

# THE COMMENTATOR

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The Macs sit at No. 1 in DIII ranking with a 46-game win streak. Full story on Page 4.

YU ATHLETICS

## Dr. Erica Brown Named Vice Provost of Values and Leadership, Inaugural Director of Sacks Center



ERICA BROWN

Brown will begin her post in January 2022.

By CHAIM BOOK

*This article was published online on Nov. 24.*

YU announced the appointment of Dr. Erica Brown as vice provost of values and leadership and inaugural director of the Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks Center for Values and Leadership on Tuesday, Nov. 23. Brown will assume these positions on Jan. 1, 2022.

*“It is an immense and humbling privilege to join the faculty of Yeshiva, and I do not take it for granted.”*

Dr. Erica Brown

Brown’s appointment marks a significant step towards the development of the center. YU announced the creation of the Sacks-Herstein Center on Oct. 27, founded by philanthropists Terri and Andrew Herstein and dedicated to the dissemination of Rabbi Sacks’ leadership lessons and values.

Brown’s responsibilities will include working directly with the students in the center’s leadership development program and externally on public programming, which includes designing the curricula for the center. As vice provost and director, she will interact directly with students in the program by teaching and mentoring. She will also share her experience and insight with future Jewish educators as an associate professor teaching at the Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and Administration.

Aside from her work directly within YU, Brown plans on developing robust public programming. In her new positions, she will be running conferences, seminars and conducting interviews, along with cultivating a strong social media platform;

“While it is early days to discuss specific goals, our general vision is to provide leadership development to undergraduate and graduate students, rabbinic students, communal leaders and educators through a series of academic, educational, communal and literary initiatives,” Brown told The Commentator. “We hope to do this work in the spirit of Rabbi Sacks’ teachings and YU’s core Torah values.”

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*Why Does Food Cost More?*

# FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

## The Legacy Is On The Line

By DANIEL MELOOL

News broke last week that the Yeshiva University Maccabees were ranked no. 1 in the NCAA DIII national ranking. This is the first time the Macs have ever been ranked as the top team in the country. As is evident from their remarkable success, never before has the team ever displayed such depth and chemistry. One might go so far as to say that this team is — to borrow a term used to describe certain teams in the FIFA World Cup — YU's golden generation. Their great success is a reason to celebrate, yet it underscores the pressure on the Macs to bring home a national title.

Winning a national championship has been the Macs' goal ever since Elliot Steinmetz (SSSB '02) first became head coach in April of 2014. Such an ambitious, and even audacious, attitude might have seemed laughable to the average person. After all, the Macs had not had a winning season since 2007. But Coach Steinmetz was determined to turn this vision into reality.

The Macs have progressed in the seasons since Steinmetz arrived, posting a winning record each time. In 2018 the Macs made history, becoming Skyline Conference champions for the first time, and securing their first trip to the national tournament. The following season, the Macs posted another amazing season and made it to the Skyline Conference championship again. However, this time they would fall to Farmingdale State College. During the 2020 season, the team picked up where they left off, winning every game after their opening loss. The team made it to their third-straight Skyline Conference championship, hoisting the trophy for the second time in three years and earning their second trip to the NCAA tournament (which was eventually canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic).

Fast forward to today, and the Macs have continued to make history in their pursuit of concluding an unfinished chapter. They have won their first 10 games of the season and extended their win-streak to 46

games, the second-longest streak in DIII history. Still, these feats are only pieces of a bigger picture. That is why, despite the Macs' being ranked no. 1 in the country, Coach Steinmetz offered the following comment on the matter: "Let me know what we are ranked on March 20." Though this sentiment might seem harsh, it is still proper. If the Macs fail to qualify for the national tournament or lose in the playoffs or championship, the success they have earned thus far will have effectively been for naught.

That being said, we have reason

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*If the Macs fail to qualify for the national tournament or lose in the playoffs or championship, the success they have earned thus far will have effectively been for naught.*

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to be optimistic about the future. We have a first-rate team with impeccable talent. Gabe Leifer (SSSB '21) is dominant in the paint. Eitan Halpert (SSSB '21) exhibits superb leadership in running the explosive offense. Ryan Turell (SSSB '22) has continued to showcase his prowess as an offensive titan, recently setting the record for points scored in a game by a Maccabee with an impressive 51-point performance. Ofek Reef (SSSB '23) is a gift to any team. He might be 6-foot-1, but he plays like he is much bigger and is the paradigm of a player that gives 100 percent every game. I can go on about the entire team, but you get the idea. Furthermore, the Macs are led by a head coach who understands the game of basketball, knows how to make proper adjustments and ensures that his team keeps its focus in the proper place. Coach Steinmetz's high hopes are certainly central to the team's success. Taken together,

they have all the right parts in the right places. They just need to deliver.

As we know from history, a golden age will last only so long. Empires rise and fall, no matter how big they are. We need to savor every moment of the golden age we are living through by understanding that opportunities like this appear once in a lifetime. We also need to internalize and inculcate the fact that the pressure is not only on the Macs to earn the ultimate victory, but on we the fans as well. We have a stake in every game considering that our school has garnered some prominent media attention due to the Macs' success. We need to show our support for the team at every game, at home or on the road. Whether going to the game in person or watching it on Macslive, every fan should throw their support for the Maccabees. Nobody should ever ask again in a rhetorical fashion "did the Macs win their latest game?" waiting to hear their assumption of the affirmative confirmed. Instead, everyone should *know* the answer, having watched the game from beginning to end. In such a critical year, it is vital that we — as a certain Macs shirt says — "back the Macs."

Moreover, the Macs do not only represent YU. They also represent the entire Jewish community and serve as a source of inspiration for its members. One person told Gabe Leifer that his son began to wear a *kippah* when playing basketball after he saw how Leifer wore one during every game. The Macs' success also allows Jews everywhere to stand together, no matter our religious differences, in supporting these players on the court. The team itself has acknowledged that there are different levels of religious observance among the players, and that playing together brings a strong sense of unity. A victory for the Maccabees would be a victory for every Jew, and every kind of Jew. With the dreams of an entire community resting on their shoulders, the Macs have all the more reason, aside from the historic momentum behind them, to ensure that they achieve a victory come the national tournament in March.

## THE COMMENTATOR

2021-2022

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*For 87 years, The Commentator has served students and administrators as a communicative conduit; a kinetic vehicle disseminating undergraduate social, religious and academic beliefs across the student bodies; and a reliable reflection of Yeshiva student life to the broader Jewish and American communities.*

*The Commentator staff claims students spanning the diverse spectrum of backgrounds and beliefs represented at Yeshiva.*

*We are united by our passion for living the ideals of Torah Umadda, and a commitment to journalistic excellence.*

Read more at [yucommentator.org](http://yucommentator.org)



**1 YU Steps Up the Swag**  
Keeping me warm and fresh like a zaide's laffa



**2 The Skyline Conference: Where Amazing Happens**  
Ryan Turell sets school record with 51-point bomb on Manhattanville and the streak rolls on



**3 Happy Hannukah**  
Just don't light up the dorms, namsayin?



**4 American Dream Mall Takeover**  
Who knew Area C extended all the way to New Jersey?



**5 181st Station Reopens with Brand New Elevators**  
That takes a full year? No wonder YU won't fix 'em. It's not like we can shut down the campus and learn online.



**6 D's Now Get Degrees**  
Inflation just saved my diploma.



**7 Thanksgiving**  
If you didn't try to explain NFTs to your great-aunt Esther you aren't *yotzei*.

# 7UP by Raphael Alcabes NMODZ

## Stanton Elevators Flooded

Tower of Terror meets Splash Mountain

## President Rabbi Dr. Berman Travels to Israel

Travel agency confused by title, book entire row on El-Al

## LeBron James Tests Negative for COVID-19

Turns out he just had cramps

## Omicron Presence in NYC

Like, zoinks

## Out-of-Towners Unite for Shabbat Hanukkah Oneg

Whispers spread of impending coup d'etat

## Finals are Coming

RT if the 23 days between midterms and reading week give you anxiety

## Owners Trigger MLB Lockout

You can't lose if you don't play, right? Let's go Mariners!

1



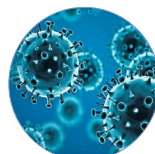
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7



### Letter to the Editor

## The Gun Culture That I Know

By PHILLIP DOLITSKY

To the Editor:

In a recent Pundit column in these pages, Ruchama Benhamou paints a grim picture of what she calls "gun culture in America." This culture, she writes, is one where guns "are often used to promote power and incite fear" as opposed to being used for self-defense. This culture has apparently led "to an increase in mass shootings and gun violence all around the country." How does she know this? Where has she learned of the inner motives of gun owners and their culture? And how does she know her causal claim that the increase in mass shootings and gun violence can be linked to this pervasive culture? We don't know, for she cites no sources to justify her claims on both points.

My goal here is not to discuss gun policy and its constitutional implications; I have done that elsewhere. Nor do I want to discuss what accounts for much of this nation's gun violence. I write here to correct the author's (mis)perception of gun culture. So, allow me to describe the gun culture that I know.

For the readers who don't know me personally, I must mention that I am a proud gun owner. I carry my firearm religiously, sliding it into my holster whenever I leave my house, be it to the supermarket or to *shul*. If you ever catch me out and about here in my hometown of Philadelphia, you'd likely not even notice my gun at my side. But it is there, ready to be used in an act of defense to protect me, my family and everyone around me from a lunatic who wishes to do us harm. My firearm was there to protect my neighbor when I heard his house being broken into this past Passover. My gun was there when, at the height of last summer's riots, I heard someone smash my (other) neighbor's car windows in the dead of night, frightening my entire household. The only fear my CZ-P10c has incited is in the hearts of those miscreants who stood down the working end of it; to those behind it, it has brought nothing but comfort and security.

And I am not the only one who can attest to this phenomenon. The CDC has noted that "Americans use firearms in self-defense between 500,000 and 3 million times every year." There are a plethora of stories and anecdotes about good Samaritans using their firearms, like a few years ago:

A concealed-carry permit holder intervened to stop a mentally disturbed man who was endangering drivers by throwing chunks of concrete and metal pipes at cars passing by on the interstate. The man had damaged almost a dozen cars and was holding a large piece of metal when the permit holder drew his handgun and detained the man until police could arrive. One of the drivers whose car was damaged told reporters that she was thankful the permit holder saved her and other drivers from further harm.

The five or so of us guys who carry to *shul* are a blessing to our congregation, whose members have encouraged us. We are not only trained marksmen, but we are also trained in various levels of first aid. I myself carry a tourniquet in my pocket, realizing that I am likely to use it more than I am likely to draw my gun. Many gun-oriented

Continued on Page 12

## SSSB To Rename and Redefine Majors and Course Offerings

By NAVA KATZ

Sy Syms School of Business (SSSB) will rename and redefine several majors and concentrations as well as “fine-tune” course offerings beginning next semester, SSSB Dean Noam Wasserman announced in an email to SSSB students on Nov. 17. According to the email, these changes will make student qualifications clearer to potential employers and enable students to better focus on their field of interest.

The newly announced majors are in strategy and entrepreneurship, business analytics, finance and marketing. Previously, the only two majors SSSB offered were in accounting, and business and management. Students could major in one of these two and concentrate in a specific area of interest, such as finance or marketing. Now, however, students will be able to declare majors in these specific subfields, and they will count as a B.S. in a separate area of study rather than just a concentration. “The changes in the titles of the majors help Syms students articulate their expertise to employers and graduate schools,” Wasserman told *The Commentator*.

SSSB is also renaming the management major to strategy and entrepreneurship and business intelligence and marketing analytics — previously a finance concentration — will now be a major called business analytics. According to the email, “Students graduating with a degree in business analytics and a second area of expertise are prepared for exciting careers with business analytics roles within media and marketing firms, banks, hedge funds, accounting and consulting firms as well as sports teams.”

Students graduating in January or May 2022 who are not accounting majors can decide whether to opt into the new

major designations or receive their bachelor’s in business & management with a concentration.

There will also be two new marketing majors — a general marketing track and a digital marketing track. The digital marketing track will focus on online marketing, featuring topics such as digital media, content marketing and search engine optimization.

Additionally, the school is changing the sequence of general education requirements to build a stronger quantitative base for SSSB students. This involves replacing two courses: business algebra and quantitative methods. According to the email, the replacement courses — mathematics for business and regression and visualization — incorporate skills applicable for today’s job

market, including mathematics in real-world business and economics and how to give visual presentations to business audiences.

SSSB has been working to update the school’s majors for the past several years to better accommodate the changing needs of their students. “With the growth in the number of students majoring in business & management and the breadth of specializations in that area, we wanted the students to be able to be clearer to employers and graduate schools about the material that they had mastered, and also to fit into the categories used by employers and schools,” said Wasserman. “So we applied to the New York State Education Department (NYSED) to bring clarity to resumes, applications, and transcripts”.

The SSSB administration worked with Tim Stevens, special assistant to the provost and YU’s NYSED liaison, who appealed to the state to allow the changes to be implemented. It took several years to configure the new majors to comply with the NYSED’s review process, but permission was granted in the spring of 2021.

Students expressed excitement about the changes. “My major takes up much less room on a resume and it is much clearer, which is really helpful on a practical level,” said finance and marketing major Fruma Silver (SSSB ‘23).

These changes came shortly after SSSB announced the redesign of three of its graduate programs on Nov. 9.



Belfer Hall

THE COMMENTATOR

## Macs Sit At Historic No. 1 National DIII Ranking As Win Streak Reaches 46

By RIVKA BENNUN

The YU Maccabees men’s basketball team ranked No.1 in the national ranking for NCAA Division III teams for the first time in program history. As of Saturday, the Macs hold a 46-game win streak, the second-longest in DIII men’s basketball history.

The ranking was released on Nov. 28 by d3hoops.com, which publishes its top 25 teams on a weekly basis. The d3hoops.com Top 25 is voted on by a panel of 25 coaches, sports information directors and media members from across the country. MacsLive Executive Producer Akiva Poppers (SSSB ‘22) is currently a member of the voting panel.

“Each voter fills out a ballot of their top

25 teams,” Poppers explained. “If a voter places a team at #1, that gives that team 25 points; if a voter places a team at #2, that gives that team 24 points...etc...if a voter places a team at #25, that gives that team 1 point.” The points from all the voters are tallied and the teams with the top points are ordered. The Macs earned 13 out of 25 first-place votes.

According to Poppers, some factors which may be crucial in determining how to rank each school are offensive and defensive capabilities, strength of schedule and big wins. With regards to his own methodology as a voter, Poppers shared, “I prioritize the eye test, take into account team mentality as justified by performance against both strong and weak competition, and am guided along by results.”

The Macs have been climbing rankings recently. Last season, they were ranked at No. 4, marking the first time in history that the team was ranked in the top five. This past October, the Macs rose to No. 2 on the national rankings. In January 2020, the Macs first broke the top 25 teams, placing No. 24. just ahead of Brandeis University.

The Nov. 28 poll was released a day after the Macs beat Manhattanville College by a score of 78-56. The team struggled in the first half of the game but “turned the tide in the second stanza,” d3hoops wrote.

Poppers expressed disappointment at this victory for the Macs. “I have been disappointed with many of YU’s recent first half performances and if the Macs keep playing like they have as of late I may drop YU from the 1 spot on my ballot,” he said.

Randolph-Macon College, the previous No. 1-ranked school, lost on that same day in a nail-biter against Christopher Newport University and has since dropped to No. 3 in the rankings.

Head Coach Elliot Steinmetz was unimpressed by the news of the Macs’ ranking, telling MacsLive, “Let me know what we are ranked on March 20,” the day of the DIII National Championship Game.

“It’s November and we are just trying to get better every day,” Steinmetz also said. “There are a lot of great teams out there and we hope we are good enough to compete with them when it matters in a couple of months.”

ERICA BROWN

Continued from Front Page

Brown’s qualifications for this position include her years of working experience in communal leadership. A 1988 alumna of Stern College for Women (SCW), she most recently served as director of the Mayberg Center for Jewish Education and Leadership and associate professor of curriculum and pedagogy at George Washington University. She has previously served as the scholar-in-residence of the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington

and the Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Boston, in addition to being the community scholar for the Jewish Center of New York. Currently, she serves as a community scholar for Congregation Etz Chaim in Livingston, NJ.

“We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Erica Brown to our stellar leadership team as a key partner in advancing Yeshiva University forward into its next great era,” President Ari Berman said in YU’s press release. “As a

celebrated alumna of our institution, devoted student of Rabbi Sacks, and an internationally renowned educator, author, speaker and scholar, Dr. Brown both exemplifies our core values and lives our mission of educating the leaders of tomorrow.”

Brown is renowned for her work on education, chosen as a Jerusalem Fellow, an Avi Chai Fellow, and awarded the 2009 Covenant Award for her educational ideas. Brown is currently co-authoring a teen

leadership manual.

“I cannot wait to be on campus and meet students and learn from them how this new center can service their needs and interests. So please introduce yourselves,” Brown said. “It is an immense and humbling privilege to join the faculty of Yeshiva, and I do not take it for granted.”

## Stern College Dramatics Society To Hold First Play Since 2019 In December

By JONATHAN LEVIN

The Stern College Dramatics Society (SCDS) will hold its first theatrical performance in two years this December. The play, "Radium Girls," will be performed at the Schottenstein Theatre near Wilf Campus late in the month.

Radium Girls will be directed by Prof. Reuven Russell, with Tzivia Major as stage manager and 24 students in acting and supporting roles. Performance dates will be on Dec. 19, 20, 21 and 23. Tickets are expected to be sold online at a later date.

The last production from SCDS, "Defying Gravity," was held in December 2019 before the start of the pandemic. Unlike last year, when New York's theaters were closed due to the pandemic, theaters throughout the city are now open, with Broadway theatres having opened at full capacity for vaccinated individuals in September 2021.

The play, "Radium Girls," by D.W. Gregory, was chosen by SCDS at the beginning of the semester and is based on the true story of a group of women hired by the U.S. Radium Corporation in the late 1910s and '20s to paint the dials of watches with green luminescent radium paint. What followed

was a legal battle waged by the women in response to their exposure to the radioactive element.

The cast for the SCDS' play will consist of nine students as actors playing approximately thirty roles, and roughly another fifteen in crew positions, including props, costume design, hair and makeup, house manager and treasurer.

The show's cast has been preparing for their performance since the start of the fall semester, attending nightly rehearsals for two to four hours Monday through Thursday; as the performance date draws near, rehearsals will be held Sunday nights as well.

This semester will be the third time that SCDS members will receive credit for their performance. Unlike Yeshiva College Dramatics Society (YCDS) members on Wilf Campus, who have consistently received two credits for their performances since the 1970s, SCDS members received no credit for their plays until 2018, when, after years of student outcry, YU offered them credit under a two-credit course labeled "play production."

*"Radium Girls is a heartrending tale about corruption and the fight for justice in twentieth century America."*

SCDS President Baila Landa (SCW '23)

Russell is a graduate of Yale School of Drama, an instructor of speech at Stern College for Women and director of both SCDS' and Yeshiva College Dramatics Society's (YCDS) plays. Russell is currently scheduled to direct a play from YCDS on Wilf Campus this upcoming spring, the society's first in three years.

Both the cast members and Russell were excited about the performance and felt that its topic was both relevant and entertaining. "I am thrilled to be back in the Schottenstein Theater directing SCDS's production of Radium Girls," commented Russell.

"Radium Girls is a heartrending tale about corruption and the fight for justice in twentieth century America," said Baila Landa (SCW '23), president of SCDS and a cast member of Radium Girls. "This is an idea that is still relevant today, and is sure to resonate with our audience."



Prof. Russell speaking with the cast of "Radium Girls"

STERN COLLEGE DRAMATICS SOCIETY

## Two Beren Elevators Face Heavy Leak From Ceiling After Pipe Burst

By RIVKA BENNUN

Two of the three elevators in Beren Campus' Stanton Hall at 245 Lexington Ave. faced heavy leaks on Tuesday, Nov. 24 after a pipe burst in the building.

One student, who was sitting in the lobby at the time of the incident, said that around 6 p.m., once the doors to the middle elevator opened, she saw water pouring from the elevator ceiling. As the doors closed, the student called over security. Once the doors opened again, the security guard on duty rushed to push a chair between the elevator doors to prevent it from going back up.

Soon after, the left elevator also began to leak. The leakage of both elevators continued for around 30 minutes before the consistent leaking slowed to dripping and eventually stopped.

Students at the scene said that the elevators were put back in service soon after the leaking ended, without a formal inspection of the elevators' state.

According to the security guard who was on duty at the time, a large pipe located on the roof of the building burst as it was not properly sealed. Water began to leak through the building and poured into the elevator. There were no reports of leaks found in any other parts of the building.

"The leak was related to maintenance on the plumbing systems and unrelated to the elevator," Chief Facilities and Administrative Officer Randy Apfelbaum shared with The Commentator. "It was resolved quickly and the elevator was dried up and is back in service."

Apfelbaum added, "We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused."

One student, who used the elevator later that day, did not find it working normally. "I got into the elevator after it flooded. There was a garbage pail sitting in the elevator but no more water coming out," Racheli Gottesman (SCW '24) shared with The Commentator. "And the elevator closed on me; the sensor wasn't working."

A different student expressed that she was not surprised to find out there was an issue with the elevators. "Listen, when you find a dripping elevator in Stern you just get in and try to avoid the puddles," Rivka Marcus (SCW '24) said.

There have been previous elevator issues in Stanton Hall, including one incident where students were stuck in the elevator for two hours and another incident where both students and professors were stuck multiple times in one day. As per Apfelbaum, this most recent incident does not seem to be related to the elevators' maintenance.



One of Stanton Hall's elevators. 2 of 3 were out of service.

THE COMMENTATOR

## Security Amped Up On Beren Campus After Students Experience ‘Unease’ Around Midtown

By SHLOMIT EBBIN

Beren Campus recently heightened its security after receiving reports of uncomfortable “encounters between students and pedestrians in the campus vicinity,” according to an email by YU security sent to Beren students on Friday, Nov. 19.

The email outlined the updates for Beren Campus security, such as an increased number of security guards, extended hours that a uniformed NYPD Officer is on campus and the reinstatement of the local shuttle. The shuttle, which has not been operating since before COVID, will now run on Beren Campus from 5-11 p.m. during the week to transport students between various buildings. The email also reminded students of their ability to request a security accompaniment when walking between buildings.

Students reported that outside the 215 Lexington building a few weeks ago, a man was repeatedly shouting “Holocaust.” Other students alleged that they recently heard a pedestrian who appeared “mentally ill” mutter antisemitic remarks as they walked past him.

— who Friedman believed was homeless and possibly “drunk or high” — threw a pair of scissors at them. Neither student was hurt, and they reported the event to a security guard in 245 Lexington immediately after. These incidents follow increased numbers of homeless people in Midtown during the

students live and learn in an environment where they feel secure,” YU Security wrote in its email.

YU has previously heightened security on account of past situations in NYC. On May 21, YU announced that it would increase security measures on both campuses due to the spike in antisemitic violence locally and across the U.S. The university said that it would be in close contact with the NYPD and that personnel would be available to escort students around campus.

“I appreciate YU’s decision to reinstate the local shuttle,” shared Avigail Schiff (SCW ’23), an RA who used the shuttle after it was reinstated. “It’s nice to have the option to visit friends in other dorm buildings and know that if it’s late, if there is a security incident or if there’s a weather situation, the shuttle is an option.”

*“It’s nice to have the option to visit friends in other dorm buildings and know that if it’s late, if there is a security incident or if there’s a weather situation, the shuttle is an option.”*

Avigail Schiff (SCW ’23)

Max Friedman (YC ’24) recounted that on Nov. 13, Friday night, he and another student were walking toward Brookdale Residence Hall when a “guy who looked really angry”

pandemic, many of whom suffer from mental illnesses.

“We remain committed to our mission to provide a safe campus community where

## YU To Hold 97th Annual Hanukkah Dinner Virtually On Sunday Night

By ARIEL KAHAN

This article was published online on Dec. 2.

Yeshiva University will be hosting its 97th annual Hanukkah Dinner virtually at 5 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 5. While this event was initially supposed to take place in person, YU made a decision several months ago that the dinner should be held virtually “out of an abundance of caution” for COVID-19.

The event, known as “The YU Tonight Show,” is free and open to the public. The evening’s guests include President Ari Berman, CBS Mornings Co-Host Gayle King and Italian Opera Tenor Andrea Bocelli. While the event will go live on Sunday at 5 p.m., the program will be recorded and available for viewing until the end of the calendar year.

As stressed in the event’s invitation, this annual dinner is intended to be a significant fundraiser for the institution. These funds support the university’s greatest needs, including scholarships, faculty and facilities. In past years, the event has raised millions of dollars, with five million raised in 2018 and 5.6 million raised in 2019. A link to donate



The YU Tonight Show

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY

is included in the invitation.

The event was originally supposed to take place at the Plaza Hotel in Midtown, but was shifted to a virtual format as a precautionary measure. “We care deeply for the health and safety of the Yeshiva University community,” said Senior Executive Director of Strategy and Partnerships Ellen Finkelstein. “In discussion with the university’s leadership, our administration felt that it was appropriate and safer to hold the dinner virtually for one more year.”

YU also held last year’s Hanukkah Dinner virtually due to the pandemic. While this year’s announcement came as a surprise, Finkelstein believes that there are many benefits: “Holding our dinner this way allows us to include many more people than we are able to in person. We are pleased to include anyone who wishes to join — there are no barriers of entry to view the dinner program.”

While this event is being held virtually, YU has held many other events in-person throughout the pandemic including last year’s Yom Ha’Atzmaut program, *selichot*, basketball games and addresses by speakers, including the recent visit by Sheikh Mohammed Al-Issa.

## Non-YU Students Granted IDs To Access Certain YU Buildings

By SAMMY INTRATOR

Yeshiva University began giving out IDs to non-students over the last few weeks, allowing them access to various YU buildings. This marks the loosening of the strict security from the beginning of the pandemic that limited facilities to students, faculty and staff.

“As a prominent community institution, we have long allowed our neighbors and alumni access to the Glueck Beit Midrash for learning and davening,” a YU spokesperson said. “Now, to ensure visitors’ access aligns with the university’s necessary COVID protocols such as vaccination status and weekly testing, YU’s security office has begun administering university identification to a small number of *beit midrash* visitors.”

The spokesperson emphasized that non-students must “adhere to the same security,

safety and health policies” as those who “live, learn and work here.” They added, “If someone believes another person is not authorized to be on campus, they should immediately notify YU security.”

It is unclear what, if any, qualifications or criteria are needed to receive an ID beyond proof of vaccination and adherence to other COVID-related policies.

According to one non-YU student, who received an ID and spoke to The Commentator under the condition of anonymity, he initially reached out to Undergraduate Torah Studies Dean Rabbi Yosef Kalinsky about gaining access to Wilf Campus’ *batei midrash* to learn Torah and attend *minyanim*. Upon his request, he was granted an ID and told to go to Wilf Campus’ security office to pick it up, provided he adhered to all the same COVID-19 policies required of students, such as vaccination and weekly testing. The student lives in Washington Heights.

This policy marks a significant change from YU’s updated policy on its website. According to its latest policy release in September 2021, visitors are only permitted into YU buildings for scheduled appointments of “legitimate YU business.” Visitors are also required to adhere to the same COVID protocols as students and faculty: they must be fully vaccinated, follow masking protocols and display a negative PCR test if appearing for multiple occasions. The guidelines say that visitation to libraries, however, is suspended on both campuses. While alumni and spouses are advised to contact the Office of Alumni Affairs to get alumni IDs and student IDs, respectively, there is no mention of non-student IDs or how to procure one.

Additionally, the policy release states that *batei midrash* are closed to anyone without either a student, alumni, student spouse or alumni spouse ID, which seems to preclude

even those with non-student IDs.

YU’s September guidelines also relayed the vetting process for visitors, which involves consulting the department head or dean, registering with security and coordinating with the Chief Human Resources Officer and Chief of Security at least two days in advance to ensure protocols are being followed. Visitors must also review COVID safety guidelines.

As of publication, YU has not posted its latest policy changes on its website.

The Washington Heights resident is grateful for YU’s change of policy. He expressed that he was “very thankful to YU for their sensitivity and flexibility in terms of getting me an ID. It definitely makes living in the Heights easier, better, more productive, and more enjoyable. They were very helpful in this situation.”

## Save A Child's Heart Chapter Comes To Beren Campus

By **RIKKI KOLODNY**

Anyone with a heart would want to be part of Save a Child's Heart, and you know which people especially have a heart? Shayna Vadani (SCW '23) and Michaela Fiederer (SCW '23), co-presidents of the newest Save a Child's Heart club on Beren Campus.

Save A Child's Heart is a non-profit organization founded by Dr. Ami Cohen, whose mission is to provide lifesaving cardiac care to children who cannot afford it. They are based in Holon, Israel and consist of a team of volunteer doctors who perform cardiac surgeries with no pay. They have 70 clinics around the world, examined over 95,000 children and performed surgery on over 5,700.

Beren's SACH club is a chapter in the U.S., following in the footsteps of others, such as the one at Northwestern University. Vadani and Fiederer reached out to Nancy Pardo who is the U.S. young leadership director at SACH, and she helped them establish the new club.

Vadani and Fiederer decided to start a Save a Child's Heart chapter on campus because it is such a unique opportunity for students to volunteer in Israel, whether from afar or near. The SACH club at Beren is focused on bringing awareness to the work

that SACH and to raise money for their cause. "We hope that our presence on [Beren] will encourage students to visit Save a Child's Heart in Israel and volunteer with them further in the future," Vadani and Fiederer shared.

"Everyone has ties to Israel, and it can bring them together because there are plenty of students who want to make aliyah," said Vadani. They were pleasantly surprised when people came up to them at the club fair, mentioning that they heard of SACH and their enthusiasm with YU having their own chapter. "We were floored with the amount of people who showed interest in the club, we were definitely not expecting that many people to join," said Fiederer.

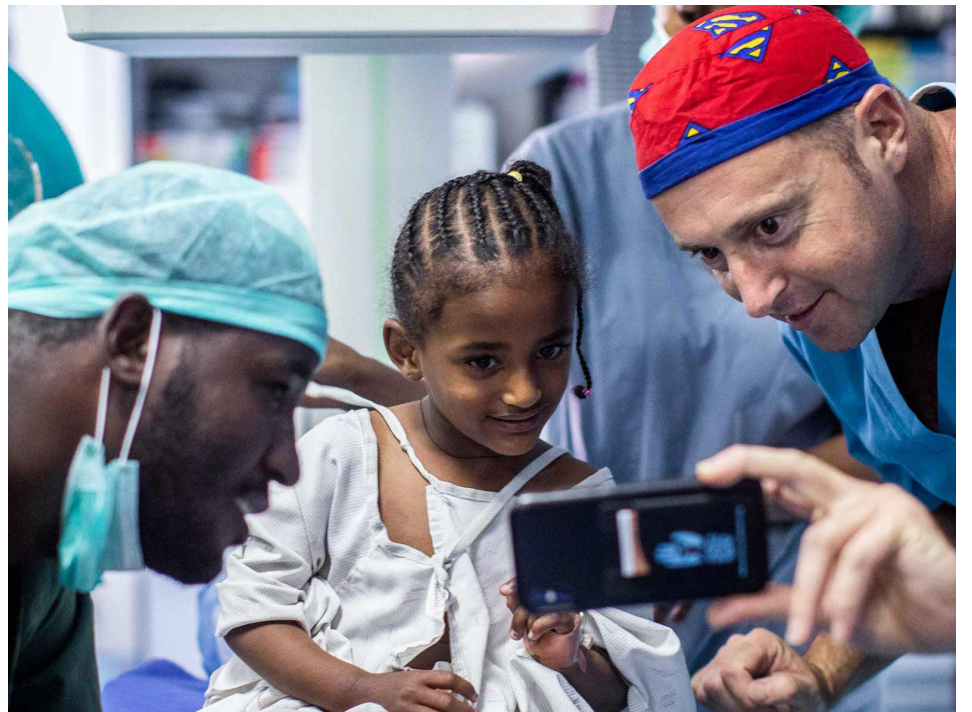
"Our main goal of the club is to have a big presence on campus, because with that we can achieve all our future goals," Shayne told The Commentator. The club aims to bring awareness to SACH and to fundraise money for their surgeries. There are also opportunities for students to volunteer with SACH, either in their clinics in Israel, or by being involved here.

SACH first club event took place on Nov 15. First, a short film about the organization was shown, followed by the movie Tangled. The next event will be a fundraising event at the cycle bar in collaboration with the cycle club and all the proceeds will go to SACH.

"We would ultimately like to raise \$15,000 this year — enough to sponsor one lifesaving surgery," added Michaela.

Although there is no SACH chapter on Wilf yet, there may be opportunities for Wilf

students to get involved, especially with fundraising. There is also a private link that anyone in YU can donate directly to SACH. So, open your wallets and more importantly, open your hearts.



SAVE A CHILD'S HEART

Save a Child's Heart also helps improve pediatric cardiac care.

## Israel's Borders: What Has Omicron Changed?

By **MIRIAM RUBIN**

Many foreigners were elated to hear that Israel opened its borders to vaccinated foreign travelers on Nov. 1, after a period of more than a year and a half of most non-Israeli tourists being banned from entering. Parents looked forward to seeing their children studying there, tourists planned trips and foreign Jews got excited to visit their homeland. Unfortunately, about four weeks after Israel opened its borders to foreigners, the country announced that it was closing its borders due to the novel Omicron coronavirus variant. The Omicron variant was first detected in Botswana, South Africa, and the World Health Organization (WHO) believes that the variant can be even more contagious than the Delta variant and is now considered a variant of concern. Cases of this new variant have appeared in the United Kingdom, Germany and Italy, to name some countries, thus raising concern for Israel. Therefore, Israel's Coronavirus Cabinet decided to close the border beginning Sunday night to all

non-citizens for the next two weeks.

Just over a month ago, non-Israeli citizens were permitted to enter Israel on the condition that they met specific criteria. These criteria included travelers being fully vaccinated — either being vaccinated twice within the previous six months or receiving a booster shot after previous vaccination. Travelers from Europe had slightly different requirements. Individuals who had recovered from the virus and received one vaccine dose, or had recovered from the virus within six months from the date of their departure to Israel were eligible to enter Israel only if they received a European Union Digital Recovery Certificate. This certificate would be accepted as an entry permit for all non-citizens.

Upon arriving in Israel, both Israeli and non-Israeli citizens had to present a negative PCR Covid test taken no more than 72 hours before their flight in order to board the plane. Thus, one needed to show either proof of vaccination or recovery from COVID-19 and a negative PCR test in order to be permitted to enter Israel. Once travelers arrived, they had to undergo a serological Covid Test and

quarantine until they received a negative result.

It has been a year and a half since the coronavirus spiraled out of control. In response, countries began imposing travel bans, quarantining sick individuals and isolating millions in order to stop the spread of Covid-19. So far, there has been a record number of 1,341,856 infections and 8,182 coronavirus-related deaths in Israel since the pandemic began.

dropped significantly due to high vaccination rates in Israel and the economy was slowly returning to normal. Stores, restaurants, schools and transportation have been permitted to individuals who are fully vaccinated.

On Nov. 25, the Corona cabinet mentioned that Israel will start accepting antigen tests, also known as rapid tests. Within the last few weeks, passengers needed a PCR Covid test 72 hours before their flights but

*"Now, non-citizens have many concerns: the abundance of individuals who purchased tickets for chanukah and winter break might not be able to get into Israel now."*

Over the course of this pandemic, Israel had issued various mandates and lockdowns. Stores, transportation, and school systems have all been closed in order to stop the spread of COVID-19. Children did school remotely and businesses lost their sources of income during these harsh lockdowns. However, by the end of April, the rates had

recently, individuals just need a rapid test that can be taken two hours before their flight. These rapid tests are cheaper and more accessible with results ready within minutes as opposed to hours and days.

Israeli citizens are also affected by the Omicron variant and also face restrictions. Vaccinated Israelis returning from abroad need to take a PCR test and on day three of isolation, they will need to take another PCR Covid test to leave isolation. Unvaccinated Israeli citizens are required to be isolated for seven days once returning from abroad.

Now, non-citizens have many concerns: the abundance of individuals who purchased tickets for Chanukah and winter break might not be able to get into Israel now. In fact, towards the beginning of the week, yeshiva and seminary students were worried about entering the country but on Monday, Israel granted permission only for them and Israeli citizens to enter. Hopefully, the situation will improve in the next few weeks and foreigners will be able to get back into Israel.



Israel closes border over Omicron variant fears

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# Stressed? Need a Gift? The Commentator Staff Is Here To Help

By **ARIEL KAHAN AND COMMENTATOR STAFF**

This article was published online on Nov. 28.

With Chanukah rapidly approaching, crunch time for gift-giving has arrived! Finding the perfect gift can be a stressful endeavor. Luckily, The Commentator staff is here to help.

Each Commentator editor and staff writer had the chance to share a gift they think is a winner for the Chanukah. Here they are:

**Sruli Fruchter (Editor-in-Chief)**  
*Bamboo Book Stand - \$14.41*

Books are great, but without a stand to support them, they're just a nicely-bound set of pages. This bamboo book stand is the perfect holder for all your literary interests, whether that's a yeshiva-favorite like Talmud Bavli or something a bit more "daring" like Dostoevsky. Regardless, books deserve a place to stand, and your neck deserves a break. This stand has served me well, and this Chanukah, it can do the same for you.

**Daniel Melool (Managing Editor)**  
*Pocket-Sized United States Constitution - \$9.95*

Have you wondered how you can stand out in a crowd and look sophisticated? Look no further! The pocket Constitution will do the trick. This document is easy to read and is easily accessible as it fits right in your (well, it's in the name) pocket. In addition,

it will also make you seem more intelligent.

Who knew such a small item could be such a personality and intelligence enhancer?! So, my fellow Americans (and non-Americans for that matter), proclaim liberty while enhancing your image.

**Jonathan Levin (Junior News Editor)**  
*Marble-Composition Notebook & Pack of Ballpoint Pens - Notebook \$2.53, Pens \$1.29*

Do you have a classmate who spends most of their hard-earned tuition money playing 2048 or solitaire in class? If you do, then a cheap composition notebook and a pack of ballpoint pens will make a perfect gift for them. For the price of a few dollars, your gift can ensure that your classmate will make the best possible return off of their tuition money. (This gift is ideal for Syms students who invest in stocks or cryptocurrency)

**Naftali Shavelson (Senior Opinions Editor)**  
*MoMA Water Bottle - \$28*

Know what's important? Staying hydrated. Know what's even more important? Looking sophisticated. Luckily, those two noble goals no longer need to be mutually exclusive. Enter the MoMA Water Bottle. It's a reusable water bottle, but instead of being blank, boring and unadorned, it's decorated with the logo of New York's (second) most venerable art institution. "It keeps water cooks [sic]," exclaims verified buyer Janet in a glowing five-star review. With an endorsement like that, surely you should look no further for your next water holding

accessory. Discard (or ideally recycle) your plebeian Poland Spring bottle today and head to the MoMA online store for an instant upgrade to your aesthetic, salubrity and general happiness.

**Yoni Mayer (Staff Writer)**  
*AMC A-List Subscription - \$25*

I know what you're thinking: Why would I get someone a Chanukah gift they were most likely about to get themselves? Now, that is a fair question, but why not take the risk and give it to them anyway? With this amazing gift, people will be able to see three movies per week in any AMC theater, in any format (that's right, IMAX included). Before you drop your refillable Slurpee from excitement, let me make that sound even better. A movie in an AMC theater in the city is about \$24. The AMC subscription is only \$25 FOR THE ENTIRE MONTH! So do the math with me; if your gift recipient sees just two movies per month, the gift is worth it. Also, someone who hasn't bought the subscription themselves probably isn't as film-oriented as you. So not only will you give them a trip to the theaters, you'll also be able to be that annoying cinephile friend who preps them with every detail of the movie they're about to see, like who the screenwriter and cinematographer are, details that no average filmgoer cares about. It's a win-win! This Chanukah, you won't just be giving someone an AMC A-list subscription; you'll be giving them the magic of the movies.

**Yonatan Kurz (Staff Writer)**  
*Book Darts - \$15*

A reference marker that doesn't fall out like bookmarks or over conspicuously stick out like Post-Its, Book Darts are a great gift item for any student in YU, serving as a clean, practical, and reliable way to highlight and look back on specific points of any book. Be it a sefer or a syllabus, these line markers point directly at lines in a book, as opposed to the entire page, all without damaging the book, falling out of place, or needing to be thrown out. And with 125 book darts for only \$15, you'll never have to buy another set again — until you decide it's the perfect present to give to others.

**Elishama Marmon (Staff Writer)**

*Enacfire E60 Earbuds - \$44*

If you're looking for a high-quality, cheap and comfortable pair of earbuds, these are the way to go. I've tried a half dozen other earbuds, all of which were more expensive, and not one of them, including the vaunted and overpriced AirPods, delivered nearly the quality they do. The battery life is eight hours, with 40 more in the case, which allows one to use them for hours a day on a daily basis. They are also IPX8 waterproof, meaning they can be submerged in water and come out unscathed. They fit my ears perfectly, have a great sound quality and are generally the best pair of earbuds I've ever owned. When I lost my last pair, I wanted to upgrade to a fancier, more expensive and potentially noise-canceling pair. I tried one after another, but after several miserable weeks of hurt ears and earbuds dying on me or just not working, I realized the error of my ways and bought another pair. I should never have doubted.

**Gilad Menashe (Junior Features Editor)**  
*Floating Shelves - \$20*

The perfect gift to make a boring apartment a bit more exciting. These shelves could be placed in your living room, bedroom or anywhere else and can hold anything from books to plants to some beverages and could be the perfect decor for your new place!

**Shlomit Ebbin (Senior News Editor)**  
*Bryant Side Chairs - \$225*

Black Friday plus Chanukah sale equals an unbeatable deal for these aluminum metal chairs! Other happy customers include the Kushner Cafeteria, Le Bistro, the Heights Lounge and Nagels. These chairs create a beautifully clanky atmosphere during breakfast, lunch and dinner, and the music of them crashing from the weight of a five-pound knapsack sounds like the symphony of a heavy metal band. Get these in bulk and they should last a lifetime!

**Akiva Levy (Staff Writer)**  
*Dunkin Gift Card*

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“To the world you may be one person, but to one person you may be the world.”

-Dr. Seuss

## We Asked, Y(O)U Answered

### Light Up the Night!

By **ETHAN SCHUMAN**

Jews across the globe celebrate Hanukkah with their own unique activities. YU also aims to create a fun and exciting atmosphere with programming for all students to partake in, such as a movie night, a *mesiba*, and for the first time this year, a “takeover” of the American Dream Mall. Each individual student spends their time on Hanukkah in their own specific way whether with partaking in YU’s activities or simply spending time with friends and family. The Commentator reached out to students, questioning them on how they felt about YU’s Hanukkah programming and what special activities they had planned for the holiday.

*“YU has enough programming that enables students to feel the chashivus (importance) of Hanukkah while at the same time not too much where you have to choose between school and Hanukkah.”*

—  
Michael Edelman (YC ‘23)

**Charles Tokayer (SSSB ‘23)**  
**Finance**

“I do not have much planned yet in terms of special activities, but I will most likely spend significant time with my friends and family. Whatever festive activities my friends decide to do throughout the week is what I will end up doing as well. I will be happy celebrating with them, whether or not they decide to attend the YU events occurring throughout the week. However, I do intend to go to the American Dream Mall event, because it sounds amazing!”

“Based on how strange last year was at YU, and how even then the Hanukkah programming was great, I am sure they will do a fantastic job and provide us with an amazing Hanukkah experience.”

**Molly Cate (SCW ‘23)**  
**Psychology**

“I am planning on spending quality time with my friends and family. Hanukkah is a holiday I have always enjoyed sharing with others, especially with my family. I also hope to enjoy some of the exciting events that Stern has to offer.

“I think that the YU takeover at the American Dream Mall is very exciting. I have never participated in anything like that. Everything else on the schedule is a good opportunity to spend time with my peers, so I am very excited about that!”

**Levi Paris (SSSB ‘23)**  
**Digital Marketing**

“I am not sure of all the events YU is

doing besides the American Dream Mall event (which I definitely plan on going to), but I will go to various events I hear about throughout the holiday, based on what others are doing. I am excited though to go to a fun closing event on the last night of Chanukah with my friends, in midtown, and the special JSS shabbaton.

“Although I do not know about all the events YU is doing this year for Hanukkah, I have heard from others that Hanukkah at YU is a highlight of the year. Although I am excited for all the events, I am annoyed that we have classes on Hanukkah and I feel it takes away from the festivities.”

**Renee Lisbon (Katz ‘24)**  
**Business Management**

“I plan on lighting the menorah, playing dreidel, planning and partaking in amazing activities, and spending quality time with my close friends throughout the holiday. I

am looking forward to all of the fun, festive, activities I have planned with my friends this coming week.

“I think the programming YU has is very good in general. I am very excited for all the events they have this year, spanning the entire week this time, especially the YU takeover at the American Dream Mall.”

**Michael Edelman (YC ‘23)**  
**Computer Science**

“I plan on attending all the exciting events YU has for us this year, including the mesibah on Monday night, the American Dream event, and the ‘out of town’ one.”

“I think the Hanukkah programming YU has planned is great. It honestly could not be better. YU has enough programming that enables students to feel the *chashivus* (specialness) of Hanukkah while at the same time not too much where you have to choose between school and Hanukkah.”



Hanukkah Menorah

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY

FROM THE COMMIE ARCHIVES

## (September 28, 1995; Volume 60, Issue 4) — Macs Basketball: A Pre-Season Preview

By **Daniel Wolfson**

*Editor’s Note: With a 46-game win streak, the Macs sit at No. 1 in the ranking of NCAA’s DIII teams. It’s no question that the team is making its mark in YU’s history. In that vein, we wanted to turn back the clock to 1995 and glance at some footprints behind the Macs we see today.*

After struggling last year with only eleven players and various injuries, Coaches Johnny Halpert and Steve Post chose fifteen Maccabees to represent the Yeshiva University basketball team for the 1995-1996 season. Coach Halpert asserts, “the only thing that can beat this years Macs is themselves.” With six new additions and nine returning players, the Macs may surprise a great deal of people this season.

### Guards

After a stellar rookie season, starting point guard **Barry Aranoff** hopes to direct traffic for the Macs once again this season. The NCAA division III leading kleptomaniac adds direction and stability to the Macs; only time will tell if he can once again endure the rigors of the one-guard. **Neil Wiener**, one of the six first-year players on the Macs this season is a quick and unselfish point guard who sees the entire court. He has the ballhandling skills that the Macs have long sought after.

Although he is still young, newly acquired freshman **David Neiss** may prove to be the

future of the Macs. After a year of varsity at MTA, Neiss’ outside shooting will surely help the team. Returning off-guard **Yehudah Halpert** will fill in the missing spot left by last years co-captain **Or Rose**, who has forfeited his year of eligibility in order to play in Canada next season. And fan favorites **Ira Landsman** and David “**Rudy**” Ruditsky will continue to be the spark and spirit off the bench. The Mac’s also welcome back the defensive abilities of fourth-year player Isaac Neumann, who sat out last season due to a knee injury.

### Forwards

Returning forward and co-captain **Alan Levy** considers this years team to be “the most talented and experienced team since the 1992-1993 ECAC contending team, which featured the likes of Elisha Rothman, Daniel Aaron and Miko Danan.” Alan’s speed, agility, and leadership by far comprise the heart of this year’s squad. Alan hopes his fourth and final year at Yeshiva bodes to be the most successful of all.

After playing a year of junior varsity basketball at Rutgers University, sophomore **Brian Wein** decided to attend Yeshiva University and join the Macs. This Teaneck high school phenom may be the complete package of basketball talent. Brian is a strong swingman with good ball-handling skills and his thunderous dunking ability should attract capacity crowds to the MSAC. **Alon Zaibert**, another newcomer hailing from Eretz Yisroel, comes to YU as a junior after



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having played professional ball for Hapoel TelAviv and most recently for Grossmont Community College in San Diego, CA. After serving in the Israeli Army, Alon should have no problem handling the mere four night practice schedule. Alon has a sweet three-point shot and may develop into the backbone of this year’s team.

Three point specialist Jake Rosenberg will return for his third and final season as a Mac. His sweet touch and leadership should carry this years squad. And swingman **Neil Bronstein’s** surprising quickness for a big man will have opposing teams fooled when he steps onto the court.

### Centers

After an impressive rookie season, **Joel Jacobson** returns as the Mac’s centerpiece. His immense frame and strong inside moves

will once again give the Macs a convincing front-court. Newly acquired freshman **Alex Shakhmurov** joins the Macs after playing for the Francis Lewis High School championship basketball team. When asked how he feels about the team, this 6’ 7” center from Queens, NY replied, “I’m happy to be at Yeshiva this year.” Alex came to the United States five years ago and has learned how to play the game pretty well. Alex has a nice baby hook and strong rebounding skills that will surely help the front line. Returning junior **Steven Kupferman** brings his strong low post moves and third-year leadership and experience to the team.

In addition to the six new players, Coaches Halpert and Post additional help on the bench, Assistant Coach Even Goldstein will be joining the Macs this season. Coach Goldstein was the assistant coach of the Vermont state high school basketball champions last year at Mount Midsfield High school. Goldstein is also a regular at many of the local summer basketball camps. He is expected to improve the Macs conditioning for the upcoming season. The Macs are scheduled to participate in the Annual Molloy College Basketball Tournament in Rockville Center, NY on Thanksgiving weekend. They also have a road trip planned against Rhodes College of Memphis during January. The Macs will kick off the season against Emerson College on Sunday November 19, 1995 at 1:00 pm.

# Beauty Under the Sun: The Art of Virgil Abloh and Stephen Sondheim

By NAFTALI SHAVELSON

Fashion designers, indoor sunglasses and all, sometimes manage to sneak or force their way into the ultra-exclusive world of high art through the boldness of their creations. In 2019, a Virgil Abloh retrospective titled “Figures of Speech” ran in various contemporary art museums across the United States. On Nov. 5, 2021, it opened in Qatar, billed as a “mid-career” exhibition of the designer’s most pioneering multimedia creations. Three weeks later, his family announced his death, of a rare form of cancer. He was 41.

Though unfamiliar to some, Virgil Abloh was among the most important names in fashion over roughly the past decade. Born to Ghanaian immigrants in Illinois in 1980, he earned degrees in civil engineering and architecture before meeting Kanye West and becoming the rapper’s artistic director in 2009. He founded the luxury fashion house Off-White in 2012, which catapulted him to the top of the haute streetwear world and proved that the runways of yesterday’s Paris and Milan were ripe for disruption. (From the beginning, Abloh’s Off-White prints on forgotten Ralph Lauren deadstock sold out, even after a 1,400% markup.)

What made his designs stand out? Other than their happenstance celebrity driving further demand, it seems to me that his works excelled by borrowing existing cultural references but adapting them with ironic touches that forced viewers to reconsider their relationships with those otherwise ubiquitous objects. The Off-White wordmark is itself a masterclass in this regard, featuring the brand name in Helvetica bold, a favorite typeface of 1960s corporate America, but offset with an oversized “TM” and bracketed with Abloh’s now-signature quotation marks, both serving as wry commentaries on the label’s own commercial stardom. Over time, his most successful product would become Off-White’s Nike Air sneakers, essentially standard save for uncommon color combinations, zip ties attached to the laces and the word “Air” plastered to the outsoles in Helvetica bold. With quotation marks.

Another artistic legend passed away this

week. Stephen Sondheim — Pablo Picasso or even Jan Van Eyck to Abloh’s Jeff Koons — established himself over the better part of a century as perhaps the greatest composer and lyricist on Broadway during his lifetime. Responsible for hits from “West Side Story” to “Company” to “Into the Woods,” his work spanned eras and genres and was lauded for its color and depth of vision. Unlike Abloh,

*Through their virtuosity, both artists taught us how to accept that there is nothing new under the sun while still stubbornly creating beautiful new things.*

however, Sondheim didn’t secure runaway commercial success right away; his shows’ initial runs often failed to break even, as the complexity of his songwriting lacked the “hummable” appeal of many of his contemporaries’ projects.

Time would ultimately work in his favor; he went on to rack up eight Tony Awards, including a Lifetime Achievement Award in 2008, and just this month attended Broadway revivals of two of his musicals, “Assassins” and “Company.” On Nov. 25, he celebrated an intimate, traditional Thanksgiving with friends in Roxbury, Conn. He passed away the next day at 91, 50 years older than Abloh was to be at his own passing two days later.

Sondheim’s Broadway debut came in 1957 with “West Side Story,” a musical adaptation of Shakespeare’s 1597 romance “Romeo and Juliet” (itself a reworking of the ancient tragic love story “Pyramus and Thisbe”). Often considered his magnum opus, it cemented Sondheim as a force to be reckoned with in the world of American musical theater. It also inculcated audiences with the notion that the oldest of stories could make for the most invigorating of modern musicals. “The story is ... Romeo and Juliet. But the setting is today’s Manhattan, and the manner of telling the story is a provocative and artful blend of music, dance and plot,” gushed John Chapman of the Daily News after seeing the opening show at New York’s Winter Garden Theater.

“West Side Story,” then, is far from a Bard

ripoff. It takes the best of the source material and reshuffles it into a riveting drama that contemporary audiences could better understand and appreciate. Similar, in my mind, to Abloh’s literal and figurative quotations. On some level, I think both Abloh and Sondheim surveyed the artistic landscapes of their times and saw that the greatest images, the greatest tales, had already been drawn

real need to navigate the minefield of the giants on whose shoulders they clambered about. Through their virtuosity, both artists taught us how to accept that there is nothing new under the sun while still stubbornly creating beautiful new things.

Their styles of appropriation were quite different. Sondheim took a classic story and wrote completely new music for it, while Abloh famously followed the “3 percent approach,” creating “new” designs by changing originals by only 3 percent. The trajectories, aims and spans of their lives were also incredibly divergent. I recognize the folly of attempting to draw conclusions from the juxtaposition of two very different people’s deaths; every life is of course its own whole world. Nevertheless, I submit that the losses of these towering creators should spur us to further create, though so much beauty has already been created. We must ponder the works of God and man, till them and tend them, and add our own humanity to make them just a little bit better.



An Off-White adaptation of a Nike sneaker

CHRIS HENRY/UNSPASH

## The Networking Game

By YONI MAYER

The networking process in the business world goes a little like this. You find the company you’re interested in working for on LinkedIn. You look at all the employees who work there. If there’s someone with whom you share a primary or secondary connection, you reach out to them first; it will be easier to connect with them on mutual

*Why do we play the game? Why do we torture ourselves incessantly over fake questions and fake connections?*

ground this way. If you have no connections there you instead aim to connect with lower-level employees. Since you likely don’t have LinkedIn Premium, you first request to connect with people before sending them messages, asking questions and requesting phone calls. Or you might go another route:

finding the company’s email template with browser plugins and contacting people using that model.

Then you wait. You wait and wait until somebody responds. And then you pounce. You request a phone call to “ask them questions about their day-to-day,” or to “better understand the workings of their industry.” But you both know that you have ulterior motives. These phone calls are really informative for the first few and you genuinely are interested. But after speaking with your 50th employee with the same role, almost nothing they say will surprise you. The same way you have your questions down to a script, they have their answers memorized too. It’s a cat and mouse game of formalities, questions, answers and feigning interest until finally one of you cracks. You both know what this call has been about: the reference. The holy grail of networking calls. The one-way ticket to a chance at the interview.

You say something along the lines of “By the way, I’ve recently applied to a position at your company,” or “Do you have any recommendations for who else I can speak to at your company” and wait to see how they respond. You hope they mention their superiors so you can move up the networking pyramid. Or, better yet, they bring it up.

That’s the sweetest: the blatant acknowledgment of what this call has always been about. They’ll wind down the call with something

like “I’ll see what I can do about your application” and you laud subtle praises and

*Continued on Page 12*



LinkedIn’s headquarters in Mountain View, California

GREG BULLA/UNSPASH

## Marvel's Eternals: Diversity Can't Replace Quality

By ELISHAMA MARMON

If you couldn't tell from this review's title, I was not a fan of Marvel's new movie "Eternals." It is, in my opinion, the single worst movie in the entire Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU). The movie has, however, received a lot of praise for the diversity of its cast, with some critics weighing this single factor against "Eternals'" plot, characters and worldbuilding. Some media personalities even decided that the only reason that "Eternals" is disliked by many fans and critics is because of its Black, Asian, gay and female cast. This is a view that I find ideologically driven, and incompatible, certainly, with this particular movie.

Without getting into too many spoilers, "Eternals" features 10 superheroes, each with their own powers including generating weapons, transmuting substances, flying and shooting lasers, creating tech from thin air and more. This team of heroes has been on Earth for 7,000 years, but split up after defeating its enemies — the Deviants — centuries ago, and now must join forces

again to fight for the fate of the world. You may be thinking: "Did you say 10 characters? How is one movie supposed to introduce, develop and properly use 10 entirely unknown characters?" The answers are that it did, and it can't.

By the end of the movie, we know a little about some of the heroes, namely our main characters Sersi, Ikaris, Kingo and Sprite.

*Most people don't care about the races, genders, disabilities or sexual orientations of the characters they're watching on screen. Most people just want to see well-written, interesting stories.*

However, all 10 are underdeveloped and badly written; all but one act as if they are young adults rather than ancient immortal beings, for example. The fact that we know nothing about these characters allows them to act however is deemed necessary at that particular moment for the plot to progress, with the audience being forced to accept that whatever they are doing must fit their character, even if we've been given no such indication previously.

Furthermore, the movie seems to have

no idea what tone it's trying to have. One second our heroes are mourning their friend of 7,000 years, the next they're making jokes that are abrupt, out of place and painfully unfunny. The plot is similarly incomprehensible, including a relatively major side-plot that literally goes nowhere, problems conveniently resolving themselves and characters whose powers get stronger or weaker solely

based on what's needed for the plot to function. But the biggest issue, in my opinion, is the worldbuilding. The reason this movie is worse than other bad MCU movies like "Thor 2" is that it retroactively breaks so many rules and aspects of the MCU's worldbuilding, from the building of the physical world and its function to all of human history and progress.

That is merely a spoiler-free taste of some of the problems with "Eternals." But many people, as I mentioned, look to the

diversity of the film to redeem all of these issues. And "Eternals" is diverse: an Asian writer/director (Chloe Zhao, who is obviously out of her depth working on a big-budget, CGI-filled movie), a Latina woman, a deaf woman, a Black gay man, an Indian man, an Asian man and an Asian woman make up the cast. However, audiences and critics have long since proven, despite the cries that the only reason one would dislike this movie is because of its diversity, that they are more than willing to accept diverse movies on one condition: that the movies are good. Well-made movies like "Wonder Woman" and "Black Panther," both in the same superhero genre as "Eternals," were well-liked because most people don't care about the races, genders, disabilities or sexual orientations of the characters they're watching on screen. Most people just want to see well-written, interesting stories that make sense and don't retroactively destroy movies or worlds that they love (looking at you, "Star Wars" sequels). People will enjoy your movie, independent of its diversity, as long as it just isn't bad. Unfortunately, that bar is one "Eternals" couldn't clear.



The Cast of "Eternals"

GAGE SKIDMORE/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

### NETWORKING

Continued from Page 11

thanks as you celebrate internally, like this isn't what you wanted all along. You sign off, send a thank you email and move on with your day.

And that's it. You've successfully completed the initial round of networking. But there's more to follow. There are the follow-ups with the person you spoke to. The LinkedIn connections with their higher-ups. The cold calls, cold emails, and cold drinks you'll need after the cold calls and cold emails. It's an arduous, endless process and it's a skill to be sharpened and utilized for the rest of your life.

So why do we play the game? Why do we torture ourselves incessantly over fake

questions and fake connections? The simple answer is that, for the highly motivated, this is a more guaranteed method to landing a job interview. Online job applications are a roll of unfairly weighted dice; the more sure-fire process is to go through the employee reference application portal.

But the more truthful and complex answer is that everything I've just elaborated on is a gross misrepresentation of the job search. In fact, it's a fairly cynical one. The truth is, the networking process can be really valuable in its own right. You learn how to cold call, cold email and connect with someone new. You learn how to present yourself, construct your thoughts clearly and ask for

what you want. These are skills that extend far beyond the confines of LinkedIn.

Occasionally, you may really hit it off with someone who's connected with you. You may bond over something entirely unrelated to the job they're in, or maybe really appreciate the way they answered your questions. You may find a new mentor, advisor or even a future colleague just by reaching out with a short note on an online platform. Sometimes, ironically, you might get clarity on the job itself and reevaluate your interest in that field altogether.

Yes, the networking process is a game. It's a test of who's willing to put in the LinkedIn hours, establish a connection and get that

coveted application reference. But the game has been established and there isn't a good avoidance technique. If the game must be played, why not gain something valuable out of it? Ask the questions you genuinely want answers to. Pick apart every aspect of their job so you really do better understand it. If you're speaking to the 100th person in that company, try to find new questions you haven't asked before and understandings of the job you're still not clear about. Make it enjoyable. The networking process is a game of ulterior motives, but if done properly, you can gain so much more than what you initially set out to do.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Continued from Page 3

companies, such as T-Rex Arms or The Warrior Poet Society, emphasize how important it is to be self-sufficient first responders, ready to terminate threats and simultaneously save lives. Any glance at their websites or YouTube pages will make that abundantly clear. Gun ranges across the country often have as much programming dedicated

to first aid as they do to marksmanship. It should come as no surprise, therefore, that concealed-carry permit holders are, by far, the most law-abiding demographic of Americans.

Those who are not self-proclaimed members of the gun community and its surrounding culture should recognize

how special both are. It is a culture that treasures the sanctity of human life. It is a culture that chooses not to stand idly by in the face of those evil people who have no regard for life or property. It is a culture where, as Thomas Jefferson wrote to George Washington, "One loves to possess arms, though they hope never to have

occasion for them."

This is the gun culture I know. I'm glad you now know it too.

*Phillip Dolitsky (YC '20) is currently a master's student at the School of International Service at American University.*

Got something to share?  
Email [ifruchte@mail.yu.edu](mailto:ifruchte@mail.yu.edu)



NEVER.  
STOP.  
COMMENTATING.

## Why Does Food Cost More?

By MIRIAM FELZENSTEIN

While the COVID-19 pandemic has been raging on for the past year and a half, the negative effects of the worldwide event continue to impact many Americans. According to the United States Department of Agriculture, “The CPI for all food has increased an average of 2.7 percent.” Prices for food available for purchase at grocery stores have risen 2.1% and prices for food obtained from restaurants have risen 3.3% in 2021. It is evident that the pandemic is the culprit for these massive increases as the cost for food sold through both retail and restaurants increased to 3.5% and 3.4% respectively during the height of the pandemic. To put things into perspective, food purchased from grocery stores only rose 0.9% in 2019, prior to the pandemic. But why is it that food is costing more?

As a result of the pandemic, there is a decrease in workers and workers have to social distance, resulting in an uptick in labor costs across the U.S. In addition, there have

been challenges involving the supply chain. The rising costs of gas and labor has resulted in a shortage of truck drivers. This leads to companies charging a higher price for the final goods in the supermarkets. One of the companies forced to raise their costs due to supply chain difficulties was General Mills. Executives at General Mills explained to The Wall Street Journal that, “Supply chain challenges are hampering General Mills’ ability to fulfill customer orders.” Along with these issues, the packaging that products come in has also seen a substantial price increase. Factories that produce plastics in the U.S were closed for lengthy periods of

*Panic-induced buyers are clearing the shelves of merchandise, making sure they have enough groceries to last them during times of uncertainty.*

time. The state of Texas, a major manufacturer of plastic in the U.S, shut down many factories due to power outages and weather concerns. Materials such as wooden pallets and aluminum have soared in price due to production halts during the pandemic. These are used in the production of food packaging, and due to their uptick in price, companies adjust by increasing prices for consumers.

Empty shelves have also contributed to the inflated costs for groceries. Stockpiling, the act of buying products in bulk in order to not run out for lengthy periods of time, has contributed to price inflation. Panic-induced buyers are clearing the shelves of merchandise, making sure they have enough groceries to last them during times of uncertainty. With high demand and inadequate supply, merchants are choosing to raise their prices. Because the shelves are not sufficiently restocked due to supply chain issues, merchants are increasing their prices. In response, consumers must decide between accepting the higher prices or adjusting their purchasing habits accordingly.



Empty grocery store shelves

PIXABAY

## The Evergrande Effect

By ZACHARY NOTKIN

Ever since China joined the World Trade Organization (WTO) in 2001, the rise of trade between it and the rest of the world has been meteoric. According to the WTO, China is the largest trading partner of both the United States and the European Union. It isn't surprising that China has the largest GDP adjusted for purchasing power parity in the world.

It is no wonder that this rise has generated a mixed response from the international community. China is an authoritarian state controlled by the Chinese Communist Party, an organization responsible for such tragedies as the Great Leap Forward, in which 15 to 55 million people died. Some worry that China will overtake the US as the world's dominant superpower, while others dismiss its growth as a flash in the pan. One thing that everyone can agree on is that China is a very different place than a western country, so understanding it can be difficult.

It is with that backdrop that we examine

the recent happenings regarding the Chinese property giant, Evergrande. Evergrande buys land and develops homes on it for people to buy. In order to pay for the land and build the homes, it must borrow money or take payment upfront.

In recent years, Chinese property values have exploded to never before seen heights. This is primarily due to cultural reasons, as the population traditionally views land as the ultimate store of wealth. Anecdotal evidence suggests that if a Chinese man wants to get married, he must first own a home. Ever since the Chinese population became urbanized, the demand for homes in cities has skyrocketed, fuelling rampant speculation in the property market. This means that people will borrow or spend money they can't afford to lose in order to buy homes in hope of selling them at a higher price. These ever-rising prices also prompted developers to build even when it has made little economic sense to do so. Merely searching YouTube for “Chinese Ghost Cities” can provide examples of this

The fear that this could lead to a bubble,

meaning inflated values that must eventually collapse, made Chinese regulators enact the so-called “Three Red Lines policy”, attempting to limit the amount that real estate companies could borrow, hoping to avoid a collapse similar to what happened in Japan in the 1990s. Despite this, Chinese companies have been faced with unending demand

*Despite the complexity of predicting macroeconomic trends, the risk of a collapse in the Chinese economy seems clear.*

for new developments, and have been borrowing more and more to keep up. If the companies cannot borrow any further, they must either sell the homes before they are built, or they must sell assets at a discount, thereby losing money. This also might spark a collapse in property values if the discounts are too large. However, investors did not hesitate to lend to these companies.

That was until a month ago, when Chinese property giant Evergrande started making late payments on its bonds, which are held by overseas investors. The fear that the company would be unable to repay its loans and go bankrupt caused its share price to collapse and the yields on all Chinese real estate company bonds to skyrocket. Despite the fact that investors are spooked, Evergrande has been able to make late payments through the sale of assets, possibly even including through the owner's private yacht.

The Chinese government, meanwhile, has said that if Evergrande collapses, it will not directly receive a bailout, but the Government will make sure that the damage to the property market does not spread. This worries those who have already paid for properties that Evergrande is supposed to build. If the government would be unable to control the collapse and the real estate bubble bursts, it would devastate everybody from the local authorities whose main source of revenue is the sale of land to developers, to the multitude of construction companies that actually build the homes, to the millions of Chinese whose primary store of wealth is their homes. The fallout from such a collapse

is so large that the United States Federal Reserve has already warned of potentially harmful effects globally.

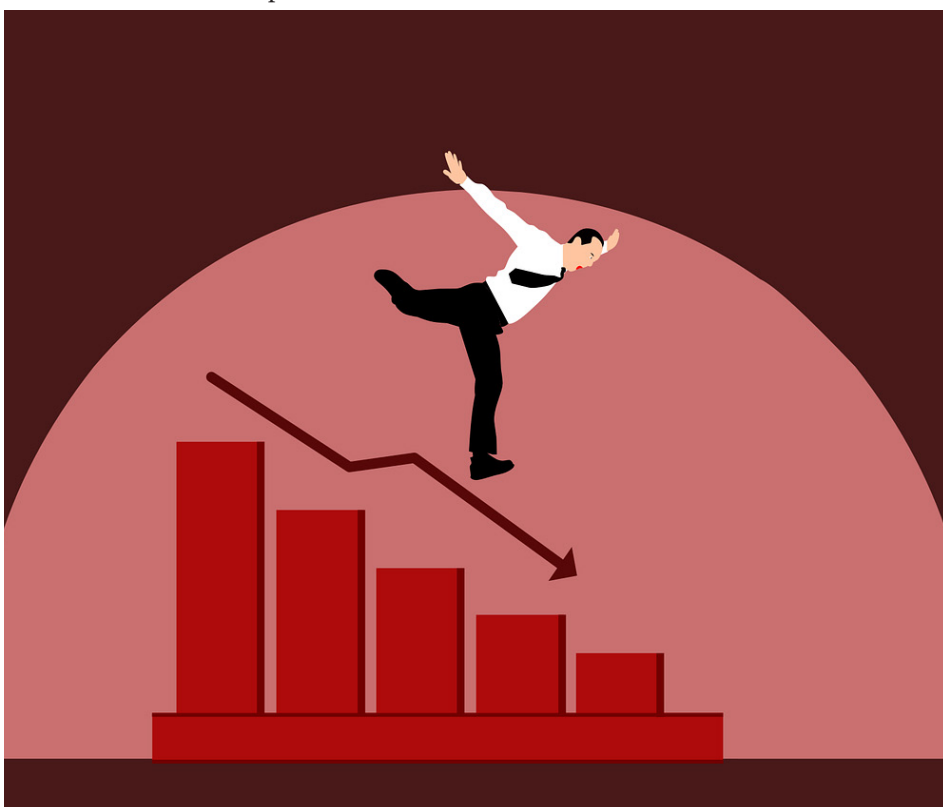
Despite these fears, Evergrande has not defaulted, even if the S&P predicts that it will. The party may be over; Cathie Woods, CEO of ArkInvest, stated in a recent interview that she believes that China will follow the pattern of Japan in the 1990s meaning it will collapse. She believes that the Chinese government is playing with fire in an attempt to lower housing prices at a sustainable rate, and it will get burnt. Part of her evidence is the suppressed prices of commodities such as iron and copper. She reasons that these lower prices are the result of lower demand from Chinese firms, meaning the economy has slowed down considerably.

However, the global economy is an incredibly complex machine. The low demand for raw materials may be related to another issue, namely an energy crisis. If companies get less energy for their money, they will process less raw material. Unfortunately, there has been a large increase in natural gas prices in Europe and Asia over the past couple of months, as well as a severe coal shortage in China that may have ended by now.

This underlines the complexity of the global economy and explains why trying to predict it is so difficult. Nobody can account for the multitude of variables involved. However, there is one type of statistic that can predict the future better than any other type, and that is demographics.

Demographics is the measurement of populations, which is important to the economy because the economy is made out of people. The most recent Chinese census, released in 2020, shows the Chinese population peaking in 2027. Even if there were to be a major baby boom, those children would not enter the workforce for another twenty years. Who will buy all the homes that real estate companies are planning on selling?

Despite the complexity of predicting macroeconomic trends, the risk of a collapse in the Chinese economy seems clear. I would argue that the question is when it will happen, not if. Even if China's central government can mitigate all the risks until the end of time, the country will become old before it becomes rich. In the end, Evergrande is a symptom, not a disease.



Investors wonder whether the Chinese housing market will collapse.

PIXABAY

## Shopping and Shoving

By EMILY SAFIER

Black Friday: the day that hordes of people make a mad dash for any and all products they can reach, casually shoving shoppers out of their way in the name of saving a few dollars. The heavily discounted shopping day and its e-commerce sister-day, Cyber Monday, attracted a record 186.4 million U.S. shoppers to its deals in 2020. This year's Black Friday — with loosened COVID-19 restrictions and an increase in open stores following lockdowns — has consumers eagerly looking forward to shopping and spending a predicted amount of \$843.4-\$859 billion.

The name itself, Black Friday, originated in 1869 to describe the gold collapse caused by the failed plan of two Wall Street financiers who sought to raise prices by purchasing as much gold as possible, resulting in the market's downfall. Nearly a century later, the term Black Friday was used by Philadelphia police to describe the violent day in which mobs of people headed to the annual Army-Navy football game and early holiday shopping. In 1960, Black Friday was introduced as an accounting term to explain how the day's peak shopping rates push annual revenue for businesses from "in the red" (a loss) to "in the black" (profit).

As Black Friday sales gained in popularity, businesses opened as early as Thanksgiving morning to increase sales. Having a profitable Black Friday is a crucial sign of an upcoming fruitful shopping season, as the sales amount to over 19% of the retail industry's annual revenue; investors usually rely on these numbers to formulate their investment strategies. The most sought-after products on Black Friday 2020, were toys and electronics, like Animal Crossing games, Barbie dolls, AirPods, Apple Watches and TVs. And the departments at the top of wish lists were clothing, small appliances, toys, laptops, TVs and video games.

For those of us uninterested in waiting



Black Friday sales

PIXABAY

in the bitter cold for hours on end, trampled by vicious crowds, only to discover our favorite product was snatched by an angry soccer mom, Cyber Monday, the virtual, convenient shopping event of the season, is the ideal alternative. This option was introduced in the early 2000s as retailers noticed an increasing amount of consumers turning to shop online come the Monday after Thanksgiving weekend — a trend that has

become increasingly popular in recent years. Furthermore, due to the pandemic's effect on the traditional in-person shopping experience, Cyber Monday had its time to shine in 2020, with a record 100 million consumers shopping online, compared to 58.7 million in person. To make up for the near disappearance of in-person shopping during the pandemic, many stores also offered curbside pickup and online deals for the entirety of

November to boost morale and, of course, boost their profit. This trend continues to gain traction as experts predicted 158.3 million consumers to turn to the online Cyber Monday festivities, this being a promising increase from last year's already successful online numbers.

## Unemployment, Labor Shortages and The Caf

By BARUCH LERMAN

One of the most common questions heard on campus nowadays is: "Why are the prices in the caf so high?"

The answer to this question is not simple and has a lot more to do with global issues than one might think. It boils down to unemployment rates, labor shortages, and supply chain disruptions caused by COVID all around the world.

So what exactly is unemployment and

why do I keep hearing about it in the news? What is a labor shortage and what does that mean for supply chains? And, most importantly, what do any of these things have to do with my salad in the caf costing more than it used to?

The simplest place to start is with unemployment. The Bureau of Labor Statistics defines unemployment as being available for work but not currently having a job. Put very simply, if you could be working but you're not, and you are actively looking for employment, you are defined as unemployed.

However, this number does not include the number of people who are employed in a job that does not provide them sufficient hours to meet their living needs or people who are simply underpaid. In fact, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, a person is defined as employed so long as they work just "1 hour as a paid employee". Thus, the official unemployment rate that is put out by the Bureau of Labor Statistics can clearly be a little misleading in painting a full picture of who is making enough money to live in the U.S, along with not accounting for wages, hours and standards of living. In March and April 2020, at the start of the pandemic, unemployment skyrocketed into the double digits, hitting record numbers

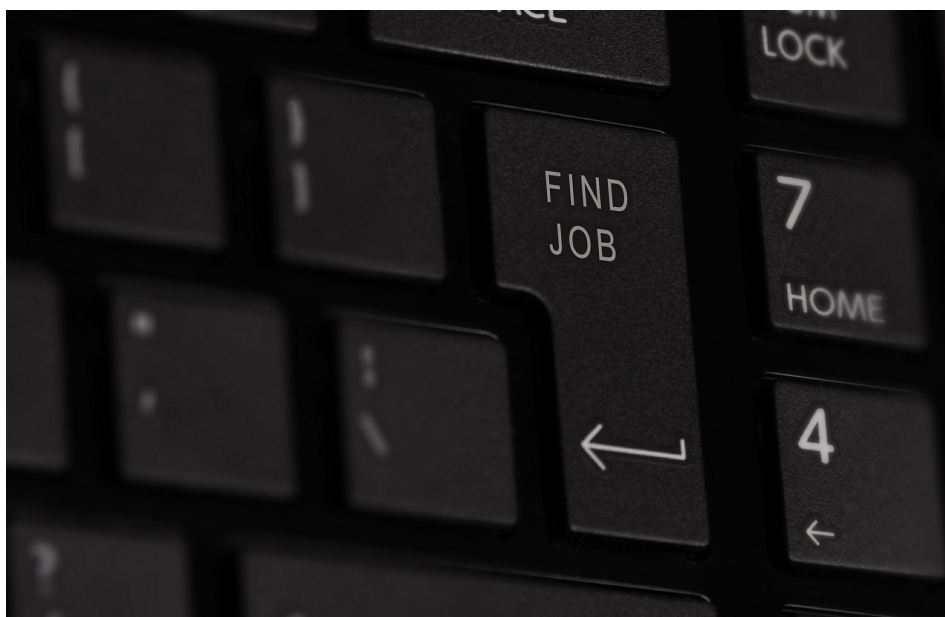
are quitting their jobs at record rates — 4 million in April 2021 alone — and many jobs are being left unfilled for months at a time. Many older workers laid off from their jobs in manufacturing have gotten COVID, and they are being laid off as a sign that they should retire, even though jobs are now relatively easy to find. With the world economy reopening, there is an increased demand for all kinds of supplies and materials, but, because of the labor shortage, there are not enough workers to manufacture supplies, load and unload shipments, or truckers to drive materials around the country. All of this has led to massive supply chain issues, which has led to increased costs despite low levels of unemployment.

*What do any of these things have to do with my salad in the caf costing more than it used to?*

as entire industries shut down. Millions of people lost their jobs. Since then, the unemployment rate has slowly come down with unemployment for October 2021 reaching 4.6%, a relatively normal rate year over year.

So, how do unemployment and other factors affect the labor market? How does that affect the supply chain? And, most importantly, why does that mean the Sky Cafe still isn't open? Following the outbreak of COVID, many people have reevaluated what it means to be a worker in today's world, and what their work-life, mental health, and overall well-being are worth to them. People

So why does the Sky Cafe remain closed? Ultimately, supply chain issues plaguing the U.S. and the rest of the world have been caused by global labor shortages. With more people ready to quit jobs where they feel they are being mistreated, and more job openings than people looking for jobs, the supply chain crisis does not seem to be approaching its end. And so long as there are issues with getting supplies and the costs of running the cafe are higher than what the eatery could reasonably bring in, odds are no one will be getting a steak from the twelfth floor of Belfer anytime soon.



Rising inflation has been tightening our wallets in all aspects of life.

PIXABAY

## Apple's Self-Driving Car

By SHOSHANAH GHANOONI

On Nov. 18, Apple announced that it is working on a self-driving car with no steering wheel or pedals, set to be released in 2025. Bloomberg reports that Apple recently hit a milestone with self-driving technology.

*Apple is stepping out of its niche of phones and computers to join these companies to develop an autonomous car.*

Throughout the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, there have been many attempts to create a self-driving car. The first was created in 1925 by Francis Houdina, and was considered "radio-controlled." The trend continued when Norman Bel Geddes created the first self-driving car to be guided by radio-controlled electromagnetic fields. In 1958, an autonomous car was released in Nebraska through General Motors. John McCarthy, an American mathematician

and scientist who pioneered Artificial Intelligence, wrote a paper in 1969 about the technology behind these cars. By the early 2000s, Toyota's Prius hybrid and several other car companies incorporated some of this technology into features such as backup cameras and parallel-parking aids. Tesla added an autopilot feature, and Google released their self-driving car in 2020 after over a decade of work.

Apple is stepping out of its niche of phones and computers to join these companies to develop an autonomous car. While people can already use Apple-brand phones to control music, directions and make phone calls from their car, its driverless car aims to add safety features, which can assuage fears after reports of accidents with driverless cars.

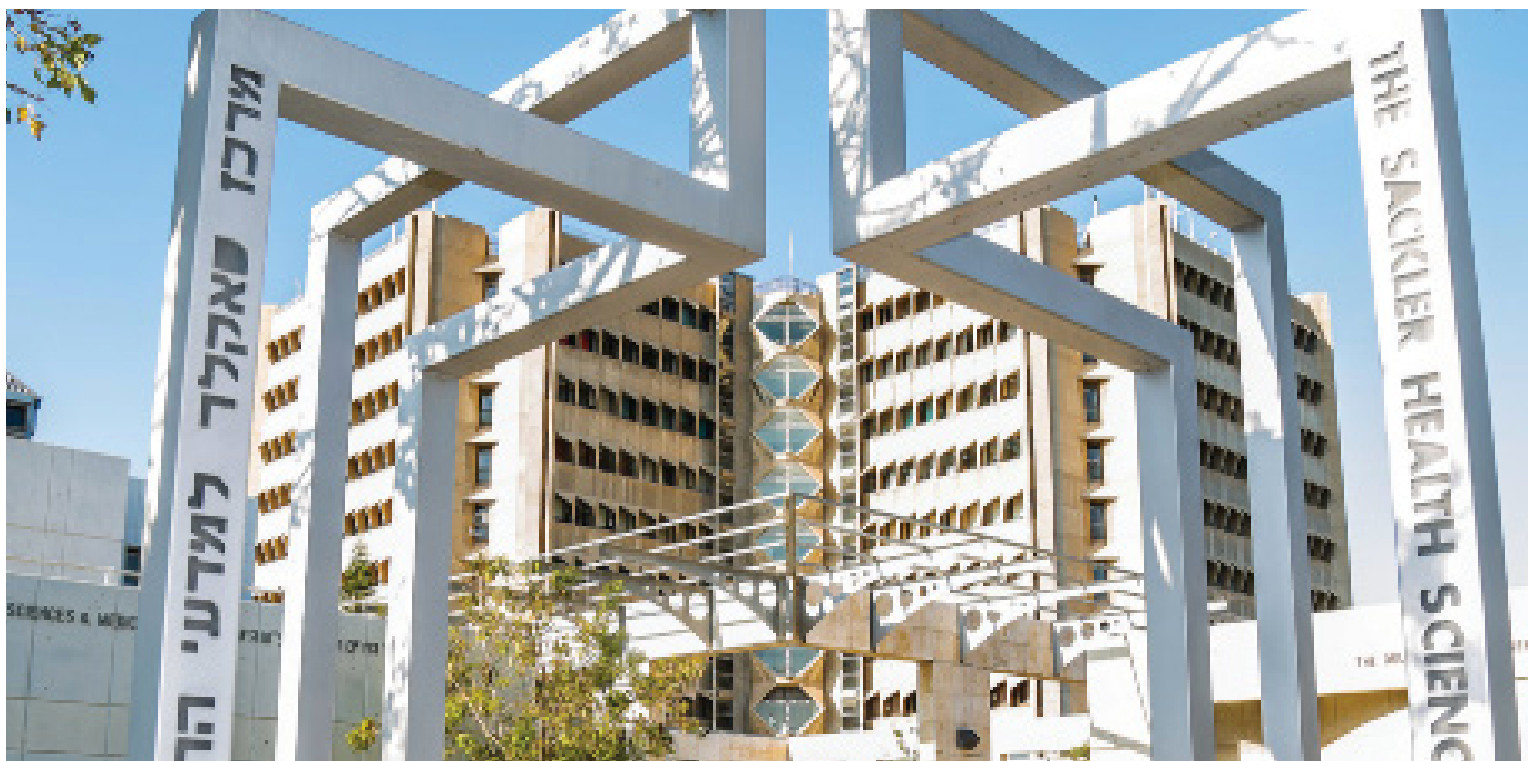
Although Silicon Valley predicted a world full of self-driving cars by 2021, this vision hasn't come true. Waymo, an autonomous driving technology company, discovered that distractions from soap bubbles to spring-time flowers can potentially cause accidents for autonomous cars. With this in mind, it makes sense that we haven't managed to create a fully functioning self-driving car in the century that the technology has existed. As no such market exists, Apple has the potential to create groundbreaking technology.



An Apple store in New York

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