

The Lander Chronicle

Lander College For Men

Volume IV, Issue II
March 2004

A Chronicle of The Lander Chronicle: We've Come a Long Way!

I have been with *The Lander College for Men* since its inception four years ago. To say that there has been much change in this short period would be a vast understatement. Our voyage has been invigorating - and remarkable. A not-so-small part of this voyage is the story of *The Lander Chronicle*, a noteworthy chronicle indeed.

In a sense, our institution was created ex-nihilo, yesh me-ayin, something out of nothing. LCM is the extension of an idea, one, which, by now, is quite familiar to us - Torah and the Academy under one roof. Still, mi-b'reishis, much needed to be filled in, in order to make our institution complete. In short, I felt, in our "early days," that we needed, inter-alia, a student-run newsletter, a medium by which we could communicate to the outside world, a means to convey our personality, a channel for us to showcase the good things that we do and our hopes and aspirations for a bright - and better - future.

I did not know what the paper should look like, who would write the articles, how we would get it printed, and on and on. I spoke to my Macroeconomics students to elicit a response - and got lucky! A bright young student, majoring in Computer Science, named Ilya Epshteyn, offered to work with me on the project. Ilya suggested that we could create a layout using Microsoft Publisher and it is he who, to this very day, is largely responsible for the "look" of the Chronicle. Good job! We were able to get a few articles and we were off!!

Since those days, there have been other stalwarts, whose imprints can be seen in the face of our newsletter. Mike Fried worked doggedly to solicit quality, student submissions. Yosef Lehrman labored over getting the newsletter to ap-

pear attractive and created a website - his crowning achievement - for all to see, in which one may read present - and past - Chronicle issues. (Check it out: <http://www.landercollege.net>) We are all grateful to you , Yosef! Finally, Moshe Ornstein, the current - and ongoing - student editor, has assiduously managed the paper for the last two years, concerning himself not only with the present issue, but also with the strategic direction of the newsletter. Under his aegis, the newsletter has grown in size, its format and appearance have been improved, and the quality of its contents, indeed its very integrity, has been advanced. His successor, Dan Nottes, has already prepared to pick up the reins and has been critical in garnering copies for the present edition.

And... I am especially proud of the current edition. Our readers will note intelligent and timely essays contributed by our superior student body. Ari Lasker discusses the arcane world of *Mergers and Acquisitions* in readable and interesting language; indeed, some of our students aspire to careers in Investment Banking. Martin Leybovitch writes about our Biology honors society; Yosef Lehrman instructs us regarding personal computer protection (I'm going to use this one!); Ezzie Goldish opines on the political scene; Moshe Ornstein discusses the impact of the national issue of grade inflation on our own campus; and there's more from Daniel Glanz, Daniel Gross, Aryeh Love, David Taub, and our distinguished faculty and Mashgiach.

As for me, for once, all I had to do was write an article in which I could say how very proud I am of our students. Alu v'hatzlihu!

Dr. Kenneth S. Bigel,
Chair, Business Department



The first edition of *The Lander Chronicle*

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The opinions expressed herein are those of the writers and not necessarily those of *The Lander College for Men*.

Message From The Dean

Last year, two young men – doctoral students at Harvard and MIT -- published a pamphlet entitled “Orthodox Assimilation on University Campuses.” Their overall thesis was that “... a significant number of our children are entering secular colleges and universities and, despite having received the best our day-school system has to offer, despite having had Orthodox values emphasized in their homes, and even despite a year or two of intense Torah study in Israel, [they] no longer consider themselves Orthodox Jews by the time they graduate.”

Their report was widely discussed in the Jewish media, vilified by those who regarded it as reactionary, and praised by those who shared the deep distress of its authors. Those of us reading it here at the Lander College for Men would surely understand the enormous value of attending an institution of higher education such as ours, in which we seek to carry forward as much as possible of the *ruach*, intensive learning and aspirations of yeshivos in Israel, while providing a first-class college education.

Nevertheless, it is fair to ask why “a year or two of intense Torah study in Israel” is *not* sufficient to protect some of our best and brightest from the religious difficulties of university study. This is hardly an idle question, for the answer bears not only on the future of those who do choose to attend secular universities for their undergraduate education, but on the future of our own students as well. For many of you will eventually leave the walls of the Lander College for Men and its beis medrash to attend graduate or professional school at exactly such institutions. What will assure your loyalty to the ideals cultivated here when you encounter the extraordinary pressures of life in a secular university?

Part of the answer to this last question, of course, is that you will be the beneficiaries of two or three more years of learning, of the *ruach* of our institution, of the wonderful *roshei yeshiva* with whom we hope you will have formed lasting relationships. The importance of this cannot be overstated. In addition, you will be older, and therefore more mature and settled than you or your friends were at age eighteen or nineteen. Nevertheless, there are no guarantees. What can you do to prepare yourselves for that experience, and what can be done to better prepare those young men and women who have not had the good fortune of attending an institution such as ours before embarking upon their university studies?

There is no single response to this challenge, but many, in the aggregate far more effective than just one. Perhaps in future issues I'll broaden the analysis, but for now I'd like to focus on just one point.

Over forty years ago, Rav Soloveitchik z"tl wrote a response to

criticism of an interview that he had given in the Israeli newspaper *Yediot Aharonot*. In that response, re-published as *Al Ahavat Ha-Torah U-Geulat Nefesh Ha-Dor* (in *Be-Sod Ha-Yachid Ve-Ha-Yachad*, Jerusalem, 1976) Rav Soloveitchik reflects about the educational problems confronting Orthodoxy in America. He writes (translation mine) that “we have succeeded in raising children who are not only fearers of God and observers of *mitzvot* but also *b'nei Torah* who lie in the depths of halakha, who have a grasp of a difficult *sugya*, who enjoy the reasoning of the *Ketzot Ha-Choshen* or *Chidushei Rabbenu Chaim Ha-Levi*.” (p. 407).

While thus extolling the achievements of the yeshiva students of his era, he is critical of them as well. In particular, he notes that “to the intensely religious young the Torah is revealed in the form of *lomdishe* thought, with intellectual apprehension and cold logic.

However, they have not achieved its revelation as a felt, living experience, which storms the heart, and calms it.” (p. 407-408)

Rav Soloveitchik stresses again and again the importance of *feeling* God alive in our lives, in our *tefillot* and our Torah study. He argues that the Orthodox of his era, even some of its learned members, suffered from a kind of hyper-intellectualism, which compromised the passion which should stand at the core of religious life as he understood it.

Now Rav Soloveitchik was uncompromising in the intellectual rigor of his approach to learning. Nevertheless, he maintains that Jewish education must succeed not only in cultivating *lomdus*, but in cultivating the rich and intense inner spiritual life and emotions that make Judaism “a felt, lived experience.”

It seems to me that cultivating precisely that experience is a crucial element in preparing one for the pressures of life at a secular university. This is so important to the transforming experience of learning in Israel, but it must be reinforced and fully integrated into the lives of our students to provide the power necessary to prevail into the future. This is a task our beis medrash has undertaken, but it can be achieved only in your own lives and souls.

Your faculty seek to prepare you for the best graduate and professional schools in the country. But that will be for naught if we fail to prepare you for the religious challenges that lie ahead as well. I wonder, indeed, which of these two goals is the more difficult to achieve.

Dr. Moshe Sokol,

Dean, Lander College For Men

“What will assure your loyalty to the ideals cultivated here when you encounter the extraordinary pressures of life in a secular university?”

Entering The Workforce Understanding Your Payment Package

There are many factors involved in finding a job. Going to college is just the initial step on a long journey. It is expected that you worked diligently all through your college years, both at the graduate and undergraduate level. The result: being not only better prepared for your career choice, but also more confident realistically in meeting the challenges of the growing complexities facing you in your chosen path.

You think you are ready to begin the interview process. However, an interview is not just getting dressed for the part in a nice suit, polished shoes, and a starched shirt to hopefully present a good first impression. An interview also consists of understanding some of the nuances underlying the process.

This article is not designed to explain the dynamics of the interview in its entirety; rather, we will limit ourselves to some of the financial implications inherent thereto. For example, while most students are concerned with their salary and title, there is a total compensation package of which the prospective employee should be examining. The total compensation package includes salary, (hourly vs. annually) health insurance, vacation days, pension, insurances of various kinds required to be provided to an employee by the employer. This is in addition to benefits made available to the prospective employee under the company umbrella that the employee elects to pay for and participate in to his benefit. The problem is - are you being interviewed for a job or a project? Is the position available as an employee or as an independent contractor (a.k.a. outside consultant)? Make sure you know the difference. What most interviewees don't seem to realize is the total picture and invariably may never ask the right questions. There is a tremendous difference between an employee and an independent contractor.

An employee is automatically entitled to whatever the company normally provides to his level of employment in benefits as part of his total compensation package, while an independent contractor will receive at best their hourly, daily or project fees. In addition, once the project is completed, an independent contractor is out of work. There is no obligation on the part of the employer to find him additional projects.

On the other hand, an employee simply reports back to his superiors who are ultimately responsible in making sure that the workflow is uninterrupted. In simple terms, an employee is entitled to unemployment compensation - an independent contractor is not. As part of the implied contract between an employee and his employer, barring the unforeseen, there is an implied guarantee of continuity not available to other types of contracts.

“Miscommunication and lack of clarity may result in a company treating an intern as an outside consultant.... the outside consultant is responsible for paying the employee and employer portions of social security.”

These issues, however, need not be brought up until an initial offer is made. For example, when the person offers you \$25,000 per year as your starting salary, be sure to inquire about the benefits, not just the paycheck. You should want to know the total compensation package of the job, which could amount to a lot more if understood properly. Miscommunication and lack of clarity may result in a company treating an intern as an outside consultant. An outside consultant receives a form “1099-MISC.” rather than a “W-2.” What is wrong with “1099-MISC?” A “1099-MISC” implies that you are self-employed rather than working for the company. Additionally, your “employer” is not liable for payroll taxes, i.e., social security, unemployment insurance, health insurance, pension, workers compensation, etc. This means that the outside consultant is responsible for paying the employee **and** employer portions of social security. As an outside consultant, when you lose your job, you will not be eligible for collecting unemployment insurance payments for the time spent working for your former employer. The Labor Act helps us determine if we are workers or “self employed.” Time at the office, daily tasks, and whether or not you have your own desk at the office determine if you are a worker. If you can come and go as you please, take work home, not subject to direct supervision, and do not have a desk at the office, you are probably an outside consultant. For example, telemarketers and secretaries are full employees and therefore are entitled to all benefits normally provided to other employees of their classification.

Be optimistic and careful in an interview. In most good companies and government agencies, it is rare that they will not offer their employees the total package. Nevertheless, make sure you receive clarification on benefit issues after the offer and before accepting. Some companies will tell you that they will wait a month and then give you the package. This may be true for some of the benefits but not all, and definitely not basic benefits like social security and unemployment insurance. Watch out for that kind of pitfall.

Hopefully, you will all do well on your interviews and get the jobs you truly want. Just make sure you are getting the job for which you contracted with the best total compensation package as well!

Professor William Schneck,
Chair, Accounting Department
Lander College For Men

A Word From The Mashgiach

On my recent trip to Eretz Yisrael, I visited a beautiful yeshiva situated in the shadows of the Kosel. Standing on the yeshiva's balcony, I was mesmerized by the spectacular view of our cherished, holy Wall, and I asked one of the yeshiva's students standing next to me if he still appreciates the dramatic sight before our eyes, despite the fact that he sees it each and every day. With a tinge of sadness he replied, "I am so used to it by now that today it's just a wall."

Just a wall? The last standing remnant of the Second Bais Hamikdash? The site at which Jews the world over yearn to daven, to shed hot tears into its kvittel-packed crevices? Those stones, could they speak, would recount in vivid detail the avodah of the kohanim, the music of the levi'im, the simcha of the olei regel, and the tragedy of the Temple's ultimate destruction by the hands of the Roman invaders. Just a wall?



Just A Wall?!

Truth be told, we are all plagued by the "just-a-wall" syndrome. Familiarity with our surroundings and activities breeds the inevitable loss of sensitivity to their import.

Do we remember, for example, the anticipation and thrill of putting on our tefillin for the very first time? Compare that fervor with the way we put our tefillin on today. Is there any comparison? Unfortunately, our tefillin, along with many other such rituals, have to some degree become that young man's Kosel.

The Netziv illustrated this phenomenon with a story of a young girl in shul during hakafof on Simchas Torah. While all the children in shul, flags in hand, hurried to jump and kiss the circling Sifrei Torah, she instead sat in a corner of the shul, unaffected. The chazzan, noticing this odd behavior, approached her and asked why she was not euphoric with affection for the Torah scrolls like the other children. She responded: "You see, my father is the town sofer. All over my house lie Sifrei Torah either being written, repaired, or inspected. When I eat I see Sifrei Torah, when I sleep I see Sifrei Torah, and when I play I see Sifrei Torah. How can I possibly be excited at the sight of them?"

How can we remove such apathy from our lives? There are no easy answers, for alas that is the human condition. However, one simple remedy is to occasionally close our eyes for a moment, and imagine, chaililah, that we would lose our tefillin, our Sifrei Torah, our Kosel. Oh, how we would yearn for their return, how we would promise ourselves that we would never again take them for granted if only they could be reclaimed! Then, upon opening our eyes and beholding them, our appreciation for them could be felt once again, cherishing them as if for the very first time.

Rabbi Moshe Bamberger,
Mashgiach

Israel and The Hague Convention

What are the rights of a country to protect itself against foreign invasion? The U.N. has decided to question Israel's right to protect itself through the construction of the hotly debated barrier, by questioning the legality of such a barrier. The alleged problem with the barrier is that it is being constructed on land "illegally" seized from the Palestinians during the Six Day War in 1967. The Palestinians further claim that the wall will deny its citizens of jobs in Israel.

The international laws were created to respond to the German cruelty during World War II. The Germans repopulated invaded areas through mass extermination of the inhabitants of the land. The world's assumption was that peace would eventually overcome any enemy, and that any occupation would be short lived. Israel has become vulnerable to what has been termed "lawfare." International law failed to anticipate a situation where the defeated aggressor failed to accept defeat and cease its attempt to eliminate its enemy. Israel's enemies use these laws to protect themselves from their aggressive actions.

Israel's hesitation to assert its ownership over Judea and Samaria has added confusion as to its rightful claim in building the fence. While Israel has not officially responded to The Hague Court, its belief is that the wall is a protective measure and should therefore be allowed and that Israel is not bound by the jurisdiction of the court. The Israeli delegation posits that with such a barrier in place, the Ashdod bombing of this past Sunday, in which 10 Israeli's lost their lives, could have been prevented.

The question is why the world views Israel as an apartheid state. Consider that Israel allows for Arab Knesset members along with members of any religious affiliation, while Egypt, Jordan, and Saudia Arabia don't even allow for Jewish citizenship. Not only does Israel allow for equal

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The Fun Side of Lander

When you look at Lander from an outsider's perspective it might seem that the long schedule leaves no time for fun. 7:45 *davening*, 9:30 *sefer* 1:00 *shiur*, college classes from 3:00 to 7:00, for some even later, and night *sefer* from 8 to 10 followed by homework allows no time to relax and chill out. But in actuality, there is plenty of time to take it easy and put your feet up. There's basketball on Wednesday nights, football on Sunday afternoons, and much more time to just unwind than meets the eye.

Lander College prides itself in having a challenging and demanding academic program. In my first semester, this was true. I took four classes and all of them required me to prepare for lectures ahead of time. Preparation, in addition to reviewing, studying, and writing essays, took up a lot of time and effort. Many nights and lunch breaks were spent writing and revising History and English papers. But with all the work I did, I always managed to find time to relax, chill out, and have fun.

On campus, there are many things to do to unwind. On Sundays, many students participate in the football league. The football league is a good way to chill, and if you have to, take out your aggression. Wednesday nights after *maariv*, a group of guys go to the gym at Yeso-

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3 Steps to Protect Your PC

With the rising popularity of DSL and cable modems that are always connected to the Internet, home computer systems are increasingly vulnerable to external attack from the Internet. The growing threat of malicious code—such as worms or viruses—and attempts by others to illegally gain access to your computer makes it more important than ever for you to ensure that your PC is as secure as possible. This article will provide a guide to security measures that you can take to secure your home computer, at minimum cost. Although any computer connected to the Internet is vulnerable to an internet based attack, the steps in this article will help counter virtually all forms of attack. This article will focus primarily on Windows, because it is the most popular operating system in use today. However, the general steps apply to Apple and Linux users as well.

1. Patch Your System: Performing regular software updates to your operating system and other software helps reduce the risk of unauthorized access to your computer. Windows users should take advantage of the Windows Update tool, located by right clicking *My Computer*, choosing *Properties*, selecting the *Automatic Updates* tab, and then select the *Keep my computer up to date* check box. It can be configured to automatically connect to the Windows Update website while you are online, and download updates as needed. You will be notified when the updates have been downloaded and are ready to be installed. (You can also schedule the updates to be installed at a specific time automatically). Alternately, users can visit the Windows Update site (<http://www.windowsupdate.com>), to scan their computer for required updates, download, and install them manually. All users should check for updates to their operating systems at least once a month. If a new patch is released during the month, the patch should definitely be downloaded and installed. If you are running Microsoft Office, you need to keep it up to date as well. Security updates for Office can be found by going to <http://office.microsoft.com/officeupdate>. Patches to many of the most common virus attacks were released before the virus was created. This means that if users would regularly patch their systems, the virus would be unable to cause any harm,

2. Install Anti-Virus Software: Viruses are commonly transferred through email and web sites. Worms, Viruses, and Trojans can cause your computer to lose data, perform poorly or stop working altogether, or provide unauthorized access to your computer. They can even allow your computer to be used in an attack against other computers. Microsoft partner companies offer some free anti-virus solutions, which can be found at <http://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=22645>. You should have the anti-virus software scan all files on your computer at least weekly. The anti-virus software should preferably have a feature which allows it to scan all incoming files for viruses, whenever your computer is turned on. In addition, because hundreds of new viruses surface every month, you must update your anti-virus software regularly. Look for software that will update itself and run scans in the background, while you are connected to the Internet. It is important to remember that although viruses are spread primarily over through e-mail and through websites, they can be spread through file sharing software as well. Therefore, it is advisable to scan *all* incoming files, whether they are email attachments or something downloaded from the Internet. In fact, it is best not to open e-mail attachments that you are not expecting even if they are from someone you know. It is preferable to send an e-mail or call the person who

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Shareholder Sabotage: The Death of Poison Pills

Poison pills are an anti-takeover defense created and perfected in the early 1980s by the prominent takeover lawyer Martin Lipton in response to the increased number of hostile takeovers that characterized the merger wave of the time. Poison pills are designed to prevent takeovers by making them more difficult and more expensive. The poison pill is a “doomsday device,” with such potent wealth-destroying characteristics that no bidder has ever dared to proceed to the point where a pill would become exercisable. That is not to say that a company with a poison-pill in place has never been the victim of a hostile takeover, merely that the bidders for such companies must put management in a position where they are inclined to disable the pill.

For years now, nearly all companies have had poison pills in place. It seems however, that the poison pill's popularity amongst shareholders is on the decline. In a recent trend, the shareholders of many companies are pressuring their management to abolish their pills. The Investor Responsibility Research Center (IRRC) reported that during the proxy seasons of 2002 and 2003 there were almost 400 proposals for poison pill removals. Although an increase in the number of proposals does not necessarily imply serious shareholder opposition, because even a lone minority shareholder can file a petition, there is sufficient evidence that shareholders are applying enough pressure on management, forcing them to act. In 2002 and 2003 Aetna, Caterpillar, HP, Northrop Grumman, Pitney Bowes, and Southwest Airlines among others were all either forced to subject their pills to serious third party scrutiny or abolish them altogether. Seemingly shareholders abhor poison pills, but why?

Since its inception the poison pill has had a vocal group of critics who say that poison pills and other anti-takeover defenses only serve to protect management. These supporters of the management entrenchment theory insist that pills amount to major de facto shifts of voting rights away from shareholders to management on matters pertaining to the sale of the company; all the board has to do is refuse to redeem the pill, and no bidder would dare trigger its poison. The studies supporting this view showed that anti-takeover provisions have a negative effect on shareholder wealth and that companies with poison pills receive fewer takeover bids.

In light of this research on poison pills, why did so many companies implement them? Furthermore, how can hundreds of companies still justify their pill's existence?

The opposing view, known as the shareholder interest theory, has sufficient research of its own to both refute the management entrenchment theory and provide a more than adequate foundation for its own theory.

In response to the claim that anti-takeover defenses have a negative effect on shareholder wealth, the shareholder interest theorists insist that all of those studies contain a common flaw; they were all conducted in the mid 1980s when poison pills were still new, and the market baselessly viewed restrictive defenses as harmful to shareholders. To support this hypothesis they conducted similar studies, except

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Grade Guidelines: An Outrageous Idea

To save space, references from which parts of this article were copied, [have been posted on our website.](#)

At a recent faculty meeting here at Lander College for Men, the topic of grade inflation was raised. One faculty member went so far as to say that any class with a B+ average should be investigated. Although it is undeniable that over recent years grade inflation has affected even the most elite colleges and universities in the United States (see graph,

Courtesy of www.gradeinflation.com), to place any form of a grade guideline on professors – especially at Lander College – is unfair to them and their students.

Grade inflation is so severe that the administration at Harvard was happy with the decline in students' grades over the past two years. However, higher grades should not be considered a problem. Those who are of the opinion that grade inflation is a result of professors' laziness and their desire for student compliments on course evaluations are only partially correct. Many professors and students say the rise in grades simply reflects a much more capable student body. "I am constantly amazed at the intelligence of the people surrounding me," said an English major from the University of Virginia. A professor at the same university agreed, stating, "The negative view is that we're all lazy and giving out easy grades. That's not how I see it and that's not true for the majority of my colleagues."

In an analysis of grading at four major universities in Virginia, an intriguing piece of data was released that may shed some light on "grade inflation." Three courses – "Mind-Body Wisdom for Balance," "Symphonic Masterworks" and "Ethnic Women in America" – were among about 190 classes with 25 students or more in which grades averaged at least 3.7 (A-). Frederick P. Frieden taught five of them at William and Mary, including "Human Sexuality," "Abnormal Psychology" and "Personality Theory." After exams, he gives students examples of successful responses from their peers so they'll do better next time. The reason why students are doing so well in these classes, explains Frieden, is because they know exactly what is expected of them, and when students know what they have to do to get high grades, they work hard and do it.

Many argue that inflated grades are not a reflection of a stronger, more motivated student body and therefore have coined the phrase "grade inflation"; since after all it is hard to believe and even harder to explain how students today are doing that much better than twenty years ago. While there is some validity to this argument, this is simply the easy-way-out of the "problem." There are two accurate explanations for higher grades.

The first explanation is that students now have access to more information on any subject they may be studying. Whether it is from the Internet or in a library that is full to capacity, if a student does not understand a particular concept from a textbook, he or she can find a clearer and more comprehensible explanation elsewhere. With this advantage, a motivated student should have no trouble with just about any topic, and this will naturally lead to higher grades.

The second reason GPAs are higher than ever, is that students benefit from more interaction and closer relationships with their professors.

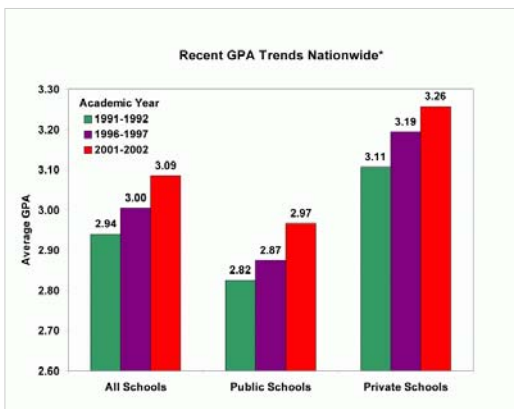
Colleges across the nation pride themselves on having smaller classes and a low student-to-professor ratio. Such environments are conducive to students excelling in school. Now, more than ever before, students are able to communicate with their professors on a daily basis; if not personally, then via email. When students have the ability and are encouraged to discuss the relevant material with their professors, they will do better in school.

It is irrefutable that grades are higher now than ever before. However, this should not be viewed as a major crisis. One of our sources of pride here at Lander College is that our SAT scores are in the top bracket. Obviously the students are intelligent and motivated, and will therefore excel in the right environment. Creating a grading guideline does not do justice to the students' hard work and is unfair to the professors for the tremendous job they do.

Though grading guidelines are unfair to students and professors, it is especially unmerited to students whose professors give low grades just so that the class average falls within the parameter of the grading guideline. A recent graduate of Lander College (who wishes to remain anonymous) told the author of this article that when he received a B in a particular course he asked his professor for an explanation as to why he was given a grade which he felt was lower than

he deserved. His professor responded that he had to give him a B to balance out the class average. Because of a grading guideline the professor could not reward this student for his hard work. Is this our answer to "grade inflation?"

Moshe C. Ornstein,
Student Editor-in-Chief



Grade Guidelines: Still an Outrageous Idea?

(The author of this article is neither a current nor former student of The Lander College For Men).

In general, grade inflation is not a major problem. Now I know what you're thinking: "If grade guidelines are needed to combat the problem of grade inflation, and grade inflation isn't a problem, then we don't need grade guidelines either, right?" Wrong. Grade Inflation is when a student has an 85 average and gets an A- in the course. Fortunately, that rarely happens. Rather, students get the grade that their average shows - but the grade is still meaningless.

During his college career, this author took a Statistics course in which every one of the 30+ students got an A in that course. Statistically, that is highly unlikely - but statistics don't take the professor into account. Before each exam, the professor would do a "review" of the material that would be on the exam. In reality, this "review" amounted to the professor showing us 10 problems, how to solve them, and their correct answers. Those 10 questions then became the exam. Small surprise, then, that everybody had a 95+ average in the class. Grade inflation? No, they knew what was expected of them and they knew what they had to do to get high grades - they had to memorize what they were told. Now, only a couple of years later, the students don't remember anything they covered in that class, but they still have

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that A.

This author attended a class with a student that - through no fault of his own - was not doing well; he had a "C-" average and was struggling just to maintain it. The sympathetic professor, rather than offering more resources and extra reading, instead gave out extra credit. By the time the semester was over, the student had an 86 average - but only 73 if the extra assignments were not included. The student admitted that it was unfair, but is still quite happy with his "B".

There was a student taking a business course. This student was not one of the shining students of the class - he routinely showed up late for class (when he bothered to attend at all), his homework assignments were done poorly, and his test grades were abysmal. Four weeks before the end of the semester, the professor informed the student that he need not bother to continue attending the class, as there was no way he would be able to pass with his average. The student promptly wrote a letter of complaint to the professor's superior. The professor was informed that the student was to be allowed take the final, and whatever grade he received on the final would be his grade for the course. In addition, the student was to be allowed to take the final "open book" because he was so far behind. The student took the final and got a grade in the mid-60s, and the professor was forced to give him his passing grade in the course.

The author has firsthand knowledge of the first two instances, and heard the story from the professor in the case of the third. These are not exceptions to the rule - stories like this are plentiful, with just the names of students, professors, and courses substituted. The question to be asked is, "Why are these professors handing out grades that are undeserved?" (And they *are* undeserved, despite the "evidence" of the final average); Perhaps the professor feels bad for a struggling student; perhaps he wants to receive a favorable evaluation for his students; perhaps he's just too lazy to help his student. Whatever the reason, the students' knowledge of the material in a given course is not necessarily reflected in the grade a student receives - neither objectively nor subjectively.

Professors need to level the playing field for all involved, and that doesn't mean catering to the lowest common denominator. In any class, there might be a student who is only capable of doing "C" work. That student should then get the "C" that he worked for. Unfortunately, most professors would probably give that hypothetical student an "A". Grade guidelines would be a first step in solving this problem.

It truly is sad when a professor is "forced" to give a "B" when his entire class consists of "A" students - but perhaps that means that his class is not on a high enough level. At that point, the professor, knowing that he will be forced into such an action, the professor should then make the class more challenging for all involved so that the true stars really shine.

Implementing grade guidelines is not an ideal state of affairs for anybody. They obviously can't be a blind "only 20% of the class can receive an "A," etc.", but they are needed in order to curb the "grade inaccuracies." At some point, hopefully, the professors will find the level at which they should be teaching and the grades will reflect the students' knowledge of the material; at that point, grade guidelines will become unnecessary. We aren't at that point, and we might not be for some time; but without some sort of impetus, we might not get there at all.

Anonymous,

Guest Contributor

(Continued from page 4)

dei Yeshurun for some round robin basketball. I find that this is a good time to take your mind off work in the middle of the week. It is also good exercise for people who are too lazy to work out in the workout room, which is my roommate's way to take out the stress he builds up from the long schedule. At the end of the week on Thursday nights, you can learn in the *beis* after *maariv* until midnight when you can chat with the *chevra* about your week over some *cholent*. You can find plenty of Friday night *onegs* either at the Glanz's or in one of the dorms.

And if all that doesn't satisfy you, the school is conveniently located near many other facilities. If you need to just get out and get something to eat, there are more than 10 restaurants within a mile radius of the Lander campus. Or if you're a cooking mood, you can go to one of the supermarkets nearby and buy your own ingredients then bake, boil, or fry to your hearts' content. Or if Queens isn't good enough for you, you can take a subway into the city to go shopping or to just chill out and walk around. Knick or Ranger fan? Take the E train to Penn Station. Yankees Fan? Take the F to 34th street then switch to the D to the House that Ruth Built.

So, as you can see Lander isn't about all work and no play. There is plenty of time to relax. Sunday afternoons, Friday afternoons and nights, *Motzei Shabossim* leave ample time to let loose and just chill out. And if you are not in class, Seder, shiur, or chilling out, there's plenty of studying to do.

Aryeh Love,

Student

(Continued from page 5)

sent the e-mail, to find out if they sent you this attachment, because some viruses send themselves out of other people's address books.

3. Install a Firewall: Any computer that connects to the Internet should be equipped with a firewall. A firewall is a piece of hardware or software that helps screen out hackers who try to reach your computer over the Internet. A firewall is essential for any computer that is connected to the Internet, even those that connect over a dial-up connection. Hardware firewalls can be built in to wireless access points and broadband routers. Software firewalls are available from Norton (<http://www.symantec.com>), Zone Alarm (the basic version is free for home users at <http://www.zonelabs.com>), and other vendors. Computers running Windows XP come with a firewall pre-installed, and at a minimum, this firewall should be enabled. Instructions for enabling this firewall can be found by clicking Start → Help and Support, and typing "Internet Connection Firewall". It is important to note that a firewall does not protect against all forms of attack. E-mail and malicious websites will be able to circumvent your firewall.

Will following these steps guarantee that your computer will not be attacked? The answer is "No." Any computer that is connected to the Internet is vulnerable to an Internet-based attack. However, if you follow the steps outlined above, you will have taken a great step forward in securing your computer and protecting it from attack.

Yosef Lehrman, MCP,
Student

Lambda Beta Sigma

λβσ

Lander College For Men Biology Society

The Lander College for Men has grown significantly with an incoming of new students exceeding forty in the Fall semester. A high percentage of those were in pursuit of biology related professions, and as a result, a need for a Biology society was evident. With the help of some of these new students, and some of the older biology students in the Lander College for Men, the "Lander College for Men Biology Honor Society" was formed. Then, as is customary of honor societies, the Greek letters λβσ, Lambda Beta Sigma, were chosen to represent the official name of the society. The society's objective is to make the members of the society more aware of the present-day advances in the biological sciences, as well as to stimulate research in the various topics of contemporary biology.



Members of the Lambda Beta Sigma get up close and personal with a cow's eye

Currently, there are more than ten students in pursuit of biology related professions who attend our meetings. Students have an interest in enhancing their understanding of biology, as well as a desire to learn more about the most recent biological discoveries. One controversial topic that had been discussed in one of our meetings was laser eye surgery, a hot topic in today's biology world. The meeting certainly enhanced the members' knowledge of the intricacies of the eye. After the members learned a bit about the eye in our discussion on laser eye surgery, it was decided to dig into an actual eye. About fifteen cow eyes were ordered so that each member could dissect his own cow eye. It was definitely a great learning experience and a lot of fun.



Members of the Society - and their mascot

Another major project undertaken by the society was to bring "Dor Yesharim" into the Lander College for Men to administer genetic testing. By merely taking a few test tubes of blood from one's arm and checking the chromosomes of one's genome for carrier genes, "Dor Yeshorim" can determine whether a couple is compatible or whether they run the risk of bearing diseased offspring. As a result, Dor Yeshorim has been able to wipe out many genetic diseases that have formerly struck the Jewish population. Therefore, a date was set for Wednesday, February 25 to bring in technicians who would administer the genetic testing for a

discounted rate. To make this successful, the society decided that it was best to allow other yeshivas in the community to take part in genetic testing. As a result, signs went out into the neighboring yeshivas advertising that Dor Yeshorim would be coming to administer genetic testing at the Lander College for Men.

At this time, the Lambda Beta Sigma Biology Society is presently the largest student organization in the Lander College for Men and with the incoming of new students pursuing biology-related professions this spring, it will only grow. Additionally, at this time, the Board of Governors of the society is working on writing a constitution that would consist of all the rules and regulations of the society to make sure that the future will only consist of further research and further advancement of the members' knowledge of the biological sciences.

Martin Leybovich,
President, Lambda Beta Sigma

(Continued from page 5)

the data they used was from poison pill announcements between 1990 and 1995. These studies showed that pill announcements had no significant effect on shareholder wealth, implying that the only reason the earlier studies detected any negative returns was due to the market's inaccuracy.

Poison pill critics maintain the pills are so devastating they give management undue job security by discouraging offers. If this were true then the tremendous power of poison pills would prevent any company from being taken over and it is known that they have been, it must be then that poison pills, by serving as a bargaining tool for management, only discourage bidders who are looking for a bargain. Supporting this claim and the shareholder interest theory are studies that found significant positive abnormal returns for shareholders in takeover contests for firms where there is "management resistance" vs. a "passive management."

Research on the premiums associated with takeovers consistently showed higher returns for companies protected with poison pills. For example, studies in 1988 and 1997 showed significantly higher takeover premiums - 69% and 26% respectively - received by companies protected by poison pills than those not protected. Similarly, all other research on poison pills has also associated them with higher takeover premiums, making them powerful tools for shareholders.

Poison pills do not cost shareholders anything, yet they yield higher takeover premiums; why then are shareholders trying to get rid of them? The only logical explanation is that in the past several years there have been so many corporate scandals, which put shareholders on the edge, so when they hear that poison pills entrench management, as incorrect as it may be, they act instinctively, without proper analysis. If stockholders were not so wary of management, they would first look into poison pills and find out that the pills are in place for their benefit and they would not be fighting to remove them. Only because of their ignorance are shareholders pressuring management to remove their poison pills.

[Bibliography](#)

Ari Lasker,
Student

George Bush and The Economy

(Due to space constraints, references to this article were not printed, [but are available on our website](#).)

You do not have to be an economics major to know that many people in our country are unemployed. Whether you read any newspaper or listen to any radio program, you are likely to stumble across the topic of our nation's unemployment level. But is our current state of unemployment, currently at 6.1 percent, an improvement to what it used to be or just another reason offered by the democrats to get Bush out?

There are in reality two sides to the argument, mostly dependent on one's political party. If you ask a republican, to express his or her opinion on the nation's unemployment level, he or she will almost certainly state something along the lines of "it [the unemployment level] is improving as a result of President Bush's economic policy." On the other hand, a democrat would likely criticize Bush's plans and say the unemployment level is too high and the nation needs a fresh individual in the White House to stop the unemployment epidemic. The goal of this article is not to prescribe a solution to every problem facing our nation's economy, but rather to focus on the current unemployment setback. It will hopefully expose the truth regarding the crisis with which we are all too familiar and possibly put a smile on the face of many Americans who are presently unemployed.

President Bush recently said, "I believe the economy is strong [and] believe its getting stronger." (NY Times, 2003) This statement is, in short, the republican view on the current economic situation. According to republicans, our economic strength must be further strengthened. As Press Secretary Scott McClellan believes, "we need to continue to act to build upon the steps we have taken to get our economy growing so that we can continue to translate growth into job creation." (Cnn.com, 2003) Don Evans, Commerce Secretary, shares a similar view resembling McClellan's concerning the future of the unemployment situation. Evans feels "by creating the conditions for greater economic growth, President Bush is setting our country on the right track... [Furthermore] the president will not rest until there are enough jobs for every American worker." (Cnn.com, 2003)

The democrats seem to have a different position on unemployment than President Bush and his supporters. Although the third-quarter of 2003 was extremely productive, with the GDP (Gross Domestic Product) growing at its fastest pace in twenty years, democrats criticize President Bush's policies, or lack thereof. Tom Daschle, Senate Majority Leader, "think[s] every American is far more interested in J-O-B than G-D-P." (Cnn.com, 2003) The democrats desire to see more Americans working, despite the growth of the GDP to 7.2 percent and other economic achievements of the Bush administration.

Unfortunately, several American companies have the *chutzpah* of hiring overseas workers instead of giving these posts to Americans. This is a major issue, which significantly adds to the unemployment problem and could perhaps be solved by our leaders in Washington. Politicians, in spite of their political parties, should put forward various incentives before domestic companies with the intent to promote the hiring of American workers. This would give Americans the employment they deserve and can greatly improve the jobless situation.

Despite one's political views on the War in Iraq, more jobs were created for Americans. As Dr. Kenneth S. Bigel said, "War is good for the economy!" (Lander Chronicle, Fall 2003) War adds domestic jobs to the many Americans who were out of work before the war and allowed them to bring in an income. Another positive sign for unemployment is the hiring of workers by small companies. Clare Ansberry,

a writer for the Wall Street Journal, is of the opinion that "after a dry spell, hosts of small firms across the country are starting to take on workers again. The nation's 23 million small businesses employ an estimated 57.1 million workers [which is] more than half of all private-sector employees." (Wall Street Journal, 2003) Hopefully, small businesses will continue adding additional jobs for Americans until larger companies began to hire at the rate to which they were once accustomed.

Essentially, there are two sides of the coin. One opinion is that the nation is on the proper path to solve the unemployment problem, while the other feels that the current policies being implemented by the government are not of much assistance. Additionally, positive times are coming for the unemployed portion of our country. The War in Iraq added many jobs and small companies are showing us the way by the recent hiring of workers. Hopefully more people will be in the workplace, even though there could never be a state of total employment as a result of frictional, structural, and cyclical unemployment.

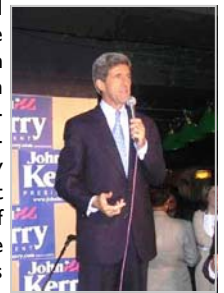
In my opinion, the republicans are doing their best to help the unemployment problem. President Bush's tax plan, amongst other economic policies is slowly, but surely, putting Americans back to work. Even Bush's plan to go to war in Iraq was an excellent economic decision due to the fact that it created new domestic jobs for Americans. The future seems to be getting better for unemployment and, optimistically, President Bush and his policy makers will continue to create and implement novel policies to keep the economy on its rising path thereby putting more of our fellow country-people back into the workforce.

Daniel Nottes,
Junior Editor

Election 2004

Most likely, you think of yourself as a decent person. You usually do the right thing, you treat people nicely, and it genuinely bothers you when tragedy strikes – even if it doesn't affect you at all. You are also probably making tremendous sacrifices for the future: whether by studying for a degree rather than working, putting money aside for your children's college tuition, or saving up for retirement. Some of these sacrifices are very hard, but you remind yourself to look at the big picture. Now, imagine having to do this on a larger scale – one in which your decisions force others to make sacrifices in order to serve the greater good. Suddenly, decisions are much harder. General Dwight D. Eisenhower ordered the landing at Normandy knowing that at least 70% of the troops that went were expected to die within a few minutes of getting to the beach. This leadership and courage is what made him a great general. Whoever sits in the Oval Office as President of the United States has to make decisions which affect the lives of Americans in every way: from the livelihoods of doctors to the pension plans of teachers, from the medical plans of senior citizens to the lives of young soldiers. The choices the President makes must be structured in a way that will shape the future, and this future must be shaped so that most problems will never occur.

President George W. Bush introduced an economic plan which has



John Kerry...

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produced some major changes in the overall status of the United States economy. The upper- and middle-classes received large tax cuts and refunds, creating one of the largest spending increases in years – and the budget deficit soared. Overall production skyrocketed, rising faster than it had in 20 years – yet unemployment rose by 2.5 percent. After 16 UN resolutions were ignored, he persuaded Congress (including Senator John Kerry) to send 150,000 troops to Iraq, but without the UN itself. He presented Saddam Hussein as a tyrant bent on destroying our way of life in the near future, though to date no weapons of mass destruction have been found. He kept a large force in Iraq despite rising terror attacks against US soldiers, but those soldiers captured Saddam Hussein, and killed his sons Uday and Qusay, among others. Every decision has had major repercussions – some that seem great, but some that are quite scary.

Massachusetts Senator John Kerry comes from a different path with an outlook that is the polar opposite of the President's. Though he voted for the war, he now regrets that decision and feels the President misled the American people. He also feels it should have been carried out under the auspices of the United Nations. On economic policy, he lambastes Bush for his high spending, though he is proposing a series of education plans which will cause an increase in spending. He also proposes to raise necessary funds by eliminating the tax cuts the Republican-led Congress passed, counting on production to sustain itself – though this has never held true in the past.

President Bush has continually affirmed Israel's right to defend itself from the threats of terrorism. Senator Kerry has similarly stated that Israel is our only true ally in the Middle East, and in a speech before



...or George W. Bush?

the Democratic primary in heavily-Jewish New York pronounced, "Israel's security fence is a legitimate act of self-defense... Israel has a right and duty to protect itself." Yet in a speech to the Arab American Institute in Michigan he was "disheartened" by the security fence being built off the Green Line, and called it a "barrier to peace."

To choose whom to vote for President, one must look at the facts as they are. The Iraq war, though not blessed by all, was backed by countries such as Great Britain, Australia, Japan, and 40 other countries – not exactly unilateral. The war was completed quickly, with extremely low casualties on the coalition side. Incredibly, Iraq is already progressing toward a democratic government. The 'quagmire' many were expecting has not only not materialized, the deaths of servicemen have fallen drastically. 94 soldiers were murdered in November, followed by 32 and 39 in December and January; and just 16 were killed in the month of February. Meanwhile, the economy is growing at a very good, and very safe, pace. Taxes, inflation, and interest rates are down; spending, wages, and standard of living are up. Unemployment has been dropping steadily since May 2003, as the effect from the tax cuts and increased productivity kick in. The budget deficit has slowed and will begin to fall in the near future, as production and sales increases create larger tax revenues.

The choice for the next President of the United States is clear. While obviously the present cannot and should not be ignored, the job of the President is to "preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution," and the freedoms and opportunities which are ingrained inside. This applies not just to what is happening this week, this month, or even until the next election. This holds true for years, even decades, to come. Senator Kerry has legitimate claims on many issues. Yet, he focuses only on pandering for votes or on the current state of affairs, paying little or no attention to the long-term effects of his choices. President Bush, how-

ever, does precisely the contrary. He has focused on the future well-being of this country, making some hard and unpopular choices along the way. Any major decision he has made has proved to be better in the long run both for the citizens of America and for the international community. "The liberty we prize is not America's gift to the world; it is God's gift to humanity." When President Bush said this, he was trying to show that our way of life is not embedded inside of us, but rather something that we must strive to achieve. President Bush has made sacrifices to better serve the interests and shape the future of our nation. We, too, must do the right thing and push our country forward on this path. We, the people, must do what is right. We must re-elect George W. Bush as President of the United States.

Ezzie Goldish,
Student

Lander Football League

Now in its third year, the Lander Football League (LFL) has once again been a huge success. Set up to give the *talmidim* a chance to unwind and exercise, the league also serves as a great opportunity for the students to raise money on behalf of a worthy cause. Each of the league's seven teams represents a different charity, with money collected throughout the year then being donated to the *tzedakah* of the championship team.

With playoff time around the corner, the competition is really beginning to heat up. Once again, the competition for the few, coveted, playoff positions has come down to the wire. Only four of the seven teams make the playoffs, and with just two games left to the regular season, the (Tomchei) Shabbos Packers and Seforim Donators are the only two teams to have clinched playoff spots. Boasting a record of 11-0 the Packers have also established themselves as the post-season's #1 seed. In second place are the Seforim Donators who, with a record of 6-3, are lead by Moishe Abramson, a veteran quarterback who directed his team to the championship game last year. In third place are the Aniyim Defenders with a record of 5-5. Although they have yet to clinch a playoff spot, it is still possible for them to take over second place. Watch out Donators!

L.F.L. Standings

	W	L	GB
1. Shabbos Packers:	11	0	-
2. Seforim Donators:	6	4	4.5
3. Aniyim Defenders:	5	5	5.5
4. Kollel Supporters:	4	6	6.5
5. Hatzolah Fireballs:	4	6	6.5
6. Chevron Wildcats:	4	7	7
7. HASC Pounders:	2	8	8.5

Current L.F.L. Standings

At 4-6 and tied for fourth place are the Kollel Supporters and Hatzolah Fireballs. With their playoff hopes on the line, they play each other in week 12. It promises to be the game of the year. Still trying to turn their season around are the Chevron Wildcats who, with a lot of talent, still have a chance at 4-7. However, they must win their final game to have a chance to make the playoffs.

One thing is for sure- it is going to be an exciting playoff season. With the Shabbos Packers clearly in the lead, many people are expecting them to come out as the clear victors in the Superbowl. But things are not always so simple. Having won three of their games in overtime, and several others by one touchdown or less, the Packers have opened themselves up to an unbroken LFL tradition....the #1 seed has never won the Superbowl! Let's see if this year they can defy history!

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Regardless of the outcome, the mission of the LFL to create a warm atmosphere and *achdus* between the students has already been accomplished. It's been a great season. Good Luck guys!

Daniel Glanz, Commissioner



Last Year's Champions - The Shabbos Packers
(Photo Courtesy of Rafi Hecht)

<u>Week</u>	<u>Field #1</u>	<u>Field #2</u>	<u>Field #3</u>	<u>Referees</u>
13	Aniyim vs. Chevron	Kollel vs. Hatzoloh	Seforim vs. HASC	Shabbos
14	Kollel vs. HASC	Hatzoloh vs. Shabbos	Aniyim vs. Seforim	Chevron
15	Playoffs: #4 vs. #1	Playoffs: #3 vs. #2		
16	SuperBowl			
17	ProBowl and BBQ			

Remaining LFL Schedule

The Unexamined Life

(The views expressed in this article are solely those of the writer, and do not, in any way, reflect the views of The Lander College For Men).

After having been found guilty of sedition, Socrates said that, "the unexamined life is not worth living." As Orthodox Jews, we have an almost reflexive response of support for Israel and its ally America, but this can potentially be a very dangerous position. We must examine some of the common fallacies that we continuously spout and question our assumptions, instead of subscribing to the dangerous policy of "my country; right or wrong."

We are always told that Israel is the victim and that the Arabs are monsters. Whenever the media criticizes Israel, we chalk it up to anti-Semitism and immediately dismiss the substance of their critique and arguments. This is because of such organizations as the Anti-Defamation League that has managed to equate anti-Zionism with anti-Semitism. Abba Eban has said that, "One of the chief tasks of any dialogue with the Gentile world is to prove that the distinction between anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism is not a distinction at all." This is very dangerous. Just like no one would think of calling someone who criticized Berlusconi's government anti-Italian, so too it is equally ridiculous

to call someone anti-Semitic for criticizing Israel. Yet, that is what critics of Israel are faced with. Noam Chomsky points out that during the 1988 presidential campaign, the Democratic Party was called anti-Semitic for debating the issue of a two-state solution. Yet, when it was revealed that seven members of Bush senior's campaign were part of the Republican Heritage Groups Council, a group of Nazi sympathizers, there were very few complaints. The concept of anti-Semitism has purposely been manipulated and has become completely misconstrued.

Israel is currently being heavily criticized for the construction of their so-called security fence. Not a single critic would object to Israel constructing a wall for security purposes on their own land, the internationally recognized border, on the green line. No critic of Israel supports suicide bombers or has any problem with Israel protecting itself, but their criticism lies on the fact that this wall is illegally grabbing land that does not belong to Israel. This wall just serves to further isolate the West Bank into different enclaves of land, and is separating hundreds of thousands of Palestinians, according to the World Bank estimates. Not to mention, that it will virtually destroy any chance of a peace process or a two-state solution, by being on land that Sharon has said could be used for a Palestinian state. This should not come as a surprise, considering that the United States and Israel rejected a two-state Security Council Resolution in 1976. (Another common myth best left for another article—that the United States and Israel really want peace). There are many valid criticisms of the security fence that Israel is erecting, and to fall into the trap of dismissing these criticisms as anti-Semitism is very naïve.

This problem is not exclusive to support for Israel, but is also found when it comes to America. While there was some criticism of Bush during his buildup to war in Iraq last year, once the war began all criticisms was silenced while people began to rally behind the flag. Anyone who dared to criticize America once the war began was labeled unpatriotic. But criticism of America, especially when its leader was engaging in an illegal war, is what America is founded on. When a leader who was not even elected is committing American blood and money to a war that is not justified, it is the duty of every true American to protest. This is true patriotism and what democracy is all about. Democracy is not about faith and trust, but it is about questioning and accountability. As it turns out, we were lied to about Iraq's weapons of mass destruction (or lack thereof). Iraq did not pose an immediate threat to America or any of its surrounding countries. Even the administration is now admitting that Iraq had no ties to al-Qaeda. Although it is too late for Iraq, hopefully we can learn from our mistakes. We should learn to question the "facts" that we are told, and to try to understand the underlying motivations of the lies that we have been fed.

Unfortunately, Lander College for Men by showing the film *Relentless*, is perpetuating this very injustice to their own students. We are an institution of higher learning that should value critical thinking. Can we honestly think that an openly one-sided, bias video on Israel has any true academic value? We all know how Israel has suffered, but we do not all know the suffering that the Palestinians have endured that have brought them to this desperate position. A video like *Relentless*, with the violent, gory pictures that it shows, can be described as nothing short of being demagogic and has no place in an academic institution. I read in a Dvar Torah given by Dr. Sokol a number of years ago that, "rhetoric creates reality." Bloody (one-sided) pictures will not allow anybody to examine the true issues at hand, but will only serve to further the misconceptions. It is for this very reason that the Jewish world is rightfully up in frenzy over Mel Gibson's, "The Passion of the Christ." As Rabbi Benjamin Blech puts it, "Movies create mindsets," and do not allow for critical thinking.

David Taub,
Student

Lander College For Men

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(Continued from page 4)

rights for both men and women, it punishes spousal abusers, contrary to Arab law which allows and encourages "honor" killings of women suspected of adultery. Historically Muslim countries have considered people of other religions as dhimmis, or second class citizens who were mercilessly taxed, beaten, murdered, or exiled. It would seem that the Arab states should be considered apartheid while Israel should be considered democratic.

Regardless of the outcome it appears that Israel will continue to build this barrier to protect itself against Arab terrorists. No other nation of the world has to justify its purge of terrorism. Just like no other country in the world would question the need of the border between America and

Mexico or Canada. Additional "walls" are already in place between North and South Korea, Turkish and Greek Cyprus, and recently between Yemen and Saudi Arabia. No other country in the world has been in a continual state of war since the beginning of its history. No other country except for Israel. Doesn't that give Israel the right to defend itself, so that its weary soldiers and citizens can rest, so that people can continue their lives? Why must Israel constantly justify its every action taken in defense of its people? Israel is following an important business rule – CYB, cover your bases. Why won't the world just let it?

Daniel Gross,
Student

The staff of The Lander Chronicle would like to acknowledge the Lander College Student Council for providing partial funding for this issue.

Campus News

- Mazel Tov to Menashe Grossman upon his engagement to Adina Lwowski
- Mazel Tov to Simcha Loiterman upon his engagement to Tzvia Borenstein
- Mazel Tov to Yehudah Hammer upon his engagement to Meira Warburg
- Mazel Tov to Zev Ganz upon his engagement to Aliza Heller
- Mazel Tov to Yaakov Shmukler upon his engagement to Shoshi Hackler
- Mazel Tov to Ezzie Goldish upon his engagement to Serach Luchins
- Mazel Tov to Yitzchok Fuchs upon his engagement to Sarah Faerber
- Mazel Tov to Yitz Moshel upon his engagement to Heather Josephs
- Mazel Tov to Avi Stern upon his engagement to Mazal Nisanov
- Mazel Tov to Josh Berman upon his marriage to Shlima Astulin
- Mazel Tov to Naftali and Danny Sudwerts upon the birth of their daughter Tova Rochel
- Mazel Tov to Leor and Emunah Moshe upon the birth of a baby girl
- Congratulations to Suchi Hornung on passing the CPA exam

Congratulations to the Graduates of 2004

Moishe Abramson
Psychology

Michael Bodenheimer
Psychology

Yair Daar
Psychology

Yoel Gluck
Finance

Jay Goldstein
Marketing/Management

Yoni Greenberg
Marketing/Management

Ari Lasker
Accounting

Yosef Lehrman
MIS-Data Communications

Martin Leybovich
Biology

Asher Mendlesberg
Accounting

Raphael Vinegar
MIS-Data Communications

Brad Warren
Political Science

Shmuli Jaroslawicz
Psychology