

# NEIRAD

Update

Volume 1 Issue 3

Darien High School, Darien, CT

Thursday, October 20, 1994

## Swimmers Edged by Lauralton Hall

By P. WHITE

*Neirad* dropped the proverbial beachball when it failed to cover the Girls Swimming & Diving Team in the October sports preview. It's an oversight that *Neirad* regrets, but in one way it was fortuitous. It forced this reporter off to see the team compete.

In the steamy natatorium of Foran High in Milford this past Monday the Blue Wave merpersons swam and dove against powerful Lauralton Hall. All 27 of the girls and the three coaches, Megahn Rafferty, Rusty Miller, and Artie Waters, were psyched to upset the Lauralton Levitans. It was not to be. But for the entire meet the outcome was in doubt.

The 200 Medley Relay team of Christine Rongoe, Keltie Donolen, Meghann McLaughlin, and Lizzy Boyle took a second place in the first event. After Michelle Zarilli grabbed a second place finish in the 200 freestyle, Dana Himmel, Sara Matsuzaka, and Christine Rongoe scored points in the Individual Medley. Captain Farrell Dearie (who seemed to be in the water all evening) scored high in the 50 freestyle

sprint and then it was "Everybody out of the pool" for the diving.

Erin Stinchfield and Betsy Crooks, interspersed with Lauralton divers, dove strongly for the Wave and scored strong 5's and 6's. But the class of the event was clearly Katherine Mattison, a freshman who "really knows how to ride the board" in the words of Lauralton's Coach Pyrch. The spunky Katherine received an 8 from one judge on her first dive on her way to her first-place 250.45 points.

Swimming then resumed with Farrell Dearie and Sara Matsuzaka garnering points in the 100 Butterfly. Katie Hawes, Lizzy Boyle, and Lane Shriner chalked up scores in the 100 Freestyle.

And then the marathon of the meet—the 500 Freestyle—was staged. Just to stay afloat for as long as these girls swam would be a feat for most. Twenty laps, swimming fast; arms and legs like rubber, lungs afire. Michelle Zarilli, Noreen Gillespie, and Kate Watts survived and picked up a second, fourth, and fifth, respectively, for the Wave.

The team of Dearie, Hawes, Dana Himmel, and Boyle placed first in the 200 Freestyle with a personal best time of 1:45.3. The team of Martha Jones, Erin McKenna, Meghann and Missy McLaughlin placed fifth. Susan Shepherd took a fourth in the 100 Breaststroke with Dana Himmel, Captain Keltie Donolen, and Lyn Marie Cocchiaro touching 1-2-3.

With the 400 Relay, the meet was over. Lauralton had scored a 94 to 91.5 victory but not without some flutters and kicks along the way.

Poolside during the meet, Missy (or was it Megahn?) McLaughlin was heard to say, "Blue Wave Swimming

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## Student government holds retreat

By BOBBY DALY

On Sunday, October 16, Student Government members attended at a retreat at the Depot from 4 to 8 p.m. Student Government President Christy White organized four hours of games, discussions, and debate. All class senators, presidents, treasurers, and secretaries attended the function and participated in the activities. The retreat began with an introduction game where the participants told about themselves and listened to descriptions of others. It ended with a group discussion of a proposal to reevaluate activ-

ity period. The proposal would include information on activity day and would call for a change in the amount of time given to periods and programs.

The days activities included a project where leaders attempted to get every member of their group through a rope web, a "make-your-own" dinner and sundaes event, a period of small group discussions, and an entire group discussion.

The day ended with a promise from Christy that there would be more meetings in the immediate future.

# On Campus

COMPILED BY CAROLYN WILSEY, CHRISTY WHITE,  
& ALAN PAN

This year, Homecoming floats will be replaced by banners which will be unveiled on Saturday October 29 at the Homecoming Parade. The theme for banners of the four classes will be "Blue Wave Pride" and for participating clubs it will be "starry, starry night," which will be the Homecoming Dance theme as well.

Theatre 308 will be presenting *The King and I* on November 17, 18, and 19. Presently, there are a total of 75 DHS students working on the production of this show. The plot centers around a struggle between the King of Siam, played by Todd Barry, and the new British female teacher, played by Christy White, who he has brought to Siam to westernize the country.

Tom Callahan, a DHS graduate, is scheduled to visit DHS on October 31. As director of the African Desk of the Senate Foreign Relations in Washington D.C., he will be talking to the student body during an all-school assembly. Afterwards, the microphones will be open for the students to ask questions.

Homecoming is approaching once again. The festivities start with spirit week which will be followed by the bonfire on Friday night, October 28. On the following day, October 29, the parade featuring class banners and the Blue Wave Marching Band and Dancers will proceed up Noroton Avenue to the football field. The parade starts at 12 noon at the Town Hall. Later that day at 1:30 p.m., there will be the football game featuring the Blue Wave against Ridgefield. Stay to see the crowning of the Homecoming King and Queen at half time. Starting at 8 p.m. the Homecoming dance begins in the DHS gym and will run until midnight.

Bloodmobile is coming to DHS on Monday, November 7. Donors must be at least 17 years of age and weigh over 110 pounds but all students are encouraged to help organize the event. Come and give the gift of life.

The Volleyball team goes into its biggest match of the season against St. Joseph's at 7 p.m. tomorrow in the DHS gym.

## Swimming

(continued)

and Diving are performing extremely well under the pressure of a powerful opponent." And Erin McKenna enthused, "We've got outstanding spirit. We rock the Wave!"

Cheers of "Blue Wave Swimming" resounded. The spirit was undaunted. This team of freshman and sophomores (with a smattering of juniors) can only get better. They take their 4-4-1 record against Trumbull this Friday. The 3-year State Champion Wavers may be too young to 4-peat but Coach Miller said, "Who knows? If these girls mature real fast we could surprise at the States [in mid-November]."

Next week, Monday through Thursday, is Spirit Week.

Monday—Class Colors Day (freshmen: yellow; sophomores: red; juniors: green, seniors: blue.

Tuesday—Plaid Pyjamas Day

Wednesday—Disco Fever Day

Friday—Blue & White Day

# NEIRAD

*Neirad Update* is published by need by the *Neirad* staff. *Neirad* is published every month by the students of Darien High School, High School Lane, Darien, CT 06820. A subscription may be ordered for \$14.00. Letters and comments should be put in the *Neirad* mailbox in the main office. *Neirad* is a member of the Columbia Scholastic Press Association, and the Quill and Scroll Honorary Journalism Society.

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