Student protest leads to traffic re-route

By Doug Page and Greg Burns

A compromise solution to the parking problem was formulated at a meeting between Student Government President Donald Robbins and 12 student representatives.

Dr. Porter met approximately 200 student demonstrators who marched from the school to the entrance of the Board of Education building at 3:30 p.m. Dr. Robbins was summoned to the scene at 10:40 a.m. and, after more than two hours of debate, reached an agreement with the Board of Education and students about a revision of the three-week pilot parking plan.

The barricades that blocked the entrance to Noroton Avenue, High School Lane and Nutting Avenue, which were scheduled to be removed on May 21, have been removed. Cars driven by staff or not admit- ted into the school without a parking ticket. Administrators and teachers sides will continue to patrol the streets to enforce the new regulation.

During the school day, a barricade placed on High School Lane, across from the auditorium, will prevent the flow of traffic that Dr. Robbins said "creates a safety hazard." On Wednesday, May 16, as a result of the concern expressed by Dr. Robbins, explained the need to find a plan to solve the safety hazard caused by access to the high school from Noroton Avenue. For three weeks, Noroton Avenue, Noroton Heights and High School Lane have limited traffic on a trial basis.

A petition opposing the new parking policy had been distributed among students Wednesday, May 16, and more than 300 signatures were recorded. The petition was started by seniors George Zengo and Tim Appleton and junior Abu Al- fikan.

New Plan Development

Dr. Robbins summarized the concerns about the traffic situation in a letter to Student Superintendent of Schools Dr. Joseph Porter this way:

"The high school parking lot is a thoroughfare for citizens wishing to avoid a bottleneck between Hollow Tree, Noroton and Mid- dies Roads.

"Stickered parking during the school year should be adequately enforced because neither school officials nor students want to dispense tickets to students park- ing without stickers.

"There are insufficient parking spaces for the number of students wishing to drive, adults who must drive and visitors.

"Traffic control with three-weekly and the number of

Continued on page 5

Student protest leads to traffic re-route

Tu-tu and two schools not too much for sophomore

By Molly Telzoff

Can you imagine doing your homework on a train every day? Some seniors in Eileen Bley's class can. She commutes from New York City to school every day, Monday through Saturday, and she hasn't gotten home until 9 p.m.

Eileen is a 15-year-old DHS student who boards with the Landers in Darien. She visits her parents once a week at her home town of Buffalo, New York.

"There were first two teachers taught me wrong, I had to re-learn everything from the beginning," Eileen said. She started taking the trains when she was nine years old. The ideal age to start is eight, she stated.

The New York City Subway Company is one of the top three in the world, and Eileen attends their official school, The School of American Ballet, on scholarship.

In a survey for the scholarship was to participate in a class, "The Bar, trying to conserve when I could hear the judges talking about me in Russian," she said. She will eventually become a member of the company.

"There are two in Eileen's school and a whole lot of daily classes. They are so hard," she said. She has two classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays. During them she is always working on improving her technique. Afterward, the sophomore said, the best is good, she has accomplished something.

"Ballet is like a Turn- ing Point" were the words that popped out of Eileen's mouth as she was asked by Norden about the increased interest nationally.

Patrick McBride and Mikhail Baryshnikov are her favorite dancers because of their "strength. It's exciting because you're not the only person on the stage," Eileen said as she was asked by Norden about the increased interest nationally.

Seniors receive diplomas June 15

By Judy Lummis

Approximately 396 students from the Class of 1979 will receive diplomas in an outdoor ceremony on the football field at 6 p.m. Friday, June 15. Following the ceremony, there will be a reception in the gymnasium and then a post-graduation dance at the Hyatt Regency in Norwalk, from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

The party will continue at Wind Beach where light refreshments will be available according to the number of graduates of the class.

The two-hour reception will be attended by Irene Searle, who will be the special guest and introduce the speakers. Next, a minister will deliver the invocation and the student speaker, Peter Crotzota, will deliver a speech. As his classmate, Dorothy Perkins, Chairman of the Board of Education and, Dr. Joseph Porter, Superintendent of Schools, will speak just before the featured speaker, Charles Burwell, a retired DSH Social Studies teacher.

Dr. Donald Robbins, principal, will give out diplomas to the graduates, aided by class valedictorians, Bruce Irving and Mazy Murdock. The seniors will receive their diplomas lined up according to height, ten boys wearing blue caps and gowns then ten girls wearing white and so on. After the benediction, the ceremony will be completed.

Graduation practices will be held June 14.

The graduation committee is chaired by Dr. Karlseth and the principal. The post-graduation committee is headed by Mimi Corbett and Dee McCreary.

In case of rain, the ceremony will be held in the auditorium.

Pete and two schools not too much for sophomore

By Judy Lummis

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Fewer N.C.'s this year given

By Kathy Evans

"Mrs. Smith, I am calling from DSH, and we have here what your son, Johnny, is not in Chemistry today... Do you have an explanation?"

Calls like these are made every- day at DSH to accordance with the new attendance policy put into effect this year. First quarter, 100 N.C.'s (no credits) were given and that number gradually decreased to 96 N.C.'s second quarter and 78 last quarter. As principal, Gerard Coulombe said that he was surprised that so few N.C.'s were given.

For those who are not ac- quainted with Dr. Coulombe, it is simply this: each teacher takes attendance daily for every class and at the end of the day, submits an "absent from class" to the office. Each student is then marked excused or unexcused. If unexcused, the student receives a call at dinnertime, and is asked for an explanation. If a student receives the unexpected absentee in a quarter he receives no credit for the class that particular quarter.

Last year, each teacher had his own attendance policy and made the decision of whether or not to give a particular student credit. This year, attendance is mostly controlled by the computer, but the teachers are still able to choose whether or not to give a student credit.

The present policy is under evaluation right now. But most likely will be continued next year, according to Mr. Coulombe.
Do we have potential to be a progressive school?

Maintaining an atmosphere conducive to learning and maturing should be the main priority of the administration. The school atmosphere should ready students to accept and cope with the responsibilities of adult life. The eight-period schedule, parking and closed campus are three major drawbacks that do not contribute to a learning atmosphere.

The biggest drawback to learning is the eight-period schedule. The four-minute passing times, 20-minute lunches and 43-minute periods are simply too brief. The schedule creates a rushed atmosphere that common sense dictates cannot contribute to learning. The seven-period schedule was superior to the current eight-period schedule, because the students had a more relaxed atmosphere, and they had more exposure to class material. There was more time to take a test, watch a movie, chat for gym classes and finish that last Twiskie.

The parking situation is a major concern of both students and administrators. While the ultimate decision lies in the hands of the administration, students must advise and direct the course of action since they will be the parties affected. The student government and concerned students must lobby, cajole and impress their opinions on the minds of the administration. Only then will a viable solution to the parking situation be discovered. Dr. Robbins’ car only takes one space. Since students account for hundreds of cars parked, they will have to voice the solution they will adhere to, whether this solution is first come, first served; stickered parking or the construction of additional spaces. What is the function of the grassy areas in the parking lot that get parked upon anyway?

While the parking situation frustrates students in the morning, closed campus affects students throughout the day. The gates on Nutmeg Lane and Noroton Avenue create a caged-in atmosphere. Students are being deprived of needed experience and the sense of responsibility that supposedly come along with the driver’s license. Perhaps this is one life skill that should be taught. The responsibility is more important to the school’s legal liability, as other administrators of high schools with open campuses have witnessed.

NEIRAD has the potential to become a great progressive high school. The faculty, the administration, and the secretarial, maintenance and cafeteria staffs have few problems. We have confidence in the ability of the students, community and administration to cope with and solve the present drawbacks at the high school.

NEIRAD as a means of communication between any responsible student political committee and the administration. Page two of NEIRAD has long been open for public soap-boxing and we urge more use of this important medium.

Science fiction affects the future

To the Editor,

The letter to the Editor of the May 8, 1979 issue of NEIRAD, enti tled "Seniors slump in spring," stressed the need for seniors to take their education more seriously and to plan for the future. Science fiction is important because it is precisely that future-oriented, which it encourages inquiry into the most critical problems which will confront students during the rest of their lives. It is not too ticated to note that the students of today are tomorrow’s workers, voters and parents. Students of science fiction are now planning for the rest of their lives.

Jim O’Dell

Science fiction can also be a fine source for social studies lessons. It can contribute by dramatizing the following questions, which are emphasized in the class material which is being used:

Work in the future: Will there still be need for certain jobs? teachers? grave-diggers?

Ecology: Shall we pass laws to limit births? Shall we stop using precious land to inter the dead?

Gene Engineering: Shall we clone living beings? Should we be allowed to clone living beings? Should we be encouraged to commit themselves to actions which will bring about cloning? Should we be allowed to clone living beings and others with the knowledge? Shall we allow cloning?

Music, Art as part of the future: How do we respond to computer creations? What is Art?

World Government: Will all people be unified under one government? Will each human being have the right to share equally in the wealth of the world?

In seeking answers to these questions we must read science fiction and we should be encouraged to commit themselves to actions which will bring about solutions to these problems, rather than have it thrust upon them. Isn’t this a part of education?

Ms. Hilary Freen

Editor's note: The idea expressed in this column do not necessarily represent the views of the editorial board of NEIRAD. Students are invited to turn in their views in editorial form to the NEIRAD box in the front office.

NEIRAD is published every month in school sessions by the National Editorial Association, 2418 Doolittle Street, Darien, Connecticut. $0.25. The Third class postage is paid at Darien, Connecticut. A year’s subscription may be ordered for $5. NEIRAD is a member of the Connecticut Scholastic Press Association.

By Greg Burns and Glenn Heitsmith

Meditators eyes opened transcendentially

By Greg Burns and Glenn Heitsmith

Ever want to “see the sun going down” or have “the eyes in your head see the world spinning ‘round’?

Now there is an accompanying article by a writer paper while studying for a Spanish test while writing. In the present, the 20 minutes during which meditation is practiced increase learning ability, in addition to reducing stress. Scientists, who found that while in meditation, brain pressure and rate of breathing drop below normal. In fact, the levels observed were even lower than those associated with deep sleep. Meditators find students in mediation classes can actually grasp abstract concepts more quickly and with greater clarity than non-meditators.

There are three known states of consciousness: the waking state, the deep sleep and dreaming. Now, scientists believe that the fourth state of consciousness, brought upon through meditation, existence, is the true fourth state by repeating a mantra, Indian words that are chosen to reflect the meditator’s personality. While sitting on a couch or the chair, meditators drift into a different state of consciousness by letting his thought wander as he silently repeats his mantra.

The ultimate goal of meditation is extremely difficult to fit into words and syntax. Each meditator has his own personal, but the most important object is, loosely described, a state of discovery.

Peter Hitchins, assistant manager for the Darien Cheese Shop and a devoted meditator, elaborated: &quot;Some well-practised, devout meditators achieve a state of non-existence, an opposition to existence.&quot;

He said, &quot;We see the world in terms of opposites and extremes like birth and death, good and evil. What we mean by &quot;existence&quot; is God-consciousness, or being in touch with a higher spirituality. The most important benefit meditation can bring people is a change from a limited individuality to a universal self.&quot;

Michael Wolh, a renowned media intern at NEIRAD, said students may have been working in and about the A-V office, recently featured as the T.M. to Dr. Haller’s Weird, Exotic and Bizarre Claremont. His article was entitled &quot;I never had any time to get things done,” he stated.

"Then I heard about the T.M. program and decided to give it a go. Initially, I didn’t notice any change. But after I had been meditating twice daily for a few weeks, I realized that I was becoming more organized."

In addition, MichaelWothersome basic T.M. program, Mr. Wohi talked about the T.M. after program, one of the ultimate achievements of meditation.

"Siddhi is Sanskrit for perfection," he said. "After an individual has been meditating for a number of years, he reaches a perfected state of mind/body coordination. Through this expansion of consciousness, one is able achieve feats of coherence one could never have imagined before.&quot;

According to Mr. Wolh, anyone can learn to meditate, although it takes more practice to master the art. After one can master his technique, he can learn to master the art. There are currently two million disciples and 15,000 practitioners of transcendental meditation who can practice this art.

The reasons meditators claim that meditation (the scientific method) can function solely to spread the benefits of meditation. For $95 and $12-monthly, anyone can learn to meditate. Mr. Wolh added, "The $95 course won’t get you off the couch but it will put you on the road."
The Class of '79
'Those were the days my friend

Complied by Joannem Kelley and Claire Keating

Salvatore Albanese, Michael N. B., Michaud, Robert B., Collins, Patrick J.
David Altman, Hennessy, P., Cogan, Michael S.
Ronald Anselmo, Bender, John J.
Sandra Anderson, Thompson, Robert S., M. A.
Margaret Anderson, Brown, S. C., M. C.
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Thomas Aube, B., Breslin, Richard F., C.
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John E. Barlow, Emery, E. V., C.
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Christopher Banks, M., C., S.
Bill Baker, Davis, S.
Olivia Eybin, Rosenthal, Jennifer M.
Diane Batyes, Roehr, J.
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Ella Bachlin, Couture, C.
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Chuck Baker, Schaller, A.
Elizabeth Balsardi, Toni, W.
American Bank of New C.
Diane Barlow, H., of Sand Island
Jim Bell, Fedler, K.
Kim Berns, of Florida
Barbara Bittner, M., of Florida
Linda Bosse, Bowne, M.
Mark Bosse, Bowne, M.
Audrey Bowers, Northfield
Gerry Bowes, Northfield
Robert Bower, Northfield
J. Thomas Brown, Northfield
Deborah Buck, Northfield
W. W., of Northfield
Dan Buck, Northfield
Helen Buck, Northfield
Kathleen Buck, Northfield
Sandy Buck, New Canaan
Mark Buck, New Canaan
Marcia Buck, New Canaan
Michael Buck, New Canaan
Linda Bulkeley, New Canaan
Eduardo Bulkeley, New Canaan
'thought we'd never end'

Ding and the Dongs swing to a familiar ring with first LP

By Tony Shanhun

Ding and the Dongs from Alhambra High School are releasing their first LP, "A Door Beside The Road, Too, Pleaser" and if their first record is any indication, Ding and the Dongs from Albuquerque will soon become a major force to reckon with in the record industry.

The songs on the album are all co-written, with lead vocalist Randy Yount, the lyricist and guitarist Karl0 O'Reilly handling the musical arrangements. Other members of the band include Pete Ywick, drummer, and Kim Johnson, who plays keyboards.

The first reaction to the album is that it sounds like a melding of the Beatles and the Rolling Stones. Yount's voice is reminiscent of Bob Dylan, New Old, Elvis Crockett, and Jim Brown. The lyrics are very Dylan-like, carrying the same symbols of symbols. O'Reilly's guitar and harmonica solos are reminiscent of Neil Young. The pace of some of the songs conjures up images of the Grateful Dead, while the group's overall ability to touch poignant points in their music is found only in the works of Jackson Browne and John Mayall.

The featured song on the LP is a jazzy, guitar-laden tune called, "Ooga!" which focuses on the many errors which originate from the mistakes of the past. The song possesses a certain amount of humor particularly when the song is abruptly cut off for two seconds in the middle, before Yount abashedly croons, "Ooga, I kicked the plug!," but, many of the incidents recounted in the song depict problems which need publicity in order to find solutions.

The text is one of the social-reform songs that were prevalent in the '60s and '70s, but which have faded away recently, replaced by songs adverting to the dance step. The song (which criticizes in no uncertain terms the plethora of energy alcohol containers on roadways these days is refreshingly direct, and yet there is a feeling that Randy Yount sympathizes with the Bluebears who, he sings, "blew our minds and reeking of liquor/Consider it for some reasons safer, as well as quicker/To shoot those waste to the side of the road/Where it hits a pile down/Somebody else who was blowing." (The lyrics are handwritten as the pages are laid out and the song can only be used to fullest, "It's Just Manille Tint.

New album released

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Senior Rondos soars skyward aboard Suzuki

By John Roney

Imagine flying through the air on a motorcycle at 35 mph twice fast off the ground and trying to land right-side up. Senior Craig Rondos loves to do this every chance he can get.

Craig participates in a sport called motocross. Motocross is quite different from just riding a street bike. A "dirt bike" is not allowed on the streets because it has no lights or instruments and it has tires with big knobs for better traction. The bike uses a suspension of the bike to slow the irregularities of the dirt track. Although a dirt bike does not have a higher top speed than most street cycles, it has a much faster rate of acceleration.

The cycle Craig uses is a Suzuki RM250. The "250" stands for the 250 cubic centimeter displacement of the engine.

"The first bike I ever had was when I was 13, and I had motocross in my blood ever since," states Craig. "My parents don't want me to ride on the road because on the road you have to contend with cars going 60 mph in the opposite direction. When I motocross I don't have that problem."

A motocross course is a cross-country race on a motorcycle. Tracks range from miles in length and Craig does most of his riding at Elmsford, N.Y. There are three different classes in pro and amateur riding according to the size of the bike.

Said Craig, "250's and 500's are in class A, 250s and 400cc in class B, and to become a pro rider you have to accumulate a certain amount of points as an amateur. Craig said in each race a rider is awarded a certain number of points according to the place he finishes in. To race amateur as well as pro, a rider must be a member of the American Motorcycle Association.

Safety equipment is very important to a motocrosser. Craig said he wears a helmet, a jersey, and pants that are thick enough to protect his skin from the hard ground. He also wears knee and elbow pads.

Craig has participated in the Junior Class Talent Show and the Senior Class Talent Show. In his junior year, he was the best act and placed second in the Senior Class Talent Show. Craig is very talented in his ability to do tricks on his bike. He can do stunts by jumping off of jagged rocks that are surrounded by other bikes, steel boxes and even a stacked pallet of boxes in the air on his bike.

"I'm ridden informally with some pros at Elmsford but I really can't compete with them yet," says Craig. "I hope to do some serious riding later on and maybe even turn pro."
Rosie leads Wave nine

By John Marion

To the surprise of many pre-season baseball experts, the Blue Wave baseball team has jumped out to a record of 9 wins and 6 losses, with a 7.4 record and second place standing in FCIAC play. An important key thus far this season has been the defense. The infield and outfield have been played remarkably well in most of the games. By playing defense, the poor defensive games were the ones where they lost.

Another important factor has been the pitching of co-captain Randy Rosic. Rosic has pitched spectacularly. In 43 innings and 6 complete games, he has a 1.63 ERA and 46 strikeouts on the way to a 6-0 record. Behind Rosic the pitching has been below par, due to a combination of poor hitting support and tough luck. The hitting has been up and down all season. The team scored three runs one day, sixteen the next. The top batters so far have been Drew O’Rourke, who has hit safely in all 15 games and has a .411 average; Jay Chandler, who has 11 RBI’s and a .333 average; Mike Flood, who has been hitting .342, and Pete Waters, who has 11 RBI’s and a .295 average.

Above all these factors, as teammate Steve Wright said, "The most important reason we have been successful since the season started has been team spirit. The players are talking on the bench and we are playing together as a unit. The spirit is much improved from last year. You can tell by the results."

If all these factors carry on successfully, Blue Wave baseball has a fair chance at the county crown and an almost guaranteed chance at reaching the state playoffs.

Netters again qualify for state tourney

By John Neesen

To the surprise of many fans, the girls and boys tennis teams have not put up too un-defeated seasons but look quite potentially dangerous in the FCIAC and CIAC tournaments as they both have successful records. In the beginning of the boys’ season, the netters ran into some turmoil which cost them in the long run. Some of the top seed players lost to Judy Frick, and coach Raef Mastrangelo for disciplinary reasons.

"It was nothing I wanted to do. Actually I hurt my own since it hurt them. It may have cost us the match, but it was beneficial in the long run," he said.

Leading the boys team is Rob Loug who will undoubtedly be a force to be reckoned with. Loug looks like carrot’s biggest threat in the state and county playoffs.

The girls tennis season almost coincides with the exception of the suspensions. The few games they have had were close with everyone on the edge of their seats from the beginning to the end of each match.

"The kids have done well this year. We have had a relatively young and well balanced team," said Coach Rebecca Stinson.

The outcome for both teams will be crucial. Both teams face stiff competition in the FCIAC and CIAC. The boys will attempt to defend their state crown and the girls will fight for one.

Satterley leads track team to winning record

By Doug Page

At press time the Darien High School boys track team had composed a 4-3 record.

Co-captain Jim Satterley was leading the team in points. He had placed first in three events against Ridgefield and first in two against Trumbull and Stamford.

After winning the FCIAC crown last year head coach Doug Rubin said that they would be "shooting for it" again this season. But the road to victory has not been an easy one. The team has suffered tough losses to Westhill, Ripowamp and Trumbull.

The team started the season by defeating Wilton and Andrew Warde. The walkers tallied 144.5 points making it their highest scoring meet.

Junior John Klein was the star that day by winning three events and scoring 15 points.

From there the Wave traveled to Ripowamp only to go home disillusioned by failing to the.

home team and Westhill. Satterley captured one of the few bright spots in the day for the Wave when he clinched first in the 110 intermediate hurdles.

Their next meet was held at home against a tough Trumbull squad and Satterley off the track 91.6 to 63.5.

Last year when these two teams met Darien won by one point. The deciding factor was the 880 yard run.

The Wave went on to play Trumbull and Stamford. The tracksters beat Stamford, but fell to the Golden Knights.

Junior Jeff Moses achieved his best winning time of the season when he placed first in the mile run in 4:25. This was his first win since the Wilton meet.

Tough road ahead for tracksters

By Bruce MacAulay

Despite losing it’s first track meet in three years, the girls track team has had another great season.

After defeating 37 teams in a row, DHS finally lost to Ridgefield 42-49. 46.

"Some key people were missing, we had some nagging injuries and it came only two days after a tough Ripowamp-Westhill meet," said track member Carolyn Samaras explaining the unexpected loss.

Leading the tracksters this year have been long distance runners Lynn Moore, Karen Brogger and Marie DeCoda, hurdlers and short distance runners Sandy Satherland, Jule Lindsho, Sharon Gady, Carolyn Samaras, Liz Reid and Germana Pasti, and long jumpers Pam Cullinan, Carolyn Samaras and Sally. McKenna has been outstanding in the field events.

At press time, the track team had 19-0 record and a great chance to win the counties, with tough competition coming from Ripowamp, Staples, Ridgefield and Greenwich. They also had an easy win with Flitch, Hartford Public, New Britain and St. Paul to bolster the teams to beat.