



Jessica Elkan, president of Hillel, passes a plate containing nuts, dates, avocados, oranges and kiwi during Tu B'Shevat Seder.

Celebration

continued from page 1A

tant for all people who care about the environment," said Jessica Elkan, president of Hillel, a religious organization for Jews in the University community.

Ziphora Chaim, a senior environmental studies major, said the celebration reminds her to be responsible about the environment.

Participants in the ceremony presented readings and praise on

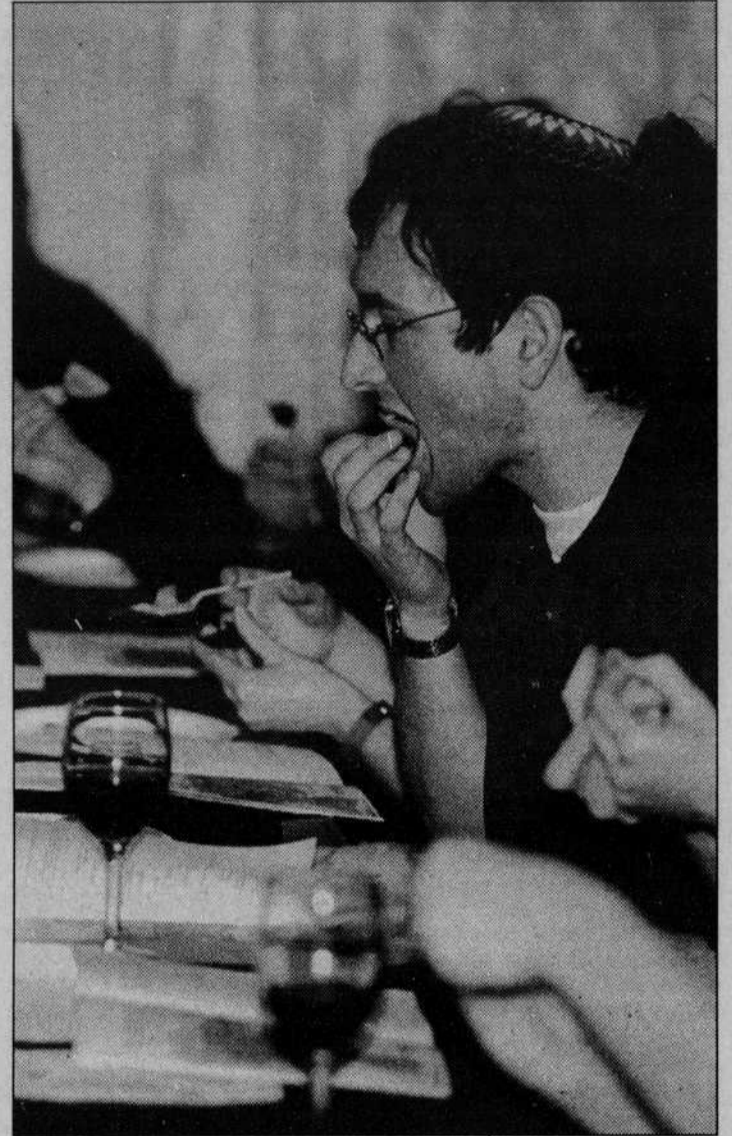
the fruits that were being served. Traditionally, people in the Tu B'Shevat Seder were served with three categories of fruit: fruits with an outer, edible shell, such as nuts; fruits that have an inedible inner pit, such as dates; and fruits that have an inner pit and a hard outer skin, such as avocados.

In addition to different kinds of fruits, participants were served white and red wines.

According to the Jewish culture, the white wine represents winter and is used to recall that

nature was dormant for months while people were awaiting the warmth of spring and the annual cycle of the rebirth. Red wine, which symbolizes the coming of spring, was then gradually added into the white wine. The mixing of the wines and the color change symbolizes the gradual change of the weather and the flowers that bloomed in the country.

Tu B'Shevat Seder is one of the many celebrations in Jewish culture and usually participants plant trees during the ceremony.



University student Boris Dolin celebrates Tu B'Shevat Seder, 'The Holiday of Tree,' Saturday. Participants feasted on fruits from the trees and red and white wines.

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