### JEWISH NEWS BRIEFS

NEW YORK (JTA) — Five agencies providing shelter and assistance to the homeless here have formed a task force on Jewish homelessness. They are: the Educational Alliance. Gustave Hartman YM/YWHA, Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services, Metropolitan New York Coordinating Council on Jewish Poverty and Project Dorot.

The task force will provide a forum for the agencies to share information and explore opportunities for resource development in the private and government sector. An estimated 1,000-1,500 Jewish people here are homeless at any given time. Non-profit Jewish agencies operate five shelters to serve homeless individuals, elderly, families and battered women. The programs include counseling, meals and relocation.

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Insult was heaped on injury for Israel's hundreds of thousands of basketball fans, and other viewers, when striking technicians blacked out television Tuesday night after cutting short the live, via satellite, transmission of the East-West basketball championship tournament from the U.S. in the wee hours of Tuesday morning.

The technicians said their wildcat strike was to protest the earlier suspension of Zion Swiri, chairman of their workers committee, for "pulling the plug" on the basketball match. Swiri said he was simply abiding by Histadrut's agreement with the Broadcast Authority management stipulating the maximum number of hours the technical staff should work.

Israel television normally goes off the air at midnight. The basketball game ran into overtime.

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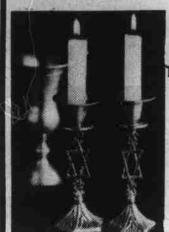
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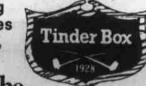
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BRUSSELS (JTA) — President Kurt Waldheim of Austria probably will not be on hand to inaugurate the Austrian cultural exhibition, "Europalia Austria," when it opens here next September. He "discreetly and unofficially" sought an invitation from the organizers last year, but has since been "discreetly" informed that the Belgian authorities would not welcome his presence, the Flemish daily De Morgen reported this week.

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JERUSALEM (JTA) - Nine Palestinian youths were wounded by Israeli security forces during violent demonstrations that erupted at the Balata refugee camp and A-Najah University in Nablus.

An Israeli border policeman was slightly injured by rocks hurled at his patrol car at Balata. near Nablus, Military sources said two demonstrators there were hit by live ammunition and one by rubber bullets. Six students were wounded at A-Najah.

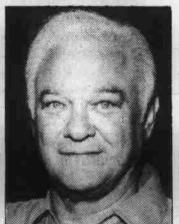
A curfew was clamped on the refugee camp where rocks and bottles were thrown at Israeli soldiers and Palestinian flags were raised. Military sources said rubber bullets failed to quell the demonstration. The order to open fire with rifles was given after the demonstrators disregarded orders to disperse and "endangered the lives of the soldiers," the sources said.

SAN FRANCISCO (JTA) - In an attempt to disseminate a Torah message to those who cannot or will not attend synagogue, Rabbi Robert Kirschner of Temple Emanu-El here will deliver a weekly sermon on the radio, the Northern California Jewish Bulletin reports.

His broadcast will be part of the KUSF-FM "Adventures in Judaism" show from 8:30-9 a.m. on Sundays. The show is a production of the Judaic studies program of the University of San Francisco, Explained the rabbi, "My hope is to return the congregation to the center of Jewish life."

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