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### Contact:

Archives & Special Collections  
Waidner-Spahr Library  
Dickinson College  
P.O. Box 1773  
Carlisle, PA 17013

717-245-1399

[archives@dickinson.edu](mailto:archives@dickinson.edu)

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Kol Hillel

June 1, 1977

The activities and events of Hillel at Dickinson College reflected a busy and multifaceted character this semester. With the installment of new officers in January, under a revised constitution, the planning of events was more structured which not only involved more students in the preliminary stages but also in the participation of the events themselves.

Major Andrew Sherling, a retired officer of the Air Force, residing in the Mechanicsburg area, spoke frankly and interestingly at the first Bagels and Lox Brunch of the semester on February 27. In relating his personal experiences throughout the world, Major Sherling conveyed the particular problems the Jew encounters, and must respond to; ranging from difficulties in obtaining kosher food to overt and covert instances of anti-Semitism.

Following this event, Hillel sponsored, in conjunction with the International Law Society, a speaker on February 29. Our guest was Dr. Amos Shapira, a noted Israeli expert on international and constitutional law. Dr. Shapira spoke on the "Legal and Political Aspects of the Israel-Arab Conflict".

Following this event was a two day symposium on March 6 and 7 which was sponsored by the Religion and Philosophy Departments and College Church in addition to Hillel. The topic of concern was the changes effected on contemporary Judaism by the Holocaust, particularly as it relates to the "Death of God" theology. The guest speaker for this inquiry was Dr. Richard Rubenstein, author of After Auschwitz who addressed himself specifically to two issues, "Does Genocide Have a Future" and "God After Auschwitz".

On amore light hearted note, Purim was celebrated on March 4, complete with groggers. For the satisfaction of culinary interests, hundreds (literally) of cherry, blueberry, apple and lemon hamantaschens were baked for a college wide bake sale. Needless to say, because we are not above overbaking some hamantaschens, we had no recourse but to sample some of our product!

On March 24 Hillel had the privilege of hosting Yaacov Paran, the Consul of the Consulate General in Philadelphia as a guest speaker. Accompanied by a film concerning the structure of the Israeli Defense system, Mr. Paran addressed himself to the "Prospects of Peace in the Middle East".

The second brunch of the semester was on March 26 and though we were beginning to consider calling it Bagels and Cream Cheese as Carlisle is not particularly noted for its cut rate price on lox, our speaker was extremely interesting in his presentation of a not often enough considered perspective. Mr. Zogby, who is the representative to the United Nations for the Association of Arab-American University Graduates, spoke

sensitively to the concens of the Arab peoples in resolving the Middle East situation. He especially noted the complex and fluctuating relationships that are operative among the Arab states themselves. Mr. Zogby spoke thoughtfully to the many questions asked that trouble many individuals, Jew and non-Jew alike.

Following in tradition, the Passover season was begun with a community Seder. Despite the fact that many students were home celebrating because it was a weekend, the Seder was successful especially as several families from the community shared it with us. With the participation of many students in the reading of the Haggadah as well as serving as "table Daddies" and the virtuoso co-ordinating ability of the religious chairman, the Seder was great! In addition, due to some skillful work with the paring knife, we made our own charosses. In fact, we made it in such quantity that by the end of Passover we were not quite sure whether we ever wanted to see another matzo covered with charosses again !

Thanks to the much appreciated co-operation and extra effort on the part of Food Service, kosher meals were available throughtout Passover week to any one who chose to participate, free of additional cost.

On April 14, Hillel sponsered the movie, "The Mad Adventures of Rabbi Issac Jacobs". This light spirited movie was a welcomed contrast to the mounting pressures of academia!

Uncle Herbies Deli, an annual event at Dickinson, which is open to the entire school, was again presented on April 21. In the style of a lower East Side Deli, corn beef, pastrami, bolgna and salami sandwiches, complete with a pickle, cole slaw and cel-ray soda were served to over 500 people. To complement the jumbo size sandwiches, the enertainment was quite unique. In addition to the Israeli Dance Troupe, and short Charlie Chaplan and Marx Brothers films, there were wandering instrumentalists who played music of various eras. All in all it was an evening of fun and enertainment. Thanks goes to all who helped make it possible!

The closing event for the spring semester was A Bagel and Lox Brunch that was incorporated into Spring Weekend, April 24. Despite the fact that it rained nearly the entire weekend and the Day Light Savings Time began, the Brunch was a suitable close to the semester. Our speaker was Rabbi Mintz of the Temple Ohev Shalom in Harrisburg. He was sponsered to us by the Chattaqua Society, the educational branch of the Union of Hebrew Congregations. Speaking to the topic of the "Role of the Jew in a Secular World", Rabbi Mintz stressed the need for the Jew to simultaneously retain his Jewish identity while not segragating himself from the rest of his society.

Well, that about sums up what has been happening in Hillel at Dickinson this semester. Next Autumn we will plan to follow a similar pattern! Have a good summer!

Sincerely,  
*Lisa Donner*  
(Publicity)