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Friday, 06 May 2011 / 2 Iyar, 5771

Volume 15 Number 16

Dershowitz: US attack on bin Laden validates 'targeted killing'

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HIS SPIRIT SOARED ABOVE ADVERSITY

Ben Helfgott was an inspired choice as keynote speaker at this year's Yom Hashoah ceremony at Johannesburg's West Park Cemetery. He personifies the best qualities of the human spirit, which refuses to accept adversity as a fate one cannot escape from. As a Holocaust survivor aged 15, having lost his family in the Nazi death camps, he did his adopted country, Great Britain proud by going on to captain its Olympic team as a weightlifter. In the photograph Helfgott shows the photographs of five young girls from the Polish ghetto he lived in, each having written a poem about how precious life was. (PHOTOGRAPH: ILAN OSSENDYVER) **PAGES 4, 5**

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Photograph of Denese, her mom and sisters

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May 7/3 Iyar

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17:43	18:35	Cape Town
17:00	17:50	Durban
17:20	18:10	Bloemfontein
17:15	18:06	Port Elizabeth
17:07	17:59	East London

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PARSHA OF THE WEEK

Ambassadors wanted

THESE ARE heady days for the Jewish people. Our community - as Jews the world over - has observed the Annual Holocaust Remembrance day, we will soon be remembering the State of Israel's fallen heroes and celebrating its birthday.

In the midst of all of this, one of our nation's mortal enemies has finally been eliminated by American Special Forces in Pakistan. I think it is appropriate to reflect on where each of us stands, how the individual Jew fits in to the bigger picture and how we are all part of a greater whole.

Not all of us will serve with distinction in Tzahal, become major philanthropists for the Jewish cause or be an international defender of Israel like Alan Dershowitz, but every one of us can make a difference to the global stature and well-being of our people, each in our own little way.

There was a time when Jewish people's faith in the one G-d of Israel was challenged on a regular basis. During the Crusades, for example, many thousands of Jews were forced to choose between "the cross and the sword".

Would they be prepared to deny their Judaism and embrace the dominant faith or would they rather die than desecrate the name of G-d? Indeed, countless Jews gave their lives Al Kiddush Hashem - in sanctification of the name of G-d. They became martyrs for their faith and heroes for eternity.

Thankfully, today it doesn't often happen that we have to make that choice. Tragically, we still have far too many martyrs nowadays; a family with little children butchered in Itamar; a young man praying at Joseph's tomb killed by Palestinian police or a young couple blown apart by bombers in Morocco leaving their toddler orphaned. But these Jews were not asked to make a choice. They didn't choose martyrdom. It was forced upon them.

The commandments to sanctify the name of G-d and never to desecrate it, are found in this week's Parsha (Leviticus 22, 32). Generally, today, the concept of Kiddush Hashem, sanctifying the name of G-d, is observed not by dying as Jews but by living as Jews. How does a Jew give G-d a good name? When he or she behaves as a good Jew should.

When other people see a Jew behaving honestly and uprightly,



PARSHAT EMOR
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that gives Jews and Judaism a good reputation. And ultimately it all goes back to Torah, the word of G-d. G-d Himself gets the credit for the noble behaviour of His people.

It doesn't necessarily require major heroics or martyrdom. There are little things that make a discernible difference. Some classic scenarios would be returning money to a shopkeeper if you were given incorrect change in your favour or calling attention to the fact that a client overpaid you. Although it is only right to do these things, the fact is that others might have kept quiet about it and when a Jew acts with honour he brings honour to his faith and his G-d.

Sadly, it also works in the reverse. Jewish slumlords do not give Jews, or the G-d of Israel, a good name. "Look at those greedy, miserly Shylocks!" is not something we want to hear - especially when there may be some grounds for the accusation.

Albert Einstein is reputed to have once stated: "If my theories prove correct, the Germans will claim me as a German, the French will say I am theirs and the Americans will call me their own. If my theories are incorrect, they will all say I am a Jew."

How proud are we when one of our own does something especially noteworthy like winning a Nobel Prize or performing a valiant humanitarian act. Conversely, how ashamed are we if there is a moral or financial scandal involving one of our own.

I once protested to the general manager of a well-known radio station in our community because I felt he was giving far too much exposure to Jews and Judaism in relation to our numbers and, unfortunately, the publicity wasn't always flattering.

At first he denied it. But when I presented him with statistical proof, his plain and honest answer was "Jews are news".

Fair or not, the fact of life is that Jews are scrutinised far more carefully than others. Like it or not, every Jew is representing his faith, his people and his G-d. Ultimately, how we act will bring fame or infamy upon all of us. Please G-d, we will all be successful ambassadors.



Yvonne Cohen and Bessie Feinblum (PHOTOGRAPH SUPPLIED)

The Royal Wedding – Pretoria style

DIANE WOLFSON, PRETORIA

A GROUP of friends in Pretoria decided to celebrate the Royal wedding in regal style when Fay Lurie sent out invitations to attend the wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton at her palatial residence.

According to Myra Egdes, one of the invited guests, instructions were to wear hats but other clothing was "come as you are, as nobody ever accused the Brits of being chic - pomp, ceremony and grandeur yes - but chic, oh no!

"Even this cliché was put to rest as we watched the crowds of magnificently dressed women with those spectacular hats to die for and their elegant ensembles just waiting to be oohed and aahed at.

"As we sipped our pink champagne and ate our paper-thin cucumber sandwiches and warm

scones with clotted cream and strawberry jam, we remembered to extend our little fingers as we discussed (with frequent interruptions of 'Shut up - I can't hear the commentator') what was happening on the TV screen in front of us."

The wedding proved to be a fairy tale delight and the group unanimously decided that the handsome prince and his beautiful princess were, like all good fairytales, destined to live happily ever after.

The lunch reception after the main event, was as good, if not better, than that being served at the Queen's venue and all left with a smile on their lips and a song (albeit the British national anthem) in their hearts.

What a pleasure to forget the troubles of the world and their problems for a few fun hours and bask in the happiness of others.

KASHRUT NOTICE

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- Any other comments/issues/suggestions?

Feedback can be sent to kashrutnotice@uos.co.za.

FOR THE RECORD

TWO ERRORS IN LAST WEEK'S PAPER

In last week's issue of the Jewish Report, the English date for our Shabbat listings was incorrect. Also the incorrect advertisement for Stamelman Properties appeared. We regret this error.

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Worldwide joy, but Muslim anger at bin Laden’s death

ALISON GOLDBERG

BLATANTLY anti-Israel Islamist groups in South Africa, the Muslim Judicial Council and the Al-Quds Foundation, of which Maulana Ihsaan Hendricks is president and director respectively, have castigat-ed the United States for its “extra-judicial killing” of Osama bin Laden.

The two did not react to bin Laden’s piv-otal role as mastermind of the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Centre in New York and a host of atrocities elsewhere. The US for years had been taunted by its “enemy num-ber one”, bin Laden (pictured). The Al-Qaida founder had over the years become a more strident anti-Zionist proponent.

Hendricks on Monday said inter alia: “The Muslim Judicial Council condemns the fail-ure of the United States to arrest Osama bin Laden in order to maintain international global standards of law by affording him the opportunity to present his case through humane and legal avenues.

“The order to kill (bin Laden by American Naval Seals) is fundamentally not supported by any legal standards and contradicts the standards that American (sic) claims to want to maintain and uphold through the war on terror.”

In the Gaza Strip similarly, Palestinian Hamas leader Ismail Haniya has condemned “the assassination of a Muslim and Arab warrior”.

According to The Meir Amit Intelligence and Terrorism Information Centre, the MJC is a member of the Union of Good, an umbrella organisation comprised of more than 50 Islamic charitable funds and founda-tions worldwide.

The latter, which transfers money to Hamas, is designated as a terrorism-sup-porting organisation and is outlawed by Israel and the United States.

Come late June, MJC and Al-Quds are planning an aid convoy across the African continent to the Gaza Strip. Its humanitari-an assistance is expected to be sent by sea. Hendricks apparently received Hamas’ Haniya’s blessing for the dispatch of the con-voey. In addition, Hendricks met with senior IHH figures in Istanbul in January, who pledged their support for the convoy.

Professor of Religion Studies at the University of Johannesburg, one of the chief organisers of the notorious UJ Petition Committee to sever formal ties between UJ and Ben-Gurion University, (along with fel-low committee member Palestinian Soli-darity Committee spokesman Salim Vally), also failed to condemn Bin Laden in an interview with SABC TV3, suggesting only that his death “would be perceived to be a loss to the Muslim world”.

He also stated that bin Laden represented the idea to Muslims that it was possible to stand up to the United States as a religious Muslim.

Esack and Hendricks did not respond to



more pointed questions from the SA Jewish Report on their own percep-tion of the acts of terrorism commit-ted by bin Laden and Al-Qaida since its founding in 1988.

The South African government in the meantime in what could be described as “a fence-sitting” state-ment, has called on all countries across the world to “co-operate in stemming the demon of terrorism in

all its manifestations” in global politics.

The statement was issued by Clayson Monyela, spokesman for the Department of International Relations and Co-operation on May 2, in reaction to the killing of bin Laden in Abbottabad in Pakistan. The operation, launched from Afghanistan, was carried out by members of the United States Navy Seals from the Naval Special Warfare De-velopment Group, under the command of the Joint Special Operations Command, in conjunction with US Central Intelligence Agency operatives.

The killing received overwhelmingly favourable reaction in the US, from United Nations secretary-general Ban Ki-moon, Nato, the European Union and a large num-ber of other countries all over the world.

Importantly, the Palestinian Authority spokesman, Ghassan Khatib said: “Getting rid of bin Laden is good for the cause of peace worldwide but what counts is to over-come the discourse and the methods - the violent methods - that were created and encouraged by bin Laden and others in the world.” The PA and Hamas met on Tuesday and Wednesday to hold unity talks.

In a cautionary to Jewry about the more euphoric public reactions of the kind seen on Sunday night outside the White House and at Ground Zero, Rabbi Michael Lerner of the (San Francisco) Bay Area congrega-tion Beyt Tikkun and chief editor of the US Tikkun magazine wrote: “The Jewish tradi-tion has much to say on the killing of our vicious and even murderous enemies. When Pharaoh’s troops were drowning in the Red Sea as they sought to re-enslave or kill the Israelites, the angels began to sing praises (the Hallel prayers: Psalms 113-118).”

G-d proclaimed: “My children (the Egyptians) are sinking in the sea, and you are singing praises?” “Yet G-d did not silence the Israelites, knowing that at that moment it would be hard for humans not to celebrate the death of an oppressor.

“Nevertheless, the Jewish tradition then instituted two practices in accord with G-d’s response: First, that the Hallel prayers be cut down to a partial saying of some of the psalms on the last six days of Passover. And second, that when we do the seder on Passover and recite the plagues that were used against the Egyptians to get them to free the Jews, we put our finger in the cup of wine, symbolic of our joy, and dip out a drop of wine for each plague - this symbolises that our cup of joy cannot be full if our own liberation requires the death of those who were part of the oppressor society.”

Chief Rabbi: Victory for forces of goodness

CHIEF RABBI WARREN GOLDSTEIN

THE DEATH Of Osama bin Laden must be seen in the context of a global battle between those who cherish and defend the values of the sanctity of life, compassion and freedom, and those who oppose these values.

In this context bin Laden’s death is a pow-erful and symbolic victory for the forces of goodness in the world.

Especially at a time like this, Judaism teaches that we need to maintain our sensi-

tivity for any human suffering and death, while maintaining the moral clarity of the distinction between good and evil.

Let us take note that in this global war the State of Israel finds itself on the front-lines of defending the values of freedom, human dignity and the sanctity of life.

Let us all pray to Hashem that these moral values of goodness will prevail so that war and suffering can come to an end forever as part of the Divinely-promised Final Redemption so beautifully described by the great prophets of our people.



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Just say bingo – and fill a hall

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPHS BY RITA LEWIS

THE POPULARITY of holding bingo evenings to raise money for schools, organisations or the like, seems to have no bounds. Whether it is the anticipation and possibility of winning exciting prizes that is the draw-card or whether it is the camaraderie of friends sitting together all in “the same boat”, all waiting for their numbers to be the next one to come up. Recently, two bingo evenings were held. The first was when the hall of the Hebrew Order of David was transformed into a Beijing scene for the annual Torah Academy Bingo Evening, organised by the Torah Academy Primary School PTA. In keeping with Torah Academy’s Chinese theme, some interesting specialties of traditional Chinese food were served. Keeping the excitement going was the possibility of winning one of the prizes totalling around

R74 000. The prizes included flat screen television sets, iPods, jewellery, a four-night diving getaway at Sodwana Bay, appliances, watches, cellphones and store vouchers, kosher eateries, etc. The second bingo event was when the Jewish Benevolent Society held their function at the Capri Hotel in Savoy - prior to which a delicious meal was served with more food arriving throughout the evening. As an opener to the event, each participant received a numbered entrance ticket. The owner of a selected number was the recipient of a “very nice” prize. Other prizes were stays at various game lodges, tyre and retread vouchers, chocolate fountains, a Restonic bed, hairdressing facilities, arrangements from a flower market and airway tickets. Both Rabbi Dovid Hazdan, dean of Torah Academy, and Jackie Feldman, JWBS chairman, stressed the importance of the takings of the evenings for their respective organisation and school.



Moshe Montrose with Sidney and Henriette Blecher.



Hillel Solomons.



Bingo caller Ivan Solomon.



Organisers of the Torah Academy Bingo Evening Ellen Moss and Rochel Zlotnick.

In Pretoria, the six million are commemorated

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPHS BY DIANE WOLFSON PRETORIA

IN SPITE of inclement weather, a fairly large crowd gathered at Rebecca Street Cemetery in Pretoria to commemorate Yom Hashoah. Among the numerous dignitaries were ambassadors and representatives from the American, Argentinean and Austrian embassies, the British High Commission, Croatia, Cyprus, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi and the Netherlands. As in previous years, each attendee was handed a sheet of paper with a photograph and what remains recorded of a victim of the Holocaust. Each person was asked to regard themselves as having been “twinned” with this family, adult or child, to pay homage to these lost souls. The message on behalf of the youth was given by Shelley-Anne Nowosenetz who spoke of the ordeals suffered by the children in the ghettos. Advocate Lawrence Nowosenetz brought a message from the SA Jewish Ex-Service League and a poem was read by high school learner, Leora Fine. In the absence of Israeli Ambassador Dov Segev-Steinberg, Eda Cohen, PA to ambassadors for the past 40 years, read his message. “I am the son of survivors, therefore I too, am a survivor. All that is

absent is the belief that this need will never again rise - that the lessons of so great a catastrophe have created a new world order where the need for places of refuge from persecution are an anachronism and something of the distant past. “Sadly, for Jews, that is far from the truth, and the necessity of having an Israel today is as dire as it was in 1948. The fact is that hatred of the Jew still lives on within our midst.” Victor Gordon, chairman of the SA Jewish Board of Deputies, Pretoria, said: “As we speak, a letter has been submitted by a Dr Jan Biro of the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden to the Nobel Prize Foundation suggesting that the “excessive numbers of past Jewish laureates supports a strong suspicion of ‘Jew bias’ in their selection process, warranting the total exclusion of Jews from future consideration, and the suggestion that future selections should be based solely on race and focused on the exclusion of Jews.” Gordon ended with a personal account of his recent visit to Auschwitz, Birkenau and Monowitz, aware that he would not find inner peace until he had stood on the hallowed ground on which one and a half million of those who shared his faith, had met their end and that, “sadly, frustratingly, anti-Semitism will not simply go away” Main speaker was Tracey Farber, a psychologist who has spent many hours interviewing survivors. Unfortunately, a survivor of

the Holocaust, Shimon Pieperz, who was supposed to share the podium, was not well enough to attend. “In every culture there is a ritual of burial and mourning that gives closure to the bereavement process. The survivors had no closure about the death of their families. There was no body, no burial and no shiva. Many still do not know how their family members died. Some say that as they age their loss is felt more intensely as they review their lives.” said Farber. “Our Lithuanian parents and grandparents came to South Africa before the Holocaust and many lost family who were living in Europe. They too, had no closure and no formal mourning process. Yom Hashoah, Holocaust remembrance day- is our day of mourning for all the six million who died for “Kiddush Hashem.” The survivors offer us inspiration, when we see their resilience, the way that they were able to bounce back after catastrophic trauma. As children and teenagers many lost one if not both parents, including siblings and extended families. They lost their childhoods and their education. They emerged sick, traumatised and emaciated after the Holocaust. They were taken to strange countries and had to learn to speak new languages. They built their lives, worked, married and built families and did their best to make the world a better place.

Every year there are fewer left...

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPH BY MOIRA SCHNEIDER CAPE TOWN

SIXTY-EIGHT years ago, Miriam Lichterman was rounded up and left the burning walls of the Warsaw Ghetto. Her destination: the Majdanek, Birkenau, Auschwitz, Ravensbruck and Malhof concentration camps. “To some of our young people gathered here today, it might seem a long time ago. For me, it was my youth, torn away in a most brutal manner,” the Holocaust survivor told the thousand-strong crowd at the annual Yom Hashoah V’Hagvurah commemoration at Pine-lands Cemetery. The event was heralded by the haunting sound of a siren. The kindling of memorial lights by members of the survivors’ organisation, some of whom were in wheelchairs, added poignancy. So too did a heart-rending account by survivor Shmuel Keren of the massacre of his family as seen through the eyes of his 18-month-old brother who perished, read by Herzlia head girl Dalit Anstey. Speaking of her experience, Lichterman said that what had sustained her were the teachings of her parents: “Even in inhuman circumstances, one should behave humanly and be a ‘mensch’.



Holocaust survivor Sarah Jerusalemi, 90, kindles a memorial light, assisted by her niece Liliane Alhadeff (behind) and Morris Kushner of the Chevrah Kadisha.

my own survival at Auschwitz,” Lichterman related. During the selection, her number was written down for the gas chamber, but removed by a Czechoslovakian Jewess. “I walked through the valley of the shadow of death, but Hashem was with me. She will always remain in my memory as a symbol of courage in inhuman circumstances,” she said of her rescuer. Despite everything, Lichterman believes that every human being has the potential to be good, “otherwise I would have been a pile of ashes”. She also made an impassioned plea for communal unity. “To our enemies, it made no difference where we came from - we were Jews and we died together. So let us learn to live together,” she urged. Delivering the main address, founding director of the Cape Town Holocaust Centre Myra Osrin, outlined the almost total destruction of Lithuanian and Latvian Jewry 70 years ago. Despite a “modest” revival of Jewish life in Lithuania since independence in 1990, the country had “done little to confront its past”, she noted. “There are today disturbing signs of ever-present and growing anti-Semitism. There has been a

notable failure to prosecute a single Lithuanian Nazi war criminal. “On the other hand, Lithuanian Jewish resistance fighters who had fought the Nazis, have now been threatened with war crime prosecutions,” she stated. Describing the growing list of post-Holocaust genocides in Cambodia, Bosnia, Rwanda and Darfur as “painful”, Osrin said: “Let us resolve never to be silent when injustice and genocide are being perpetrated - anywhere, at any time, against anyone. “There is no greater way to honour the memory of our six million.” Li Boiskin, chairman of the South African Jewish Board of Deputies (Cape Council) under whose auspices the commemoration was held, said that individuals should “respect the diversity of all, no matter their skin colour, language or sexual orientation”. One should “challenge the abuse of power and human rights and highlight the dangers of apathy in the face of abuse”, she urged. The service concluded with the communal Kaddish led by Cantor Ian Camissar of the Cape Town Hebrew Congregation and the singing of Nkosi Sikelel iAfrika and Hatikvah.

What to say about bin Laden’s death

THE KILLING by US Special Forces of Al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden - arguably the most reviled person on the planet since Adolf Hitler - was called by Brenthurst Foundation head Greg Mills a combination of “revenge, justice, victory and martyrdom”. Political leaders everywhere have rushed to express overwhelmingly positive responses.

Those of various African countries, reported by Radio Netherlands Worldwide, included Kenyan Prime Minister Raila Odinga: “His killing is an act of justice”; Ugandan foreign affairs minister Sam Kutesa: “It’s good news... a momentous event”; Mali’s Foreign Minister Soumeylou Boubeye Maiga: “We welcome (his) death”; Morocco’s Communications Minister Khalid Naciri said the entire world suffered from bin Laden; Tanzania’s President Jakaya Kikwete said the news was a “relief”.

In comparison, the brief statement from South Africa’s Department of International Relations and Co-operation was sadly muted and woolly: “The Government of the Republic of South Africa has noted the news of the passing on of Mr Osama bin Laden, as announced during the early hours of today, Monday, May 2, 2011... South Africa reconfirms the commitment to the system of global governance of multilateralism.

“Our resolve to support peace, security and development in the world remains. We call upon all countries across the world to co-operate in stemming the demon of terrorism, in all its manifestations, out of global politics.”

At the time of writing on Tuesday evening, President Jacob Zuma had refrained from commenting, saying he had not received an official report and was not prepared to comment “at this stage”.

ANC spokesperson Jackson Mthembu refused to comment, according to the Mail & Guardian, until there is evidence of the body, despite US confirmation of the death by DNA tests: “Even President (Barack) Obama hasn’t seen the body... Until all of us are convinced, we will not issue a formal statement.”

The contrast was embarrassingly glaring between SA’s subdued comments and those of numerous major countries outside Africa, which were bold and upbeat. Australian Prime Minister Julia Gillard said, according to the BBC: “I welcome the death of Osama bin Laden”; Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte: “(his death is) an important blow”; Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper: “Canada receives the news... with sober satisfaction”; UK Prime Minister David Cameron: “It is a massive step forward”; Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi: “A great result... for all democracies”; Russia: “The Kremlin welcomes the serious success the US achieved”; Japanese Prime Minister Naoto Kan: “We welcome this significant progress in counter-terrorism”; New Zealand Prime Minister John Key: “The world is a safer place”; French President Nicolas Sarkozy: “Terrorism has suffered a historic defeat.” Jerzy Buzek, EU president: “We have woken up in a more secure world... (he) claimed to be acting in the name of Islam, but in reality he made a mockery of the basic values of his and all other religions”; Swedish foreign minister Carl Bildt: “A world without (him) is a better world”; German Chancellor Angela Merkel said she was “relieved”.

Even Palestinian Authority spokesman Ghassan Khatib said: “Getting rid of bin Laden is good for the cause of peace worldwide.”

A conspicuous counter-view from the Middle East came from Ismail Haniyeh, head of terrorist organisation Hamas in Gaza: “We condemn the assassination and the killing of an Arab holy warrior... a continuation of the American policy based on oppression and the shedding of Muslim and Arab blood.”

South Africa has been hailed as Africa’s leader. Why do we not show leadership and take a stand? Surely our place should be with the countries mentioned above? What we got was obfuscation from Zuma and his government, characteristic of his indecisive style. Why not say something like: “If this is true, it is a great moment for the free world”?

Is this weak response calculated not to lose Muslim votes in the coming local elections? Surely elimination of an arch-terrorist like bin Laden should override parochial interests?

We had high expectations in 1994 - founded on the world’s best constitution - about the moral high ground South Africa would fill in Africa and the globe. Alas, we have been shown not to have the leadership qualities we hoped for. This does not make us proud as South Africans.

OPINION AND ANALYSIS

FORUM FOR DIVERSE VIEWS

Targeted killing is vindicated

ALAN DERSHOWITZ

THE DECISION to target and kill Osama bin Laden is being applauded by all decent people. Approval to capture or kill this mass-murdering terrorist leader was given by Presidents Barack Obama and George W Bush. It was the right decision, both morally and legally.



Although bin Laden wore no military uniform and held no official military rank, he was an appropriate military target. As the titular and spiritual head of Al-Qaida, he was the functional equivalent of a head of state or commander in chief of a terrorist army.

From the beginning of recorded history, killing the king was the legitimate object of military action. The very phrase “check mate” means “the king is dead ,”signifying the successful end of the battle.

Yet, there are those who claim that all targeted killings are immoral and illegal. These critics characterise such actions as “extrajudicial executions” and demand that terrorist leaders and functionaries be treated as common criminals who must be arrested and brought to trial.

The operation that resulted in bin Laden’s death was a military action calculated to kill rather than to “arrest” him. It is possible, though highly unlikely, that he could have been captured alive and brought to trial. The decision to employ military personnel with guns, rather than a drone firing rockets, was probably made by generals rather than lawyers.

Had it been militarily preferable to fire a rocket, that option would almost certainly have been selected - as it was by the Nato forces that rocketed Gaddafi’s compound. A rocket attack would have been a pure targeted killing with no possibility of live capture.

The operation directed against bin Laden may have been designed, in part, to have preserved the theoretical option of “arrest”, though the likelihood of a live capture was virtually impossible under the circumstances. Indeed it is likely that bin Laden’s death was deemed preferential to his capture and trial, because the latter would have

raised the probability that Al-Qaida would take hostages and try to exchange them for bin Laden.

Indeed, a US national security official has confirmed to Reuters that “this was a kill operation” and there was no desire to capture bin Laden alive. This was a targeted kill appropriate for a military combatant but not for an ordinary (or even extraordinary) criminal.

Nonetheless, our government felt it necessary to announce that bin Laden was shot after he allegedly resisted, thus suggesting he was not killed in cold blood. But it is clear that he would have been killed whether or not he resisted, since this was a kill operation from the outset and it is unlikely he was ever given the opportunity to surrender, an opportunity not required under the laws of war.

Accordingly, those who have opposed the very concept of targeted killings should be railing against the killing of Osama bin Laden.

Among others, these critics include officials in Britain, France, Italy, Russia, the EU, Jordan, and the United Nations. A former British Foreign Secretary once said: “The British government has made it repeatedly clear that so-called targeted assassinations of this kind are unlawful, unjustified and counterproductive.”

The French foreign ministry has declared “that extrajudicial executions contravene international law and are unacceptable.” The Italian Foreign Minister has said: “Italy, like the whole of the European Union, has always condemned the practice of targeted assassinations.”

The Russians have asserted: “Russia has repeatedly stressed the unacceptability of extrajudicial settling of scores and ‘targeted killings’.” Javier Solana has noted: “The European Union has consistently condemned extrajudicial killings.”

The Jordanians have said: “Jordan has always denounced this policy of assassination and its position on this has always been clear.” And Kofi Annan (former UN secretary general) has declared that “extrajudicial

killings are violations of international law”.

Yet none of these nations, groups or individuals have criticised the targeted killing of Osama bin Laden by the US. The reason is obvious. All the condemnations against targeted killing was directed at one country. Guess which one? Israel, of course.

Israel developed the concept of targeted killings and used it effectively against the “Osama bin Ladens” of Hamas, who directed terrorist attacks against Israeli civilians, killing and wounding more Israelis, as a percentage of its population, than the number killed by bin Laden.

It was when Israel managed to kill the head of Hamas, that the international community, with the striking exception of the United States, decided that targeted killing was illegal and immoral.

But now that it has been used against an enemy of Britain, France, Italy and other European nations, the tune has changed. Suddenly targeted killing is not only legal and moral, it is praiseworthy (except, of course, to Hamas, which immediately condemned the US killing of bin Laden).

Well, the truth is that when used properly, targeted killing has always been deserving of approval - even when employed by Israel, a nation against which a double standard always seems to be applied.

Indeed, in Israel, the use of targeted killings has been closely regulated by its supreme court and permitted only against terrorists who are actively engaged in ongoing acts of terrorism. In the United States, on the other hand the decisions to use this tactic is made by the President alone, without any form of judicial review.

So, let the world stop applying a double standard to Israel and let it start judging the merits and demerits of military tactics such as targeted killing. On balance, targeted killing, when used prudently against proper military targets, can be an effective, lawful, and moral tool in the war against terrorism.

• This article first appeared on Prof Dershowitz’s blog.

Royal wedding popular even in Sandringham



Transfixed by the romantic spectacle of the recent Royal wedding, two young observant Jewish women watch on the TV monitor at Mooz Bros kosher bakery/restaurant in Sandringham, Johannesburg last Friday. (PHOTOGRAPH: ILAN OSSENDRYVER)

OPINION AND ANALYSIS – FORUM FOR DIVERSE VIEWS

Bin Laden’s killing raises questions of security

URIEL HEILMAN
NEW YORK

FOR YEARS after the attacks of September 11, 2001, many Americans waited in fear for the next strike by Al-Qaida on US soil. But the ensuing decade has seen no more major terrorist attacks in the United States.

Now, with the news that Osama bin Laden has been killed in Pakistan by US forces, the question many American Jews are considering is whether the liquidation of Al-Qaida’s leader makes a follow-up attack more or less likely, and whether Jews could be a target.

“More likely,” said Paul Goldenberg, director of the Secure Community Network, the American Jewish community’s security organ known by the acronym SCAN.

“We know of no imminent threat as of today as a direct result of the death of bin Laden,” Goldenberg told JTA on Monday morning, when much of the world woke up to the news of bin Laden’s death. “However, the community should remain extremely vigilant because there are lone wolves, and other terrorist groups have used incidents like this to launch revenge attacks.”

Last October, a pair of mail bombs from Yemen were sent to Chicago synagogues but were intercepted by law enforcement officials before they reached their targets. A year ago, on May 1, 2010, a Pakistani-born man tried and failed to detonate a car bomb in New York’s Times Square.

Neither event was linked to a specific American action, but both resulted in raised states of alert at many Jewish institutions. Security experts have credited better US intelligence and law enforcement in preventing terrorist attacks on US soil after 9/11.

In Israel’s experience, assassinations of senior terrorist figures have been followed up months or even years later by revenge attacks. Hamas and Hezbollah often have ascribed their terrorist attacks on Israel to Israeli military actions.

But some security experts are warning against interpreting terrorist attacks as acts of revenge, saying it fuels the mistaken notion that somehow the actions of the West are to blame for terrorism.

“When you focus on this sort of causality, we accept the terrorists’ framing,” Bruce Hoffman, director of Georgetown University’s Centre

for Peace and Security Studies, told The Atlantic blogger Jeffrey Goldberg a year ago.

“They see themselves as reluctant fighters, always retaliating, never initiating,” Hoffman said. “The media can make it look as if the terror groups are simply defending themselves from some provocation. The question is one of original provocation.”

More concerning now, say security experts, is the possibility that a lone wolf will be motivated by bin Laden’s killing to attack a US target. While intelligence and law enforcement officials are adept at tracking terrorist activity and planning - just last week, German officials arrested three suspected Al-Qaida members for planning an imminent terrorist attack - it’s much harder to stop a lone person acting spontaneously or with little co-ordination.

“The concern is that a lone wolf that sits in front of his or her television screen sees this, becomes furious at what occurred and with no real planning, on their own or in a small group, will make an effort to go out and execute an attack,” Goldenberg said. “Those in law enforcement have a very tough time



Upon hearing the news of Osama bin Laden’s death, jubilant crowds packed New York’s Times Square in the wee hours of May 1. (PHOTOGRAPH: URI FINTZY)

Inset: Osama bin Laden.



keeping track of the lone wolf.”

That’s the scenario that took place in March 1994, when a Lebanese cab driver in New York, incensed at the massacre of 29 Arabs in Hebron by Baruch Goldstein, opened fire on a van full of Chasidic youths on the Brooklyn Bridge, killing 16-year-old Ari Halberstam.

When it comes to al-Qaida, the question is whether removing the movement’s leader will deal Al-Qaida a critical blow or whether the movement is diffuse enough to thrive even without bin Laden’s leadership.

“What is this great victory? What is the great thing that they achieved?” a Sunni Muslim preacher in Lebanon, Bilal al-Baroudi, was quoted in The New York Times as saying. “Bin Laden is not the end, and the door remains shut between us and the United States. We dislike the reactions and the celebrations in the United States.”

The response to bin Laden’s death elsewhere in the Muslim world has been mixed. Hamas

leader Ismail Haniyeh condemned the killing, calling bin Laden a Muslim and Arab warrior and saying: “We regard this as a continuation of the American policy based on oppression and the shedding of Muslim and Arab blood.”

A Palestinian Authority spokesman, however, said bin Laden’s demise was “good for the cause of peace”.

Israel and Jewish groups concurred, with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu hailing it as a triumph in the fight against terrorists.

“The State of Israel joins the American people on this historic day in celebrating the elimination of Osama bin Laden,” Netanyahu said in a statement. “This is a resounding victory for justice, freedom and the common values of all democracies that are resolutely fighting shoulder to shoulder against terrorism.” (JTA)

AROUND THE WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

SAN FRANCISCO CIRCUMCISION BAN LIKELY FOR NOVEMBER BALLOT

SAN FRANCISCO - A proposal to ban circumcision in San Francisco looks likely for the November ballot.

A group opposed to male circumcision told Reuters that it had collected more than enough signatures on petitions to qualify their proposal for the November 8 vote.

The measure, which would apply only in the city of San Francisco, would make it a misdemeanour crime to circumcise a boy before he is 18 years old. The maximum penal-

ty would be a year in jail and a \$1 000 fine. Circumcisions would be permitted only for medical reasons.

On April 26, the group submitted 12 000 signatures for verification to the city’s elections department. If 7 200 of them are valid, the proposal goes on the ballot.

Legal experts told reporters that even if the measure passes in November, it would be challenged as a constitutional violation of freedom of religion.

The Anti-Defamation League and the San Francisco Jewish Community Relations Council have come out against the proposal.

Abby Michaelson-Porth, associate director of the JCRC, told reporters that if the proposal made it to the ballot, “there will be an organised campaign against it”.

Jewish boys traditionally are circumcised at eight days of age and Muslims at some time during boyhood. (JTA)

US HOLOCAUST MUSEUM PRESENTING ROLL CALL OF VICTIMS

WASHINGTON - Holocaust survivors and members of the public are reading the names of Holocaust victims at the US Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington.

The reading at the museum’s Hall of Remembrance began last Sunday and will last through May 8.

During the Days of Remembrance, May 1 - 8, the museum is

commemorating the six million Jews killed in the Holocaust, as well as the millions of other victims of Nazi persecution, with observances in Washington and throughout the United States.

In recognition of the 65th anniversary of the verdicts at the first Nuremberg trial and the 50th anniversary of the trial of Adolf Eichmann, the museum chose

“Justice and Accountability in the Face of Genocide: What Have We Learned?” as its theme for 2011.

On Monday, Holocaust Memorial Day, some 7 000 Auschwitz survivors, Jewish youth from around the world and 2 000 Polish youth marched between the Auschwitz and Birkenau concentration camps in the 20th annual March of the Living. (JTA)

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Adler Museum of
Medicine, Wits Medical
School, Parktown:
“Reflect”, an exhibition by
Elaine Hirschowitz, opened
by Kim Berman on May 12,
(011) 717-2067.

Art on Paper Gallery,
Milpark: “Still, life”, draw-
ings by Terry Kurgan and
Ruth Rosengarten, May 7 - 28,
(011) 726-2234.

Baxter Theatre,
Rondebosch: “Rewind: A
Cantata for Voice, Tape and
Testimony” composed by
Philip Miller, May 12 - 14,
(021) 685-7880.

Carnival City, Brakpan: In
the Mardi Gras, “Die
Poggenpoels Praat: Evita
Bezuidenhout and Ouma
Ossewania”, until May 8,
(011) 898-7000.

Elizabeth Sneddon
Theatre, Durban: Geraldine
Naidoo and Matthew
Ribnick’s “Monkey Nuts”,
until May 15, (031) 260-2296.

Foxwood House,
Houghton: Mother’s Day
with Judy Page, May 8, (011)
486-0935.

Fugard Theatre, District
Six: The world premiere of
Athol Fugard’s
“Birdwatchers”, directed by
Fugard and starring Sean
Taylor, Dorothy Ann Gould
and Guy de Lancey, opens
May 10, (021) 461-4554.

Johannesburg Art Gallery,
Johannesburg: “A fearless
vision”, major retrospective
of the late Alan Crump,
curated by Federico Freschi,
opens May 8, (011) 726-3130.

Linder Auditorium,
Parktown, Johannesburg:
On May 11 and 12, JPO plays
Tchaikovsky’s “Polish”
Symphony and Rimsky-
Korsakov’s Scheherazade.
Conductor: Michal
Dworzynski, (011) 789-2733.
On May 14, Andrey Baranov
(violin) and Maria Baranova
(piano) perform works by
Bach, Beethoven,
Tchaikovsky, Van Dijk,
Wieniawski and Gershwin,
for the JMS, (011) 728-5492.

Market Theatre, Newtown,
Johannesburg: In the
Laager, “A Teacher in the
Bushveld”, based on the writ-
ings of Herman Charles
Bosman, performed by David
Butler, May 11 - June 12, (011)
832-1641.

Montecasino, Fourways: In
the Pieter Toerien, “Perfect
Wedding” until May 8; in the
Studio, “Love, Loss and What
I Wore” until June 12; in
Teatro, “Dreamgirls” until
May 8, (011) 510-7472.

Old Mutual Theatre on the
Square, Sandton: “Bend it
like Beauty”, until May 21.
Friday concerts: In Cinq,
May 6; Umoya Wind Quintet,
May 13 (011) 883-8606.

Standard Bank Gallery,
Johannesburg: “Listening to
Distant Thunder”, a Peter
Clarke retrospective, until
July 2, (011) 631-1889.

TAPESTRY

ART, BOOKS, DANCE, FILM, THEATRE

A chucklingly
good farce full
of bedlam

Show: Perfect Wedding, Pieter Toerien Theatre, Montecasino, Fourways, (011) 511-1988
Director: Alan Swerdlow
Playwright: Robin Hawdon
Cast: Alan Committie; Lynita Crofford; Robert Fridjhon; Jo Galloway; Alex Halligey; Jenny Stead
Until: May 8

REVIEWED BY CHRISTINA KENNEDY

WILDLY IMPROBABLE situations, doors opening and slamming shut, mistaken identities and daftness galore - that’s why we love a good farce. It’s not high art, but we do enjoy chuckling at its extreme silliness for a couple of hours.

And that’s precisely what Robin Hawdon’s “Perfect Wedding” is all about. It serves up easy laughs and a guilt-free night out at the theatre where you can pack up your troubles and smile, smile, smile - or laugh, laugh, laugh, to be more precise.

Over the decades Toerien has become renowned for the farces staged at his theatres, starring the likes of Rex Garner. Following a slight hiatus in popularity, it seems this enjoy-



The chamber maid delivers a clearly implausible explanation to distinctly unimpressed Tom (Robert Fridjhon) and Bill (Alan Committie) in Robin Hawdon’s hilarious farce “Perfect Wedding”. (PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY MONTECASINO)

able comedy form is coming back into vogue among audiences of all ages who yearn for a touch of light escapism.

What’s interesting, too, is that a new generation of fresh farce faces is coming to the fore - among them comedians Alan Committie and Robert Fridjhon and comedy actress Jo Galloway, who all starred in last year’s equally manic “Boeing Boeing”.

Of course, performing in a farce is devilishly difficult - as you have to be on the ball every second you’re on stage, keeping your wits about you as quickfire dialogue whizzes around your ears and the action scurries from parlour to bedroom to bathroom and back, with that one thinking that this one is doing that thing with the other one’s wife...

Madcap physical humour is crucially important in a farce, as are the twin aspects of timing and pace. With comic misunderstandings flying to and fro, the cast’s collective responsibility is to sweep the audience along for the raucous ride - and then nimbly surf the crests of their laughter.

Fortunately, “Perfect Wedding” - under the superb and tightly managed direction of Alan

Swerdlow - succeeds on all counts. It’s a light frolic that’s immensely entertaining.

Fridjhon stars as Bill, who wakes up in a hotel’s honeymoon suite on his wedding day with a bump on his head and a strange girl (Jenny Stead) in his bed... who is not his wife-to-be. His best man, the “very together” military man Tom (Committie), arrives followed by Bill’s haughty fiancée, Rachel (Alex Halligey) - while the mystery woman is holed up in the bathroom. Throw in a cocky chambermaid (Galloway) and a tipsy mother-in-law-in-waiting (Lynita Crofford) and, inevitably, panic and mayhem ensue.

Swerdlow extracts the best from this talented cast of young actors and gives them the space to shine. One suspects that Committie, in particular, deliberately “corpses” and improvises every now and then to prod the audience into additional spasms of uncontrollable laughter - much like he does in his own one-man comedy shows.

Bedrooms and bedlam, nonsense and nuttiness - “Perfect Wedding” may bear absolutely no resemblance to William and Kate’s nuptials, but we’ll wager that it’s far more royally entertaining!

There’s just no stopping irrepressible Pieter-DirkUys

ROBYN SASSEN

MOTHER’S DAY is upon us. The staging of an opera for one of South Africa’s more controversial mothers, Winnie Madikizela-Mandela, at Pretoria’s State Theatre, makes theatre personality Pieter-Dirk Uys grin. “It’s like ‘Fiddler on the Roof’ in Nuremberg”, he says. But Evita Bezuidenhout - his alter-ego - is also celebrating her mom this weekend.

On May 31 1961, 50 years ago, South Africa became an apartheid republic. Ossewania Poggenpoel (107), Evita’s mum, is furious she wasted her life believing apartheid was a gift from G-d. “We must re-evaluate our historical process: It’s too late for ousma to sleep with the garden boy.”

Uys hasn’t only this production on his mind. Election Day, May 18, looms. His work’s backstory has always been making people aware of real issues. In 1999, he did a roadshow. For this election, he’s on Twitter in an attempt to engage the masses.

“This is our most important election: much of the electorate was born after Nelson Mandela’s release. They aren’t stupid; they’re angry because they’re half-educated. My Twitter ID is TannieEvita. So far, it has over 2 500 followers. Twitter is graffiti; like live radio, it can be terribly boring, but its reach cannot be underestimated.”

It’s been quite a year for Uys: “I was very excited to win a Teddy Award in February. Evita got a Naledi for lifetime achievement, and Bambi Kellerman, Evita’s sister, won a Fleur du Cap for ‘FAK Songs and Other Struggle Anthems’.”

The Teddy Award, the leading international event for gay-lesbian film festivals, is a “societally engaged political award given to films and people that communicate queer

themes and content... and contribute with this to more tolerance, acceptance, solidarity and equality in society.”

Uys’ Teddy was for his commitment to addressing the HIV/Aids crisis. “Getting a standing ovation of 3 000 in Tempelhof - which still bears Goering echoes - was astounding. Angela Merkel was there (with terrible hair).

“It’s extraordinary to be loved in the city of my mother’s birth. Her piano is in the Jewish Museum there: She was a brilliant concert pianist and was forced into exile in 1936, because she was Jewish. She took the piano.

“That Blüthner was the centre of our lives, as children. Some years ago, I visited the ‘Home and Exile’ exhibit at the Jewish Museum. It lacked a piano. My sister Tessa, a London-based concert pianist, and I approached the curators and they agreed: in 2004 we shipped it back to Berlin.”


Uys has many projects on the go. After this foray with ma, Evita will perform with Afrikaans songster Coenie de Villiers. Still reeling from selling 50 000 copies of her recipe book “Evita’s Kossie Sikelele” (2010, Umuzi), Evita’s brought out another: “Evita’s Black Bessie” (Umuzi), “a journal with a blackberry”. A corruption of Shakespeare’s “Merry Wives of Windsor” is also under-way. “‘The Merry Wives of Zuma’, will be in 2012, in time for the ANC Congress.

“I look in the mirror and realise unemployment is a very powerful incentive: I’ve been unemployed since 1974. I have to do this because if I don’t, no one else will.”

- “Die Poggenpoels Praat: Evita Bezuidenhout and Ouma Ossewania” is at Carnival City, Brakpan until May 8, (011) 898-7000.



At 107, Ossewania Poggenpoel is sometimes abandoned by her famous daughter Evita Bezuidenhout and resorts to meals of “Lucky Pet”. (PHOTOGRAPH BY STEVEN HURTER)



FELDMAN
ON FILM
Peter Feldman

PICK OF THE WEEK

Jane Eyre

Cast: Mia Wasikowska; Michael Fassbender; Jamie Bell; Judi Dench
Director: Cary Fukunaga

American-Japanese director Cary Fukunaga has done a remarkable job in his screen treatment of the Charlotte Brontë classic by homing in on the essence of the story, eliciting superb performances from his cast and remaining refreshingly un-Gothic in the process.

It is stylish, elegant and it observes the period of the time with a keen eye and a fresh lens. Mia Wasikowska, who left her mark as Alice in the

reworking by Tim Burton of “Alice in Wonderland”, inhabits the pivotal role of Jane Eyre with luminescence, while the handsome Michael Fassbender makes a commanding Edward Rochester who slowly warms to Jane’s many charms. He comes across as a realistic and prosaic entity.

But it’s Wasikowska’s reading of the title role, with its myriad nuances and moods, that wins you over, and when she penetrates beneath the skin of her character, she is skilful enough to imbue it with profound textures.

The celebrated Judi Dench, as Rochester’s housekeeper, Mrs Halifax, adds immeasurably to the overall tone of the film and though her role is minimal she has an impact in every one of her scenes.

The story of Jane Eyre is a passionate, uncompromising romance, but it also serves as a wild, icy-layered tale about destruction, madness and loss.

The strength of Fukunaga’s production is that it manages to capture its divided spirit like few of the numerous Jane Eyre creations of the past and is enhanced by its visual splendour

and a strong sense of direction.

The task of translating a beloved work of classical literature was certainly a daunting one, but what Fukunaga has produced here is not, thankfully, a radical updating of the story. Nor is it a stuffy, middle-class study of morality. It is a vigorous, compelling interpretation that works splendidly on all levels.

The film opens with Jane Eyre fleeing Thornfield House, where she works as a governess for the wealthy Edward Rochester, and ends up at the home of a widowed minister (Jamie Bell) who gives her shelter.

While recuperating with his family, Jane has time to reflect upon the people and emotions that have defined her and it becomes clear that the isolated and imposing residence of her former employer— and his coldness - had sorely tested her resilience.

She must now act decisively to secure her own future and come to terms with the past that haunts her - and the terrible secret that Edward Rochester is hiding and which she has uncovered.

“Jane Eyre” is highly recommended.

TAPESTRY – ART, BOOKS, DANCE, FILM, THEATRE

Stories with an African flavour

REVIEWED BY GWEN PODDBREY

Big Dan’s Sofie by Keith Cornelis-Britz (Jacana, R148)

A poignant novel about a wood-cutting family in the Knysna forest during the 1930s and 1940s, for whom Sofie - an impoverished local woman - goes to work. She finds herself caring for Big Dan, the family patriarch, whose wife is terminally ill and their neglected children.

Her ministrations are sensible, but compassionate and bring a much-needed human touch to the family dynamic. When Big Dan is finally widowed, he finds himself intensely attracted to Sofie and her warmth. A charming, but challenging, tale.

The Chain Gang by David Bloomberg (Ampersand Press, ISBN: 978-1-919760-78-0)

A colourful and informative history of the 25 elected citizens who served as Cape Town’s Mayor from 1905 - when its City Hall was first inaugurated - to 1979, when the municipal headquarters moved to more modern premises.

Himself one of the Mayors, Bloomberg describes the personalities, challenges and accomplishments of this list of illustrious individuals, a significant number of whom were Jewish. In relating this history, the book also naturally spans the story of Cape Town and its status in a country moving inexorably towards socio-political change. A fascinating work which deserves a place in

any library of South Africana.

Reports Before Daybreak by Brent Meersman (Random House Struik, R195)

As South Africa finally emerges from its long, dark night of apartheid, three citizens from conflicting ends of the spectrum - a guilt-ridden, privileged white, a black domestic worker and a fervent nationalist - find their lives thrown together.

The political struggle slowly mutates into their own search for liberation, and as they experience each other - for the first time - as simple human beings, rather than politically loaded representatives, new and powerful insights come to bear. A thriller with a deeply insightful core.

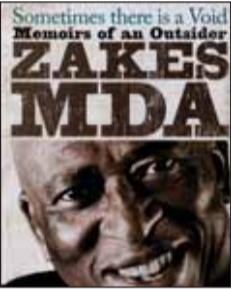
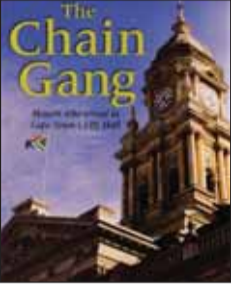
Sometimes There is a Void: Memoirs of an Outsider by Zakes Mda (Penguin, R260)

In this long-awaited autobiography of one of Africa’s most successful and important writers, Mda relates his formative childhood experiences, his forced following of his father – PAC “founding spirit” AP Mda – into exile in Lesotho at the age of 14 and the years of fast living which followed, during which Mda gained not only street wisdom, but a novelist and playwright’s enquiring mind into the realities of life in the subcontinent. The story necessarily includes the development of both the PAC and the ANC in exile. Years later, while

studying for two Master’s degrees at the University of Ohio, USA, Mda returned regularly to South Africa as an intrigued, but deeply anxious observer of political events in this country. But his interest extended beyond observation: he has long been a philanthropist committed to both the economic empowerment of the people in his former ancestral village in the Eastern Cape, and the crucial work being done by the Southern African Multimedia Aids Trust, which he established in Sophiatown. Superbly and movingly written, the book is a powerful testimony to a creative spirit nurtured in the midst of agonising circumstances. Very highly recommended.

Zhoozsh! Faking It by Jeremy and Jacqui Mansfield (Random House Struik, R190)

The enfant terrible of talk radio, an incorrigible prankster and TV personality with a taste for crude humour, as well as an outspoken social activist, Jeremy Mansfield here teams up with his long-suffering wife to celebrate home-grown cuisine (much of it with a discernible Jewish twist). “Zhoozsh” – a contraction of the word “Jewish”, which has been adopted by both local slang and, particularly, gay parlance, to mean “refined, improved, enhanced” – is the perfect word to describe the Mansfields’ mouthwatering offerings: it’s not cordon bleu, but it could pass for that, with some clever, masterful touches. Recipes include 4x4x4x4 chicken soup (an offroad camping take on an old favourite), prize-winning pap bake, lentil and brisket bake, duck bobotie, Really Nice Breasts and an utterly delectable bread pudding. For once in his life, Mansfield scores 10 out of 10 for good taste!



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Louise Saint-Claire steals a flawed show

Revue: “Love, Loss and What I Wore”, Studio Theatre, Montecasino, (011) 510-1988

Cast: Christel Mutombo; Anne Power; Louise Saint-Claire; Rika Sennett; Sharon Spiegel-Wagner
Writers: Nora and Delia Ephron, based on the book by Ilene Beckerman

Director: Moira Blumenthal
Design: Jannie Swanepoel (set); Marianne Fassler; Hanguani Nenghovele; Vesselina Pentcheva; Anna Pretorius; JJ Schoeman (costumes)

Until: June 12

REVIEWED BY ROBYN SASSEN

THIS REVUE has an impressive international itinerary and is premised on an idea that can be tailored to fit any cast. It’s about how clothes and accessories frame moments in life and as it were, maketh the man. Or woman.

It has the potential to plummet depths of emotion that could leave you weeping with empathy and howling with laughter simultaneously, but it also presents the danger of blundering head-on into floor to ceiling boring platitudes. It strikes a thin line between.

A warning to men: Unless you find anecdotes about unexpected periods and ill-fitting bras funny, this play isn’t for you. Because sexy, it’s not. And the wit it promises is mostly in-house girl talk.

Having said that, there are moments which embrace everything the play is meant to be. There are several, not enough,



Strutting their stuff in black, from left Rika Sennett; Sharon Spiegel-Wagner; Anne Power; Louise Saint-Claire and Christel Mutombo. (PHOTOGRAPH BY SUZY BERNSTEIN)

one-liner sequences in which issues - like ageing bodies or fitting rooms - are thrown hither and yon with abandon, jazzing up the show’s pace, allowing each woman to glow.

With the exception of Louise Saint-Claire, who unequivocally is mistress of your emotions, the cast skitter and flitter between taking their characters seriously and hamming them up. There’s also a problem with layering narrative. In one example, rape is a throw-away line in a potentially funny story, leaving you unsure what to do with the smile on your face.

Rika Sennett uses a stultifyingly literal device of laminated drawings of costumes she talks of, from Girl Scout frocks to maternity gowns. Not only is it tiresome, it’s obstructive: The shiny plastic protecting each drawing bounces light directly into audience’s eyes, from time to time.


This play, which bangs on about weddings for too long and returns to

them too frequently, is about 10 minutes too long and grindingly static. Cropped shrewdly, it could have been a radio play.

Directorial inspiration has placed Saint-Claire central onstage - and be it in a handbag monologue; or one by a woman with a profoundly flat local accent, whose mother’s death tainted everything; a kugel articulating in a nasal drawl or simply her glum expression when listening to one of her sisters hold forth, she holds the show. You will have difficulty not looking at her - even if to garner her response to a judderingly lame line by someone else. See the play for her performance alone.

“Love, Loss...” is HBO’s “Sex and the City” meets Nataniël’s “Combat”. It carries a spark of the irreverent brilliance of the British trio Fascinating Aida, but is replete with unpolished opportunity. With big names in the costume department, it becomes a hanger for designer dresses; not enough of one for brilliant words fabulously delivered.

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A SILENT GENTLE RIGHTEOUS GENTILE

Continued:

Tina Bassi was a young woman in Milan when the Germans arrived there during the Second World War. One day she was walking along a street in Milan when she saw a crowd outside a residential building. Going up to see what was happening, she was told that the Germans were taking the Jews away.

Now read on:
“Next to her, a young pregnant woman was crying loudly: ‘My husband and my brother and his wife are inside,’ she was going on.
“‘Be quiet,’ someone told her, ‘or they will take you as well.’

“Some Italian women, Tina included, took the almost hysterical woman to a building where they knew the caretaker and where there was a bordello. They hid her there. (Later they learnt that she had given birth to a boy).

“Tina became friendly with the caretaker and began to take Jews there at night where they could be hidden. A network was created which hid Jews there and also helped them to cross the border into Switzerland with false papers.

“‘We did not ask names and nor did we give ours.’ She recalls one night there was a Swiss military band at the border post; they managed to get six men to hide among the bandsmen and cross the border.

“Tina related an experience that she had on a train. She saw a gentleman sitting alone when two German soldiers entered the carriage and started asking to see identification papers. She could see that the man became very agitated and frightened so she went to sit next to him and started talking loudly and joking and laughing with him, making as though they were old friends. The Germans walked right past them, ignoring them.

“Tina told of two brothers, Oberto and Ottorino Levi, whom she had hidden with the ‘portiera’ (caretaker). They had to sleep during the day. Tina brought them food at night. Then one night when Tina came there the portiera indicated with her eyes that Tina must go away as the Germans were there asking about her.

“The portiera had told the Germans that she had not seen Tina for ages. Tina said that she was not scared but in fact was very angry.”
To be continued.

NORTH-EASTERN CAPE

From Michael Ziman:

“I recently set off on a tour of the north-eastern Cape, armed with various tour books including ‘Jewish Life in the South African Country Communities, Volume 3’.

“I would arrive in a town and drive around following my nose. If the Jewish community had been prosperous enough, I would come across an old shul building. I would park outside, open the book on Jewish life in that town and the community would come alive.

“In my mind’s eye I could even see children playing games in the shul grounds, as I did as a child in the grounds of the Vryheid Shul. One no longer has to go to the cemetery to know of the Jews who had created a community for themselves. Even if there was no shul in the town, I could still read about the lives of the Jewish community.

“From Lady Grey there is the story of Sarah Glueck, the brave postmistress during the Anglo-Boer war. Without this book I would not have known about a house on the main road of Willowmore with the

fence made up of Magen Dovids.
“I am truly grateful to all those who contributed to a remarkable account of the Jewish country communities. Rarely does one have an opportunity to gain insight into the birth and death of our Jewish country communities.

“I eagerly look forward to the publication of the Natal and Free State books later this year. My phone number is (011) 786-6846.”

• Sarah Glueck (nee Abrahams) born in Lithuania was the postmistress in Lady Grey, eastern Cape during the Anglo Boer War. She staunchly supported the British troops in many ways, even when Lady Grey was occupied by the Boers. She was mentioned in British war despatches and as a heroine was honoured by the British and was given a cash award by the British newspaper, The London Times.

POTCHEFSTROOM

From Fay Oppenheim, Canada:

“In later years my mother explained that for my father, anti-Semitism from his Afrikaner customers did not appear to exist as they identified their own ‘Great Trek’ away from British influence with the ‘People of the Book’ who had their own escape from Egypt.

“I believe that my father was also favoured by his Afrikaner farm community because he provided credit to them during periods of drought. I suspect that he survived financially because of the stock market and the financial strength of South Africa.

“The Jewish community formed a significant portion of the small English-speaking community in Potchefstroom. As a day student at the local English boarding school for girls, I had to deal with some isolation as there were few young people my age in my language milieu to befriend.

“Strong friendships consequently formed between the Greek and the Jewish youths. For me the strength of the Jewish community compensated for this lack of numbers.”
To be continued.

BULAWAYO

Shulamit Kagan continues:

“There was a Hebrew-English library run by, if I am not mistaken, Mark Markov. Mark and his wife, Etta Topol were doyens of the Yiddish theatre.

“The play that remains in my mind was ‘The Father’ by Henrik Ibsen. Another play staged in the local Jewish Guild was ‘Hannah Senesh’. I remember one scene in particular when Rachel Baron as Hannah’s mother, rose to pay tribute to her daughter. She was lit in such a way that she looked like a giant. I shall never forget that scene.

“Also I shall never forget the Jewish Guild - an old dilapidated building with creaking wooden floors. It was the hub of social and cultural life. Believe it or not, I even heard Alan Paton (author of ‘Cry the Beloved Country’) speak there.

“One year I was invited with Dr Kible, paediatrician and singer, to propose a toast to ‘The Bard’. This bard was Robert Burns. Two Jews paying tribute to Scotland’s national poet! Only in Bulawayo!”

CAPE TOWN

In 2011 Orangia Jewish Children’s Home and Youth Centre turned 100. To celebrate this auspicious centenary, they are planning to hold a gala dinner later this year and also to launch a centenary book.

The organisers appeal to all past residents at Orangia willing to write a short paragraph or be interviewed for the book, to contact: Jean Mausenbaum at (021) 465-5009, fax (021) 461-0693 or e-mail them at mausenbaum@orangia.com

Mother’s Day

Compiled by Marlene Bilewitz. Contact (011) 023-8160,
Cell 083-475-0288 or e-mail: marlene@sajewishreport.co.za

A mother always deserves a royal time

BARRY BILEWITZ

IN THE UNITED KINGDOM and other monarchical European states Queen Mother is a title or position reserved for a widowed queen consort (dowager queen) whose son or daughter from that marriage is the reigning monarch.

As the king’s or queen’s mother, the Queen Mother has no official power. Unofficially, she is often “the Power Behind the Throne”. If her child is heir to the throne and under-age, then she is often the regent queen with most of the powers of a monarch of that state until the heir reaches legitimate age.

Catherine of Valois, the daughter of King Charles VI of France, became Queen Mother of two countries, England and France, as the mother of Henry VI, King of England and France on the passing of his father Henry V and grandfather Charles), and through her secret marriage with Owen Tudor, the grandmother of King Henry VII of England.

Catherine de Médici was orphaned a few weeks after she was born. Despite this handicap, she became Queen Consort of France as the wife of King Henry II and the Queen Mother of three kings.

After Henry’s lingering death resulting from being struck in the face by a lance during a jousting match, Catherine became Queen Regent as mother of the 15-year-old King Francis II. When he died in 1560, she kept her regency on behalf of her 10-year-old son King Charles IX. After Charles died in 1574, Catherine played a key role in the reign of her third son, Henry III.

She gave birth to 10 children, seven of whom reached adulthood. Her three oldest sons all became king of France; two of her daughters married kings; and one married a duke.

Catherine, however, outlived all her children except Henry III, who died seven months after her, and Marguerite, who married Henry of Navarre who became Henry IV of France, the first of the Bourbon kings.

Marie de Médici - a relative of Catherine - was Queen Consort of France, as the second wife of King Henry IV of France after his marriage to Marguerite de Valois was annulled due to a lack of offspring.

Following his assassination in 1610, which occurred the day after her coronation, she acted as regent for her son King Louis XIII of France, until he came of age. Prince William of Wales is a descendant of Marie through her daughter Henrietta Maria’s marriage to Charles I of England.

Anne of Austria, daughter of Philip III of Spain, was engaged at age 11 to Louis XIII, heir to the French throne. On November 24, 1615, they were married by proxy in Burgos while Louis’s sister and Anne’s brother, were simultaneously married by proxy in Bordeaux.

Anne and Louis, both 14 years old, were pressured to consummate the marriage, but Louis ignored his bride. Louis’s mother, Marie de Médici, continued to conduct herself as Queen of France for years, without any deference to her daughter-in-law.

Anne was named regent upon her husband’s death in 1643. Their four-year-old son was crowned King Louis XIV of France. Anne assumed the regency but entrusted the government to the chief minister, Cardinal Mazarin,



Princess Helen of Greece and Denmark - Righteous Among The Nations.

a protégé of Cardinal Richelieu.

Mazarin took up residence at the Palais Royal near Queen Anne. Before long, he was believed to be her lover.

Margherita of Savoy married her first cousin who was later crowned Umberto I of Italy. On November 11, 1869, Margherita gave birth to a son who became Victor Emmanuel III of Italy.

Princess Helen of Greece and Denmark was born in Athens, the third child of Crown Prince Constantine of Greece (later King Constantine I) and his wife, Princess Sophia of Prussia.

In December 1919, Helen met Crown Prince Carol of Romania. Helen accompanied Carol to Romania to celebrate the formal engagement of her brother to Carol’s sister.

On March 10, 1921 Helen married Carol. Both were great-grandchildren of Queen Victoria of England, as were their siblings - now married. The match was not an arranged one. They had one child - Michael.

In 1925, Carol began an affair with Elena “Magda” Lupescu, renounced his rights to the throne and left Romania. Helen remained in Romania with her son Michael who was now heir to the throne and crowned in 1927 at the age of five. Helen did not become Queen Regent.

In December 1927, Carol asked Helen for a divorce and the marriage was dissolved by the Romanian Supreme Court.

In June 1930, Carol returned to Romania and was proclaimed king, with the help of certain politicians. There ensued several months of discussion about annulling the divorce between Carol and Helen, but it became clear that Carol himself did not want the divorce annulled - his lover Madame Lupescu was still living with him.

In September 1940 Michael was restored to the throne when Carol was forced to abdicate and go into exile. Now aged 18, he recalled his mother to Romania. She received the designation Queen Mother of Romania and during the Second World War she devoted herself to the care of the wounded. For her efforts to rescue Romanian Jews from the Nazis, she was awarded the status of Righteous Among the Nations.

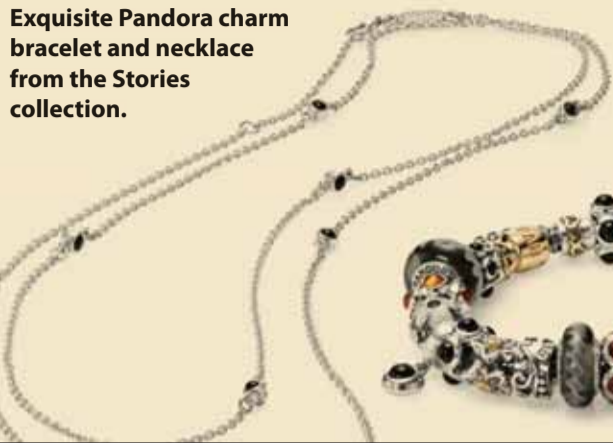
During the 20th century, many European countries, including Russia, Poland, Italy, Germany and Spain dropped their monarchs or reduced royal powers and privileges due to popular revolt against the abuse of these absolute powers, a weakness in royal leadership or the “empirical” spread of communism in Eastern Europe.

France took the lead with the French Revolution that began in 1789. These political changes resulted in Queen Mothers becoming a rare and very exclusive group.

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Claus Jacobsen, MD of Pandora South Africa, with Amor Vittone.

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LETTERS

The Editor, Suite 175, Postnet X10039, Randburg, 2125 email: carro@global.co.za

Guidelines for letters: Letters up to 400 words will get preference. Please provide your full first name and surname, place of residence, and a daytime contact telephone or cell number. We do not publish letters under noms de plume. Letters should preferably be e-mailed. Letters may be edited or shortened.	Disclaimer: The letters page is intended to provide opportunity for a range of views on any given topic to be expressed. Opinions articulated in the letters are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor, staff or directors of the Jewish Report
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DAVIS’ STANCE ON DERSHOWITZ DOES NOT SOUND REASONABLE

IN DEFENCE of his role in endorsing a ban on Professor Alan Dershowitz addressing the University of Cape Town, Mr Justice Dennis Davis refers to Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu’s comments that Zionism has very many parallels with racism, on the grounds that it excludes people on ethnic or other grounds, over which they have no control. This reflects either ignorance or deliberately biased opinion, as Tutu had the opportunity to witness for himself the full and equal rights of the Israeli Arab population in every sphere of life and activities in Israel, none of which he, as a person of colour, was able to enjoy during apartheid in South Africa. Thus, in wanting to exclude Dershowitz from lecturing due to what

he claims as grossly unfair attacks on Tutu, Davis does not sound reasonable. As described in other parts of his letter, he would prefer to allow extreme left wing Israelis address the audience. This gives the lie to his claim to favour free discussion and debate. His further statement that Dershowitz’s expressed views on Tutu have truly brought the Jewish community into disrepute with millions of South Africans, reminds me very much of an expression frequently used by earlier Jewish communities that “Dos es a schande far der Goyim”. (This is a disgrace for the Goyim).We, as Jews, no longer need to hold such views.

Monty M Zion
Protea Village, Israel

DAVIS ‘INADVERTENTLY’ EXPOSES ARCHBISHOP TUTU’S PREJUDICES

WITHIN ITS South African context (and perhaps internationally as well) the ongoing Davis/Dershowitz media battle in a Cape Town morning paper has had some interesting unintended consequences. For example, with Mr Justice Dennis Davis totally ignoring Prof Alan Dershowitz’s pointed question of whether or not he (Davis) supports Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu’s public statements re: Jews and Israel, the whole episode could only have caused extreme embarrassment to both himself and Tutu (having had their highly controversial views exposed in an influential newspaper, for all to see). I am sure Tutu himself would have preferred it otherwise, precisely because it is one thing expressing demagogic sentiments before a friendly audience in some American church or even within the confines of an admiring press conference, but quite another thing having them continually quoted in public during an ongoing media bat-

tle in one’s own hometown. In fact, far from protecting Tutu, Davis has actually done the job of publicly exposing the seemingly untouchable icon’s prejudices - something which organised Jewry or individual Jews could never have succeeded in doing. Only Jews with a “galut” mentality would not appreciate the fact that Tutu, after so many years, has finally received his comeuppance so dramatically, thanks to Davis initiating an attack on Dershowitz. So, justifiably, David Hersch and the original catalyst of 200 odd petitioners (to have Tutu removed as patron of the SA Holocaust centres) can take a well-deserved bow, acknowledging the applause of the vast majority of Jews and Israelis for their bold initiative in defending Jewish national honour, icon or no icon. Bravo and Kol Hakavod!

David Abel
George

ISRAEL, ME’S ONLY DEMOCRACY, HAS A RIGHT TO EXIST IN PEACE

THIS LETTER is in response to the 16 people who lent their names to the article “Answers to Prof Alan Dershowitz” which appeared in a morning newspaper, ostensibly in defence of Mr Justice Dennis Davis (who also signed the letter). Fact one: Around 1 400 persons in the audience listening to Dershowitz applauded when he asked: “Who gave you the right to say that Capetonians ought not invite Dershowitz to speak in Cape Town? What arrogance your tiny group have.” Fact two: The headline in the paper saying “Dershowitz not invited here”, was designed to provoke. It was a dishonest headline. Some questions for this group: What is your agenda? You need to come clean and explain it to the public. When you attacked Dershowitz in that article using sources not your own, why did you not mention those sources at the time? Hats off to you for saying so now. Why are you continually attacking Israel, yet remain silent on many other countries? Is it possible that among you there are hidden agendas like furthering your own careers with the ANC? How can you even try to defend the Archbishop (Desmond Tutu) for the outrageous anti-Israel and anti-Semitic remarks made by him? You have read the variety of responses circulated widely via the Internet in answer to the false claim that Israel is an apartheid state. What’s your response to those articles/photographs proving otherwise and proving that you are wrong? Our views are: To describe Israel as an apartheid state is untrue. Israel is the most democratic nation in the Middle East and in the world. It matters not to us that Israel has a fence to protect itself. Some use burglar bars to protect themselves and their

property. It matters much to us that Israel is constantly being bombarded by Arab missiles. It matters much to us that the neighbouring countries have waged a war on Israel since 1948. The Arabs have been fighting the Jews for centuries. Israeli schools do not teach their pupils to hate Arabs - sadly the reverse is not true of the Arabs and Arabs teach their youth to hate and to kill. Israelis do not use children as a shield in warfare. Israel does not store its weapons under mosques, synagogues, schools and hospitals. The reverse is not true of the Arabs. The press in Cape Town have made a lottery game showing support for the anti-Israel/anti-Dershowitz groups; there are 15 000 Jews living in Cape Town in contrast to some 800 000 Muslims. About suggesting that Tutu resign his post as patron of the Holocaust Museum: A person who represents a group ought give support to that group, nothing more, nothing less. The amount of space given by the press to air the views of those like you who oppose Israel, is excessive. We wonder why we do not get such coverage. The question of “unfair reporting” comes to mind. We support the right of Israel to live in peace. The behaviour of those who criticise Israel will be looked at through a magnify glass, given the history of the world. Coming from our past, South Africans ought be more liberal than what your article suggests. We want peace in the Middle East. We want the Jews to be left alone. Criticise by all means, but be fair. We respect the right of persons to hold opposing views, but we will fight to hear constructive criticism. We will oppose untruths and bias.

Howard Joffe
Cape Town

UJ-BGU ISSUE: HABIB IS PURSUING HIS OWN PERSONAL AGENDA

ADAM HABIB’S tortuous explanation for University of Johannesburg’s boycott of Israel’s Ben-Gurion University, makes a laughing stock of his title as Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Research, Innovation, and Advancement. Stifling international research exchange programmes hardly constitutes the advancement of research and innovation. Like many of his peers, he plays politics instead of giving academic vision to the research programme of his university. Charged with giving scientific leadership to promote the advancement of UJ, he is using a public institution to advance his own personal Muslim anti-Israel agenda.

WORLD MEDIA VERY DOCILE ON REPORTING THIS BARBARISM

WHERE IS the outrage from our own Navi Pillay, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, or for that matter anyone associated with this august body at the slaughter that we witness daily on our TV screens in Syria, Yemen, Bahrain, Libya and Egypt? Thousand of innocent civilians have lost their lives at the hands of their own despotic leaders, many more thousands have been incarcerated and tortured by their corrupt governments, yet hardly a murmur from the UNHRC, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch or the many other NGOs normally so vociferous in venting their indignation when Israel retaliates to the most obscene acts of violence perpetrated against its civilian population. What amazes is the docile reporting of these barbaric acts in the world media. If it were Israel retaliating against provocative attacks we know just how they would vent their outrage. Syrian membership to the Human Rights Commission was recently put to the UN and is still under consideration by this body, despite what is

MANY UNANSWERED QUESTIONS ABOUT CANCELLATION OF DERSHOWITZ VENUE

WHILE THE letters and articles in the SA Jewish Report of April 29 contain the denial of UCT not barring Professor Alan Dershowitz from speaking on its campus, the letter sent out simultaneously to their alumni states that “UCT agreed to a seminar at the Law faculty planned for March 29, 2011”. It adds that the organisers wished to shift the planned seminar to another venue due to the low number of responses UCT had had - “the seminar fell in UCT’s vacation time”. The question is why would UCT accept and the organisers, the South African Zionist Federation (Cape Council), arrange a lecture by a world-renowned figure such as Prof Dershowitz during vacation time and not initially mention it or consider it as inappropriate and simply logistically impossible, as there would be no students around and minimal teaching staff? What people would arrange such a time in the first place? Did UCT not mention it at all when it was first being arranged? Was there not a single person on either side who saw or considered this? Are all the alumni of UCT incapable of looking at this “excuse”, questioning it and swallowing it hook, line and sinker? Furthermore, Prof Dershowitz spoke at a public meeting in Cape Town attended by 1 400 people,

GOLDSTONE’S PAST IS NOTHING TO BE PROUD OF

I WOULD like to comment on your editorial of April 8 regarding Mr Justice Richard Goldstone’s “achievements” in the past. In my view, and according to sources I have mentioned in the past (such as the book “Media Cleansing - Dirty Reporting”, written by David Brock, and articles in www.tenc.net/), Goldstone’s past is nothing to be proud of, to say the least and his report about Israel’s military operation in the Gaza Strip may be a logical step in his judiciary conducts, though I always thought he would treat his own people otherwise. In any case, I think Israel should try the option of suing Goldstone for defamation, and thus tak-

HABIB’S UJ EXCUSE NO MORE THAN GOBBLEDEGOOK

PROF ADAM Habib, in his explanation of the University of Johannesburg’s decision to sever ties with Ben-Gurion University because of BGU’s alleged ties to the Israeli military, repeatedly refers to the “politicisation” of the agreement that existed between the two institutions. Quite honestly, that is nothing more than gobbledegook, because it was Habib and his colleagues at UJ that politicised the situation to suit their anti-Israel agenda. I stand by my call to these boycotters to be consistent and politically correct, and to cease using their cellphones and computers, the technologies

And as for those 400 signatures in support of the boycott, they are the usual suspects from whom, we the public, expect nothing but a perpetuation of their culture of conformity given their mediocre academic records. That they can decide what is good for our students is an indictment of the university’s obligation to respect not only their own academic freedom, but mainly those of their students. Under the leadership of people like Habib and Ihron Rensburg, I fear for the academic future of our children.

Rhoda Kadalie
Cape Town

going down in that country today - if this isn’t obscenity in the extreme, let’s go one better: The UN Security Council still has failed to condemn Syria for the slaughter we see - the reason being it cannot agree on the wording of a resolution. Bet they don’t have that trouble when it comes to condemning Israel. Does the Palestinian leadership really want a deal? Given a just and peaceful settlement with no villain and no victim, the disproportionate world focus would then move to some of the real human rights abusers or areas of conflict that would not sit too comfortably with the politically correct Europeans and the Third World. The whole anti Israel industry would become redundant and thousands would lose their well-paid jobs, but most importantly the Palestinian leadership would lose the end-game if they no longer remain the victims, the end-game being the eradication of Israel.

Allan Wolman
Norwood, Johannesburg

which was probably scheduled anyway. A public lecture is very different from a lecture he would have given to the law faculty at UCT, who could have considered themselves privileged to be addressed by such a world-renowned legal scholar. Referring to UCT’s questionnaire, asking who would attend a Dershowitz lecture, not only is this a rather strange and unusual thing to do on UCT’s part unheard of by former students and staff, but I would imagine that students are unlikely to fill in such a questionnaire and return it and were unlikely to attend during their vacation for obvious reasons. This sort of action smacks of manipulation and of possible pressures behind the scenes. I think there is a lot more behind all of this than meets the eye. Nevertheless, Prof Dershowitz’s visit to South Africa has been a great occurrence and shown many people up for what they really are, not least of which are (Mr Justice) Dennis Davis, his groupies and Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu, and for that alone we owe him our gratitude.

David Hersch
Cape Town

ing a maybe not-so-little step for itself, but a great step for humanity, by providing Serbia and other countries and individuals, the opportunity and encouragement of clearing their names by doing the same. In this case, all I can do is wish Israel and other countries good luck! Regarding the comparison of Goldstone to General Jannie Smuts, I would like to say that General Smuts truly brought honour to the Afrikaners and to South Africa.

Avner Eliyahu Romm
Sea Point, Cape Town

of which, were developed and created at BGU, as well as to ensure that UJ’s medical and dental faculties remove all Israeli-invented and -developed equipment, as all these items would be tainted by their connections to the Israeli military. Doing so would likely bring UJ to a standstill, but will undoubtedly be a worthy sacrifice in an effort to remove any political discomfort for the bigoted Johannesburg institution.

D Wolpert
Johannesburg

COMMUNITY COLUMNS



ABOVE
BOARD

Zev Krengel,
National Chairman

A column of the SA Jewish Board of Deputies

ON THE very day that Jews the world over were coming together to mark Yom Hashoah, one of history's lengthiest and most intensive manhunts ended with the running to ground and killing of Osama bin Laden.

That an implacable enemy of the Jewish people met his end on the very day when the six million Jewish victims of Nazism were being remembered, is certainly redolent with powerful symbolism.

Bin Laden's death date redolent with symbolism

Nevertheless, it is important to put bin Laden and what he represents, into perspective. While Jews, and in particular Israel, certainly featured in his "hate list", these were by no means the only, or even the main, targets of his murderous antipathy.

The Western democracies, fellow Muslims considered to be insufficiently religious and religious minorities in Muslim majority countries have all come under frequent and lethal attack by Al Qaida operatives over the decades. For this reason, the long-delayed retribution that has befallen Osama bin Laden is of universal significance.

The death of bin Laden is cer-

tainly an important victory in the war against terrorism, as much for its symbolic value as for having removed from the scene one of terrorism's most active architects.

Bin Laden has long been accorded iconic status among fellow Jihadists, and to the world at large representing more than any other individual the face of radical Islamist terror. September 11, 2001 - the infamous "9/11" attacks on the United States - was arguably the most devastating terror attack in history. The moral effect of the architect of this atrocity being brought to book by the US military, should certainly not be underplayed.

That being said, we must be realistic. Bin Laden's death will not end acts of terror by his followers. Indeed, in the short term his killing may well provoke revenge attacks by Al-Qaida, and the international community would be well advised to increase its vigilance in this regard. As Anneli Botha from the Institute of Security Studies points out, bin Laden may be dead but his ideas remain very much alive.

Ultimately, the war on terror will not be won exclusively through bombs and bullets, but by the parallel fostering of a global culture of tolerance, peace and commitment to human rights.

Terrorism thrives in an environment where paranoia, irra-

tional conspiracy theorising, a festering grievance culture and hatred for "the other" hold sway.

Confronting and changing this destructive mindset wherever it surfaces, is undoubtedly one of the most urgent challenges facing the global community. While that process will unavoidably be a slow and incremental one, I firmly believe that in the end, it will be successful.

The bin Ladens of this world and the ideologies they represent, are regarded with revulsion by the vast majority of humanity. No matter what short-term "victories" they manage to record through acts of terror, they will not be allowed to prevail.

This column is paid for by the SAJBD

AROUND THE WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

OBAMA: CARE FOR HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS AND RESCUERS

WASHINGTON - President Barack Obama in his Holocaust Remembrance Day message called for the care of the last survivors of the Holocaust and their rescuers.

"We must heed the urgency to listen to and care for the last living survivors, camp liberators and the witnesses to the Shoah," Obama

said in his message released on Monday.

The US president said the memory of the Holocaust and the ensuing trials of Nazis showed "the power of holding the perpetrators of genocide accountable".

Obama has come under some criticism from the left and the iso-

lationist right in recent months for his commitment to use force to prevent massacres in Libya.

"Remembering these events only reinforces our solemn commitment to confront those who tell lies about our history and to stop the spread of hate in our own time," he said. (JTA)

US SUPREME COURT WILL HEAR APPEAL ON JERUSALEM PASSPORT

WASHINGTON - The US Supreme Court has said it will hear the appeal of a US citizen born in Jerusalem whose parents want Israel listed as his country of birth on his passport.

The court agreed on Monday to review a decision by the US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit in the case of nine-year-old Menachem Zivotofsky and his parents, Ari and Naomi. A three-judge panel of the appeals court had ruled that it did not have jurisdiction in the case, which was brought under a 2002 law passed shortly before Menachem was born that allows Americans born in Jerusalem to list the city as in "Israel".

President George W Bush signed the law but reserved the right to

ignore it. Presidents traditionally have resisted efforts to recognise Jerusalem as Israeli, saying that such recognition would pre-empt Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

State Department officials refused to list Menachem as being born in Israel when his parents, who were both born in America and are US citizens, appeared at the US Embassy in Israel to obtain a passport for their son.

US District Judge Gladys Kessler in 2007 threw out the case, saying the court did not have jurisdiction over the matter because resolving the "claim on the merits would necessarily require the court to decide the political status of Jerusalem. The case law makes clear that the Constitution commits that decision to the executive branch." The case

then went to the appeals court.

The Zivotofskys' Washington-based attorney, Nathan Lewin, told JTA: "We are gratified that the Supreme Court added the ultimate question whether the passport designation truly interferes with the President's power over foreign relations.

"Once the State Department's passport practices and policy are closely examined," he said, "the Court will see that the argument that Congress has interfered with the President's constitutional authority is unjustified and that the State Department's policy simply discriminates against American citizens who are proud to have been born in Israel and allows enemies of Israel to eradicate mention of it from their passports." (JTA)

OBAMA NOTES MILITARY SERVICE OF JEWS IN HERITAGE MONTH PROCLAMATION

WASHINGTON - President Barack Obama emphasised Jewish military service in his proclamation naming May as Jewish American History Month.

"Jewish Americans have defended our country since the days of the American Revolution as devoted service members and chaplains, and they continue to serve with distinction in our Armed Forces," he said in the proclamation issued on April 29.

The order recalled the Second World War sinking of the USS Dorchester, in which a Jewish chaplain joined with two Protestant chaplains and a Catholic chaplain in giving up their life jackets to servicemen and going down with the

ship in prayer.

"In a time of great need, these chaplains showed that their shared commitment to the lives of others was stronger than any division of faith or background," Obama said.

"This same spirit is found in the countless Jewish Americans who, through their everyday actions, work to provide a better life for future generations by joining hands with all who seek equality and progress."

The president also recalled President Harry Truman's recognition of Israel within minutes of its 1948 establishment.

"To this day, we continue to foster an unbreakable partnership with

Israel, and we remain committed to pursuing peace in the region and ensuring Israel's security," Obama said.

Representative Nancy Pelosi (Democrat California), the minority leader in the US House of Representatives, also issued a statement marking the month, which became law in 2006 following an initiative by Representative Debbie Wasserman Schultz (Democrat Florida).

"Nearly every facet of American life bears the mark of Jewish values," Pelosi said. "To pursue justice and peace; to serve our neighbours and those in need; to seek the common good; and to perfect our union and our world." (JTA)

SHELVE GOLDSTONE REPORT, CONGRESS MEMBERS URGE BAN

WASHINGTON - A bipartisan slate of US lawmakers has urged UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to shelve the Goldstone Report.

Twenty-two members of the House of Representatives signed on to a letter calling on Ban to override the UN Human Rights Council, which said it was standing by the report it commissioned.

"We were deeply disappointed by the recent comments by the United Nations Human Rights Council spokesman, Cedric Sapey, stating that the UNHRC will stand by the so-called 'Goldstone Report', despite the author's own admission that he now rejects the findings in that report," said the letter initiated by Representative Shelley Berkley (Democrat Nevada) that was released on April 28 after being sent two weeks earlier.

"We hope you will reject Mr

Sapey's comments and we call upon you to repudiate the discredited report and remove it from the United Nations official records."

The rights council voted in March to send the report to the UN General Assembly with the recommendation that the UN Security Council be asked to turn it over to prosecutors at the International Criminal Court in the Hague to examine possible war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Goldstone repudiated only one of the report's conclusions - that Israel targeted civilians as a matter of policy. He stands by its other conclusions calling for investigations into possible individual war crimes. His co-authors say they stand by the report; it's not certain whether the United Nations has a mechanism to retract the report. (JTA)

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Behind every abused man – there stands a woman

RITA LEWIS

THE CHEVRAH Kadisha's Community Services are presently running a course to assist men who have been, or are being, abused by their wives or partners.

Social worker, Hylton Marks of Community Services says that although they are presently dealing with abused men, the problem of abuse lies not just with the person who has been abused, but also with the perpetrator who often has deep-seated psychological problems.

He said the present course was started after he had been approached to undertake a feasibility study on the subject on behalf of Community Services.

During this study, he said, a definite need for such a facility was found to exist and as a result the course for abused men was initiated.

"At the moment there are around eight or nine men attending. We are seeing good results and are presently looking for other men who might be interested in joining another group later in the year.

Marks said: "Abuse doesn't only come in the form of physical violation, but also verbal and psychological abuse as well, so we can help men who have different types of problems.

"When we have enough potential candidates, and depending on the success of the first group, we shall form more groups to help other men understand and deal with the situations they find themselves in", he said.

It is known that the characteristics of men and/or women who are abusive, tend to fall into three main categories.

1 Alcohol abuse is a major cause and trigger in domestic violence. People who are intoxicated have less impulse control, are easily frustrated, have greater misunderstandings and are generally prone to resort to violence as a solution to problems.

2 There are certain psychological problems, primarily personality disorders, in which women are characteristically abusive and violent towards men.

Borderline personality disorder is found in some one to two per cent of all women and at least half of all female violence against men is associated with women who suffer from such a disorder, which is also associated with suicidal behaviour, mood swings and sexual problems.

3 Women who are abusive towards men usually have unrealistic expectations and make impossible demands. These women typically experience repeated episodes of depression, anxiety, frustration and irritability.

In fact, their mental and emotional state is often the result of their own insecurities, emotional problems, a trauma during childhood or even alcohol withdrawal.

They believe the man should make them feel better and when they can't, these women become frustrated.

Abuse - either female or male - is not normally thought of as something that happens in Jewish circles or families. But abuse is a reality in all communities.

"However, where the man is the victim," Marks says, "it is very often difficult to be of help to him as most men don't want to admit that they have been abused."

Very little is known about the



actual number of men who are in a relationship in which they are being abused by women. Apart from in the UK, very little research has been done on the subject but it is believed to be a growing phenomenon everywhere.

It has taken years of advocacy and support to encourage women to report domestic violence but virtually nothing has been done to encourage men to report it.

But, realistically, the days of women being weak, kind and gentle - parading on sunny days in parks and along seaside promenades under parasols as in the good old days when a "glimpse of stocking was something shocking" - are over.

In most Western countries - and of course, South Africa - most women have been freed of their "shackles". They can vote, own properties, reach the top echelons of business and achieve the same levels of education, credibility and positions as men.

Often the result of this equality is that many have the same frustrations as men. The pressures of having responsibilities in both the workplace as well as in the home can take their toll.

With not much (if any) time for themselves and/or no help with the children or chores, some resort to domestic violence against their men to relieve themselves of the built up pressures and the feeling of "not being able to cope".

In the local Jewish community, as in the rest of the world, teams of trained professionals are available to give attention to the matter of domestic abuse and violence against women, but the idea that men could be victims of domestic abuse and violence is so unthinkable that many men will not even attempt to report the situation.

It is possibly this that results in there being very little investment in resources to address and understand the issues of domestic abuse and violence against men.

This actually has some similarities and differences to that of the abuse of women. But for both men and women, domestic violence includes pushing, slapping, hitting, throwing objects, forcing or slamming doors.

The problem can be mental and/or emotional - what will hurt a man mentally and emotionally, can be very different from what hurts a woman.

In most cases, men are more deeply affected by emotional and psychological abuse than physical abuse and humiliating a man emotionally in front of other men can be devastating

Some professionals believe that mental and emotional abuse by women is often more "brutal" than by men, who are quicker to resort to physical abuse that can be more brutal - even deadly.

David Klatzow slams 'levels of stupidity and corruption' in SA

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPH BY
MOIRA SCHNEIDER
CAPE TOWN

DR DAVID Klatzow did not mince his words when he addressed a session of The Living Newspaper to promote his book, "Steeped in Blood: The Life and Times of a Forensic Scientist".

Never one to be afraid to speak his mind, he poured scorn on several aspects of the democratic South Africa, dismissing derisively by name those in authority who, in his view, did not measure up to what was expected of them.

Kicking off with the state forensic laboratories, he said they had been "going downhill because this government believes in racism. It's a different kind of racism - it is black on white racism instead of white on black racism, but it's racism."

Klatzow stated that for many years under former Health

Minister Manto Tshabalala-Msimang, the state had only hired black individuals, leading to "ongoing pressure" on the universities to pass black graduates. He maintained that, post-1994, there had been a "terrible, terrible decline" in the calibre of graduates.

"If you take on any one of these new lab analysts who's got a diploma from some technikon, they may be very competent to do some analyses at the bench, but they are not capable of standing up in court to a legal onslaught and the kind of cross-examination which I can generate.

"It's become so bad that the state cannot get a drunken-driving conviction. The state also can't get a toxicology result."

It now took eight years to get such a result back from the lab, he added. This meant that attorneys were able to get such cases thrown out on the basis that their clients



Forensic scientist Dr David Klatzow, signs copies of his book for members of the audience.

Yehuda Kay is new ORT SA CEO

YEHUDA KAY has been appointed CEO of ORT South Africa.

ORT SA says in a media release that with its involvement in a range of high intensity programmes, the question of its leadership was a complex one.

"Kay is the perfect fit. Bringing to the ORT South Africa team six years of experience as the director of the SA Jewish Board of Deputies, coupled with extensive personal understanding of the corporate world, he embodies the unique qualities that are required to lead the dynamic organisation that is ORT SA.

"Kay believes in the ORT SA mission of 'Educating for Life', which he applies in his own life - he is currently studying for an MBA degree at Wits Business

School. His impression of ORT SA so far: 'ORT has a fantastic core of dedicated, experienced, professional staff coupled with a great team of leadership. With this combination, harnessed with generous funding, ORT is going to increase tenfold the impact it is already making in our local communities.'"

Kay has officially taken up the position of CEO of ORT SA from the beginning of May. He has since installed a new computer server and internal PC training workshops, to allow the ORT SA staff to take their functioning to a new level.

"ORT South Africa is proud of its website at www.ortsouthafrica.org.za and is active in the social media of Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/pages/ORT-South-Africa/112762642122224> and Twitter."

were being denied their constitutional right to a speedy trial.

Klatzow maintained that the country was "back on a full circle of stupidity, (with) people who are not prepared to take any advice and we see that in every single sphere of government," naming Eskom and the school system as examples. "(Minister of Higher Education and Training) Mr Blade Nzimande's got this crazy notion that everybody needs to go to university - to clog it up with no-hopers means that the standards will drop.

"They've completely wrecked the system of forensic laboratories and this is seriously, seriously, seriously impinging on the justice system," he stressed, adding that the policing system was also "a disaster. "The laws don't get applied equally - it's going to destroy this country," he warned.

"It's got to be stopped - we cannot go on with the levels of stupidity and corruption any longer."

He also said that it was a total disgrace that the ANC was "vigorously supporting" former Ekurhuleni metro police chief, Robert McBride. Former national police commissioner Jackie Selebi was "an absolute bloody fool and he thought he'd get away with it".

He commented that it was no longer any embarrassment for officials to be caught for corruption. "They see it as their right."

But it wasn't all doom and gloom for Klatzow. Referring to the premier of the Western Cape, he said: "We're fortunate to have somebody of the calibre of Helen Zille running this place because she at least has standards."

On the chances of change in the "bleak landscape" Klatzow said: "Sooner or later there's got to be a strong middle class of indeterminate colour who says: 'Enough's enough'."

Klatzow shrugged off the possibility of being sued by the authorities he has slated. Asked if he had had any threats to his life, he replied: "Not so far this evening!"

ORT South Africa has emerged as a well-respected leader in the fields of education and skills development, interacting weekly with the Department of Education, hundreds of teachers and thousands of school learners.

ORT JET has proven itself to be an integral part of ensuring that professional and entrepreneurial members of the Jewish community have a platform from which to volunteer their skills, thus encouraging the establishment of new business ventures and strengthening economic performance.

ORT South Africa is also nurturing young leaders by training learners and their teachers on the Bill of Responsibilities, created by Chief Rabbi Warren Goldstein and the National Religious Leaders Forum.

Welcome to the Pesach Hotel



Chief Rabbi Warren Goldstein and Yechiel Asseraf, manager of KosherWorld.

ALISON GOLDBERG
PHOTOGRAPH: HIRSHI GRONER

KOSHERWORLD manager Yechiel Asseraf, his wife Tammy and partner Brian Brom, organised a successful Pesach hotel experience at the four-star luxury President Hotel in Cape Town.

French-born Asseraf who has managed three such events before overseas, accommodated 200 guests including Chief Rabbi Warren Goldstein, who was there for six of the nine days.

Also present for two meals was

Rabbi Gavriel Abramson of Cape Town's Ohr Somayach community. The previous year only 18 staying guests attended though as many as 30 guests sat at each meal.

Not only South Africans participated, but people came from as far away as London and Israel.

One highlight of the week was a laughing therapy session. A Kids Club was also arranged by four young Jewish girls. Asseraf and his wife will be organising a similar event next year. The cost per person was R12 990.



Participants of the 2010 Shorashim tour, volunteering at a kindergarten in Tiberias.

Explore the depths of Israel this July with Shorashim

JENNA SEGAL
PHOTOGRAPH: KAYDA
PRODGERS

HABONIM Dror’s annual Shorashim Israel Tour for this year, will be running from June 29 - July 18. Shorashim, meaning “roots”, is a life-changing programme in which grade 10s are exposed to an eye-opening, engaging and exciting three weeks in Israel with their friends. The programme truly is an unrivalled experience.

Channichim visit historical sites, witness Israel’s natural beauty on breathtaking hikes, meet fascinating people and tour with knowledgeable madrichim. The Shorashim programme allows channichim to soak in every inch of Israel’s rich culture.

The itinerary is carefully crafted to ensure that channichim get to experience all the major cities and sites in Israel, while also getting a taste of the “real Israel” by engaging with the depths of the country’s beauty, diversity and the challenges that her citizens face every day.

Our madrichim have gone through extensive leadership and educational training and have years of experience behind them. Most have spent up to a year in Israel undergoing intense training and have a

diverse knowledge of the country’s geography, history and people.

As well as top South African madrichim, a diverse and exciting group of Israelis also accompany the tour, providing Shorashim with an authentic Israeli flavour. The programme also offers a free weekend in Israel, during which channichim can stay at family and friends and explore the country outside of the structured itinerary, within security restrictions.

On Shorashim, channichim engage in what it means to be a Jew and how Israel is relevant to them as Jews living in the Diaspora. Shorashim is an incredible experience that enables young leaders to return from Israel with a renewed sense of Jewish identity and purpose.

As a Habonim programme, Shorashim strives to build honest, thoughtful and knowledgeable leaders in the Jewish community who can contribute and engage in meaningful ways through their experiences in Israel.

• For more information about Shorashim, please e-mail Jenna Segal (rosh Shorashim) at shorashim2011@habo.org.za

• Please note that Habonim’s three-week summer machaneh will be held from December 8 – 28.

YOUTH TALK

Alison Goldberg youthsajr@global.co.za

Exciting Children’s Sefer Torah project kicks off

SHELLEY TOBIAS

OUR CHILDREN have an opportunity to unite with their peers all over South Africa as they come together to “write” a special Children’s Sefer Torah of South Africa, a project endorsed by Chief Rabbi Warren Goldstein.

The Torah is the eternal bridge linking human beings with G-d. Fulfilling this mitzvah on behalf of a Jewish child is a very powerful merit for their soul. This is a unique chance for a child to have a share in this new Children’s Sefer Torah, identical to the very first Sefer Torah dictated by G-d to Moshe Rabbeinu.

This Sefer Torah will be used by schools and shuls on a rotational basis. In order to be part of the mitzvah of owning a word in a Sefer Torah, parents will be given the opportunity of buying a dedication on behalf of their child or children.

A beautiful colour certificate will be sent to each child as an important reminder that they are part of this project.

The following dedication opportunities are available:

- To buy the first word and every word thereafter is R180

- For families to buy the first word for the first child is R180. The cost per word for the second and every other child thereafter is R90 per word.
- To buy a Pasuk is R540
- To buy an Aliyah is R3 600
- To buy a Sedra is R12 000

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- To buy a Special Reading is R36 000

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- To buy Books of the Torah will cost R54 000

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All grade 10 and 11 art learners of participating schools will be encouraged to take part in the “Design A Cover for the Children’s Sefer Torah” competition. The winner will then have their design transformed into the actual cover of the Sefer Torah.

- To buy a dedication, visit www.e2esolution.com/childrens-sefectorah or e-mail childrens-sefectorah@hotmail.com



A picture of children holding Sefer Torahs by Shoshana Centner.

SAUJS hosts Rivonia Treason Trialist Denis Goldberg

ILAN SOLOMONS SAUJS NATIONAL
LIAISON OFFICER

SAUJS recently hosted anti-apartheid activist Denis Goldberg at Wits University. Goldberg was involved in his youth in the Congress of Democrats and was later arrested and sentenced in 1964 at the end of the Rivonia Trial to four terms of life imprisonment. He was the only white member of Umkhonto we Sizwe to be arrested and sentenced in the Rivonia Trial to life imprisonment.

In his address at Wits, Goldberg told students that one of his pet hates was being referred to as the white member of the Rivonia Trial. “I did not fight as a white, I fought as a South African who happened to be white but I understand why people put so much emphasis on my race in the context of history in South Africa.”

SAUJS hosted Goldberg to tell the story of his fight against injustices in apartheid South Africa, and also about the importance of fighting against prejudice of all kinds. He also spoke at the University of Johannesburg as well as at a public event held at the Chief Rabbi Harris Community Centre in Johannesburg, where there was a screening of a documentary on his (Goldberg’s) life, aptly titled “Comrade Goldberg”, followed by a question and answer session.

After the screening there was a book signing session of Goldberg’s memoirs entitled “The Mission”.

Goldberg is not a practising Jew and attributes most of his activism not to his Jewishness but more to his and his parents Communist beliefs. He still acknowledges his Jewish heritage and has suffered anti-Semitism in his youth and during his

time in prison.

He proudly proclaims: “I am Jewish so long as anti-Semitism exists”.

SAUJS also organised a reunion with fellow Congress of Democrat member and veteran anti-apartheid activist Rabbi Ben Isaacson. The two discussed many issues, many of which are very private matters but the two agreed that the Jewish communal leadership during the dark period of apartheid had let the community down and were very unhappy about how many anti-apartheid activists were claimed by the community post the struggle, but were absolutely detested and shunned at the time.

SAUJS was incredibly honoured to host Goldberg and to have the opportunity to allow him to tell his story and to hear his views on South Africa today. It is our hope that we continue to host thought-provoking speakers and further dialogue on the way in which we can contribute to a better South Africa for all.

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WHAT’S ON

Barry Bilewitz barry@sajewishreport.co.za

NOTE: Deadline for all entries is 12:00 on the Friday prior to publication.

Today Friday (May 6)

- **UZLC** presents Ian Scher on “The South African Search & Rescue Team in Japan”.
- **The Greenside** is hosting a rehearsal of Dr Richard Cock conducting the Johannesburg Festival Orchestra from 09:30 to 13:00. Cost R50 includes refreshments. Contact (011) 880-5720 or (011) 447-7701.

Sunday (May 8)

- **Second Innings** presents Monica Wolfson on “A Magical Journey”.
- **Big Band Music Appreciation Society** is meeting in the Jeffrey Auditorium, St John’s College, St John’s Road, Lower Houghton at 14:15. Contact Barney Segal on 073-438-8799 or (011) 440-1996.
- **Yom Hazikaron Ceremony** - SAZF, Israeli Embassy and SA Zionist youth movements invite you to commemorate Israel’s fallen at the Solly Liebgott Hall, Yeshiva Campus, Glenhazel at 18:30. Contact (011) 645-2431.
- **RCHCC** presents “The Ivy Artists” until May 25. Exhibition opens at 18:00. Contact Hazel or René (011) 728-8088/8378 or after hours (011) 728-8378) for viewing times.
- **RCHCC** is screening “Wars of Israel” at 20:00. Donation R60 includes refreshments.

Monday (May 9)

- **UJW Johannesburg** presents Bev Goldman on “Israel on its 63rd Anniversary”, at 09:30.
- **SAZF** presents the musical “Footsteps to the Future” at 20:15 at the Lyric Theatre, Gold Reef City. Bookings: (011) 645-2531.

Tuesday (May 10)

- **WIZO Yom Ha’atzmaut** celebration at Beyachad at 09:30. Book with Sandy on (011) 645-2548.
- **Second Innings Men’s Group** presents Margaret Rawicz on “My Trip to the Arctic in a Boat” at Our Parents Home. Time: 14:15 for 14:30.
- **SAZF** - Kids Fun Fair at Gold Reef City’s Theme Park from 13:00 to 16:00. Call (011) 645-2550/2512.

Wednesday (May 11)

- **UJW Cape Town** presents Nikki Wohlman on “Simcha: a Collage and History”.

- **UJW** AGM at 1 Oak Street Houghton at 09:30.

Thursday (May 12)

- **JNF** AGM at the JNF Walter Sisulu Environmental Centre in Mamelodi at 10:00. Contact Benji Shulman on 084-499-6411.

Friday (May 13)

- **UZLC** presents Avrom Krengel on “Report-Back on SAZF Conference”.

Sunday (May 15)

- **Second Innings** presents Digby Ricci on “Leni Riefenstahl and the Nazi Cinema”.

Monday (May 16)

- **UJW Johannesburg** presents Prof John Lubbe on “The Dead Sea Scrolls and the Qumran Caves” at 09:30.

Tuesday (May 17)

- **WIZO Fortnightly Forum** presents Mr Justice Percy Blieden, Mr Justice Ivor Schwartzman and Mr Justice Ralph Zulman on “The Lighter Side of Law” at Beyachad at 09:30. Cost R35.
- **UJW Johannesburg** has Estelle Sher presenting Mahler’s Fifth Symphony at 301 Eton Place, Kernick Ave, Melrose North at 09:30. Donation: R30.
- **RCHCC** presents Arthur Goldstuck on “Urban Legends, Panic and You” at 19:30. (Rescheduled from April 6).

Wednesday (May 18)

- **SFCC** presents Nadine Lemmer on “Whats And Hows of Arthritis”.

Monday (May 23)

- **UJW Johannesburg** presents Prof John Lubbe on “The Dead Sea Scrolls - The Ruins and the Graves” at 09:30.

Wednesday (May25)

- **UJW Johannesburg** presents Dr Lorraine Chaskalson on Elizabeth Gaskell’s “North and South” at 09:30.
- **UJW Cape Town** presents June Juritz on “Yachting in Green Point in the 1890s: One Family’s Story”.
- **Second Innings** outing - a guided tour of the Walter Sisulu National Botanical Gardens. Meet the bus at 09:00 at Oxford Shul parking. Cost: R130 per person, includes bus, entry fee to the park, the guided tour, lunch and a drink.

Sunday (May 29)

- **Second Innings** presents Dr Wendy Friedlander on “Cultural Aspects of Psychiatry in South Africa”.

8	7				5			9
		4						
1	5		6	9			7	8
			1				5	7
		1		2		6		
7	4				3			
4	1			6	7		8	3
						7		
3			2				4	5

Sudoku Puzzle 31

(Very hard, difficulty rating 0.78)

Answer - Puzzle 29

4	8	2	7	1	3	5	9	6
7	6	5	2	9	8	4	1	3
9	3	1	5	6	4	7	8	2
8	7	4	9	5	6	2	3	1
2	5	9	8	3	1	6	7	4
6	1	3	4	2	7	9	5	8
5	9	8	1	4	2	3	6	7
1	4	6	3	7	9	8	2	5
3	2	7	6	8	5	1	4	9

* Answer to follow with next puzzle

Note to readers: Our bridge column and our Sudoku puzzle alternate week by week.

CROSSWORD NO 208

BY LEAH SIMON

ACROSS:

1. Place is quite a spectacle, we hear (4)

3. Rework nine if it is endless (8)

8. Name destroyed by end of prayer (4)

9. Give duet a rag, somehow, and obtain university degree (8)

11. Does he pull out all the stops? No - but he calls them! (3, 9)

13. Four score and ten (6)

14. Idiot goes to new structure (6)

17. Shows evidence of being a deadly photographer! (6, 2, 4)

20. Aren’t the most sought-after celebs - and have raised sacs of fluid on skin (8)

21. Suspend in Shanghai (4)

22. Hint at in pint I materialise with (8)

23. Fits badly, but refine by straining(4)

DOWN:

1. Hit the explosion in the very centre (4, 4)

2. Trade leader has cause for betrayal of country (7)

4. Pablo ———, Chilean poet (6)

5. Turn into acid in sign (10)

6. I had nothing, somehow, in American state (5)

7. Nothing odd in uneventful day (4)

10. A bit late for this examination! (4, 6)

12. Traditional symbol of sleazy district (3, 5)

15. Or I’m a GI, somehow, for Japanese art of paper-folding (7)

16. Sprite? No - a French spirit (6)

18. Who is there, concealing lift? (5)

19. Agricultural Business Research Institute (abbrev) (4)

SOLUTION TO CROSSWORD NO 207

ACROSS:

More; 3. Deadlier; 8. Rove; 9. Pheasant; 11. Yellow ribbon; 13. Endure 14. Lesser; 17. To take it easy; 20. Lifetime; 21. Fifi; 22. Maradona; 23. Mesh.


DOWN:

1. Merry men; 2. Reviled; 4. Exhort; 5. Draw breath; 6. Idaho; 7. Rite; 10. Pot roasted; 12. Crayfish; 15. Seaside; 16. Seaman; 18. Offer; 19. Plum.

1		2			3	4		5		6		7
8					9							
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	17	18										
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20								21				
22								23				

A Dylan play list or merely a wish list?

ALAN D ABBEY
JERUSALEM



WITH THE greatest Jewish rock and roller of all time, Bob “You can call me Zimmy” Dylan, making his return to Israel after nearly two decades, the question arises: Will the crowd be bored?

Dylan, whose lyrics have been soaked in biblical and religious imagery for decades, is coming to Israel in June for the first time since 1993 as part of his “Never-Ending Tour”, which has taken him recently to China, Taiwan and Vietnam.

That has brought criticism from groups such as Human Rights Watch, who say that Dylan should be ashamed of himself for allowing his set lists to be pre-approved. The New York Times’ Maureen Dowd threw a fit over his shows in China.

In Israel, the excitement about his show at the country’s largest venue, the Ramat Gan soccer stadium, has been tempered here by concern that the gravel-voiced septuagenarian - Dylan will turn 70 shortly before arriving here - will turn off his audience with obscure songs, lack of showmanship and indifference to them, unlike Leonard Cohen, who offered the priestly blessing to 45 000 at Ramat Gan in 2009, Paul McCartney and Elton John, all of whom offered crowd-pleasing renditions of their classics.

Plus, Dylan will be competing for the shekels of fans of other ageing rockers, including Bryan Ferry, Megadeath and two surviving members of The Doors, as well as those who were forced to shepherd their kids to Justin Bieber on April 14.

With that hanging over him, Bobby D will need to go the extra kilometre he rarely does to succeed in the Holy Land. Here is my pre-approved set list of songs that Dylan should perform in Israel to win over the many groups that make up Israeli society:

Secular, leftist Israelis

“A Hard Rain’s A-Gonna Fall”: This song’s anti-nuke message has even more prophetic impact now in the wake of Japan’s crisis. As a bonus, Dylan should bring up to the stage Israeli rocker Aviv Gefen, who has done a popular Hebrew version. Chances Dylan will do the song? Very good. It’s on the current set list in Asia.

For fans of the ‘classics’

“Knockin’ On Heaven’s Door,” “Mr Tambourine Man”, “Rainy Day Women No 12 & 35”, “Positively 4th Street”, “Stuck Inside Of Mobile With The Memphis Blues Again”, “Tangled Up In Blue”, “Don’t Think Twice, It’s All Right”, “Like a Rolling Stone”.

As a bonus, Dylan should invite “Like a Rolling Stone” original bassist Harvey Brooks, who made aliyah in 2009, to join in on that one. Expect some, but he won’t play all.

Religious fans (open-minded)

“Highway 61 Revisited”: (“Oh G-d said to Abraham, ‘Kill me a son’ / Abe says, ‘Man, you must be puttin’ me on.’ ”) Chances? Excellent. It’s on the current set list.

Religious fans (yeshiva/haredi)

“A Satisfied Mind”: This obscure ditty paraphrases the Talmudic epigram about who truly is a rich man (“It’s so hard to find / One rich man in ten with a satisfied mind.”) Chances? Slim to none. The song has been performed exactly once in Dylan’s 50-year career.

How about “Man in the Long Black Coat”? Just kidding.

Religious fans (knitted kipah)

“Forever Young”: Dylan’s reworking of the priestly/parental prayers includes a reference to Jacob’s ladder thrown in for good measure. Chances? Very good. It’s on the current set list.

Religious fans (settlers)

“Neighbourhood Bully”: Dylan’s 1983 Likudnik paean to Israel and the Jewish people. Chances? None. He has never performed it.

Religious fans (Carlebachian stoners)

“Talkin’ Hava Negiliah Blues”: This 1961 song would be a great sing-along: “Here’s a foreign song I learned in Utah / Ha-va-ne-gi-liah/O-de-ley-e-e-oo.” Chances: None. Never performed.

Christians and women who venture to Ramat Gan looking for something especially for them, such as his born again-era tunes “In The Garden”, “Saved” and “Man Gave Names To All The Animals”, or surprisingly moving love songs such as “If You See Her, Say Hello”, “Just Like a Woman” and “Lay, Lady, Lay” are likely to be disappointed. Dylan just doesn’t do those songs anymore.

Even if he follows these recommendations, almost everyone who sees the concert will spend the evening swinging wildly from ecstasy to boredom, which at least should make the lines for beer and bathrooms manageable. (JTA)

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AVIVA OZEN

Passed away peacefully on April 28, 2011. After a valiant struggle.

Beloved mother of Zmirah and Aaron Rosenthal (Canada), Tchia and Avi Bazar (South Africa/Israel), Ron and Minette Ozen (Australia) and Ami Ozen (South Africa). A beloved grandmother and great grandmother.

Funeral in Israel on Tuesday May 3 at the Old Raanana Cemetery at 12:00pm.

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Israel wheelchair tennis team go down in final

JACK MILNER

THE ISRAELI wheelchair tennis team narrowly went down to the USA in the final of the ITF World Team Cup played in Pretoria last weekend. The defending champions won the coveted wheelchair tennis title when they beat a spirited Israeli team 2-1. This is the seventh time that the Americans have captured the Quads title.

In the opening rubber Israeli No 2, Noam Gershony, upset world No 4 Nick Taylor 6-3 6-2 to give his side the early lead. USA then levelled matters when world No 1 David Wagner needed just 63 minutes to beat Shraga Weinberg 6-3 6-3.

In the deciding doubles rubber the Americans, regarded as the world's top Quads doubles pairing, were far too strong for the Israelis. Taylor and Wagner, Paralympics gold medal winners, trounced Gershony and Boaz Kramer, 6-2 6-0 to lift the title for USA.

"We are ecstatic over our victory," said Taylor. "This is the biggest event of the year for me personally and being part of the winning team is a real honour," added Taylor.

Wagner admitted he was nervous going

into his singles rubber after the USA had lost the opening match of the tie. "it's never easy having to go out knowing that you have to win to keep the tie alive," said Wagner. "But knowing in the back of my mind we were favourites in the doubles, I had the confidence to pull off the win over Shraga."

Britain captured third place in the Quads section when they beat Canada 2-1.

From its inception wheelchair tennis has been one of the fastest growing wheelchair sports in the world, primarily because it integrates easily with the able-bodied game. In 2004 Wheelchair Tennis South Africa (WTSA) officially set out to grow this as a national sport for the disabled.

The WTSA philosophy is based on offering life skills such as discipline, determination and teamwork.

Over the last few years WTSA has hosted an impressive list of tournaments on an international level and 2011 will see six international events and a signature event - a first for Africa - the World Team Cup.

WTSA currently celebrates 80 players on the world ranking - this is more than any other nation and a true accomplishment for any country with such a young team.

Soccer players back campaign to stop anti-Semitic chant

LONDON - For almost 30 years the Y-word has been used as a "badge of honour" by fans of Premier League club Tottenham Hotspur but a campaign to stop them using "Yid Army" has been launched by an anti-racist pressure group.

The Kick It Out Campaign's initiative is not just aimed at Spurs fans, who adopted the term for themselves after years of hearing opposing supporters direct it at them, but the fans of any club tempted to use anti-Semitic chants or insults.

A powerful film has been made called "The Y-word" featuring appeals by England internationals Frank Lampard of Chelsea, Tottenham's Ledley King and Kieran Gibbs of Arsenal, plus a message from former Spurs and England striker Gary Lineker.

The film spearheads a campaign to stamp out anti-Semitism in football and remind supporters they can be prosecuted for using the words "Yid" or "Yiddo", which has its origins in Yiddish.

The film's producers, comedian David Baddiel and his brother Ivor, a writer, know they face a huge task in changing



The logo of English Premier League's Tottenham Hotspur.

attitudes to the use of the word which, they admit, many people have no idea is offensive.

But as Ivor, who like his brother is a Chelsea fan, told Reuters in an interview near Tottenham's White Hart Lane ground: "You have to start somewhere. No-one thought the N-word could be eradicated from the game in the 1970s, but now you hardly ever hear it. The same with the term 'Paki' and it should be the same for using the word 'Yid' or 'Yiddo'...

"I am under no illusions the film is going to change attitudes overnight. But I hope the next generation of Spurs fans will understand it better and it will be eradicated."

No-one is exactly sure why Tottenham has become identified as a "Jewish" club because their

fan base demographic is virtually identical to near neighbours Arsenal.

Both clubs have many Jewish supporters but whether Tottenham's blue and white colours - the same as the Israeli flag - played a part, or their proximity to the Stamford Hill area in north London where many Orthodox Jews live, is unclear. - Reuters



Noam Gershony from Israel in action against Nick Taylor from the USA in the Quads final during day 6 of the ITF World Team Cup played at the University of Pretoria. (PHOTO BY REG CALDECOTT)

Tamir Cohen pays tribute to father, soccer legend Avi

WEARING A shirt bearing a picture of his father, Bolton's Tamir Cohen scored his first league goal of the season in the 90th minute of the match against Arsenal. The moment Tamir Cohen had waited for since December finally arrived last Sunday when he scored the winner in his side's 2-1 victory over Arsenal at the Reebok Stadium and revealed a T-shirt bearing a picture of his father Avi, the former Israel international and Liverpool player, who died after a motorbike accident four months ago.

"I have worn this T-shirt for every match, hoping that this moment would arrive," said Cohen, who scored his first league goal of the season in the 90th minute, less than six minutes after coming on as a substitute. "I can't remember what was going through my head, but I had been thinking of this scenario for a long time."

Cohen was only making his fourth Premier League appearance of a frustrating season last Sunday.

"It was very emotional. Tamir's had

such a difficult year because he had an operation in the summer and when he came back in pre-season he was slightly behind the lads in terms of fitness," Bolton manager Owen Coyle said. "By the time he was up and running the lads were flying and he had to be very patient. And then, when he was on the brink of coming back, his father passed away.

"Tamir has had a huge burden of responsibility as the leader of the household. His father was such a big name in his country. But he's trained every day and for him to get that winner, I'm delighted."

Cohen's tribute - removing his jersey - earned him a booking from referee Mike Jones, but Coyle said he understood the decision.

"Referees are charged with a set of rules and the referee is not to understand the emotion of what happened," he said.

"What I would say is, if he's going to score the winner every week, I'll take a yellow card for Tamir every week." - Jerusalem Post

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