Principal reviews good and bad at press conference
By Jay McMahon

In a recent press conference held by Donald C. Robbins, the high school principal, a host of questions were put to him. These questions, which Robbins felt were the most negative aspects of DHS, all related to the widespread phenomenon of vandalism. A recent survey of DHS students revealed that 93% of the students feel that the school is not safe and secure.

"Some students are here for grades and not so much for education," Robbins noted. "They do not care about their grades, and they do not care about the school. They are only here to pass the tests." Asked about what he would do to improve the situation, Robbins replied, "I would like to see a change in the atmosphere of the school. I would like to see a change in the way the students behave." He added, "I would like to see a change in the way the teachers behave."}

New schedule announced
By Gail Bruggenser

A new eight-period schedule will go into effect in September, according to Principal Donald C. Robbins. The new schedule will attempt to deal with the problems of the present pilot schedule as well as incorporate its advantages.

A written survey to evaluate the present schedule was distributed a month ago to faculty members and students. As a result of the survey, Dr. Robbins held discussions with the Principal’s Advisory Committee, the Departmental Council, the superintendents of schools and the assistant superintendent.

The greatest advantage of this year’s schedule, the faculty and students have revealed, was the increased contact time as a result of class meetings every day. The faculty said the greatest disadvantage of the schedule has been the rotation of periods seven and eight at the end of the day. This presented a problem, the faculty reported, because students, especially student athletes, who needed to be excused from classes at the end of the day missed the same periods over and over.

The 45-minute classes received both positive and negative responses in the survey.

The English and Social Studies Department found the new shortened period (from 50 minutes last year to 41 minutes this year) too short for indepth class discussions. Mathematics and Foreign Languages found the teaching time this year effective, because these classes usually require close supervision.

By Claire Keating

"There’s something rotten in the state of Denmark," and students will be able to find out just what it is when the movie version of William Shakespeare’s play "Hamlet" is shown Monday, April 2, at 7:30 p.m. in the DHS auditorium.

The movie is only one of many activities planned for Darien’s week-long Shakespeare Festival. The Drama Club English Department has been awarded a $3,108 grant from the Connecticut Humanities Council for the state committee of the National Endowment for the Humanities, to present the Shakespeare Festival, March 30-April 5.

The history, literature, art and music of the Elizabethan Period will be presented through a series of lectures, discussions, demonstrations and performances.

The Shakespeare Festival will continue with demonstrations and lectures by Mary Hunter and Keith Crean from the Connecticut Center for the Performing Arts, the educational branch of the Shakespeare Theatre in Stratford. These activities will run from 12:15 p.m. until 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 3 in the DHS auditorium.

A performance of Elizabethan music by The Wadmalaw Singers under the direction of Jeannie Kimball will take place in the DHS auditorium on Thursday, April 1 at 1:05 p.m.

Richard Reagan, a professor at Fairfield University will help to explain music during Shakespeare’s time before the Madrigal Singers perform.

The week’s events will feature Theatre 308’s student production of "The Taming of the Shrew" Continued on page 3
Return to the days of yesteryear

The problems with the current DHS schedule are well known throughout the school. The schedule is unpopular with both students and faculty alike.

The administration's newly-proposed schedule shows both considerable effort to alleviate the current problems and a considerable error that renders any effort futile. The administration, in its single priority seems to be to salvage the eight-period schedule format. For this reason for the decision lies, on the part, in the Board of Education's resolution that the Darien School must be eight periods in length. This decision lies in the best interest of the administration. It is unimportant, from the standpoint of the number of students using flip-flop at the end of the day solves problems. These changes show consideration for the sentiment on the part of the administration, yet it still constitute a compromise solution. Why compromise? Why institute a schedule that will not work as well as the time-tested seven-period schedule?

We believe that the administration's decision to continue using the eight-period schedule is a mistake.

The solution is an immediate return to the one-credit drop schedule with seven 50-minute periods. The current schedule is a failure. The people who must work within the eight period confines of the current schedule 8:45 am until 3 pm and the former seven-period schedule becomes the logical alternative with each passing day.

Raise the flag— not the drinking age

A bill is before the state legislature right now to raise the legal drinking age from 21 to 20. This bill is a bad idea and possibly 21. Although we realize that a problem may exist with minors drinking, there are several reasons why raising the drinking age is not the proper solution.

One problem that proponents of the bill are trying to eliminate is that of high school problem drinkers. They believe that if the drinking age is 21, teenagers will drink more than they do now. This is not the case. If the drinking age is 20, there are problems with teenagers drinking more than they do now.

Not only will the lack of relations with minorities (Blacks, Puerto Ricans and other Hispanics) be detrimental to Darien children who are unaware of the different values of people with major cultural differences, it is also a minority group of people who do not know the reality of their needs making decisions.

The Darien School system has taken a step in the right direction this year when they have set aside a special time for the students to talk about their problems.

It is questionable whether Darien, often called an "asian town," fulfills this goal.

Darien remains outside world's "melting pot"

In 1818, Thomas Jefferson cited a major objective of education: "To observe Intelligence and faithfulness all the social relations under which one shall be placed." It is questionable whether Darien is often called an "asian town," fulfills this goal.

Twelve percent of the nation is Negro. Having No Black population, Darien is not up without experiencing inter-relations with people that they will meet and work with later in life.

Not only will the lack of relations with minorities (Blacks, Puerto Ricans and other Hispanics) be detrimental to Darien children who are unaware of the different values of people with major cultural differences, it is also a minority group of people who do not know the reality of their needs making decisions.

The Darien School system has taken a step in the right direction this year when they have set aside a special time for the students to talk about their problems.

To receive the education that develops a total person, Darien students must have 16 opportunities to relate to racial minorities on a personal basis.

Survey shows some students study

By Steve Olsen and John Marion

In a recent NEIRAD survey, more than 200 Darien High School students in a homeroom survey answered the question: "How many of your free periods spend most of your free periods studying?" The survey was distributed among the students and only 48 percent of the respondents answered that they never have left campus.

The Junior Class proved to be the most active in the survey. Sixty-five percent of the students went to the library that said they studied there while 35 percent said they studied in their classroom. However, 98 percent said that they socialize there. The Junior Class responded that 84 percent of the students in their class said they went to the cafeteria. Of students who said they leave campus, 93 percent answered that they never leave campus.

The survey was distributed among the students and only 48 percent of the respondents answered that they never have left campus.

Overall, the survey showed that 49 percent of the students of Darien High School study in the library while 49 percent of the students who study in the cafeteria. Of students who said they leave campus, 38 percent of the seniors answered that they have left campus compared to 38 percent that said they have left campus.

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Shakespeare Festival

Continued from page 1

Friday and Saturday evenings, March 30 and 31 at 8 o’clock in the DHS auditorium.

On Monday morning, April 2, Dr. Allan Lewis, a Shakespeare scholar at the University of Bridgeport, will present a lecture entitled “Shakespeare Today” in the DHS auditorium at 9:30 a.m. Immediately following Dr. Lewis’ lecture, Ann Thompson and Marita Vazquez of the New Globe Theater will perform “Shakespeare’s Lovers.” The presentation is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the DHS auditorium.

Monday and Tuesday evening, Michael Kerbel, a humanities scholar at the University of Bridgeport, will make some introductory remarks before the films “Hamlet” and “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” to be shown respectively on April 2 and 3 at 7 p.m. in the DHS auditorium.

More than 100 organizations and high schools throughout the area have been invited to participate in the week-long DHS festivities which are open to the public.

308 presents ‘Taming of the Shrew’

By Pam Drugge

“How Now! What is this?!” As part of Darien’s week-long Shakespeare Festival, a Theatre 308 production of William Shakespeare’s “The Taming of the Shrew” will be performed in the auditorium, March 30 and 31. Night performances are scheduled for 8:15 p.m. at a cost of $4 per person.

Meg Geruso and Charlie Berry will share the starring role of Kate, the shrew. Petruchio, the suitor who attempts to tame the willful Katherine, will be played by Chris Rest. Bianca, the woman for her gentility in contrast to her sister Kate, will be portrayed by Martha Ashion. Other main characters are Grumio (Brian Fotter) and Thaddeus (Gregg Hartz)

ARTIST TALK—A talk entitled “Shakespeare’s Tragedy” will be presented by Marc Hunter Wolfe, director of the Performing Arts of the American Shakespeare Theatre in Stratford. Tuesday, April 3, at 12:15 p.m. in the auditorium. The talk will be accompanied with an acting demonstration by a group of Shakespearean actors.

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Bike race and lottery highlight World Week

By John Rooney

Last year's popular activity, "World Week," will take place this year during the last week of April. The event will be coordinated by the Foreign Language Department and will be run under the direction of French teacher Barbara Knox.

"World Week is a barrier breaking experience," said Knox. "It will give students a different view of the world and an understanding of the students in other countries.

The big event of "World Week" this year will be an International Smorgasbord Dinner which will be the big fund raiser for the Dr. John A. Rallo language scholarship. The scholarship is awarded to a sophomore or junior who displays an outstanding ability in a foreign language and who would not have the chance to travel abroad otherwise.

The dinner is a fashion show, a performance by the Madrigal Singers and our own foreign student, "Chai" Panuwatpanawong of Thailand, who will tell us about his country. There will be a small 35 admission fee.

A lottery during the week will feature games of "Kai Po," black and white television, a portable cassette tape player and a designer evening dress.

A bike race resembling the "Tour de France" will be run on a course that consists of roads near the school. This was a popular event last year.

Other events will include the Gemini Club's "Mai Po," the Latin Club's Toga Party and an International Bazaar. The cafeteria will serve international lunches all week.

"World Week is not something for students," said Knox. "Overall participation by the town will be very important."
Hooper's just miss state tournament

By John Marian

The boys basketball team finished the season with a respectable mark of 8 wins and 12 losses, but the team missed out on its goal of making the state tournament by one game.

Trackettes expect excellence

By Bruce MacBain

After finishing undefeated, first in the county and third in the state, it would seem difficult to equal last year's great season, but the girls spring track team is hoping to be as good if not better than last year's squad.

Wrestlers gain division title

By Gail Brugemeyer

The DHS wrestling team entered the season with a record of 16-2, an Eastern division championship, and third place in the county championships.

The Blue Wave has already begun in preparation for the opening match against Wilton April 23. Rinnong, conditioning exercises and inter-squad competition are part of the Waver's daily workout.

Three out of the top five players will be returning this year, one of which is captain Ron Ferrieri, who in the 126 pound weight class was undefeated in the county, but lost to Curtis Nelson of Westhill in the finals and came up with a second place finish. Mark Hoffman also garnered a second place spot after being pinned by his opponent in the finals. Heavyweight Charles Bering took the third place spot after an outstanding performance in the consolation round.

Other good finishers were Steven Brill in the 100 pound weight category who took fourth, Vinnie Parotti in the 153 pound weight class also a fourth, Bill Hughe in the 160 pound class and Mark Donsett took fourth in the 185 pound class.

The Grapplers season was the best season in the history of DHS wrestling. They are looking forward to the State Class L championships and hope to return to a good chance to win first place honors.

Tennis team tries to retain state title

By John Ness

The boys tennis team will attempt to retain its State Class L four crown with a record of 16-2, an Eastern division championship, and third place in the county championships.

Coach Ralph Masterangelo explained, "Essentially we are keeping our state champion team intact for three years by having many returning juniors and seniors and a good group of incoming sophomores to balance off the graduating seniors.

The Blue Wave has already begun in preparation for the opening match against Wilton April 23. Rinnong, conditioning exercises and inter-squad competition are part of the Wavers' daily workout.

Four out of the top five players will be returning this year, one of which is captain Tom Kellogg, last year's Class L Champion.

The team's biggest problem is one of supply and demand,

explained coach Masterangelo, mainly because there is a great demand for a top position on the ladder. Coach Masterangelo said he feels that there are about 15 people who could fill the top five slots on the ladder. He only wishes he had more players.

Darren's strong personnel should be good enough for another state title.

Rebuilding Season

Ahead For Girls Softball Team

By Doug Page

Coming off a 4-12 record last year, the girls softball team and Coach Deborah Billington says that the upcoming season will be a building year.

The girls Softball Team will have only seven returning players. Of the seven, only three started last year.

"I feel if our record will improve that track because we lost the entire infield," said Coach Billington.

Miss Billington also said that last year's team could reflect the type of team performance that the girls are capable of.

Carlier Dehnke-Doughman will be the only captain of this year's squad and the team's first game will be April 9 against Wilton.

jeff msner helps track meet gain fourth in the states.

Seven Wave girls qualify, retain state title

By Pam Drum

In the 5-12 record last year, the girls fast pitch softball team will be the only captain of this year's squad and the team's first game will be April 9 against Wilton.

Monahan and John Kondres, who won the event with a time of 3:38.8.

Other fine efforts were made by Jim Satterly in the 1000-yard dash, placing second with a time of 2:16.67 and Jeff McKee who finished third in the mile at 4:36.

The State L and I Class Meet was held March 3 and March 10 the State Open Meet, in which the smallest, medium, large and extra large
**Pucksters runner-up in FCIAC, bow to Hamden in state tourney**

By John Nelson

The DHS hockey season drew to a close with the Wave having a final 11-2-2 record, earning second place in the FCIAC. The Wave bowed to a strong Hamden team in the State competition.

The Terry-Connors rink was the setting for the FCIAC tournament in which four teams battled for the title. In the first round Darien defeated Stamford, and Greenwich eliminated New Canaan.

Darien 5, Stamford 2

After tying the Stamford Knights in their regular season, the Blue Wave didn't feel around as the Wave scoring began in the opening thirty seconds of the game. The Blue Wave's strong defense, led by Doug Hart and Bob Coutts and their 31 shots on goal, proved to be the dominant factor in the Wave's 5-2 victory.

Greenwich 3, Darien 0

"Teddy Teddy!" the Greenwich crowd chanted all night as Cardinal Moreno and Ted Lowe proved to be the deciding factor in the match against Darien in the FCIAC finals.

Darien 9, Wilton 3

Darien's next encounter was with Wilton in the first round of the State Tournament (CIAC), in which the Wave defeated the Warriors 9 to 3.

Bill Dorellman lead the offensive attack with a hat trick while Bob Coutts and Dave Widemer handled the defensive aspect.

The Blue Wave then moved on to the second round of the tournament when they met number one ranked Hamden. Hamden thrashed the Wave 12-2.

Hamden pumped 45 shots on goal which kept goalies John Roney and Jack Lavender busy throughout the game.

The two teams battled the game out at the Hamden rink with many penalties and an occasional fight. Hamden's strong defense and precise offense was a major factor in the game.

Another major factor was the penalties, a popular item in the game. Unfortunately Darien led in penalties giving Hamden the opportunity to beat Darien when they were a man down.

The Darien puck will now host a team from Switzerland and compete against them during spring vacation in April.

Abu Harrigan lets one fly against Westhill.

**Diamond dudes will try their darnedest**

By Bruce MacBain

"There are no set positions," said Baseball Coach George Nelson. That often happens when an 8-12 team loses 13 letters from the previous year.

"We should have a good outfld," the coach declared. It will probably be formed out of Mark Saunders, Jay Chandler, Ron Yarish and Drew O'Rourke.

The pitching appears stable, with three varsity pitchers, Peter Waters, Naury Knutte and John Bivler, returning from last year's squad.

There are many candidates for the infield with Doug Brul walking in the starting lineup on second base and one of the pitchers probably playing first when not pitching.

Catching could be the main problem for Coach Nelson. No one has varsity experience in that position.

Tryouts for the team began March 12.

**Surprise state win for girls indoor track**

By Pam Drudge

In the first Nicholas Zeoli State Invitational Girls Indoor Track Meet, the Darien team succeeded in winning the title by a margin of half a point over county champions, Rippowam F.B., at the Wilton Field House.

Coach Del Masta commented, "Deep down, the girls had been working the last two weeks, I knew we would put it all together that night. They knew this was the last time they would be together as a good girls track team. At the FCIAC championships, the week before we couldn't put it all together. But this year we did."

Outstanding performances were made by the relay teams. The short relay team consisting of co-captain Mandy Sutherland, Germaina Fabbi and co-captain Julie Lindenberg and Caroline Savarese placed first to set a new meet record of 1:52.4. The long-relay team run by Sharon Grady, Lynn Murray, Germaina Fabbi and Leslie Kelley placed second.

Mandy Sutherland won the 50-yard dash (5.99) and set a new meet record. She had a hand in two relay races and ran on a 3:58 800-yard run, while teammate Leslie Kelley took fifth.

Julie Lindenberg hurled her way to a third place finish.

Cinderella courting counties**

By George Zeng

With the track season just around the corner, the boys team is looking for another successful season. The leadership of senior captains Jeff Messer, a 440-yard dash and 880-yard run, and Lynn Murray in the two mile run, Sharon Grady placed in the 800-yard run, while teammate Leslie Kelley took fifth.

Julie Lindenberg hurled her way to a third place finish.

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**Dedication and determination prove dynamic for Lyndel**

By Gall Bruggeyer

Achieving athletic excellence in a specific sport takes a great deal of dedication and hard work. Lyndel Robb, a senior, has achieved this excellence.

Lyndel moved to Darien in her sophomore year after living in Colorado for most of her life. She started skiing at the age of five and four years later, she was skiing competitively. Her dedication and determination have been evident since she started skiing in third grade. She is an outstanding student who is a member of the National Honor Society. She is currently an honor student at Darien High School, and she has been accepted to Middlebury College in Vermont.

Lyndel has been accepted at Middlebury College in Vermont. She plans to pursue her racing there and ski with the university ski team.

Lyndel said that she feels a great deal of satisfaction in her skiing because it is a sport she is passionate about. She said, "I love skiing, and it is something that I have been doing for as long as I can remember."

Lyndel enjoys both racing and recreational skiing. She explained, "Racing has a lot more technicalities, because you have to constantly think of what you have to do to carve the turns."

Lyndel has been accepted at Middlebury College in Vermont. She plans to pursue her racing there and ski with the university ski team.

Lyndel has been a member of the Darien High School ski team for four years. She has won numerous awards and has been a part of several state championship teams. She is also a member of the National Honor Society and has been involved in several community service projects.