



Several students utilize some of the present comforts of the partially complete library/media center. (Photo by Dan Galula)

Grand Opening In Sight For New Library/Media Center

By DAVID BAUDER

After a month of being crammed into the old Student Activities room, the DHS library has finally opened, though the renovations and alterations are far from being finished.

"It should be finished in January... maybe," commented George Emerson, head librarian. A long series of problems has delayed the completion of the new facility, which was originally scheduled to be done by the time students had arrived at school in the beginning of this year.

The first hassle was a sheet metal workers' strike this summer. "A lot of ventilating work had to be done in the new area," Mr. Emerson said, so the strike caused a long delay.

The new carpeting arrived, but there was a problem with the colors. Parts of the rug had to be ripped out and sent back.

As many of the people who have wandered into the library may have noticed, much of the new furniture, such as chairs and study carrels, has not arrived yet. Mr. Emerson also pointed out that another problem was "I don't even know about some of the equipment we're getting." He voiced displeasure at the fact that "our people were not consulted" by the Building Committee on such matters as furniture and colors in the new facility.

The library probably would have been opened, in its limited way, earlier, if it hadn't been such a mess when they returned on the first days of the new year. "It took some time to clean it up after the work that was done this

summer," explained Mr. Emerson. "Some of the stacks of books and A.V. equipment weren't even covered."

When all of the work is finally completed, the end result will be a very different and hopefully much better media center than its predecessor. Some of the details were defined by Mr. Emerson.

"There will be a new reference area, before there was never a clearly defined reference area." He said it will be much easier to find materials. It will also be easier to have classes in to do work.

"The casual reading area will be near the charge-out desk, so it will be more easily supervised." Along with being a simple reading place, Mr. Emerson said it will be a "multi-use area." He mentioned that classes will be able to work

Rock Concert To Hit DHS First Time In Six Years

By MARIAN DAVIS

The rock group Maze will take over the Darien High School stage on Saturday, November 20, as the Activities Council sponsors the first rock concert held here in quite a few years. The concert is scheduled to begin at 8 p.m. and end at about 10:45 p.m.

Maze is a five member, all-male band which specializes in rock and hard rock. They play their own compositions as well as those of others, such as Led Zeppelin and have toured with the J. Geils Band, Aerosmith, and Kiss. Maze will be backed up by Slash.

Rock concerts such as this have not taken place at DHS for a long time, mainly due to the fact that at previous concerts some students overstepped their bounds, damaging seats and generally misbehaving. Dean of Students Craig Matheson mentions this year there will be students as well as teachers monitoring the concert along with police supervision. He reminded the student body that, as with any student activity, the use of alcohol will be forbidden. At the conclusion of the back-up bands' performance a fifteen-minute intermission has been allocated for Maze to set-up. During the intermission, students may smoke outside the building.

According to Marcy Pinover, co-chairman of the Activities Council, because of previous problems, the central administration was hesitant to say "yes" to the Activities Council immediately. However, with the strong support of Donald Robbins, acting principal, and other DHS administrators, it was agreed to let the concert plans proceed on a trial basis. Mr. Matheson wants this concert to be successful so that the school and community will be supportive of future events.

The Activities Council decision to hold the rock concert was primarily based on the need for more variety in school activities. Marcy Pinover stressed that the main purpose in having the concert is not to make money, but rather to try something new and fun. The main band, Maze, is doing the concert primarily to promote its new album, to be released this fall.

Admission price has been set for \$3.00 in advance, and \$4.00 at the door. Ticket sales are limited to DHS, and later to Fairfield Prep, New Canaan, Greenwich and Andrew Warde. Sales for Darien will begin on Monday, November 8, and will open up to the other schools a few days later. Maze is playing for \$1,500, and a sell-out would produce an estimated profit of \$1000 for the Activities Council.

there, TV tapes will be viewed there, and it can also serve as a studio for the A.V. department.

The new entrance and exit will be located off the new wing, and the charge-out desk will be right next to them. There will also be a new teachers' workroom — also available to students — that will house such things as duplicating machines, Thermo-Fax machines, etc.

More individual study carrels will be available, when they finally arrive. The bookshelves will be in one certain area, not around the periphery of the library the way they were before. This should make for a better arrangement of books, and it will be much easier to find what you are looking for. Typewriters

Continued on page 2

Bargains Abound At Winter Sale

By KAREN MacMURDY

As winter rapidly approaches, skiers and skaters alike are hurrying to their attics to get their sports equipment prepared for the upcoming season. But what if in your desperate search, you turn up only one ski or bladeless skates?

To the sportsman on a tight budget, this can be a very devastating discovery. But fear not, DHS's annual Ski and Skate Sale is just around the corner (November 20).

Bargains abound. A wide selection of ski equipment is a yearly guarantee. The Darien Sport Shop, Bob's Sports, and Outdoor Trader (store consignments usually make up approximately 35% of the merchandise at

the sale) contribute skis, boots, and poles, both new and used.

An item which has become more popular since the construction of the Darien Ice Rink is skates and hockey sticks. In the tradition of Bob's Sports, the Darien Ice Rink has been consigning their rental skates from the previous years, too.

For the more sedate sportsman, a fair selection of sleds and toboggans is usually on hand, and an occasional pair of snow shoes can be found, too.

Or, if you're interested in making a little money this year, why not consign some of your old clothes and equipment. Donors receive 60% of the sale price. For those who may not know, the remaining 40% goes toward senior scholarships, of which the Ski and Skate Sale is one of the largest fundraisers. If your equipment gets rejected, though, don't feel too bad. Carolyn Krebs, faculty advisor of the sale, says that because of the increasing popularity and success of the event, the chairpersons will be able to be more selective when accepting consignments this year. Should you want to try it, though, consignments for equipment and clothes in good condition (no hats please) will be accepted November 8-19; weekdays from 2 to 4:30 p.m., Thursday, the eighteenth from 7 p.m. - 10 p.m. at the cage in D-wing.

One last word: If you're interested in finding good equipment at a real bargain, get there early. The line for the 9 a.m. opening starts to form at 7:30.



Ski and Skate Sale Consignment Chairman Halsey Whitney. (Photo by Dan Galula)

Catania Takes Consulting Post

By MARK CLOWES and PETER FRANCESCONI

Joseph B. Porter, superintendent of Darien schools, announced the resignation of Salvatore J. Catania from the central office of the Darien Public School System effective December 1, 1976, at the Board of Education meeting on Tuesday, November 9.

The resignation, accepted with regret by the board members, will allow Dr. Catania to tackle a "new and different challenge," Dr. Porter stated in his announcement. Dr. Catania has accepted a position with Mediatrix, Inc., an educational con-

sulting firm in Westport. Dr. Catania indicated that he had been "interested in another possibility" and that he will be no stranger to Mediatrix, for he has worked there before. He did derive a sense of satisfaction from his position in the central office. "It was a job that had to be done," he said.

Dr. Catania was transferred to the central office on July 1, 1976, after being principal of Darien High School for two years. The transfer was effected to "best help the system," as stated by Macdonald Budd, chairman of the Board of Education. His job included research and evaluation of the trans-

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Faith Expressed In Student Body

We believe that the Activities Council and the administration have been successful in their efforts to find and sponsor a different and exciting type of activity for the enjoyment of high school students.

We realize that sponsoring a rock concert at Darien High School has not been an extremely popular idea with some people in recent years. There may have been some displeasing actions at past concerts at DHS, but faith should not have been lost in maturing high school students. And we understand that our acting principal recently argued in favor of the idea and proceeded to gain the "go-ahead signal."

It makes us happy and appreciative to see members of the present administration extend themselves out on a limb and express their faith in high school people.

If an unfortunate incident does occur during the evening of the concert, the board may frown upon Dr. Robbins' enthusiasm for an event such as a rock concert. This would possibly have a bearing on the Board's selection for the person to be named as permanent principal and we are sure that the students would not want to scar Dr. Robbins' presently clean record as acting principal.

We, too, have faith in the high schoolers' ability to act as mature, civilized human beings and sincerely hope that no unnecessary and irresponsible actions take place anywhere near Darien High School at any time.

Another aspect of the Activities Council's concert plans deserves applause. That is the fact that four neighboring secondary schools have been invited to attend and enjoy the evening of music that will take place in our auditorium. Sharing a good thing with those who have so much in common with us is definitely positive action. We are all looking forward to the return of rock concerts at DHS.

Long Weekend Out Of The Ordinary

Late November of each school year usually brings everyone affiliated with a school system a two-and-one-half day vacation. The reason is that in 1941, Congress ruled that the Thanksgiving Day that had been celebrated since the time of the Pilgrims would be observed on the fourth Thursday of November and it would be a legal federal holiday.

This holiday can provide an out-of-the-ordinary, long weekend for many. It is a time to be thankful for all blessings received in the past year, not a lay-off from school to be taken for granted.

Thank whom or whatever you feel has blessed you to any extent; for most have not survived as total independents or without the help of one another.

Be grateful for any abilities which you possess, whether they be outstanding or below average. All are able to use their faculties to expand their knowledge of certain aspects of life or to assist them in the attempt to excel in a chosen realm of life.

Everyone should appreciate his own individual and unique mind. Not only do they control our bodies, but the way in which people come to conclusions, reasonably, is directed by those mysterious minds atop our shoulders.

And those much-awaited for Thanksgiving dinners; may they never be forgotten! From the buttery brown, stuffed turkey to the bottle of champagne that sets a sparkle in the eyes of many while they offer toasts, the meal is a once-a-year specialty that is always prepared with the utmost care.

Favors should be recognized when performed and one should not hesitate to return a kind act if appropriate. How nice it is to be able to say "thank you" and equally nice to receive thanks from another.

Thanksgiving Day need not be one for solemn prayer throughout, but it may be a joyful reunion of family or thoughts. We sincerely hope that the members of our community appreciate the Thanksgiving holiday, concentrating on the blessings of the past and the yearning for continued good things for the future.

NEIRAD

Neirad is published by the students of Darien High School on a bi-weekly basis. Letters for the "Viewpoints" column may be mailed to Neirad, Darien High School, Darien, Connecticut 06820. Annual subscription rate, \$4.75. All Neirad features are copyrighted 1976.

Neirad is printed at the Board of Education Printing Office by Director of Printing Robert Velesbir.

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New Library Additions Include A.V. Room

Continued from page 1 will be available for general use in the back of the library.

The new addition will contain a new area for back issues of magazines. "This room is significantly smaller than the old one," said Mr. Emerson. "As a consequence, we've had to throw out many magazines because of the reduction in space." Because of this the

microfiche readers will be put into more use.

There will be a new audio-visual room, located behind the charge-out desk in the new addition. The old A.V. room will be used as the Independent Study office. The S.A. room will be used as a processing center for books and A.V. materials.

VIEWPOINTS

'Doc' Lauds Student Behavior

To the DHS Student Body:

I should like to express my sincere appreciation to all the students who participated in our recent Homecoming Weekend. It was a pleasure to observe students not only planning but monitoring a series of successful events, especially the Coffee House & Dance. It is to the credit of the Activities Council that they are planning events upon the basis that DHS students want, and can respond responsibly to, school-wide activities. The upcoming Maze Concert will be another occasion which will need the responsible cooperation of all attending students. It has been several years since DHS has had a concert. Many of you have wanted a concert. The administration

supports the event because it believes that students will be responsible for its success. When responsibility is handled well, more responsibility can be given. In this lies the real future of student activities at DHS.

Other schools are experiencing difficulty in running effective school-wide events (Staples has placed a moratorium on dances). When other administrators call to ask how we accomplished a successful Homecoming my answer is "our students have accepted the responsibility." I am proud to say this.

Again, my thanks to the student body. See you at the concert!

Donald C. Robbins
Acting Principal

Crowd Noise Mays Coffee House

To the Editor:

Friday night, Oct. 22, I attended the coffeehouse sponsored by the High School and featuring the folk-duo Gunnip and Preu. It was held in the Senior Commons and the music was great. Unfortunately, the audience was not.

It seemed a pity to waste all the time and effort obviously put into the organization of this event when students created an atmosphere of great noise, excessive movement in and out of the room, and general inattention. Requests for songs that had already been played were being hurled at the performers. I'm sure these students really did want to hear these songs again, for the guitarists were great, but it seemed fairly evident that Gunnip and Preu didn't want to play them again.

Of course, a coffeehouse isn't a classical concert to be sat at and listened to without a sound; it's a place to meet friends and have a good time. But neither is it a lunch hour where the main event is exchanging gossip and laughter. It seems there should be

mutual respect between those trying to listen and those who'd like to talk.

Of course, it's a lot harder for the musicians to play in a rowdy atmosphere than in a quiet one. They themselves admitted that at several points during the performance they felt a great urge to just stop, pack, and leave. This thought may be an exaggeration — no musician should ever expect a picture-perfect audience — but they do have a point in that respect should be paid to the performers, who did a fantastic job.

The atmosphere of the evening was not due to any inaction on the part of any chaperones. It wasn't a matter of lack of discipline. It was a matter of unthinking on the part of the audience and a general lack of respect towards everyone concerned. The atmosphere of the evening was not one conducive to listening, but maybe the next time we'll all be more aware of each other's feelings and everyone can have a great time.

Nina Sawicki

Homecoming Chairman Responds

Editor's note: Neirad invited someone connected with Homecoming to respond to the above Viewpoint.

I disagree with Miss Sawicki's view that the coffee house featuring Gunnip and Preu, held during the Homecoming weekend, was not a success due to some talking and walking in and out while the music was being played. On the contrary, this is the expected behavior at a coffee house.

The purpose of having this coffee house was to provide a social activity where students and alumni could meet with their friends, talk, have a good time, and listen to music if they so desired. The music at a coffee house,

unlike at a concert, serves only one of the purposes of a coffee house.

The conduct on the part of the students was very good. There were no major discipline problems all evening long, with the exception of two individuals who made several vehement requests for a song. I think that this coffee house was the most successful coffee house that DHS has run in a long time. In addition to being financially successful, it provided great music and was well-run and well attended. This coffee house was greatly enjoyed by both the students and the chaperones.

KAREN COSGROVE
Co-chairman of Homecoming

Catania To Tackle New Challenge

Continued from page 1 sition process for students between elementary, junior high and high school levels, and a system-wide evaluation of the schools' guidance program.

There has been much speculation about the nature of Dr. Catania's original transfer to the central office. The general consensus of the Board of Education members is that the shift was neither a promotion nor a demotion, but a lateral move; hence, his salary had remained the same as when he was principal of DHS. Some people have felt that the position in the central office was created for Dr. Catania until he could find a job elsewhere. Mr.

Budd firmly disagreed, saying it was a job the board felt needed to be performed.

Mr. Budd commented on the future of the central office position, saying, "Since the establishment of the position pre-dated the reorganization of the central office, the position might not be refilled." He went on to say that since it was a one-year position and that it might take a substantial amount of time to find a replacement, filling the position "might not be that sensible."

Mr. Budd commented on Dr. Catania, saying, "He is a fine man, he is an educator, and he is seeking to broaden his horizons."

Charlie Charms Audience

By JOHN W. HARDING

Review
Theater 308 opened its 1976-77 season on both a good and bad note when their production of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* opened at the DHS auditorium.

The good note was, of course, that it was a well-produced, well-performed show; the bad note was that crowd attendance was surprisingly low as compared with attendance figures in other years.

A strong 308 precedent was broken when Jon Edwards, the advisor / director of Theatre 308, decided to have two casts for the run of the show; that is, one for the matinee performances, and one for the evening performances.

This idea worked out well in that both casts related their interpretation of the show differently (the evening cast performed on a physical level, while the matinee cast performed on a mental level), and that the two shows on Saturday did not suffer from a worn-out cast.

Watching the two casts was an experience, and it made my job all the more challenging. Charlie Brown was handled admirably by Clark Porter (matinee) and Matt Nichols (evening). Clark gave C.B. a quiet, unassuming character, while Matt added tinges of the person-who-wants-to-be-heard.

As for Lucy, Elizabeth Grey (mat.) played the part just as the comic strip portrays her, while Nancy Schott (eve.) added some interesting innovations to the character.

Frank Hammel (mat.) and Frank Porretta took the character of Linus, Lucy's scapegoat brother, and ran with it, adding special charm to the scenes they played in.

Greg Kiernan, Mary Jo Lombardo

Carter, Ford Stumble, Fumble, Bumble, Mumble

By JACK LOW
Political Commentary

As much as it seemed to be a contest for tallying political faux pas, arguing over who talked about nothing more often, roasting about how many times each candidate picked or scratched his nose during the debates, it was, if it has already slipped your mind, a presidential election done in the good ol' American tradition. Of course, within our infallible American democracy, the best man always wins, and in this case that man was Jimmy Carter.

Carter's debating efforts were probably beneficial to his campaign. Halfway through debate one, he sounded like a real politician, using poetic imagery of a future nation of fruited plains and peanut majesties.

Technical difficulties arose during the first debate, shutting off all sound units. It was an embarrassing situation to go through, but both candidates managed to function very gracefully, breathing and twitching just like normal people.

An election is a rigorous episode, no matter how good a double talker you try to be. Mistakes will happen. Out of this election sprouted many political blunders of shallow-mindedness. President Ford, in the second televised debate, denied that the eastern European countries were under Soviet domination. Mr. Ford must have been feeling a bit nervous and awkward with all those cameras and bright lights. His real motive for such a shocking statement was merely to let people know that he's still president and has the right to say anything he wants.

The political boo-boo that really raised some puritan brows was a half-

(mat.), Dave Ellison and Erica Van Wagener (eve.), were given the (unfortunately) thankless roles of Schroeder and Patty, respectively. All four, however, overcame their roles and added some interesting moments to the show.

Jon Edwards added to the magic that the Peanuts strip projects by finally allowing us to see the Peanuts' Gang's school teacher (Suzi Hopkins) and Charlie Brown's heartthrob, the Little Red-headed Girl (Sue Signore).

The audience's favorite character was, far and away, the character of Snoopy, played splendidly by Bob Baker (mat.) and Beth Stringer (eve.). Both played the devil-may-care character to a "T," and their solo spots (especially the famous WWI flying ace and the second act show-stopper, "Supertime"), were some of the highlights of the show.

Snoopy's popularity with children was proven by a long line of small autograph seekers at the Saturday matinee, and several children crawling, sniffing and scratching up the aisles.

Construction and design of the stage were very well done, and special recognition should be given to the lighting crew.

Kudos should also be given out to the Charlie Brown Combo, composed of Michael Fitch on bass, Peter Francesconi on flute, and the ever-present Tom Labe on piano and the direction by Pamela Yale.

The only thing that leaves me sad is the small size of the audiences during the four-performance stand. Hopefully the crowds will return for *The Boyfriend* on December 10 and 11.

baked confession that probably was the most detrimental to Carter. I am referring to the infamous *Playboy* Interview, and somewhere between that luscious centerfold and the *Playboy* Forum, Mr. Carter stated that he himself had often felt a lust for women other than his wife, a disgusting thought to say the least. You can bet David Eisenhower didn't go within three feet of the Carter ballot.

The Ford campaign used this juicy, misbegotten statement to illustrate evident pervertedness on Jimmy's part. The Democratic candidate rebutted this action by stating, "It's kind of a sordid thing, personal attacks on my family and myself, deliberate distortions of . . . my sex . . . positions." All that fuss over being honest. It's hard to believe Ford has never given any thought to indulging in the fruits of someone like Miss November, too.

Rising out of the political pumpkin patch was Eugene McCarthy, floundering on the comical, independent ballot. McCarthy, a sorehead from the '68 election, was desperately trying to get back into the act. This sincere liberal failed even to gain recognition in many states, but Eugene felt he should have gotten a fair shot. After all, he did present a petition that was said to consist of some very influential signatures, including those of Vasile Alexeev, Valeri Borzov, Abbie Hoffman, Olga Korbut, and his mother. At any rate, McCarthy showed fine effort. Better luck in 1980, Eugene.

Earl Butz finally got a few goodies off his chest. Earl told a kneeslapper of a Negro joke to Pat Boone (you remember, the guy with the nice ears and white bucks) along on a chartered



Matt Nichols, Erika Van Wagener, and Beth Stringer (kneeling) get their act together before their performance of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*. (Photo by Coni)

Collins Reflects On Campaign

By MARK CLOWES

Greg Collins, a popular teacher's aide at Darien High School, lost the State Senate race for the twenty-sixth district after five months of campaigning. The Democratic candidate, known as "Starsky" to the students, was outpolled by incumbent Republican George Guidera.

Greg felt that the main strength of his campaign was his ability and desire to talk about the issues. He felt that the main issues of the election were taxation, mass transit, the environment and housing. Money seemed to be a major campaign problem in the eyes of Greg. He said that he was outspent by Senator Guidera eight to one.

The major stumbling block that the Collins camp ran into was the fact that the twenty-sixth district, consisting of Darien, New Canaan, Weston, Wilton and parts of Fairfield and Westport, is

predominantly Republican. In Darien, the ratio of Republicans to Democrats is four to one. Greg thought many people were "narrow minded" and voted for a straight Republican ticket without looking at the candidates. "It's not a question of whether the candidate is a Democrat or a Republican, but whether the candidate is good or not good," he said. He felt that he ran as Greg Collins rather than as a Democrat.

Greg suggested that Senator Guidera was helped by the other incumbent Republicans, President Ford, Senator Weicker, and Congressman McKinney, who all finished strongly in this area. He thinks that people had a tendency to vote for Senator Guidera because he was on the same ticket as those three candidates. Greg also theorized that many voters who were disappointed with Governor Grasso and her administration vented their frustrations on the Democrats November 2.

President-elect Carter's victory came as no surprise to Greg; neither did President Ford's win in Connecticut. He explained that the Democratic Party in Connecticut was in a state of disarray and many Democrats were "playing games of party leadership."

Greg does intend to run for public office again. If he runs for State Senate again it probably won't be in this district. He wants to be "more than just a teacher's aide in the next two years." Although he was disappointed by his defeat, he says, "You should never let a loss get you down."

plane ride. Almost everyone on the plane enjoyed the jest, but unfortunately there were a few party poopers with a rotten sense of humor along for the ride. Come on now, a secretary of agriculture is allowed a few laughs, isn't he? At least Jerry Ford thought so by trying to pardon (oh geez, not again, Jerry) his buddy, Earl.

It seems Jimmy Carter's uninhibited ideas on sex should fit in nicely with the Washington scene, possibly proving that he's not a lot of talk and no action. Mr. Carter will now have a chance to fulfill his far-reaching, benevolent, righteous plans for diminishing government secrecy, wiping out unemployment and defense budget overspending and once again bringing order to a "disgusting system of bureaucracy" in the name of Truth, Justice and the American Way.

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'Neirad' Staffers Survey Area Hot Spots

By **BUD WEISER** and
TOM COLLINS

The *Neirad* staff, in its attempt to aid humanity, once again, takes it upon itself to inform the public of what is happening throughout the community. We set out to publicize some new-to-us hot spots in neighboring communities. **Editor's Note:** *Neirad* warns that it is illegal to buy or attempt to buy liquor or any alcoholic beverage if you are not of majority age. It is illegal to use someone else's identification or to alter your own. *Neirad* does not advocate breaking any of these laws.

Each bar was given a number of cocktail glasses ranging from zero to four depending upon the reporters' judgment of the quality of the establishment, one being a sign of poorer quality and four being the highest.

THE HUDDLE

Iroquois St., Stamford

Our first adventure began as soon as we started looking for The Huddle in Stamford. After taking 400 wild goose chases we finally parked in front of a little building in a residential part of the city. Cautiously, we made our way to the door where 15 "regulars" stood talking politics. The back room was open so we took a seat there.

The decor resembled a set for the all-American bar in "All in The Family." Dead flowers crumbled in the open windows (brrr. . .). "Sanford and Son" blared in one corner and a game of some sort stood abandoned in the other. Big gaping holes abounded in the ceiling. The rustic naval chairs and tables were dilapidated with age. The place looked as if it had been nice eons ago but that the manager had forgotten that it was there.

The "man" in our group ordered a scotch and water and a draft at the bar to a reply of "NO!!!" from the saucy bartender. "But why not?" "Cause I don't feel like it!!!" After much prodding and begging the drinks were delivered for an amazing total of \$1.25.

The guys at the bar vulgarized and we inconspicuously eavesdropped on

Mary Hartman Entrances T.V. Audience, T.V. Audience

By **WILLIAM GREGA**

You can spot them instantly. They wander to school with bags under their eyes. With blank looks on their faces, they'll utter things like: "That is sooooo fascinating," or "I don't believe it," anxious to delve into the latest issue of *Reader's Digest*. And in the midst of your remorse over a blown trig test, they will ask, "How's your coffee?" They are the slightly twisted *Mary Hartman* fans who swear there's life after 11 p.m. And they're all around us.

Mary Hartman has got to be one of the most unique television heroines to date. Played with hilariously understated desperation by Louise Lasser, she's the "typical" housewife, unsure where the TV commercials leave off and her own life begins. The show manages to carry an undercurrent of poignancy as Mary realizes that her life does not match up to the idyllic dream. For that reason, and because people are constantly tramping through her kitchen with their problems, her priorities are out of synch. In one episode, in the midst of worrying about her kidnapped daughter, she pauses to consider the relative advantages of freeze-dried over

their babblings when an obese one-eyed man turned the TV up to the maximum. We couldn't even hear our own thoughts, so we left. The first review thus terminated with a conclusion that The Huddle was more of a "boys" place but a place where one could drink his head off without paying an arm or a leg. YY

FAT TUESDAY

Elm St., New Canaan

New Canaan was the next hot spot. The Heritage seemed to have a lot to offer with dancing and drinks but the bouncer said, uh, we, uh, looked too young. Actually, the place gave a dumpy appearance and we wanted only to review the best. We found Fat Tuesday, located in downtown New Canaan.

The classy lounge had a restaurant in back. The drinks were expensive, but they paid for the atmosphere. High stools, barstyle fans, saloon doors and a horseshoe bar accentuated the western style. Frank Sinatra serenaded us with "Leroy Brown." Waitresses served hors d'oeuvres like French Fries (\$1.00), and the Blue Point Oysters (\$2.75) tempted our tastebuds. Five of the squirmy things swished as the half-shells were brought over.

Then our appetites were curbed by the aroma of SKUNK. The waitress quickly assured us that we were not being attacked but that one of the little furries had taken out his frustrations on an exiting patron.

All's well that ends well. Fat Tuesday catered to the most quiet, mature sort of drinker. Everything was mellow, and it had the perfect atmosphere for a place to take a date that you would like to impress. YYY

PLAYHOUSE PUB

Main St., Westport

Players Tavern and Dialtone are two discos we wanted to try, but we either couldn't find them or they were too crowded. The Playhouse Pub was a split-second experiment and it proved to be the most delightful spot of the night.

A band, Maurice and Allen,

fresh-perked coffee. Yet no one seems to notice the blank look on her face, or the tiny whimper she makes, and as it all piles up on Mary, she finally has the first nationally telecast nervous breakdown on the *David Susskind Show*.

The late-night "soap opera" returned October 4 after summer re-runs. Now Mary's been confined to a mental hospital. But she's not crazy. Even though she wants to be a plant, even though she's convinced that a fellow patient is going to blow up Ohio, even though she's fingerpainted the nurse's face, we, the viewers, fight for her, feel with her.

Everyone who watches the show shares a secret. She's a part of us all. Mary Hartman, just like you or I, is just trying to get by while being bombarded with problems, setbacks, commercialism, and bad advice.

The show, if nothing else, has that one redeeming quality: it helps you cope. When Mary is confronted with mass murderers, V.D., blackmail, adultery, a neighbor who drowns in a bowl of her chicken soup, impotence, and homosexuality, you realize that your life can't be all that bad. But she's strong, a real television heroine, and it's encouraging to see that she's

strummed country tunes like "Bartender, Please Bring Me Another Bottle of Wine" in the corner. The youngish crowd chatted with Maurice and Allen between songs and the whole atmosphere was based on friendliness. The very, very young looking waiter brought us a good, cold beer (none on tap) and a strong but skimpy drink. Our

beer drinker commented that "the girls are nice."

Playhouse Pub is a small, rustic bar in a convenient location. Its versatility of being a warm, intimate place or a bar to have a foot-stomping good time gave us the feeling of belonging the second we walked in. This gets FOUR cocktail glasses!!! YYYYY



A DHS thief caught while running for refuge. (Photo by Matt Nichols)

Ravenous Thieves Sought

By **MATT NICHOLS** and
ERICA VAN WAGENER

It has been brought to the attention of many unsuspecting students that there is still a problem of thievery in this school. It was not long after we became aware of the problem that we decided to investigate further this young, degenerate society.

We began our long trek into the dark halls of A-wing by equipping ourselves with large magnifying glasses and ominous water pistols. Soon after our journey began we spotted a beady-eyed little nipper apparently trying to enter a locker unlawfully. As we hid behind a nearby water fountain, the perpetrator succeeded in prying open the locked door. We rapidly leapt to our feet and

survived.

Because if Mary Hartman can take it, so can we. So when you think you've got it rough, tune in, and remember, "Everything is going to be all right. . . And afterwards we're all going to go to the House of Pancakes."

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pursued the thief in his escape attempt.

The chase continued until we reached the jammed intersection and came to a full halt. Because of the crowded quarters, we were unable to proceed further and only heard the mocking laughter of the thief as he disappeared into the crowd. We despairingly recorded in our notebooks the thief's vital statistics and the fact that this was indeed "The Perfect Crime."

Passing B and C wings, we headed for the cafeteria. The newly enclosed cafeteria is a great factor in solving the noise problem throughout the school but is still a nesting spot for the thieves of DHS. On entering the cafeteria we noticed something suspicious. Our suspicion was further aroused when we encountered Joe Cool, a local heavy, carrying a purse. We commanded him to halt and then asked if that was his purse. Joe coolly answered, "Wow, man. Like you bet it's my purse, y'know?"

We lucidly and forthrightly asked where we could obtain such a beautiful purse. Joe replied you could get it from any unprotected cafeteria chair, table or hall locker. After much contemplation we began to suspect that perhaps Joe Cool did not really own this purse. Realizing our suspicions, Joe Cool tied us up with his bicycle lock and sped off down the hall.

Continuing, we entered the gym locker room totally equipped with gas masks and an air freshener to protect our health. As we surveyed the room, we noticed one of the athletes leaving, minus his pants. Our first impression was that he was indeed missing something. But later we realized that this was probably another case of stolen goods. We jotted down in our notebooks that the thieves would stop at nothing to cause loss and discomfort to other students.

After completing our tour we have decided unequivocally to spread a word of warning to all students: A) Never keep large sums of money in your locker. B) Keep your purse always in sight (not applicable to boys). C) Keep your pants on!

Mermaids Submerge Twice

By PHILIPPA BOWLEY

The Darien High School Girls' Swim Team dropped two more close meets to Trumbull and Norwalk. Now, everything will be geared to the state meet, according to the coach, Dave Reilly.

The Trumbull team beat the Blue Wave by 20 points on October 22. The girls picked up second and third places in the 200-yard medley relay, to start off the meet. Three first places were snatched from Trumbull, as Cindy Atkinson won the 50-yard freestyle, and June Haselton took the 100-yard breaststroke.

The girls also earned two second places. Cindy Atkinson was the runner-up in the 100-yard backstroke, while Kelley Clough did the same in the 200-yard freestyle.

The swimmers picked up six third places. Linda Barton gave the team their thirds in the 100-yard butterfly and the 100-yard breaststroke. Nancy Wetmore did the same thing in the 100-yard freestyle and the 100-yard backstroke. In the 200-yard freestyle and the 500-yard freestyle June Haselton and Linda Barton took thirds, respectively.

There were four fourth places for the girls. Jill Rooney picked up hers in the 500-yard freestyle, Tina Bray, in the 100-yard breaststroke, Ann Tuttle in the 50-yard freestyle, and Sue Dunne in the 100-yard butterfly.

In the Norwalk meet on Thursday, October 28, Darien was beaten again. The girls earned third and fourth places

in the 200-yard medley relay. In the 200-yard freestyle, Kelley Clough took second, and June Haselton took fourth. Laura tenBroke and Gina Zangrillo took fifth and fourth places, respectively in the 200-yard individual medley. In the 50-yard freestyle event, Carol Harlacher took third, Mary Harrington took fourth and Linda Bornhuetter swam into a fifth place. In the 100-yard fly, Linda Barton took fourth and Sue Dunne captured sixth place. Kelley Clough received first place in the 500-yard freestyle. June Haselton and Linda Barton grabbed first and third place, respectively in the 100-yard breaststroke.

New Female Runners Setting The Pace

By MARY ELLEN KIGGINS

The emergence of girls' sports at Darien High School this year is certainly an encouraging change from what it has been in past years. No longer are the girls' teams settling for unequal recognition or cuts in the athletic budget. Not only has a new girls' volleyball team been initiated at Darien High School this year, but a recently formed girls' cross country team has also been added to the athletic line-up.

The idea of forming a girls' cross country team at Darien High School and also at various other high schools in Fairfield County can be credited to Steve Norris, this year's team coach, president of the Fairfield County Striders, and also the newly appointed

girls' spring track team coach at Darien High School.

Coach Norris discussed his idea with Donald Robbins, acting principal of Darien High School, and as many as fifteen other coaches in the area and it was decided that there was enough interest in the sport for girls' cross country to become a separate team sport in the Fairfield County area.

In past years, those girls who were interested in cross country had no other choice but to run with the boys' cross country team without official recognition. But this year, two girls' cross country teams, Andrew Warde and Roger Ludlowe, are running as separate teams while four other teams, Darien, Ridgefield, Rippowam, and Wilton, are running as part of their boys' teams, but in separate meets.

Cross country is a long distance running race that in the girls' version is covered over a course of two miles. Any number of girls may be entered into a race from one team, but only the first five from each team who finish are counted for scoring purposes.

This year, until the sport is established more formally with its own separate schedule of meets, the girls have to run on a very informal basis, which is whenever their boys' cross country team has had a meet and five or more girls were interested in running.

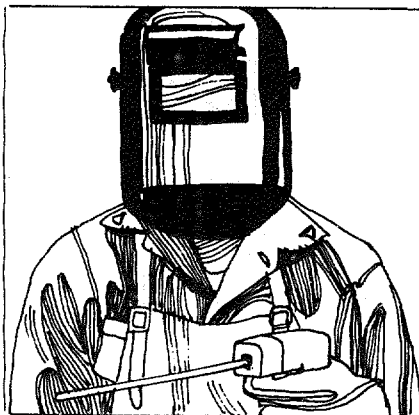
The girls, who are led by Tri-captains Chris Eunomo, Toni Brown, and Molly Kolb, have run thirteen dual meets, held a 7-6 record, and placed second out of five teams in the FCIAC girls' cross country championships.



Sophomore Molly Kolb, a tri-captain of the newly formed girls' cross country team, in a recent workout. (Photo by Matt Nichols)

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Harriers Take Twelve, Finish Second In Class L

By MATT NICHOLS

After completing the last official meet of the season the boys' cross country team ran off with a record of 12 and 3. "It was the best season I have had," commented Coach William McCarthy. "It really was a great year."

The Darien Blue Wavers ended their great season last week by crumpling a weak team from Westhill, 21 to 40. The DHS squad, led by Captains Bob Ferguson and Steve "Wee Willie" Watkins, have run their way to what is considered the best cross country season in four years. As one runner stated, "We ran so well this year because each runner pushed each other runner to strive for better times."

With a big ego the Darien squad entered the FCIAC championships, ready to make a good showing. Unfortunately, the Wavers returned home with a disappointing seventh place. Coach McCarthy explained that the team came into trouble because it ran only a mediocre race. Although the team did not place highly, top individual runners were Dave Lewis and Pat Jackson. Jackson finished as the tenth best runner in the county.

The J.V. squad did very well in the championships and placed third out of

the sixteen teams. Outstanding performances were given by Steve Ainsworth and Alex Andriuk, who have led the J.V. runners all season.

Runners Make Comeback

During the division sectionals the Darien runners pulled themselves back together. Competing against 22 high school teams throughout Connecticut the Wavers placed a strong second. Outstanding performances were run by Pat Jackson, who placed third out of 150 runners, and Bob Ferguson, who placed fifth. Dave Lewis placed tenth, Evans Kerrigan thirty-third and Steve Watkins thirty-fourth.

Coach McCarthy commented that "we already have the basis for a strong team next year but are also looking for new recruits."

Booters End Season With Seven Straight Wins

By JOHN D. NELSON

The Darien varsity soccer team, facing some tough competitors, won its last seven games of the year to end up with a 9-3-2 record.

On October 19, the Waver squad defeated a sound Westhill High team by the score of 1 to 0. After a scoreless first and second half, the two teams headed into overtime. The game was going



Mike Barrett performs for the 1976 soccer team. The red hot booters burned up the FCIAC this year, winning their last seven games in a row. (Photo by Anna Syrett)

back and forth with no team applying too much pressure. Then Co-captain John Williams charged down the center of the field and chipped the ball over a Westhill defender. After one bounce, Tony Fletcher raced in and kicked the ball into the net for the game winning goal.

Darien traveled to Greenwich on October 22 and rolled a 3 to 0 shutout against the tough Cardinal team. After the game, Co-captain Ted deSelding commented, "This, so far, was our best game of the season. Greenwich is a tough team, but we were emotionally ready and we never let down. We never flattened."

The booters faced an undefeated Brien McMahon team and gained a 1 to 0 upset victory at the Wavers home field. Halfway into the first half, Darien's Bill Morehouse was credited the only goal of the afternoon on a mix-up in the McMahon defense. In the second half, the McMahon squad relentlessly attacked the Waver goal, but with outstanding play by the Darien defense and some spectacular saves by the goalie Vinnie Ferraina, they held off the attack and tallied an exciting victory.

Darien traveled to Danbury High

School on October 28 and defeated them by the score of 4 to 2.

Romp Over Rivals

In the final game of the season Darien hosted arch-rival New Canaan and came up with a 3 to 0 victory. Right wing Bill Morehouse was the first to score for Darien when he came down the right side of the field and drilled the ball into the lower left corner of the goal. Darien kept applying pressure and in the second half Mike Barrett scored the second goal of the contest. The last Waver score came off the foot of Mike Ryan who maneuvered down the middle of the field and placed a shot in the upper right corner to put the game on ice.

Darien has won its last seven games of the season by only giving up three goals and scoring eighteen.

Both captains commented, "In the second half of the season our offense started moving and scoring. The team pulled together, and we started playing up to our capability."

At press time, Neirad learned that the booters lost their first game in the state tournament to Watertown. The Wavers fought Watertown to a 1-1 tie, and finally succumbed after four scoreless overtime periods in a penalty kick battle.

Undefeated Gymnasts Roll Toward Title

The Blue Wave Boys' Gymnastic Team finished its regular season with an unblemished 9-0 record on Friday, Oct. 29, in the DHS gym. The Battino Rollers eased past Stamford High School with a score of 96.05 to the Black Knights' 76.35.

Prior to the Stamford meet the Wavers traveled to Greenwich High School and disposed of the previously undefeated Greenwich team. Leading the Blue Wave attack against the Cardinals were Co-captains Anthony DiSilvestro and Peter Stanton and junior Clay Moltz. The Wavers jumped to an early lead on floor exercise with Peter Stanton and Ken Holmes placing first and second and Clay Moltz coming in fourth. The lead continued to grow as Clay Moltz, Anthony DiSilvestro and Peter Stanton went one, two, three on high bar. After this, DiSilvestro, Josh Moltz and Clay Moltz swept the pommel horse event.

The meet ended with Greenwich scoring 88.05 points to Darien's 100.25.

The Stamford meet began with Darien down by 1.15 after floor exercise, although Peter Stanton and Ken Holmes took second and third. The Blue Wave quickly made up the difference with points to spare as Peter Stanton and Clay Moltz captured first and second on high bar. The lead opened more as DiSilvestro, Peter Francesconi, and Clay Moltz swept pommel horse.

Stamford took back half a point on vaulting as Stanton, Moltz and John Reichart took second, fourth, and sixth. On parallel bars Clay Moltz took another first with DiSilvestro placing second.

Neirad learned at press time that the Blue Wave won the FCIAC crown on Friday, Nov. 5 at Greenwich High School. The Wavers had a total score of 99.75 to top Greenwich, Stamford and Westhill.

Darien hosted the 1976 CIAC Team Championships on Saturday, Nov. 13. The Blue Wave defended its 1975 state title against four best high school gymnastic teams in the state of Connecticut. (Results were not available at press time.)

Season Coming To A Close For Battered Gridmen

By DAVID BAUDER

With the disappointing season nearing a conclusion, the Darien gridmen suffered a close defeat against a previously winless team and a rout at the hands of the state's top-ranked outfit in recent weeks.

Darien hoped to chalk up a win against Roger Ludlowe, which sported a two-year losing streak, on October 24. The game started off as if they might. On their first possession, new halfback Randy Starr zipped around the left side for a 68-yard gain. Quarterback David

Tuttle eventually carried it in and the conversion gave DHS a 7-0 lead. Two nemises took over to plague the Wavers for the rest of the half. Offensive mistakes and a speedy Ludlowe runner, Russ Gordon, enabled the Tigers to take over and hold an 18-7 halftime lead before the large homecoming crowd at the Darien field.

The Wavers used the big play to get back in the game in the third quarter. Randy Starr went around the left side again and sprinted untouched on a 56-yard touchdown run. Matt Maley ran for two points and the score was 18-15. On the ensuing kickoff, an onside boot forced a fumble from a confused Tiger receiving team. The Wavers marched in and scored on a two-yard run by Mike Casolo. Tom Lechak's kick made it 22-18.

To their credit Roger Ludlowe did not collapse after this abrupt turn of events and mounted a long touchdown drive in the fourth quarter to capture the 24-22 win.

Stymied By Eagles

The Wavers had to travel to Trumbull on October 30 to face the number one

football team in the state. The Golden Eagles showed why they are held in such high esteem with a 46-6 victory against the overmatched locals.

What can you say? The Wavers became only the third team to score off Trumbull's much vaunted defense this season when David Tuttle hit paydirt after a short run. They almost became the first team to score twice against the Eagles but a pass slipped away from the grasp of a Waver open in the endzone.

Whether or not this would have made any difference is debatable as Trumbull rolled up an impressive number of points. Some of these came as a direct result of offensive mistakes, including a lateral that was picked off by an Eagle defenseman who rumbled in for a 38-yard score. There were four interceptions and two fumbles lost by the Wavers. A good effort was put forth by Justin Yorwerk, who intercepted two passes from the Trumbull quarterback.

Neirad learned at press time that the gridmen were dumped by Andrew Warde, 27-21, on November 6. The loss drops their record to 1-7.

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