

## Holy Days Unique

BY RABBI SAMUEL SILVER

The Jewish High Holydays are unique. They commemorate no event. They memorialize no individual.

They highlight the confrontation between ourselves and our conscience. The reason that the holydays are so popular is that they are so personal.

The message of the observance is simple; human beings are subject to error, but it is possible for us to improve, if only we attune ourselves to the will of the Almighty One.

Here is a paradox: the holydays are quintessentially Jewish, and yet they are not Jewish. They are not, that is to say, exclusively Jewish, because the human ability to change is not limited to Jewish people.

No wonder a Christian divine, some years ago, urged that Christians join in the observance of the holydays, inasmuch as their thrust is universal.

Weaving through the holyday liturgy is the litany called Avinu, Malkenu, "our Father, the King."

Cantors love that part of the ritual. It is sung with poignancy and earnestness. It is a plea to God (or the good within us, if you want to be secular) for the strength to do better in the future than we have done in the past.

The holydays are a good time for us to ponder theology, something we don't give too much thought to during the year.

Avinu means "our father." So when that word is used it implies that we think of the Almighty One as a parent, solicitous of our well being, eager to see us do well. Avinu suggests the same concern for our welfare as those of us who are fathers or mothers have for our offspring. It is personal, private and intimate.

But we also picture God as transcendent, as the Author of the vastness of the universe, as the Guarantor of the systematic functioning of the laws of nature.

That twofold nature of the deity should rub off on each one of us. We too must be both creative and creaturely. If we administer our affairs, fine. But we must also minister to the needs of our fellow - occupants of this spaceship called Earth.

May the year 5743 bring forth improvements in the caliber of our conduct, and may we be prompted, by our prayers on the holydays, to do what we can to aid the cause of righteousness in our own country, in the gallant republic of Israel, and in the rest of God's world!

### ISRAELIS DOWN SYRIAN MIG

TEL AVIV (WNS) -- A Syrian MIG-25 aircraft was shot down by an Israeli plane some six miles east of Beirut. An army spokesman said the Israeli plane returned safely to its base. One of the two Syrian pilots was reportedly killed in the air fight while the other pilot was said by Israel Radio to have been captured. Wre-

Contestants in the \$100,000 J & B Gold Putter Award Playoff will get a longer run for their money, which happens to be a \$50,000 first prize, one of the richest in women's golf.

The event will be held Oct. 23 - 24 at Burton Cohen's Desert Inn Country Club.

Tournament chairman Al Ferro, president of J&B Scotch, said a player must lose two matches this year before being eliminated from a shot at huge prize.

We feel our new format will minimize the possibility of the

top stars being eliminated quickly, thus disappointing spectators who would be deprived of seeing their favorites play in this unique competition," said Ferro.

In another change, competition will be match play instead of stroke or medal play. If a player is four-up with three holes to play, the match will end instead of continuing to the 18th hole.

Sixteen players will perform, including Kathy Postlewait, the seven best putters, the seven most prolific birdie shooters and

the top eagle maker. Players must compete in a minimum of 70 rounds in LPGA tournaments to be eligible.

Second money is \$15,000; third, \$7,500, and fourth, \$5,000. All other players receive \$1,000.

Through the Henderson Classic, Sally

Little leads the putters with an average 29.34 putts a round and Beth Daniel tops the birdie shooters with an average of 3.76 a round.

The leader in each category receives \$5,000.

(Continued on Page 32)

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kage of the Soviet-made plane hit the top floor of a multi-story building causing a fire to the upper floors which were empty at the time. The aircraft was on a photographic reconnaissance mission when the air battle took place. Israeli officials declined to say why the plane was downed.

The MIG - 25 plane shot down, code name Foxbat in NATO, is said to be the fastest and highest flying plane in operation in the world today.

The MIG-25 plane carries two pilots.

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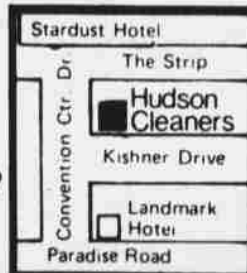
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