Do Tuxedos Suit This Year’s Prom?

By SUR ALLARD

Dust off your top hat and shine up your dancing shoes, for another glittering Darien extravaganza will soon be upon us; that event is, of course, the Junior-Senior Prom. Stains of the mellow “Stairway to Heaven,” this year’s theme, will pervade the atmosphere on Saturday, May 17, from 9:30 p.m. till 2:00 a.m. at the Long Shore Country Club in Westport.

Aiming high for a success up that “Stairway” are Lisa Seyfarth, Kathy Ferguson, and Kimby Ramin, this year’s Prom chairman. “We have a bigger place this year so it won’t be too crowded. There will be more room on the dance floor and we’re hoping more people will come. It will be a good way to end the year,” stated Lisa. The chairman hopes to have a crowd of at least 500 to 600 people.

What about the bands? According to Jon McElman, The music is very “Upteen in nature. It’s great.” Jon, Dick McIntyre, and John McLean were in the charge of contacting this year’s bands; Copper Lake and Uncle Woes. The latter is a group that has played several Stamford area proms.

Tickets, priced at $10.00 per couple, will be on sale from Tuesday, May 6, until approximately Thursday, May 15. Any member of the junior or senior classes may purchase tickets.

Due to a vote taken in junior and senior homerooms, gents have the option of wearing the traditional tuxedo or a matched suit with shirt and tie. According to the Prom Committee, the rain coats, slacks, jeans, canvas shoes or similar garb while appropriate for other occasions will not be acceptable for our Prom.

“Tuxes and shoes” is the trend for girls to follow. Drinking of alcoholic beverages will not be allowed during the Prom in the Long Shore Country Club or in cars.

DHS Anthropologists ‘Dig’ Site, Reston

By MEG McGOLDRICK

Twenty-two students packed their camping gear into a U-haul and piled into three cars parked in the front circle at the high school Saturday, April 5. By 11:30, Carolee Kerbs and David Hartkopf’s anthropology class were on their way to a week in Virginia to analyze the planned community of Reston and to work on an archaeological dig in Front Royal.

The group, accompanied by one parent, Audrey M. Smith, as well as Mr. Hartkopf and Miss Kerbs, camped out on the farm of social studies teacher Charles Burwell. The cold, windy weather was a little discouraging and the first night was a sleepless one for some of the novice campers. Several hurrying individuals slept under the stars in the rain. The 30 mph winds. Four tents were set up and all of the meals were cooked outside on Coleman stoves. But the group was also utilized the use of the facilities in Mr. Burwell’s house.

No Letter

On Sunday everyone drove into Reston, one hour away, where they split up to attend various church services. Because it is a planned community, every building and bush in the town is attractive. Reston is approximately the geographical size of Darien, but it is designed to hold 25,000 people. There are many townhouses, condominiums, apartments and several detached houses. All of the buildings are grouped in clusters and hidden by trees. The whole town is remarkably clean.

On Monday the group divided and some students went into Reston while the others drove to the dig site. After going over the basics in archeological digging, the students were taken out to the site. There were several older sites already excavated, but the group started a new one in the middle of a cornfield. The site was judged to be from 1300 A.D. to 1400 A.D. After students made a surface search for jasper, pottery pieces, or bone, the digging started. The dirt had to be pushed through a screen. Because it took awhile for the anthropologists to recognize the important artifacts and stones, many rocks and rocks were mistakenly taken for beads or arrowheads. Several brilliants (arrowheads) were found as well as jasper, bone, pottery and part of an axe head. The stumps in the dirt from the posts to a house and from an old fireplace were also discovered. After a day and a half in the artifacts had to be cleaned and indexed during a night lab.

Renovations Near Final Stage

By MARY M. GOLDRICK

The School Building Committee has devised an alternate plan which has reduced the cost of proposed construction changes and additions in the schools of Darien. The total expenditures proposed by the Building Committee have been changed from $2,538,000 to $7,910,000. The total is still being re-evaluated. Any possibly be lowered to $2,800,000. On May 8 a meeting was held concerning this topic. Results were not available at press time.

This new proposal has reduced the dollar amount for Darien High from $4,410,000 to $4,010,000, which may enable DHS to proceed in the construction of a new music room. The Board of Education accepted all the suggested reductions from the School Building Committee except for the exclusion of the special education addition.

The various reductions at DHS include reducing the proposed gymnasium from 11,000 to 8,500 feet and eliminating the art studio and art storage altogether. The size for the additional music room has been greatly reduced.

The special education room has been reincorporated into the plans. This room will provide accommodations for the children with learning disabilities now attending programs in other towns as well as some of the Darien schools. New construction proposals at the high school include three tennis courts, a basketball court and new playfields. All of these are alternatives. They will be incorporated into the plan if the costs fall within the total budget available.

Other construction will add new classrooms, a new gymnasium, a new music room, a new library, and a new music room. There will also be a new wood storage room in D-wing.

Inclusive in the plans will be a new storm drain and new walkways. Lighting will be added in several areas, and air conditioning will be installed in the administrative wing.

Once all the alterations have been approved by the Building Committee the plans will be open for bids by contractors. Approval by the Board of Ed., the Board of Finance, and the RTM will then be needed.

“I am very happy with the plan. We need the space so badly that we will definitely be able to make good use of the new additions and renovations,” commented Mr. Catania. “We are just hopeful, with any kind of luck, everything will go through as planned.”

In Reston each student went to his assigned cluster of homes for door-to-door surveys. Most of the people were friendly and helpful, although several students found many people not home, or the cluster only half built. Besides these surveys each student had two or three interviews with leaders of important community organizations. Mr. Hartkopf and Ted Kramer appeared on cable television in an interview with the head of the “Black Focus” group. Two girls rode the buses into Washington, D.C., so they could talk with the Best Friends Committee. The class is now combining all of the information into a social anthropological study which they hope to publish.

Mr. Hartkopf feels, “People were learning things, but it wasn’t viewed as school. People were working 12 to 14 hours a day when you wouldn’t catch them dead doing that in school.”
Policy Shows Student As Individual

After much delay Mr. Canvow has come up with an attendance policy which was apparently influenced by Mr. Higgins' proposal. Neirad supports this new policy, which should be more satisfactory to everyone. We hope that teachers will take this opportunity to treat each student's cutting individually.

Students should try to work cooperatively with teachers. In this way, any difficulties with regard to attendance can be resolved openly. As a result, students can benefit from a relationship of mutual trust with teachers. Perhaps everyone involved will get more satisfaction from classes.

We are disappointed that the 20% attendance rule remains unchanged. This policy will be revised later this spring. We feel that a student can keep up with class work even after missing a few of his classes, a failing grade is not deserved.

We hope for the better will come about soon.

Alternative Program Fills Need

Recently, a branch of the Options Committee, along with others including the principal, proposed an alternative learning plan aimed at students who are dissatisfied with the traditional learning process and as a result are not achieving to their full potential.

Under this program, students would be able to work closely with teachers and outside resources as is necessary. The 6th and 9th gradient would be placed on outside learning experiences, such as community service and internship.

We endorse this program as a highly beneficial experience for students involved. While the program will be geared to those who are unsure of how to utilize their time. We hope the system will be adaptable to the different needs of these students as they arise.

For the student who can especially profit from such individualized work, the program has great merit.

The fact that this alternative learning program does not call for any increase in the budget may make the Board of Education more inclined to approve it. We feel the student should also look at the need for the program files and act accordingly.

Women's Status Recent Topic Of College Lecture Series

By SUSAN LANE

"There are privileges about being a woman, but they are usually disguised vulnerability," Professor Sheila Tobin, who spoke at students Devotions, Wednesday, April 30, about women's status in history. She is one speaker in a lecture series sponsored by the Guidance Department.

Professor Tobin's specific topic was "Women and Men in the Bible: The Peculiar Status of Women in the Bible". Professor Tobin challenges the idea that the book of women went into industrial work during World War II for solely patriotic reasons and was willing to leave the job once the war was ended.

From research before the lecture, she claims a solid evidence to support her opinion. She also gave examples in history where women are omitted and their accomplishments trivialized. As an article in this subject written by Professor Tobin appears in the June 1973 issue of Ms. magazine.

Professor Tobin captivated the audience's interest as she presented her provocative material. The talk was followed by a question and answer session in which some students asked her to clarify some of her information.

Dr. Tobias received her bachelor's degree from Skidmore College, and her master's and doctoral work at Columbia. She has taught at City College in New York, worked as a college administrator at Cornell, and is now associate provost at Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut.

Professor Tobias has written extensively on courses and programs for women in particular the job opportunity field.

Dr. Tobias and her husband practice in Claremont, California, the philosophy of women's rights. Her husband, who she married 35, followed her to California in pursuit of her career, "...because I was interested in her work." He is presently an environmental economist for the University of California.

Dr. Tobias suggested encouraging math and science for women as well as men, calling them the language of the twentieth century. These disciplines allow women to participate in more fields.

The college Lecture Series featuring master teachers gives the students an opportunity to meet with people who are outstanding in their field," is the view taken by guidance counselor Elaine Coleman. The lectures try to simulate a college atmosphere and encourage students to explore various areas of study. The colleges are very enthusiastic about the program.

The series has already included an English professor from Sarah Lawrence and a Yale math professor. The next lecture, May 28, will feature a political science professor from Columbia University, Dr. Charles Hamilton, who will speak on 'Black History'. It's an enriching experience," Mrs. Coleman feels, and she would like to have each department provide a lecture for the series next year.
College Scene: Freedom Land or Sweatshop?

In answer to a questionnaire sent to them by Neirad, members of the DRS class of '74 told of their reactions to the various aspects of college life. Some of their responses follow.

Andy Welburn—Tufts

Neirad: Is college worth the money? 
AW: No. Most top schools are ridiculously overpriced and Tufts is no exception. Sit down and figure out the expenses. My roommate and I pay about $300 a month for one room which could be secured in the outside world for about $65. N: Can one prepare for college? IF so, how? AW: Buy a copy of Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance and really read it. Bring a good reading light. Plenty of towels and underwear. Put your name on all your records and write down a list of them. Bring a Frisbee. Acquire a taste for flat, warm beer (a standard refreshment at any party). Buy a pair of Wallabies. Don’t tell people how much money your father makes. If you are on scholarship, never discuss how much money you are receiving. N: Do you have a large work load? AW: Much harder than high school... The main trouble with studying is that it is one of the few low status symbols, along with pin-ball prowess and T.V. trivia knowledge. N: How large are your classes? AW: The largest class I’ve had is about 200 people, the smallest, nine. But the size of the class has little to do with the quality of the teaching. N: What do you like about college? AW: I like the freedom, the challenge, and the importance of things. Some of the professors here are very important,(especially men in their fields, like Sylvan Barnett. If you can get to know some of these people, you could learn a lot. N: What do you dislike about college? AW: ...The knowledge has become secondary to the grade, much like high school, which has been made so competitive by the difficulty of getting into college. Now we are all competing to get into grad school. When does it end?

Sally Genster—Princeton

N: What is your dorm room like? SG: The food sucks, not the dorm life in fastastic. It’s your typical freshman dorm. It is called “the Zoo” — it is a lot of fun. [Sally lives in a co-ed dorm with an all-female entry.] It’s easier to make women friends this way, since your first friends are usually the people you around. N: Do you have a large work load? SG: You work very hard. In high school you could never conceive of it, but you just do. It was a good background education, especially in French and Uniliated. N: What is your social life like? SG: The 25 to 1 ratio of men to women at Princeton makes the social life good but makes it difficult to make friends with others. My roommates are all single. If your roommates are all single. There are a lot of opportunities to do what you want.

Laure Van Warmer—University of Arizona

N: What are the advantages of a city campus or a country campus? LV: Ours is a suburban campus just bordering on the city — the best of both worlds! N: What large are your classes? LV: Either 100-400 for lectures or 15-25 for English and foreign language classes. N: What do you like about college? LV: The freedom of not having to attend classes if you don’t feel like it! N: Do you think four years of college is worth the time? LV: Yes, if you have a particular aim — otherwise not.

Debbie Horan—Ohio Wesleyan

N: What are the advantages of a city campus or a country campus? DH: A city campus has a tremendous ad

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Toll and a soliloquy in Shakespeare’s Hamlet, I decided to compromise with an article on the inevitability of Non-returnable Boxes,” which I found in Popular Mechanics.

Looking back, I realize this was not a very appropriate thing to read for an audition. However, Mr. Matheson was able to bear my shortcomings, and I was eventually included in Alice in Wonderland as the King of Hearts.

A Sears Is Born

As I woke up on the morning of opening night, I felt a terrible tightening in my cheeks and forehead. My face felt as if it had been scrubbed with a rug. As I looked in the mirror, the feeling of horror enthralled my body; an alegetic reaction in the form of a gross, bubbly rash had developed on my face where the make-up had been the night before for dress rehearsal. “Don’t worry about it, Pizza Face,” assured one unsympathetic cast member at school that day. “That rash is sure to clear up in four or five weeks.”

What Do You Say When You Forget What You Say?

Opening night was something of a shocking experience for me. The dialogue which I had rehearsed for the past two months was slowly starting to creep from my memory. Standing out on the stage during my very first scene, I was literally at a loss for words. The pompous King that I had practiced for so long was looking at me with the eyes of a great and magnificent actor. In one line, for example, I was supposed to proclaim, “If there’s no meaning in it, that serves us a world of trouble as we needn’t try to find any!” However, something went wrong upstage and the exclamation came out, “If there’s no meaning in it, that’s just . . . great!”

No study on the life of a Theatre 308 production is complete without a look at the cast party. I have not been to any other party where there has been such a cross-section of people from the school. It is quite a scene, with smoking area heavy mingling with an A-wing intelligence.”

Driving back that early morning, I felt a little light-headed, probably more from the party than the success of the show. For many people, there will be no more preparation to an audition and prepare for. But for this person, it is back to the typewriter and the routine world of the reporter.

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Cindermen Waver At Mid-Season

By TODD BURGER

It's a new season for the DHS track team and its beginning marks the start for their new head coach Bill Brazee. A business teacher, Mr. Brazee was also an assistant coach for the football team and head coach of the JV team. He has worked the team hard to prepare them for the new squad meets (four teams) as opposed to dual meets used last year.

The results have been encouraging. In their first meet, the team hosted Greenwich, Roger Ludlowe and Stamford Catholic, and finished second, scoring 86 points, with Greenwich placing first with 115.

Outstanding performances were turned in by Paul Hendry, who placed in four events; Jim Lewis, who finished first in the mile, setting a school record with his time, and Bill Bogardus, who also set a school record in the 330-yard intermediate hurdles.

The Big Blue then traveled to Ripowam to face the host Warriors, Wilton and Trumbull, tying Rip for second place with 57.5 points with Trumbull finishing first with 115.

Jim Lewis placed second in the mile, with co-captain Gary Leonard behind him at third; they exchanged places in the two mile.

Charlie Lemacher took first in the shot put, Bill Bogardus, second in the 330-yard intermediate hurdles, and Scott Heideman, second in the 120 high hurdles.

Darien was on the road again travelling to Westhill, Tuesday, April 28, to face host Vikings, Ridgefield and Andrew Warde, finishing third behind Ridgefield and Warde.

Netseters Commence Season Victoriously

By FRANK RUCKER

The Blue Wave tennis team has won its first three matches of ’75, including consecutive victories over defending western division champion Ripowam and state champ New Canaan.

Darien traveled to Trumbull on April 28 and defeated the lowly Eagles 5-2. Chris Pennefield, a sophomore playing number one, won in three sets while Steve Franklyn (#3), Jeff Lynch (#4), and Jon Ishi (#6) all defeated their opponents in straight sets. BobHarfordandBobLeibelingenabled Darien to claim the fifth point as they were victorious at the number two doubles position.

Ripowam hosted the Blue Wave two days later and saw Darien take a close 3-4 decision. Chris Pennefield (#1), Craig Whiting (#2), Steve Franklin (#3), and Jon Ishi (#6) each won their singles matches, clinching the victory for the revengeful Blue Wave, who were routed 70-34 by the Warriors last year.

The first home meet was played against 1974 state champion New Canaan on May 5, and the Blue Wave managed in the Home a decisive 5-2 loss. This loss broke a string of fifty-four consecutive victories which New Canaan had extended since 1971. Darien’s top five singles players swept New Canaan to clinch the victory, but the Darien doubles teams continued to demonstrate several weaknesses as they both lost.

Over the first three matches, Darien has showed complete dominance in singles. The top five players have compiled thirteen victories as opposed to two defeats. The doubles teams have showed their problems, though, as they have lost five of six matches.

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