

Unfortunately, due to illness, Coach Nagel couldn't attend but several of the team's super fans were in attendance to show their support.

The '99 team got the ball rolling, but they don't want to take all the credit for all of HAFTR's continued successes. The team mainly wanted to share their story to show that although winning was important, the friendships that were made trump it all and made for great memories that will last a lifetime. ❖

Ambassador Ayalon Meets With HAFTR Students

By Tuvia Book

The HAFTR High School junior and senior classes were honored last week to hear a presentation by Ambassador Danny Ayalon, former Israeli ambassador to the United States. He was also the Deputy Foreign Minister for the State of Israel. Currently, he is a scholar in residence at Yeshiva University. Ambassador Ayalon is one of the leading Israeli diplomats in the field of *hasbarah*, making the case for Israel. He has produced, together with the government of Israel and "Stand with Us," a series of YouTube clips called "The Truth About . . ." These clips have garnered hundreds of thousands of hits. He gave an extremely articulate presentation to the HAFTR High School students and faculty members about the importance of being able to advocate for Israel.

Many of the points he made are being discussed in Mr. Tuvia Book's mandatory "History of Zionism" course. The advocacy and history of Zionism course emphasizes the three points that make an effective advocate for Israel. Ambassa-



Hon. Danny Ayalon

dor Ayalon possesses all three. He has a tremendous passion for and knowledge about Israel. His delivery was clear, factual, and concise. He is a role model for students on how to talk about Israel on college campuses without screaming, apologizing, or yelling. He highlighted how HAFTR students are the future leaders of American Jewry, and it is vital for them to be informed about Israel and know how to advocate for our homeland.

He warned of the dangers of the BDS movement (Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions), and stated how important it is to not ignore threats, no matter how small they seem. He also reminded the students that Israel's enemies are very successful in presenting their narrative and have an automatic majority in the United Nations. It is incumbent on every friend of Israel to make that case for Israel proactively. In closing, he emphasized how Yeshiva College and Stern College are institutions that every Modern Orthodox student should seriously consider as they have the same values of "*Torah u'madda*" on which we are raised. ❖