

The Lion's Den

גוב של אריה

News and Views from Yeshiva Atlanta



Winter 2012
חורף תשע"ב

Why I Teach

By YA English Teacher and Assistant Principal for General Studies Joel Rojek

I Teach Because:

*It's in my blood.

--Since my father is a (retired) professor and my mother a former teacher/county curriculum administrator/principal, I never really considered another occupation. As a child, I always just assumed I'd wind up as a teacher simply because it's what both of my parents did. So I was genetically disposed to end up in this field. And I have a hard time imagining life without having summers off!



*It brings me joy:

--Teaching is essentially a creative occupation, as we literally get to create and implement our units and lessons as we see fit. There IS no lesson until the teacher determines what will be taught, how, and why. I've always been drawn to activities and tasks that require originality, so teaching has always been a great fit for me. --I can think of no reward more gratifying than helping students develop as human beings. Does any other profession allow you to guide and support children as they discover themselves and who they want to become? --I have always felt strongly that communication is the solution to almost all of life's problems, and that the Fine Arts are humanity's greatest creation. Being able to teach literature, art, and (sometimes) drama allows me tap into these passions and to (hopefully) spread my enthusiasm for them. Best of all, I get paid to share what I'm passionate about—something few people can honestly say. --It's rewarding in ways almost unique to education. Of course, I'm not talking about financial rewards (aspiring millionaires need not apply). But the emotional, mental, and even spiritual highs are tough to beat. When a student is able to better understand the world around her and her purpose in it, is there any greater gift we can give?

*It's a never-ending, always-evolving challenge:

--No two school years, classes, or students are the same. We must

constantly reinvent and reapply in order to be as successful as possible. Although this can be dizzying and even stressful at times, it's a noble pursuit.

--There is no such thing as a perfect school year, course, unit, or lesson because it's impossible to eliminate all imperfections. But it's invigorating to try.

--Progress is always possible, which makes teaching a dynamic and evolutionary pursuit. I can always improve, which makes teaching a far cry from the monotony of a dead-end job.

*Strengthens my hope for humankind

--Almost always, I can go home and know I made a positive difference in the world that day. If I helped improve someone's mind, if I soothed the feelings of an angst-ridden teenager, if I helped students appreciate something they could not appreciate before, then I know I've made my contribution towards making our world a better place.

--And by doing this, I remind myself constantly that there is hope for humanity, that we can care for each other and help each other accomplish what we cannot in isolation. That we can unite and build and grow together despite the dark times that we're living through.

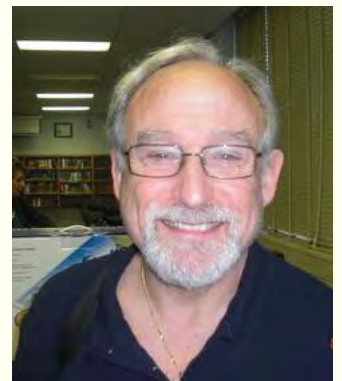
--So when pessimists bemoan the state of the world and how civilization is rapidly washing itself down the toilet, I like to remind them that education is the solution to everything that ails the human race. And although most generalities are false, this one rings true.



Why I Teach

By Mr. Al Wolmer

[Click on my picture to follow the link to my why I teach slideshow.](#)



Much has been happening at YA in recent months.



איזה יופי

Here is a sampling of some of the things that have made us excited and proud!

We heard from Rabbi Kenneth Brander from Yeshiva University's Center for the Jewish Future. He spoke to us about prioritizing the following three possibilities: our assistance to the Jews in our community, our assistance to the Jews in Israel or across the country, and our assistance to the world at large.

Lavi Greenspan spoke to the school about going blind while still in law school, but persevering and completing law school.

We continued to sell merchandise at our YA online school store! Check out <http://yeshiva.dtgzone.com/home> or follow the link on our web page.

We took an all-school trip to see the play Golda's Balcony at The Alliance Theatre.

Dr. Luchins from Touro College came to speak to our students about the prisoner swap with Hamas and the implications for Israel's relationship with Egypt after the Arab Spring uprising.

The school-wide Shabbaton from October 28-30 was a tremendous success, thanks to the work of the Student Council.

Battle of the Classes was a wonderful day enjoyed by all, especially the two classes that tied for the championship, the juniors and the seniors!

Randy and Caroline Gold, National Jewish Volunteer Heroes of the year, spoke to the school about the importance of Jewish genetic testing.

Boris Savchuk, a violinist from the Ukraine, performed a school-wide solo concert.

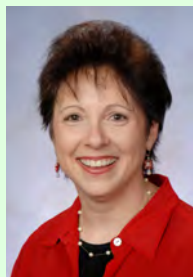
The Advanced Placement English class performed scenes from the play Hamlet in various styles, including "Jersey Shore" and "Yeshiva Atlanta" styles.

Yeshiva Atlanta hosted a blood drive.

Yeshiva Atlanta welcomes new teachers 2011–2012

ברוכים הבאים

Lisa Belinky joined us as our Strategic Learning Judaic Studies Specialist. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Georgia in Child Psychology/Education and her Master's Degree in Judaic Studies from the Siegal College in Cleveland, Ohio. She taught in the public school system in Georgia for two years, followed by a 23-year tenure at the Greenfield Hebrew Academy. In her last ten years at GHA, she taught Judaic Studies in the self-contained M'silot program for students who learn differently. Lisa has three children who are all part of the YA family.



Michael Davis is our new full-time Technology Coordinator. He is a Clayton State College graduate with a degree in Computer Services. He has over 20 years of computer experience in both



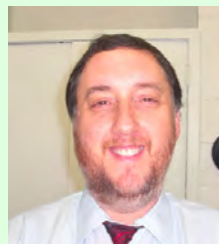
commercial and educational arenas. Most recently, he has worked with the Meriwether County School System as a Network Administrator. He also has 15 years of experience working with other private schools in the Atlanta area. He is experienced in multiple Operating Systems (both desktop and server), network design and installation (including

wireless networks), printer, Smart boards, and much more. He is very excited about the opportunity to create a technology-sound environment for educating our students.

Talya Gorsetman will be working with Chagiga at Yeshiva Atlanta this year. She grew up in NYC where she pursued her acting career while serving as Rebbetzin of the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale. Talya acted in several Jewish theater companies in plays which included "London Suites," "A Match Made in Manhattan," and "The Laramie Project." She was also a member of "Improvodox," a Jewish Improv group. She has served eight summers as Theater Director in a day camp in NY. Talya prides herself on carefully selecting roles that do not compromise her religious beliefs. She would be happy to share any tips with students (or adults) who look to pursue a religious acting career. In addition to Talya's passion for theater is her passion for The Young Israel of Toco Hills, where she has served as Rebbetzin for the past three years.



Rabbi Eric Levy comes to Atlanta from New York, where he was the Jewish Studies Principal of North Shore Hebrew Academy High School. In addition to his work at Yeshiva Atlanta teaching Judaic Studies classes, he serves as the Director of



Jewish Studies at GHA. Rabbi Levy earned his undergraduate degree in Computer Science from Touro College and an MA in Biblical Studies from Yeshiva University.

He has rabbinic ordination from both Rabbi Ephraim Greenblatt and Rav Zalman Nehemia Goldberg. He spent four years at

Yeshivat Har Etzion (Gush) and served in the Israeli Army Tank Corps. Rabbi Levy's online classes can be heard at OU Torah (<http://www.ouradio.org/nach>), Torah in Motion, and at his own website: <http://www.ericlevy.com/>.

Kim Urbach is the new guidance counselor at Yeshiva Atlanta this year. She graduated from UGA with a Master's degree in guidance and counseling and worked in Rockdale County High School as a school counselor for ten years, including one year as counseling department head. She has her Specialist degree in school counseling from Georgia State. Kim is nationally certified in counseling and school counseling and is licensed by the state of Georgia. Kim lives in Dunwoody with her husband and 4 year old daughter.



Rabbi Asher Yablok is our Dean of Judaic Studies, teaching Judaic Studies classes and working with Ms. Ariella Allen to continue to make our Judaic Studies program the best it can be. He comes to Atlanta from St. Louis, Missouri, where he was a Judaic Studies instructor and program director at Block Yeshiva High School. Rabbi Yablok earned his undergraduate degree



in Judaic Studies and an MA in Jewish Education from Yeshiva University. He has rabbinic ordination from both RIETS (YU) and Rav Zalman Nechemia Goldberg.

Rabbi Yablok has a special interest in problem based learning (PBL) and has taught exciting courses in Jewish Medical Ethics and Contemporary Halachic problems as initial steps in incorporating this

method into the Judaic Studies curriculum. Rabbi Yablok is joined by his wife Shira, a Speech and Language pathologist, and their four children.

Message from the Head of School

This semester has been a whirlwind of activity at Yeshiva Atlanta, from the arrival of new teachers and students to Battle of the Classes to a Shabbaton at Camp Blue Ridge to volleyball, basketball, and wrestling seasons! It's only now that I can look back and see what an amazing ride it has been, with students leading the way.

One of the highlights for me personally was hearing from Rabbi Lavi Greenspan, a practicing attorney who became blind at age 26 while still obtaining semicha and law school. Seeing that he retained his faith in Hashem and his sense of humor as well made all of us realize that so many of our concerns are trivial by comparison. Truly he was an inspiration to the entire school.



My favorite memory from the fall, however, was the Shabbaton, which was completely organized and run by our amazing Student Council. These young men and women selected the camp and the food vendor (Fuego Mundo, thanks to a generous anonymous donor), budgeted for the entire event, planned all of the davening and events, and smiled the entire time. The teachers and I only had to show up and enjoy the ruach exhibited by all of our students and prospective students throughout the three days. It was truly a special time of bonding for the school.

As I look forward to the spring, I continue to be inspired by the leadership shown by our students and the inspiring emails I receive from recent graduates. I cannot help but smile as I imagine a future with our current students in charge, making wise choices on behalf of us all!

Shalom—
Dr. Paul Oberman
Head of School



Yeshiva Atlanta Hoopster Heading to Brazil

For many Yeshiva Atlanta students, an exciting trip involves heading to QT for a coffee and a snack on their way to school each morning, and most maintained this ritual over winter break. Myles Ratner was a notable exception, as he headed to Brazil over the break to take part in the Pan American Maccabi Games, held in São Paulo, Brazil from December 26, 2011 to January 2.

Team USA competed at the Pan American Maccabi Games in Juniors, Youth, Open and Masters Divisions, and Myles, who plays point guard on the Yeshiva Atlanta basketball team, felt very honored to be part of this contingent. "I know that while I'm playing, I will represent my family and country," said Myles, "and I will do so with pride, enthusiasm and sportsmanship."

When he heard of Myles' selection to Team USA, Dr. Paul Oberman, head of school, was heard to exclaim: "This is amazing!" Dr. Oberman went on to add that "it is indeed an honor, and I know Myles will represent Yeshiva Atlanta well, both on and off the court."

The Pan American Maccabi Games are a celebration of Jewish Unity, Culture, and Heritage through world athletic competition. Maccabi USA/Sports for Israel, the sponsor of the USA Team, was founded in 1948, only weeks after the dream of a Jewish Homeland had finally been realized. Its purpose was two-fold: to help Israel develop as a nation through physical education and sport and to promote fitness and athletics among Jewish youth in the U.S., Israel and the Diaspora. Through sports competitions, the organization strives to provide American athletes with a Jewish experience - to enrich their lives, to heighten their sense of Jewish Identity and to strengthen their feelings of Jewish Pride.

Mazal tov to Myles for being selected for this honor and another mazal tov because his team won!

Spread the word!



YA IS ALWAYS LOOKING FOR MORE GREAT STUDENTS. IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO COULD BENEFIT FROM A YESHIVA ATLANTA EDUCATION, PLEASE SHARE THEIR NAME WITH DANA BURCHFIELD

YOU CAN CONTACT DANA BY PHONE AT 770-451-5299 x 23 OR EMAIL HER AT DBURCHFIELD@YESHIVAATLANTA.ORG

OPEN HOUSE 1/22 FROM 11-2 R.S.V.P TO DANA

YA Shabbaton - Enjoyed by all!

After months of planning, the day had arrived. Nearly 100 Yeshiva Atlanta students, along with another 20 prospective students from various middle schools around Atlanta, boarded buses and headed to the mountains of North Georgia. There, at Camp Blue Ridge, they would not only discuss the topic of unity (and its importance to both the school and greater Atlanta Jewish community), but would live it intensely for 48 hours.

This year's Yeshiva Atlanta Shabbaton (which took place from October 28 through October 30) featured Divrei Torah by four different YA students (girls representing grades 9, 10, 11 and 12) and by the school's new Dean of Judaic Studies, Rabbi Asher Yablok. The students were also responsible for all parts of the prayer services, from serving as hazzan to opening the makeshift ark to reading the Torah. In this respect, the teachers in attendance as chaperones, including Head of School, Dr. Paul Oberman, and the school's Assistant Principal of Judaics, Ms. Ariella Allen, were simply part of the congregation, but their respect for the students' leadership was obvious.



According to Dr. Oberman, "The Student Council members did a fabulous job getting everything organized in advance, and the rest of the student body was equally engaged over the course of the weekend. Every student stepped up and took responsibility for some aspect of the Shabbaton, whether it was setting up meals, organizing an afternoon hike or simply interacting with the eighth graders who were in attendance as prospective YA students."

The Shabbaton's schedule was packed, starting mid-afternoon when the eighth graders arrived early at the camp and were treated to an hour-long ropes course adventure. With the arrival of the rest of the YA students, the camp was abuzz with activity as the students prepared for Shabbat. Kabbalat Shabbat, dinner, then a festive oneg program which included several very amusing grade skits followed.

Shabbat day was just as packed, with the students leading both the shacharit and mincha services. Yet the highlight of the day were the talks given by our special guests, Bill and Paula Gris. The Grises were among the founding families of Yeshiva Atlanta, and Mr. Gris served as the school's first basketball coach. The students loved his stories of the school's early days, especially the one where an opposing coach, upon seeing the six member basketball team (the school had a total enrollment that year of seven students), asked him, "where's the rest of your team?" One of the boys quickly responded, "he's home sick."

Far more powerful were Bill's stories about what it was like to be a Jew in Atlanta in the late 1950s and early 1960s. To hear him describe the first time he and Paula went to see a movie after moving to Atlanta from the New York area, only to confront a sign proclaiming "Black Balcony", made a huge impact on those in attendance. As he explained, "there were also separate water fountains for blacks and whites, which confused us terribly, because we assumed that it was the same water we were all drinking."

Paula, who has over the years worked extensively on Holocaust related issues and who served as a chaperone for the Atlanta delegation to the March of the Living, was equally impactful in her presentation. It was particularly striking to hear her reaction to that morning's prayer service, as she told the students, "I was moved to tears to hear your joyful and enthusiastic singing of Hallel to mark the occasion of Rosh Chodesh (the first day of the new month)."

At the conclusion of Shabbat, the students took part in a Carlebach-style havdalah and then enjoyed grilled hamburgers and hot dogs as they sat around a roaring campfire. Sparks and songs filled the air, and it was clear to all there that the Shabbaton had been a big success.

Special kudos are due to the Student Council members who planned and organized the Shabbaton: Yondi Kadosh and Michael Lor, Co-Presidents; Avi Ginsburg, Vice-President; Alexa Ratner, Treasurer; and Yifat Kadosh, Secretary. Special thanks, too, are due the school's Student Council advisors, Mrs. Amanda Bunder and Rabbi Reuven Travis.

Raising the bar in Judaic Studies

Since its inception in 1971, Yeshiva Atlanta has prided itself on providing its students with a high quality education in both secular and Judaic studies. This is consistent with the school's standing as a Modern Orthodox institution and reflects the paradigm articulated by Rabbi Joseph Soloveitchik z"l regarding the importance of a synthesis between Torah scholarship and secular scholarship, as well as positive involvement with the broader community.

This approach, commonly referred as Torah Umadda, was perhaps best summarized by Rabbi Norman Lamm, past president of Yeshiva University in New York, when he wrote: "Torah, faith, religious learning on one side and Madda, science, worldly knowledge on the other, together offer us a more over-arching and truer vision than either one set alone. Each set gives one view of the Creator as well as of His creation, and the other a different perspective that may not agree at all with the first . . . Each alone is true, but only partially true; both together present the possibility of a larger truth."



Yeshiva Atlanta's commitment to the Torah portion of this equation was again underscored by the caliber of new Judaic teachers it added this year to its faculty. Together with the school's veteran faculty members Ariella Allen, Assistant Principal of Judaic Studies, and Rabbi Daniel Estreicher, they have infused a new energy and even greater passion for Judaic studies in their students.

Leading the charge is Rabbi Asher Yablok, the school's new Dean of Judaic Studies. He comes to Atlanta from St. Louis, Missouri, where he was a Judaic Studies instructor and program director at Block Yeshiva High School. Rabbi Yablok earned his undergraduate degree in Judaic Studies and an MA in Jewish Education from Yeshiva University. He has rabbinic ordination from both RIETS (YU) and from Rav Zalman Nechemia Goldberg. Rabbi Yablok has a special interest in problem based learning (PBL) and has taught exciting courses in Jewish Medical Ethics and Contemporary Halachic problems as initial steps in incorporating this method into the Judaic Studies curriculum.

Joining Rabbi Yablok is Rabbi Eric Levy, who comes to Atlanta from New York, where he was the Jewish Studies Principal of North Shore Hebrew Academy High School. Rabbi Levy earned his undergraduate degree in Computer Science from Touro College and an MA in Biblical Studies from Yeshiva University. He has rabbinic ordination from both Rabbi Ephraim Greenblatt and Rav Zalman Nechemia Goldberg. He spent four years at Yeshivat Har Etzion (Gush) and served in the Israeli Army Tank Corps. Rabbi Levy's online classes can be heard at OU Torah (<http://www.ouradio.org/nach>), Torah in Motion, and at his own website: <http://www.ericlevy.com/>.



Raising the bar in Judaic Studies

Continued from previous page

In adding to its faculty, Yeshiva Atlanta understood that the local “talent” available to it was equally impressive, and thus the school reached out to Rabbi Reuven Travis, who has worked both as a teacher and an administrator in various Atlanta day schools. Rabbi Travis, who is teaching honors American and Jewish History as well as Chumash, earned his BA from Dartmouth College, where he graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a double major in French Literature and Political Science. While at Dartmouth, he played for the school’s varsity football team and spent his junior year studying at La Sorbonne. He holds a Masters of Teaching from Mercer University and has a T-5 teaching certification in Secondary Education. He also earned a Masters of Judaic Studies from Spertus College. He received his Rabbinic Ordination in 2006 from Rabbi Michael J. Broyde, Dean of the Atlanta Torah MiTzion Kollel, after spending four years studying with Rabbi Broyde and the members of the Kollel.

Lisa Belinky is another long-time fixture in Atlanta’s day school community who has joined the Yeshiva Atlanta faculty. Lisa will serve as Strategic Learning Judaic Studies Specialist. Lisa received her undergraduate degree from the University of Georgia in Child Psychology/Education and her Master’s Degree in Judaic Studies from the Siegal

College in Cleveland, Ohio. She taught in the public school system in Georgia for two years, and then enjoyed a 23-year tenure at the Greenfield Hebrew Academy. In her last ten years at GHA, she taught Judaic Studies in the M’silot program for students who learn differently.

These recent hires come on the heels of the important additions to the school’s Judaics faculty made last year, including Rabbi Moshe Rose, who joined the Judaic faculty of Yeshiva Atlanta at the beginning of the 2010/2011 school year. Originally hailing from Toronto, Rabbi Rose spent the previous 4 years in Savannah with a one year hiatus to teach at Akiva Academy in Calgary. While in Savannah some of his duties through the Kollel included being the Youth Director, the NCSY Chapter Director, Community School Teacher and a Judaic studies teacher at a local military academy. He studied social work in Canada and education in Israel, graduating from Ner L’Elef Center for Jewish Leadership and Community Outreach, Yeshiva Ohr Avraham and The Torah Educator’s Institute, with his American Bachelors of Education equivalent acquired through the University at Albany. He is currently completing a Masters level degree in Special Education.

And it is hard to underestimate the positive impact Liat Kadosh has had on the school’s Hebrew language program, which by definition, is a primary building block of its Judaic studies. Liat was named last year as the school’s Hebrew Language Department Chair, and she is responsible for designing and implementing a new Hebrew language curriculum for the school. Liat is also a member of the SAT’s Hebrew Language Committee, and she is working diligently to prepare Yeshiva Atlanta students to take the Hebrew subject SAT and perform on a high academic level in Hebrew. Liat holds an MA in Jewish Education from Siegal College in Cleveland, Ohio, as well as a BA from Bar-Ilan University Israel, where she earned a diploma in Educational Leadership. In addition to her teaching and administrative responsibilities at Yeshiva Atlanta, Liat serves as a consultant for Hebrew at the Center in Boston, which was established in 2007 with the goal of revolutionizing the effectiveness of teaching and learning Hebrew in all educational settings.



Yeshiva Atlanta Math Head a Busy Man

Al Wolmer is a busy man. In addition to his duties as Head of the Math Department at Yeshiva Atlanta High School, he has been presenting papers on SMART Board usage at various conferences around the state and around the country, training various schools in the effective use of the SMART Board, and has now had an article published in the Journal of Math Education at Teachers College (Columbia University), "Integrating External Software into SMART Board™ Calculus Lessons". How did this all happen?

Al is a civil engineer by education, with a Bachelor's degree from Cooper Union and a Master's degree from Columbia University. He spent over thirty years in industry, during the last ten of which he also taught math at night at Dekalb College (now Georgia Perimeter College). Al has been teaching at YA since January 2002, immediately after his retirement from industry, and has been the Head of the Math Department for seven years.



Four years ago, Al convinced YA to install a SMART Board in his classroom. He had been using technology in his classroom to the extent he could, but saw this as an opportunity to step his lessons up to a new, more effective level. Since that time, Al has developed tremendous expertise in the use of and design of lessons for the SMART Board. So much so that he has achieved the certification of SMART Exemplary Educator and SMART Certified Trainer. Al has presented at numerous regional and national conferences, including the recent Georgia Educational Technology Conference, as well as the annual meetings of the Georgia Council of Teachers of Mathematics, the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, and the Georgia Perimeter College Math Conference. At those conferences, Al has presented on topics ranging from the tactical ("Effective Calculus Lesson Design for the SMART Board") to the strategic ("Successful Implementation Strategies for SMART Boards"). Coming up next are the GPC Math Conference in February 2012, and the Teacher2Teacher Conference in Bow Island, Canada in March.

Al has spread the knowledge to other teachers as well, training the math and science faculty at the Gwinnett School for Math, Science, and Technology in Lawrenceville, and the RASG Hebrew Academy in Miami Beach. Naturally, Al has also trained our faculty and continues to be a resource for us, helping new teachers come up to speed as YA has installed a number of SMART Boards since that first one. He does this while teaching his math courses, which range from Algebra 1 through AP Calculus AB, as well as electives such as SAT Math Prep, Discrete Math, and Personal Finance.

Regarding Personal Finance, Al uses a curriculum based in part on material provided by WISE (Working In Support of Education), a New York group which advocates for financial literacy education in schools. Through Al's (and of course, his students') efforts, Al has been designated a WISE Gold Star Teacher for two years and Yeshiva is now a WISE Blue Star School. These designations result from a high level of students achieving the status of Certified Financial Literacy on a standardized test administered by WISE.

Finally, Al is also an AP Calculus Reader for The College Board. That means every June Al goes to Kansas City where he and 850 of his closest friends read and score the free response portion of the AP Calculus exams. Believe it or not, Al thinks this is great fun and views it as an opportunity not only to develop and maintain professional relationships with other teachers, but to enhance his teaching skills.

We're proud to have Al on the faculty at YA, and he exemplifies the commitment to teaching excellence and continuous improvement we look for in our teachers.



כדורסל Basketball Update

As our basketball teams enter the home stretch, the **Lady Lions** have really stepped it up big time on the defensive end of the floor.

This year, through the excellent coaching of Shundii Clay, their defensive prowess has given the team many more opportunities to score points off the fast break. The team is being led by freshman sensation Mia Azani, who is leading the team in scoring thus far this year. Mia's inside presence is complemented by the outside scoring of Alexa Ratner, (who had seven consecutive 3 pointers against A.I.S.) and Becca Sirota who runs the show with dazzling ball handling. This year's Lady Lions team has great chemistry, and a better understanding of how to focus on what they do well. If you watch the girls practice, you will see that they are determined to be

successful in the Miami Tournament early next month. Much credit goes to the coach, as well as team captains, Sarah Pepper, Alexa Ratner, and Becca Sirota, for keeping this group of young players motivated throughout the season. We look forward to seeing how they fare against other Jewish teams in Miami. I think they will be ready for a banner tournament!



The **Boys' Team** also has a scoring leader who is an underclassman.

Myles Ratner has been a consistent 14 points per game scorer, while handing out almost 100 assists this year. Yondi Kadosh not only secures the boards, but averages 10 ppg. for the Lions. Although our team has been missing two of our starters for most of the season, we are still holding our own with a 7-9 record. Losing this past weekend to arch rival



Galloway at the buzzer reinforces the confidence we have, as a team going forward, now that Ethan Solomon, and Ben Brasch are back and healthy for the stretch run. Since Coach Marcellino has instituted a man to man defense after the first 4th game of the year, our team points against has come down from 61 to 51 points. At that level we know every night we will be competitive. Other players having a really good year are Josh Weissmann who is averaging 7 ppg. and Avi Goodfriend, who averages 7 rebounds per game. The Lions are ready to finish the season, and head to N.Y. for the Sarachek Tournament in a positive way. We hope you all come out to support us when you have time!

GO LIONS!

Come show your support for the team at these upcoming games!

Saturday January 21 at 7:30 versus AIS, senior night for girls

Saturday January 28 at 7:30 versus Landmark and Ben Franklin, senior night for boys

Saturday February 4 at 8:00 home versus NCCS



Arlene Freedberg (1996) sends her "Shalom from Jerusalem!" After making Aliyah in July 2010, she is enjoying life in Jerusalem. She works for Routes Travel (www.routestravel.com),

where she plans vacations from beginning to end, for families and groups coming to Israel from North America. If you're coming to Israel and need help with planning your trip, contact her. Her Hebrew is improving and she loves the challenge of trying to understand Israelis - who are usually giving you unsolicited life advice or inviting you over for tea all at the same time. She loves having visitors, and would love to hear from you (helloarlene@gmail.com) if you're coming to town.

MAZAL TOV TO

Esther Allouch (2004) Fischweischer and Avremy Fischweicher on the birth of twin boys in Atlanta

Rabbi Mordechai (1998) & Leah Pollock on the birth of a daughter

Michelle & Shimshon Kaplan on the birth of a daughter. The couple resides in Cleveland, Ohio

Rabbi Yoel ('92) and Chavie Spotts on the birth of a son

Ed and Anita (former long-time employee of YA) Nemeth on becoming great-grandparents to a grandson in Israel and to Uncle Yoni Gorlin ('07)

Ben ('01) and Nechama Lefkove on the birth of a daughter in Augusta, GA

!בירג דסן

Condolences to

Mitchell Esral ('75) on the loss of his dear wife, Naomi, and to parents Abe(founder) and Faye (former long-time employee) Esral, who have been supporters and involved in YA from the start

Want to stay connected?

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Or follow us on Twitter

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IMA MIA!

— A CHAGIGA PRODUCTION —

A mother.
A daughter.
Two possible directions.
A journey of faith
You'll never forget!

Join us for a family style dinner
and enjoy our original production
inspired by the musical "Mamma Mia"

Sunday, March 4th, 2012
Monday, March 5th, 2012
Doors Open at 6:30
Show Begins at 7:15

To purchase tickets, or inquire about
sponsorship opportunities, please contact -
Girls' Committee: chagiga2012@gmail.com
Alexa Ratner: 404-783-2596
Yeshiva Atlanta Front Office: 770-451-5299

Tickets

Advance purchase: Girls: (under 18) \$12 Women: \$15
At the door: Girls: \$15 Women: \$18

Sponsorship

Coach: (includes 1 ticket) \$36-54
Frequent Flier: (includes 1 ticket and priority seating) \$55-105
Business Class: (includes 2 tickets and priority seating) \$108-180
Medallion Member: (includes 3 tickets and priority seating) \$185-240
Platinum Member: (includes 4 tickets and priority seating) \$245+

