CANDIDATES AIR VIEWS

As a result of the political turmoil of the past few weeks, there will be a Republican primary on Thursday, August 22. The incumbent Board of Education member, Mr. Keith Clark, for the chance to run for a seat on the School Board in November 2’s general election. Mr. James Tower, the incumbent State Senator, and Mr. Ralph Gibbs will contend for the Republican nomination for First Selectman. The outcome of the Republican primary is crucial to that of the general election because Darien’s electorate is so overwhelming Republican that the Republican candidate will be strongly favored in the general election. Since the Board of Education nomination will be a major issue on High School students, the two Board candidates have been asked to state their positions.

CANDIDATES EXPLAIN PRIORITIES AND QUALIFICATION

Question: What are your priorities for the coming year? In relation to the High School?

Mr. Clark: “My objectives are, first, that we do everything within obvious limitations to get the best possible teachers. The dream ideal is that every one of our teachers would have enthusiasm and rapport with students so that the students would enjoy and benefit most from their various classes. My second objective is to find out what the students think about our school and education, so that the school board can use this information to make constructive and relevant decisions.”

Mr. Tower: “I would hope that each individual student in our system could develop to the fullest degree possible, while he is with us, his own human potential, as long as a school system we could arrange the learning environment that children will be attracted to and excited about. To that end, the school board will seek to attract the best teachers and ensure that the students are learning in a positive and productive environment.”

Mr. Gibbs: “My qualifications are that I am interested in young people, and am dedicated to helping them get the best possible education. My approach is not that of an educator, but rather that of a somewhat typical Darien parent who is involved in raising a family and getting some or all of his children into college and ready to live a happy and productive life... My education: Darien High and Yale Sheffield Scientific School.”

Mr. Tower: “It is the sworn duty of Board members to make wise decisions for their school systems within the limits of fiscal responsibility. As a candidate, I offer a year’s experience as a member of the Board of Education in an increasingly complex office; my knowledge of and enthusiasm for education as an administrator, a thoughtful understanding of Darien as a community through years of volunteer service; and my critical skills in the area of Communication and Curriculum.”

WIN A FROG

Recently, I was casually glancing through “the books” in the office, and was shocked to discover that Neirad, the school’s own student sheet and resident gossip column, was in a debt of 4200 cents! What a shock. Immediately I conveyed this horrible news to the other dudes on the staff and we thought and schemed to discover a solution to this terrible dilemma. After many days of sleepless nights we finally hit on a sure-fire answer that might save Neirad for posterity. There is going to be a CONTEST! And it will be so easy to win! All you have to do is send to Neirad, in 25 words or less, an idea you might have that will save us from possible bankruptcy! (As always, the best entry wins). Would you like to enter this contest and send us your ideas so YOUR newspaper won’t fall apart? (And, if you don’t win, you can still fork out $2.50, can’t you?)

BRUNO WOULD OPEN CAMPUS

Dr. Bruno also hoped that there would be more communication between the faculty/administration and the students. He said that he saw encouraging signs of this during the last school year, but he believes that work must still be done before 100 per cent of the students use the communication channels open to them.

When asked about the DSO, Dr. Bruno said that in favor of the formation of ad hoc committees, which, would have a single purpose and would be dissolved when their job has been achieved. He said that, while he did not know how the students felt about the organization, he did feel that it was becoming a more responsive form of student government, and that individual members sitting on the Departmental Council were able to influence the decision making body.

Dr. Bruno emphatically endorsed the idea of a four-year High School. He stated that he believed that a four-year program would enable the administration to get to know the students better than under the present plan and would unify under one roof both General and Advanced courses now split between DHS and the ninth grades at Math and Holderness.

In his review of the cuts made in the 1976-77 budget, Dr. Bruno said it would have an effect in increasing the size of classes, especially those in the Social Studies and English Departments. Home room classes will also be larger than in previous years. Overaggressing the problem is an increase in the student population from last year’s total of 1000 to an enrollment of 1150 this year, which will probably increase throughout the year.

Dr. Bruno stated that he has written to Superintendent of Schools Dr. Day Pelliseter, asking for the assignment of an enforcement officer to control parking and to project cars parked in the lots. He emphasized that this officer would not have the responsibility of controlling students leaving for returning to the campus. During the school year 1969-1970, a policeman was assigned to the campus to regulate the movement of students, among other duties. Students protested the officer’s role vigorously, and the job was eliminated after a budget cut. There being no illegal parking, and theft from cars on the campus were among the reasons Dr. Bruno gave for the request. Dr. Bruno then said that he would definitely support another Experimental Education Week, but hoped that this year’s EEW planning would not take the easy way out by copying what was done last year. He said that he believed that change is to be taken by seniors and that, in his opinion, Foss/Fall grading is “Mickey Mouse”, contributing nothing to the student. He closed the interview by again emphasizing the need for better communication between the faculty/administration and the school, as well as better relations between the school and Darien as a whole.

Tricky Gravy

For many who remained in action-packed, fun-filled Darien this summer, things were a bit different. Tricky Gravy, this summer’s production arose from the red tape of Town Hall and put on its first show during the week of July 28th. Following were numerous complaints of theugh nights.

Tricky Gravy originally came to life in the spring when the basic idea was developed by Phil Williams and Chuck Hunter. They pooled their resources in late May and were able to sell their summer plans to the town and the notorious Board of Finance in late June. The passage of the program surprised many people who felt that the Board of Finance would not be receptive to the idea of the town supporting “Rock Festivals”.

The Tricky Gravy plan involved dropping the traditional block dances and taking the money that was allotted to the summer music and adding it.

The program was controlled and completely run by Chuck Hunter and Phil Williams, who lent titles to better run the show, and a more realistic outlook on youth events in town.

Three open air concerts were presented at the High School and a fourth one was rained out. A fifth concert is in the works, but the chances of coming off are questionable.

Several good movies were presented during the summer, the best of which was the “Winds of the West” film. This will definitely go down in Continued on Page 2
**NEIRAD**

NEIRAD is published bi-weekly by the students of the Darien High School.

Co-Editors: Betsey Ammer, Craig Mason
Managing Editor: Peter Severine
News Editor: John Holme
Field Editor: Dana Finke
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Photography: Steve Watson
Art Editor: Paula Kinnunen
Faculty Advisor: Miss Helen Donohue

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**How Open a Campus**

Dr. Bruno has finally decided to support open campus at DHS. Needless to say, we are happy with this change in position and with the probability that some sort of open campus situation will be in effect here before the year is out. However, we're inclined to be suspicious of the way in which Dr. Bruno intends to bring about this important improvement. He would appoint students, faculty members, and parents to a committee which would decide the qualifications a student would have to have before he can leave the school grounds. "Legally," How necessary is it for the school to force a student to remain at the school to study? Are study halls insurance that homework will get done, or rather do they provide a time and place for a student to study? If so, he wishes?

Dr. Bruno said, however, that he hoped that grades would not be the sole basis for determining whether a student is qualified to do what he wants to do with his free time. He stated that he did not want an "irresponsible few" to spoil things for the majority. Well, we think that's commendable, but we'd like to know what kind of irresponsible few will do so awful. There are already, God knows, enough rules aimed at those who are late to class. And, we think, teacher to class is caused by miscalculating the time it takes one to get back to campus is the main problem that will develop when open campus becomes a reality. We don't think there's too much danger of traffic accidents or other problems for which the school would be criticized in the community.

In short, we think the average DHS student is responsible, and that some general rule formulated by a committee would not be essential to supplement existing rules which would adequately cover the open campus situation. The last thing this school needs is another set of rules.

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**Neirad Endorses Tjadler**

Neirad endorses Mrs. Jane Tjadler for the Board of Education because of her superior qualifications and multi-faceted, non-political, understanding of complex educational issues.

Mrs. Tjadler has been broadly and deeply involved in Education—an undergraduate student of Education at Wellesley College, as a teacher, as a tax payer and a parent of three students in Darien public schools, as a member of the Central Curriculum Council, and of the Board of Education. Through this first-hand experience she is sensitive to the diverse feelings and attitudes of the many groups of people served by the Darien Public Schools.

Mr. Clark, on the other hand, seems to be interested in serving one political group as illustrated by his first statement after being endorsed by the Republican Town Committee:

"They endorsed me because they feel the conservative parents and taxpayers should have better representation on the school Board."

Mrs. Tjadler replied: (Darien Review 8/27/71)

"Apparately my opponent thinks that conservative opinions and the burdens of the taxpayers are not considered by the Board of Education. This demonstrates his total lack of understanding of the complex process of decision making."

While Mr. Clark claims to represent one political group, Mrs. Tjadler has the broad experience and knowledge which enables her to consider the diverse needs of the many groups of people served by Darien public schools. She is qualified to make decisions based on balancing the educational needs of Darien children within the town's fiscal limits.

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**Tricky (cont')**

history as being one of the most exciting examples of American cultural crap that the country has ever seen. Annette Funicello and Franky Avalon set a fine example of the moral ethic that is much needed in this country.

Tricky Gravy ran into noise complaints twenty minutes into its first concert. The complaints kept rolling in, so to meet these disgruntled people halfway Tricky Gravy moved its concerts to weekend nights so that the complainers could make up their lost sleep. This did not stop the complaints and at the last concert these people managed to close down the concert party—another fine example of tolerance, which is alive and well in Darien!

The program was formed a success by the people in Town Hall and they believe that the program will be run again next summer with more money to work with.

Tricky Gravy was an example of how youth in town can get assistance from the town on a project if it is well thought out and presented. When people say that there is nothing to do in this town and that the town government is not responsive to youth, it's a bunch of bull.

Town government is only unresponsive as long as you let them be.

There were many people who helped to make this program come true, yet there are a few that were instrumental in its success. Mike Haiday, the Rec and Rec. Administrator, worked hard in hand with Phil and Chuck to cover Town Hall baselines. Fred Porot, the Darien School System's Plant Manager, was always eager to help out in providing a leans for Tricky Gravy. Thanks also goes to Mr. James Tower, the first Selectmen, for protecting the program from intolerant critics and other obnoxious bacteria that can kill a step forward such as Tricky Gravy. Much Tricky Gravy, dressing, and turkey love goes to a couple of special kids who always were happy to help. Thanks from Phil and Chuck to Kevin Corrigan, Mike Baldwin, Sue Prentice, and mostly to Mr. Fitts, our rebel without a cause.

As school pitches in again, I think of my summer freedom and wonder why it's got to stop now. Learnin' is freedom, but school definitely isn't.

All these years I have taken for granted school's mastery over me, but now I look around and I think that I should decide what I will do.

The summer was free. Now I'm told what to learn and with whom I'm to learn it, where to eat, when to walk, how to talk, that I should question inside class but not outside. It's all kinds of things that school has always told me and that I've always done because. well, it's school.

But now I've wondered, Why? and now I'm past. Why? because I know there's no reason good enough to keep me.

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Soccer Preview

The soccer team began its 1971 season on August 20 as more than thirty boys showed up to greet coaches Benton and Lynn at 8 o'clock. All last week, the team practiced five hours a day in double sessions.

Thus far, no one really has any idea as to what kind of team we can expect this year. According to co-captain Parker Antin, however, we do know that this year's squad will be "radically different" from the 1970 team. Better coaching and more organization are what make the difference this year. Coach Martino has left and Mr. Benton has taken over as Head Coach. Considering last year's 2-7-1 record, Antin's comments sound slightly encouraging.

The most valuable addition to this year's team is that of senior Wayne Grant, who comes from Triumph. During the pre-season practice sessions Wayne displayed fantastic ball control abilities and, along with junior Parker Antin, promises to be a scoring threat. Other seniors who are sure to make valuable contributions to the 1971 team are Bill Ward, Scot Hammond, Dan Focci, and co-captain Bill Pustusnak.

Poccia is expected to lead the twines this year and everybody hopes he'll be able to fill the shoes which were left behind by that immortal, Rigby Burren. Helping out on defense at the center-half position will be Bill Pustusnak.

Some juniors who plan to make their names known on the soccer team this year are Parker Antin, Eric Eaton, Eric Hanson, Robbie Back, Andy Holmes, Dick Soule, and Greg "Poggy" Neumann. Eaton, who is always very serious about his soccer, could be the key to success for this year's club (but don't count on it.) And the value of Greg Neumann to the team just cannot be measured. After all, if Foggie wasn't on the team, whose goal would the team swim in after practices?

The first game of the season for the soccer team is on Sept. 24, at Staples. Staples has almost had a powerhouse and this season is no different. However, this year's Darien squad just could be the team to beat them (but don't count on that, either.) At any rate, the team would very much appreciate your support, so at least come to offer sympathy, if not to cheer.

To Coach Benton and the rest of the team, good luck in the '71 season.

The Darien High School football team has been practicing five hours a day in double sessions for the past week, under the direction of Head Coach Jack Himebaugh.

"It is still too early to tell what kind of team we have yet, but with only 15 returning lettermen, this year's team is basically inexperienced," Coach Himebaugh noted. Leading this year's team are Keith Brown and Tim Wood. Along with the co-captains, lineman Jim Fisher and running back Larry Hart are the expected standouts.

The offense will be led by either Bob Baterman or Steve Beyerith at quarterback. The remaining backfield will probably be Tim Wood at fullback, Larry Hart at tailback, and Jim Costello at wingback. At the end positions are Jeff Brameler and Mark Connolly. On the defensive line will be Phil Bohannon and Keith Brown at tackles, Bill Donovan and Jim Fisher at guards, and center Tred McIntire.

Defensively the line is practically identical except for Donovan's replacement by Jim Fisher. Filling the linebacker positions are Tim Wood and Greg Muzza. Hounding out the defense will be Jeff Brameler and Norm Sedor at the safety positions. The probable cornerbacks are Marco Scott and Tim Costello.

The team will be tested in their first two games, as they play Stamford until New Canaan, respectively the state's fourth and first-ranked teams last year. This year's squad will try to better last year's record of 4-4. They play one more game than last year, and against two new teams, Ridgefield and Wilton.

soccer schedule

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All games begin at 3:00 p.m.