

NEIRAD

Business Booming In Commerce Courses

By DON SMITH

"Business education is no longer just typing," said Tina Santella, chairman of the Darien High School Business Department, in a recent *Neirad* interview. Mrs. Santella was commenting on the fact that during the 1974-1975 school year there will be 160 more students taking courses in the Business Department than during the present year.

One of the reasons for this trend, the Business Department feels, is the lowering of the majority age to 18. Now many students are making much more money in part-time jobs and are having more disposable incomes and the managing of this money is becoming a major problem. The department contends that business courses help the teenager understand the responsibilities that the new majority age brings with it.

Another factor seems to be that today's youth is questioning the need for college. "Kids are starting to think for themselves," Mrs. Santella continued. She cited a recent government study of the occupational outlook that predicted that in the next ten years out of a group of 1000 typical students only 140 will need a college or doctorate degree to perform their jobs; 160 will need only elementary education, while the other 700 will need a high school, vocational or apprenticeship education. "High school is the place for students to get a [business] background," said Mrs. Santella.

The nation's unstable economy also seems to be another reason for more students taking business courses. Mrs.

Santella explained: "As the nation's economy becomes more unsettled and the job market more competitive, the demand for people with skills is higher."

The Business Department has been totally revamped as of last year by the Business Education Task Force (BETF), which is made up of members of the town and school community. This group decided what the Business Department in the high school should offer. One of the principal tenets of the BETF is that business course offerings should "draw no distinction between college bound and non-college bound students."

The Business Department is trying to change its "just typing" stereotype. They are now offering courses in accounting, rapid writing (a personal type of shorthand) and a unit in business law that deals with current needs, as well as typing and shorthand.

Next year a course is planned on investing, one on business management and another unit that is titled "Dollar Power." The latter, Mrs. Santella explained, deals with the saving, getting and spending of one's own money.

Another program would involve career exploration ideas. A student can be placed with a local company for a week and see what life is like in the business world, or work with an administrator here at school.

Said Mrs. Santella, "If we try, I feel that we can be a real plus in the school community."



Over twenty-five lovely can-can girls danced their way into the hearts of DHS fans in the Vaudeville Show, sponsored by the International Club May 4. (Photo by Moira Gehring)

Activities Council's Role Examined

By MEG MCGOLDRICK and JANE ADAMS

The Activities Council has received little in the way of publicity this year, but it has continued to function all the same. In an effort to learn what the Council has been doing this year and to find out how various clubs view its role, *Neirad* has talked to a number of those who come in contact with it.

According to Vice Principal and advisor Gerard Coulombe the council's role is twofold. It promotes programs at large that will engage, entertain and bring the school together. And it lends support to clubs financially and morally.

Chairman of the club reviewing committee Michele Klans' job is to keep up the interest in the clubs and keep them functioning. Her committee charters the clubs (makes a statement declaring that the

club exists). Any club activities involving the entire school must be reported to this committee. Clubs are also asked to hand in mid-term and end of the year reports on their activities.

Claire Biagini, advisor of the International Club, commented that their relations with the Activities Council have "been satisfactory, but not extensive." They did not receive any financial aid for the Vaudeville Show, but Miss Biagini said she was not upset about it. She added, "Lorraine [Ludwig, co-chairman of the council] works very hard. She seems to take her position very seriously. The council is trying to help the clubs."

Lisa Dillon, co-editor of the yearbook, said she has had no contact with the Activities Council except for a newsletter. She added that it's a good idea for the council to help some of the clubs out, although this year the yearbook is doing well financially.

David Herbert, one of the advisors of the Outdoors Club, says the Activities Council has had no involvement with this club. "No one has come to find out what the Outdoors Club is about." He thinks the council hasn't decided what their relationship should be with the clubs. The only time he heard from the council was in the beginning of the year when they sent a request to the club to update their charter.

The sailing team has not been given any financial aid from the Activities Council, except the salary for the club's advisor, but the team has to earn all of its money through bake sales. According to Pam Polhemus, co-chairman of the club, they have had no contact with the council.

The Activities Council has conducted several successful events this year. The first annual Spring Carnival was a great financial success. The 50's Day and dance also boosted school spirit.

The Activities Council's latest undertaking was the Activities Banquet. The ceremony was held to honor the students who have done a lot for the school and often times go unrecognized. The banquet idea was first brought up by the Departmental Council for students who had made great achievements. The Activities Council applied the idea to the area of club activities instead. According to co-chairman Lorraine Ludwig, all of the clubs and activities were invited although some did not wish to attend. "I think the idea will grow as the time goes on," she commented.

Vice principal Gerard Coulombe, co-advisor for the council said, "I not only support the banquet idea, but I'm enthusiastic about other kinds." He suggested having an honor roll banquet or maybe one for the students who try hard, but are not necessarily 'A' students. Another idea he had was to have a banquet for the people in the community who employ students from the Career Exploration course, "because they give us their time and attention," said Mr. Coulombe. He feels that the Activities Council assumes the leading role in the community with the parents, students, teachers, and employers of students. He added, "The council has the responsibility to give these banquets."

Adams To Retire:

25 Years Of Classics And A Cause

By BILL JOHNSEN

To celebrate its series of teacher interviews for the year, *Neirad* talked with English instructor Christopher Adams. Our conversation with Mr. Adams was also a last look at the school by its senior faculty member, who is retiring after this year.

Mr. Adams came to Darien High School in 1949, after a career that stretched back to teaching a fifth grade class — when he was one of its members. "Who would ever let you do that now?" Ever since, Mr. Adams has considered teaching his vocation, although he was once attracted to a life in the great outdoors. "Then I read the catalogue, and decided not to be a forester." Mr. Adams also took time out from teaching to serve in the army during World War II and left his post in Darien in order to serve in Korea from 1950 to 1952. Afterward's he returned, and has never thought of teaching anywhere else.

When Mr. Adams first came to the high school it was still located at what is now Mather Junior High School and there were fewer than 400 students. He approved the move to the present DHS building because of increased space, but "I think it was built by a bunch of amateurs." Mr. Adams remembers that in his first years at the high

school, "the attitudes of students, faculty, administration were friendly, cooperative, scholarly. All the things I stand for."

Mr. Adams particularly admired the late principal of Darien High School, Dr. Stewart Atkinson, who became his close friend academically and personally. "The former gentleman who was principal was a scholar himself; he appreciated scholarship, demanded scholarship on the part of faculty and students, and was utterly, totally cooperative with both faculty and students."

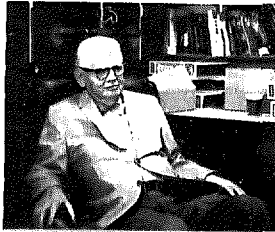
Mr. Adams was appointed English Department Head by the Board of Education in 1960, and held the position until 1967. "When I was appointed . . . the department head was custodian of books and nothing else. Frankly, I re-wrote the book." Mr. Adams is proud of introducing the basis of the current English elective system, but thinks the course titles have become so weird that frequently they befuddle students and parents — and Board of Ed members. "They [the course titles] favor too much of Madison Avenue."

While the rest of the English Department has swung toward contemporary works, grammar and syntax, and non-literary fields, Mr. Adams has retained his

stronghold in the classics. "There are many definitions for classic, but one of them is . . . something that has such value that it continues to exist throughout all the ages. What was good enough for John Adams is good enough for Chris Adams."

Mr. Adams has a few regrets about the way things have gone in the past twenty-five years. "There does not seem to be the same desire to know things like there used to be." He feels there is too much positivism.

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Christopher A. Adams (Photo by Peter Hoover)

\$150,000 Finance Board Cut May Force Personnel Cutback

Budget cuts have plagued the school system many times and have resulted in a number of changes in staff, policy, etc. In its last issue, *Neirad* reported that a cut would reduce the size of the English Department by one, thus freeing a teacher for Business Education. A subsequent cut of \$150,000 by the Board of Finance has further reduced the budget and may eventually affect personnel.

In a recent statement issued to *Neirad* last week, Dr. Bruno said, "After submitting a budget which was only 90% of last year's budget, and after realizing even the most conservative estimate of inflation to be 10%, I was shocked and utterly dismayed to find that the Board of Finance had cut a further \$150,000 from the total school budget. Will we be able to manage? Of course we'll have

to manage, in spite of the fact that we'll have an additional 60 students here. We will have taken, however, a significant step backwards in overall quality."

The eight administrators for schools in town held a meeting recently to try to determine from where the money is to come. They have tentatively decided what cuts shall be made, but these are still subject to Board of Education approval.

The largest cutback will occur in the area of teacher aides. The high school, it is proposed, will lose one aide, while the elementary schools will collectively lose two and one half. Other cutbacks will involve the loss of lay readers at the high school and junior highs.

The guidance counselor who normally is on duty over the summer will work only half time, as will the Director of Independent

Study. Summer Theater has been tentatively cut out as well as the media intern program which brings students to the field of media in the high school from a local college.

The Bursar, who is responsible for all activities funds, etc., instead of receiving money, will receive time, i.e. one period for his work. It is also proposed that two teachers be cut from the elementary schools through the combining of classes.

The remainder of the money will come from reorganization at the central office and from teacher retirements and hiring less experienced ones.

Dr. Bruno feels that these recommendations will pass the Board of Education, but says that he "can't predict." He concluded by saying, "If they don't accept these, I don't know where else they're going to go."

NEIRAD



First Class Rating

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NEWPOINTS

The Choice Is Yours

Editor's note: The ideas expressed in this column do not necessarily represent the editorial positions of Neirad. Readers are invited to turn in their views in editorial form to the Neirad box in the front office within one week after the previous issue comes out. Submission of a column does not guarantee publication, but we will attempt to print as many worthy "Viewpoints" as possible.

By TIM MASSAD

The School Council has been through some hard times this year, and I would like to take this time for some reflections and some thoughts about its future.

In looking back to the writing of the constitution, I think we encountered a major conflict between our idealism and what we knew to be the reality of many situations: to be a community government all groups in the school should be represented, but could that be achieved? Or, in very simple terms, we felt very strongly about the need for communication, but could agendas always be published three days in advance? These are offhand examples of an underlying problem in the constitution which is at the heart of our troubles.

This year, some well known incidents took place over the institution of a new homeroom attendance policy by Dr. Bruno without consulting the Council. A disillusioning period followed during which new interpretations of the constitution came out; one was that, in Dr. Bruno's opinion, a dual policy-making authority existed, even in areas listed as the Council's responsibility, which meant in effect that any policy the Principal wanted would be instituted.

Some viewed the period as one when the "bubble" burst — that our ideas of creating community government were naive from the beginning and now that was painfully obvious. Others saw it as a setback, but one that, with time, could be overcome as the Council established itself.

Enforcement Or Policy?

However, a major problem was that instead of the incidents leading the Council, Principal and community to some conclusion as to what this meant to the idea of the School Council, the dispute centered on what I considered then and consider today attempts to deny obvious truths. For example, Dr. Bruno tried to ease out of the situation by claiming it was only a change in the enforcement of an old policy, not a new policy. If that was the case, then rarely could a "new" policy be devised. Or, he never admitted he actually violated the constitution, but would only go as far as to say that he violated the spirit but not the letter of the constitution. (With laws, the normal fashion is that one violates the letter, but not the spirit.)

In contrast, at the first Council meeting when the problem was discussed, Council member Gerard Culombe stated flatly that the constitution was simply no obligation whatsoever for the administration and that it could be violated this time and any time. That was a startling moment, but had Dr. Bruno admitted that from the start instead of dealing in absurd arguments, we might be better off. What was illustrated by the problem was that the Council was im-

practical in some situations, and the sooner that point was realized by all, the sooner corrections could be made.

The problem with the Council is that it is a somewhat idealistic attempt to create democracy within a dictatorship. An organization like the Council can work, but it demands a principal that not only cooperates, but to some degree defends it, and helps it along, at times sacrificing administrative expediency for community democracy. Dr. Bruno is simply not that kind of principal, nor should he necessarily be faulted for that. It is a difficult role, and in writing the constitution I think few of us, including Dr. Bruno, recognized how difficult it could be.

There have been accomplishments, even this year, that should not be discounted, however. In general, these are three: (1) If jobs represent increased responsibility given to students, from the previous D.S.O., and involves teachers and parents in the formation of policy. (2) A community was not built, but students, faculty and parents found they could work together constructively, and I think relationships experienced in the Council will be a positive memory of all who have been on it. (3) It did provide a forum for the discussion of school issues by various groups of the school.

Five Options

Where does this leave us? I think there are several options:

(1) Do nothing. Do not rebuild or disband the Council, just ignore it. This is the only option I strongly oppose.

(2) Disband and leave a void. This is not such a pessimistic attitude. There is a feeling that student concern and involvement moves like the tide, and that one should wait for a new high point to revive things. There is a feeling that the excitement of creating something new, when that occurs, is more meaningful than maintaining something for several years, that more is gained through such an experience of students, faculty and parents working to create something new than can be gained in institutionalized relationships.

(3) Disband, and revise the constitution to something like D.S.O. or class government.

(4) Try to revise the Council under the present constitution.

There is a fifth option, somewhere in between the third and the fourth. It is an attempt to preserve the structure of the Council, but to change its responsibilities to a more reasonable and manageable level. It is what one person has suggested to be the role of the RTM: not to be the governing body, but to "knock on doors," to expose issues, to raise attention. The Council could possibly do that, exercising influence but not administrative authority. One would have more modest expectations, but hopefully would not be disillusioned or frustrated so easily.

'Legitimate Influence'

Some might see this as agreeing to Dr. Bruno's phrase that the Council can be "a legitimate source of influence" but in reality not very much. I think such a role could be meaningful, but Dr. Bruno's attitude must change as well. He has to be willing to recognize and accept legitimate influence. For example, in the clamor over homeroom, 250-300 students attended a special assembly to air their feelings about the new policy. Later, a petition with 600 names expressing opposition to the policy was presented to Dr. Bruno. His quick response was, "It's easy to get 600 names." He did not recognize student (and teacher) opinion; he refused to acknowledge widespread opposition to the policy. This is only one example of that attitude, and if it does not change then Dr. Bruno would have no right to complain if no one ever ran for the Council.

The choice is not for me or my class. It is up to those who will be here next year, and especially those who have been involved, who are capable of being involved, and who have a responsibility in this area. All I ask is that it be a conscious decision, that is, do not ignore the problem as a means of solving it. You may feel the Council is a waste; if so by all means disband it, and make your feelings known. If it is worth the time, then do something with it. Do not avoid the decision by claiming you are too involved in other things. You have to make the decision, and I wish you luck.

End of An Era

Darien High School will lose a good deal of professionalism with the retirement of faculty member Christopher A. Adams, not because he is an excellent teacher, even though he is, but because he represents an age that has since seen its values replaced by the tolerance of mediocrity. Mr. Adams has stood for scholarship, a quality that seems lacking in the manner of teaching now offered in several departments. He has been able to turn what some people might regard as "stuffy" subject material into mind-stretching exercises. By his deportment and his obvious yet unstated expectations of his students, Mr. Adams is able to gain the students' attention, respect and drive for knowledge.

To be a student in one of Mr. Adams' classes is to be one of two possible people. One is characterized by a sleepy look and the ready answer of "I don't know," or "I'm still thinking about it." This "student" is scorned by Mr. Adams, and appropriately so. Now the attitude of this student is tolerated, if not glorified. "Make the courses more relevant! Let the student enjoy English," many later educators shout. Now many students are not challenged, able to loaf in a variety of electives that have less content in half a year than one good documentary film is able to deliver in 50 minutes. Many are held down in part by a system that allows heterogeneous groupings to slow the brightest students to the level of the poorest.

The other type of Adams student likes to discover just how much he knows, and how he can know more. Mr. Adams happens to develop this trait through intensive study of English literature, though any subject could be used to that same end with the proper attitude.

Now students are given "free cuts" and are virtually expected to take advantage of several more before the finality of a failing grade is left to retard the misbehavior.

Although it is clear that many students could not stand to learn by the Adams method, it seems unfair to deny those students who wish a richer intellectual atmosphere an instructor whose methods accomplish that goal. Several teachers could teach the subjects that Mr. Adams does. Yet few, if any, could capture that quest for scholarship without appearing hopelessly hypocritical.



Adams Has Taught 'in Cause Of Scholarship'

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siveness at DHS today. "It's hard sometimes to even teach... Right now, I do not think there is an orderly school community at Darien High School." Mr. Adams' last disagreement with the school administration was over the Advanced

Placement English Examination, which the administration required of all students in Mr. Adams' two A. P. English classes. "I think students themselves commented on it. Out of sixty-six, twelve took the exam."

Mr. Adams plans to spend the future writing, with two books already in the works. "One's Shakespeare, needless to say," Mr. Adams' favorite author. The other is tentatively entitled *You'll Never Believe It*, dealing with Mr. Adams' forty years of educational experiences. He also intends to travel abroad, which he has been doing for the many years past. With his wide experience, many other options present themselves. "I've thought in terms of preaching, but I'm not ordained." He has also considered returning to psychology, something he both practiced and taught. "I find that I still have the 'knack'."

He is perhaps prudent that "as a teacher, I think I've been able to reach and indoctrinate, if I may use that horrible word, in the cause of scholarship some mighty fine people." After twenty-five years in Darien High School, Mr. Adams returned to his favorite writer for some words of farewell. "Parting is such a sweet sorrow."

GRADUATION TO FEATURE BEUTEL

The graduating class of 1974 will have its commencement ceremony on June 21 on the football field. The graduation will feature an address by Bill Beutel of the Eyewitness news team.

The actual graduation ceremony will commence at 6:15 p.m. Each graduate's family will be allotted four tickets. Following there will be a reception in the gymnasium sponsored by the Junior class.

The annual graduation party will take place at the Italian Center in Stamford. The cost per person will be \$10 which includes a buffet dinner, entertainment by two bands, plus door prizes.

MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

A memorial scholarship fund has been established at Darien High School in honor and memory of Charles Edward Travers, Jr.

Charles was a 1971 graduate of Darien High School and was a member of the football, wrestling, and track teams. He was a Junior at Colgate University at the time of his death last October.

This scholarship will be presented to the graduating senior who displays outstanding qualities in sportsmanship, citizenship, and academic achievements with primary interest in the fields of history or English.

Friends who desire to contribute to this Memorial Scholarship Fund may do so by sending donations in care of Dr. Donald C. Robbins at the Darien High School.

Frate Hears Views In News Store

By TOM GAMMILL

Behind the counters of the Darien News Store reigns Gennaro W. Frate, Darien's representative in the State Legislature for the past 24 years. Mr. Frate is probably Darien's most well-known and colorful politician. His store has become a mainstream for people seeking political information and advice.

Mr. Frate will be running again this fall for a fourteenth term in the legislature. He is the House Chairman of the Transportation Committee, which has been recently involved in mass transit issues. Mr. Frate talked with *Neirad* staffers recently about his career as a retail businessman and legislator, national issues, and town problems.

Many direct questions about Darien concerning the school budget cutbacks, and low-income housing could not be answered as Frate does not become involved with them in the state legislature.

Mr. Frate opens his store in the morning and stays until his wife comes in at about nine. He then leaves for Hartford but is back at the store usually by the late afternoon.

"Some of the recent sessions, however, have lasted so late I'm not home until eight or ten."

"I'm very fortunate that my wife takes over when I'm gone, and that my grandson helps out in the afternoons. If they couldn't handle it, I'm afraid I would have to quit working at the legislature and spend full time in the store. The pay for a legislator is not very good, so most of us have two jobs. Many are lawyers or insurance men. I'm the only legislator in the retail business."

Mr. Frate feels he has an advantage over most legislators, as he comes in contact with a lot of people in his store. "I get to talk with my customers and learn what they need and

expect from their representatives."

"There is a need for small businesses like mine. In a department store one does not get the same personal attention, and the customers don't know the person whom they've bought from."

Since reapportionment there have been fewer women in the legislature. "There was a time when a town sent two people to the state, usually a man and a woman. Since reapportionment, though, the men have usually won out over the women."

Mr. Frate noted that the "No Left Turn" policy on Tokeneke Road has affected the store. "It's bound to hurt because it's taking traffic away from business. We've compromised though, as it's now only in effect from three to six."

A new Darien underpass which is being vigorously supported by Mr. Frate would also take traffic away from his store. "But I support it. Being a legislator, I have to do what's best for the town, not myself."

As far as Connecticut's Senator and fellow Republican, Lowell Weicker is concerned, Frate thinks he's doing the job well of investigating campaign funds. "I don't want anybody in my party to misuse funds. . . . I don't want that to exist," Mr. Frate also added that Weicker is "making headlines and getting himself famous throughout the country. But what he and Nixon have got against each other personally I don't know."

Concerning the impeachment issue, Frate thinks we should take the course of the Constitution and that Nixon should quickly pay the penalty if he's done something wrong.

"He shouldn't resign, though. We have a Constitution which tells us what course to follow. I haven't seen anything in the President to warrant impeachment — but that's for the courts and Congress to decide. . . . I'm concerned with local issues."

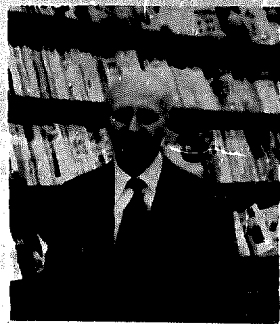
Will Watergate affect Mr. Frate's upcoming campaign for re-election? "I don't think so — at least it shouldn't. I'm going to run as a Republican on my record and the accomplishments of the General Assembly."

Mr. Frate feels it is still too early to endorse any candidate for Governor, and definitely too soon to comment on the Presidential election on 1976.

"Two years is a long time, and we don't know yet who is going to run."

As far as DHS is concerned, Frate believes it is doing a good job preparing kids for college.

"The youth should get interested in local and state affairs," Frate added. "Their record for voting isn't good. They should make an effort to get out and vote."



Gennaro W. Frate (Photo by Peter Hoover)

The Formal Finale 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'

By ANDY WALWORTH

Commentary
The annual Junior/Senior Prom, sponsored by the two upper classes, was held on Saturday, May 18, at the Lapham Estate. Entitled "A Midsummer's Night Dream," the gardenia get-together featured two bands, all the soda you could stand (but no ice), and a bad audio system.

The best music was dished up by an excellent rhythm, jazz, and blues band called



Doug Wilson, Barbara Martella and Steve Kamin display prom finery. (Photo by Moira Gehring)

Roomful of Blues, whose professional indifference to its audience, and its professional zeal for perfection, seemed strangely out of place at a Darien High School Prom. The band included a tight brass section and a miked acoustic piano, which added welcome authenticity. The music was gutsy, clean, mean and blue.

The musical high-point of the evening's performance was when, in the middle of a slow blues number, the entire amplification system mysteriously shut off. More indifferent than undanted, Roomful of Blues played on, finishing the number. For the usual rock band, a loss of power is like a clean castration, leaving the musicians stranded, impotent and helpless before their skyline of amplifiers. "You all just have to imagine the bass-line" shouted on band member, and the unamplified pianist led the band through, acoustic but full.

The other band, Repairs, was sorely in need of its name-sake, as they tried to produce a regular rock concert when people only wanted to dance. "My love is no deposit, no return," shouted the band, but I felt sure they were talking about themselves.

To stand away from the prom and view it with an impartial eye makes the affair appear ridiculous, with the very nature of what a prom is. These are your peers, dressed in mad outfits and hopping like bunnies. Some are too drunk, others too straight, but they are uniform in their apparent desire to have a good time, to see and be seen, to indeed be "at the prom". After casual conversation with a few promsters, one begins to recognize that, in fact, some don't enjoy the dancing, others dislike the music, and still others (amazingly enough, but not really) are lonely amidst this thundering onslaught of tails, tuxedos, and top-hats, of gowns and gardenias. The prom is a unique event. Important yet superfluous, it remains a paradox. I wonder if it has ever really been any different.

The senior class will perform Woody Allen's comedy *Don't Drink the Water*. The play will be presented by the seniors on June 7 and 8. Curtain time is 8:15, at Darien High School.

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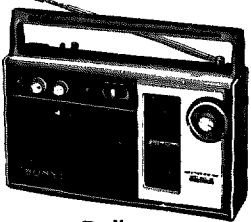
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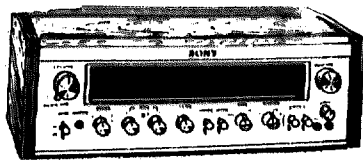
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Blue Netman Huck Rough connects with a backhand smash. (Photo by Joe Vitit)

Runnerettes Tripped By Rams

By MARY MCGOLDRICK

The girls' track team took on a tough New Canaan team on May 9 at home and lost 51-85 in the third meet of the season.

Although the girls didn't win, top performances were shown by many. Top performers included Ellen Francesconi, who placed second in the 80 yard hurdles. Both Cathy McCormick and Kathy Austin finished the 880 yard run in 2:53. Gracie Bean placed third in the 220 dash while Stacy Johnson placed second in the mile. The mile relay consisting of Jen Barrett, Karen Echrich, Sue Lane, and Lisa Emmons won, Sue Lane giving an outstanding performance.

Laura Molony stole two firsts and a second in the field events, jumping four feet and three inches in the high jump and throwing the shot 32 feet and three inches.

Pam Bishop placed first in the discus, whizzing it 94 feet and one inch with Laura Molony tossing it 93 feet and five inches.

The girls suffered two more defeats in the following tri-meet losing 37 2/3 to 98 1/3 against Stamford and 62 1/2 to Norwalk's 73 1/2 on May 14.

Nevertheless Darien finished with four firsts and eight seconds against Norwalk and finished not quite as well against Stamford. Fine performances were shown by Nina Page in both the 100 yard dash and the 80 yard hurdles, stealing two firsts.

Once again Laura Molony did an exceptional job in the field events with Pam Bishop and Jen Barrett both doing very well. Kathy Levy placed second in the javelin.

Of the girls who participated in the regionals, Laura Molony and Pam Bishop qualify for the states which will take place on June 16.

Tennis Teams May Be Swinging To Championships

By NATE BILLINGS

The Boys' Tennis Team has a 5 and 3 record just past the midpoint of the season. The youthful netsters (with only one senior) are looking forward to the second half of their season. If they play up to their ability they will have only one tough match against county powerhouse New Canaan.

The racketeers faced a strong Ludlowe team and came up with the short end of the racket. Ludlowe took the match 6-1.

Craig Whiting lost 6-8, 6-3, 6-4. Jon Dahl lost 6-0, 6-4. "Steady" Steve Franklin lost 6-4, 8-6. Steve up to this point hadn't lost a set since opening day against Rippowam. Jeff Lynch lost 7-5, 5-7, 6-2 and Chase Ashley won after a marathon second set 6-3, 9-11, 6-3.

The netters were to face Norwalk Friday, May 17, but due to inclement weather it was played Tuesday, May 21. The Wave plays Warde Friday and will resume home play on Wednesday, May 29, against Greenwich. (Scores for the Norwalk and Westhill matches were unavailable at presstime).

The Wavers took a tough Staples team a little too lightly and they wound up on the short end of the score 5-2 Monday, May 20.

Losses were turned in by Craig Whiting 8-6, 6-3; Jon Dahl 6-1, 6-0; Steve Franklin 6-2, 6-4 and Chase Ashley 7-5, 8-6. Jeff Lynch managed to pull a three set match for the Blue Wave 6-3, 3-6, 6-3.

Action in the 7 rubles found Ashley and Lynch losing 10-5 and Craig Whiting and Huck Hough winning 10-9 to make the final score 5-2. The team's record now stands at 5-3.

By SUE ALLARD

Women's Lob at Darien High remained one of the most successful sets of the spring athletic season, as the Girls' Tennis Team boosted its overall record to six wins and no losses by defeating Amity on Friday, May 17, by a 9-0 score at home.

A sudden cloudburst interrupted the Amity match, but play was allowed to continue indoors at the Shippan Racquet Club in Stamford. The outcomes of the matches played indoors were determined by eight game pro-sets. Indoors and out, Darien battered the Amity team.

Earlier in the week, on Wednesday, May 15, Darien edged out a very strong Roger Ludlowe team on foreign turf, five matches to four.

The team co-captains Sherry Maclay and Kit Reilly both won their singles matches. Sherry vanquished her Ludlowe opponent 6-3, 4-3, while Kit won in a three-setter 7-6, 2-6, 6-3. Leslie Milne, a junior, also outclassed her opponent in a tight match 4-6, 6-4, 6-4.

Diamond Debs Drop One, Win One

By JANE ADAMS

The 1974 Girls' Softball Team made its official record 1-4 with a loss to Trumbull on May 14 and a win over Wilton on May 16.

The team has had some problem with league rules regarding play in Lassie League and on the school team at the same time. As a result, one member of the team was forced to quit and three previously played games were forfeited.

Trumbull proved to be a strong opponent with a powerful hitting unit. Darien, plagued with errors, lost 15-3.

Coach Joan Walsh, however, was very pleased with the team's performance as they

Wavers Clinch Title In East

By GREG CLARK

The Baseballers clinched first place in the FCIAC East Sat., May 18, by defeating Wilton 12-4 at the Darien diamond. They will now proceed to take on the probable, at press time, Cards of Greenwich for the FCIAC championship. This year's tournament will boast a best of three series with the first place team in the east clashing with the first place team in the west. The series starts Wednesday, May 22, at Cubetta Stadium in Stamford, with a double-header. Game one will start at 5 o'clock and game two, under the lights at 8 o'clock, and the third game, if needed will be played at 8 o'clock Friday.

Consistent hitting has been the prominent factor for the Wavenines success with a team batting average of .322, and three of the top five batters in the league. Jim Nodine leads the league with a solid .606 average, while Junior Sal Ferrinabata a fantastic .454 and Tom Pleasic an even .400 for third and fifth in the county respectively. Nodine has an excellent chance of breaking the batting average mark set last year by Stamford's Erwin Houser who hit .543. Jim has excellent chances to break most hits in a season too. At press time he was one short of Angelo Coppelua's mark set in 1964 for Norwalk and Bobby Valentines for Rippowam in 1966. Both hold the record with 27. Jim also stands a good chance of breaking the runs batted in column, which is held by Dave Thomas who had 23 runs batted in for

Rippowam in 1964. Jim is just two short of this mark with one regular season game left.

Poignant pitching from Ron Copeland (5-1), and John Risola (6-0) has also been a key factor for the ball club's success. While relief work has come from junior Jeff Fitzpatrick and sophomores Jay Struthers and Dave Catino. And excellent bench strength from Mark Roland, Excel Taliman, Charlie Santos Buch.

Darien has won 9 straight and if they defeat Staples (Monday May 21. Results unavailable at press time.) it would give them a prognostic approach and win the double-header. If the series were to go a full three games Darien would have advantage because the pitching depth this year is shallow. Darien has only two starting pitchers and if they take the two game two-nighter-County champs. But if they lose one of the two this would only give one of the pitchers a two or three day rest for Fridays game.

Coach George Nelson may platoon the two pitchers during the game, as he has been doing successfully throughout the season. He starts on a pitcher, takes him out around the fourth or fifth inning, and if he is needed again gives him enough time to rest and come back for a relief appearance.

Golfers Have 7-4 Record In FCIAC Action

By CURT STITES

The Blue golfers' record dropped to 3-3 as they lost to the Tigers of Ridgefield 7 1/2-5 1/2 at the Silver Springs Golf Course on Monday, May 6.

Junior Pete Conley shot our low score for the day with an 84. He was followed by capt. Rob Byler with an 86, Greg Honner with a 92 and Lee Smith finished with a 92.

On Tuesday, May 7, the boggie babes overpowered Westhill of Stamford 11 1/2-1 1/2 at the Darien County Club.

Sophomore Allen Kirkley played in his first varsity match and promptly fired an 82, with the medal score for the match and a 3-0 victory. Greg Honner stroked his way to an 85 as he defeated his opponent 2-1. Capt. Rob Byler shot an 87 in two 2 1/2-1/2, and Pete Conley finished the circuit with an 88 and also had a 3-0 shutout.

Darien faced a tough Greenwich team as they were whipped 12-1 at Bruce Memorial Park on Friday, May 10.

Capt. Rob Byler shot an impressive 81 but he lost his match 2 1/2-1/2 as his counterpart shot a more impressive 79. Greg Honner also lost 2 1/2-1/2 as he finished with an 85. Allen Kirkley scored an 85 as he was shutout 3-0, and Pete Conley finished out with an 88.

The Birdie Babes finally put it together against Stamford as they won 11 1/2-1 1/2 at Hubbard Heights on Tuesday, May 14.

The linksters had three sub 80 rounds as Pete Conley fired his second sub 80 round of the season, a 78 as he shutout his opponent 3-0. Sr's Rob Byler and Greg Honner both shot 79's to shutout their opposition 3-0. Allen Kirkley finished the route with an 84 to tie his challenger 1 1/2-1/2.

Darien defeated Rippowam 12 1/2-1 1/2 at Sterling Farms on Wednesday, May 15.

Capt. Rob Byler turned in his first medal score of the year by shooting a 78 to defeat his opponent 3-0. Greg Honner and Allen Kirkley both came in with 80's and 3-0 shutouts. Pete Conley completed the circuit with a 3-0, 82 victory.

The Wavers now stand at 7-4 in F.C.I.A.C. action.

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