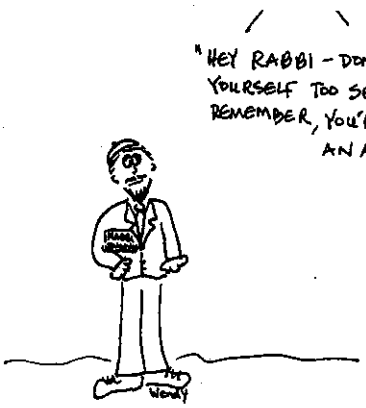
EFFIE'S NOD (BARUCH HASHEM!)

by Shmuel Goodman

Eighteen years ago, deep in anxiety over whether the Ohio State Buckeyes would make it to the Rose Bowl and if our family's chain of clothing stores would make its holiday sales numbers, I crazily accepted an offer to meet a girl who lived three states away. This meant that on the Friday after Thanksgiving, traditionally the busiest retail day of the year, I'd be traveling from Ohio to spend Shabbat in New York City for the sole purpose of "dating." Over my sense of duty as company president, not to mention the ire of my father and boss ("Why can't you find a girl from here?"), ultimately I made the lonely and unpopular decision to be crazy and to follow my gut.

The Shabbat with Sharon was a turning point in my life. The next turning point was, on Sharon's insistence, meeting one-on-one with Effie Buchwald. Sharon explained that Rabbi Buchwald was her spiritual guide. She would need his ok to take our relationship to the next level.



The Meeting

Sharon set up the meeting--I was terrified. This famous NYC Rav was doubtlessly set on seeing one of his prize pupils hook up with a cool, rich, well-built Northeast-based *mud Chacham*. Then I walk in, a hefty, corn-fed Midwesterner who can't read or write Hebrew, with no Yeshiva background, and not yet Shomer Shabbat. In Effie's office (which was the size of a large postage stamp), he proceeded to grill me, yet through it all he was kind, respectful and, to my eternal relief, did not make me feel small.

The Report to Sharon

Two days later, Sharon called me in Columbus. My heart raced as I braced for rejection, and it continued to race even as I was informed that I had passed. With Effie's blessing we continued to date. We were engaged four weeks later.

Effie's Nod

Looking back, Effie's endorsement was perhaps the single biggest event of my life. That Hashem put this agent in the world--an angel of *chesed* who, 18 years ago, looked at who I was rather than at all the external trappings--shocked and astounded me. I was neither *Shomer Shabbat,* Kosher, nor very learned, but I had been exposed enough to recognize the validity of Yiddishkeit.

I knew I wanted to grow in that direction, and Effie believed in me. Eight months later he blessed us further by officiating at our wedding. At that time he called me a "natural Jew." No beard, no kippa, no gemmora, yet he called me a "natural." I cried under the chupah as words from Effie's heart entered our own.

Effie's nod has served for 18 years as a catalyst in my service to Hashem. That by Divine Providence my life was blessed with both him and Sharon, continues to inspire me to strive to live up to the obligations put forth at Sinai.

Sharon and I have been blessed with four wonderful children--Rachael, Akiva, Aryeh, and Shalom. I regularly tell them the single greatest miracle of my life was meeting Mommy.

Today, if you asked me what I do for a living, I'd answer, as did Jonah, that I am a Jew and fear Hashem. I sport a beard, hat, and full time kippa confidently and with the utmost of pride. There is so much yet for the Goodman family to do, for all Jews to do. We must work together to make this world a dwelling place for Hashem and bring the much anticipated redemption. In my case, my life's journey and essential meaning began with Effie's nod.

Shmuel Goodman, a former Beginner, now lives in Chicago, IL. "Effie's Nod" was written for Sharone Devorah on their 18th Anniversary, Rosh Chodesh Iyar 5763

CONGRATULATIONS AND MAZAL TOV

ENGAGEMENTS

Ellen Thur and Michael Belu
Yitzchak Shalom Gluck
and Bracha Galap
Mazal Tov to parents
Miriam and Sam Gluck

MARRIAGES

Dr. Jennifer Tash and Lowell Anger
Karen Parsily and Gary Glanz

BIRTHS

Marci and Dr. David Fox,
on the birth of a girl, Rachel Leia
Dr. Fabienne (Rottenberg)and Eli Jacobson,
on the birth of a boy, Netanel Yerachmiel
Dr. Leora and Richard Linhart,
on the birth of a boy, Eitan Archie
Jamie and David Mitchell,
on the birth of a boy, Gavin Mark Adrian

BAR/BAT MITZVAH

Raphael Stevens
Mazal Tov to mother Nancy Stevens

CONDOLENCES

Basha Botnick
on the loss of her mother, Gertrude Oka
Michael Feiner
on the loss of his mother Gisela Feiner
Bonnie (Keehn) Weintraub
on the loss of her husband Ed Weintraub

REFUAH SH'LEIMAH (SPEEDY RECOVERY)

Shimon HaCohen ben May

CONGRATULATIONS

Ephraim Daniel & Basha (Oka) Botnick for receiving the Kesser Shem Tov Award at the Annual Scholarship Awards Dinner of United Lubavitcher Yeshivoth
Jae French, on the Tony Award nomination of *Say Good Night Gracie*, of which she is one of the producers

TZEITCHEM L'SHALOM/FAREWELL (To live and/or study in Israel)

Lisa and Simcha (Scott) Dunn

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sun June 1, 2003 - 1st of Sivan
ROSH CHODESH
Morning Services ..... 7:00 & 8:30 AM

Thu June 5, 2003 - 5th of Sivan
EREV SHAVUOT
Morning Services ..... 7:10 & 7:50 AM
REMEMBER TO MAKE AN ERUV TAVSHILIN
Candle Lighting ..... 8:06 PM
Mincha ..... 8:10 PM
Maariv ..... 8:55 PM

Fri June 6, 2003 - 6th of Sivan SHAVUOT
Morning Services ..... 4:55 & 9:00 AM
Bible Classes ..... 6:00 PM
Daf Yomi ..... 6:15 PM
Mincha ..... 6:45 & 8:00 PM
Earliest Candle Lighting ..... 6:49 PM
Shabbat Candles Before ..... 8:06 PM

Sat June 7, 2003 - 7th of Sivan
SHAVUOT
Daf Yomi ..... 7:15 AM
Morning Services ..... 8:00 & 9:00 AM
Bible Classes ..... 7:00 PM
Talmud Class ..... 7:15 PM
Mincha ..... 6:45 & 8:00 PM
Maariv ..... 9:06 PM
Yom Tov Ends ..... 9:06 PM
Daily Mincha & Maariv ..... 8:15 PM

Fri June 13, 2003 - 13th of Sivan
Morning Services ..... 7:10 & 7:50 AM
Earliest Candle Lighting ..... 6:53 PM
Candle Lighting ..... 8:10 PM
Mincha ..... 6:45 & 8:15 PM

Sat June 14, 2003 - 14th of Sivan *Nasso*
Daf Yomi ..... 7:00 AM
Bible Class ..... 8:30 AM
Morning Services . 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
Talmud & Bible Class ..... 7:05 PM
Mincha ..... 8:05 PM
Shabbat Ends ..... 9:10 PM
Daily Mincha & Maariv ..... 8:15 PM

Fri June 20, 2003 - 20th of Sivan
Morning Services ..... 7:10 & 7:50 AM
Earliest Candle Lighting ..... 6:56 PM
Candle Lighting ..... 8:13 PM
Mincha ..... 6:45 & 8:20 PM

Sat June 21, 2003 - 21st of Sivan
Beha'alotcha
Daf Yomi ..... 7:00 AM
Bible Class ..... 8:30 AM
Morning Services . 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
Talmud & Bible Class ..... 7:10 PM
Mincha ..... 8:10 PM
Shabbat Ends ..... 9:13 PM
Daily Mincha & Maariv ..... 8:20 PM

Fri June 27, 2003 - 27th of Sivan
Morning Services ..... 7:10 & 7:50 AM
Earliest Candle Lighting ..... 6:56 PM
Candle Lighting ..... 8:13 PM
Mincha ..... 6:45 & 8:20 PM

Sat June 28, 2003 - 28th of Sivan *Sh'lach*
Daf Yomi ..... 7:00 AM
Bible Class ..... 8:30 AM
Morning Services . 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
Talmud & Bible Class ..... 7:10 PM
Mincha ..... 8:10 PM
Shabbat Ends ..... 9:13 PM
Daily Mincha & Maariv ..... 8:20 PM

Mon June 30, 2003 - 30th of Sivan
ROSH CHODESH
Morning Services ..... 7:00 & 7:40 AM

Tue July 1, 2003 - 1st of Tamuz
ROSH CHODESH
Morning Services ..... 7:00 & 7:40 AM

Fri July 4, 2003 - 4th of Tamuz
INDEPENDENCE DAY
Morning Services ..... 7:10 & 8:30 AM

Sat July 5, 2003 - 5th of Tamuz *Korach*
Daf Yomi ..... 7:00 AM
Bible Class ..... 8:30 AM
Morning Services . 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
Bible Class ..... 7:10 PM
Perek Class ..... 7:10 PM
Mincha ..... 8:10 PM
Shabbat Ends ..... 9:13 PM
Daily Mincha & Maariv ..... 8:15 PM

Fri July 11, 2003 - 11th of Tamuz
Morning Services ..... 7:10 & 7:50 AM
Earliest Candle Lighting ..... 6:53 PM
Candle Lighting ..... 8:10 PM
Mincha ..... 6:45 & 8:15 PM

Sat July 12, 2003 - 12th of Tamuz
Chukat-Balak
Daf Yomi ..... 7:00 AM
Bible Class ..... 8:30 AM
Morning Services . 7:40, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
Bible Class ..... 7:05 PM
Perek Class ..... 7:05 PM
Mincha ..... 8:05 PM
Shabbat Ends ..... 9:10 PM
Daily Mincha & Maariv ..... 8:15 PM

Thu July 17, 2003 - 17th of Tamuz
SHIVA ASSAR B'TAMMUZ
Fast Begins ..... 4:27 AM
Morning Services ..... 7:00 & 7:30 AM
Mincha ..... 8:00 PM
Fast Ends ..... 8:56 PM

Fri July 18, 2003 - 18th of Tamuz
Morning Services ..... 7:10 & 7:50 AM
Earliest Candle Lighting ..... 6:49 PM
Candle Lighting ..... 8:06 PM
Mincha ..... 6:45 & 8:10 PM

Sat July 19, 2003 - 19th of Tamuz
Pinchas
Daf Yomi ..... 7:00 AM
Bible Class ..... 8:30 AM
Morning Services . 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
Bible Class ..... 7:00 PM
Perek Class ..... 7:00 PM
Mincha ..... 8:00 PM
Shabbat Ends ..... 9:06 PM
Daily Mincha & Maariv ..... 8:10 PM

Fri July 25, 2003 - 25th of Tamuz
Morning Services ..... 7:10 & 7:50 AM
Earliest Candle Lighting ..... 6:49 PM
Candle Lighting ..... 8:01 PM
Mincha ..... 6:45 & 8:05 PM

Sat July 26, 2003 - 26th of Tamuz
Matot-Masei
Daf Yomi ..... 7:00 AM
Bible Class ..... 8:30 AM
Morning Services . 7:40, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
Bible Class ..... 6:55 PM
Perek Class ..... 6:55 PM
Mincha ..... 7:55 PM
Shabbat Ends ..... 9:01 PM
Daily Mincha & Maariv ..... 8:00 PM

Wed July 30, 2003 - 1st of Av
ROSH CHODESH
Morning Services ..... 7:00 & 7:40 AM

Fri August 1, 2003 - 3rd of Av
Morning Services ..... 7:10 & 7:50 AM
Earliest Candle Lighting ..... 6:42 PM
Candle Lighting ..... 7:54 PM
Mincha ..... 6:45 & 8:00 PM

Sat August 2, 2003 - 4th of Av
***Devarim* HAZON**
Daf Yomi ..... 7:00 AM
Bible Class ..... 8:30 AM
Morning Services . 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
Bible Class ..... 6:50 PM
Perek Class ..... 6:50 PM
Mincha ..... 7:50 PM
Shabbat Ends ..... 8:54 PM
Daily Mincha & Maariv ..... 7:55 PM

Thu August 7, 2003 - 9th of Av
TISH'A B'AV
Morning Services ..... 6:30 & 8:30 AM
Early Mincha ..... 1:36 PM
Mincha ..... 7:35 PM
Fast Ends ..... 8:36 PM

Fri August 8, 2003 - 10th of Av
Morning Services ..... 7:10 & 7:50 AM
Earliest Candle Lighting ..... 6:34 PM
Candle Lighting ..... 7:46 PM
Mincha ..... 6:45 & 7:50 PM

Sat August 9, 2003 - 11th of Av
***Va'etchanan* NACHAMU**
Daf Yomi ..... 7:00 AM
Bible Class ..... 8:30 AM
Morning Services . 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
Bible Class ..... 6:40 PM
Perek Class ..... 6:40 PM
Mincha ..... 7:40 PM
Shabbat Ends ..... 8:46 PM
Daily Mincha & Maariv ..... 7:45 PM

Fri August 15, 2003 - 17th of Av
Morning Services ..... 7:10 & 7:50 AM
Earliest Candle Lighting ..... 6:29 PM
Candle Lighting ..... 7:36 PM
Mincha ..... 6:45 & 7:40 PM

Sat August 16, 2003 - 18th of Av *Eikev*
Daf Yomi ..... 7:00 AM
Bible Class ..... 8:30 AM
Morning Services . 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
Bible Class ..... 6:30 PM
Perek Class ..... 6:30 PM
Mincha ..... 7:30 PM
Shabbat Ends ..... 8:36 PM
Daily Mincha & Maariv ..... 7:35 PM

Fri August 22, 2003 - 24th of Av
Morning Services ..... 7:10 & 7:50 AM
Earliest Candle Lighting ..... 6:19 PM
Candle Lighting ..... 7:26 PM
Mincha ..... 6:45 & 7:30 PM

Sat August 23, 2003 - 25th of Av *Re'eh*
Daf Yomi ..... 7:00 AM
Bible Class ..... 8:30 AM
Morning Services . 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
Bible Class ..... 6:20 PM
Perek Class ..... 6:20 PM
Mincha ..... 7:20 PM
Shabbat Ends ..... 8:26 PM
Daily Mincha & Maariv ..... 7:25 PM

Thu August 28, 2003 - 30th of Av
ROSH CHODESH
Morning Services ..... 7:00 & 7:40 AM

Fri August 29, 2003 - 1st of Elul
ROSH CHODESH
Morning Services ..... 7:00 & 7:40 AM
Earliest Candle Lighting ..... 6:09 PM
Candle Lighting ..... 7:16 PM
Mincha ..... 6:45 & 7:20 PM

Sat August 30, 2003 - 2nd of Elul *Shoftim*
Daf Yomi ..... 7:00 AM
Bible Class ..... 8:30 AM
Morning services . 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
Bible Class ..... 6:10 PM
Perek Class ..... 6:10 PM
Mincha ..... 7:10 PM
Shabbat Ends ..... 8:16 PM
Daily Mincha & Maariv ..... 7:10 PM

Mon September 1, 2003 - 4th of Elul
LABOR DAY
Morning Services ..... 7:05 & 8:30 AM

Fri September 5, 2003 - 8th of Elul
Morning Services ..... 7:10 & 7:50 AM
Candle Lighting ..... 7:04 PM
Mincha ..... 7:10 PM

Sat September 6, 2003 - 9th of Elul
Ki Teitzei
Daf Yomi ..... 7:00 AM
Bible Class ..... 8:30 AM
Morning Services . 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
Talmud & Bible Class ..... 6:00 PM
Mincha ..... 7:00 PM
Shabbat Ends ..... 8:04 PM
Daily Mincha & Maariv ..... 7:00 PM

Fri September 12, 2003 - 15th of Elul
Morning Services ..... 7:10 & 7:50 AM
Candle Lighting ..... 6:53 PM
Mincha ..... 7:00 PM

Sat September 13, 2003 - 16th of Elul
Ki Tavo
Daf Yomi ..... 7:00 AM
Bible Class ..... 8:30 AM
Morning services . 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
Talmud & Bible class ..... 5:50 PM
Mincha ..... 6:50 PM
Shabbat Ends ..... 7:53 PM
Daily Mincha & Maariv ..... 6:50 PM

Fri September 19, 2003 - 22nd of Elul
Morning Services ..... 7:10 & 7:50 AM
Candle Lighting ..... 6:41 PM
Mincha ..... 6:45 PM

Sat September 20, 2003 - 23rd of Elul
Nitzavim-Vayeilech
Daf Yomi ..... 7:00 A
Bible Class ..... 8:30 AM
Morning Services . 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
Talmud & Bible Class ..... 5:35 PM
Mincha ..... 6:35 PM
Shabbat Ends ..... 7:41 PM
Daily Mincha & Maariv ..... 6:35 PM
Early Selichot ..... 10:00 PM
Late Selichot ..... 12:49 AM

Sun September 21, 2003 - 24th of Elul
Morning Services ..... 7:10 & 8:30 AM

Mon September 22, 2003 - 25th of Elul
Selichot &
Morning Services ... 6:40 & 7:30 AM

Tue September 23, 2003 - 26th of Elul
Selichot &
Morning Services ... 6:40 & 7:30 AM

Wed September 24, 2003 - 27th of Elul
Selichot &
Morning Services ... 6:40 & 7:30 AM

Thu September 25, 2003 - 28th of Elul
Selichot &
Morning Services ... 6:40 & 7:30 AM

SAVE THE DATE

All Night Shavuot Learn-in
Thur, June 5, 11:30 p.m. - 4:45 a.m.

Last and First
Beginners Shabbat Luncheons
of the Seasons
June 14, Sept 6

Rosh Hashana
Fri - Sun, Sept 26 - 28