

**Extra big special  
summer edition  
bonanza!**

**Avoda Alumni Weekend:  
August 18-20, 2000  
Register on page 11**

*Special thanks to those who regularly help with Avoda Alumni mailings: Sam Mirkin, David Wertheim, Jeff Keselman & Sarah Glasgow, Jill Shifman, Jay Yampolsky and Andy Spear. Your hard work is greatly appreciated!*

# Avoda Alumnus

THE BIENNIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CAMP AVODA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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SUMMER 2000

Michael Ross  
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Jeff Keselman  
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Michael Roth  
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*Special thanks to Tom Leavitt and his Arcadia Press for, as usual, providing excellent service in printing the Avoda Alumnus! Also thank you to Aimee Shifman, of olio enterprises, for her excellent design supervision!*

## Tzedakah Tzuccess

*Fundraising Report  
by Jeff Keselman*

It was June 1978 and Ma and Pa Keselman were hurriedly packing up an old steamer trunk with shorts, t-shirts, socks, an old wood tennis racket, army rations, and about 100 other "essential" items from a list provided by PGD. They were, of course, readying me for my first Avoda experience and while none of us knew it at the time, I would spend the next 14 summers of my life making that drive down Tispaquin Road each June. My final summer at Avoda was 1991 and looking back, so many of the memories I have of my time at camp seem as though they happened yesterday. Over the years, my "camp" friends have become simply my friends with Avoda acting as a mystical getaway for a night or two each summer.

I met a wonderful woman last June at a Red Sox game and we recently became engaged. Do you know what we talked about on our first date? Camp. She is a Yavneh woman and so she understands the connection camp provides. Sarah was and continues to be overwhelmed, though, by the Avoda bonds, as it seems everywhere we go, we run into an Avodian or two. From running into Sam Mirkin and David Goldberg at a viewing of "Three Kings," Andy Spear outside Fenway Park, David Gagel at Diamond Deli, or a Saturday basketball game in Newton Centre that often features Avodians spanning 20 years in age, Sarah has been exposed to Avoda from day one.

A year and a half ago, I was approached by the Alumni Association and asked to become a board member. I was flattered and jumped at the chance. From its beginning, the Alumni Association has made raising money for scholarship a huge part of its mission. We do so in the hopes of providing assistance to families whose financial position does not afford them the same opportunity to experience Avoda as we had in the past.

In prior years, we have raised scholarship money primarily through annual alumni events such as the upcoming overnight in

*continued on p.4*

# President's Letter

by Michael Ross

Camp Avoda entered its first summer in the new century without the physical presence of Stan Miller. The very thought greatly saddens me. Stan Miller was and is the embodiment of the true spirit of Avoda.

I have often thought of how certain individuals gain a stature that equates their existence with the soul and spirit of a team, an office, an organization, a country. Red Auerbach is and forever will be the Boston Celtics. Henry Kissinger is the Secretary of State that so many remember. Moshe Dayan was the manifestation of the Israeli fighting spirit. Perhaps I err as do many, creating opinion with the seemingly "more meaningful" experience of "my" era. In regard to Stan Miller, I think not.

Stan Miller unselfishly served Camp Avoda for more than half a century. What position did he not hold? Camper, Counselor, Director, Board Member, President of the Board; he did it all. His manner was friendly, always quick to say, "Call me Stan." His objective was not personal achievement. His goal was the betterment of Camp Avoda, making the experience better for the boys.

When I think of Stan, I think of the utter grace of the man. His presence seemed to lift the life experience; whether it was a meeting, a social gathering, or time spent at Avoda. I always noticed that extra glow within him when he was on the grounds of Avoda. That grace I will miss the most.

Now we move forward without Stan's physical presence.

We have named the Rec Hall in his honor during a ceremony on July 26th of this year. All who knew him retain their favorite memories; he touched so many. My personal favorite is the response Stan once gave when asked about what Avoda meant to him and he said, "Avoda is the camp I attended as a boy and became a man."

Stan Miller would have become a great man at any camp, in any society. We were so very fortunate to have him in our special place amongst the whispering pines. Honor him by maintaining his graceful spirit, carrying on the tradition that he embodied, supporting a place he deemed worthy of special attention.

## DEDICATION



We, the campers and staff of Camp Avoda, dedicate the 1989 Avodian Yearbook to a true Avodian in every sense of the word. That person is none other than Stanley Miller, the President of the Camp Avoda Board of Directors.

We honor Mr. Miller for his fifty years of continuous involvement and service to Camp Avoda. Mr. Miller started his camping career at Avoda in 1939 as a seven-year old camper in Bunk 1. He worked his way up to become one of the elite "Betty Grable Commandos" in Bunk 14, and in 1953 was appointed to the position of Camp Director - the youngest person ever to hold that position. His involvement continued through the 1950's and 1960's, and in the 1960's he

was named to the Board of Directors of Camp Avoda. In the early 1970's Mr. Miller was elected to the presidency of the camp, a position he continues to hold today.

Mr. Miller's concern and interest in every aspect of camp life is evidenced in everything he says and does. In 1951 he and Mr. Martin Wolf, who is currently the secretary of the Board of Directors (he, too, started as a camper in 1939 as a very young boy), donated a trophy to the camp in honor of its twenty-fifth silver anniversary. This trophy, which has been presented annually since 1951, has inscribed on it the names of those campers who most closely exemplify traditional Avoda leadership.

We look forward to Mr. Miller's continued service and dedication to the boys of Camp Avoda for many years to come.

*The 1989 Avodian was dedicated to Stan Miller.*

# ESPN SportsCenter Spotlights Hoops & Hops Night

by Sam Mirkin

Sam is an ESPN (Avoda Sports Network) Exclusive Reporter

**Dan Patrick:** "Good evening, Dan Patrick here alongside Kenny Mayne. If it's 11:00, it must be SportsCenter. In our top story tonight, the talk of the sporting world is focused on the Camp Avoda Alumni Hoop Association basketball night at the Longfellow Gym in Natick on the night of Friday May 19th, 2000."

**Kenny Mayne:** "That's right Dan, and you can insert the Longfellow joke of your choice here. It seems that Paul Simon (he's tall) and his father Mr. Simon (who is probably also tall) bid on the evening at an auction they were attending, knowing it would be a perfect setting for the Avoda alumni spring gathering. Traditionally, the spring meeting is held at Chili's on Route 1 in Dedham. ESPN is unaware of whether the alumni missed the Chili's Baby Back Ribs (Patrick in deep voice: "barbecue sauce") usually so prominent at these things."

**Patrick:** "Anyway, the evening got off to a rousing start with two of the slowest games in recorded basketball history. The videotape shows many missed shots (Mayne: "I believe they're called bricks") shot by every player on the floor."

**Mayne:** "The names of the players have been concealed to protect the players' identities."

**Patrick:** "After the old guys started to heat up, the quality of play improved dramatically. Let's go to Chris Berman, who was at the gym for a recap. Boomer."

**Chris Berman:** "Thanks Dan. You are right about the quality of play here. Everyone in attendance saw Andy Stone "Age" rumbling up and down the court like he was 20 again. Steve "V" Camiel displayed a warrior's heart and two bad knees in playing the muscle game down low. Rick Mahorn has nothing on him. Living legends

Louie "Louie" Dennis and Nat "Superstar" Phillips were a bit rusty at first, but proved they still have game. Meanwhile, David "Bones" Wertheim was hustling everywhere, as was Jeff Blocker who looked in fine form (for him). EJ "Take that Sweater Off" Kimball and his brother Spencer "What kind of name is that for a Jewish boy" Kimball tried their best to team up for a victory, but the still-potent game of Evan "Bionic Schmed" Yampolsky proved too much for them. Schmed was very effective (at least in his own mind) on this night. Scott "Young and in Shape" Bookman proved he was young and in shape by getting to 95% of the loose balls out there while much older men looked on in horror. Meanwhile, Andy "Rib" Spear proved that he too was in shape by continuing to run up and down the court even during time outs.

**Mayne:** "Chris, were any of the players hospitalized after running up and down the court for a couple hours?"

**Berman:** "No Kenny, at least not as far as we know. I'd also be remiss if I didn't tell you that Jeff "Kareem" Keselman was in fine form, using arms longer than Kevin McHale's to swat away shots and grab rebounds. "Doctor" Jay Yampolsky displayed his typical hustle and scrap, while Russell "Hondo" Katz added his usual brand of effortless humor to the ceremonies. Paul "Guffa" Simon took advantage of the night to prove that he can still play with anyone, whether they be a size 48 Long or 38 Portly. Andy "A-Brain" Aronson was another pleasant surprise, along with the guest appearance by Steven "Peasly" Poverman and Harold Poverman who was apparently on the DL due to an unknown injury some insiders are calling the "Hellenic Flu." Mike "Rollo" Ross added his unique and deadly jump shot to the mix, while Peter "Spider" Leibowitz displayed the "through the legs and

photos on page 5

continued on back cover

# Tzedakah Tzuccess *(continued from front page)*

August or Boston Billiards night in November. This year, we launched the Camp Avoda Alumni Association Annual Fund in an attempt to formalize our scholarship fundraising efforts. The mailing was completed in mid-May and to date, we have raised nearly \$5000. The Alumni Association wanted to take this time to thank all of you who have sent in your pledges and to reach out to those of you who may not be aware of this effort.

With the money we have raised so far, the Alumni Association has already contributed to a child's experience this summer. Along with the help of the Camp

Avoda Board of Directors and an anonymous alumnus, the Alumni Association has sponsored this child's tuition. We are going to spend this money prudently and along with the camp's administration seek out and review future applicants.

If you would like to contribute, please make your check payable to the Camp Avoda Alumni Association and mail it to PO Box 65, Newton, MA, 02459. All checks are tax deductible. If you are an active member of the Alumni Association, this is a great way to enhance that experience. If you are unable to attend any of the events over the course of the

year because of distance or work or family obligations, this is your chance to make a statement about what Avoda has meant to you individually. We hope you choose to assist us in what we know is an important and necessary endeavor.

## ***Contributors to The Camp Avoda Alumni Association Annual Fund, 2000***

### **Dedication** **(\$1,500 - \$2,499)**

Anonymous

### **Betty Grable** **Commando** **(\$500 - \$999)**

David Berkowitz  
Paul Hantman  
Melvyn Harris  
Joel Horvitz  
David Jaye

### **Rec-O (\$100 - \$499)**

Jeremy Agulnek  
Stephen Aronson  
David Bamel  
Dr. Jonathan Bamel  
Jeff Blocker  
Steven Camiel  
David Goodman  
Jonathan Kaplan  
Jeff Keselman  
Matt Linsky  
William Meyer  
Joshua Ravit  
Alan Rosenfield  
Michael Ross  
Russell Sherman  
Ethan Sobol  
Robert Zuker

### **Bunk-O (\$50 - \$99)**

Adam Becker  
Bruce French  
Steve Gladstone  
Steve Goldsmith  
Barney Horowitz  
Andy Meckelburg  
David Morse  
Alex Sherman  
Ken Shifman  
Paul Simon

### **Others**

Neal Goldman  
Morton Grosser  
Robert Satloff  
Neil Shneider  
Bob Sokolsky  
Ariel Waldman  
Arnold Zieff

***Thank you  
to all!***

# Hoops & Hops Night Photographs

by Russell Katz



*Nat Phillips and Hondo Katz*



*The Hoop Group finishing business after the gym closed*



*Blocker? Nah, more of a rebounder*



*Steve Camiel and Mike Ross*



*Andy Aaronson, Paul Simon (Thanks for the night Paul!) and Peasly*



*Mike Roth, Sam Mirkin, Spider Liebowitz*

# Letters to the Editor

Dear *Avoda Alumnus*,

**Q** Why doesn't your publication have centerfolds like some other magazines I get?

*R. Dupp*

**A** That's not a bad idea. Camp Avoda has actually tried to sell swimsuit calendars in the past. Sales were disappointingly low. According to reader feedback, it seemed that the counselors and alumni who posed were "too hairy" for most people.

-Editor

Dear *Avoda Alumnus*,

**Q** I enjoy Jason Rubin's writing very much. His historical pieces are great. Keep them coming.

*Ben Lernin*

**A** Thanks for the feedback Ben. A lot of people have commented on his recent pieces and how much they like them, like the account about polio at camp and Kurt Kleinmann's plight from Vienna. This issue has a piece we're sure you'll like too: on page 8.

Over the past few months, Jason has had two scripts produced for the nationally broadcast public radio music-and-information series, *Sound and Spirit*. The first was called "Prayer" and the second, "Mourning." He is currently at work on a third, "The End of the World." In Boston, the program airs Sundays at 2pm and 5pm on WGBH, 89.7fm.

-Editor

Dear *Avoda Alumnus*,

**Q** I really enjoy the publication. Who makes it all happen?

*Justin Quiring*

**A** The staff of the *Avoda Alumnus*:

<i>Publisher/Editor</i>	<i>Legal Representation</i>
Ken Shifman	Dewey, Cheatum and Howe
<i>Editor/Writer</i>	<i>Other Staff:</i>
Jason Rubin	Luke Busy (formerly of Car Talk)
<i>Staff writers</i>	B. Triter
Jeff Keselman	Juan Tads
Sam Mirkin	Eddie Torial
Russell Sherman	
Michael Ross	
Jay Yampolsky	

Dear *AA*,

**Q** I read something on the internet the other day about Camp Avoda getting it's own Chinese restaurant. Is this true?

*Ed Roll*

Ed,

**A** The camp looked into it for a while. There were plans to tear down the rec hall and put in an Uncle Cheung's. This way campers and counselors could eat in style all day - including special late night hours for munchies. However, plans were stopped when it was brought to someone's attention that there would be no place to see color war plays.

Dear *Avoda Alumnus*,

**Q** Is it true that the *Avoda Alumnus* is best read while on the toilet?

Thanks,

*Phil Decann*

**A** Yes that's true. Just like the coveted daily Sports page, the *Avoda Alumnus* is best read while in the bathroom, "resting." A lot of people know that the *Alumnus* newsletter staff works hard to chop down the finest trees for each edition. But what most people are not aware of is that the paper is made up of 34% fragrance crystals. The newsletter actually deodorizes as you read.

-Editor

# On Location: Middleboro, MA

*This edition of the newsletter has the distinction of being published during the summer rather than spring or fall. We asked Jay Yampolsky, assistant director and Grayson Kimball, head counselor, to give us an update of the summer so far.*

The beginning of Summer 2000 at Avoda has gotten off to a ferocious start. From the opening night Flagrush, through the recently completed Desert War, the campers and counselors continue to keep the energy and excitement at a fevered pitch.

As we go to press, the Senior and Junior Basketball teams took 1st place in their respective tournaments at the World Sports Camp, and the Junior and Senior Tennis teams swept their tournaments as well. Through July, more tournaments are scheduled for our basketball, tennis, and softball teams.

The 4th of July was a big hit as well. Avoda was home to a carnival of sorts as an obstacle course, bungee ride, boxing ring, dunk tank, space ball and joust were available for the campers to enjoy. As always, the annual bonfire was a success as well.

Athletics has changed a bit as waterskiing and the ropes course have become a part of the Athletics cycle. Some other upcoming activities for the summer include a trip to the Red Sox game, Live Professional Wrestling at Avoda, with King Kong Bundy competing in the main event, and a trip to see the Blue Man Group in Boston.

However, with the good news comes some bad. An uni-

dentified stomach virus has found its way into the halls of Camp Avoda. Is it from the shores of Tispaquin? We do not know. We do know that thanks to our nurses, Mary Ann and 22-year-old newcomer, Charlene, the campers are getting better in no time, although some of them have been quarantined to the Rec Hall just for safety precautions.

Lastly, this year's Administration has some old and new faces. Jay Yampolsky has returned for his third summer as Assistant Director and is loving camp more than ever; thanks in part to the new head counselors, Ryan Wexelblatt and Grayson Kimball. Ryan is in charge of the evening programming as well as the freshman/sophomore divisions. Making his return after a six-year hiatus is former Athletic Director, Grayson Kimball. Grayson has done his part in eliminating counselor laziness by incorporating Breakfast Club workouts and Met-Rx Protein Shakes with some of the staff. With his return, the Kimball Family (Grayson, Tyler, Spencer, E.J.) now have a combined 50 years at Camp Avoda. Avoda has charged into the 21st century like a Bubblehead sound-off and shows no signs of slowing down. We hope you are all having a great summer and hope to see you for Alumni Weekend!

## Appreciation Day: July 30, 2000

On July 30th, Camp Avoda celebrated Paul Davis' 35 years of service. It was also the anniversary celebrating the Avoda careers of four members of the Avoda family. If you add up the years of Grayson Kimball, Tyler Kimball, Spencer Kimball and EJ Kimball, it turns out that it adds up to 50 this year.

Starting at 1:30pm, Camp Avoda was open to alumni and their families. Everything was open, including the waterfront and athletic equipment/facilities. At around 3:00pm the athletic field was limited and softball field closed as the night's main event was being set up. Around 5:00 pm there was a ceremony honoring the dedication of Paul Davis and the Kimball Family. Following the ceremony, there was a barbecue for everyone.

The main attraction for the event was a four-match wrestling card, headlined by the walking condominium with legs, King Kong Bundy!

At the time of this edition going to press, we only knew the schedule. As of the mailing, the event had already happened. Please check the web site (<http://www.campavoda.org>) for details about how it went and help congratulate Paul on his 35 years of hard work and efforts for Camp Avoda. We are lucky to have him! We also salute the Kimball Brothers on their contributions to camp over the years and thank them for sponsoring a great day and celebration!

# Those Enduring First Impressions

by Jason M. Rubin

Believe it or not, one of my first images of Camp Avoda was one of pure evil and stark terror.

A little background. My first summer was 1973. It was on a rainy June day that I first stepped foot on Avoda soil. It was a birth of sorts, and if you count back nine months to the previous September, you come to the source of the evil and terror.

September 1972. Munich, Germany. The summer Olympics. Eleven Israeli athletes and officials taken hostage and murdered in a gunfight between Palestinian terrorists and German police. It was unthinkable. Tragic. Chillingly familiar. Not them. Not now. Not again.

Fast-forward nine months. As I settled into my bunk (3) and met my counselors and bunkmates, I was just another 10-year-old Jewish boy beginning his Avoda odyssey. Sometime after the parents left, waiter's call was played. And then the concept of waiter's call was explained to us. And then I was told I was a waiter today. And then I was told how to get to the mess hall and what to do. And so I went.

As I stepped into the mess hall, I was stunned to see a large board with 11 black-and-white photos of the murdered Israelis. I

remembered them from the newspapers and the news broadcasts. I thought I wouldn't see them again. I was wrong. They were there, watching me carry plates and silverware to my table.

Jay Epstein, who ran the Education program that summer, had decided to use the Olympic tragedy as a platform for exploring what it means to be Jewish in a non-Jewish world. Believing that kids could relate to the fact that most of the victims were athletes, he and Photography Head Paul "Moose" Hantman had their photos blown up and mounted. They remained displayed that entire summer, and are indelibly inked into my brain to this day.

The 1972 Olympics spawned a number of familiar faces, such as American swimmer Mark Spitz and Russian gymnast Olga Korbut. But though we forget their names, the faces of those 11 Israelis are perhaps the most enduring.

What exactly happened? As recounted in the December 11, 1999 issue of London's *The Times* in its series of 20th century milestones, "Before dawn on the eleventh day of the Munich Olympics, a small gang of guerillas from the Palestinian Black September organization climbed the fence into the Olympic

Village. They helped, and were helped by, a small group of American athletes who had sneaked out for a night on the town. The terrorists entered the Israeli quarters, killed two men and took nine hostages. After a day of negotiation, they went to the airport. In the gunfight that ensued, five of the terrorists, a German policeman and all nine hostages were killed."

Following the attack, that afternoon's events were suspended. The Egyptian team announced it was withdrawing from the Games. Mark Spitz, a Jew, packed up his seven gold medals and went home. Newspapers all over the world printed the photos of the murdered Israelis. And nine months later, there they were, serving as an important reminder to the Avoda community that while being Jewish is often taken for granted at camp, it is a highly charged and resonant reality in the broader society.

The tragedy was the subject of the recent Oscar-winning film, *One Day in September*. In addition, a memorial to the 11 Israelis has been installed at the site of the upcoming 2000 Games in Sydney. For me, it will always have a permanent and prominent place in my Avoda memory.



# Billiards Night: November 19, 1999

Photos by Ken Shifman and Russell Katz



Bones, Russell Sherman and Louie Dennis



Jeff Vetstein, Steve Peters and Myles Block



Jeff Samuels, Gary Epstein, Paul Simon, Jason Rubin, Benji, Evan Yampolsky, Dan Reiser



Jason Rubin and Mike Ross



Ken Shifman and Rusty Sherman

## Billiards Night by the Numbers

32 - People

4 - Tables and games that David Werthiem and Ken Shifman lost on consecutively.

"4" - What someone yelled upon hitting the cue ball off the table.

18 - Of those test-tube shots of who-knows-what.

1 - Birthday celebration - Eddie Klayman

98 - Potato skins

4 - People that made it to the Golden Gate late night

3- That were awake.

1- Great night as usual for an Avoda Billiard Night!

## GOLF

As Camp Avoda is steeped in tradition, so is the Alumni Association.

The Moose-Lite Golf Tournament will be held Friday the 18th. Tee time & location to be announced.

"Longest Drive" and "Closest to the Pin" Contests!

For details and to RSVP contact Paul "Moose-Lite" Hantman at (603) 891-0935 or email him at paulch@grolen.com.

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### Pre-Summer Golf Outing 2000 by the Numbers

11- Dedicated golfers and alumni who played.

A couple of - last minute cancellations.

43 - Golf balls lost.

89 - Low score of the day to Ken Schlossberg in his rookie debut.

88 - Score of front nine for me. (Not really-but close!)

1 - Excellent t-shirt for each person thanks to Jim Golden

0 - Pictures of the event - but we really played!

3 - Bug bites on each of my legs.

1 - Beer each at the end of the day at the 19th Hole.

18 - Excellent holes hanging out with fellow Avodians on a perfect Friday afternoon!



**Friday, August 18th**

**10th Annual!**

## ***Become a Die-Hard Avoda Alumnus!***

The focus of the weekend will be the same as every year:

- See old friends
- Hang out
- Just enjoy being at camp
- Reminisce about way back when...

But we're going to try to be a little more ambitious this year, as last year's Alumni Zooball was such a hit (literally!):

- Saturday morning: Free Play/Pick-up Softball, Hoop, whatever you want!
- Saturday afternoon Triple-header: Bombardment, Tug-o'-war, Zooball (yes, winners can jump in the lake!)
- Saturday afternoon alternative - no pressure - if you don't want to play any/all there will be wagering on injuries just like last year!
- Sunday morning: 3-3 hoop tournament!

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***Were you in 1990 Bunk 14?  
Come for your 10-year reunion!***



**BUNK 14**

## to Sunday August 20th, 2000

Gas prices are up. Movies? \$8.00 a flick? Outrageous! We're here to tell you that there are still some bargains left in this world. "You're telling me-?" That's right! STILL THE SAME LOW LOW PRICES! If you pre-register:

- Friday - Sunday: \$75
- Saturday - Sunday: \$60
- One day only: \$45

If you haven't pre-registered by August 11th you will be charged an additional \$20, \$15 and \$10 respectively to the prices listed above.

If you bring an alumnus who was not at last year's weekend you get 33% off!

You will want to let us know you are coming to make sure you get this year's special 10th anniversary shirt!

Pre-register by e-mailing Russell Sherman at [Russell@Sherman.com](mailto:Russell@Sherman.com) or mail in the form below and a check to:

The Camp Avoda Alumni Association  
PO Box 65  
Newton, MA 02459

ALUMNI WEEKEND:  
I'm in dude! I wouldn't miss it!

- A. Fri. 8/18- Sun. 8/20: \$75.00 \*  
 B. Sat. 8/19- Sun. 8/20: \$60.00 \*  
 C. One day: \$45.00 \*

*\*After August 11 add \$20, \$15 or \$10*

I'm bringing a friend who did not attend last year (include name and address at right). I am enclosing \$50 for A, \$40 for B or \$30 for C.

My name and address is:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Friend's name and address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Please print my business card in the next issue. My \$25 is enclosed.

Please add the following to your mailing list:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Please remove my name from your mailing list.

**Make checks payable to Camp Avoda Alumni Association.**

**Mail to**

**PO Box 65**

**Newton, MA 02459**

# ASPN Sports Center spotlights Hoops & Hops Night *(continued from page 3)*

around the back" magic that has made him a legend both on the court and at Uncle Cheung's. Eddie Klayman scrapped for every loose ball, while Jim "Sky-scraper" Singer flashed shades of Hakeem Olajuwon with his devastating inside game. Ken "Shiffa" Shifman amazed all present with his typical ball-handling flair and deft passing touch, while Sam "Mamu" Mirkin proved that he can still barrel-ass to the hoop with reckless abandon for life or limb. For a bunch of old Jewish men, these guys can still play some ball, so

Allen Iverson and Kevin Garnett better look out. Now back to you guys in the studio."

**Mayne:** "The only way Allen Iverson will have to look out for those guys is if they're heckling him from the front row at the Fleet Center."

**Patrick:** "Of course no meeting of the Avoda Alumni Association would be complete without food and liquid refreshment, so the boys retired to the upstairs lounge for pizza, beer and reminiscence about the old days and

updates on the new events. Details about this part of the evening are sketchy at best as several of the players would not comment, citing "STML." I think one thing is clear, Kenny, when the guys from Avoda got together, a good time was had by all."

**Mayne:** "Nice use of cliché Dan."

**Camp Avoda Alumni Association**  
PO Box 65  
Newton, MA 02459  
[http:// www.campavoda.org](http://www.campavoda.org)