

abandoned scholarly methodology to 'prove' their provocative thesis, the fact that the two held named chairs at two of the world's leading universities lent great weight to their arguments and led to huge impact in the popular consciousness. Psychiatrist and historian Kenneth Levin (author of *The Oslo Syndrome: Delusions of a People Under Siege*), Alvin Rosenfeld (professor of English and Jewish Studies at Indiana University), and Yaakov Kirschen (creator of the *Dry Bones* political cartoon) addressed the topic of Israel's Jewish defamers. Bret Stephens (foreign affairs correspondent for *The Wall Street Journal*) argued we no longer need to make the case for Israel. We don't need defense lawyers, but prosecutors instead. He described the entire debate as one sided, focusing only on Israel's needed 'concessions.' Instead of asking what else Israel can do for the Gazans, why not ask what the Arab world has been doing to help Palestinians?

Attendees participated in breakout sessions for advocacy and activism focused on using blogs and social media in defense of Israel; getting published in the mainstream media, and making an impact online; effective activism within the Spanish-language media; and how to respond to anti-Israel bias in mainstream Protestant churches. The conference also included practical workshops and discussions geared especially for students dedicated to letter-writing, student leadership, and activism. These student programs are co-sponsored with BU Hillel, The David Project, and StandWithUs and were lead by Bret Stephens of *The Wall Street Journal*.

Associate sponsors of 'War by Other Means' included: Hadassah, Stephen S. Wise Temple (Los Angeles), Sinai Temple (Los Angeles), East Brunswick Jewish Center (NJ), Har Zion Synagogue (Philadelphia), Boston Israel Action Committee, Boston Synagogue, Combined Jewish Philanthropies, Christians and Jews United for Israel, Congregation Kehillath Israel (Boston), Consulate General of Israel to New England, David Project, Doc Emet Productions, Israel Campus Roundtable, Stand With Us, Jewish Community Relations Council, Maimonides School, MIT Hillel, Temple Emanuel (Boston), Temple Isaiah (Boston), Temple Reyim (Boston), Tufts Hillel, and ZOA.

CAMERA, the Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America, is a national research, educational, and activist organization that monitors media coverage of Israel and the Middle East, working to promote accurate, balanced, and complete reporting. For more information, visit [www.CAMERA.org](http://www.CAMERA.org). For more information about the War by Other Means conference, contact David Mladinov 617-789-3672 or at [davidm@camera.org](mailto:davidm@camera.org) or Isabel Smith at 818-922-5520 or [Isabel@camera.org](mailto:Isabel@camera.org). ❖

#### Rambam Open House Draws A Crowd

At the 20th Rambam Mesivta Open House there was standing room only as prospective parents and eighth graders were welcomed with open arms to experience the *chevra* and standards of excellence that are the trademarks of Rambam Mesivta.



Michael Rosenfeld (sophomore) and Binyamin Wallin (freshman) presenting at the Rambam Open House.

The program began with students and principals literally opening the doors for their guests. The parents and eighth graders were then ushered to the shul where live Jewish musical entertainment, provided by Rambam's own (junior) Dani Edelman, (junior) Sam Grill, (sophomore) Eric Grossman, and ninth grade Rebbe, Rabbi Ari Bioangu, awaited. The beautiful *negunim* were matched to a slide-show that featured Rambam events such as blood drives, Sukkah building, father/son learning, cemetery clean-up, and numerous sporting events, including a *rebbe/talmid* hockey game.

Rosh Mesivta Rabbi Zev Meir Friedman was introduced by (junior)

Dani Edelman and (freshman) Aaron Koppel, and went on to discuss the school's ideal graduate: A boy who can learn, earn a living, is a *mensch*, and isn't afraid to speak out on behalf of Israel, America, and what is right. Rabbi Friedman was proud to detail the Mesivta's efforts to deport Nazi war criminals and act as the vanguard of many protests. (Sophomore) Michael Rosenfeld and (freshman) Benjamin Wallin introduced Assistant Principal Hillel Goldman who elaborated on the school's focus on writing and commitment to *chesed* as the main function of the student activities program. It is the

Continued on Page 54

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## AROUND THE FIVE TOWNS

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school's goal to hone their students' leadership skills during their unique Club Hour so that the boys of today grow into the leaders of tomorrow.

(Senior) Nathan Akhavan and

(senior) Aaron Kattan discussed the school's diverse student body: Sephardic, Ashkenazic, Queens, Brooklyn, West Hempstead, Five Towns, Plainview, and concluded that in short, this year's ninth grade class of 45 is represented by 12 elementary schools. They also

discussed the importance of the *rebbe/talmid* relationship and how the *kesher* continues to grow even after graduation.

Rabbi Yotav Eliach, the school's principal, was introduced by (senior) Azariah Hachohen and (junior) Aryeh Korman before discussing the theme of academic excellence. He mentioned that Rambam students garnered approximately \$1.6 million merit-based scholarships for its 2010 graduating class. "The average SAT score for all students is approximately 1250 (based on the old scale), approximately 50% of our students score 90 and above on all Regents exams, students are disproportionately admitted with full scholarships to Yeshiva University's Honors Program,

The Cooper Union, Macauley Honors College, and other top programs. And the list goes on and on," he said.

Following Rabbi Eliach's address, Science Wizard Mrs. Rivky Isseroff really caught everyone's attention as she made science come alive with her famous "Potato Rifle" among other fascinating demonstrations of the principles of science which she imparts to her students in her chemistry class. Parents and eighth graders were soon after sent on separate tours of the school. Parents and students were able to see classrooms and interact with *rebbeim* and teachers on their tour of Rambam's facility.

To all those who attended, the food, the smiles, the *chevra*,

and Rambam's tradition of excellence provided a flavor of what Rambam is all about. ❖

### HAFTR Scholars

HAFTR has amassed a large list of AP Scholars in varying categories. These students in the Class of 2010 and 2011 have attained the highest level of academic performance on the AP exams given in May 2010. The HAFTR faculty and administration are proud that HAFTR has a national scholar, which is very rare. A national scholar has an average of at least a 4 on all exams and a 4 or higher on eight AP exams; Alexa Lempel completed nine AP exams. An AP scholar with distinction has an average of at least a 3.5 on all exams and scores of 3 or higher on five or more exams. An AP scholar with honors has an average of at least a 3.25 on all exams and a 3 or higher on four or more exams. An AP scholar designation is granted to students who receive scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP exams.

*National scholar.* Alexa Lempel (class of 2010)

*AP scholar with distinction.* Dani Aronovitz, Harrison Beitler, Ellie Davis, Rebecca Glikman, Alyssa Greenberg, Josh Gross, Davina Kirschenbaum, Michael Kornblit, Jenna Laufer-Gesser, Alexa Lempel, Jessica Lovett, Deanna Meyer, Zachary Mostel, Aliza Rudman, Michael Schiff, Joseph Stern, Alana Warhit, Samantha Weinerman, Aaron Wengrofsky, Michael Wotman, and Kenneth Zauderer (all from class of 2010)

*AP scholar with honors.* Simone Blond (2011), Atara Charnoff (2011), Danielle Goldberg (2010), Darren Goldschmidt (2010), Stephanie Greenberg (2011), Pamela Hershman (2011), Lauren Hoffman (2011), Rebecca Klahr (2011), Jennifer Korff (2010), Kayla Levinson (2011), Danielle Miller (2010), Miriam Rosen (2010), Jeremy Sacks (2011), Jason M. Schwartz (2011), Avichai Vazana (2011), and Eric Wilzig (2010)

*AP scholar.* Emily Alon (2010), Leor Bareli (2011), Jamie Bernstein (2010), Joseph Borgen (2010), Lowell Brazin (2011), Jason Fruchter (2011), Ari Goldberg (2011), Jason Goodman (2010), Elianna Kaufman (2011), Mariah Langweil (2010), Daniella Lazar (2011), Shlomo Leibtag (2011), Aaron Ozeri (2011), Benjamin Parnes (2010), Jacqueline Segelnick (2011), Alexandra Shafran (2011), Jonathan Shapiro (2011), Sabrina Sosnick (2011), Max Spector (2010), and Michael Zaslowsky (2011). ❖

### The Bayswater Players Present "Brooklyn Boy"

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