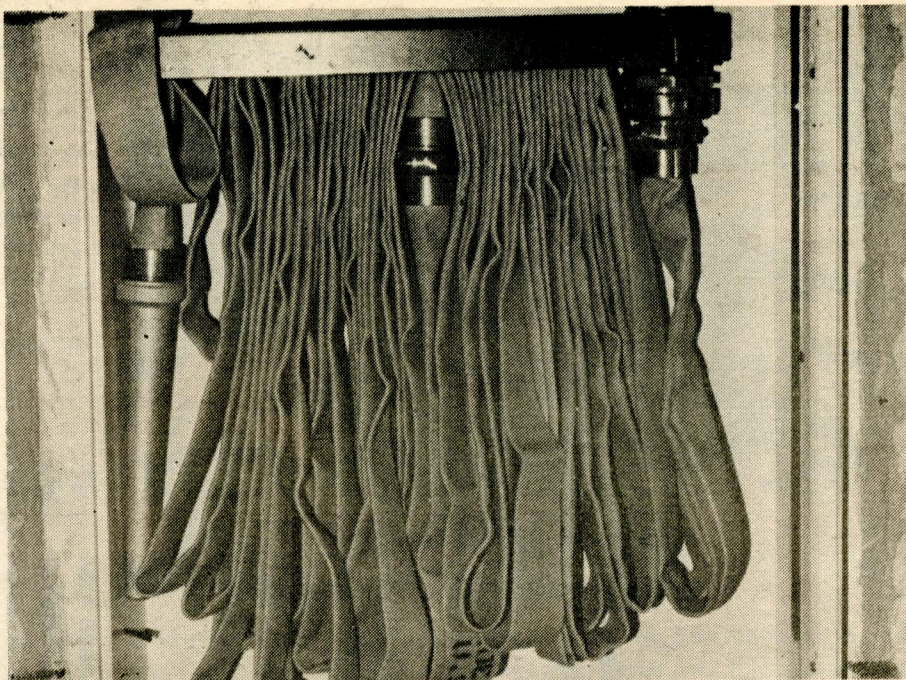
Now that your fears of an anti-semitic movie have been allayed, the real danger begins. A wolf is dangerous, but at least it is a recognizable danger. However, a wolf in sheep skin is far more dangerous. When a movie we assume to be good turns out to be full of subtly anti-semitic comments, it can be more destructive than a movie put out by the Third Reich propaganda machine. What we have is a film by the people who brought us crusades, inquisitions, and Key 73. It is a movie which portrays Christian love as has never been seen, and is produced by none other than Billy Graham.

I do not, in any way, seek to demean the acts of the Ten Boome family. Their humanitarian deeds were certainly exem-

plary acts of courage and righteousness. I do wish to attack the anti-Jewish sub-themes which permeate the movie. They appear as subliminal cuts which are definitely present although not seemingly emphasized.

As the movie progresses, we see the Jews portrayed in two ways. They have either no personality at all or exhibits traits which are less than pious. One Jew comes into the Ten Boome house and acts as if he owns it, ordering everyone around. When asked to help, however, this Jew comes up with one excuse after another in order to avoid work. There is also a scene of the Christian family studying Bible. All during this scene the camera keeps flashing to the Jews who are busy drinking and playing cards. Finally, when the Ten Boome family is arrested and sent to a camp for political prisoners, upon seeing the smoke emanating from the chimneys daily, they simply dismiss it, in the movie, saying "Oh, that must be the others." The worst we see happening to the Jews is them wearing a yellow star or them standing around some looted shops.

As the movie concludes, we hear a voice telling the now emotional audience that they have just witnessed two and one half hours of Christian love. What I saw was a "Hiding Place" for the reinforcement of an anti-Jewish stereotype.



We wish to congratulate the College on its first successful fire drill!

The Big Bash!

by Noah Umlas

I had it marked off on my calendar for weeks—November 15, Touro Week-end. As the sacred day approached, I found myself asking—Will I enjoy it? Just what is the purpose of a Shabbaton? Will I hate myself in the morning? A review of our weekend might give us some answers.

Our Shabbaton began on Friday. Afternoon services started precisely at 4:20, but it wasn't until 4:45 that most of the students came into the Young Israel of the West Side, our host shul for Shabbos. After davening, we were cordially welcomed by Rabbi Gettinger, and from the synagogue we headed straight for the dining room. Following a fine feast, we were treated to a talk on the Sephardic—Ashkenazic problem, given by Rabbi Gerstein of the Spanish Portuguese Synagogue. To wrap up the first evening's activities, there were various discussion groups, ranging from topics such as the Equal Rights Amendment to Galut in Israel, and also an Oneg Shabbat.

Shabbos morning found shacharis starting at nine, and our participants waking up at ten. Amazingly though, no matter what time you started praying, you finished musaf together with everyone else. Lunchtime offered a sumptuous repast (Tcholent), and Rabbi Sher offered a fine dvar torah about "parshat Va yatzay". Again there were discussion groups and afterwards we davened mincha. Rabbi

I didn't attend his lecture) and Shabbos was soon over.

We now entered the final stage of our weekend—the Saturday night melave malkah, held at Barnard's student center. First there was a magic show, put on by Jack London, who really put us on. Then out came the falafel and soda, and we enjoyed our food to the music of the Clei Zemer.

The weekend was enjoyed by everyone (I didn't hate myself in the morning), and

seeing how successful it was, we are looking forward to many more. Special thanks go out to Harvey Friedman, Alan Cabelly, and Batsheva . . . I don't know her last name, for making it what it was.

U.N. V.S. Israel

by Shimon Shaw

"The United Nations is at the point of officially endorsing anti-Semitism," warned U.S. ambassador Daniel P. Moynihan. "It is a reckless act, an obscene act." Moynihan's anger was directed at an Arab-inspired draft resolution that condemns Zionism as "a form of racism and racial discrimination," meaning the existence of Israel as a Jewish state. After heated debate, the resolution was adopted by the U.N. General Assembly's Social Committee, 70-29, with 27 abstentions. Supporting the measure were the Arab and Communist blocs and some African countries; the U.S. and Western Europe led the opposition.

The resolution went to the full assembly for approval, and given the way majority rule seems to work these days at the U.N., it passed as expected. In protest, a rally was held Tuesday Nov. 11 to protest not only passage of such a resolution, but also its initial existence.

How can any black African nations approve such a measure, when they themselves have been seeking support for the U.N.'s Decade for Action to Combat Racism, a worldwide offensive against apartheid in Southern Africa? It is clear that the work of the U.N. is most assuredly in jeopardy. In an era which already has experienced one holocaust, will the sparks be set for another? Only time will tell, but it is important to take note of such blatant anti-Semitism. The U.N. fiasco is a further indication to Jews everywhere that we must always be on guard—for there will always be those who will rise up against us.

STUDENT TEACHER EVALUATION

In preparation for Spring Registration, *The Independent* is sponsoring a student teacher evaluation. Below is a model of the evaluation form which will soon be distributed. This evaluation has been designed to assist the student in selecting his (her) courses. Often the interest generated by a teacher for his (her) course is more important than the material itself. For the selection of elective courses, such information as will be contained in this evaluation may prove to be invaluable.

The Independent recognizes that such an evaluation is at best an imperfect indicator of performance. It is, however, no less perfect than the evaluation of students by teachers. The Editors believe that the help it will provide the students warrants its publication. The questions have been designed to be objective and to help the teachers as well as the students, by pointing out the pedagogic weaknesses of a professor as viewed by the students.

For the fairest results, a large response is essential. Therefore, no evaluation will be published unless at least 70% of the class responds.

Complete instructions will accompany the actual evaluation form. Below are the proposed questions. If you have any suggestions for revision please let the Board of Editors know before December 4th. The results will not be published in *The Independent* but in a separate guide to be distributed before registration.

Use the following scale for all questions, unless otherwise indicated:

- 4.0— excellent
- 3.5— very good
- 3.0— good
- 2.5— fair
- 2.0— poor
- 1.0— forget it!

Questions:

- A—How interesting is the presentation of the material?
- B—Are lectures presented in an easily comprehensible form?
- C—Is discussion encouraged?
- D—How well do you personally get along with the professor?
- E—How would you rate the fairness of the exams? (Not how well you did but how fair.)
- F—How well did the course readings help you understand the material?
- G—How heavy is the workload in this course relative to other courses you have taken with the same number of credits?

- Scale: 5— Very heavy
4— Heavy
3— Average
2— Easy
1— Very easy

- H—How would you rate this course overall?