



Shalhevet

Erev Shabbat Parshat Balak

Friday July 15, 2005

8 Ta'amuz 5765

Special 'Harry Potter' Issue

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What's New in Camp?

1-2-3-4 we want Color War! This past week at camp gave no need for such cheering and Ilanot, Alufim/fot as Machzor Aleph all participated in one day color wars with their respective divisions.


The first group to engage in the battle of the colors were the **Ilanot** whose team names were based on the theme of *Tza"hal*. The winning team was the *na"chal*, green team. *Yasher koach* to all the campers and staff who participated.

The **Alufim/fot** were treated to a fabulous video presentation via which **Color War** began. The video discussed *Tza"hal* and the traits necessary to successfully defend our country, *Eretz Yisrael*. The bridge to Color War included clips demonstrating those traits which corresponded to the team names. According to Emily Hirsch of bunk G-19, "It was an action packed day, so much to do - bakeoff, sports, skit, *d'var torah*, marathon around the lake, and the apache relay, among others." Ronit Pelcovitz (G-19) felt that, "It was nice that we were the ones running things as Alufot - we had a great day!" The winning team is unimportant it seems, as none of the campers mentioned it. They were too busy talking about the great time they all had!

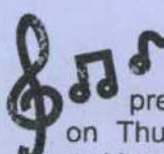
Let's not forget about **Machzor Aleph Color War** which took place this past Tuesday. MACW as its called, is coordinated by Machon with Machoniks acting as Generals for the Machzor Aleph campers. The teams of *malchut* and *kehuna* were explained and detailed in the many projects that were worked on by the campers throughout the day, including a cheer, boys' dance, shield and song. Although the *malchut* team was victorious, the kids all had a great day. Just ask Lani

 Prus of G-9 who said, "My favorite part of the day was the water races." According to Penina Warburg (G-9), "Neucomb was fun and we won too!" The girls in G-8 had a lot to say too. "I like playing dodgeball because green won all the games" (Jordana Appel) and "I like singing - it was a lot of fun" (Tamar Kransler).

This year's **mishlach** has organized *Tza"hal Night* for various divisions in camp. Run by Yonatan Roumani and other members of the mishlach, the campers are shown two short videos

about *tza"hal* that include music clips and pictures of various army units. After the videos, the campers are divided into groups and given a unit - *Golani*, *Tzanchanim* and *Na"chal*. They participate in basic training on the girls' field which includes an obstacle course and other training activities. Then, the campers are assigned a mission which may be to rescue or capture someone, for example. According to some Younger Ilanot Boys who chose to remain anonymous, "We did some army training and went on a mission. It was fun, even though we had to run a million laps." The Older Ilanot Girls also learned a lot and had a great time. "It was really fun - we weren't allowed to laugh, but we did and had to do sit-ups," reported Atara  Stai-man of G-16. Ayelet Schabes felt that it "gave us a better feel about team work and what the consequences are if you don't have it." Don't worry, if you haven't yet had an opportunity to participate with your division, all divisions are scheduled and will participate before the summer is over.

The **Machon-BBYO** program began on Wednesday with a trip by our machoniks to the B'nai Brith Youth Organization Camp. The program included discussion groups with Machoniks, BMP/MMP members, BBYO campers and members of the Morasha and BBYO educational staffs. Together the groups discussed some social, personal and theological issues. It was an excellent demonstration of mutual respect and Jewish *achduth*. Overall, the program was a success and we are looking forward to hosting our friends at BBYO for a *Me-lava Malka* this coming *Motzai Shabbos*.

 As the Shalhevet goes to press, the boys and girls campuses are fervently preparing for **Shiriah** which will take place on Thursday, July 14. Stay tuned till next week's edition for the winners and a full report about one of the highlights of the summer.

We eagerly wait the arrival of family and friends this coming Sunday on Visiting Day. Other coming attractions include a camp-wide Carnival and the Machzor Aleph play, *Beauty and the Beast*.

What's New In the Real World?

Less than two hours before the scheduled takeoff

of space shuttle Discovery, NASA flight controllers scrubbed the launch because of equipment malfunction. The cancellation frustrated NASA and raised questions about the agency's efforts to upgrade the shuttle's performance and safety features in the 2 1/2 years since the Columbia tragedy.



Apple Computer's profit more than quadrupled during the past 3 months due to a rise in shipments of the iPod portable music device. Shipments of the iPod surged to 6.2 million units in the third quarter, from 5.3 million the previous three months.

A drug store accidentally sold a copy of the latest Harry Potter book on Wednesday to a woman who was shopping with her nine year old son. It was believed to be the only copy sold by this store and the woman agreed to return it until the official release. Fourteen books were accidentally sold at a grocery store in Canada, but a judge ordered the customers not to talk about the book, copy it, sell it or even read it before its official release, scheduled for 12:01 AM on Saturday, July 16.

What's New in Israel?

In a move that seems to signal the beginning of the end of Israel's 38 year presence of the Gaza Strip, Prime Minister Ariel Sharon ordered Gush Katif and the entire Gaza Strip closed indefinitely to Israeli non-residents on Wednesday morning. The closure order effectively launched the Disengagement Plan, which is to have Israel evacuate 25 settlements and permanently cede territory it conquered during the 1967 Six Day War. The closure comes nearly a month earlier than anticipated and may have been caused by fears that protestors and demonstrators would flood the area during a 30,000 person march on Gush Katif scheduled for Monday.



The largest number of North American new immigrants ever to arrive in a single day landed at Ben-Gurion Airport on Wednesday morning. Approximately 500 Jews from the United States and Canada emerged from two chartered El Al airplanes. This was by far the largest group organized by Nefesh B'Nefesh, an organization that helps facili-

tate North American *aliyah*. Although the Prime Minister and many other politicians were in attendance, the welcome ceremony lacked any political mention, especially that of the disengagement plan.

What's New in Sports?

After losing an entire season to a lockout, NHL players and owners ended an all-night bargaining session on Wednesday by reaching a tentative deal that is expected to include a salary cap. This virtually ensures that hockey will return this fall, although the six year agreement still needs to be ratified by both sides.

Tuesday night marked the American League's eighth consecutive win in Major League Baseball's All Star Game. Miguel Tejada, of the Baltimore Orioles was the game's MVP.

At the midpoint of the season, the Yankees sit at a 46-40 record, 2 1/2 games behind the Red Sox who lead the American League East. The White Sox lead the AL Central and the Angels top the AL West. The Mets find themselves with a .500 record in last place in the National League East. The Cardinals are ahead by 11 1/2 games in the NL Central and the Padres have a comfortable 5 1/2 game lead in the NL West.

Weather Update

(as of Wednesday evening, July 13)

- | | |
|----------|---|
| Shabbos: | Intervals of clouds and sunshine, thunderstorm possible, high of 80° |
| Sunday: | Variable clouds, humid, chance of afternoon thunderstorm, high of 84° |
| Monday: | Warm and humid, high of 87° |

Parsha Pointers

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Candle Lighting: 8:16 PM
Motzai Shabbos: 9:24 PM
Sof Z'man K'riat Shema: 9:24 AM (Gr"a)
Sof Z'man Tefilah: 10:38 AM (Gr"a)

BY RABBI JEREMY SPIERER

"What is the difference between the students of Avraham Avinu and Bil'am haRasha?" This question of the *mishna* in *Pirkei Avot* (5:22) begs a different question. Why would one think to compare Avraham with Bil'am altogether?

Interestingly the Torah links these two figures with an almost identical phrase, "*Vayachavosh eit chamoro/atono.*" Both Avraham and Bil'am saddled their own donkeys on their way to perform a mission. Rashi (*Bamidbar*, 22:21) cites the *Midrash* that explains that Avraham and Bil'am both set out enthusiastically to perform their missions. Avraham's mission, though, to sacrifice Yitzchak to God, stemmed from his love for Hashem; Bil'am's mission to curse *B'nei Yisrael* stemmed from his hatred of the Jewish people.

The Torah uses the same phrase to highlight both the similarities and differences between Avraham and Bil'am. Both were prophets of Hashem. Both achieved renown in their communities. Both possessed passion toward their missions. At first glance the Torah provides even an identical physical picture: two men riding on their donkeys. Still, Avraham and Bil'am's missions, and their ultimate fates, could not be more different. Avraham became the eternal Avraham Avinu and Av Hamon Goyim, while Bil'am became Bil'am haRasha. As the *mishna* in *Pirkei Avot* concludes, the followers of Avraham merit success in this world and inherit a place in the World to Come, while Bil'am's followers inherit *gehinom*.

The Torah teaches a valuable lesson. Many people possess similar abilities, but what distinguishes people is how they use their abilities. (*Lehavdil*, on the eve of a release of a new Harry Potter book, I take the liberty of quoting Dumbledore at the end

of the second Harry Potter when he tells Harry that it is our choices that define us far more than our abilities.)

I believe this lesson rings true in camp on many levels. Campers can use the summer as a time to stretch their abilities in all areas – learning, sports, crafts, and most important, in learning to interact with others and form relationships. The most successful staff will probably be the ones who throw themselves into their jobs and develop and stretch their skills. By using similar words to describe Avraham and Bil'am, the Torah teaches us that Hashem has given us the power to determine the course of our lives.

Are You Up for Some Riddles? Try to Guess Who or What We Are.

The following riddles were written by the Older Shilli Girls during *shiurim* based on *Perek Aleph* in *Sefer M'lachim*.

1. I'm the place that Shlomo went to quickly
be made king
To stop Adoniah from doing a very mean thing
Haviva and Julie
2. Adoniah wanted to take my place
Because he had a pretty face.
I rode on Dovid's *preida*
My mother is Batsheva
Rachel and Amy
3. This is what was served at Adoniah's dinner
And when you eat it, you won't get thinner
Eliana and Elizabeth
4. He was jealous of his brother,
He wasn't king, but someone other.
Raquel and Sara

Answers on page 7

Theme Thoughts

Monday's Alufim One Day Color War focused on different character traits, *simcha*, *ahava*, *anavah*, and *chessed* (happiness, love, humility and kindness). Each team had a Jewish historical figure who personified its theme, as well as a Sesame Street character. A new addition to this year's Color War was giving each team a personality in Camp Morasha who personifies the team trait. The Alufim are learning about what it takes to create the Morasha COMMUNITY!

This *d'var Torah* was given over the course of Color War by **YONI HERSKOVITZ**, Lieutenant General of team *chessed* — Cookie Monster.

The *gemara* in *Succah*, 49: brings down an interesting topic about this year's Alufim blue team's theme, *chessed*. The *gemara* states that acts of kindness, *gemilut chasadim* are greater than acts of *tzedakah*, charity. Why, you may ask. The answers are simple.

Firstly, acts of kindness pertain to both the rich and the poor while the *mitzvah* of *tzedakah* only applies to the rich. Second of all, *gemilut chasadim* can be performed with one's body and money, however giving *tzedakah* can only be done with one's money.

It is therefore no wonder that Avraham Avinu was chosen as our team's icon. As most of us are probably familiar with, we find in *Parshat Vayeira* the famous incident of when the *malachim* visit Avraham on the third day following his *bris milah*. As Rashi points out, *Hashem* caused it to be extremely hot so that guests would not venture out, to minimize Avraham's vigor to bring in guests. However, Avraham's great

pain did not stop him from going out to do acts of kindness. As Avraham begged *Hashem* for guests, *Hashem* sent three angels dressed as travelers for Avraham to welcome in. Furthermore, Avraham was quick to take his finest meal, bread and butter and serve it to his guests. Like the *gemara* says, Avraham performed acts of kindness with his body and his money. Avraham's zealotness to do acts of kindness solidified his name in Jewish culture and Jewish history.

In *Parshat Lech Lecha* we find that *Hashem* promises Avraham that if he leaves his homeland, *Hashem* will make his people into a great nation. Just by looking in *Tanach* we can see how far *B'nei Yisrael* have really come. But what is it that drove *Hashem* to desire such a bargain with Avraham and to carry out this promise until today?

It is without a doubt our instinct to perform acts of kindness. Only when we give back to *Hashem's* world can *Hashem* give back to us. This leads up to this week's *parsha*, *Parshat Balak*. As Bil'am attempts to curse the Jews, he prophesies about the awesome power of our nation. He begins by saying, "One from Jacob shall rule and destroy the remnants of the city, the ships of the *Keini* will be destroyed, the Jews will attain the wealth of *Edom* and *Se'ir* and *Amaleik* will endure eternal destruction" (*perek* 24).

As we stand here today, separated into four different teams, we must remember to step back and examine the full picture. Although colors separate us today, our links to this great nation bring us even closer together.

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Answers on page 7

Harry Potter Mania Begins

Muggles worldwide are counting down to 12:01AM on July 16, when the wait for the new Harry Potter book will be over. Here at Camp Morasha, we will have to wait until *Motzai Shabbat* to get started in this 672 page phenomenon. 'Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince,' the sixth Potter novel, is already breaking records at bookstores and online book-sellers, proving the boy wizard has lost none of his selling power.

For all of you fans out there, here is some advanced information about what you can expect to find in the 6th book:

- We will learn a lot more about Voldemort.
- It will be an intense book, but with light-hearted moments.
- Harry will leave Privet Drive early again, for a "much pleasanter" reason than in book 5.
- The opening chapter of book 6 was originally planned for the early parts of book 1, perhaps we get a more in-depth story of what happened the night Harry's parents died.
- Neither Harry or Voldemort (including Tom Riddle) are the Half-Blood Prince
- There will be a new Minister of Magic, no more Mr. Fudge.
- We will find out what happened to Hagrid's half brother Grawp. He will be a bit more controllable in book 6.
- In books 6 and 7 we will find out exactly why JK killed off Sirius.
- Harry becomes even more powerful in book 6.
- We will find out what happened to Wormtail AKA Peter Pettigrew.
- More about the animosity between Snape and Sirius will be revealed in the last 2 books.
- We will find out what exactly Dudley saw when he looked at the dementors.
- The reason Voldemort and Harry both didn't die when Voldemort tried to kill Harry, will be revealed.
- We'll learn more about Harry's scar.
- More about Voldemort's birth will be revealed, thus helping us understand why he is so evil.
- Muggles begin to notice "more and more odd" occurrences in book 6, says JK Rowling.
- The wizarding world is *really* at war in the sixth book.

- Harry will tell his dearest friends about the prophecy after it sinks in to him.
- We will learn more about Harry's relatives, including his grandparents (though JK says they aren't really important to the story)
- It's very important in the plot that Harry has his mother's eyes, and that her wand was very good for charms.
- Harry's parents' profession will be a big part of the plot.
- Something HUGE will be revealed about Lily Potter.

(based on Mugglenet.com)

Harry Potter By the Numbers

6	Harry Potter books with the release of the "Half Blood Prince"
62	Languages that Potter books have been translated to
1 billion	Dollars that J.K. Rowling is estimated to be worth
270 million	Estimated copies of Harry Potter books in print
5 million	'Order of the Phoenix' copies sold in the first day of release in 2003
105,000	Dollars paid to Rowling for the first book
80 million	Copies of Potter books in print in the United States
3	Credits offered for Frostburg State's 'Science of Harry Potter' seminar in 2003
???	Number of books that will be delivered to the Camp Morasha office this weekend

To all those of you who will be getting books this Sunday, enjoy, and remember to share with your friends and counselors!

Roving Reporter

Question: Who is your favorite *Harry Potter* and why?

Alicia Chetrit (G-2) Hermione, because she's a girl and she's smart
 Nava Friedman (G-4) Hermione, because she makes cool potions
 Aviva Mael (G-4) Voldemort, because he's bad
 Leora Tuchman (G-4) Hermione, because she's cool
 Kevin Meiteles (B-3) Ron, because he's not so intelligent
 Rabbi Balsam (Ed Staff) Dumbeldore, because
 he's a true *anav*, (humble person), he has the greatest level of power, but exerts the least
 Sara Lamm Lratch (Girls' WF Staff) Hagrid, he reminds me of me, a big, friendly person
 Sandy Weiner (Ceramics) Hermione,
because she's a good female role model, she has intelligence and humor at the same time
 Moshe Winograd (Waiter) Harry, because he doesn't give up
 Yael Gilliat (G-16) Harry, because he's brave and does things out of the box
 Francie Grossman (Counselor, G-6)
 Ron, because he's cute and spacey, but he always comes through
 Rachel Klein (G-17) Hermione, because she's pretty
 Dahlia Honigsfeld (G-17) Harry, because he makes the books very entertaining
 David Baruch (B-13) Voldemort, because he's the bad guy
 Tili Zimmer (B-14) Harry Potter, because the book is called Harry Potter
 Avi Kantowitz, Daniel Manopla (B-14) Hagrid, because he's hairy
 Juliet Gerber (G-12) Ron, because he's scared of everything
 Bunk G-13 Hermione, because she puts up with Harry and Ron
 Sarit Klugerman (G-12)
The Weasley twins, because they make the books funny with their cool inventions
 Ben Pianko (B-9) Ron, because he's cool and nice
 Yale Herskowitz (B-9) Harry, because he has a cool lightening mark on his forehead
 Benjy Garber (B-11) I never read the books!
 Jeffrey Kessler (B-11) Fred and George, because they're funny
 Aaron Geffner (B-11) Hermione, because she's always in everyone else's way
 Rivky Guber (Division Head) Harry, because, other than the
fact that he has magical powers, he's a regular kid, he gets in trouble and he's not a genius
 Daphna Hollander (Machon Counselor) Hermione, because she knows everything
 Sam Klein (Machon Counselor) Dumbeldore, because he's wise and he's nice to Harry

Answers to Riddles from *Sefer M'lachim*
 (page 4)

1. Gichon
2. Shlomo
3. M'ree
4. Adoniah

BRAIN TEASERS

Congratulations to Avi Tsadok (Yachad), Josh Rosenwald (B-16) and Michael Stromer (B-6) who got 9 out of 10 answers correctly in last week's Shalhevet. Keep trying for a perfect score! Please come to see Chavie in the Main Office to claim your prize. Submit your answers with your name and bunk number in the Shalhevet box in the library. Those who answer all of the puzzles correctly will receive a prize. Good luck!!

1. Le
vel (Split Level)

8. LADY LADY LADY

2. THODEEPUGHT

9. NEAFRIENDED

3. C YOURSELF
YOURSELF
YOURSELF
YOURSELF

10. 235SAFETY658

4. 

11. REST
YOUR

5. OVER OVER

6. M1Y L1I1F1E

7. WHAT
MUST

Last Week's Answers

2. A cut above the rest
3. The wrong end of the stick
4. Side show
5. Small talk
6. Get up and go
7. Crossbread
8. Unfinished Symphony
9. Third world
10. Robin Hood
11. Too little, too late