DHS Homecoming To Have New (And Old) Look

By Steve Seyferth

Come November 4, Darien High School will have a new image. The Rock sounds of Yesteryear will be echoing throughout the night at this year's Homecoming dance. The 50's Era is back, and the music will feature the loud, brash, and crude beat of the 1950's rock and roll.

DHS Homecoming is part of the 50's revival. Radio Stations blare out the "Oldies But Goodies" sounds daily. Stations started experimenting by playing the old songs more frequently and as their listenership started rising, the more "Gold" songs they played. Stations throughout the U.S. followed the new trend and their listenership immediately doubled in many instances. One station, WCBS in New York, was a very good F.M. station but the programmers decided to adopt a format in which they would play nothing else but "Solid Gold" twenty-four hours a day. Their success is unreal and they'll continue to play "Gold" until this new revival fades out—but will it fade out?

Not everyone takes the revival seriously, but they seem to go along with it because there is apparently a full in the music of this era. The 50's music, which expressed the desires of youth at the time and the desires, just getting around to be expressed, include the wish for freedom to dance and to have fun.

As the 50's revival continues, it is shaping the way young people think. New 'Fifties' teens getting ready to "rock around the clock" at the Homecoming dance "Sock Hop" set for Saturday night. Left to right: Kristy Timley, Roger Smith, Marty Calomen and Lynn Raciiff.

New 'Free School' Offers Alternate Learning Methods

By Sandy Ward

Dissatisfied with school? Fed up with what you see as rigidity and bureaucracy? Well, there is an alternative. It is designed to be something other than putting up with school or quitting. It's called the "South Side of the Sky," the school, which is supposed to be what you decide to make it.

The "South Side of the Sky," according to its founders, is a school where "you can count." The emphasis is planned to be on what you learn, not how well you have learned to take tests. It's a school where you will "get evaluated personally, not just marked, graded and sent on to be filled with more information." It's a place where you'll have to use your brain.

Cheryl Koch, founder of the school, said, "We want to start a community learning center and day school for students and adults. We want to explore new dimensions in creative and productive education. We want people to learn more effectively through investigation and involvement in their chosen areas, along with such areas as English, math, etc. which will be taught in regular sessions once the school gets started."

Cheryl is involved with the idea because she says she is dissatisfied with school itself, and feels there are more interesting ways to learn things than sitting in classrooms answering questions and doing homework. She would rather learn things by continued on page 3

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References

The reference on the proposed school government constitution is scheduled for Friday, November 4. The students, faculty, members of the administration and members of the staff will vote during the day in the Student Activities room. Parents have been mailed ballots to be received by the school no later than November 6. To adopt the proposed constitution, each of the three principle voting groups, the students, faculty, and administration, must give it their majority support. Parents and non-professional staff members will have the right to participate in the proposed school government if they give it their majority support.

The final draft of the proposed constitution will be discussed Wednesday, November 1 at 7:30 p.m. in the Senior Commons. The meeting is open to all and there will be an opportunity for questions.
THE GYM: STANDING ROOM ONLY

Darien High School has many facilities which are overcrowded thereby limiting the activities of both teachers and students. One department that crowding strongly affects is physical education. Mr. Del Maiste, physical education department chairman, has stated that since his “arrival at the High School 12 years ago, not one brick has been laid towards enlarging the gym...although more students must now use it.”

Students start to notice the overcrowding when winter weather comes and forces physical education activities indoors. The gymnasium must be divided in half, and up to 70 boys must use one side of it and 70 girls use the other side. These large numbers limit teaching and playing time of games such as basketball. With such large numbers many players are left out and must stand on the sidelines and don’t participate full time in the action. An overcrowded gymnasium creates an atmosphere in which both students and teachers get on each other’s backs.

It has been extremely difficult for interscholastic sports to find practice space in the winter. The gym must be used by both the boys’ basketball team and the girls’ team in addition to the boy and girl gymasts and their equipment. Part of the time the gymnasium must be used the lobby. The wrestling team uses the locker room, and the swimming team must practice at early hours of the day and early afternoons at the YMCA. Gymnastic meets, wrestling meets and girls basketball games all take place in the afternoon and when one of these events is going on, it is difficult for other teams to practice.

And unfortunately, because of the crowding of the gym, no intramurals can be held in the winter.

A pool would be a tremendous addition to DHS. It could be used both by the physical education classes and would be available as a recreation resource for the town. If a larger gym, and possibly a swimming pool take time now remains. The gym must be used by Youth Commission and around town. John Clinton and Margaret Martin, Art Editor

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WINTER SPORTS

DHS GYMNASIUM

ISN'T THERE A BIGGER PLACE TO PRACTICE?!
Students In Politics

Young Republicans Campaign; Demos Field Teenage Candidate

By Bruck Hill

"Sure I'll vote, for Nixon, and McKinney. I'm a freak! But don't ask me to vote for Tony Musick. I voted for him once but I'll never vote for him again! He doesn't know anything about people or Church and State -- that's important, separation of Church and State -- very important."

And so the telephone canvassing begins for the day. The canvassing, one of the many functions of the Nixon-McKinney Youth. Headquarters, involves contacting each household in town, asking if they support President Nixon and/or Congressman McKinney, and inquiring about voter registration and the need for absentee ballots.

There is probably the most interesting work at the headquarters in that it involves direct contact with people. Since this is basically a Republican town, most people are very cooperative and are more than willing to volunteer answers, although there are exceptions.

In a single day, it is possible to examine the canvassing efforts of Yard and antiwar activist asking how you can sleep at night with the poor North Vietnamese war orphans, your conscience, describing you as immoral and un-Christian, or you may hear a twenty-minute history of the Dewey-Truman election of '48, or inquiries about Stewart McKinney's middle name. Telephone canvassing may be the most interesting telephone interview in the world but it is not the only work to be done. Other work includes stuffing envelopes with literature, gathering support for various activities, checking on phone numbers and addresses, telephoning to register the eighteen-to-twenty-one-year-old voters, and generally doing the things, sometimes seemingly unimportant things, which keep the campaign going.

With the so-called "bumper branding" in the distribution of bumper stickers at the various shopping centers and town, it is another activity which involves direct contact with people, often producing very interesting reactions such as:

"No, I don't want a McKinney bumper sticker -- I'm voting for Nixon!"

"I'd love to put a Nixon bumper sticker on my car, but you see it's brand new and I don't want some hippie to come along and put a rock through one of my windows."

"McKinney... I'm not running with McNamara? Why are you laughing?"

Perhaps the best way to describe the Youth for Nixon-McKinney organization is to say that it is approximately seventy young people from high school and junior high, one woman, and four telephones working for the re-election of these two gentlemen.

By Joanne Carriera

What have you the young people of Darien been doing to help the Democratic Party? For an inside look, we interviewed Lisl Ungermann, who graduated from Darien High last year, and is a freshman at Connecticut College. She is also the voter Registration Chairman for the Democratic town committee.

"Mainly my job is to acquaint unregistered students or people in general -- through students is the major group they come from -- with the Democratic Party."

In February there was an opening for the job and Lisl expressed interest in it. Another woman was given the job but found she didn't have time for it. The people on the committee felt someone who represented the youth should get it so they then offered it to Lisl. She was glad to accept.

Lisl is in college she made arrangements during the summer for people on her committee to carry on the work. She does get to attend monthly committee meetings and occasional state conventions. She does not carry a list has learned a lot from her job.

People react to Lisl quite favorably. She has not encountered anyone who considers herself incompetent because of her age. "They would like to have a lot more contact with the youth, which is a major part of our society."

"In the past there has been quite an unequal registration between the Republicans and Democrats but present among current registrants its about even -- Republicans, Democrats, and unaffiliated, which I think is a tremendous gain for the Democrats."

Lisl has learned a lot from her job about politics and people in general. She hopes to someday run for higher elective office. Her plans for the immediate future include being a candidate for Justice of the Peace. She will be on the Democratic ballot for Darien in November.

That Long October -

By Andy Wolworth

At this particular phase of the school year, it is traditional for all students to experience a gigantic letdown. One can almost feel the school itself deflate, as if there is some disease "blowing through" the doors. People discard the dreams they had for it. The people settle back into last year's rut until winter breaks. This school is planning to be different.

Darien Free School is another campaign. During the fall there has been a promise of a really different school nature, winter is the end, the dead of January. Students want to be interested, many at this particular phase of the school year feel the school itself deflate, as if there is some disease "blowing through" the doors. People discard the dreams they had for it. The people settle back into last year's rut until winter breaks. This school is planning to be different.

Free School

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Investigating them herself. "You don't need a brain to get answers out of a book; you do need one to investigate by them yourself... it's personal involvement, the knowing that you had something to do with the acquisition of that knowledge that makes it stick in your mind," she added.

This school is planning to be different for anyone who is interested in learning in new and different ways. If you are interested, come to meetings at Center Street, Thursdays at 7:30. If there are any questions call Center Street 685-1485. If you have a plan, please call Cheryl Koch 339-1885, or Richard Keskin 332-6253 or Wendy Wenzel 322-9269 after six.

The Blues

through the mind and spirit. Besides a conscious effort to act more alive, one should try to feel more alive. If the day looks cold, go out and feel the cold. Watch the trees and the sky. Enjoy the coming of winter through your awareness of the changing seasons. Of course, the only person who can cure you is yourself. According to nature, winter is the end, the dead season. For once, rebel against this natural law. There is no reason your life should stop, or even slow down. Keep awake, fight your natural inclination to hibernate.

A few sections of the high school seem to be immune to the End of October Blues. These happy few are the hard core winter freaks. True skiers are particularly immune, each day brings closer the promise of snow. "I just think of deep powder, the light feeling you get, and I'm okay," says Bonnie Rough.

What can you learn from these people? The whole key to the vaccination against the End of October Blues. Look forward to something. Set a goal that means something to you and work for it. The more change in season helps you attain that goal, the easier it is to conquer the End of October Blues. If, however, you continue to feel the blues, fear not. They have a tendency to clear up as Christmas vacation draws near. If Christmas cannot lift them, spring is the sure cure.

San Francisco to Centerville there are many dedicated Zappa freaks like myself and "soon to be" freaks who own or have heard about Frank Zappa's newest "Hot Rats" album. "Waka/Jawaka" For the people who investigating them herseU. "You don't have to have been a Zappa fan to enjoy this album."

Frank has lately steered away from the bizarre comedy, satirical musical style of the Mother's and "soon to be" freaks. He has been making the rock and roll and more. Approximately seventy young people been building some records in the last few months. They are not in need of the "blues," they are in need of the "blues."
Field Hockey
The girls field hockey team, with the presence of graduate, Patty Mays, was off to a shaky start this year, losing its first game to Greenwich by 2-0. Both of the goals were scored in the first half as the Crusaders capitalized on two costly mistakes made by the Westhill goalie for a commanding 2-0 victory. Parker Antin again dominated the game as he collected the coveted "hat trick". John Rhett opened the scoring as he converted Rob Back's throw-in for the score. Antin got the next two on an assist by Eric Eaton and a penalty kick. Fristo closed out the first half scoring with an unassisted goal. Antin finished off his hat trick by connecting on John Rhett's pass.

Cross Country
Has 9-5 Record
The Blue Wave Cross Country team had no trouble beating Trumbull with John Robbins, Ali Dragnee, John Brissette and John Beauchamp sweeping the first four positions for the varsity team and Garry Lesers and John Derbysire and Doug Roberts taking seventh, eighth and ninth places, making the final score Trumbull 47.

The next race was on a difficult three mile course in which the varsity lost its third meet, this time to the well-developed Stamford Team. Darien only managed to have four runners in the top ten bracket: John Schofield fourth, John Brissette fifth, Garry Leonards sixth, and Ali Dragnee eighth, making the final score Stamford 24, Darien 32.

The next meet was a booster for the varsity squad, as they beat Trumbull Catholic with a 19-42 score. Again, captain Schofield came in first, with Brissette, Dragnee, Beauchamp and Derbysire winning third, fourth, fifth and sixth places.

The next race was a tri-meet against Greenwich Academy, but it was Darien that was not phytologically prepared for. Coach Robbins feels the "Greenwich team was better than ours, but the Staples team was not." Darien's varsity lost out to both teams after being edged by Staples and now has a 9-5 record.

LUDLOWE 3-2 Darien staged a crucial comeback from a two goal deficit to win 3-2. Ludlowe took a 2-0 lead at halftime, but was unable to stop a determined Darien squad in the second half. Antin started the ball rolling when he fired home a penalty kick. Then "super soph" Sal Ferinna headed in Antin's cross pass to tie the game up. Ferinna also added the game winner on Brian Nadreau's corner kick.

NEW CANAAN 6-1 A large crowd was on hand to witness a heartbreaking defeat for Coach Benton's team. Darien produced a strong team effort and was able to continually keep the ball in New Canaan's end. The Wavers, however, failed to find the range as they only fired four shots on the New Canaan goalies. New Canaan, relying more on their fast breaks and speedy wingers, were able to fire nine shots on Darien's goalie, Chris Cushing and one crucial goal.

Wavers Lose In Final Seconds
Darien came out strong to take early leads but due to costly mistakes and temprory lapses saw their leads and victory go down the drain.

GREENWICH 7-13 In a tightly fought defense battle, the Greenwich Cardinals capitalized on two costly Darien errors to beat the hometown Wavers 17-7.

Darien's first touchdown was set up when Mac Taylor picked off an errant Greenwich aerial on the seventeen yard line. A few plays later, Steve Seyferth threaded the needle to Tom Dasher in the end zone. Seyferth's kick was good and Darien had a quick 7-0 lead.

The lead vanished quickly, however, as Greenwich came back in the same period to tie up the game. The Cardinals took advantage of a fumble recovery, by throwing a 39 yard touchdown pass, on the following play, against a surprised Darien defense.

Just before the end of the half, Greenwich sacked up 6 more points when Seyferth's pass was intercepted and returned 74 yards for a Cardinal score.

The second half was highlighted by two stubborn defenses which, aided by numerous penalties, clogged up the trenches. Darien's last drive, with only 40 seconds left, looked hopeful when Seyferth completed 3 passes in a row, but, pressured by time, the drive was stopped by an interception on the goal line.

STAMFORD CATHOLIC 19-21 Darien's golden saw victory slip through their hands as the Crusaders erased a 12 point deficit in the final period.

The Blue Wave, again, got off to a quick start as they scored on the first drive of the game. Quarterback Steve Seyferth led the attack by picking up the running plays with a nine yard pass to John Bohanan and a seventeen yard toss to Mike Ludwig. Scott Harrington capped off the drive on a three yard burst to make the score 6-0.

The Crusaders quickly responded, however, as they passed 30 yards on their way through the Darien defense to take a 7-6 lead. Stamford continued to dominate the first half, but were thwarted by three key interceptions by Mac Taylor.

Darien's defense set up the next two scores. Jay Blyor pounced on a Stamford fumble near midfield. After the defense was stopped, Scott Harrington punted the ball to the two yard line. The Darien defense held strong and forced a short punt which Harrington returned 22 yards for the touchdown.

The Crusaders' responding attack was stopped cold when Bob Austin picked off a screen attempt and went all 50 yards for the touchdown. Stamford again began to drive and this time was successful on a 30 yard pass play to make the score 19-14. Then with only 40 seconds remaining, Darien punted the ball and its chances of victory away. The Darien punt was returned 50 yards to the two yard line where the Crusaders took it in for the next play.