



**JEWS AND JUDAISM
BY BARUCH LEVINGER
RELIGIOUS EDITOR**

Fortunate Youth

When I came to Las Vegas and found not one but two temples I was amazed -- Two Rabbis, two congregations, even a Jewish radio hour. Who would believe it back in N.Y? Then much to my surprise another Rabbi and a Religious Day School here too. What a Mitzvah!

Lately I have been exposed to a new and great phenomenon here in our Jewish midst. The Ruby Kolod Recreation Center at the magnificent Temple Beth Sholom (What a beautiful house of worship!) At the Kolod Center also known as the Jewish Community Center, I have found our Jewish youngsters involved in BBG - USY - KADIMA, etc. They play basketball, hand ball, racquetball, football, pool, Ping Pong and Volley Ball. They weightlift, they dance, they meet for discussions and they sit around to watch T.V. or get to know one another. I think the concept is great, the atmosphere is beautiful. What a lucky lot of Jewish youngsters.

My column is not long enough to carry on about all that is done there under the supervision of Don Pomerantz and the Temple's Youth and Center Commission, but one thing I really want to point out is about the basketball program.

The coach Don has hired is a 23 - year - old college student studying to be a physical education teacher. This is his third year of coaching. He has established a fine record for himself and he is doing wonders with our young boys and girls.

On March 23rd of this year he is taking our Kolod teams to Hawaii (yes, Hawaii) for a tournament. What a terrific trip to work for.

The coach's name is Kenny Young and he spent a year in Hawaii with the U.S. Army Band. During that year (1976) he conceived of the idea to bring L. V. teams to Hawaii and vice versa. This year his idea has reached fruition and our kids are the lucky recipients.

Kenny has been excellent for our kids as those who have come to watch will attest. Three weeks ago there were 175 adults there to watch the kids in action on a Thursday night.

The youngsters play from age 8 to 18 and this broken into teams of boys and girls within a 3 year range. In New York City I do not believe a temple has a better youth program, youth facility or basketball program.

A little additional note. Our players going to Hawaii will get special air line rates and when there will stay with families of the local teams they are to play. When not on the court these families will be entertaining and feeding our boys and girls. Las Vegas never ceases to amaze me and the Youth Program is a perfect example.



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Max Heller

By Rabbi Samuel M. Silver

When you read about Max Heller you're ready to believe the Horatio Alger stories.

Alger's heroes worked their way up to fame and wealth in this country.

Max Heller did it a harder way. Born in Vienna, he came to this country a few steps ahead of Hitler.

He worked his way up until today he is the Mayor of Greenville, S. C., a booming, bursting, burgeoning city.

He's been Mayor since 1971 and during his regime the city has abundantly flourished.

Known as the "Textile Capital of the World," Greenville's prestige grew considerably during the two Heller terms.

Mr. Heller started with little, but his shirt factories were run with extraordinary expertise and blossomed into prosperity.

So the City of Greenville co-opted him and there's not an agency in the city that he and his lovely wife, Trude, haven't enhanced with their devotion and talents.

Max Heller was almost a congressman. He ran in November and was defeated only because his party was split by an opposing Democrat.

His term as mayor will soon be up, but already the Governor of South Carolina has called upon the gifted Mr. Heller to be head of the state development board.

As one of his last acts as head of the city, Mr. Heller dedicated a \$28 million civic center which will bring even more prosperity to the city.

Catholic, Protestant, Jewish organizations, academic institutions, the United Jewish Appeal and a plethora of good causes have benefitted from Max Heller's acumen.

Don't be surprised if some day Mr. Heller sits in the governor's chair. South Carolina is lucky to have him. So is his shul and the

rest of American Jewry.

It's another saga: from rags to riches. Or, you might say, from rishus to riches!

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