THE END OF AN ERA

by Peter Fox

As the weather warms to signal the coming spring, preparations for the school year are already beginning. Once again appear the familiar sights of blue-suitied millers, hurdlers, sprinters, shot-putters, and javelinists in practice each afternoon. But this year, one cannot help but notice a radical change in the sports picture. For Donald C. Robbins, track mentor par excellence, has left his post entirely after years of flawless service.

Looking back on a career which, badly, may never be resumed, Dr. Robbins has reason to be proud. During seven years as track and cross-country coach, interrupted briefly last spring for a trip to Egypt, he has been a driving factor, an incomes policy and ensuring in DHS history. At the end of the '69 season, he had
led the team to 31 consecutive dual meet victories, covering a span of four years; last spring, this splendid streak was unfortunately broken in his absence. Gradually building a powerful running dynasty, Doc and company copped the County Cross-Country Championship last fall. Darien's first ever. It was also Doctor Robbins who transformed the winter track team from a bundle of interested miscfits into a huge competitive dynamo. Without his guidance, it is predictably the bust.

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HAIR AND THE ATHLETIC KINGDOM

by Dan Franz

March 17 - I went to the winter sports banquet/tight night. I heard the usual words of praise, the laughter, and I saw the pride in the faces of those who were honored. And yet, for me, there was a sadness in it all. On so many cold, lonely mornings a friend of mine has risen to run and slip over snow and slush-covered roads. He is a winner in his own right, the dull ache of exhaustion endured were for a purpose.

This spring he will compete for the Darien High School in track. His strength of hair has no effect on performance, he has dared to remain true to a principle, and will not cut his

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DARIEN CARES

In the early part of this year, some Darien townspeople started a movement to make everyone in Darien aware of the environmental crisis which confronts us. The name of the organization is Darien Cares and its basic purpose is to get us into the habit of thinking of the Earth first whenever any question arises. Pollution or conservation come into our lives.

Concern for the Earth can show itself in lots of everyday ways: using cars less, using no-phosphate soap for all kinds of washing, buying reovenable containers, using natural fertilizers and insecticides, refusing unnecessary packaging when shopping, and so on. We hope that everyone will begin to do little things like this. One other way to help is to recycle anything that can be recycled. Recycling is of special value: first, in preserving our natural environment.

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THE 1971-72 SCHOOL BUDGET: WHAT COULD HAPPEN

In early February, 1971, the Board of Education reported the financial breakdown for the 1971-72 School Year Budget, which saw a 10.9% increase over last year's budget quickly cut to 9.7%, and it stood as follows: 83% of the budget was being designated to cover the costs for personnel salaries and fringe benefits, and the remaining 17% was assigned to pay for classroom aids and materials, evaluation and development of curriculum, maintenance projects, and funds for establish- ment of programs such as Adult Education.

As for Darien High School itself, the final picture one sees when one looks at the breakdown in the percentages is a wee bit different from the above. They go as follows: 92% serving as the needed income for the personnel at DHS, and the remaining 8% being allocated for classroom materials, maintenance money, and other needs. But this has been a particularly rough and uncertain year financially for everyone living in Darien who is involved in the money-moaning process, and there has been considerable talk that there will be a sizable group of adults protesting the overall increase proposed by the Board of Education in their new school budget at the Board of Finance's Open Town Meeting tonight, March 31.

This disarray of groups of adults will most likely complain about the alarming increases in the Board's proposed budget, even though it is the lowest increase in a budget proposed in the last five years. The Board has "already taken into consideration the kind of year it is" and reviewed all budget requests with "short, hard look," according to Dr. Pelletier's comments in the Feb. 26 issue of the Darien Review. They will seek to eliminate all unnecessary "frills" in the budget proposal in order that their taxes will not rise up and beyond their control. This is a justifiable consideration, if one looks at the board's spending habits. However, in order to get it in a proper perspective, one must also look at it from the moral standpoint. If there is a cutback in the budget, this inevitably means that the quality of education in the Darien School system will be the one that suffers. The administration at Darien High School has already begun to prepare for the ensuing problems that could arise if cuts are drastic enough. Since only 6% of the budget is allotted for materials, maintenance, etc., and no more money can be cut backed from this pittance, the cutbacks would have to be taken out of personnel salaries and fringe benefits, which means teachers would have to be fired. And if this cutout of personnel is large enough, it would mean: 1) less experienced teachers-

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Flash Bulletin

The New York Brass Quintet, known for their mastery of the trumpet and other instruments in various media, will be featured in concerts, recordings, and television in New York City for over twenty years. He has composed numerous works, many of them featuring the trumpet and other instruments in various media.

Other members of the quintet include Allen Dean, trumpet; Paul Giroux, French horn; John Swallow, Trombone; and Harvey Philips, tuba. Tickets for the concert are on sale at Burch Books on the Post Road, and at DHS. The price is $3.90.
Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

(I have sent the following letter to the editor of the Darien Review, in response to one of their recent editorials. I "reflect the views of many" when I remark that your editorial entitled "Bad Judgement" (March 11) was unreasonably skeptical and substantiated, and obviously biased. As a member of the Youth Advisory Commission, and as one of the drafters of the questionnaire, I feel obligated to present our reasons for its distribution in the High School.

It was the shared opinion of both Central Stone and the committee that before a program could be considered solving the drug problem in this town, a preliminary evaluation of the problem and its contributing factors should be acquired; thus, the survey. Unfortunately, however, it seems that many of the parents in this town have not kept these facts before them instead of assisting in the solution of the problem.

One reason for including such questions which you might well raise cynical doubts and disregard for the normal and traditional ties of families and could shatter those relationships must also be stated. It was agreed upon by our committee that questions such as: "Is your name away from home at night?" and "Do your parents drink?" could lead to serious reactions and possibly trends of the youth of this town are turning to drugs in such numbers. You had neglected to include, however, other questions which appeared on this questionnaire which were based upon social influences such as: "Where do you hang out?" and "How many close friends do you have?"

In regard to the scientific value of your questionnaire, you state that "such questions seem to us so loaded and purposeful we doubt that they may have any scientific value whatsoever." This merely illustrates your ignorance of the subject. Certainly any physician or professional emotional counselor with drugs would recognize that behind most involvement there exists some social and psychological factor, which may well be affected by the family environment.

I have received a letter from a member of the Darien community expressing the belief that the survey was a threat to the personal freedom of every individual. That this is not the case. The committee's primary purpose was to learn about the drug situation in our community. By learning about the problem, we can then take steps to solve it.

I urge you to reconsider your position on this matter. The survey is only a tool to help us understand the problem, and I believe it is important for us to take the necessary steps to prevent drug use in our community.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

To the Editor:

Your front-page article "Alas The Player's Cry Never To Be Heard," (Mark Rodman's by-line in March 14, 1971 NEIRAD) was almost perfect in accurate reporting. There were, however, three statements with which I take issue as they apply to what I consider to be the real issue concerning Gibson's "A Cry of Players."

First, it was not only older members of the audience who, in my judgment, would have preferred the "play's educational content," but also the many young children who usually attend performances of plays. This is a common practice in the Thespian production and has no intention of disturbing such a procedure. On the other hand, I feel quite proper to give honest reactions to a production offered under the auspices of D.H.S., especially when asked. Third, I strongly object to the implication that the "conservative element dictating the tone of the day in Darien." I find stereotypes about this town as unfair and misleading. It seems that whenever I find them talking about blacks, adults, taxpayers, young people, etc., I come to the conclusion that they are not very objective or fair.

Gordon A. Bruno

Citizens Committee Against Schools

by Craig W. Mason

In recent months, the Darien Review has printed a barrage of letters from two individuals who claim to be a "Citizens Committee on Schools." Needless to say, the paper printed at least one of these letters in each issue, since they vehemently agree with the Review's recommendation for educational change. Finally, in the issue of March 11, a chairman for this committee appeared out of the mist which screens vocal minority groups from the view of the innocent voter.

Perhaps this committee should be examined in more depth. First, why does it call itself a "Citizens Committee?" Why are they so anxious to prove their citizenship? Is it possible that these people fear that they will be thought "Un-American," or "Un-Darian," because of their ideas? Another point of suspicion is the proposition in their title. Why on? The American Heritage Dictionary explains: "4. Used to indicate: . . . d. The object of an action directed, lending, or moving against it: an attack on the fortress." Substituting "against" for "on" we obtain a far better description of the group: "Citizens Committee Against Schools."

There can be no doubt that the committee (if the term can be applied to a cabal of three or four people) is against the school system, perhaps more properly, the expansion of the school system in any way from the place it held in 1955. Specifically, they are against a four-year High School, an increased school budget, small classes, and other programs from which students in the system might benefit.

Why is a four-year High School needed? First, to remove one grade from the elementary schools, thus creating badly needed space. Most elementary schools in the town now have the unsightly and inefficient portables to keep the conventional classrooms from becoming overcrowded. Second, the High School is already operating on a four-year basis, whether the Committee knows it or not. College transcripts showing a student's performance start with the ninth grade, not the tenth.

Many courses, such as Biology, are offered at the High School and in the ninth grade, at the junior highs. This, of course, means unnecessary duplication of education. A student in one building would function more efficiently and less expensively than the present system. Third, although the Committee may be right in saying that fewer children will be enrolled in the school system in future years, more classrooms will be required for specialized programs, if Darien is to maintain the standard of academic excellence it has enjoyed in the past. Finally, Darien High School is badly in need of improvements. The Evaluating Committee of the New England Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, (which accredited DHS for a full ten-year period in 1970, a fact which the Citizens Committee forgets to mention) stated that the High School seemed to have been built "at exactly the wrong time." The design lacks flexibility, storage facilities, and other necessities, which might be provided in a addition.

The Darien Schools have been among the best in the nation. The faculty is extremely competent, and has a low turnover. Competence must be paid for, as must small classes. The fact that the Committee questions the value of such a program shows its insincerity. They believe that individual attention and extra help from a teacher is important, but large classes can teach as much as small ones. They obviously believe that the Town of Darien should give its students less than the full program it is financially able to offer.

Darien, with an average family income of $20,000, is certainly not poverty-stricken nor, in comparison with other Fairfield "towns, it is over-luxed. Greenwich has just built a new high school. ..." Darien cut important programs from its school budget, and each year children off to portable classrooms and schools no longer big enough to hold the innovative programs that must be undertaken if Darien is to continue to have schools worth attending.

Why would Darien, educationally speaking, be in the Dark Ages? Why should the real Citizens of Darien allow themselves to be misled by a tiny group of extremists who claim to represent the entire voting body? Only a few weeks ago, the New York City school system declared that its schools were making a million dollars out of money, and that schools could meet the needs of millions of students by substituting teachers, vocating the use of "self-teaching" devices. This is the same difference between Darien and New York City: New York's financial problems were caused by increasing prices, with no money coming from the city to pay the debts of the schools. In Darien, the school is the town, the school is the community, the school is the life. In New York City, the school is only a part of the community, and a part which has been heavily, probably illegally, taxed in relation to income. In Darien, this is not the case. The Citizens Committee on Schools would eliminate programs, not because they are unable to pay increased taxes, but because they are unwilling.

The Citizens Committee on Schools, would, in effect, give the Darien student far less than a town such as Darien could and should give its young people.

Spring Concert

The annual Spring Concert, featuring all the music groups, will be held Saturday night in the DHS auditorium.

Mr. Undercoffer conducted the Orchestra and the Band, and Mr. Jantschi conducted the Advanced Choir and the Mixed Chorus. Also on the program was a Hornet Production directed by Mrs. Dressler on the trumpet, and the Girls' Vocal Ensemble.

Highlights of the concert were: The "Introduction to Act III of Lohengrin" by Wagner, performed by the Orchestra; the "Hodie" by Bell conducted by the Girls' Vocal Ensemble; "Hasten" by George Frideric Handel, sung by the Mixed Chorus; "Great Day," by Glaviano performed by the Mixed Chorus; and "Fantasia on Dixie," done by the Band.

Continued on Page 5
TRENDS IN EDUCATION IN DARIEN

Here comes a bit of crystal-ball gazing. I don't really consider this to be extremely difficult, for anyone who has spent any amount of time examining not only Darien trends but examining trends in other munificent public school systems as well will know that such a list is always comprised of what is happening in the public high school systems. The key to this sentence is "what is happening in the public high school systems." I have not compared it with the possible inherent limitations of different teaching staffs. Here I think one's impression of the system in the future can (and will) be of a substantially higher quality.

Improvement of the public school system as it relates to teaching is severely handicapped by three factors. The first of these three factors we have little control over. This is the teacher's education prior to entering the profession. It is as far from ideal as possible. Teachers' colleges in particular are faced with the problem of school systems varying in their teaching methods. As a result, a proportion of those educated in teachers' colleges are not exposed to the techniques of intellectual and aggressive approaches, that they will face when they enter their profession. This is a difficult one to cope with, though I think not enough effort is made on the part of teachers' educational system and teaching methods. I believe that this will change and that a more flexible and advanced teacher will be graduated in the future from educational courses.

The remaining two problems inhibiting the teaching staff fall somewhat into the same category. They can best be described as the problems of tenure and the lack of differential pay. "Tenure" is a legal requirement which virtually guarantees employment until retirement within a school system after a brief trial period. When I refer to "differential pay," I refer to the standards of business in which a person with the same degree of education and the same seniority can earn substantially more money than a person with equal experience and education because of his superior contribution to his job. This essential does not exist in our school systems. In most school systems today, in short, our standards are determined by educational standards and seniority alone, and not by teaching proficiency. When one realizes that the most important factor in determining the economic health of our schools and communities is the teacher desires that job security for the non-contributor and for him should be equal by legal mandate. I believe that the more competent teacher does question the theory of tenure. In order for one to encourage the intelligent, intelligent and aggressive teacher to go into the teaching profession we must offer them the opportunity of quicker advancement, both in responsibility and in pay. Additionally, it is obvious that the non-contributors must not be encouraged to compound luck in the classroom by guarantee of employment to retirement age.

I am convinced that within the trends in our educational system and the educational systems throughout the country, these two inhibiting factors will be modified if not wholly corrected. Only in this manner can the full circle of improvements be realized. The educational implications of our system have been considerably advanced by both the recent trends and remaining in the forefront of public education.

Robert W. Castle
(Mr. Robert Castle served on the Board of Education from September 24, 1968 - September 8, 1970. He was elected to the seat of Vice-Chairman on the Board on November 12, 1969, and performed such duties until his resignation - Ed.)
Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

(I have sent the following letter to the editor of the Darien Review, in response to one of their recent editorials.)

I "reflect the views of many" when I remark that your editorial judgement (March 18) was outrageously skeptical, unsubstantiated, and obviously biased. As a member of the Youth Advisory Commission, and as one of the drafters of the questionnaire, I feel obligated to present our research data for its distribution in the High School.

It was the shared opinion of both Center and the committee that before a program could commence in solving the drug problem in this town, a preliminary evaluation of the problem and its contributing factors should be acquired—thus, the survey. Unfortunately, it seemed that many of the parents in this town would rather keep these facts buried, instead of assisting in the solution of the problem.

Our reason for including such questions which you cried "technical doubts and disfavor for the normal and traditional close ties of families and should shatter these relationships" must also be stated. It was agreed upon by our committee that questions such as—"Is your mother away from home alone?" and "Do you drink alcohol or drugs?" could lead to significant reasons and possible trends of why the youths of this town are turning to drugs in such numbers. You had neglected to include, however, other questions which appeared on this questionnaire which were also based upon social influences such as—"Where do you hang out?" and "How many close friends do you have?"

In regard to the scientific value of these questions, your statement, "such questions seem to us so purposeless as to imply that they have any scientific value whatsoever," merely illustrates the ignorance of the subject. It is certain that any physician or professional involved with drugs would certify that behind most involvement there exists some social and psychological factor, which may well be affected by the family environment.

Gordon A. Bruno

Spring Concert

The annual Spring Concert, featuring all the music groups, was held last night in the DHS auditorium.

Mr. Undercoffer conducted the Orchestra and the Band, and Mr. Jantschi conducted the Advanced Chorus and the Mixed Chorus. Also on the program was a Horn Quintet, featuring Pete Dreseler on the trumpet, and the Girls Vocal Ensemble.

Highlight of the concert were the "Introduction to Act III of Romeo & Juliet" arranged by the Orchestra, "Il est bel et Bon," a French song done by the Girls Vocal Ensemble; "hail, hail, hail, hail hail hail hail," a spectacularly done by G. E. Cummings, done by the Advanced Chorus; "Great Day," a spiritual performed by the Mixed Chorus, and "Fantasia on Dixie," done by the Band.

Darien, with an average family income of $20,000, is certainly not poverty-stricken nor, in comparison with other Fairfield "towns, is it overlasted. Greenwich High School is, as many people have said, a "technological" high school. In Darien, only a few years ago, the New York City school system declared itself to be out of money, and began making plans to cancel such necessities as band programs. Darien cut important programs from its school budget, and each year send its children off to portable classrooms and schools no longer big enough to hold the innovation that must be undertaken if Darien is to continue to have schools worth attending.

Why should Darien, educationally speaking, be in the Dark Ages? Why should the real Citizens of Darien allow themselves to be misled by a section of extremists? Why claim to represent the entire voting body? Only a few weeks ago, the New York City school system declared itself to be out of money, and began making plans to cancel such necessities as band programs. Darien will probably never sink this far, but it might be of its important programs, the highly qualified teachers, voluntarily destroying its educational strong points. This is the main difference between Darien and New York City: Darien's financial, with no money coming from the city to pay the debts of the schools. This was beyond the control of the voter, who is already heavily taxed. In Darien, this is not the case. The Citizens Committee on Schools would eliminate programs, programs they are unable to pay increased taxes, but because they are unwilling.

The Citizens Committee on Schools would, in effect, give the Darien student far less than a town such as Darien could and should give its young people.

Continued on Page 5
TRENDS IN EDUCATION
IN DARREN

Here comes a bit of crystal-ball gazing. I don’t really consider this to be extremely difficult, for anyone who has spent any amount of time examining not only Darren trends but examining trends in other communities has a fairly clear picture as to what the public high school education is developing. Whether one applauds or despairs the trends is a matter of personal choice. To clear up my position, I applaud them.

The major trends divide, in my judgment, into three categories: First, experimentation; second, student involvement; and third, teaching capabilities.

The hallmark of education, and particularly public secondary education, in the United States as opposed to most other countries in its experimentation. Most countries in the world with any developed form of educational system pride themselves on uniformity. It is their premise that every country should have the same system of students of instruction and curriculum. This is determined by some august body, usually governmental, who determine how the youth must be educated for the good of the country. The great plus in this concept is that there is little difference in quality. Certain from country to country, but at least there is some degree of uniformity. The major drawback lies in the areas: First, the “august body” must have, by its very nature, a fairly limited viewpoint since it is made up of a limited number of minds. Secondly, again by its very nature of its origin, there is less tendency to change the system, though there may be ample evidence that change is warranted.

In this country, though certain general requirements are common to almost all secondary education, both teaching methods and curriculum are experimented with constantly. By the very nature of this approach there is a feeling that education is not a rigid concept and there are two areas in which there is less uniformity. One is in the teaching method, the other in the curriculum, with the major cities. The major drawback lies in two areas: First, the “august body” must have, by its very nature, a fairly limited viewpoint since it is made up of a limited number of minds. Secondly, again by its very nature of its origin, there is less tendency to change the system, though there may be ample evidence that change is warranted.

In Darien a degree of experimentation has taken place, particularly in recent years. Much of this experimentation has followed the example of either educational techniques or curriculum innovations proven in systems similar to ours. There is little inherent risk in this form of change because of its proven track record.

Additionally, our system has each year initiated experiments of its own that in some form are innovative. When they are truly innovative they are patterned after those experiments that the professional basis has determined to determine their practicality as well as their degree of success. Several of the systems and curriculum experiments existing today have resulted from much experimentation. This will continue to be the case and I should add must accelerate, in order for us to keep in the forefront of education. It must be done judiciously with intelligent educators and practical methods of evaluation.

Let me deal now with student involvement. No matter how outstanding the curricula or the curriculum, if the students are within a system, it is only meaningful if it generates an enthusiasm among students to be educated. An enthusiastic student body in an average school system will undoubtedly learn more than a totally apathetic student body in an equally teaching quality curriculum. Certain curricula and curriculum play an important part in developing this enthusiasm, but today more than in the past, student involvement is an absolute must in generating a desire on the part of the majority of the students to seek education. I foresee that the basic concept of individual study will be adapted to include more students, earlier in the school system, allowing them to concentrate a portion of their education in the areas of greatest interest to them. Equally important, more choice on the part of students in the decisions concerning teaching techniques and curriculum will occur. There are certain basic portions of education which for the time being remain mandatory, but they are far more limited in number than we imagined in our youth. A significant portion of the student’s educational process, particularly in secondary schools, should be in areas in which he has enthusiasm as well as talent to develop his mind in the disciplines his life is taking. This can best be undertaken by the educators, and ultimately the Board of Education, by seeking students’ attitudes toward both teaching methods and curriculum. The recent experimentation at the High School were a beginning in this direction. A more important step in the future will be to involve duly appointed, or elected, students in curriculum councils and teaching staff-groups. Again, the first step has been taken in the area of curricula, but the work, let by the beginning. The students have put a great many valid thoughts on their own educational process and we’re only beginning to listen.

The last area in trends is teaching capabilities. In the secondary level of the public school system teaching will always continue to be an extremely important factor. Outstanding curriculum will remain in medi-
Winter Surfing - A Study in Modern Idiocy
by Kevin Wright

As you know, March 6 was the date of the Darien High School Varsity Surf Team and Resident Noodle Slippers’ First Annual Polar Bear Surfari. Based on reliable information supplied by surfing moviemaker Lincoln Walworth, the DHSVST’s co-captains Flanka S. (star of stage, screen, and comic strip) and The Great Kahuna set out for Long Beach, Long Island. The student body was notably confident-inspiring, especially when by secret wire tap Cass Ratcliffe was heard reserving a slab for two at the Long Beach Morure.

However, neither rain nor snow nor cold of water could stay these stalwart surfers from their stupidity, so early on the morning of the Sixth, the surfers stopped at Hal’s to meet with the rest of the crew.

Golden Toe Travers, ace photographer and roo-trapper; Bill White, along with Travers a finalist in the International Soda Can Tournament; Bill Crouse, two surfer and Viking basketball star.

After a three hour side trip through the backwoods of Greenwich to pick up a little bundle, the two-car caravan finally made it to Lawn Guilder. Long Beach is a splendidly ugly town, but the surf makes up for that. Unfortunately, the winter months are the only months that non-residents can legally surf there. The beach itself is divided into 200-yard sections by stone jeties. These jeties keep the sand bars from shifting, thus keeping the wave shape consistent...and good. The waves average three to four feet, are well-formed, and offer good right

slides. The only drawback to this is the incredible cold of the water. Full wetsuits, boots, and gloves are a must. The only unprotected area is the head, and believe me, it dies. With every splash of water against the face, it feels like one huge third degree burn, the mouth freezes open, and the head feels like it is splitting wide open. You can’t stay in the water for more than one hour without having to paddle in to warm up.

Winter surfers are quite different from those of the summer. For one thing, there are fewer of them, and therefore they are a lot friendlier.

Of course, some of this friendliness is brought about by necessity. All of the time people are coming up to you in the street (where you change into your wetsuit, to the shock of the old residents) and asking you to sit them into their wetsuits. This happened to us no fewer than three times in three hours.

Winter water does spark the hunger, so we carefully picked out the two best beanies for the table. They are:

Geno’s Pizzaria, where, according to Willy Crouse, a fantastic pie is created, and;

Ned’s Kosher Deli, famous for their turkey sandwiches (please don’t order a ham on white!).

The best advice, though, is to bring something from home, and save your money for the thousand and one tolls along the way.

Well, this was a description of a typical winter surfari, and they really are a gas, despite the cold. DHSVST trips are held regularly, and anyone willing to join the team can sign up on the list in the S.A. Room, Huwa-Wuzza.

POlitical Extremism
by Rob Varney

Last Friday night, several friends and myself paid a visit to the home of the first pizza pies in Darien - Frankie Darien Pizzaria.

On that occasion, I was able to capsize Frank’s inadequate parking facility. The first sight was large plate glass facade, in back of which hung three different neon spiders pushing hypnotic, hypnotic bras. Inside we were greeted by three different clocks, a Rheimgold Clock, a Miller Clock, and a Bud Clock, as well as two wall menus, a 7-Up Menu and a Coke Menu.

With all these things a round us, we couldn’t help keeping track of the 45 minutes we waited for our pies. Unlike earlier years, it seemed to us that Frankie now catered to the more mature set, undoubtedly due to his financial selection of wines and liquors.

Also, we felt that even in our dismay, there was an extreme abundance of brattyurchins throwing food and shooting craps, as their parents sat glumly eyes with their Pizzana in hand.

Well, the wait got so painful that Reuben Jeffery and Jim Gammell couldn’t keep themselves from writing some new inflammatory literature. The general atmosphere was hectic and rushed, and in the background the juke-box with its worn out speakers and such old-time hits as Cherie, Miss Mia and Other.

Muskokie. Even the red-checked tablecloths and the little pie men didn’t fail to give us a cheer.

When the pies finally did arrive, we had almost come to think that Frankie had fallen into his oven and had been served by his waiters as the House Special. Anyways, the pies were very good, though Jim and Reuben’s large sausage had several oil slicks on it. Nevertheless, they were worthy of an A to A rating, as was Frank’s excellent meatball grinder with a modern grinder.

Frank serves pies in a large or medium size—$1.00, $2.50, $2.85. Cheese, and $2.5, $2.55. Grinders range from $90 to $1.00. The food is usually outstanding, though on this particular night the long wait killed our appetite before it had developed.

So, I recommend Reuben’s any-time but Friday and Saturday nights, unless you have lots of time to kill and are over 21. Frank makes a great pie, but often that is all you get.

Next Week: The Duchess Drive-in IF

If (Capitol, SW-676) is a relatively new group which has a built-in audience. As jazz goes, IF, has to rate better than most. The catching sound which IF creates is accomplished with a variety of saxophones, flute, a good drummer, and a solid bass back-up. IF’s guitarist, Terry Smith, and John Moulton’s organ put much variety and quality of sound which should become IF’s trademark. This trademark is created by an intricate and well-balanced mixture of instruments, which comes in handy when IF is far from their usual home base of New York City. And when IF is on tour, you can bet they’ll be playing a variety of rock and roll and jazz to keep up with the audience.

If you’re a jazz aficionado or just a casual listener, this album is worth purchasing. Some of the cuts which merit listening to over and over again are: “I Felt Like Crying” and “I Couldn’t Write and Tell You”.

If this is IF’s first album but if it’s half as good as IF, it’s also worth buying.
Theatre 308 To Do "Splendor In The Grass"

On April 9 and 10 at the DHS auditorium, Theatre 308 will present Splendor in The Grass, a play by Andrew Leslie. The name of the play was taken from a stanza of John Keats' "Ode on a Summer's Morning": "So nothing can bring back the hour of splendour in the grass, of glory in the flower, we will grieve not, rather pride in what remains behind." The play is about boy and girl in high school who have just fallen in love. The theme of the play deals with their problems in coping with their own emotions for each other, moral in society and problems with their families. It also deals with the emotional impact of the two major characters throughout their relationship. The play does not try to present

Continued from Page 2

most or the community. It might be appropriate to explain that the ultimate purpose of the questionaire is to compile factual, but a anonymous, material and case histories for use in a drug publication geared specifically for the Darien community.

For once I would like to see your paper and the parents of this town commend the young for their attempts to rationally solve their own problems: or, at least, offer them assistance in their attempts.

Students will be performing music that will serve mainly as background and bridge the time between scenes. Many different types of music will be performed and some of the pieces are original.

Val Mehlig and Mark Rodman are playing the leading roles of Debbie and Bud. The supporting cast includes 28 seniors, juniors, and sophomores, many of them stars of Theatre 308's past productions.

REWARD: $25 reward for the return of "Gino's": the film stolen from A3 during EEW. If you've got the film, put it in Dr. Robbins' box, with a note to tell us where we can leave the reward. Any information would be appreciated-we don't care who took the film, we just want it back.

Peter Saverine
Member of Youth Advisory Commission

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HOCKEY TEAM SPIRITS SPORTS BANQUET

by JAVITI

Last Wednesday night, March 17, the annual Winter Sports Banquet took place in the large cafeteria decorated by the Peer Club with assistance from the Winter sports captains. Co-chairmen (or should it be man and woman) Coach Laidre Battino and Mrs. Rosemarie Josten assembled one of the finest banquet programs to be presented at DHS and deserve much credit for their efforts. Once again Mrs. (Bess Nicol and her staff put together a gourmet meal, featuring homemade lasagna, Master of Ceremonies Jack Carpenter's introduction and opening comments. Keep the crowd in good humor as it was refreshing to have a member of the community who has done no such noteworthy work with the youth becoming involved directly with a school function.

Another highlight of the evening was Bob Stak, outstanding hooper at UCONN, became one of six hoop stars to attain over 1,000 points while on the basketball squad. Bob had a brief message to relate to the younger athletes. It was "Work hard. Get a good education and bust your back to get there."

One of Bob's goals was to play in Madison Square Garden. His wish was fulfilled when the UCONNECT team played Manhattan in the game prior to the Fordham-Marquette contest which drew major television audiences.

Another announcement was the notice that student-teacher and coach Dave Baye had signed a contract with the Detroit Tigers for next season.

Getting to the banquet, the hockey squad, with the assistance of Moose Manoch, led all applause throughout the event and justifiably deserve themselves to be the most spirited team in the school. Their behavior may have been considered a bit rowdy but I, as a former hockey goer, but it is my opinion that the use of nicknames and other personal banter that heightened color and personality to the event than the usual straight applause.

It gave the gathering a more personal touch to tie the friends openly showing their appreciation of fellow athletes achievements.

For each sport, the coach gave a short speech, followed by the naming of the next season's captains or captain. The team's Most Valuable Player, Bruce Levering and Scott "The Bod" Hammon were named captains for the Natator's 71-72 season as Dave "The Fuzer" Brindley took home the MVP award. The grapplers chose Chip Hart and Jim Falsely to lead them next season as Jim also capped the MVP honors. The girl's gymnastics team, under coach Mrs. Joan Vail, was selected Cindy Schmaierfeld and sophomore Alison Bishop to be co-captain spots. Coach Del Mauthe, head manager, was assisted by manager Scotty Calvin Brooks elected Larry Hart to next year's captain's spot as Glenn "Pennchude" Mahler brought MVP honors home to the court behind 916 West Ave.

The girl's Hoop team, managed this year by the infamous Mel Quirk, elected Mary Ellen Bachman and Alison Danzberger to co-captain spots. Coach OT's Ski Team picked sophomore Bill Dobie as MVP with John Cleary and Doug Oakford as next season's co-captains. Lyn Littlefield and Wendy Thompson competed as the girl's squad, winning both.

The cheerleading squad was given recognition for its fine support of the athletic teams for the year. Coached by Miss Faber and members of the squad included seniors Bonnie Bloomquist, head Cheerleader) and Nancy Geyer, juniors Brooke Gallagher, Karen Leahy, Sally Stevens, and Margie Ventri and sophomore Karen DeVito, Carol Littlefield, and Cindy Shaw.

Next came the hockey team's trip at the podiums, with Bob Vernon stealing the air time from Coach Doilett. Dan managed to mention "Linley Fendel, finally MVP before Varney took over to introduce Pete Clinton and Zinger Schwing as next season's co-captains of the illustrious squad. Vernice displayed his unmatched virtue of humility as he left next year's squad with a few thoughts to ponder. Last, but not least, the agenda, was host Coach Battino's State Champion gymnastics team. Endorsed by MVP "Gimmy" Felder and All-Around State Champ Richard Ward. Captains of the musclemen at year will be the lone junior on the team Rick Bianco.

Ending the program was a video presentation by DuBois Sports Productions Inc. which encompassed all winter sports. Bob, who has done an outstanding job running his video program, is aided by the sometime's able-bodied Barry Kaminski.

Chapel was led by the Roadrunners as the retiring athletes were given a chance to enjoy a final few moments together as the Darien High School's "n" they made up the excellent Winter Sports program the school and town of Darien, Connecticut.

A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

On Monday night, March 19th, the Marboro High School led by Bob Staack and Coach Battino, fell to defeat before Marques Hayes and his group of Magicians, by a convincing score of 102-86. The comical heroes of the Magicians were led by Bob "Sugarfoot" Johnson with a total of 30 points in the game. However, the faculty, not to be outdone, displayed a few tricks of their own and proved, even to the Magicians, that they weren't as bad as rumor or appearance suggested.

Former Darien High Star, Bob Staack, displayed some fine ability (many times surprising even the Magicians) as he compiled 38 points. Coach Mauthe had 8 points for the evening and played extremely well. The team's big surprise was Coach Battino. He came on strong on the big points and displayed some fine dribbling ability. And, while Coach Sangster was not the best man on the court, as far as this author is concerned, Johnson sure did admire his legs.

As I turned to see Tip and Flip, the two magician trainees, do some fine gymnastic stunts. They persuaded some of the "younger" members of the in attendance on their dance. The "Roadrunners," that well-known sophomore clique, joined the 6 and 7 year olds and seemed to have good time for themselves. (Birds of a feather flock together). In other games that evening, the Stars and Cougars competed for the championship of the ABA division of intramural basketball. The Stars clearly dominated the game, winning by a score of 97-28. The big gun for the Stars was Mark St. John with 21 points. Also, John Reuther and Pete Johnson netted 11 and 14 points respectively as the Star's defense. Jim O'Brian was high-point man for the Cougars with 13.

In the NBA league, the winner of the 78ers and the Funeral Home 5 game was to be the champion. The team proved to be Con Die's 78ers as they squeezed out a 25-23 victory. With 14 minutes gone by in the 1st half, the score was tied 9-9 and appeared as though a battle of the defenses was on. However, persistent rebounding by Jim Aklama and Don Vassone of the 78ers and the Funeral Home's defense. Jim O'Brien was high-point man for the 78ers with 17.

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