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Jewish: Hillel starts lighting menorah Dec. 7



BRET FURTWANGLER | GRAPHIC ARTIST

Continued from page 4C

the state of
Israel that
stopped to tour
about six cities.

At each stop, guests had the chance to experience something about that city's life. In the Dead Sea, known for its natural spas, guests received hand massages; in Tsfat, a station was set up for candle-making. Students ate traditional Jewish foods, such as latkas, which are also known as potato pancakes, and listened to a Klezmer band, called the Klezmernauts.

Program Director Andi Lipstein said the Hillel will focus on various events to highlight Hanukkah, such as a menorah lighting at the house during Finals Week that will start Tuesday, the first night of Hanukkah. The lighting will take place at 5 p.m. each night.

"People can bring their own menorah, or they can come and light one of ours," said Lipstein.

The JSU and Hillel House are making a niche for themselves by using their differences to bring them together.

"The Jewish students are my friends and family," Scher said. "We're always together because it's a familiar face."

Supplement Freelance Editor Ashley
Griffin contributed to this article

HANUKKAH TRADITIONS

Menorahs: The menorah represents the Maccabees' victory over the Syrians when they returned to the sacked temple and lit a menorah for eight days with only a small vessel of oil. During Hanukkah, Jews light a specific nine-branched menorah, called a hanukiah. Its nine candles are also symbolic of the eight days of the Hanukkah celebration; the ninth candle is used to light a new candle each day.

Dreidels: The dreidel is a four-sided spinning top with a Hebrew letter on each side. According to legend, the dreidel became part of Hanukkah when the study of the Torah was outlawed. Many Jews continued to study in secret, using the dreidel game to hide their discussions of the Torah. The dreidel game is now played by Jews during the holiday. Most people play to win matchsticks, pennies, M&M's or chocolate coins.

Foods: It is traditional to eat fried foods during the holiday because of the significance of the oil and the menorah. Popular foods for this Jewish holiday include fried potato pancakes, called latkes, and jelly- or custard-filled doughnuts, called Sufganiyot, that are fried in oil and served hot, sprinkled with powdered sugar.

Sources: www.chanuka.com/history.shtml,
www.kolel.org/

POTATO LATKES

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 cups peeled and shredded potatoes
- 1 tablespoon grated onion
- 3 eggs, beaten
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 1 1/2 teaspoons salt
- 1/2 cup peanut oil

DIRECTIONS:

1. Place the potatoes in a cheesecloth and wring, extracting as much moisture as possible.
2. In a medium bowl, stir the potatoes, onion, eggs, flour and salt together.
3. In a large heavy-bottomed skillet over medium-high heat, heat the oil until hot. Place large spoonfuls of the potato mixture into the hot oil, pressing down on them to form 1/4 to 1/2 inch-thick patties. Brown on one side, then turn and brown on the other. Let drain on paper towels.
4. Serve hot with applesauce or sour cream.

Source: www.allrecipes.com

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