

# 65 YEARS AFTER THE HORROR



PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER BARTH FOR THE STAR-LEDGER

Religious and political officials join students at Rutgers University to commemorate the 65th anniversary of Kristallnacht. Among those on hand were Lori Bower, chancellor of the Diocese of Metuchen; Monsignor William Bonwell of the Metuchen Diocese; Greg Trevor of Highland Park, a Sept. 11 survivor; Rutgers President Richard McCormick; Shai Goldstein, director of the state Anti-Defamation League; Seema Singh, public advocate; and the Rev. Jack Johnson of the New Jersey Council of Churches.

## Kristallnacht anniversary marked

Anti-Semitism  
decried at Rutgers

BY SALLY GOLDENBERG  
STAR-LEDGER STAFF

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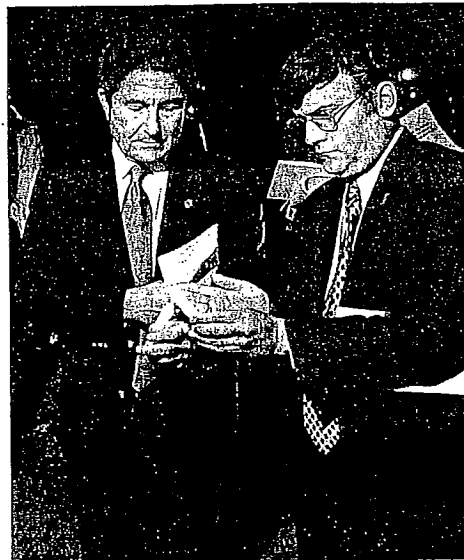
Last night religious groups said anti-Semitism is far from over.

Citing a recent spike in anti-Semitic incidents at Rutgers University, about 25 members of local religious organizations joined a handful of politicians, law enforcement officers and students at Rutgers University Hillel in New Brunswick for an inter-faith service to commemorate Kristallnacht, (the Night of Broken Glass), and condemn biased offenses at Rutgers and throughout the world.

The state branch of the Anti-Defamation League, a 90-year-old organization that combats anti-Semitism, sponsored last night's service with the First Baptist Church of Woodbridge, the Catholic Center at Rutgers and a host of other faith-based groups.

"The Jewish students at Rutgers University have faced a series of anti-Semitic attacks that reflect the global wave of anti-Semitism. We are gathered here together to break that wave of anti-Semitism," read a statement signed by attendees last night.

Earlier in the semester, Hillel members and brothers of a predominantly Jewish fraternity, Alpha Epsilon Pi, discovered



McCormick lights a candle held by Trevor, a Sept. 11 survivor.

swastikas spray-painted outside their homes on College Avenue and Union Street, respectively.

A few weeks later, minority students living in off-campus houses in New Brunswick reported finding white supremacist fliers at their doorsteps.

Rutgers College senior Christopher Paige, who felt targeted by the National Alliance, the group distributing the fliers, previously quoted the circular. "Non-whites are turning America into a third-world slum," Paige read off the flier during an

anti-hate rally at Rutgers Oct. 30.

"Anti-Semitism is not only a history lesson. It is a current event," Shai Goldstein, director of the state Anti-Defamation League, told the crowd last night. "This kind of anti-Semitism has reflected itself at Rutgers."

Douglass College senior Shira Puce, an active Hillel member who helped organize the "Israel Inspires" rally last month, said the campus attacks are personal and plentiful and

motivated her to attend yesterday's service.

"The anti-Semitism on campus is very present. It always feels like a personal attack every time you hear about it," Puce said after the ceremony. "I feel it more because I'm a visible activist."

According to an Anti-Defamation League study, campus incidents of anti-Semitism rose 24 percent from 2001 to 2002, a figure Goldstein said she based on information from law enforcement groups.

During the service, Goldstein commented on the contrast between the non-Jewish world's reaction to Kristallnacht in 1938 and yesterday.

"After Kristallnacht, the Christian community was silent," he said. "In contrast, we have the Christian community out here standing with the Jewish community."

Putting bias attacks in a more recent context, he compared Kristallnacht to the terrorist attacks of 9/11.

"The greatest sin is silence," Goldstein said after the ceremony. "Sept. 11 and the Shoah, (the Hebrew word for the Holocaust), even before breaking glass, it began with words."

Sept. 11 survivor Greg Trevor of Highland Park, who escaped from the 60th floor of the North Tower, attended yesterday's ceremony.

"The events of recent years demonstrated that hate is still around us, and that it is important for people of all backgrounds and people of all faiths to continue to preach the message of love," Trevor said after the service.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2003

## Kristallnacht event blasts anti-Semitism

BY SALLY GOLDENBERG  
STAR-LEDGER STAFF

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