

# From the Editor

TO suggest that the Jewish-gay issue has developed a momentum of its own would be an understatement. The point is that in taking steps against the *Australian Jewish News*, the Sydney Beth Din and the NSW Rabbinical Council have effectively made the newspaper *the news*. The rest — the flood of reaction — has flowed from there.

Literally within minutes of the *AJN* learning that there was to be a request from the Beth Din and the Rabbinical Council for us to attend a meeting to discuss our coverage of the Jewish-gay issue, we began receiving calls and emails of support, and not only from Sydney. Inevitably, the mainstream media also picked up on the issue. Our coverage is on pages 3 and 8, with two pages of letters on pages 20 and 21.

In a horrifying report from Chicago, a respected member of that city's Jewish community has been found to have been abusing young girls for 30 years before the truth was uncovered. Two

women have fought hard to achieve a constructive outcome from the shocking saga, and to make the community confront the reality of what occurred (*pages 22, 23*).

In London, the three-month Lipstadt-Irving trial has ended, with the court adjourning to consider its verdict over whether David Irving was libelled, as he charges. We have summarised the closing arguments (*page 4*), and next week will analyse the key issues at stake.

In Russia, the 600,000-strong Jewish community is looking with a measure of anxiety towards next week's presidential elections, which will bring in former KGB officer Vladimir Putin (*page 17*).

And on the local sports front, Glen Farkas, an Emanuel School student still only in Year 11, has been selected to train with an Aussie Rules First Division squad.

Vic Alhadeff