New School Government Under Way

By Bruce Hill and Al Papan

The D.H.S. School Council held its first meeting last Wednesday. For about an hour, the newly elected representatives exchanged views on a number of questions. Because of their previous work on the constitution, Mrs. Clark and Tim Massad presided over the first part of the meeting, until a permanent chairperson was chosen. Tim Massad formed the meeting "mainly organizational" as he listed the questions which needed to be decided. He began by asking if there were any questions about the constitution or any points which needed clarification. There were several questions dealing with specific points in the constitution which were promptly cleared up.

The next piece of business involved the selection of a "chairperson" and "vice-chairperson." Nominations were taken and each member voted for two names, by secret ballot. The top two vote-getters, Tim Massad and Dr. Harper, were elected chairperson and vice-chairperson, respectively.

Second Four Year Survey

By Roger Horne

A second survey of Darien teachers on the plans for the four-year high school was conducted on December 4. Dr. Daryl Pelletier, Superintendent of Schools, released the results of the survey, to which 89.5% of the teachers polled responded, in a "Dialogue" bulletin on December 6 (results partly published).

Dr. Pelletier said that he and the Building Sub-Committee of the Board of Education had considered the questions and their order. The entire Board of Education then gave a final review before the teachers were asked to respond.

As in the first survey conducted by Alfred Sarace, Jr., and Victor Dury for the Darien Education Association (DEA), some members of the faculty were not pleased with either the questions or the interpretation of the results. Mr. Gerald Heffernan, director of guidance at the high school, who was very strong in his objection to the conclusions drawn from the first survey, said that the second survey was "preceded by statements [from the Board of Education] that told you what to think, in essence - propaganda."

The bulletin from the Board of Education was designed to explain to the public and to the teachers what the Board's official position on the four-year plan was. Mrs. Tjader, the author of the bulletin said that there was no correlation between the teachers receiving the bulletins on Friday and then being polled on the following Monday.

Mr. Heffernan approves of the four-year plan and of the middle-school continued on page 2

Coulombe Feels Drug Use on the Decline at DHS

By John Hession

"I wouldn't say that perhaps 35% to 35% of the people [DHS students] have tried pot or hash," Mr. Coulombe commented during a recent Neirad interview in which the use of drugs by the high school students was discussed.

"I don't think that drugs were ever a major problem in this school, but this is not to say that drugs themselves have not presented some kind of a problem. When asked what measures had been taken to guard against the use of drugs.

Mr. Coulombe said that this year there have been no reports of students using drugs on campus. He feels that the use of drugs is dropping off as it is elsewhere in the country.

The Agenda committee decided by a vote of two to one not to have the committee consisting of Mrs. Cloutier and Bill Holmes as well as the Council chairperson, in agreement with the constitution.

Chairperson Massad raised the subject of some sort of schedule of future meetings. The Council recommended that future meetings take place on Wednesdays during x period or after school, with the possibility of alternating Wednesdays and Thursday meetings, two per month, one of which will be a "speak-out" meeting at night. Chairperson Massad mentioned that during the summer sessions, many people were of the opinion that communication between the school government and students, faculty and parents was of great importance.

Mr. Coulombe raised a question about interpretation of a section of the constitution dealing with closed meetings and authority of the Council. When this was resolved, Mr. Coulombe discussed the formation of specific guidelines or placing issues on the agenda. It was suggested that forms be made available for written submission of issues as outlined in the constitution.
THE ALUMINUM EVERGREEN

CHRISTMAS TEST

Though American super-salesmanship exists at other times of the year. the most blatant example of it is during the Christmas season. This seems only logical; at what other time of the year do Americans exchange gifts in such great numbers and ways? What was once a Christian holiday, has now become a television and magazine showcase for such frivolities as sterling silver newspaper clippers or any of the other "absolute necessities" which appear in House Beautiful’s "Window Shopping." Christmas today is not complete without it's artificial trees (which come in all colors and materials from pink tin to green plastic), wreaths, elaborate lights and TV specials which precede the event for a full month. Decorations must be up by Thanksgiving and advertising into full swing by mid-October.

But growing commercialistic attitudes extend far beyond Christmas. Everything on the market must be sold to the "consumer." If there is no need for a product, one is created. If there is no real reason for the product, one is forged. Today we are sold such things as presidential candidates, funeral homes and thousands of kinds of junk with which to feed our bodies.

The time must come when the Americans can sit down to be entertained without having to be insulted, harassed and pounded constantly be advertisers. We must become an aware, living audience, that refuses to be manipulated and put down as though we were just ignorant fools who must be guided by those who are responsible for our entertainment. But if we refuse to act against we have to accept the situation and put up with those who pay for the programming. We will simply continue to be a herd onto which they can inflict their products.

THE SPIRIT OF 72

IT'S CHRISTMAS TIME AGAIN! THE KIDS ARE ALL ASLEEP, AND CHRISTMAS STUFFS ARE ALL UP, AND THE SIMULATED FIRE BRAWLED IN THE DEPARTMENT STORE DOWN THE STREET.

"MIGHT HEAR THAT CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COME IN TOUSIONS OF DIFFERENT COLOURS, AND THE ... KIDS ALL AGES!,"

ACE ALUMINUM CO.

HOWARD COSELL

New Poll

continued from page 1

concept. However, he objects to the methods used by the School Board in obtaining teacher opinion on the local school issues. "I feel that the Board's survey is better than that of the DEA. [More] "options" for reply and a better percentage of teachers responding," he asserted that the questions used in the recent survey were worded to get the "proper" response.

Some teachers feel that the order of the questions was simply a "mask" to fool the "teaching machine" - first you "learn" how the removal of the sixth grade from the elementary schools improves the K-5 program, then you "learn" how a more comprehensive sixth grade program could be provided in the junior high schools.

Dr. Felletier, who said in a Neirad interview that he never saw the need for the first survey, felt a second, more accurate survey was required. When the "teaching machine" charge was discussed, Dr. Felletier commented that "our survey was much more professional than the one the teachers put out." referring to Mr. Purdy's DEA study.

Some of the poll results are as follows:

1. In your opinion, would the removal of the sixth grade from the elementary schools provide space and opportunities for an improved K-5 program? Yes 65 percent No 24 percent Number responding 279.

2. Do you believe that a more comprehensive sixth grade program could be provided in the junior high school facilities? Yes 49 percent No 38 percent No difference 13 percent Number responding 287.

11. As a professional educator, would you counsel Darien parents and taxpayers to vote "Yes" for the proposed four-year high school and new school organization? Yes 48 percent No 34 percent Don't know 18 percent Number responding 278.
By Chip Harrington

The perma-frost is now setting in and many seniors and a few juniors are making preliminary plans for their independent study projects. As in the past, the proposed topics cover a very wide spectrum. This year the topics range from "The Study of a Local Seagull Community" to "The Priesthood—Pros and Cons."

Independent study is one of the finest educational programs in the high school curriculum," says one senior. "It enables us to develop our own particular interests while gaining valuable experience in organizing and utilizing our own time."

This program has not always been so readily available to the entire school community. Independent Study was introduced to Darien High School in 1963 as a limited program open only to fifteen ranking students in the senior class. Since the three projects in 1963, the number has grown steadily and in 1971, 46 independent projects were completed.

Here are a few examples of the proposed projects:

- "Ski Stratton" by Andy Walton. "This season be so jolly, and if you get your jollies skiing, it's time to head north. To many DHS students, this means Stratton Mountain, Vermont. Stratton lacks the suicide slopes found further north, but it does offer consistently good snow, and a variety of kicks. Rocking in that can challenge any expert. If you're a low dogger who likes an audience, Stratton is the mountain for you."
- "AH Too Often, Novice Trails Are Unanimously Approved." Stratton is not devoid of this "carte-skiing." Either, however, pleasures abound for the beginner brave enough to try one of the less popular side trails. The beauty of a Vermont woods distributed to all juniors and seniors mentally. Students in next year's senior year A. P. course. They also, however, buy a junior ticket for eight dollars. 3. take one literature course each within the elective program. 4. take one speech course during their junior year. She oral presentation alone are not graded by: Department of Public Relations. The requirements will be modified for this year's seniors and juniors who are entering the expanded program in the middle of the year. This year's seniors will not be held responsible for any of the requirements since they have only a semester before graduation. Next year's seniors will not be held responsible for the speech requirements. Students in next year's senior Advanced Placement course will satisfy all the requirements by taking the senior A. P. course. They also, however, will be required to take the Advanced Placement Examination at the end of the 1973-74 academic year. Students who do not wish to take the Advanced Placement Examination for any reason should either take another level or do not take the elective course or courses within the elective program. Eventually the department hopes to be able to expand the program to involve sophomores.

Ski Stratton

By Andy Walton

'Tis the season to be jolly, and if you get your jollies skiing, it's time to head north. To many DHS students, this means Stratton Mountain, Vermont. Stratton lacks the suicide slopes found further north, but it does offer consistently good snow, and a variety of kicks. Rocking in that can challenge any expert. If you're a low dogger who likes an audience, Stratton is the mountain for you."

The Travel Center

"Ski or scuba. White Alps or pink beaches. A student's wish is the Travel Center's command—and at bargain rates too!"

Call 655-3958.

The Board Approves "For Ten Dollars Or Less"

The Board of Education has unanimously approved "phase two" of the English Department's proposal for expanding the elective program.

Beginning next semester, Juniors will be able to participate in elective courses rather than taking a "regular" English course. Catalogues listing second semester offerings were distributed to all juniors and seniors last week and they will make their choices known to the English Department in January.

The elective program carries with it certain requirements. Students will have to:

1. pass 16 quarters of English.
2. take one composition course each year.
3. take one literature course each year.
4. take one speech course during their high school careers.

an original Rockwell hangs on the wall, painted in that very restaurant. The food is classic American, the service quick and with a smile.

So, although Stratton is known as an expensive mountain, a competent bunk can ski Stratton for less than ten dollars a weekend. A moose can do it for free, as about half of Darien owns houses up there. Thus, if escape is your game, you had better pass up Stratton. However, this weekly migration to Stratton does lead to a active night life, and some of the best parties of the Christmas vacation are sure to be held 248 miles from home at Stratton Mountain.
no wolves
where I live
learn the beauty
of winter cloudcover,
clots in frozen movement.
and no women I learn
as beautiful as this,
loped clouds in blue visions.

Donald Bell

a wintery hollow it was
one of a misbegotten blizzard.
caressed by a blanket of snow
cradled in the arms of a winter frost;
i held winter's genesis in my palms,
and felt it breeding my life.
diamonds hung from tenderly iced branches
a crystal dream in my eyes.
and I befriended the chill as
the sun and the snow
fought for their own beauty:
star-crossed lovers, perhaps.

Nancy Stauffer
An End-of-the-Year Entertainment Round-Up

By Mary Ferrara and Sandy Ward

If you're egging for something to do during vacation and you're not headed for Aspen or the Mediterranean, you might be interested to know what's going on around here.

THEATER

The Yale Repertory Theatre, New Haven.

In the Clap Shack

William Styron, the novelist of "The Confessions of Nat Turner," and "The Pony March" has put together an unusual "grotesque" comedy about a World War II hospital ward.

A Break in the Skin

Ronald Riham, the man who once Dunen, Hoffman into Off-Broadway has created a black comedy that will chill you and "even make you laugh!"

Are You Now or Have You Ever Been

By Eric Bentley

A play about real, events during the time of McCarthyism.

Dec. 18-22 The Hamburger Mayor of Night City (Children's Play) Performances on Dec. 18-19 at 1:00 p.m., Dec. 20-21 at 1:00 p.m. & 5:00 p.m., Fri.-Sun. Children - Adults $2.00. If you're babysitting, you may want to investigate this.

Dec. 22 In the Clap Shack Dec. 27 Are You Now or Have You Ever Been

Dec. 28 A Break in the Skin

Dec. 29 Are You Now or Have You Ever Been

In the Clap Shack

All weekday performances at 8:00 p.m.

Staursday performances at 2:30 p.m. 

Prices - Student price is $5.00 before play $1.50 with Student Identification. Weekend prices - $3.50, $4.50, $5.00

Matinee - $2.50, $3.00, $3.50

The Long Wharf Theatre, New Haven, Connecticut

What Price Glory?

By Lawrence Stilling and Maxwell Anderson, This play is a satirization of popular concepts of World War I.

Dec. 30 Rampelz, Let Down Your Hair Performances — - Nov. 20, 9:00 p.m. — Price — $2.00. A musical for children.

Dec. 22-Jan. 19 What Price Glory? Performances — Tues. - Fri. - 8:00 p.m. Sat. Evening 8:30 p.m. Sat. mat. 4:00 p.m. Sun. Evening 7:30 p.m., Wed. Mat. 2:00 p.m.

No performances Dec. 24 & 25

Prices - Student price is 50% before play $2.50, Fri. & Sat. Evenings $5.50, 6.50. All other performances $8.25, 4.50.

SPORTS EVENTS

Hockey

Dec. 18 New Rochelle at Playland, 5:30

Dec. 23 Mamaroneck at Playland, 6:45

Dec. 28 New Canaan at Ridgefield 5:45

Basketball

Dec. 19 Brien McMahon at Brien McMahon, 8:00 p.m.

Dec. 22 Ridgefield at Ridgefield, 8:00 p.m.

Dec. 27 Christmas Tournament at Wilton, Darien vs. Wilton at 8:00 p.m.

Dec. 28 Finals Christmas Tournament at Wilton Field House

Swimming

Dec. 20 Roger Ludlowe at Darien, 8:00 p.m.

Dec. 22 Norwalk at Norwalk High School, 3:00 p.m.

Dec. 30 Greenwich at Greenwich High School, 7:30 p.m.

Wrestling

Dec. 13 Danbury at Danbury, 3:15 p.m.

Dec. 21 Brookfield at Brookfield, 3:00 p.m.

Boys' Gymnastics

Dec. 18 Jonathan Law at Home, 7:00 p.m.

Dec. 19 Hartford Public at Home, 7:00 p.m.

Girls' Gymnastics

Dec. 18 Jonathan Law at Home, 7:00 p.m.

But if this immediate area does not have enough pizzaz for you, you hop a train to one of the many places in the New York state outside of the everlastimg going on there.

CONCERTS

Dec. 22 and 23 - Judy Collins at Carnegie Hall, with Hamil-Camp and the Skymonsters 8 p.m. Tickets $5.00, 6.50, 5.50 are on sale at the Carnegie Hall Box Office, 7th Ave. at 57th.

Dec. 23 - Fleetwood Mac plus pure Prairie League with Special Guest star McKendree Spring, late show only Dick Heckstall-Smith, at the Academy of Music 8 and 11 p.m. Tickets, all seats reserved, $4.50 and $5.50 at Ticketron and Box Office day of performance only. They would appreciate your bringing a toy or article of clothing to this concert. Items will be distributed to underpriviledged children.

Dec. 28 - Folk Variations II, Tim Hardin, Dave Van Ronk, Eric Kaz and Tracey Nelson & Mother Earth at Carnegie Hall 8 p.m. Tickets same as above.

Dec. 29 - J. Geils Band with special guest star B.B. King at the Academy of Music 8 and 11 p.m. Tickets, all seats reserved, $4.50 and $5.50 at Ticketron and Box Office day of performance only.

THEATRE - BROADWAY

Butley - Alan Bates is outstanding as a professor of English at the U. of London who loses his wife and his lover on the same day. A tragic, comic portrait of a man at the nadir of his personal and professional life. A play for "somehow" sophisticated tastes. Morisco Theatre, Evenings 7:30 p.m. 

Grease - Leat jackets, sock hops and pedepulppers - a funny, satiric look at '50s teenagers, or what we imagine them to be. Royale Theatre Mon.-Sat. 7:30, Wed. and Sat. mat. 2:00.

No, No, Nanette - Take your mother and father and yourself. A beautiful production that has become an institution on Broadway - stunning costumes, and great band. Bobby Van and Ellen Gallagher alone would be worth the price of the ticket. 46th St. Theatre.

Much Ado About Nothing - Shakespeare's play is successfully set in America at the turn of the century. Winter Garden.

Pippin - A beautiful staged musical about the life of Charlemagne's son and his many life-stories at the Imperial Theatre. Slesh - A Tony award winning mystery thriller at the Music Box Theatre. A fine evening.

The POTTERY CORNER SAYS HI
Blue Wave Hockey Team Skates To Four Straight Wins

The Burly Blue Wave hockey team skated to four straight victories in their opening weeks, winning in their typical Gashouse Gang fashion.

**EASTCHESTER** #4 Darien opened their season by traveling to Playland in Rye, New York, to face Eastchester. The Wavers dominated play during the first period, but were unable to find the back of a stubborn Eastchester defense. The first goal of the game was scored early in the second period. Paul Sloeum picked up the puck along the side boards and fed a perfect cross-ice pass to streaking winger John Clinton who cut down his angle and picked his spot between the goalee's legs for the score. Darien added an insurance goal later in the same period. Greg Clark set up this goal up, establishing an Eastchester defender on the ice and passing the loose puck in front of the net. John Bouvier Crouse was there waiting and slammed in the rubber for the final goal. The third period was marked by constant roughhousing, which finally erupted into a grappling match led by Darien's Mike Tracy. Tracy was given the heavy hue by the man in the stripes and red Blue, the commissioner of the WHL slapped on a one-game suspension.

**SLEEPY HOLLOW** #3 Darien returned to the Wonderland of Ice to take on a scrappy Sleepy Hollow squad. The Wavers once again scored first, this time mid-way through the first period. Eric Eaton blasted the shot in the directing of the Hollower's net. The blustering blazer was either deflected or went right through a Sleepy defense-man. Terry Delaney was great on the point for the second goal, bangering in a Paul Sloeum's pass in front of the net.

**Girl's Hoop Team Ready To Start**

The Girls Basketball Team, coached by Miss Rebecca Strominger, is looking forward to the opening of their season in January. Miss Strominger feels that it's really too early to speculate on the season, but the team has been practicing rigorously for a month, showing great promise. The squad is shaping up nicely for only four returning players from last year's team, a few new Juniors, and a large contingent of Sophomores. Returning are seniors Kristy Timony, co-captains Cindy Lawrence and Chris Jones, juniors Debby Grant and Sherry Macay. Of the Sophomores, Lisa Seyferth and Terry Delaney have great potential, and may well play varsity, though the team must raise it all themselves.

**Swimmers Work To Defend Title**

The Darien Blue Wave Swim Team is expecting another successful season as defending Class L State Champions. Over 90% of this year's varsity squad are returning lettermen including Jeff Dahl, Bob Jackson, Tom Craig and Steve Kamin and tri-captains John Zeigler, Jay Byler, and Rob Byler. They are joined by some promising sophomores George Fisher and Mike Zeigler. They are also looking forward to the recovery of injured sophomores Peter Craig.

Coach Mike Sangster is leading the team through its hardest conditioning ever. They are swimming 14 miles a week in limited pool time and engaging in vigorous weight lifting. The team is anticipating the new pool facilities expected to be included in the new four-year high school plans.

Eric Eaton skates circles around Eastchester foes in first win. Picture by Steve Eills

**Basketball Tourney**

By Ivan

Darien's Basketball Team takes on a tough foe in Erien McMahon tomorrow night, December 19. The game will begin at 6:00 p.m. in Norwalk. Friday night's Wavers travel to Ridgefield to face the Tigers. During the Christmas holidays, Coach Percodan's chargers are again competing in the annual Christmas Tournament held at the beautiful Wilton Field House. The two day tourney will take place on December 27 and 28. Darien will face top competition in Trumbull, Wilton, and Woodlands High Schools.

Trumbull and Woodlands will open the Tournament at 6:00 p.m. and Darien will play the second game against Wilton at 8:00 p.m. Game times for the next night will be the same, with the consolation game preceding the championship game.

**Skiers Eagerly Await Opener**

By Andy Walworth

The competition of season will be welcomed by at least one group at DHS, the Darien Ski Team. The team has been eagerly awaiting snow, and the promise of their fourth season on the slopes.

36 races are on the team this year, including six girls and four returning lettermen. There are twelve meets on the schedule and they will be run at Blue Birch, N.Y., Powder Ridge, Conn., and Mount Southington, Conn. All races are slalom, counting about 30 points.

Captain John Hammel and racer Wendy Thomson are both optimistic about the coming season. In a recent interview, John said, "This year we are super organized. There is a lot of enthusiasm, and we plan to ski the whole season.

"But" Wendy added, "the only way we can get the whole team to the mountains is by raising the money ourselves.

No money has ever been appropriated for a Darien Ski Team. The team's budget is minimal, about $2,000 for lifts and transportation, and the racers must raise it all themselves. The ski film "Winter People" was shown by the team Dec. 17, and the proceeds from this will help pay for the coming season.

**THE SALOMON STUDIO**

HAS MOVED TO:
20 OLDKINS HIGHWAY 30.
655-1054

FAIRBANKS FOTO - SUGAR N' SPICE - HALLMARK
Serving Darien since 1947