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Social media sensitivity

Posts on online platforms can have wide-reaching effect on those who see them

By Maayan Abouzaglo '19

Living in an age of Instagram, Snapchat and Twitter, individuals must create their own online persona and take responsibility for what they post.

Sometimes, it's a matter of choosing whether or not to share something.

Other times, it's an issue of *how* to do so.

Staying aware is key. Even though teenagers seemingly spend every waking hour online, many have no clue as to what is happening in the world. Being ignorant can seriously damage one's image, so it's better to err on the safe side.

Just taking a few minutes out of one's day to become a more informed individual can significantly help shape one's social media identity. Rather than blathering on about nothing, one can show that they think and act based on those thoughts.

As social media is now more easily accessible than ever, the anonymity provided by these platforms has resulted in an increase in "free speech" and a decrease in personal consciousness and consequences.

While people are free to post whatever they wish, their freedom of expression should not come at the expense of others. Our whole modern culture is growing more sensitive on the whole, yet there still remains a large group who don't know right from wrong.

Just about anything, ranging from a girl riding a roller coaster to a baby eating a slice of lemon, becomes viral content nowadays. All it takes is a camera, an upload and just a few people's attention to turn something trivial into something that garners the world's recognition.

Last month, vlogger Logan Paul received backlash for publishing a video on YouTube in which he shows the body of a suicide victim in Aokigahara, a forest near Mount Fuji. This site, colloquially named "Suicide Forest," is notorious for being a place where people go to take their lives.

Stumbling into the forest with friends, Paul's only intention was to document the infamous forest for his subscribers. However, instead of turning the camera off once he encountered the corpse seen in his vlog hanging from a tree, he continued filming. In his final cut, Paul included blurred out close-up shots of the victim — his only attempt at being considerate.

He posted the controversial video on Dec. 31, 2017. He took it down just two days later. Despite his attempts to leave the matter behind and the fact that it violated certain YouTube community

standards, the footage remained easy to find thanks to numerous re-uploads.

Seeking forgiveness in the days that followed, Paul released statements on both Twitter and YouTube apologizing for his actions. Claiming he only posted the graphic video in all its gory detail to spread awareness about mental health and suicide, Paul assures he did not mean to offend anyone.

suicide-attempt survivors, pledging to donate one million dollars to suicide prevention organizations.

While it's nice to see that Paul has taken measures to redeem himself, his previous actions cannot be dismissed. The matters he discusses in his new video are all things he should've thought about prior to posting the initial one.

Failing to view the victim as a real person with a family, Paul mistakenly put the dead body on display to the whole world with no thought for the repercussions of his actions.

As someone who watched the video, I can personally attest to its high level of disturbance. Offensive not only to the victim and his loved ones, the video renders insensitivity to all of those who have struggled with mental illness or suicidal thoughts.

Raising awareness for a highly sensitive subject requires deep consideration, which Paul clearly neglected to take into account.

While there is no justification on Paul's part, it is insufficient to solely blame him — YouTube is also at fault. The platform rewards outrageous behavior, encouraging stars to gain views by any means necessary.

Logically speaking, YouTube should monitor the content its biggest contributors are uploading. Adequately policing its content providers should be more of a priority for unique platforms such as YouTube Red. Otherwise, unfiltered airheads will continue to get away with their outlandish behavior.

Sure, Paul suffered some consequences. While YouTube penalized him by taking away his Google Preferred status and YouTube Red projects, they ultimately voted to let him keep his channel.

People are still watching his videos, and he continues to amass a large following of young viewers.

Nowadays, it's a much less common occurrence to see celebrities getting off scot free. And that's how it should be. However, they still manage to receive the world's attention and accumulate money.

Not only has this whole incident brought Paul even more attention with all the media coverage he has gained, but the sole fact that he will be back to the same old foolish antics means all of this will be a forgotten incident in just a few months' time.

We as high school students need to be aware of what we're posting, even though we may not necessarily have an online following. Even in our group chats or texts that no one sees, it's important to have a watchful mindset and be sensitive.



It's shocking just how oblivious one must be to not realize the negative effects of doing such a thing. In filming the body of a suicide victim, Paul unforgivably refuses to offer the victim any sense of respect.

Disregarding the impact it would have not only on those who knew them, but also on the millions of innocent viewers exposed to it, Paul clearly demonstrated his lack of concern for anyone else. An audience composed of young children with little understanding of the complexities of mental health and suicide entered a situation no one should ever have to.

Following the criticisms he received, Paul said he needed some time to reflect. His online presence vanished for three weeks, but on Jan. 24, he ended his silence, resurfacing with a video called "Suicide: Be Here Tomorrow."

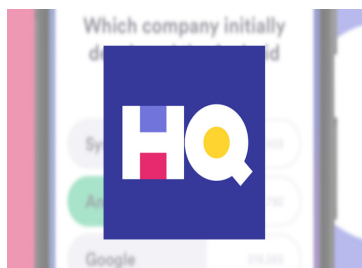
In the video, Paul meets with mental health experts and

What's inside

Center spread



Trump's first year
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Page 4: Fans, or a lack thereof, remain the topic of conversation regarding the differences between the boys and girls athletic teams.



Page 8: Students tell of their Latin American heritage and families' stories of immigration.



Page 12: A Netflix original series that has taken the world by *Stranger Things*. Delve into the thrilling plot and new conspiracy theories.

HQ app becomes obsession

Exploring the ins and outs of the new trend

By Sarah Liener '20

Since the new year, a craze has developed around the new trivia app, HQ. It is live at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. every day, hosted by Jewish comedian, Scott Rogowsky, who entertains and regales his audience with puns.

The game consists of 12 questions about random topics, offering players three answer choices to pick from. With 10 seconds to select an answer, a wrong answer gets players eliminated. To win, one must get all 12 questions correct. The prize, typically \$2,500, is split among the winners.

The more they play, players grow addicted to the game, which, in reality, takes very little of their time and effort. The show says it starts at 2 (8) but in reality doesn't start till 2:05 (8:05). It's the chatter by Rogowsky between questions that stretches it out to about 20 minutes.

While a recent survey found that about 80 percent of Yavneh students play HQ, people are becoming frustrated for wasting time and not winning the prize.

Of course, the excitement and tension builds at each correct answer — or often, correct guess.

Students aren't the only ones hooked. Teachers, including History teacher Mordechai Rees, play the game as well.

"Although I have been playing HQ occasionally over the last week or so, I might not continue for much longer," Rees said. "It's nice that it's easy and widely interactive and has the chance to win real money, but the trivia questions are extremely



Photo by Seth Gerstenfeld '18.

random and obscure."

Questions vary from current events to random relationships in the entertainment industry to specific anatomical references.

"I prefer trivia games that cover categories of real knowledge," Rees said.

Some questions asked irrelevant, and many players only get them correct by guessing.

So why is this game so popular? Other trivia games, such as Trivia Crack and QuizUp are alternatives to HQ but don't enjoy its success.

What makes the live game so much more liked than all these other faded trends?

"The fact that you can win money for the game adds a lot of excitement and keeps people wanting to play," Noam Elbaz [10] said.

Some people have given up on HQ because they are mad that they got so close to winning, but ultimately lost. The defeat is truly crushing after 10 or so hard-fought questions.

Lately, the app has had many technical difficulties. Sometimes the game freezes in the middle, so people are not able to play the game. Occasionally a right answer will still get a player

out. These occasional quirks enrage many players, evident in the comment section filled with players complaining of lags.

On Saturday, Jan. 27 during the 8 p.m. game, Rogowsky was going to announce what HQ really stands for. He got cut off and could not reveal the name. People joked that it stands for "Horrible Quality" due to the glitches plaguing the game. The next day, he said that it stands for "Happy Quinceanera", confusing players.

The game has added a new Sunday night edition called "15 for 15."

In this edition, fifteen trivia questions are posed rather than 12. Instead of playing for \$2,500, people play to split \$15,000.

This game adds excitement because the first time it was played, only seven won, each receiving more than \$2,150 each.

Regardless of the frustrations, HQ has enthralled hundreds of thousands of people, and with each game more players are joining the quest for the cash. On weekends, the numbers swell to over a whopping million people playing, demonstrating the great traction the game has accumulated in the short span of five months since its establishment.

No one at Yavneh is waiving a check just yet but the game continues to be played.

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Upward battle for sports

Girls athletics fights for equal recognition

By Tia Einhorn '20

Yavneh Academy sports. From basketball to soccer, they remain the prized possession of the school. Some students, however, believe that not all sports teams are treated equally and that the hardships facing the whole world are exemplified within our own community.

It is no secret that the Yavneh boys varsity basketball is the most talked about sport the school offers. Although all the basketball teams play on the same night, the stands are found empty during the junior varsity (JV) boys game and throughout the

A shift occurs between the end of the girls game and the start of the boys game as students begin cramming the bleachers.

The question remains: is there actually a difference between the game when fans are there or not?

Girls varsity basketball captain Anna Wernick [12] expressed her feelings on the issue.

"At Yavneh I think that all the sports credit goes to boys basketball. This year the girls basketball team is not given enough credit," Wernick said.

The girls basketball team is first place in the district and second in defense across DFW private and public schools. For the first time ever in Yavneh history, the team is on an 8 game winning streak.

"[Our team doesn't] have a lot of students at our games and it makes us upset to see that the school does not appreciate the great reputation we have built for [it]," Wernick said.

For the girls volleyball program, it has also become a struggle to rally fans to come support the team from the bleachers.

Vanessa Tanur [12], captain of the varsity volleyball team expressed similar concerns as Wernick.

"I played Yavneh volleyball all four years and I always noticed how empty the stands were when our games would come around," Tanur said. "Come senior year when I was captain, I noticed it to an even greater extent."

She then went on to tell how the lack of fans discourages the team, rather than inspiring them "to give it their all."

The girls volleyball team spends hours of hard work at every practice and game. However, this year alone there were but a few games when the bleachers were even three quarters full.

With a lack of their fellow student body's support, less publicized teams such as JV and girls, are not motivated by the cheers of their friends and classmates. Instead, they look to each

other for encouragement on the court and the field, not to the bleachers.

This problem is not a problem Yavneh faces alone, but a controversial problem that exists across the world. Women's sports are not as appreciated and supported as their male counterparts. For example, a women's NBA championship game will have less views than the men's NBA Finals.

Although a definite bias exists when it comes to the attendance between the sports, some fans always show up to all sporting events the Bulldog athletes have to offer. These special people recognize that all the athletes put in all they can offer and should be celebrated for going out on the court or field every game to represent Yavneh.

History teacher Mordechai Rees has attended almost every game this year, including attending the annual Weiner basketball tournament in Baltimore.

"It's very important to me as a Bulldog fan to be a fan equally of all sports, all genders, all levels, whether JV or varsity not just as a symbolic act but because I truly do care about each and every student's involvement in athletics and beyond," Rees said. "I get, honestly, equally excited for girls volleyball as I do for boys soccer, for girls basketball as I do for JV basketball as I do for varsity basketball."

So in the future, fans are encouraged to attend all of Yavneh's sports games regardless which team it is or the team's rankings in their division. All Yavneh athletes train numerous times a week to better their skills and it is time for the player's to get the hard earned appreciation they deserve. By appreciating girls as much as guys, we can further a movement towards equality in sports.

Currently, the girls varsity basketball team awaits to play in the playoffs. These Lady Bulldogs hope to continue their winning streak and see more fans on the bleachers cheering them on. Furthermore, girls soccer looks forward to beginning its second season in the upcoming weeks.



Gabbe Krasovitsky [11] shoots the ball before an opponent can steal it. Photo courtesy of Ron Romaner.

18 predictions for 2018

Created by Paul Schussler '20 and Jamie Perkins '20

Electronics

APPLE GETS AN UPDATE



Apple has created a world-wide phenomena. In 2018, the computer scientists, engineers and marketing experts will bring a fresh wave of unique improvements to Apple, specifically a self-driving car prototype, after their partnership with rental car giant Hertz.

eSPORTS

As virtual reality headsets become cheaper and increasingly advanced, a new era for eSports will evolve. These headsets will become increasingly immersive and will replace tourism or sports games with virtual experiences.

SAY BYE TO BOOKSTORES

The popularity of physical written work has been steadily decreasing the past few years. Due to this and rise of e-books and electronics, 2018 will be the final year of bookstores, as technology completes the takedown of the book industry

Global news

ELECTRIC CARS

Many people will begin to seek electric cars, encouraging car companies to make more of them. Electric cars and hybrids will come down in cost to be more affordable and electric charging stations will become as common as handicapped parking spaces.



NORTH KOREA PEACE

Kim Jong-un's threats will stop after America and North Korea resolve their differences and agree to coexist peacefully. The peace talks between the two Koreas yield a high possibility of reunification of Korea, after the unified Korean Olympics.

GULF STATES RECOGNIZE ISRAEL

This year, the Gulf states will further their cooperation with the Jewish state, finally recognizing Israel and normalizing ties between them.

Sports

SUPERBOWL

The winner, the score, the funniest ad. The Patriots will win the Super Bowl by a wide margin, 27-10. Doritos, yet again, will have the funniest ad.

WINTER OLYMPICS

Israel wins at least one gold, silver and bronze medal.

COWBOYS CUT DEZ BRYANT

Dez Bryant, the Cowboys star Wide Receiver, gets cut after a poor season and mounting tensions between him and the team.



Illustration by Rebecca Herschberg '20.

Yavneh

YAVNEH DRESS CODE

The beginning of this school year brought a slight change in dress code. Girls are no longer allowed to wear the pencil skirts they loved wearing so much. But the 2018-19 school year will bring a revival in maxi skirts.

YAVNEH ATHLETICS

2018 will be a very successful year for Yavneh sports teams. The basketball teams will go back to the championships and this year they will win. The girls soccer team will have a revival and this year it will be successful.

YAVNEH GROWTH SPURT

Just like the growth in the Kardashian family tree, there will be a growth in the Yavneh family tree. The new freshman class will be the biggest yet and another teacher will be having a baby.



Social media trends

RETURN OF VINE:

2018 will be a big year for social media, and trends. This year vine will come back better than ever and immediately become the most popular app on the market because people miss it so much.

APPS WILL STRUGGLE

2018 will be a year for the battle of the apps. Instagram will attempt to steal Snapchat's news stories like it stole their personal stories some time ago. YouTube will be sued because of the videos portraying child abuse in the last couple of years. Twitter has been going downhill lately and 2018 will be the year that it dies. The end of 2017 brought a huge trend of a trivia game where you can win money: HQ. HQ will die in 2018, amidst lag and frustration.

NEW ADDITIONS

This year will also be a year of social media rising popularity. Snapchat will respond to cratering stock price by charging for filters, costing teens who use them.

MESSENGER BOTS

Messenger bots, which allow you to message a Facebook account and receive automatic responses or have a task fulfilled, explode in usage. Expect to order food or products in Messenger this year.

Celebrities

KARDASHIAN KONFIDENTIAL

With Khloe, Kim, and Kylie all having babies the Kardashian family tree with continue to grow, giving us more Kardashians to keep up with. Khloe will have a girl and she will name it Kristen. Kylie will also be having a girl.

ROYALS RULE

In 2011, thousands of people were focused on the TV in the middle of the night watching Prince William and Kate Middleton become husband and wife. Prince Harry and Meghan Markle announced their engagement in 2017 and will be getting married in the spring of 2018. This wedding will top Kate and William's ceremony with an extravagant white dress for Meghan and a striking tuxedo for Harry.



Anti-semitism needs answering

By Rachel Rouhani '21

Prejudice is a recurring obstacle to humankind becoming accepting, trusting and respectful. It is especially difficult to overcome when celebrities that people look up to actively participate in it.

A concert for the popular New Zealander artist, Lorde, was scheduled for June 5, 2018 in Tel Aviv as part of her world tour, "Melodrama." However, the singer cancelled the show due to pressure from the Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS) movement and other pro-Palestine comments calling to boycott Israel.

"I pride myself on being an informed young citizen, and I had done a lot of reading and sought a lot of opinions before deciding to book a show in Tel Aviv, but I'm not too proud to admit I didn't make the right call on this one," Lorde wrote in a statement to explain her decision to back out of the scheduled show.

This isn't the first time an artist has received criticism for choosing to tour in Israel. What artists fail to realize is that their political views should be kept separate from their professional careers. Just because a certain singer may not endorse President Trump, does that mean they shouldn't play in America? No one would make such a claim.

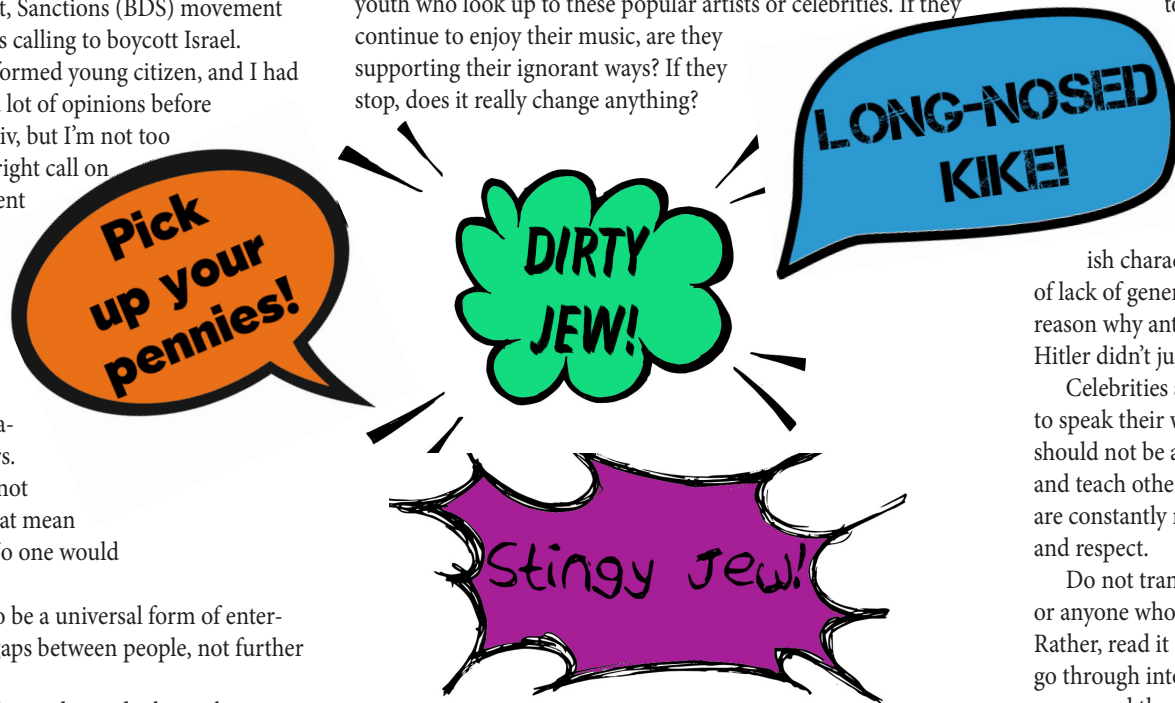
Additionally, music is meant to be a universal form of entertainment that aims to bridge the gaps between people, not further create borders.

Even though many people in the media pride themselves on being cultured and educated in complex issues like the Middle East

conflict, their actions show that they do not completely see and comprehend both sides and their true motives.

It is in these desperate times that one must stick to their beliefs and not let the ignorance of others sway them. Many, even Jews, believe it was Lorde's right as an artist to cancel her Tel Aviv show. Though it clearly takes away a privilege that so many people enjoy because they are Jewish and Israel is the country in which they live.

After these situations occur, a moral dilemma develops for the youth who look up to these popular artists or celebrities. If they continue to enjoy their music, are they supporting their ignorant ways? If they stop, does it really change anything?



What their teenage followers need to understand is that they have much more power than they think. If a few comments is what triggered the hatred, a few comments expressing their own views could trigger love, acceptance and understanding.

This is an example of an anti-Semitic act by a celebrity via an online platform, but in many cases Jews experience hatred in person. These instances are exactly why people should be made knowledgeable about religious intolerance. They need to know how to react and respond.

We see and hear about anti-Semitism in our daily lives, but we often forget about figures in the past who also had these hateful thoughts.

Roald Dahl, a popular novelist from the 1900s who wrote the books "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory," "The BFG" and "Matilda" told a British magazine in 1983, "There is a trait in the Jewish character that does provoke animosity, maybe it's a kind of lack of generosity towards non-Jews. I mean there is always a reason why anti-anything crops up anywhere; even a stinker like Hitler didn't just pick on them for no reason."

Celebrities and even everyday people in our lives are not afraid to speak their words of hate, so we, as a community and as a family, should not be afraid to speak about our experiences and to inform and teach others about how to treat others — especially those who are constantly ridiculed for being who they are — with kindness and respect.

Do not translate this as though you should specifically pity Jews or anyone who has experienced racism or religious intolerance. Rather, read it as "Yes, Jews have gone through and still continue to go through intolerance and hate, but we learn from these experiences, and they shape us into being better people who consistently love one another."

Introducing Rabbi David Neifeld

By Eliana Abraham '18

On Jan. 18, 2018, David Neifeld of London, U.K., and fiancé of Judaic teacher Daniella Lieberman, became Rabbi Neifeld. After a three-year process, he received his *smicha* (rabbinical ordination.)

"I have gained a greater appreciation for the fact that Judaism is really a way of life and there are so many different facets and aspects of Jewish law covering all aspects of our life," Rabbi Neifeld said in 2017.

One of the rabbis who made an impact on Rabbi Neifeld's life suggested a program that would allow him to continue to work in the secular world while also studying for his *smicha*.

Rabbi Neifeld's boss, who is involved in real estate, created an organization that he put Rabbi Neifeld in charge of. Rabbi Neifeld, as project manager, works with different charities.

"[During *smicha*] you discover a lot about yourself," Rabbi Neifeld said. "It has been a very

inspiring process. Your skills, in terms of your knowledge and learning, really reach levels that you can never imagine."

While still studying to be ordained, Neifeld explained the actual process.

"Currently [Nov. 2017], I have a learning partner where we're going on this process together. We are taught by the person who is going to give us our *smicha*," Rabbi Neifeld said. "There [are] a few different tests along the way but there's a big final exam at the end which is a mixture of oral and written exams."

Each rabbi's *smicha* depends on what he wants to specialize in, a process comparable to the specialization of doctors and lawyers. Laws of Shabbat, *kashrut* (dietary laws) and *niddah* (woman's purity) exist as the traditional topics to study.

Overall, the process of becoming a rabbi focuses on being able to learn the detailed *halacha* (Jewish law) and apply the texts of the past to the situations of the present. Rabbi Neifeld chose to

specialize in *kashrut*.

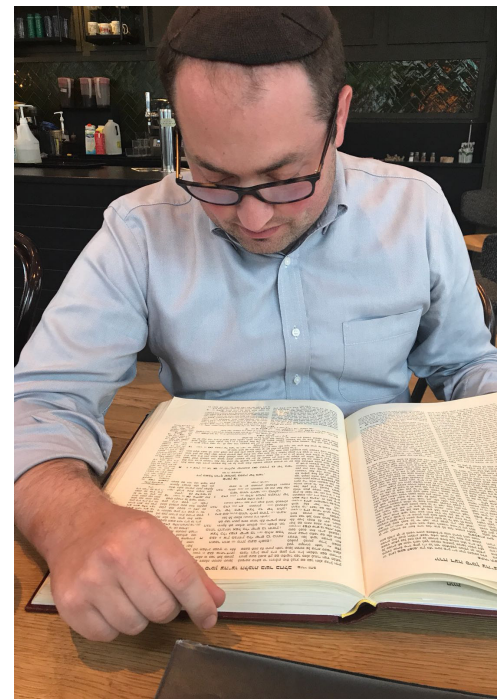
From the times of the *Sanhedrin* (the assembly of rabbis who would act as a court from the times of Moshe until the year 425 C.E.) to 2018, the connotation of the title, "Rabbi," has completely changed.

"Rabbi then meant very much to be that kind of Torah leader, they had followers, they were really known for their rulings and teachings," Rabbi Neifeld said. "Today, you have some rabbis who are involved with outreach, rabbis who don't practice as a rabbi, rabbis who run organizations, community rabbis, rabbis who are really top Torah scholars. All of these people have the opportunity to pass over wisdom in their own [way]."

Rabbi Neifeld said he had his own reasons for wanting to earn his *smicha*.

"I'd like to be a rabbi because I'd like to be the access point for people to engage with their Judaism," Rabbi Neifeld said.

Interview conducted by Daniella Lieberman



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We hope you have a
fantastic 2018
-The Bulldog Print staff

TRUMP'S

From tweets to promises to threats, Trump's first year kept America on its toes

Economy/Stock Market

Since Trump's election, the stock market has skyrocketed. The Dow is up 31 percent and counting, and the Standard and Poor is up 21 percent.

While it is certainly not all Trump, as there are many other economic factors that have boosted the market, his low-tax and deregulation policies have increased confidence in the United States and by extent, global economies. It would be pretty tough to deny Trump's involvement: the numbers don't lie.

Fake News: attacks on media

Trump has called out many publications including *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times* and many broadcast outlets. "Fake news." Trump rumbles about media that dare to question him or his thoughts and decisions. Multiple politicians have spoken out against him, admitted to hearing him say things

fake news

he later denies he said — including what he called countries in the Caribbean and Africa. President Trump was called out by Senator Jeff Flake (R-Arizona) in early January. Flake mentioned the similarity between Trump's media attacks and Joseph Stalin's speeches. Trump's tweets seem so impactful because of the sheer number of them. Between November 2016 to November 2017, Trump tweeted more than 2,400 tweets — equaling 8 to 10 tweets a day. During his election run, he tweeted even more.

All in all, the tweets have caused bad blood with both Trump's administration and with the responding news sources.

The Wall

Although he has not yet erected a wall, his efforts to select prototypes and further facilitate its building show his determination. Trump



Photo by Rachel Sasson '18.

has spoken often of the uncurbed illegal immigration to the U.S., saying it has been detrimental to the economy and to legal U.S. citizens. He says jobs formerly going to middle-class citizens are being stolen from American citizens due to illegal immigrants' willingness to work for a pittance of what citizens would. More importantly, they receive government benefits, but often do not pay taxes if they work in areas where the pay is frequently paid in cash. Trump says the faster the wall gets up, the more efficient our government and workforce will be.

America is nicknamed the Great American Melting Pot, because of how welcoming to immigrants the country has been. As part of the American Melting Pot, illegal immigration didn't exist until 1882 when both the first federal immigration law and the Chinese Exclusion Act were put into place. For illegal immigrants who've been here for a majority of their lives, they have a tie to America that they don't have to their home country. Families are being broken due to the illegal status of relatives. These emotional stories have led to "anti-wall" sentiment.

Tax Plan

The recent plan is good for the economy and the people, but bad for high tax states. Three positive outcomes come with the plan. Trump slashed the flat business tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent, the lowest it has been since 1939.

With this extra 14 percent added to profit margins, companies can re-invest the money into development, producing economic growth or increasing employee benefits and salaries.

While income tax rates were not reduced as drastically as Business Taxes, all classes benefited from the tax cuts. He also punished states with state income taxes by eliminating the deduction of these taxes from federal taxes. This means that people in high-tax states will not be able to deduct their state tax bills from their federal taxes as they have been able to do in the past.

The plan will force high tax states to either lower taxes or watch their civilian population dwindle in states like Texas that have no state income tax. The other states with no state income tax are Alaska, Florida, Nevada, South Dakota, Washington and Wyoming.

Israel

In 2017, Trump also made the long overdue decision of recognizing unified Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. He has announced the moving of the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem in solidarity with Israel.

Trump had the courage to do what past presidents, Democrats and Republicans alike, have failed to do: quit appeasing the anti-American Palestinians and refuse to be bullied by the Palestinians who threaten violence whenever something does not go their way. Jerusalem has been the legal capital of the Jewish people since Israel's inception, and it was finally reclaimed in 1967, housing the Israeli parliament, supreme court and virtually every other government office since then.

Others believe that these decisions are just a distraction since it will take as long as a decade to complete the move. According to Vice President Mike Pence, it will be completed at the end of 2019.

The fact that the coming U.S. Embassy in Britain was called for by George W. Bush in 2006 and has still not been finalized, proves that the process is extremely time-consuming. Nevertheless, due to its global impact, the embassy in Israel could be completed in a much shorter time span.

North Korea

He may not have the most presidential tactics, but Trump's North Korea policy seems to be working. In the past, the U.S. has had a relatively low-key and docile approach to North Korea — never confronting them for their abysmal human rights or threatening nuclear program.

Trump refuses to cover before the North Koreans, and it is showing positive results. Most recently, the North Koreans agreed to begin reunification talks with its southern neighbors to attend the Olympics in South Korea and one team. You can hate the tweets, but you can't hate the results.



Illustration by Asher Schonbrunn '18.

While the unified Korean flag for the Olympic is a worry for some of Trump's administration, some people don't believe there's a real correlation between the original agreement to participate and Trump.

Yet Trump's pressure on North Korea has decreased since Jan. 9, when North and South Korea agreed to participate as a unified team for the Winter Olympics.

The writers

Ari Berke and Miriam Schwitzer get their news from a plethora of sources. Berke reads Ben Shapiro's Daily Wire, checks *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times* and the *National Review*. He avoids CNN, MSNBC or *The Washington Post*, as they tend mislead in headlines or articles, almost exclusively to the detriment of the right. He advises people to not take news or headlines at face value or expect that any given news company puts out exclusively true content — always look deeper into the sources or facts.

Schwitzer watches news on MSNBC and reads online sources like *The New York Times*, *The Los Angeles Times*, CNN, POLITICO, *The Dallas Morning News* and NBC. She also listens to public radio like KERA, and often reads whatever pops up in the news section on her phone — usually from *The Washington Post*, *USA Today* or NPR. She never reads or watches Fox News but is generally open to any other news source even if the headline sounds a little misleading.



FIRST YEAR

By Ari Berke '20 and Miriam Schwitzer '21

What's your source? Know where your media sources stand. While Fox finds Trump can do no wrong, CNN finds little he's done right.

Fox News: To put it simply, Fox is a right-wing news source with hit segments such as Watters' World, Fox and Friends and Tucker Carlson.

Daily Wire: Founded and run by conservative leader Ben Shapiro, the Daily Wire is an up-and-coming conservative news source, with millions of subscribers worldwide.

WSJ: *The Wall Street Journal* is a right-leaning major newspaper with billions of readers globally. It is one of the most prominent news sources in the world.

MSNBC: MSNBC is a left-wing news organization. It has many popular talk shows such as Morning Joe and the Rachel Maddow show.

CNN: CNN is a large, left-wing news source. Lately, CNN has been under scrutiny from the President for "fake news" or false/misleading content, but CNN still enjoys hundreds of millions of viewers worldwide.

Washington Post: *The Washington Post* is a left-wing newspaper, owned by Amazon's Jeff Bezos. They have also drawn the ire of the President, who claims they too have defamed him with fake news. Nevertheless, it remains a major news source in the USA.

New York Times: *The New York Times* is one of the most read newspapers in the world. It is left-leaning, but is perhaps the standard for journalism across the globe.

Haaretz: *Haaretz* is a major newspaper in Israel, and is left wing. It is considered the main newspaper in Israel.

BBC: BBC is the main news source in Britain and is read throughout Europe and in the USA. It is left-wing and often rebuked for misleading headlines or reporting.



Our Jew-tino community

Students and staff of Latin American origins explore values of heritage

By Frieda Katz '18

As a Jewish school among a community of strong Israeli and Euro-American presences, Yavneh primarily teaches *Ashkenazi* (European) teachings and customs. We fondly recount Polish *shtetls* (settlements) and teach students to never touch *kitniyot* (leguminous foods) over Passover.

Students of European and Israeli descent may dominate the campus. Yet, there remains a significant fraction of the student body of Latin descent.

Their stories shed light on significant moments in our Jewish community's history that often remain unseen. The journeys of these Yavneh families have proved the strength of tradition both to their children and to the greater community. If not for these pilgrimages, Yavneh would lack a substantial mass of students and faculty.

One of these Latin Bulldogs is Vanessa Tanur [12]. While she's spent all of her life here in Dallas, TX, the same cannot be said for her parents.

"My parents were actually the first in our family to move to the United States," Tanur said. Tanur's family decided to immigrate when her dad received a job opportunity in Dallas as a dentist, leaving behind their entire extended family who remained in Mexico City, Mexico.

The Presburger-Rapoport and Nurko families share similar stories. Both families originated in Mexico City and then moved to Dallas.

"The best option for us at that time was coming to Dallas because my husband had a friend here who helped us, as well as a business opportunity," Susan Rapoport, head of the Math Department said.

While Rapoport and her husband immigrated while already married, parents of Jonathan '17 and Sammy [11] Nurko, moved to America separately to study at the University of Alabama, before moving to Texas, then North Carolina and back to Texas due to business-related motives.

"My parents' first choice wasn't Texas," Nurko said. "They were hopping around the state and ended up in Dallas where my dad got a job opportunity."

Ruthy Henkin, co-founder of A Taste Of The World Catering and mother of Raquel '16 and Stephanie [10], spent most of her life in Panama City, Panama. Henkin's grandparents moved to Panama from Israel and Aleppo, Syria.

"[My grandmother's] first child was my mother, born and raised in Panama City, Panama, and was later introduced to my father from Ohio by a close friend of hers," Stephanie said. "They ended up getting married and moved to Florida for a short time [before] ending up in Dallas."

Although these stories share similar traits, their results, being these various families, each appreciate their heritage differently. These Yavneh families sustain that connection through regular visits to their native countries, as well as through enriching their new roots in Dallas with family traditions.

Both Tanur and Nurko recall spending time in Mexico with family as some of their fondest memories.

"The high holidays are already such an important time in the year, so to spend them with family makes them even better," Tanur said.

Nurko highlighted how different his Latin experiences are from his peers of European descent.

"As a Jew, there's a lot of Jewish celebrations within my family such as weddings and bar mitzvahs," Sammy said. "They're done the Mexican way, different than the traditional, American Jewish practice."

In Panama, Stephanie said, one can mistake an average Shabbat dinner for a Syrian-Hispanic feast, worthy of a bar mitzvah or wedding.

"Visiting my family in Panama for high holidays, they make sure it's the biggest feast anyone has ever seen," Stephanie said.

Rapoport elaborated on how "blending in" and forming bonds with other types of Jews has shed light on different ways to be a Jew and the incredible international inter-connectedness of our faith.

"We're all Jewish at the end of the day," Rapoport said. Tanur also sees the merit in remaining involved in Dallas's community just as much as she remains involved with her Mexican family.

Tanur also explained how valuable Spanish as a first language proved to be in her life.

"[Particularly] in Texas where Spanish is very popular and often spoken, speaking Spanish is such a good skill to have in terms of [finding] a job, [admittance to] college, and simply when meeting people in general," Tanur said.

However, Tanur still maintains strong ties to her roots back home.

"Even though we are in the United States and [my family is] in Mexico, I think we try our very best to always connect and be with each other, whether it be over summer and spring breaks or high holidays," Tanur said.

Stephanie and Sammy both discussed the value of safeguarding heritage, whether it be of *Ashkenazi*, *Sephardi* (Spanish) or *Mizrachi* (Middle Eastern) descent.

"I think it's important to embrace our differences since we Jews come from all over the world," Stephanie said. "It's important to share how each individual practices being Jewish in unique, different ways." Sammy agreed, saying "What's great about Judaism is that everyone really brings something new to the table, and if we leave behind [our differences,] they lose meaning."

He continued to elaborate on how there's more to a person's identity than merely being a Jew; while Judaism provides what to practice, said Sammy, a nationality remains responsible for how to live one's life.

"[Being a Latin Jew is] a really unique experience that I wouldn't want to trade for anything," Sammy said.

Looking towards a thriving future, Yavneh's Latin Jewish community cherishes heritage and is proud to contribute its share of traditions to the community, as well as to hand them down to their future descendents.

"Knowing I have a responsibility to pass on [my traditions] to the next generation is a [meaningful] value to have," Stephanie said.

In addition to the students already mentioned, a few more were not able to be interviewed. Vanessa Kibel's [12] parents are both from Brazil. Tami Govrin's [10] mom is from Ecuador and her dad is from Colombia. Eli Burstein's [9] dad is from Peru. Talia Campbell's mom is from Mexico. Yael Schuller's [9] parents are both from Mexico City.



While many prefer to stay defiant and solely stick to Latin roots, Rapoport said that her family had no trouble building new roots in their new home of Plano.

Rapoport, along with her sons, Yosef '13 and Alan '17, began to attend services at DATA of Plano when they first moved, and immediately found their place within the abundance of other Latino families at the time.

But after a while, Rapoport said, "[other] Latinos started going other places [outside DATA], so we started to open our friendships to non-Latino families." This allowed the family to find their place among the metroplex's greater Jewish community while still holding onto their heritage.

"Little things [of our Mexican heritage] have stayed the same, but after living here for so long we've somewhat blended in," Rapoport said.

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Taking the big step

Three women recount experience of making 'aliyah,' recommend much thought

By Shahar Peleg '18

On Dec. 6, 2017, Rosie Bernstein '17 became an official Israeli, surrounded by friends and current classmates on her special day.

"I started the process from North America, back when I thought I was going to do it at the end of August, after the summer," Bernstein said. "Then I [continued the process] within Israel when I found out [that] I had to do it when I was already [in Israel]."

She currently studies at Migdal Oz, in Gush Etzion in the West Bank and describes her time so far as being "absolutely amazing."

Bernstein planned to move to Israel early in her life.

"The most important thing to do is to trust your gut," said Bernstein.

Bernstein has also witnessed the pressure on girls and boys during their year in Israel to make *aliyah* (immigration to Israel).

The literal meaning of *aliyah* is "to go up," but for some it symbolizes something else. To those people, *aliyah* means the fulfillment of the 2,000 year-long dream to return to Israel and rebuild it to the thriving country it was before the Jewish exile from Israel by the Romans circa 70 C.E.

Many Jews taken this dream personally and made the move to Israel.

"I really think that there is a right path for every single person, and making *aliyah* is great, but that doesn't mean that everyone can or should do it," Bernstein said.

Nechama Tannenbaum, daughter of Judaic principal Rabbi Tannenbaum, decided to make *aliyah* in Dec. of 2017 as well. She currently studies at Michlelet Mevaseret Yerushalayim in Jerusalem.

"I really believe that I can be my best self here," she said.

Israel offers a different environment than America, in the sense that the Israeli society as a whole is more easygoing and flexible in comparison to the American mindset. Israel provides different opportunities for young adults, such as going to the army for a few years or doing a year of national service before college.

Israeli citizens get to experience more of the world and meet more people from other countries than the average American.

"While I was in high school I felt that something was lacking," Daniella Lieberman, Judaic teacher said of her process of deciding to make *aliyah*. "I wasn't sure what it was at first, but I realized once I went to Israel, that it was Israel, as cliché as that sounds."

Lieberman said her upbringing as a Zionist with the ideology that everyone contributes to Israel in some way affected her decision to become an official Israeli citizen. When Lieberman got to Israel, she didn't make *aliyah* right away. First, she spent her gap year at the seminary Sha'alvim for Women.

"I discovered all the reasons I

wanted to make *aliyah* were still true, but every single day there were more reasons coming at me," Lieberman said.

Ultimately, Lieberman decided to move back to America because she "felt that [she] could make a stronger impact [outside of Israel.]"

Her passion for Jewish education motivated her to begin teaching in schools across America.

"I was raised with the ideology that everyone contributes to Israel in some way and I really believe in that," Lieberman said. "I felt that my way of contributing to something is by being there and giving it

my all. So, I realized that my way of contributing to Israel was to be there and to occupy the space in Israel that I can call my home, and that I can call my own."

Israel, unlike other countries, encourages people to make *aliyah* as a means to ensure they have a smooth transition. An organization called Nefesh B'Nefesh helps with this stressful process.

"It was really simple," Lieberman said. "It did not take that much time, and they make it really easy for you."

It is possible to make *aliyah* both from within and outside of Israel, but the end result is the same. Those who make *aliyah* receive Israeli citizenship and are permitted to live and work within Israel.

Neither Tannenbaum nor Lieberman recommend taking this step lightly.

"I would say to someone thinking about making *aliyah* to just think it through. A part of it is just going to be taking a leap, but you do want to make sure that you're not going to go to America for a degree for a field that works entirely differently in Israel," Lieberman said. "So, I would say to keep that in mind. Keep in mind when you want to make *aliyah*, because everything is the big picture."

Tannenbaum agreed and sought out help with her decision. She went to Nefesh B'Nefesh in Israel, who recommended a guided *aliyah*. Guide *aliyah* provides an adviser to help through the plethora of paperwork. Tannenbaum's adviser got her a date to meet at their office to get her *teudat zehut* (Israeli identification card.)

Lieberman has some suggestions to make the transition easier.

"It's incredible to live [in Israel] at some point, but when you first move make sure that you put yourself in a place that's comfortable," Lieberman said. "Another thing I would say is make sure that you're in a situation where you can really treat yourself every once in awhile and focus on you."

However, it won't all be easy. "It's going to get hard from time to time but you know that you did an incredible thing

so you should always be in a situation where you shouldn't feel bad about treating yourself well and being around good people who can support you," Lieberman said.

Overall, Lieberman found the longer she stayed the more reasons she had to want to stay.

"I would even joke to my friends that I would make a book of 365 reasons why I would want to live in Israel, because every day there was a new reason," she said. "From things like, everyone in Israel is family, to the food being amazing, everything just being Jewish, you don't have to explain yourself, you don't have to feel like an outsider, so that was incredible."

Top: Nechama Tannenbaum holds a sign after making *aliyah*. Photo courtesy of Tannenbaum.

Bottom: Rosie Bernstein '17 surrounded by fellow Yavneh alumni and friends after making *aliyah*. Photo courtesy of Bernstein.





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Is the West Bank really occupied?

Embassy move brings heated discussion about Israeli settlements

By Ari Berke '20

When President Trump decided to move the American embassy to Jerusalem, he ignited a discussion about the legality of Jerusalem and of Israeli "settlements" in Judea and Samaria.

The issue has faced various scholarly and international opinions, with countless U.N. resolutions, Armistice borders, attempted peace deals and political debate. While Israel is the *de facto* administrator of the West Bank, maintaining military control in many places throughout the region, the legality of the situation is more complex. Many people love to repeat the age-old cries of the illegality and therefore illegitimacy of Israeli control in the West Bank. I would make the contentious claim that legally this land is Israel's, much to the chagrin of modern-day international law bodies and left-wing groups.

The *de jure* argument is an essential part of this important and controversial argument. The first modern legal mandate for the area, previously called Palestine, occurred with the League of Nations' "Mandate for Palestine," eventually ratified in 1923. This gave the Jews legal permission to settle in modern-day Israel as well as Jordan, but the Transjordan Memorandum reserved Jordan for the Arabs who decried the Mandate as unfair.

Many will say this Mandate is null and void as the League of Nations is essentially defunct. Its successor, the United Nations, while currently a legal instrument that harasses Israel over settlements, ironically affirms the Mandate for Palestine's legality in its own charter. Article 80 of the U.N. charter states "nothing in this Chapter shall be construed in or of itself to alter in any manner the rights whatsoever of any states or any peoples or the terms of existing international instruments." The "rights" would be the rights of Jews to live in and settle land west of the Jordan, guaranteed in the Mandate for Palestine, and the international instrument refers to the League of Nations. Pretty airtight.

However, some believe that the Palestine mandate ceased after the British left Palestine and terminated their mandate, leaving the new borders to be established by the 1949 Armistice lines after the War of Independence. Two problems exist with this, both addressed by Eugene Rostow, former Dean of Yale Law School and International Law expert.

First, the land west of the Jordan was put in a "trust" to the Jewish Agency with the Mandate for Palestine, meaning the Jews' ownership of the land transcends British, or any other, control. In an essay about the legality of settlements, Rostow wrote, "A trust never terminates when a trustee dies, resigns, embezzles the trust property, or is dismissed. The authority responsible for the trust appoints a new trustee, or otherwise arranges for the fulfillment of its purpose."

Rostow also dismissed the notion of Armistice Lines as borders, saying "The Armistice Lines of 1949, which are part of the West Bank boundary, represent nothing but the position of the contending armies when the final cease-fire was achieved in the War of Independence."

Basically, they merely reflect the military positioning at the time of cease-fire, not actual legal borders. Therefore, it can safely be assumed that the Mandate for Palestine has never ceased due to any events, military or political, within the state of Israel.

Many people also claim that Israeli "occupation" violates the 1949 Geneva convention, as its Article 49 expressly states that "The Occupying Power shall not deport or transfer parts of its own civilian population into the territory it occupies."

The Red Cross addresses this law's function, saying "It is intended to prevent a practice adopted during the World War II by certain powers, which transferred portions of their own population to occupied territory for political and racial reasons or as they claimed, to colonize those territories. Such transfers worsened the economic situation of the native population and endangered their separate existence as a race."

Essentially, this law was created to prevent Nazi-esque deportations and re-settling, where the Nazis would deport the Jews of one occupied country and replace them with other, pro-Nazi citizens.

However, this case is not applicable to Israel.

The Israeli government never forced citizens into "settlements." People willingly moved there to create new cities and cultivate new land. Furthermore, this clause only relates to the invasion of other sovereign states, a title the Palestinians cannot claim. The West Bank was never under the rule of another sovereign entity before Israel, leaving it, according to Professor Rostow, unallocated property of the British Mandate. It became formally allocated after the Jews took control of it as was legally guaranteed long beforehand.

Due to the digressions between the current Israeli situation and Nazi Germany, the fact that the Palestinians do not represent a sovereign state and therefore cannot be covered under Article 49, and that the West Bank was actually being returned to Jewish control as opposed to taken by the Jews, the claim that Article 49 opposes Jewish settlement is ludicrous.

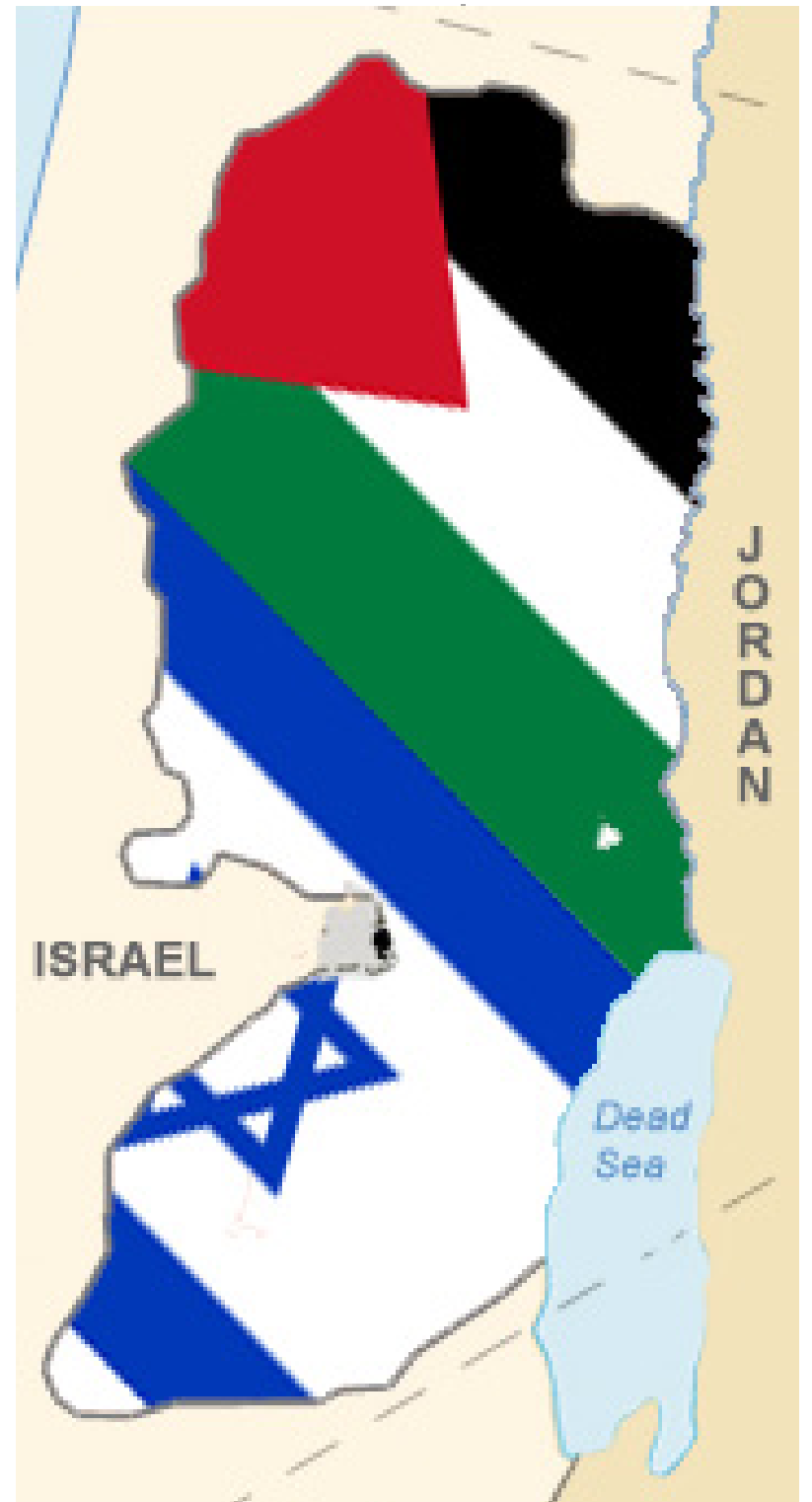
Others may argue that the 1947 Partition Plan essentially created the Palestinian state, rendering the Mandate for Palestine useless. However, the Partition Plan was never actually implemented. Surrounding Arab states opted to attack the Jewish state to gain control over Palestine versus controlling the parts offered to them by the United Nations.

As a result, they failed to establish an Arab state within the boundaries of Palestine, undermining the entire point of the Partition Plan. Egypt never annexed Gaza, and while Jordan annexed the West Bank, virtually no one recognized its legitimacy—thus no Arab state has ever existed in Palestine. How could Israel occupy the Palestinians' — or anyone's — land if it has had no legal sovereign ruler prior to 1967? Land cannot be occupied unless someone else had legally owned it, and then lost it, which is not the case with Israel.

While many international bodies supporting a Palestinian state claim to have international law on their side, they could not be farther from the truth.

The Mandate for Palestine, maintained by the U.N. article 80, conserves the Jewish people's right to settle the land west of the Jordan, unalterable by any present laws or armistices.

The 4th Geneva Convention does not prevent Israeli control



over the West Bank, as its laws pertaining to occupation were installed to prevent Nazi-esque government re-settlement of civilians, a far cry from willing civilian settlements.

Also, for the West Bank to be considered occupied, it must have been formerly owned by a recognized legal body — therefore, the West Bank cannot be occupied, as there was no country to take it from.

So, I can safely say that Israel legally, or *de jure*, controls Judea and Samaria.

Mazel Tov to Yavneh's varsity boys and girls basketball teams on making it to the playoff!

Rachel and Matthew Berke

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Rift still raises the roof

Review of 1993 Phish album in honor of 25th anniversary

By Nachi Zucker '19

Phish's album "Rift" is one of the weirdest yet greatest albums to ever be released by the American rock band.

The album focuses on highlighting the journey of a man who is plagued with depression and heartbreak after a breakup. Each song in the album centers around a different point in his journey to become happy again.

The breakup with his partner truly destroyed him and he has trouble getting back to who he used to be.

It all starts off with the beginning of the song "Rift."

"Last night in the moments my thoughts were adrift / and coasting a terrace approaching a rift / through which I could spy several glimpses beneath."

Trey Anastasio (lead guitar and vocals) and Page McConnell (piano and vocals) sing together about how the man could sense the relationship was coming to an end and how he had no clue what to do about it.

The song continues "...of the darkness alight from above could not reach / I spy wings of reason yourself taking flight / and upon yonder precipice saw her alight / and glare back at me one last look of dismay / as if she were the last one she thought I'd betray."

Clearly, the man's actions were the cause of the breakup. The man breached the woman's trust for the final time and she was ready to end their relationship.

The next song on the album, "Fast Enough for You" (FEFY) starts "If time were only part of the equation..." These lyrics illustrate how the man has started to wonder what the relationship could have been like in a few years time. However, the woman stopped any chance at a potential future.

The song goes on, "...but everything is in its own dominion, that time is essentially in its own rule and there is absolutely nothing that we can do to stop it. All we can do is live life out."

FEFY flows right into the short song "Lengthwise." The entire song con-

sists of, "When you're there I sleep lengthwise, and when you're gone I sleep diagonal in my bed." This song expresses the man's feelings of loneliness that stemmed from breaking up with his former girlfriend.

In the song "Maze," the main character feels lost in his depression and that no matter what path he tries to take, he will never elevate from rock bottom. At the end of the song the lyrics say, "you'll never get out of this maze."

Skipping a few songs into the album, the song "Weigh" shows that his depression begins to drive him crazy with lyrics such as, "I'd like to go to your house and gather all your razors and pick all the little prickly hairs so I can weigh them, what do you say? Five pounds? Six pounds? Seven pounds?" The man loses his mind and there does not seem to be a way of stopping this downward spiral.

Next, "Mound," the song where the man's depression fades away. As

the song goes, "The old man knows very well / Going down by the snowbank, there's a mound / A mound that an old man knows good / Look who raises his shoe all over this mound / Right over the world that's another rewind."

While this might seem confusing, it has much more meaning behind it than simply words that rhyme. The old man refers to the man who was in the relationship that ended, and the age change shows that he has matured greatly since the relationship ended. In his head, he has buried all of his memories about the relationship in the mound.

The chorus of the song goes, "And it's time, time, time for the last rewind / For a broken old man and a world unkind / He buried all his memories of home / In an icy clump that lies beneath the ground." He finally shows that he is ready to move on from the past and to start a new beginning.

The last song on the album, "Silent in the Morning," talks about the man and what his mornings are like as he wakes up alone and finally realizes everything will be all right. The lyrics go on to say, "The volume just increases the resounding echoes grow."

The man is ready to face the world again and to ponder the past without retreating back into depression.



The Bulldog Print is the official student newspaper of Yavneh Academy of Dallas and serves as an open forum to inform and reflect the opinions of its students and the Modern Orthodox community.

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'Stranger Things'

Backstories add to intrigue in sci-fi series

By Meira Abraham '21

The Netflix Original series "Stranger Things" has gone viral for its clever plot twists and mind-boggling conspiracy theories.

The thriller is filled with drama about a girl named Eleven who has incredible powers. Eleven (Millie Bobby Brown) and a group of young boys are determined to help defeat the villains from the Upside Down.

In the first few episodes after meeting Eleven, the gang discovers something terrifying. They find the real source of Eleven's superpowers, and learn about her connection to the lab that produced the monster related to the Upside Down.

Many questions arise from this story line. Who is Eleven? Where is she from? Who are her parents? Who made the Upside Down? What is the Upside Down?

In season one of the hit TV show, one of the friends in the group, Will Byers (Noah Schnapp), goes missing as he is kidnapped by the monster and trapped in the Upside Down. Soon after, his friends go headstrong into investigation.

Will, is declared dead after police investigation. Will's mom, Joyce Byers (Winona Ryder), believes differently. She is convinced that Will is still alive.

Joyce is not alone in her thinking.

Will's best friends Dustin (Gaten Matarazzo), Mike (Finn Wolfhard) and Lucas (Caleb McLaughlin) set out to find him.

His whereabouts are not easy to track, but what they face along the way is even more mysterious.

After meeting Eleven, they get closer to figuring out the truth about the Upside Down — it exists — and Eleven — the extent of her super powers.

The show sparked a plethora of conspiracy

theories from its deeply engaged fanbase.

In season one, viewers are introduced to the monster. In the sixth episode, Eleven cryptically tells Mike that she is the monster. Most believe she did not literally mean she was the monster, but she feels guilty for what she has done by inviting the monster into Hawkins.

However, an alternative theory suggests that Eleven did truly mean it.

When she was fighting the monster it was almost as if it was mirroring her, proving that she is tied to the monster in some way, leading viewers to believe she is the monster.

On the note of characters being tied with dark secrets, some believe it's possible the Upside Down could be in Will.

At the end of season one, Will left viewers puzzled. He coughs up a demogorgon from the Upside Down, leading fans to believe that he is still connected to the Upside Down even though he is back to reality in Hawkins.

Aside from being sci-fi, the show is filled with action and drama.

Portrayed as a narcissistic cop, Jim Hopper (David Harbour) is a Hawkins' policeman investigating Will's disappearance. While he personally helps Joyce in her search for Will, viewers learn that he, too, has lost a child. But others say there is more to his background. What if Eleven is actually Sara Hopper, Hopper's supposedly dead daughter?

Early on in season one, a scene shows Hopper crying in a stairwell after the death of his daughter. Later in the show, a scene shows the exact same stairwell, in the Hawkins lab. While watching the show, many conspiracy theorists claim that Sara Hopper never died, but was stolen by the lab like Eleven.

Cruel scientist Dr. Martin Brenner (Matthew Modine) ran the Hawkins Lab. After trapping Eleven another child named Eight, he put them through terrifying experiments to test the limits of their psychic powers. After all this abuse, viewers were shocked to hear that, according to Eleven, Dr. Brenner is their father.

One of the scenes shows Eleven being carried out by two guards as she screams "Papa! Papa!" The camera moves to Dr. Brenner, suggesting that he is indeed their father. The tense relationship he has with Terry, the mother of Eleven and Eight, makes fans begin to wonder if he really is the girls' dad, or just an evil scientist looking for a breakthrough discovery.

For the time being, these conjectures remain unanswered. The good news is "Stranger Things" has confirmed a third season will debut in 2019 and will hopefully answer all of our questions.



CALENDAR



February Groundhog Day

Feb. 2. Will winter continue to come or will spring arrive early?

Lana Del Ray

Feb. 8. Gain a new and improved "Lust for Life." Go to the American Airlines Center at 8 p.m. to be serenaded by this indie-pop superstar.

Winter Olympics

Feb. 9-25. Taking place in South Korea, this year's Winter Olympics promises to be one focused on both sports and politics.

Lincoln's birthday

Feb. 12. It'll be his 209th birthday. He has quite the memorial, beard and top hat.

Fetty Wap

Feb. 13. Hey, what's up hello! Enjoy rap? Be at the House of Blues at 8 p.m. and feel the energy of a fist-pumping, lyric-loving crowd.

Susan B. Anthony's birthday

Feb. 15. Almost a century has passed since the 19th Amendment. Woman's suffrage, as demonstrated by the recent president election, has completely changed the political scene.

BBYO IC

Feb. 15-19. Jewish teens from all around the world will gather in Orlando, FL for a weekend of meaningful interaction.

No school

Feb. 16. Fri-yay! Enjoy this extra long weekend.

No school

Feb. 19. G-d bless America and its presidents for this long weekend. Maybe buy a wig or build a wall.

National Chili Day

Feb. 22. Meat or vegetarian, this dish brings joy to the home and the taste buds. Cook up a delicious bowl of chili to share with friends and family.

"Good Girls" premieres

Feb. 26. Three moms resort to crime for their own needs and take over NBC at 9 p.m. Grab some popcorn and watch this riveting new series.

Fast of Esther

Feb. 28. Well, at least it means that Purim is soon. Yavneh students 3 p.m. dismissal.

March

Purim

March 1. Costumes, groggers and food. Best Jewish holiday ever. Also, school will be dismissed at 1 p.m.

No School

March 2. Day two of this fantastic holiday: Shushan Purim. Enjoy the long weekend!

Candle lighting times

February Feb. 23 at 6:02

March Mar. 2 at 6:07

Mar. 9 at 6:13

Shabbat ends

February Feb. 24 at 6:57

March Mar. 3 at 7:03

Mar. 10 at 7:08