

SHALHET



July 14, 1995
16 Tammuz 5755
Shabbat Parshat Balak
Volume XX Issue 3

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

7/8- Jonathan Arbisfeld

7/9- Benjamin Vago, Yardana Kolb

7/10- Rebecca Eisenberg, Lara Ostreicher, David Blum,

Tzvi Jonas, Shari Sussman

7/11- Micheal Gibber

7/12- Benjamin Weiss, Daniel Gottesman, Yael Foreman

7/13- Rebecca Fenigstein, Shira Tuchman

7/14- Ari Kalton

Shira Shepherd



This week's Oneg
Shabbat will be
held at 10:15 P.M.
in the pargod.
Rabbi Raymond
Harari will be
speaking. We
hope to see you
there.

Thank you to
the Nitzi girls
for collating this
issue of
SHALHEVET.

Once again the staff of
SHALHEVET invites everyone
to participate in this newspaper.
If you would like to contribute
anything, please contact our
staff.

ABOUT ALUFOT
BY-ILANA AUSUBEL

Wow, it has been a great first week. The Alufim/Alufot got off to a great start. "I can't believe I am already in Alufot," says Michal Harari. Michal speaks for everyone. After waiting for so long, long summers, and long school years, we are finally in Alufim/Alufot. Part of the fun of being in Alufim/Alufot are the trips and the extra activities. The main trip that we are all looking forward to is Hershey Park. This is one of the big highlights of the summer that we all will remember. The extra activities we are looking forward to visiting are Block and the New Jersey "Y". We are looking forward to sing, dance and talk with the senior citizens in these camps.

Not only are we looking forward to the upcoming events, but we already had lots of fun with the past activities. On Saturday night we broke out one day color war. As tired as we were from going to sleep at 1:00 and waking up at 6:45, we played hard and had a great time. The white team came out as champions. Last Thursday night, we went to Funland. There was one ride that caught everyone's attention- the "go-carts". The food was also a hit. There was "real" pizza and ice cream. In all we had a great time.

We are looking forward to a great summer with many more fun activities.

Nitzanim Girls Overnight

by: Sara Rosengarten, Shari Gross and Tamar Liechtung

The Nitzis had an overnight that turned out differently than expected. When we got there we unpacked and ate:

1. chicken
2. corn
3. baked beans
4. hot dogs
5. hamburgers.

After, we played games like Red Rover and Steal the Bacon. We had a lot of fun. We found sticks for a fire and roasted marshmallows. All of a sudden the fire fell but everything was ok. We told stories and sang songs around the fire. All of a sudden it was lightning and thundering. Then it started to rain. The van picked us up and brought us back to our bunks.

We asked all the Nitzanim what their favorite night activities were and here are some of their answers:

by: Ora Hus, Tami Strauss and Jaclyn Adelsberg

1. Overnite- It was different. We had better food. Moshe and Ronen should be the cooks. We didn't have to sleep there.
2. See Run Build- It was fun, crazy and difficult.
3. Fireworks- They were colorful. They looked like they were going to hit us.
4. Scavenger Hunt- Nitzis' loved the competition.
5. Talent Show- It was fun and entertaining.

Parshat Balak



D'VAR TORAH BY :
EZRA SCHWARTZ-H.S. KOLLEL
COUNSELOR

D'var Torah By :
Doniel Kaminetsky-Yeshiva Kollel

PARSHAT BALAK CONCLUDES WITH ZIMRI, THE NASI OF SHIMON, ENGAGING IN AN ACT WHICH NOT ONLY CHALLENGED MOSHE'S PERSONAL HONOR, BUT ALL OF THE JEWISH IDEALS AS WELL. WE ARE TOLD OF THE VARIOUS REACTIONS TO THIS HEINOUS ACT. WHILE PINCHAS RISES WITH ANGER AND PROCEEDS TO SPEAR AND KILL BOTH ZIMRI AND KAZBI, THE OTHER JEWS REVERT TO STAND AND CRY BY THE DOOR OF THE MISHKAN.

A CURSORY READING OF THE TEXT REVEALS THAT PINCHAS WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO SUCCESSFULLY HANDLED THE SITUATION. IT SEEMS THAT THE OTHER JEWS WERE PARALYZED INTO INACTION, CHOOSING TEARS OVER SPEARS. CHAZAL, HOWEVER, COMMENT THAT THERE WAS FAR MORE THAN PARALYSIS INCLUDED IN THE JEWS' TEARS. THE TALMUD IN SANHEDRIN 82A RELATES HOW THE JEWS WERE CRYING BECAUSE MOSHE FORGOT A HALACHA. OTHER COMMENTARIES UNDERSTOOD THIS CRYING AS A FORM OF TEFILLA OR RECITING KRIAT SHMA (SEE TARGUM YONATAN OR IBN EZRA). WE MUST ASK OURSELVES WHY THE JEWS REACTED IN THIS PECULIAR FASHION. WHY WOULD THEY SUBSTITUTE TEARS FOR FORGOTTEN TORAH AND PRAYERS FOR MILITANCE AND ACTIVISM?

THE TRUE ACTIVIST, THE PINCHAS, WHO CAN TAKE HOLD OF A TENSE AND DIFFICULT SITUATION TO BRING IT TO A SUCCESSFUL END IS VERY RARE. FOR MOST PEOPLE HANDLING A DIFFICULT SITUATION MEANS NOT BEING DRAWN IN, THUS, IN AN EFFORT TO PROTECT THEMSELVES, THE JEWS TURNED INWARDS AND REAFFIRMED THEIR COMMITMENT TO HASHEM. THEY ALSO SOUGHT THE POSSIBLE CAUSES OF THEIR PREDICAMENT AND EVENTUALLY ATTRIBUTED IT TO MOSHE'S FORGETTING OF A HALACHA, A PART OF THE TORAH WHICH IS THE VERY LIFE OF THE JEW.

WE ALSO OFTEN ENCOUNTER DIFFICULT SITUATIONS IN OUR OWN LIFE, SITUATIONS WHICH CHALLENGE THE VERY IDEALS WE BELIEVE IN. VERY FEW OF US POSSESS THE QUALITIES OF PINCHAS. WE ARE INCAPABLE OF ACTING DECISIVELY AND HANDLING THESE DIFFICULT SITUATIONS. THUS, IT WOULD SEEM LOGICAL THAT WE CONFRONT CHALLENGES WITH INTROSPECTION AND REAFFIRMATION OF FAITH THAT THE JEWS DISPLAYED.

The third to last possuk in the torah reads "V'Lo Kam Navi Od B'Yisroel K'Moshe" There never arose again a navi in Bnei Yisroel like Moshe. On this possuk the Sifri comments that amongst the goyim there did arise a navi like Moshe Bilaam. This idea is a difficult one to grasp. How can Sifri equate Moshe with Bilaam? Moshe was one of the greatest men who ever lived and Bilaam was one of the biggest Rishaa'im. What is the meaning of this statement? The answer to this question can be obtained when analyzing a Gemara Baba Basra Daf 14. The Gemara teaches that Moshe wrote Sifro his sefer referring to the 5 books of the Torah, Parshas Bilaam and Parshas Iyov. The obvious question is why does the Gemara need to say that Moshe wrote Parshas Bilaam? Isn't that included in the Gemara's first statement that Moshe wrote the whole Torah? Explaining Rav Shach, Shlita, in the name of the Maharal M' Diskin that one might have made the mistake of assuming that Moshe wrote Parshas Bilaam. The reason for this worry, as the Maharal M'Diskin explained is that Moshe and Bilaam were unlike any other navi. When all other navim received nevuah the nevuah was not clear. The navi had to filter the nevuah through his neshama and interpret it to discover what it meant. However Moshe received a unique type of Nevua אספקלריא מאירה. Moreover Moshe received all the navuos in the torah that any biblical figure received, each time with אספקלריא מאירה. Because he received all the Navuous so clearly, he was the one to record them. However, Bilaam also received this unique Navuah. Since Hashem knew that Bilaam was so evil and therefore if Bilaam would receive the normal unclear navuah that Bilaam would naturally interpret it for the bad, Hashem gave Bilaam the navuah באספקלריא מאירה. Therefore, Bilaam ended up blessing Bnei Yisroel instead of cursing them. Says the Maharil M'Diskin, this idea is why the Gemara had to specify that Moshe wrote Parshas Bilaam. Otherwise one might think Bilaam wrote it because Bilaam got clear navuah. This idea also explains the aforementioned Sifri. Moshe and Bilaam were alike in that they both received אספקלריא מאירה. However they certainly were not on the same spiritual level.

The Lion King

On Wednesday and Thursday July 12-13, the Shtilim boys and girls presented The Lion King. A wonderful performance! The scenery, dancing, singing and particularly the costumes were unbelievable!! The actors were talented young adults who definitely gave it their all. A grand evening was had by all!! The Lion King was a great success!!

**THE FAST OF
SHIVA ASAR
B' TAMMUZ
WILL TAKE
PLACE SUNDAY
JULY 16. FAST
BEGINS 3:28A.M.
FAST ENDS
8:04P.M. HAVE
AN EASY AND
MEANINGFUL
FAST!!**

**ATTENTION
COUNSELORS,
MACHON,
SR.STAFF,
KOLLEL, CAMP
AMERICA
BLOOD DRIVE
FRIDAY, JULY 21
9A.M.-3P.M.
AT THE
MERCAZIA
MUST BE 17 OR
OLDER**