

**January 17, 2003**

**Sharon vs. Mitzna on campus**

Israeli expatriates can't vote in the upcoming elections, but college students interested in Middle East politics can now vote for a virtual Israeli prime minister and 120 members of Israel's 16th Knesset. At the site, [www.IsraelVotes2003.com](http://www.IsraelVotes2003.com) which includes primers on the electoral system, political parties, key players, up-to-the-minute election news, even virtual Hebrew bumper stickers the ballot box is open to students on more than 60 campuses in the US. Created by the founders of Upstart Activist, a Jerusalem-based venture that trains students to become pro-Israel activists, the mock election is aimed at familiarizing students with Israeli democracy and the issues that Israelis heading to the polls are grappling with, said Upstart Activist co-founder Michael Eglash.

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