

Evening The Score

By SHIFRA HOFFMAN

If there is anything more certain than the proverbial "death and taxes" in American life — it is unquestionably the ubiquitous World Series of Baseball.

Having recently arrived for a brief lecture and media tour in the United States from Israel (where my husband and I now reside), I discovered that the entire country is being "put on hold," as it were, pending outcome of the New York Mets-Boston Red Sox competition.

Interestingly enough — this year's series and its preceding "play-offs" coincided with our Jewish High Holidays, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and Sukkot. Ah — what *ruach!* What

Let us hope and pray that the New Year we have just ushered in, will also usher in a spirit of caring and concern for more than the World Series by Jews who couldn't care less.

enthusiasm! What dedication and concentration emanating from the souls of countless Jewish souls in synagogues and *sukkas* all across America.

"Am I speaking about the quality of prayer?" you ask. No, dear readers not really. It was not atonement for sinning but "who's winning" — and "what inning" that became the theme of the day for a

from the Jewish poor and elderly in America and their counterparts in Israel which finds pious oldsters in some cases sleeping in the bus depots of Jerusalem and Tel Aviv — somehow miraculously are found to purchase World Series tickets at scalper's price! Worse: these self-same baseball fans will stand in the cold or rain and snow for hours to shell out their hard-earned cash — but would never conceive of attending a demonstration to free their suffering brothers and sisters in the Soviet Union!

Of course it goes without saying that my indictment of such Jews does not include the few in number

who do care enough to at least balance their participation at events such as the World Series. My ire and anger is, I believe, justifiably directed to the majority of our youth for whom "home runs are much more important than "home" for Yosef Begun, Ida Nudel, Yosef Berenshtein, Zunsh- tein, and other long-term refuseniks who are existing in a silent hill in the USSR



Shifra Hoffman holding the first Sabra daughter born to a former Russian refusenik in Israel.

of their fellow Jew, must be changed and put into proper perspective.

In the final analysis, there is a competition that affects the very lives of every single Jew worldwide that is being played out in Israel. It is the race against time which the Arab enemy believes he can win through the weakness of existing Israeli policies in dealing with internal and external Arab terror, as well as the projection of an Arab majority through the multitudinous birth rate.

In this deadly game, the home team, the Jewish people, stands to lose more than a series of wars and battles already suffered. We stand, G-d forbid, to lose our birthright, our legacy and the source of pride for each and every

Jew throughout the world — the Land of Israel itself; unless we understand that the only viable solution to maintaining, with the help of G-d, our one Jewish homeland, is to "even the score." By that I mean implementing the policies as embodied by the Kach Movement which call for the exchange of population in relocating the Arabs to their own 22 lands where they can, if they wish, create twenty-two Palestines or one collective one. Yes, evening the score for the more than 850,000 Jews from Arab countries that were cast-out of their homes and lands in which they had resided in an unbroken chain dating back to the time of the Temple — without a penny of compensation for their property. Those who were

not as fortunate, were hung in the squares of Iraq, Syria and other potential moderates, while countless Jews languish in a Holocaust type of atmosphere even today — neither allowed to live or to leave as Jews.

Let us hope and pray that the New Year we have just

ushered in, will also usher in a spirit of caring and concern for more than the World Series by Jews who couldn't care less.

For in the end, Hashem tallies up our score on this world for bigger stakes while we are on earth. Sadly, there is no chance to play the game again!

Midwood Juvenile Shoes



Now Under New Management at:
1314 Ave. M • 718-645-0452

WE NOW CARRY A FULL LINE OF
MEN'S "FRENCH SHRINER"

SHOES
ALL SHOES
FROM LAST YEARS STOCK

\$12.99 WOW!
SNEAKERS \$10.99

TWO WEEK SPECIAL
Selected Waterproof Boots

Only \$15.99
OPEN LATE THURSDAY

Children's Creations

825 KINGS HIGHWAY, BROOKLYN, NY (718) 336-6469

THE TEMPERATURE IS DROPPING
& SO ARE OUR PRICES

10% OFF
ALL IMPORTED
& DOMESTIC COATS
& SNOW SUITS

Shifra's Boutique