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Spring 2006

The Lander Chronicle Spring 2006

Lander College for Men

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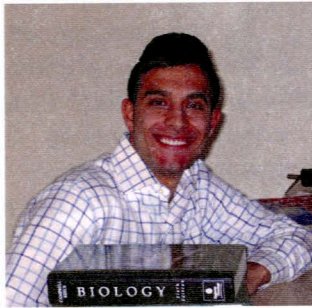
the LANDER CHRONICLE

THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF LANDER COLLEGE FOR MEN
BEIS MEDRASH L'TALMUD
SPRING 2006 / 5766

AUTISM

By: Josh Kaufman

I was greeted on the first day of camp last summer by a young boy named David. David, foregoing any formal introductions, slowly made his way over to me, looked up at me with his bright eyes, and opened the conversation with, "what's your birthday?" I thought it a strange thing to ask upon meeting a new face, but I responded, "December twenty-first, nineteen eighty-three." In a matter of moments, David smiled and said with confidence, "you were born on a Wednesday." I was amazed by the sheer speed with which David was able to calculate the exact weekday on which I was born. This was no one-in-seven lucky guess, for David



Josh Kaufman

was capable of repeatedly displaying his gift – and he did – many times that summer. David was displaying calendar memory, a form of autistic savant. (Autistic savants typically exhibit extraordinary skills which are beyond the capacity of most people.) For Bio 493 Senior research topics, I was required to choose a focused topic for research. I chose to study autism, because I

wanted to understand the obstacles that face both my high functioning autistic friends, like David, as well as those who are lower functioning. The issues that surround the disorder called autism have captured public audience, from Hollywood's Rain Man, to the cover

of this week's Time Magazine. I named my topic the "The Mystery of Autism," because, despite much attention, and many investigations, the disorder is still a mystery.

Autism is a neurological disorder that usually manifests itself early in the first three years of life. Officially classified as Pervasive Development Disorder (PDD), autism inhibits a child's development. For decades, autism has proven a challenge to scientists, who have just recently begun to understand how complex it truly is.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, anywhere from 2 to 6 per 1,000 people are diagnosed with this disorder. The Autism Society of America estimated that every day, fifty families in America discover that their child has autism.

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THE NSA'S TERRORIST SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM

By: David J. Kirschner

For years, the United States Government has engaged in covert surveillance and intelligence gathering. Among the most effective methods of conducting such surveillance is electronic eavesdropping, which is the wiretapping of a telephone or "bugging" of a geographical location. Traditionally, domestic criminal investigations and prosecutions are bound by the protection afforded to citizens, lawful permanent residents, and even many illegal aliens, from having evidence obtained in violation of the Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Amendments used against

them. Conversely, intelligence gathering of foreign powers has had little, if anything, to do with domestic criminal matters.

With the advent of terrorism and terrorist-related activities, however, exclusive reliance on such a distinction became problematic. Domestic terrorist activities could easily appear to be little more than another criminal case while simultaneously emblematic of an ongoing terrorist campaign against the United States on its soil. The



Professor Kirschner

obvious question, then, is whether proscribed conduct is a matter of national security or within the purview of the criminal justice system. If a person, citizen, permanent resident or nonresident, is charged with having violated a domestic criminal statute, they would be entitled to all constitutionally protected rights. When that person and his activities threaten

our national security, however, it is an entirely different matter. Arguably then, intrusion of any constitutional safeguards, otherwise taboo in the prosecution of domestic

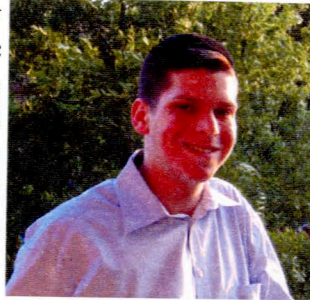
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WHO PLAYS IN THE IVY LEAGUE?

By: Josh Goldstein

It takes tremendous nerve, courage, and unwavering resolve – and perhaps a bit of ambition too – to stand one’s ground and swim upstream against opposition. Lawrence Summers, now former President of Harvard University, did so – and lost his prestigious position as a result. Summers sparked controversy by making an academic statement regarding the possible relationship between gender and intellectual aptitude. The Harvard faculty subsequently painted Summers as a chauvinistic pig, and had him endure a faculty vote of no-confidence. However, it seems that the Harvard faculty already had a bone to pick with Summers as a result of previous events.



Josh Goldstein

Prior to this whole debacle, Summers was trying to restructure both Harvard’s core curriculum and its grading system. He

recognized the need for students to graduate with a broad base of knowledge, and wanted more overview courses incorporated into the core curriculum. He also wanted the tenured, more experienced professors to teach those courses. This was not something that most of the Harvard professoriate was eager to comply with, as they seem to pride themselves on their respective specializations. Summers also realized that having approximately ninety percent of seniors graduating with honors did not accurately represent the standard deviation of the intelligence of the student body. He, therefore, wanted to take the initiative, and fight grade inflation by implementing a more strictly enforced grading curve.

It is worth noting that Lander College seems to take a very similar stance to that of Lawrence Summers – at least as regards his academic values. At Lander College, each

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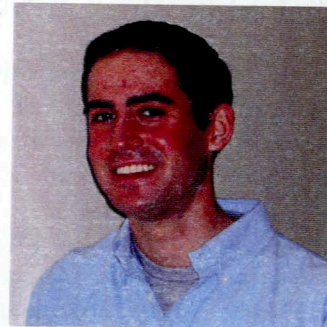
Elie Mendelson

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PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

By: Ari Lustig

The conclusion of the spring semester is a promising time – the year is over, the weather is fair, and our summer endeavors beckon. It’s easy to get caught up in our plans for the future. Equally important, yet often overlooked, is the need to put our time here at Lander College into perspective. I want to share a few thoughts; I hope you find them as meaningful as I do.



Ari Lustig

Despite our relatively small student body, we are a very diverse group. Building on commonalities, and respecting important differences within these points of view, can help us shape a stronger vision for what Lander College is and who we are

as individuals. Reaching out is important. Look around you- step outside your box and get to know the people around you- then get to know some of your rabbeim and professors; they are probably some of the greatest people you will ever meet. Lander College is not just a place, it is an idea. It is a synthesis of embedded Jewish ideals, and the knowledge of a broader secular culture. We are in a transitional period now, not only as students but as an institution.

One important way to make the idea come alive is to nurture it. Whether you do so within the context of the Beis Medresh or within the context of an extracurricular, makes no difference. What is important however, is your involvement with your rabbeim, with your professors

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MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

By: Dr. Moshe Sokol

Four distinguished new professors will be joining our business faculty starting in the Fall of 2006, thereby significantly enhancing the strength of our business programs.

By way of background, Dr. Charles Snow, who until last year served as Dean of the Sy Syms School of Business at Yeshiva University, joined us this year as Dean of Business Programs. As you know, in that capacity he has strengthened our Career Services Office, together with Mr. Ron Ansel, the new Director of Career Services. We are delighted with the success of a number of our students this year, who received highly desirable placements in the financial, accounting and marketing fields as a direct result of their diligent efforts.

Dean Snow, who also oversees graduate programs in the field of business, has worked in consultation with me to recruit

distinguished new faculty in the business fields who will teach on both the graduate as well as undergraduate levels. Thus starting next year Lander students will study with new graduate-level professors who are not only highly qualified in their fields, but are superb classroom teachers as well.

Dr. Lawrence Bellman will serve as Associate Professor of Management and Director of a new Entrepreneurial Institute, which will service graduate and Lander students. Dr. Bellman taught previously at Hofstra and Pace Universities, and most recently at Yeshiva University, where he directed the Entrepreneurial Institute. He holds a doctorate in International Business from Pace

University, and has published essays in a number of journals. His research interests include brand revival opportunities and field sales.

Dr. Peter Sperling, who has been appointed Associate Professor of Finance, is returning to his old home at Lander where he taught as an adjunct professor for several years before taking a full time

appointment at Yeshiva University. Dr. Sperling, who was very popular with Lander students, holds a doctorate in monetary economics from City University of New York Graduate

Center, and was valedictorian of his graduating class. Dr. Sperling taught at Pace and Manhattan Marymount College as well, but for many years he held senior positions in industry, including serving as an officer in the Corporate Treasury Department of AT&T. If you tune in to CBS radio

you might have heard him, where he comments on the significance of Federal Reserve Bank interest rate changes.

In the field of Accounting, we are particularly pleased that Dr. Gary Kleinman will be joining the faculty as a full professor. He is currently Professor of Accounting at Robert Morris University, and received an MBA, and Ph.D. in Accounting, from Rutgers University. Dr. Kleinman is the author of *Understanding Auditor-Client Relationships: A Multi-Faceted Analysis* (Markus Wiener 2001), and over two dozen articles in professional journals. The recipient of numerous awards for research and teaching excellence, Dr. Kleinman will be a significant asset to our Accounting



Dean Sokol

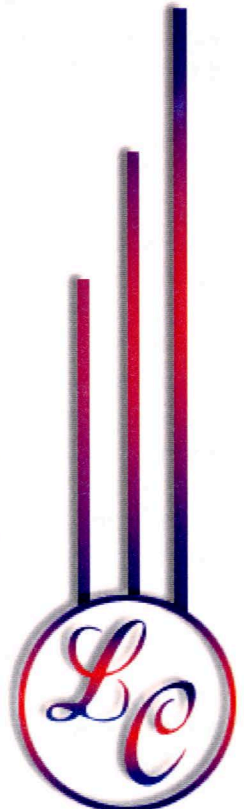


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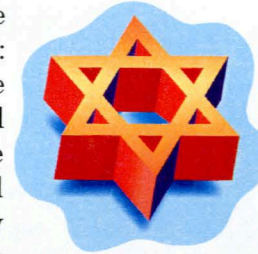
ILAN HALIMI, R.I.P.

By: Dr. Kenneth S. Bigel

I usually do not have difficulty writing; it is an activity, which I love. However, at the time I write this, I am so incensed, so worried and frightened, that I can barely concentrate.

Growing up, I lived with the vivid, recent memory of the holocaust – clear, even if scarcely discussed. It informed my very being, even if only subtly. The words of the Haggadah always rung in my mind: “...in each generation, they will arise to try to annihilate us...” My good friend’s parents displayed tangible evidence of this truth with tattooed numbers on their arms. It took many years of growing up and experience to be able to fathom this truth; a truth borne in unbounded, baseless, and irrational hatred; a hatred reserved only for Jews. I still have difficulty grasping its depth and the unequalled tenure of anti-Semitism.

Today, there are many among us who dare to deny history and the future it bears, who attempt even to rewrite the past, thereby committing in my view, a kind of crime against all humanity. Today’s perpetrators include the likes of David Irving, Mahmoud



Ahmadinejad, Khaled Mashal, among others. By committing a sin vis a vis the past, one, at once, commits a sin against the present and the future. When the Taliban destroyed precious, irreplaceable shrines, they attempted to wipe out history in order to build a false future. When the temple mount is excavated and invaluable archaeological treasures are destroyed, the past and the future are simultaneously eradicated. All humanity loses. Deuteronomy (32:7) bids us to “...remember the days of the world, to ponder the years of the generations...” Memory is a moral imperative. The future depends on

it.

How many of us know the name “Ilan Halimi”? Did we read about him in the *New York Times*? Did we watch a report on CNN? Did Washington rail against the unspeakable atrocity committed against this person? Where are Chuck and Hillary? Dare I note what the UN did – or did not? Even the state of Israel was quiet!

Ilan Halimi was merely a young Jew living in France. He was by no means an

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A WORD FROM THE MASHGIACH

By: Rabbi Moshe Bamberger

Spring is a glorious time of year, when we emerge from the dark, frigid months of winter into the bright, warm sunshine. Nature sings and blooms around us; our spirits soar with renewed optimism and hope. For those who are graduating in the month of June, it is a season mixed with excitement at arriving at this long-awaited milestone, and, at the same time, trepidation as to what the future holds.



Rabbi Bamberger

It has always been a bit curious to me why graduation is referred to as “commencement exercises.” Is it not the celebration of *concluding* the necessary requirements of formal

studies? Why use a word conveying a meaning of some sort of beginning?

I suppose the simple answer is that what was studied in the ivory tower of academia must now be applied to real-life. So, graduation actually marks the beginning of a new chapter in the graduate’s life. It is this transition which is described by use of the word “commencement.”

If this is true in a secular place of education, it is certainly true in our holy Torah institution.

As many of our *talmidim* – the largest graduating class Lander College for Men / Beis Medrash L’Talmud has boasted since its inception – get set to

graduate, they realize that far from a conclusion of their studies, they are just beginning the never-ending pursuit of Torah and *Tikun HaMiddos* (character refinement), as well as the implementation of their charge to spread *K’vod Shomayim* (Heaven’s honor) in a world largely devoid of holiness and sanctity.

During their years within our beloved yeshivah, our *talmidim* fully realize that what they truly ‘major in’ is Torah and *Yiras Shamayim*. Their chosen career track, while of utmost importance, is in reality designed to complement and enhance their fundamental pursuit of *Avodas Hashem*.

In the Book of Yonah, when the sailors cast lots to see who was causing the storm that threatened their ship, and the lot fell to Yonah,

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WE'RE ON THE MAP

By: Dr. Ross Zucker

Well, here it is from the horse's mouth, that is from the Harvard Law School Admissions Office's mouth:

It may be an advantage to come from Lander College for Men when applying to Harvard Law.

This was disclosed in a "blog" posting on the internet by a member of the Harvard Law School admissions committee (see the adjacent "blog" posting). The admissions official, Toby W. Stock, said that he had himself attended a school, the University of Missouri, where the students are not very well represented among Harvard's applicant pool, and that he may, as a consequence, have been favorably disposed toward a student who came from a small, unknown Jewish college in New

York.

Although he did not explicitly refer to Lander College for Men by name, he clearly was referring to it, for this is evidently the case of Lander College political science major, David Rabinowitz, who was just admitted to Harvard Law.

Mr. Stock notes that, upon receiving David's application letter, and the letters of recommendation discussing Lander College, he checked into the college, examining the college's website and going to other sources as well, such as the College Board Handbook. From the outcome of this examination – David's admission – we have reason to surmise that Harvard liked what it saw: good quality despite small size. Anyway, Lander College for Men is now on Harvard Law's

map.

But David will probably go to the yet more elite Law School of Yale University, where he was also recently admitted. During my seven years of teaching at Yeshiva University, I came to know of only one student who was admitted to Yale Law School. He was the YC valedictorian, had a double major, a tremendous amount of coursework, and he was enrolled at the time in Yale graduate department of political science when his acceptance to Yale Law School finally came through – two weeks after the start of the school year, which was the latest acceptance in the history of Yale Law School.

Yale gave David eight more months to pack his bags for the trip to New Haven. ♦

Dr. Ross Zucker is the head of the political science department at Lander College for Men.

The following blog posting was posted by a member of the Harvard Law Admissions Committee. It can be found on Harvard's website.

Toby's Observations: Reading the First Files of the Season

I just started reading applications for admission yesterday. It takes a lot of time, as it turns out. I was here late last night, pondering some of the more difficult cases.

One re-applicant had to explain a misdemeanor charge. His explanation looked pretty reasonable to me, so I checked last year's application to see how the previous readers had reacted. One reader, like me, accepted the explanation. A later reader did not. In fact, on the application, this second reader wrote, "I don't quite buy it." That, in turn, made me more cautious.

Often, explanations about alcohol issues or random misdemeanors can make up for the deficit caused

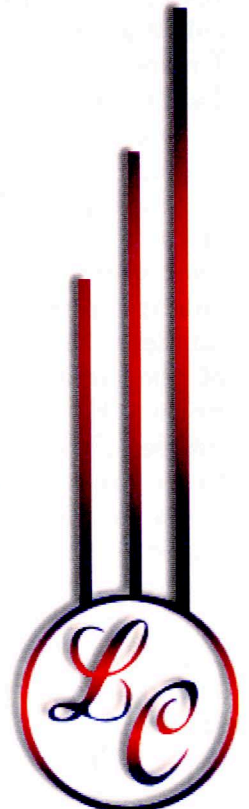
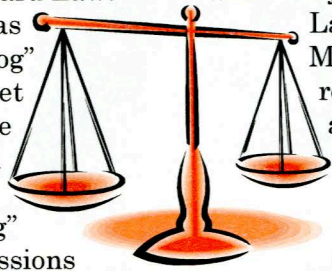
by the issue itself. They may not even end up being a major factor in the decision process. However, the admissions process is a human process, and the variety of readers bring a variety of perspectives to the table. Some readers are inherently more skeptical than others. We try our best to make sure everyone gets a fair shake.

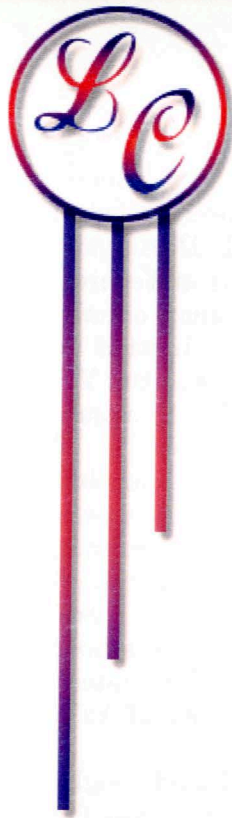
One of the first files I read was for someone whose undergraduate institution was completely unknown to me. I have years of experience in admissions and was surprised to come across this unfamiliar school, a small Jewish college in New York. (Some of you may know to which school I'm referring—and you're thinking, "You Midwestern hick, get a clue!")

I promptly Googled the school and started reading about it. I looked at the LCM, which is the average LSAT score from that school. I also read the recommendations closely to learn more about the school and its reputation. Finally, I checked

the College Board's College Handbook to get a few more facts. Did my initial lack of awareness put this applicant at a disadvantage? Probably not. In fact, he might even stick out more in my mind!

My own undergraduate institution, the University of Missouri, is well-known. But it is not so well-known in the Harvard Law School applicant pool, and many years ago, someone reading my file probably had to look up my school and learn a little more about it, too. This is a human process. ♦

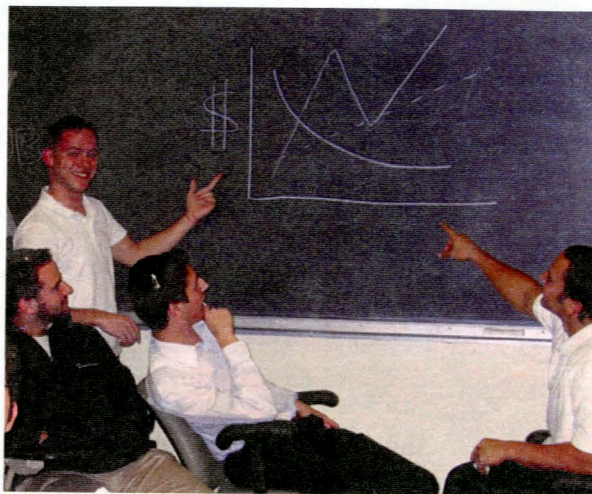




WHY I LOVE FINANCE

By: Israel Anteby

Another dollar changes hands. Vast fortunes are amassed, fortunes are lost. Wealth seldom remains stagnant; rather, it rapidly changes hands and another day in the life of an investor passes, only to begin again the next morning. I think that's why I love this business and choose to study finance and make a career out of it. You can never become bored, nor can you adequately anticipate what might happen the next day. Life doesn't get any better than that. Lately, I find myself thinking that "now I've seen everything," and every time that thought crosses my mind, another turn



Israel Anteby delivers a stock presentation at a Lander College Investment Club meeting.

of events in the world of finance proves that I was, once again, wrong. From surprising earnings reports and innovative solutions to financial trouble, to the cyclical trends that can drive giant companies into bankruptcy. One of the fascinating topics that have I recently become interested in is the hedge fund industry. Two of the most common funds that people invest in are hedge funds and mutual funds. A hedge fund is like a mutual fund in two respects: (1) they are pooled investment vehicles (i.e. several investors entrust their money to a single manager) and (2) the manager invests in publicly traded securities. However, key differences exist between hedge funds and

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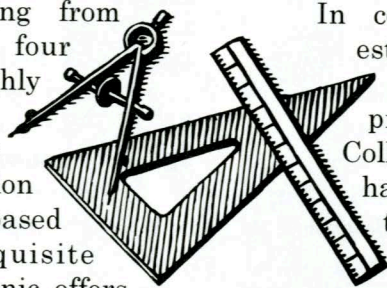
AN ENGINEERING CLUB IN THE MAKING

By: Shlomo Snyder

Lander College for Men has recently added a joint program in engineering to its roster of majors. The program, a collaborative between Polytechnic University, based in Brooklyn, and Lander College for Men, offers students a Bachelor of Science degree in engineering from Polytechnic after four years of study – roughly two years at each institution. The Lander College portion of the program is based upon the prerequisite courses that Polytechnic offers to its students during their first years at Polytechnic. Students participating in this cooperative program may transfer directly into the advanced portion of their engineering coursework at Polytechnic upon completing their studies at Lander College.

"This program makes it

possible for students to continue learning in the serious environment of the Beis Medrash L'Talmud at the Lander College, without losing precious time necessary for advancing towards the engineering degree," said Dr. Moshe Sokol, Dean of the Lander College.



In conjunction with the establishment of the new pre-engineering program at the Lander College for Men, students have founded a club for this exciting, newly available field of study. With its club president Zach Zussman, vice president Shlomo Snyder, and head of programming Jonathan Harris, the budding Engineering Club has quickly become one of the fastest growing clubs on campus. Its members have already successfully planned and produced many engineering

projects and designs.

One of the first projects of the Engineering Club was the Rover-Bot. The club decided that they wanted to create a robot that would be able to drive around on four wheels, and hopefully be able to avoid or recover from various obstacles. After first carefully planning and creating the robot's design, the Club painstakingly built the Rover-Bot from their advanced engineering workshop containing all the various gears, engines, sensors and other pieces used by professional engineers. The club built a device using a touch sensor for the robot that would allow the robot to realize when it came in contact with an obstacle, and could thereby avoid it.

While the future engineers in the club work diligently on the robot, the future programmers are using cutting edge programming software to help guide the robot

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A PICTURE OF JOURNALISM

By: Koby Sabghir

A few months ago, outrage broke out throughout most of the Middle East and in many Muslim centers in Europe. The outrage was over the re-publication of a series of cartoons depicting the prophet Muhammad. The cartoons originally appeared in September in the Danish newspaper "Jyllands-Posten," when the editors asked Danish cartoonists to depict their thoughts on the current state of Islam.

Many of the artists expressed fear of retaliation from radical Muslims (as was the case of Dutch filmmaker Theo Van Gogh, who was brutally murdered by a radical Muslim last year after he made a film which highlighted the plight of Muslim women). Others

expressed the violent mentality that has swept over Islam and taken it captive. This self-censorship is what originally inspired the editors to ask for the series.

Overall, the cartoons (as viewed by the author and many Americans) were relatively harmless. It was not until February – when the 12 cartoons were re-published in various newspapers throughout Europe – that the outrage began. What began with a general boycott on Danish goods, developed into widespread riots and the damaging of European embassies in Muslim lands, and in some cases, even death (of fellow rioters mostly). I don't wish to delineate the various acts of violence perpetrated in

response to the cartoons. Rather, I would like to bring your attention to the issue of journalistic responsibility and sensitivity.

In the United States, we have a very broadly protected right of free press and speech as guaranteed to us by the First amendment of the Bill of Rights. With the exception of certain speech, such as hateful speech and speech that will incite violence or harm, and slander and libel, we – as American citizens – have nearly unrestricted rights to publish whatever we wish using our own resources. This is a right that we Americans take for granted, but is virtually nonexistent in many European nations. This right is almost completely unheard of in the



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CUTTING-EDGE RESEARCH IN LANDER COLLEGE

By: Baruch Berzon and Lee Gherman

This past summer, four Lander College students led by Dr. Danishefsky dedicated the majority of their summer vacations to advanced scientific research. The team, comprised of Baruch Berzon, Lee Gherman, Sender Schecter, and Yaakov Shmuckler, focused on a protein called Human Fibrinogen Related Protein.

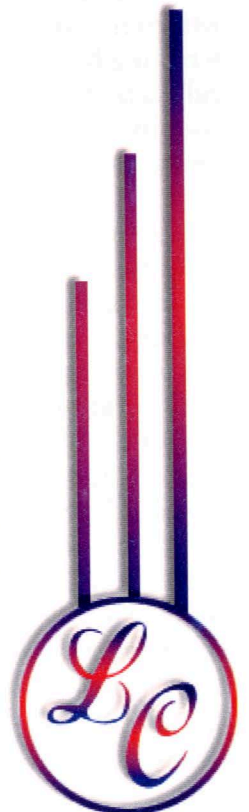
Abbreviated as HFREP, Human Fibrinogen Related Protein is a protein found in liver cell lines, and has been associated with cancerous liver cells. The protein has, therefore, been used as a diagnostic for Hepatoma, which is liver cancer. The objective of this interesting research was to obtain a significant amount of the HFREP protein in order to study and determine its precise role and function in the human body. To obtain working samples of HFREP, we had to first insert the genetic code for the protein into specialized (High Five) insect cells. We were then able to employ the High Five cells as manufacturing

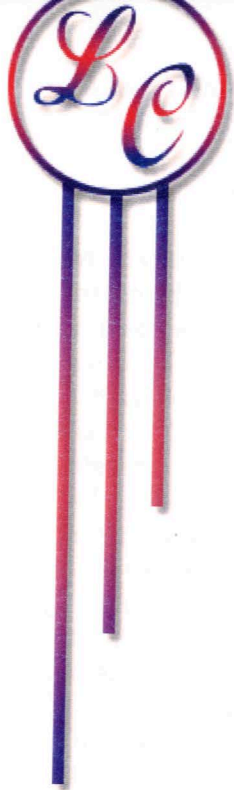
plants in order to facilitate the production of the desired amount of the protein. High Five insect cells are commonly used for this procedure because in addition to their ability to produce large samples of a given protein, they secrete the protein out of the cell where it can be collected and studied.

As opposed to human DNA which is considered linear, bacterial DNA is circular and is called a plasmid. Using recombinant DNA technique, the gene for HFREP was placed into a bacterial plasmid, which was, in turn, inserted into bacterial colonies. This allowed for many copies of the desired gene since it was rapidly copied by the growing bacterial colonies. Once the bacterial colonies had grown to our satisfaction, the team set out to execute the more complicated step – that of introducing bacterial DNA into non-bacterial cells. A significant portion of the research was dedicated to a control plasmid called Fast Cat that would tell us whether or not the DNA actually penetrated the insect cells and whether the cell was producing this foreign



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YOM HA'ATZMAUT & RESPONSIBILITY

By: David Manheim

One week ago, from the authoring of this article that is, was *Yom Ha'atzmaut*, for better or for worse – probably both. The debate over the modern state of Israel has been waged since before the state was even established, with a divide between the Religious Right and the *Yishuv*. It's difficult, and possibly fruitless, to discuss the numerous *Halachic* questions arising from this debate concerning *hallel*, *tachanun*, serving in the army and a host of other issues. Even the *hashkafic* questions that surround the issues of "hastening the *geulah*," and our proper *hishtadlus* in trying to bring *moshiach* are difficult to address. These issues have been dealt with by *poskim*, and involve subjective decisions which vary based on who one's *posek* is. It does bring up, however, the fact that we are faced with a number of practical problems involving Israel – problems that we should be mindful of every single day.

In recent years, we have seen Israel move from being the place where a plurality of



Jews live to a place where – according to most opinions – an actual majority of the Jews in the world live. This means that the fate of "*Medinas Yisroel*," in each of its many aspects, is an issue that has broad consequences for most of the Jews not just as individuals, but also as a people; as an *am*. For instance, the largest Jewish educational system in the world – the one that teaches torah to the largest number of children – is not the system of *yeshivos* established in the United States, nor the international *Bais Yaakov* schools, but the public school system in Israel, where literally more than a million Jewish children are educated each year.

Many people here at Beis Medrash L'Talmud/Lander College plan to make *aliyah* after graduating, or once they are married. Others hope to be able to do so at some later point in their lives, or at least visit as frequently as their respective lifestyles permit. However, as members of *K'lal Yisroel*, we must understand that there is a certain *his'chavivus*, or personal

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ASSIMILATION

By: Ari Lustig

Relationships are tricky. Interpersonal relations are hard enough. Intercultural relationships can potentially be the most trouble of all. Almost every single American Jew is placed at the nexus of two competing cultural elements: his need to retain his Jewish core and his need to associate with society at large. This is the Jewish world: a living organism that is rarely still, rarely stagnant, but is rather a place of constant change and flux in its interactions with the world. Conceptually, there can be no such thing as a Jew living a Jewish life in isolation: the Jew has always lived within a community. We all need to connect to others. Judaism has always recognized this. From the very beginning in Bereishit we were

told (Bereishit 2:18) – it is not good for man to be alone. Togetherness and community have always been part of the human story and, indeed, of the entire Jewish story. We have moved and evolved from a family community to a tribal one, and from a tribal community to a national one.

Yet it is that need to reach out and integrate into the world at large that presents one of the greatest challenges to the Jew. The convergence of the Jewish tradition and the secular creates an intense synergy that can be harmful just as it can be constructive. We are in this flux, one where societal pressure necessitates that the American Jew not merely integrate with the pluralistic society around him or her, but to do so in such a way

that the person can retain their distinct Jewish identity. At the end of the day, it is our identity that gives us strength, which in turn gives our lives meaning. Ultimately, practicing diplomacy with the non-Jewish world requires becoming entangled in human problems and looking for less than perfect human solutions. It demands painful compromise and diligence. But that diplomacy can yield a dynamic and powerful source of Jewish identity and knowledge for thousands of American Jews who, using their passion and commitment to their ideology, can literally transform society around them. The Jewish concept of life is based on certain individual values that only become meaningful when expressed within a communal framework in a fully three-dimensional way of life.

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MOSTLY WORK, BUT A LOT OF PLAY

By: Elie Cohen

The Lander College for men is constantly looking for new ways to help its students develop into leaders in their respective fields. The advent of this year's athletics department is one such example.

Under the leadership of Coach Irv Bader, the athletics department has become a formidable and integral part of the college's character. Coach Bader came to Lander College with many years of experience in the field of physical education. He is well known for revolutionizing adaptive physical education for individuals with disabilities. He has also taught standard physical education on both the high school and college levels in numerous schools over the past several decades.

The athletics program at Lander College offers students the opportunity to earn college credit while participating in organized sports and fitness activities. Students also have the option of participating more casually without earning credit. Intramural leagues

allow students to compete in basketball, softball, and football. In addition to all this, physical fitness classes given in the indoor, state-of-the-art exercise gym. Plans for future expansion of the athletics department include the addition to the curriculum of such sports as hockey and swimming.

The athletics program benefits the students at Lander College in many ways. Firstly, it facilitates social interaction between students who might not get a chance to otherwise meet. Coach Bader notes the importance of the intramural component of the program. He points out that "even if you're not a superstar, it's intramural.... Everybody has a basic need to be part of something, so everyone is part of a team."

Most importantly, this recreational outlet fulfills what may be argued to be an even more important need: It actually enhances one's learning experience. Sports are profoundly more than

mere games if they are utilized in the pursuit of a transcendent goal. In the words of Coach Bader, "You have to have a sound body in order to learn properly... and earn a *parnassah* properly." Research shows that exercise increases cognitive ability as well as enhancing mood, self esteem, and a myriad of other important functions.

Indeed, there is a biblical commandment to take particular care of ourselves, physically as well as spiritually. It is thus quite easily explicable why an athletics program is so important to a Yeshiva/College. With the appropriate amount of fitness incorporated into their schedules, students can capitalize on the opportunity to help enhance their intellectual retention and their overall educational experience. As the program develops further, it will continue to further help Lander College students become as productive as possible. ♦



NEFESH B'NEFESH

By: David Manheim

Many students at Lander College hope to live in Israel after they complete their degrees, or after they are married. Moving to Israel, however, can be a difficult endeavor - from careers and housing to citizenship and speaking the native language, a move across the world is not a simple one. This, of course, is why such a move requires significant planning; not just in the months, but also during the years beforehand.

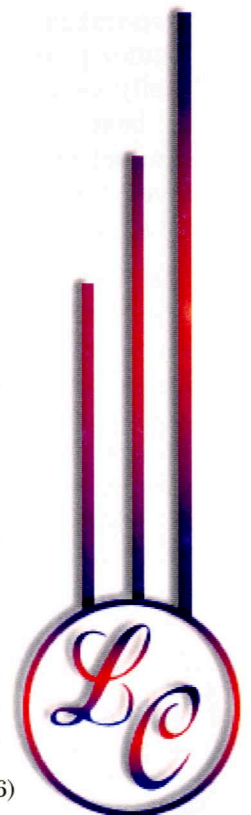
The primary concern of a student at Lander College hoping to move to Israel is probably

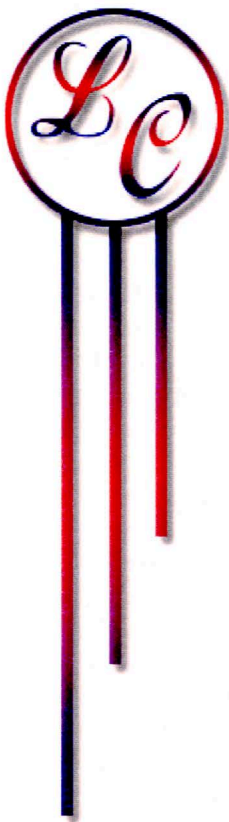
whether the degree program in which he is enrolled is one that is consistent with the demands of the Israeli job market. Regardless of the job, however, a basic fluency in the Hebrew language is definitely a must in helping to secure a job. Even in the technology-oriented fields, where knowledge of Hebrew is not needed for the work itself, one's job interviews will likely be with Hebrew-speaking Israelis. And, even if one manages to secure a job, one would certainly want to be able to communicate effectively with colleagues, customers and management. For a language-intensive

field, such as social work or psychology, a higher degree of fluency is obviously demanded in order to open up any work possibilities.

While Hebrew-speaking skills are recommended for anyone planning on moving to Israel, many jobs do exist for which knowledge of the language is not a requirement.

Accountants
(continued on page 16)





HOW TO GET THE MOST OUT OF CAREER SERVICES

How can you get the most out of Career Services? We invite you to consider the following:

Partnership

Finding fulltime employment, or even an internship, is best done in a partnership that involves you, Career Services, other significant people in your life, and Hashem. We each have specific responsibilities. Yours is to decide what you would like to do with your life. You must plan and then take the appropriate course of action. Career Services is intended to provide information and guidance; but, ultimately, Hashem governs what does and does not take place, and this may or may not be in accordance with our own, very well planned-out agendas. The Sources say that finding a job is part of living a Torah life, and has many spiritual implications. You are not alone; tap into

your partners!

Process

In seeking employment, there is a career search process, which has a number of steps. These steps include self-assessment (what career you feel you'd really like to pursue); researching the industries and companies in which you want to work, and then targeting specific positions; resume and cover letter development; building your network; interview preparation; and follow up. Career searching is not a "senior year" event; rather it is a lifetime process that really begins much earlier. Considering which career is best suited to you, pursuing internships, and conducting research to familiarize yourself with the given field are all valuable steps to take; but they are all steps that take time.

Plan

The probability of the success of a given project increases in tandem with the quality of its plan. Detailing and listing specific tasks, as well as by whom and when they are to be executed, helps to infuse a project with a sense of reality re its magnitude and the time it will take. An effective plan proves invaluable not only to the planner, but to all involved, as it serves as a communication vehicle and way to track progress. You can plan to succeed or fail to plan.

Proactive and persistent

In addition to taking the proper text-book steps in seeking a job, finding employment in your chosen field takes diligence, focus and persistence. As the idiom

goes, "half measures avail us nothing." It takes a lot of work. Resigning to complacency after trying something once or twice is the antithesis of persistence. If you have met with Career Services and you feel that there's more that could be done, come back and let us know what you need. If getting a job is that important to you (and it should be), then practice persistence.

Just like Nachshon ben Aminadav, you need to take the first step, and keep on moving forward! Come to us with a draft of a resume, cover letter, your network list, etc.; we can serve you very effectively. The world-wide internet is an incredible fount of information! Use it to explore every facet of your search, from networking to writing a resume, cover letter, or follow-up letter. I just met a person who was under the incorrect impression that math majors could only secure actuarial positions, and positions as math teachers. A quick web search found a book identifying at least 100 jobs available for math majors! Be adventurous; travel beyond your immediate bubble of knowledge and assumptions in order to explore your options.

Power of thoughts and assumptions

The way you think about yourself and about the career you are pursuing will ultimately affect the results you get. If you think that finding a job or an internship is very difficult and that you won't find what you are looking for, then that is probably what will happen. If you assume it is too late to get an internship, your search will be dramatically affected by that mindset. This point goes way beyond thinking positively; it means being aware of our thoughts and challenging the assumptions we are so used to embracing. There are techniques available to assist in this crucial area.

We in Career Services welcome the opportunity to work in partnership with you to help you plan your search, to explore options, and to guide you through the search process.

Biography and Contact Information

Mr. Ansel graduated from Franklin & Marshall College with a BA in accounting, went directly into programming financial systems and later earned an MBA. His career background is in the corporate world; he worked for the Federal Reserve Bank, Health and Hospitals Corporation and for more than 20 years with JP Morgan Chase. He went through his own career transition from a technologist to Vice President

(continued on page 13)

SUDOKU PUZZLES

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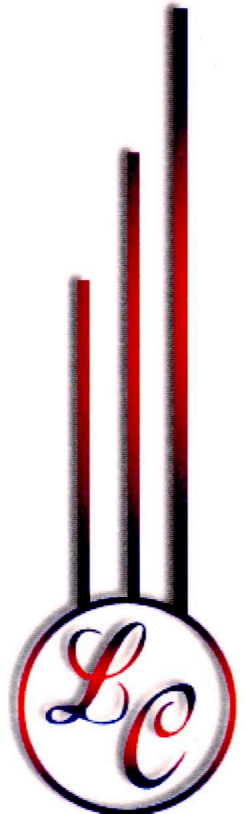
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EVIL



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW JERSEY MEDICAL BOARD APPROVES PLAN FOR NEW JEWISH MEDICAL SCHOOL

May 2, 2006: Dr. Bernard Lander, Founder and President of Touro College, has announced that Touro College has received the unanimous approval of the New Jersey Board of Medical Examiners for a plan to open the state's first and only private medical school, to be known as Touro University College of Medicine.

"We are extremely pleased to have received approval by the New Jersey Board of Medical Examiners and look forward to the next step, the accreditation process by the American Medical Association's Liaison Committee on Medical Education," Dr. Lander said. The April 19 decision, which followed a lengthy review process, paves the way for Touro to seek accreditation by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education, an independent authority.

The proposed Touro medical school will be the Garden State's only medical school that is not financed primarily by public funds. The new school will be the second Jewish-sponsored medical school in the country.

The approval recognizes both the demonstrable need to train more doctors in New Jersey as well as Touro's track record in the health care field. America faces a projected shortfall of 85,000 physicians by 2020. New Jersey ranks 33rd among the 45 states that have medical schools for the number of medical students per 100,000 population, and 56 percent of New Jersey's residency training programs are filled with foreign trained graduates, twice the national average.

Touro aims to enroll 100 students in each class of the Touro University College of Medicine. The school, to be located in a

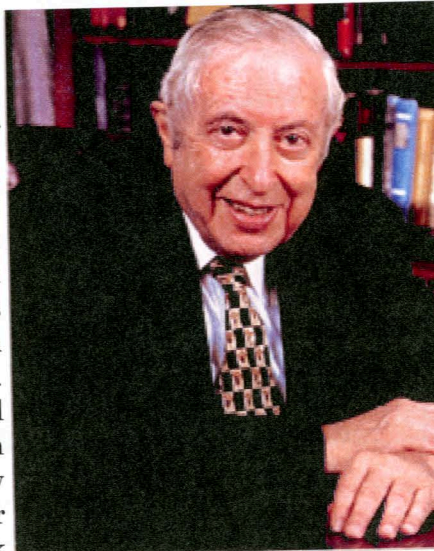
75,000 square foot building in Florham Park, will be retrofitted to meet national accreditation requirements with state-of-the-art teaching space, laboratory and research labs, and library and computer resources, including virtual reality teaching tools.

"Touro's growth as an educational institution continues to be guided by twin commitments to building and sustaining Jewish life and to reaching out to the wider community," said Dr. Lander.

Touro has long been a national leader in medical and health care education. Touro's School of Health Sciences, based in Bayshore, Long Island, has close to 1,000 students enrolled in 14 programs, including well-respected programs in physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech and language pathology and forensic science and examination. Touro opened New York City's first program for the training of physician assistants, which has graduated 1,200 students.

In 1983, Touro established a Center for Biomedical Education, a cooperative five-year program leading to a master's degree from Touro and an M.D. degree from the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology. Touro University California, based in historic Mare Island in northern California, has a college of osteopathic medicine and a college of pharmacy, and Touro University Nevada, located near Las Vegas, also has a college of osteopathic medicine.

Touro College has experienced phenomenal growth since its founding in 1971, and is currently educating more than 22,000 students at locations in New York, California, Nevada, Jerusalem, Moscow and Berlin. Touro College continues to have a profound impact on the lives of its students and on the Jewish and general communities.



Dr. Bernard Lander, Founder and President of Touro College

in Human Resources as an Organizational Development professional. He continues to support individuals to become more successful through his own coaching practice. In July 2005 he was hired as the Director of Career Services across the Touro campuses.

Mr. Ansel can be reached at 718-252-7800 ext 252 or ransel@touro.edu. He has office hours at the Avenue J, Flatbush Campus on Mondays and Tuesdays from 10:30AM to 6:30PM and on Fridays by appointment and on Thursdays at the Lander College for Men in Queens from 12:00 to 6:00PM. ♦

HALIMI (FROM PAGE 4)

icon or a relic, but a living, breathing, human being, made in G-d's image. He originally came from Morocco, and sold cell phones. He aspired to make *aliyah*. Only in death did his life earn a page in history. Or did it?

Halimi was abducted, presumably for ransom, even though he, in fact, had little money. But, aren't all Jews rich? As such, the French police treated it as any other ransom case, which usually results in the return of the victim; in this case, however, the police chose to ignore the more ignominious warning signs. Halimi was no ordinary ransom victim. Halimi was tortured continuously for 20 days. 20 days! Friends and family of the captors sporadically dropped in to assist in the pathologic orgy of torturing the Jew. Neighbors came by to gape. Even after his cut, burned, and naked body was found, and the antisemitic motive of the crime became obvious, the true nature of the crime was not - initially - admitted by the French. Where is the international outcry? ♦

protein.

Overall, the summer research was successful, and some of the insect cells seemed to contain the HFREP gene, which had been artificially introduced into them. The experiment is still continuing, as Dr. Danishefsky and Baruch Berzon try to reach the goal of producing the protein and understanding its role in our body. This coming summer, a new group of Lander students will continue to build on previous research, and attempt to isolate the enigmatic HFREP protein. ♦

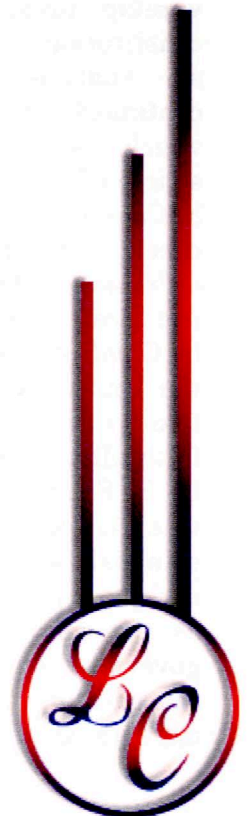
Judaism has never countenanced narcissism, the individual's sole absorption with him- or herself. Judaism has always been about people in relation to something else, something larger than themselves. Arguably, a Jew may be truly called a Jew when he/she is part of circles of belonging - to family, community, the nation and the world of humanity. It is when the Jew consciously realizes his/her place in the midst of these concentric circles of responsibility uniting the individual with the world, that the inner nature of the Jewish story can be fulfilled properly. A feeling of connection with people is not a true relationship without an accompanying feeling of responsibility for them. True, relating to the world and the cosmos in a responsible manner can potentially be problematic for the American Jew. However the Jewish psyche is no stranger to adversity and challenge. We simply refuse to succumb. We are *Am Yisrael*, a people blessed with the privilege of being engaged in the struggle to build a better world. ♦

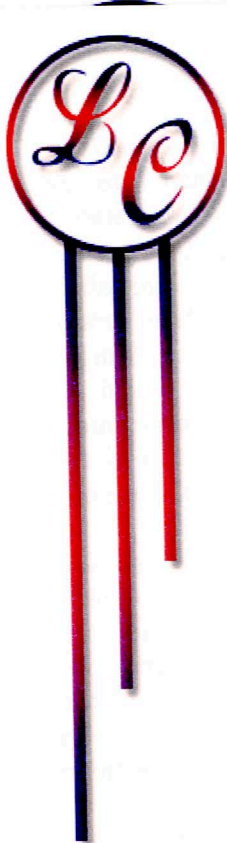
MASHGIACH (FROM PAGE 4)

they asked him: "what is your work, and where do you come from?" He replied simply: "*Ivri anochi*," I am a Hebrew, "and Hashem, G-d of the Heavens, I fear." The Brisker Rav derives from this that as Jews our primary occupation is that of loyal, dedicated servants of G-d. Every field and profession we enter is to be viewed not as our defining role in life; rather, as a way to carry out our spiritual mission of bringing glory to G-d's Name in every sphere of life.

Regardless of whether our graduates stay within the walls of the yeshiva (in Kollel or *chinuch*), or enter the world of business, healthcare, law, etc., they will surely be guided by the spiritual compass they have been given in our *Makom Torah*. They will chart their course and arrive at their chosen destinations in life through the perspective of *Ivri anochi*: I am first and foremost a committed, Torah-true Jew, and will demonstrate my pride and proficiency in that vocation at every opportunity and challenge presented! ♦

Rabbi Bamberger is the Mashgiach of Bais Medrash L'Talmud / Lander College for Men.





crimes, might well be justified and may even be absolutely necessary to thwart terrorism. And so the pressing question is to what extent, if any, must we afford a foreign power or its agent's constitutional protections who intend to bring unimaginable death and destruction to us on our soil? Before analyzing this question, however, consider how we

are to handle agents of those foreign powers who are also citizens or permanent residents? Should the Justice Department's criminal justice system have jurisdiction or the National Security Agency?

Whether the President's authorization of the National Security Agency's terrorism wiretap program is within his constitutional powers necessitates an analysis of the language contained in the Constitution, which is always the primary source of law. Article II of the U. S. Constitution provides that, "The executive Power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America. . . shall be Commander in Chief of the army and navy of the United States . . . [and] shall take Care that the Laws be faithfully executed." In 1936, the U. S. Supreme Court, relying on this language, stated that it established the "plenary and exclusive power of the President as the sole organ of the federal government in the field of international relations." It appears then, that according to

both the language in the Constitution and the Supreme Court's interpretation, matters of national security are well within the presidential powers.

Indeed, presidential authority to conduct warrantless eavesdropping against spies and foreign enemy powers, especially in furtherance of national security, is far from contemporary. President Franklin Roosevelt first authorized the use of wiretaps on national security grounds during World War II. In 1967, the Supreme Court refused to extend Fourth Amendment protection to wiretap applications "involving the national security." In 1968, Congress passed legislation providing that the president has the constitutional power "*to take such measures as he deems necessary to protect the Nation against actual or potential attack or other hostile acts of a foreign power, to obtain foreign intelligence information deemed essential to the security of the United States, or to protect national security information against foreign intelligence activities* (emphasis added)." And finally, in 1972, the Supreme Court unanimously held that Fourth Amendment protection did not apply to "national security information" and that the statute did not limit "*the constitutional power of the President to take such measures as he deems necessary to protect the United States against the overthrow of the Government by force or other unlawful means . . .*" (emphasis added) and that the objective of national security surveillance is, above all else, to successfully thwart destructive activities. They added that this is especially true because gathering security intelligence is usually a long-term project which

involves the integration numerous sources and types of information, and is more difficult to identify the exact targets or subjects.

The atrocities of September 11 demonstrated, among other things, the incapacity of the domestic criminal justice system to handle national security issues. Certainly, more must be done to improve our national security system by more effectively employing counter-terrorism measures. Given the magnitude of the attack, emphasis must be placed on prevention, not apprehension and prosecution. Extensive surveillance beforehand then, is axiomatic. In the debate since September 11, many have argued that it was the failure of the FBI and the CIA to "connect the dots" which led to the attacks' success. Critics place the lion's share of that blame on the "wall" policy, which contrary to popular notions, was not created by former Attorney General Janet Reno (though it may have been more strictly enforced). That policy prevented the sharing of key intelligence information between government agencies for the specific purpose of maintaining a separation between domestic criminal investigations and intelligence gathering to safeguard Fourth Amendment protection in criminal cases. But blaming the "wall" policy makes sense only if we accept responsibility for the terrorists' success. Of course, that may have played some role, but so did our failure to take their threats seriously. Nevertheless, the fact remains that the terrorists themselves are to blame. The question, as presented by counter-terrorism expert Steven Emerson, is not whether we were to blame, but

(continued on page 15)

rather whether we permitted ourselves to be deceived. If Emerson is correct, and he may very well be, then the answer is not allowing us to be deceived again. The dots we don't see can't be connected. The solution, therefore, is comprehensive and effective surveillance and intelligence gathering.

We are not the only ones who can communicate at the speed of the Internet. Terrorists can too. Al Qaeda has a flexible, global network to respond quickly and unpredictably to new opportunities for terrorism. In responding to these fast-moving threats, American intelligence agencies cannot afford to be slowed down by burdensome warrants and other paperwork requirements. Information must be shared in real time with the officials who need it, so that responses can match the nature of the threat. The difficult judgment, especially for anyone who does not have access to classified information about actual threats, is to assess the magnitude of the risks to national security and the effectiveness of surveillance powers to reduce those risks. And while there may have been legitimate reasons for believing that excessive domestic surveillance against social and political "subversives" was necessary, the risks actually presented today are incomprehensible. However, even if risks have sometimes been exaggerated in the past, such risks combined with the effectiveness of new surveillance tools justify stronger surveillance measures. Moreover, since public scrutiny by civil libertarians, the media and the Internet are far greater than in the past, it seems likely that the

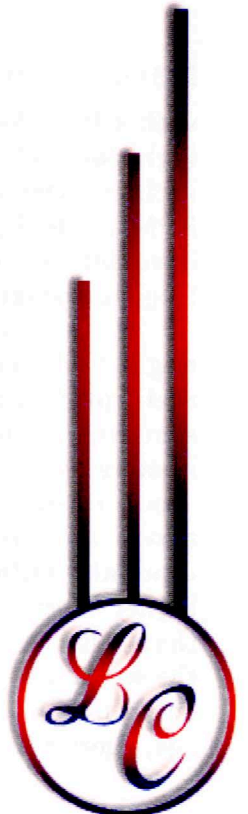
risk of abuse is lower. Indeed, support for this has surfaced in recent years. In 1981, President Reagan issued an executive order which provided for the warrantless searches against "a foreign power or an agent of a foreign power." In 1994, then Deputy Attorney General Jamie Gorelick, and later a member of the 911 Commission, testified before the Senate Intelligence Committee on July 14, 1994, stating, "The Department of Justice believes, and the case law supports, that the president has inherent authority to conduct warrantless physical searches for foreign intelligence purposes. . . . It is important to understand . . . that the rules and methodology for criminal searches are inconsistent with the collection of foreign intelligence and would unduly frustrate the president in carrying out his foreign intelligence responsibilities."

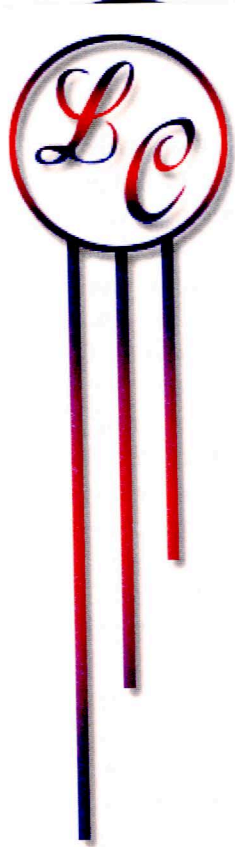
As such, the tumult over the NSA's "illegal" wiretapping of U.S. citizens appears to be misplaced, primarily because it is being conducted by the NSA, not the Justice Department or any other domestic law enforcement agency. Rather, the NSA alone is monitoring telephone conversations for terrorists threatening our national security and is exclusively limited to foreign entities or agents. Whether a U.S. citizen, a permanent resident or otherwise, should be entitled to guaranteed constitutional protection when communicating with foreign enemies, be it by phone, email or otherwise, presents a serious question which cannot be summarily dismissed. More compelling an issue, however, than the citizenship status of terrorists and their agents is their identity and location.

In light of the cataclysmic

consequences of not vigilantly conducting greater surveillance and intelligence gathering, the inescapable conclusion is that more covert programs like the NSA's is mandatory. I am certainly not a proponent of limitless government power, nor do I sanction unfettered and unrestricted governmental activities. But that is not what this debate is over. This has little to do with unwarranted and unlimited privacy intrusion and everything to do with preventing terrorists, who threaten our existence, from using our constitutional rights and freedoms as a sword against us. Terrorists, not the garden variety domestic criminal, are conspiring to inflict mass death and destruction upon us. Accordingly, terrorists and their agents, whether they are foreign enemies or citizens, should not be afforded the privileges of constitutional protection in the criminal justice system. No longer are we merely presented with a perceived threat or risk. Now, such threats and risks actually exist and have never been higher. Indeed, it is the President's and the U.S. intelligence agencies' responsibility to be anxious and vigilant in considering any possible threats against the nation. The least we should do is erase any barrier that may preclude us from being deceived again. Risky? Maybe. But risking the alternative isn't an option. ♦

Note: All endnotes have been omitted from this article.





YOM HA'ATZMAUT (FROM PAGE 8)

obligation, towards other Jews – even if one has never been to Israel and never plans to go.

One critical issue that we should be concerned with is the fact that 20% of the Jews in Israel live in poverty. More than a million Jewish people live below the poverty line of \$11,250 a year, with many of those living on significantly less. Even though Israel, by comparison with many indices, is one of the more prosperous countries in the world as measured by education and life expectancy, more than a third of Jewish children live in poverty. This means that cutbacks in Israel's child allowances and welfare further prevent children from having the food necessary to stay healthy. Many school districts in poorer cities end school in the middle of the day, since many of the children have still not eaten by that point of the day, are not able to concentrate.

Another example of this same responsibility is the fact that this past summer, thousands of Jews lost their homes due to a political move made by Israel. Regardless of whether a person believes that this signals something about *Gush Emunim*, or that the Israeli government should be responsible, the point is that we have a problem. That problem is that there are currently Jews without homes, living in temporary housing with a constant looming threat of eviction. They are jobless and insecure about their food and clothing needs.

NEFESH (FROM PAGE 9)

with CPAs, for example, are in high demand in Israel. Firms such as DeLoitte and Touche, KPMG and Ernst & Young all have Israeli branches that hire English-speaking Americans.

Medical practitioners might find adaptation to the Israeli professional environment somewhat easier. Dentists and Doctors are in demand in Israel – but, in this instance, knowing about the market beforehand is especially critical. Israel has a higher doctor to citizen ratio than almost anywhere else in the world, but those who specialize in fields such as anesthesiology, geriatrics, internal medi-

cine, neurology, pathology, radiology, and surgery are in high demand. Both dentists and doctors can work in Israel with an Israeli license. However the license is only available to Israeli citizens. For dentists there is an exam, which can be taken in English; for medical specialists, any specialization must be evaluated, and in some cases, additional tests or residencies are required.

For many other professions, there are similar hurdles. For lawyers, the Israeli system is very different than the American one; but there is still a demand for American lawyers in

This is something that should concern us, regardless of our personal political views.

Our personal *hashkafic* views, however, change the way we understand and react to everything. For many of us, it is difficult to imagine being responsible for more than ourselves, even for our families. "*kol yisroel areivim zeh l'zeh*" means so much more than simply being there for a friend when it happens to fit into one's own schedule. We need to understand that the fact that there are Jews suffering obligates us to act. Some argue that those who were ejected from their homes were given fair warning, and are therefore negligent of not having left. At the same time, people routinely claim that the poverty of those who choose to learn in *kollel* is not our responsibility; rather, they say, it is a choice that they make. People are so quick to fault others, thereby exonerating themselves. However, these people miss the point entirely. Our responsibility extends not just to the *kol yisroel* as a nation, but to every individual Jew, religious or not, sharing our political views or not, so long as they need our help. That is something, *chareidi* or *dati*, that we need to understand not just as a fact, but as a personal obligation – and one that we should want to fulfill. ♦

David Manheim is a student at Lander College for Men.

areas such as corporate law, and intellectual property law. Most insurance firms actually prefer American-trained actuaries to those trained in Israel, but it is recommended that at least half the exams be finished before looking for work in Israel.

Overall, even if you feel strongly that you want to live in Israel, it's important to pay attention now and start planning. It's not enough just to want to live in Israel; the move takes much time, preparation, and devotion. ♦

This article has been adapted by David Manheim from a Nefesh B'Nefesh publication for publication in The Lander Chronicle.

and control its various gears, sensors, etc. The main CPU that guides and controls the robot can be programmed by the computer through its infrared port. The programmers first developed a basic driving program, getting all the gears and wheels to drive and turn in synchrony. The programmers were then able to program the robot's main CPU to recognize the touch sensor and react to the various obstacles accordingly. After only a few meetings, the club had not only reached its goal of making a robot that can roam over tough terrain, but also outfitted the robot with a light sensor and programmed it to either move towards or away from light. The Engineering Club had only a short celebration before it ambitiously began its next project.

The next robot on the club's itinerary is the "Throw-Bot," a robot capable of throwing an object to a designated target. This is a much more advanced goal, because of the various physics involved, but the club is confident about the device's completion. The club is already working on a prototype, and has successfully crafted an arm for the Throw-Bot that can throw at different speeds and strengths. The club is scheduled to complete the robot by the end of this semester.

The Engineering Club is a hard-working club filled with bright, eager young minds interested in the fields of engineering and computer science. The students are passionate about their work and even spend extra time in between club sessions working on fixing and improving the various designs and programs created by the club. The Engineering Club and the Pre-Engineering Program are just two examples of how Lander College for Men is creating more opportunities for its students and helping them be better prepared

and more knowledgeable for their future careers. ♦

Shlomo Snyder is in the Pre-Engineering program at Lander College, and is a Junior Editor of the Lander Chronicle.

JOURNALISM (FROM PAGE 7)

Muslim world, where most communications media are controlled by the government. However for those of us who do have the right to express ourselves and wish to do so, where do we draw the line of what we wish to write or speak or better yet, do we need to draw the line?

Journalists take upon themselves an obligation to inform the public of what they see or learn, whether it is considered good news or bad news. Obviously, for some people, a given story may be perceived as good news, while for others it might be considered to be bad. This can sometimes put journalists in tight situations. It is for this reason that many journalists are careful only to inform the public of certain happenings. One of the instances that journalists tread carefully is when dealing with religion. Religion is very important to most people, and those people don't take lightly to their religion being treated lambasted by journalists. In consideration, many journalists either do not heavily criticize particular religions, or only report on news involving religion as objective news pieces.

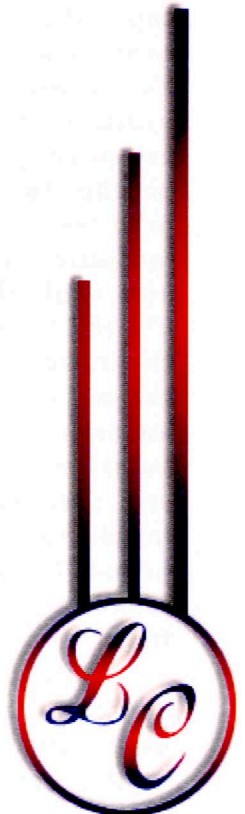
But, does a journalist have an obligation to report objectively because it might offend a religion? If the family of a suicide bomber claims that religion was the driving motive behind the bombing, is one allowed to criticize the excuse, or is that too considered religious sensitivity?

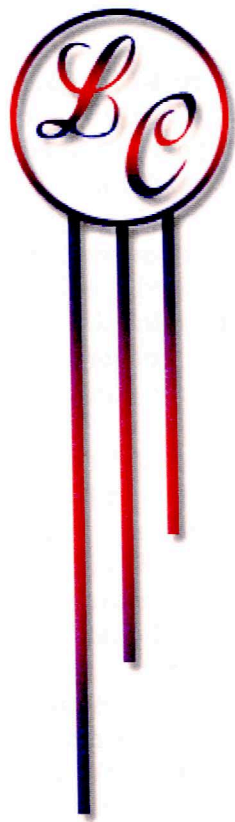
According to Muslims, any depiction of the Muslim prophet Muhammad, let alone in a

cartoon, is sacrilege to Islamic law (sharia). Should a journalist not report a story simply because it might not be respectful? Obviously, journalists love controversy; it just captivates and sells. However, at what point do we draw the line of censorship because something might offend?

As I mentioned above, almost all news will offend someone. Some suggest that the scope of the news should be measured in determining whether or not it should be printed. But, it seems that when we impose limitations on our expressive rights, we move backwards with regards to our civil rights – rights that our founding fathers fought for. Our right to free speech helped mold the character and direction that this country has taken, and was, in part, the inspiration for liberty in Europe.

Many people advocate for free speech – so long as that speech doesn't offend others. But who is to interpret what is considered offensive? Do we limit the American wardrobe to black-and-white to accommodate the colorblind in today's society? Once we begin to subscribe to a policy that obliterates our right to offend, we run the risk of obliterating our right to freedom of expression altogether. ♦





DEAN (FROM PAGE 3)

program.

Finally, Dr. Debra Cohen will join the graduate faculty of business as Associate Professor of Marketing, with ongoing teaching responsibilities at our campus as well. Dr. Cohen, who received her doctorate from C.U.N.Y and has taught at Syms since 1997, won the Lillian and Wilbur Silber Professor of the Year award in 2003. Her research interests focus on consumer gifting and advertising in new media.

These new appointments will strengthen our existing and very accomplished faculty. Drs. Kenneth Bigel and Ira Teich themselves teach in the graduate business program, and are both active in research as well. Last month Dr. Bigel served as a discussant at N.Y.U for a paper entitled "The Cost to Firms of Cooking the Books," and will present a paper at the Hawaii International Conference on Business this

June on "The Ethics and Economics of Adam Smith." Dr. Teich is co-authoring an article with Dr. Bellman on consumer intentions to shop in new types of retail stores, and is investigating nontraditional retail shopping venues for presentation of a research paper at a conference this fall.

Beyond these new faculty appointments, an active search is underway to hire additional Career Services staff as well, who will work under the supervision of Dean Snow and Mr. Ansel. Career Services is a crucial function of the College, especially in the business fields, where students often seek employment immediately after graduation. Taken together, these new additions to faculty and staff will significantly enhance business course offerings for students, and career opportunities beyond. ♦

FINANCE (FROM PAGE 6)

mutual funds, allowing investors and managers to utilize different investing strategies. Perhaps the most important difference is that investors give hedge funds the freedom to pursue absolute return strategies.

Mutual funds invest in a predefined style, such as "small cap value," or in a particular sector, such as the internet sector. To measure performance, the mutual fund's returns are compared to an index or benchmark. A mutual fund's goal is to "beat the index" even if only modestly. If the index is down 10% while the fund is down only 7%, the fund is said to have "beat the index," and is thus considered successful. But doesn't it sound audacious for a fund manager to boast about how he beat the index, and performed wonderfully with his clients' money, when in reality he lost 7% of the portfolios value? Welcome to the world of mutual funds.

In contrast with the strategy behind mutual funds, hedge fund managers aim for capital gains regardless of the

performance of an index or sector benchmark. This is made possible largely because hedge funds practice "short selling," while mutual funds subscribe to a "long-only" strategy. Put simply, a "long position" is when one buys a stock with an expectation that the shares will increase in value, and he then sells the shares at a higher price, thereby making a profit. This strategy is predominant in a "bull market," or when the economy is strong, and prices in the securities market are rising. "Short selling" is when one profits off the decline of a stock. How is that possible? Suppose two years ago I noticed signs of trouble in General Motors, and I speculated that their shares will be worth only \$20 today, down from \$50. I would have approached a broker and borrowed 1000 shares with a promise to return to him 1000 shares in two years, regardless of the price. I would then immediately sell the shares on the open market for a total of \$50,000. Then I sit and wait two years while the stock tumbles to

where it stands today, at \$20. I now buy 1000 shares on the market for the current price of \$20,000, and return the shares to the broker from whom I borrowed the shares. Notice that I pocket \$30,000 in the process...not bad huh? In a 'bear market,' when the economy on a whole is declining, and stock prices are on the downturn, hedge funds provide investors with a means of profiting.

The hedge fund industry has literally exploded in size over the last three years, rocketing from about \$500 billion in 2003 to over \$1 trillion last year. On an average day, between 18% and 22% of all trading on the New York Stock Exchange is hedge fund related. Hedge funds continue to be a source of constant fascination to me. In the cut-throat business environment in which we live today, people constantly develop innovative techniques by which they can profit from another's loss. ♦
Israel Anteby is a senior in Lander College, and is looking forward to a career in the finance industry.

student is required to complete a series of overview-type courses in history, literature, natural science, and writing. This, the Lander College faculty feels, helps to ensure a more comprehensive worldly knowledge-base for each student. Says Dr. Sokol, the dean of Lander College for Men, "many students believe that career success depends almost entirely upon knowledge of their field, but that is not so. It also depends upon the kind of intellectual sophistication, depth and communication skills that can only come from extensive reading and writing, from the analysis of great works of literature, from the study of history, and from exposure to a range of academic disciplines and methods." He points out that "Ivy graduates succeed when they do, not only because they know their respective fields well, but because of their overall educational experience. The Lander Core," Says Dr. Sokol, "is designed to replicate some of that experience."

But the parallels between the ideal Harvard as envisioned by Lawrence Summers, and Lander College in its actuality, stretch beyond the implementation of a well-rounded core curriculum. The two also share a strong sentiment against grade inflation. Dr. Bigel, chairman of the business department at Lander College for Men, notes strongly that "grade inflation erodes the value of students' grade-point-averages. It creates the illusion that students are stronger than they are in reality, thus, minimizing the integrity of the very institution at which the inflated grades are awarded." Furthermore, in seeking a job, all else equal, a mediocre student from an Ivy League school will probably receive precedence over a student of equal standing coming from elsewhere. When that Ivy League student – who already has the advantage of the prestigious university name – receives an inflated grade, it becomes that much more difficult for others to compete. Thus, grade inflation also serves to erode the value of grades awarded by schools noble enough to take action against it.

Summers' new policies would have potentially spelled harder work and lower grades for many students; yet, he remained extremely popular amongst Harvard's student body, with whom he seemed to see eye to eye. Unfortunately the changes called upon the faculty to take actions that they did not want to take. So, they found another excuse to besmirch his name and force him to resign. But the fact that Summers was forced to resign is not the point. Rather, the point is that he was willing to swim upstream by making an unpopular proposition and defending it because he

knew it to be right and just. Perhaps the weak-minded of today's society, who forever vie for acceptance amongst the masses, will learn the nobility of doing what is right – not what is easy. ♦

Josh is a junior at Lander College, and is Editor-in-Chief of the Lander Chronicle.

PRESIDENT (FROM PAGE 2)

and most importantly with your peers.

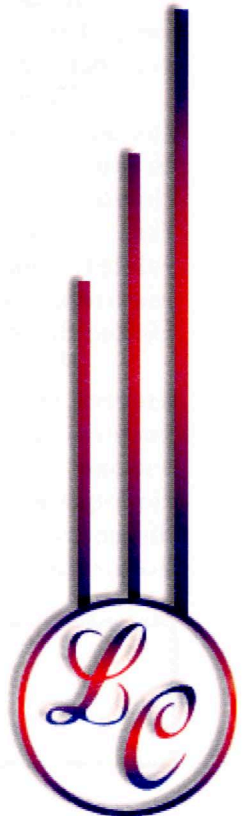
We get caught up in a very career oriented society, in which you are pressured to know exactly what you want to do and where you want to go. I'm not sure that is the healthiest perspective. Take the time to learn about other things; create a club, it need not have anything to do with your major. Yes, the time is often hard to find, but it's there. The most amazing older people I know had no idea what they wanted to do when they were merely 21. They never had the narrow focus on a single career direction. Wherever you are going to be, whatever you are going to do, will happen, but don't focus only on the destination – the journey is important too.

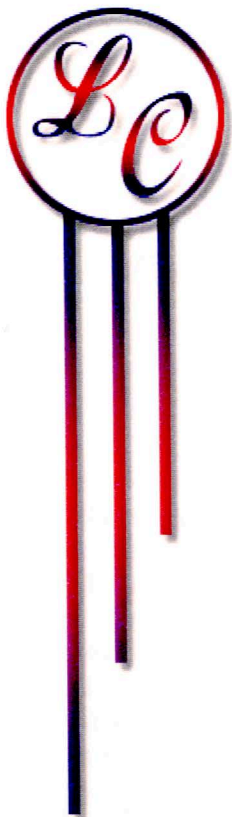
For those of you who will be continuing Lander at the start of the fall semester, your time here is limited and it will pass quicker than you realize. To paraphrase Steve Jobs: don't waste your time pursuing things that other people convince you are important. Don't be trapped by dogma, which is living with the results of other people's thinking. Don't let the noise of others' opinions drown out your own inner voice. And, most important, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition. They somehow already know what you truly want to become.

I wish you all years of joy, years of serenity, years of friendship.

It has been a pleasure,

Ari Lustig, President, Lander College Student Government 2006





AUTISM (FROM PAGE 1)

Autism is a disorder that doesn't discriminate between race, religion or locale.

Boys, however, are four times more likely to receive a diagnosis that places them on the autistic spectrum than girls. In general, though, when diagnosed with the disorder, girls tend to exhibit a more severe form than boys.

As of my research, the cause of autism is still unknown. Discussions of possible causes are highly charged, mainly because the many theories range from the absurd to the probable. Scientist, government agencies, and health officials are hard at work trying to make sense of the disorder, and, while making progress toward defining it, they have still not been able to pinpoint a specific cause.

In recent years, there has been much discussion about the rise in the numbers of those diagnosed in the U.S, the U.K and in other parts of the world. Some argue that the number of people with autism is not actually increasing. These people argue that the higher figures of autistic patients are merely a result of our ability to better identify and diagnose the disorder. Others argue that there is a true increase of the number of children with autism. Perhaps the most controversial issue is the suspected role of a vaccine preserved with a certain mercury compound.

In the past, infants born in the U.S. have typically received 8 different vaccines in their first two years of life. Since the year 2001, this number has jumped to up to 22 vaccines per child. Each of these vaccines contains a preservative called thimerosal.

Thimerosal is 50% mercury by weight, and is the most widely used preservative in vaccines today. It is metabolized or degraded to ethylmercury and thiosalicylate. Ethylmercury is an organomercurial that should be distinguished from methylmercury, a related, highly toxic substance. Thimerosal meets the requirements for a preservative as set forth by the United States Pharmacopoeia.

Preservatives are compounds that kill or prevent the growth of microorganisms – particularly bacteria and fungi – in vaccines in the event that the vaccine is accidentally contaminated. Tragic consequences have followed the use of vaccines that did not contain a preservative. For example, a German doctor in the 1930's treated forty children with a

certain vaccine. On the first day, 29 of the 40 died, and on the following day 8 more perished. It was found that the vial containing the vaccine had been left open and contained deadly bacteria.

A comprehensive study, conducted by scientists at the Danish Epidemiology Science Center, reviewed the medical records of a half-million Danish children born between 1991 and 1998. Published in the New England Journal of Medicine in November 2002, the report concluded that there is no basis for the belief that there was a correlation between vaccines and autism patients. While the Danish study was conclusive for the vaccines they were using, the results were inconclusive regarding American vaccines for one key reason: Vaccines used in Denmark did not contain thiomersol, while those used in the U.S. did. Thus it was still possible that American vaccines containing the preservative thiomersol were linked to the onset of autism.

With all the hysteria caused by the concerns surrounding vaccines, the United States Congress organized a team of health officials and doctors to form an Immunization Safety Review Committee to investigate the effects of the thimerosal present in vaccines. In 2004, the Immunization Safety Review Committee issued its final report. In this report, the committee incorporated new epidemiological evidence from the U.S., Denmark, Sweden, and the United Kingdom, and studies from 2001 about biologic mechanisms related to vaccines and autism. The committee concluded that this body of evidence favors rejection of a causal relationship between thimerosal-containing vaccines and autism, and that hypotheses generated to date concerning a biological mechanism for such causality are theoretical only.

While I have yet to uncover the cause of autism, I did learn that the benefits of vaccines far outweigh any conjecture that they cause harm. If people believed that vaccines were dangerous, and they refused to immunize, diseases that have been virtually extinguished would be granted the opportunity to rekindle, reviving a misery the world should never again have to face.

In Bio 493, Dr. Ann Shinnar lectured on topics related to drug discovery and development. These lectures, coupled with my in-depth research, gave me a true understanding of the important role that drugs play in our society. I recommend this course to future seniors, for the knowledge and skills I have mastered will undoubtedly impact greatly upon my future success. ♦

We encourage and appreciate your comments and suggestions.

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