By Nelson Ehinger Jr.

As 1,116 students reminisced about the good times they had had during the summer vacation, they filled the auditorium to hear the annual state of the school address by Principal Donald C. Robbins.

The September 10 address originally scheduled for September 9 was delayed due to the power shortage that canceled the first two days of school for Darien students.

In his address, Dr. Robbins said the school was looking forward to achieving excellence throughout DHS, the preparation of a self-evaluation of the curriculum and achieving increased community and pride for the three main objectives for the 1979-1980 school year.

Stating that Darien High School has “a good reputation,” Dr. Robbins added that DHS should have more of “a sense of community and civic pride.” According to Dr. Robbins, the school theme for this year is “The.” He urged that students work together to make DHS a better place to learn. Dr. Robbins said he would like students to think in terms of “one small step for each one of us to reach one large step for Darien High School.”

This year the school will undergo a self-evaluation by 30 members of the school community. In his speech, Dr. Robbins asked students to participate in the evaluation. The self-evaluation is the basis for next year’s tenth-year evaluation conducted by the New England Secondary School Association.

Dr. Robbins covered a wide variety of topics and included some of the policy changes that have occurred in reference to parking. He stated that this year it was limited to the Class of 1980 only. He said that DHS students should make an effort to conserve energy.

To make the cafeteria a more pleasant place to dine, the rectangular tables in the large cafeteria will soon be replaced by round ones. Dr. Robbins pointed out.

Nine seniors were chosen this week as 1979 Merit Semifinalists in the 1980 Scholastic Art and Writing Awards. They will be honored in the school’s history. In front, from left, Tony Zampanetti, David Sarr, Peter Humphrey, John Richter. Second row: Mark Salmon, Lisa Kimmens, Sue Camahan, Tom Callahan and Cort Holland.

Ten students go abroad for summer with AFS/YFU

By Doug Page

The American Field Service and Youth For Understanding exchange programs sent 10 Darien High School students abroad this summer.

The four AFS students were Mary Beth Calzana, Liz Fyle, Gretchen Kyriss and Lisa Morris. YFU accepted six students. They were Brooke Biker, Marge Carranza, Carolyn Cox, Carol Lantry, Lucy Marshall and Judy Morrill.

Medical world baffled over "sophomorism of" By Phil Van Munching

"I don't know what came over me," all of a sudden I had changed. I started to talk really loud. I turned to slamming my locker, gee, and I've become obnoxious.

Liz Fyle lived in Jakarta. Indonesia for the summer. The family stayed with her host family in the village of Banda Aceh and a church and school.

It's a quite a different town from Darien. For example, there are no sidewalks. There are two families that had similar experiences. Mary Beth Calzana and Lisa Morris.

Mary Beth Calzana went to Ankara and Istanbul, Turkey. The family she stayed with had a summer hotel in Ankara and a winter house in Istanbul, the capital city. She had two sisters, one 14, the other 13.

"There were times when people thought that my Turkish relatives were dumb because I had no proper English. We did have similar experiences," Mary Beth said.

She feels Pekingese have gotten polite and open from my experience in Turkey. Mary Beth continued.

Liz Fyle lived in Java. Indonesia for the summer. The family had a summer home in Jakarta and a winter house in Banda Aceh and a church and school.

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She feels Pekingese have gotten polite and open from my experience in Turkey. Mary Beth continued.
We want you for the 'we' generation

During the throes of war, patriots respond to the battle cry. Now, at the onset of 1980, the cry for cohesion is, too, will require sacrifice. DHS students must exhibit evidence of responsibility by being academically, emotionally and spiritually in order to achieve a sense of responsibility, a feeling of "spirit of the corps" must replace our self motivations.

In recent speeches the Dartmen High School community has been warned of the need for unity. Nationally, President Carter has implored us to band together to conserve energy. Locally, Principal Donald Robbins has made a plea for a "we" generation, to replace the "me" generation of the past. Tom Wolfe, Tim Caburn, student moderator for the GHS Composite, has called for a responsible student body.

In order to sell the 1980s is a successful direction, students need to develop a pro-active spirit toward the school, community and country.

The problem for students if it how to develop the feeling of patriotism. One way is to support "each other's activities, whether they are athletic, intellectual, dramatic, musical or artistic. Any endeavor that contributes to Dartmen High should be supported.

Neirad feels that the class of 1980, and following classes, should start a new trend of concern that we can transcend our own walls to effect a change in society as a whole. Some end results could be more student government election participation and more conservation of energy.

The need for unity is here. Nationally, citizens face many crises - energy, poverty, crime. School-wise, vandalism has been excessive, and the success of the General Assembly, in part, may be due to the absence of vandalism.

Plea for civic-mindedness, therefore, are not unfounded. Appeals for support from our national leaders and appeals from our own Dartmen High School leaders must not be ignored.

Neverard's Editorial Policy

Neirad is published by the students, teachers and faculty members for the Dartmen High School community.

Neirad's primary function will be to give the school an accurate report on Dartmen High School events and community events that affect Dartmen High. Neirad will also serve Dartmen High School by publishing endeavors and in-depth stories in an entertaining and informative way.

The content of the paper will be decided by the student editorial board. Stories will be individually handled by editors and staff writers.

Neirad's purpose is to provide a public forum for all students, staff, teachers and faculty members. It will supply a means of communication between lith. It is required that all matter for the editorial board must be submitted in written form to Neirad's mailbox in the front office.

Although the first amendment applies to Neirad the paper will be discretion and consult its editorial board about its content. Neirad is committed to high standards of journalism. Anything considered frivolous, malicious, or obscene will not be printed.

Exams not fair

To the Editor:

By the Math and Foreign Language Departments announced that final exams would count for 40% of the semester grade instead of one-fifth as it formerly was. The question is, should the test weigh so heavily on the overall grade?

It seems that colleges these days are becoming more important of big tests at Dartmen than looking more at the high grades of the student. Article after article has been written about the test, like the SAT, is not the representation of a student's intelligence or achievement. This statement can be applied to the test grading situation at DHS.

Having the exam count much more than before will inevitably increase the pressures on the student to do well, and for those of us who don't take big tests well, the pressures will be even greater. How devastated a student will be to work hard all semester only to have his grade pulled down due to a bad mark on one test.

The ratio of the importance of the exam to the course is, as far as I'm concerned, becoming unbalanced with this one-third decision and I honestly believe that the issues will be reconsidered by the two departments.

Kathy Evans

Seniors give life to SÀP

As this year's sophomores pass through the doors of DHS, they will most likely experience the feelings the rest of us had as sophomores. This year though, not only will they have the usual help of the Sophomore Advisory Program, they will have the new addition of senior advisors in the SÀP period. The addition of seniors to the SÀP is aimed at helping the sopho get aquatinted with such "everyday" things as school issues, the admissions and SAT's. The seniors are also helping in relating information about clubs and activities.

In addition to the seniors who co-advice SÀP with teachers, the usual functions of the program are provided. The SÀP helps smooth the transition from middle school to school. Library tours, informal meetings and teacher address groups and outside speakers help make the program a success.

"What's your reaction to the program?" It's better than when we were sophomores. Still, the most asked question reflects the sophomore attitude. "When is it over?"

John Petropio

ABC Sterling Committee Member

SAP Senior Advisor

Homecoming conflicts

To the Editor:

Homecoming weekend has been changed this year to November 10. The main reason it was changed was because sophomores and juniors had PSAT's the previously scheduled date. For years sophomores and juniors have had PSAT's and no major problem has risen yet. This year November 10 the day of the Homecoming football game, is the day the boys gymnastics team the girls volleyball team, and the girls swim team have championship meets or games.

How can anyone, including the administration, complain about support for DSH sports when the dates clash? Do members of the two sports will not be able to attend their own Homecoming. Also, imagine the kind of support these three teams will receive from class members that day.

Traditionally, DSH graduates return this weekend, but now with the weekend close to the Thanksgiving vacation it will be almost impossible for most to return. The date is set too late, too hastily, without considering other important events.

Linda Armstrong
New faces abound in faculty, staff

By John Neeson

A number of new faces have already appeared on the teaching staff this year. The English Department welcomed the addition of Mr. Armger, Patricia Hopkins, and Mary Taylor. Mr. Armger, who is part-time teacher of American Literature, went to Northern Michigan University, where he obtained a bachelor's degree, and also attended the university where he studied law. His teaching experience includes work at various schools. During his time at Northern Michigan University, he taught English and American history. He has also taught at the University of Michigan, where he received his master's degree in English.

Taking advantage of Betty Hopkins' place this year is Northern Michigan University. Mrs. Hopkins has done an outstanding job in her new role. She attended the University of Michigan, where she received her bachelor's degree in English.

Joining the Mathematics Department this year is Mr. Taylor. He attended Ohio Wesleyan University and earned his bachelor's degree. He then went on to study at Northern Michigan University, where he received his master's degree in mathematics.

Mr. Taylor has been teaching for several years at the College of New Mexico. He has also taught at the University of New Mexico, where he received his doctorate in mathematics.

Mrs. Morgan is a graduate of City College, where she earned her bachelor's and master's degrees. She has taught at New York City College of Technology before joining the faculty at DSU.

In the new position, Mr. Morgan will be teaching courses in mathematics, including calculus and linear algebra. He will also serve as the department chair. The College of New Mexico offered him a position in the department, but he decided to accept the offer at DSU because of its strong emphasis on undergraduate education and its commitment to diversity.

The new faculty members bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to the DSU community, and we are excited to welcome them to our campus.
We want you for the ‘we’ generation

During the throes of war, patriots respond to the battle cry. Now, at the onset of 1980, the cry is for cohesiveness. It is too vital that we maintain our stamina and maintain our resolve in the face of responsibility—emotionally, economically and spiritually. In order to achieve a sense of responsibility, a feeling of “espíritu de corazon” must replace our self-motivations.

In recent speeches the Daren High School community has been warned of the need for unity. Nationally, President Carter has implored us to bond together to conserve energy. Locally, Principal Donald Roberts has made plea for a “we” generation, to replace the “me” generation coined by journalist Tom Wolfe. Tom Sembrum, student moderator for the General Assembly, has called for a responsible student body. In order to set the 1980’s in a successful direction, students need to develop a patriotic spirit toward the school, community and country.

The problem for students is how to develop the feeling of patriotism. One way is to support each other’s activities, whether they are athletic, intellectual, dramatic or artistic. Any endeavor that contributes to Daren High should be supported.

Daren feels that the class of 1980, and following classes, should start a new trend of concern that will transcend our own walls to effect a change in society as a whole. Some end results could be a stronger student government, election participation and more conservation of energy.

The need for unity is here. Nationally, citizens face many crises - energy, poverty, crime. Schoolwise, vandalism has been a problem, and the success of the General Assembly, almost non-existent.

Plea for civic-mindedness, therefore, are not unfounded. Agreement is needed for a common school goal. Support from our own Daren High School leaders must not go ignored.

Exams not fair

To the Editor:

Recently, the Math and Foreign Language Departments announced that final exams would count one-third of the final grade instead of one-fifth as it formerly was. The question is, should the test weigh so heavily on the overall grade?

It seems that these changes have been de-emphasizing the importance of regular test-taking and homework. The minute these changes were announced, many of the students of the same grades who did the same amount of work as those who did nothing at all were told that they were not learning the students’ intelligence. This argument makes it difficult to apply the test grading situation at Daren.

Having the exam count even more than before will inevitably increase the pressure on the student to do well, and for those of us who don’t take big tests very well, the pressures will be even greater. How devastated a student will be to work hard all semester only to have his grade suffer due to a bad luck on one test.

The ratio of the importance of the exam to the course is, as far as I’m concerned, imbalanced with the current third and I hope only that the issue will be reconsidered by the two departments.

Kathy Evans

Students urged to voice opinion

Principal Donald Robbins has repeatedly stressed the need for communication at Daren High School. Not only communication between students and administration but also communication from students to other students.

The question on everyone’s mind is how can this goal be achieved? The General Assembly said it is preparing a newsletter that will open students eyes. to exactly what it is that the GA does.

Facts to be provided, another answer. While Wead reporters usually answer any pressing questions relating to the high school, they are not able to cover everything. Wead welcomes letters from student and faculty that relate to any relevant issue. Do not ignore this opportunity to question, commend or condemn what makes up Daren High School.

Weald will soon have letter boxes in the school library, cafeteria and office.

We welcome your help.

Kathy Evans

ABC deserves support

To the Editor:

The community of Daren has long been sheltered from many of this country’s gravest social problems, and it appears that our sheltering dome will not be removed. The questions of rising unemployment, rising racial violence, poverty and the declining quality of urban life are too strong. Daren has been able to avoid them. As a community we should be commended for the relationships which surrounds our lives, but as individuals these problems must concern us very much. We must realize the flaws of our society and we must endeavor to correct them.

Is there anything which we can do? The answer to this question is resounding YES! Daren has many assets to offer, and none is more valuable than its educational system. We, as students at the high school, enjoy the talents of many teachers in different systems in this country. We should be proud of this fact, and we should not accept the responsibilities which it entails.

A Better Chance (ABC) is a national organization which plans to

Impoverished and minority students in dormitory style housing
in towns like Daren. These students live, eat, and work in this dormitory atmosphere while attending the local high school. They receive the obvious benefits of a quality education and “A Better Chance” to make something of their future. In return, these students bring a refreshing and enlightening new perspective on our society. Such perspectives serve to open channels of communication and understanding and break down the barriers of prejudice.

We, as students, are learning and experiencing things which will guide us in this life, but our education is incomplete because our community has insulated us from a full awareness of a real aspect of our society. As the possibility of establishing an ABC program in our town becomes a reality, we urge you to support the idea actively. We urge you to support “A Better Chance”.

John Petrosko
ABC Steering Committee Member

Homecoming conflicts

To the Editor:

Homecoming weekend has been changed this year to November 10. The main reason it was changed was because sophomores and juniors had PSAT’s, the previously scheduled date. For years sophomores and seniors had a major problem with no major problem has risen yet.

This year November 10, the day of the homecoming football game, is the day that the boys’ gymnastics team, the girl’s volleyball team, and the swim team have championship meets or games.

How can we, including the administration, complain

about support for DHS sports when the date chosen means members of three sports will not be able to attend their own Homecoming. Also, imagine the kind of support these three teams will receive from class-

mates that day.

 Traditionally, DHS graduates return for this weekend, but now with the weekend so close to the Thanksgiving vacation it will be almost impossible for most to return. The date was made too hastily, without considering other important events.

Linda Armstrong

SAP seniors give life to SAP

As this year’s sophomores pass through the doors of DHS, they will most likely experience the feelings the rest of us had as sophomores. This year though, not only will they have the usual help of the Sophomore Advisory Program, they will have the new addition of senior advisors in the SAP program.

The addition of seniors to the SAP is at helping the store get equipped with such “everyday” things as school rules and regulations and SAT’s. The seniors are also helping in relating information about clubs and activities.

In addition to the seniors who co-advise SAP with teachers, the functions of the program are provided. The SAP helps smooth the transition from middle school to high school. Library tours, informal meetings and talks with counseling groups and other programs help make a program a success. One senior advisor’s reaction to the program is “It’s better than when we were sophomores.”

Tom Daly
SAP Senior Advisor
A number of new faces have appeared in the bustling crowd filling the English Department during the past month. Three new members, Amy Anderson, Kathy Harper, and Mary Taylor, have recently joined the English Department, each bringing their own unique perspectives and talents to the team.

Mr. Anderson, who is perhaps the most well-known among the new arrivals, comes from New York City, where he taught English at an elite private school. His passion for literature and his ability to engage students in the reading process make him a refreshing addition to the English faculty.

Kathy Harper, on the other hand, hails from the South, where she honed her skills at a renowned southern university. Her Southern drawl and warm personality immediately endeared her to the students, and her expertise in American literature is sure to be a valuable asset.

Mary Taylor, native to the West Coast, brings a fresh perspective to the English Department. She spent her formative years in California, where she developed a love for both the arts and the outdoors. Her creative writing background promises to inspire students to express themselves in new and exciting ways.

These three new faces, along with others, have certainly added a vibrant new dimension to the English Department, making it an even more dynamic and inviting place for all who come to study and learn.
Critics review two lemons

By Mark Glasson

La Cape aux Foles (Birds of a Feather), a French comedy with English subtitles, is one of those time-wasting films that make you feel a little bit like you should get some kind of reward for sitting through it until the end. It succeeds in evoking little more than an occasional chuckle from the audience.

The story concerns Renato (Ugo Tognazzi) and Abin (Michel Serrault), a former anit-pyramid in a transvestite night club in St. Tropez; the latter, the club's, and for the couple, whom the two men have been lovers for twenty years. The former aspects of their life together are magnified when Renato's son announces his engagement to a girl whose father is the secretary of a society to maintain morals in France. The fact that he is a public figure makes it difficult for the couple to keep their relationship secret.

The film is rated R for no apparent reason. It has no sexually explicit scenes of homosexual acts and does not force any morals on the viewer.

Mike's Montego Video is also a new management and it is a definition of "stupid." Saturday Night Live writer Michael O'Donnell is our host for a nightmare of bizarre and idiosyncratic clips and film clips that in no way fit the standard of comedy in the situation. It spawned them.

Originally prepared for television, Mike's Montego Video was found too controversial and therefore, its release was halted to the theater. Consequently, the film is still retains a television format, including "stay tuned" messages followed by boring gaps of time at which reruns were supposed to be inserted.

The Mr. Big Show, which precedes Montego Video, is simply a recap of his past adventures on television. It is along with some sketches as a cruel swimming school for kids, women "celibates" who love creeps, Don Ackroyd showing us his webbed toes, an alien assassinating Christmas ornaments, pinheads running on the street rings ("Do you believe dead people who speak with their hands should be allowed to drive?") the song of a humpback whale being harpooned, and other unholy shenanigans. The film is the ultimate disappointment and has ripped-off from the Saturday Night Live people.

Students discuss AF5/YFU trips

Continued from page 1

The girls also mentioned the fact that there were times when they would come across American tourists and feel embarrassed. So they were United States citizens.

Marjie Carranza, a YFS student, 5, spent the year in Montevideo Uruguay; South America. She is attending one of the local schools and has enrolld in the YMCA there. She said, "We just received a letter from home and it is pleasant and very happy," her father said. Carolyn Cole spent her summer in Solothurn, Switzerland.

Solothurn is located in eastern Switzerland. Her father and sister spoke German and her family spoke French.

Brooke Baker went to Spain this summer. She spent one week in Madrid and the rest of the time she was in Capo de Paloma, a fishing village located on the Mediterranean coast. She said, "There were about 30 kids in the town and all had a super time," Brooke said.

Carol Leary went to Holland for the summer. Carol has since moved to Virginia.

Lucy Marshall was located in Ockelbo, Sweden for the summer. Ockelbo has a population of 3,000, half of which were on vacation. She said, "The family I was staying with could speak English, but I didn't know any Swedish. I must admit after being there my Swedish has never been better," Lucy said.

"It's an invaluable experience and I think everyone should do it. I feel that I've got a self reliant family living in Norway," Judy said. All of the girls said that they had a wonderful time and wished they could have stayed a year.

'Sophomorism'

Continued from page 1

Plans for the care and treatment of "sophomorism" victims are now underway, though observation of these individuals has been ongoing for some time under the guidance of the Sophomore Advisory Program.

For more on the proposed treatment plan, which is using the planning skills of the Sophomore Consultative Anonymous, Texoma talked to Craig Matheson, assistant principal.

"As you know," Matheson states, "Sophomorism Anonymou's has been our past project for two years now. I feel certain that it should be ready in time for next year's batch of sophomorism's." After being assured that any further comments would be "off the record," he continued, "Frankly, Phil, I'm quite upset. This whole Sophomorism student couching thing is a crock. You and I both know that these kids are incurable.

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subscription costs for the '79-'80 school year.

2008 has begun this year's program under a new drama director, Dwight Curry. Mr. Curry is an advertising executive for Command Performance. The play, tentatively planned for November 16 and 17, is William Shakespeare's 'Twelfth Night or What You Will.'

NEVER BEFORE: in the history of DHS have classes been canceled for the first two days of the school year. When Hurricane David hit Darien Thursday, September 6, most homes and schools were without electricity for hours. DHS was the last school to be completely repaired and was the only school in Darien not in session Friday, September 7. Although it is not definite, mandatory make-up dates are being studied. If the make-up dates are scheduled for the end of school, sophomores and juniors must attend. Unless there are snow days to also make up, graduation will not change. Principal Donald Reidsen reports.

SOME OF THE BIGGEST annual events at DHS are coming this fall. Homecoming and the Ski and Skate Sale are organized and run by students with the help of advisors. Coralyn Krizan is the advisor of the Academic Council, composed of the students in charge of organizing the large events and class affairs. They hold homework in the Social Studies office.

Organizing the "79 Homecoming weekend are Astrid Munier, Jeanne Kranick and Bev Moran. This year's Homecoming game is scheduled to be against Falmouth November 10. The Ski and Skate Sale will be the highlight of the following weekend. The sale is very profitable but requires many hours of planning. Students who are interested are instructed in helping should contact Lucy Marshall.

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KAUFMAN TUTORING SERVICE
Hamsters see winning season ahead

The cross country team this year has another winning season on the horizon. With four returning members, this year's team should be no different from the past three years. coach Bill McCarthy. These last few weeks have accumulated 40-5 record, one of the best records in the high school's history.

All this winning comes from a training program that consists of ten or more miles after school five days a week. The team trains together during this time and will continue throughout the two month season.

The dual meet season consists of two meets a week over courses that range from 2.8 to 3.1 miles (5000 meters). Races are often more than twenty people in them at a time.

**Messer Breaks Record**

Returning this year from a very successful season last year are co-captains Jeff Messer and Jeff McSherry, both seniors. They, so far, had the team in racing success and appearing to be contenders in the county race. Jeff Messer, in the first meet of the season, broke the course record at New Canaan though the team failed to win against either New Canaan or Danbury.

The team seemed to be able to come back though with a dual with Staples and Warde.

**Spirit keeps girls running**

By Tom Daly

In the four years of its existence, the girl's cross country team has found its own throughout the FCAC.

The past seven meets, four seniors, and three juniors, have been held with the remainder of the county by training six to seven miles a day. Last week, there was an 18 mile race at Danbury. Led by Coach Katie Lawrence and Captains, Sara Eng and Pam Sargent, the team has already started well.

Matching their opponents, the girls' third and fourth, track record of five wins, one loss, has been well earned. "We are excited and dedicated in being one of the top teams in the country," says Senior Sara Eng Tom Sargent was ranked equally in the season ahead.

Then the team starts along the road, they are looking for anybody interested to join the team to help them gain experience. The girls are planning to join meet after school in the front of the building.

**Hockelettes show promise**

By Kathy Evans

With spring in hand, the field hockey team began its season already with its share of bruised shins and aching muscles, but with a lot of enthusiasm and real potential.

Just before the actual season began, the team played a scrimmage against a very good Westhill team. The varsity game ended 2-2 with Cassie Ammon scoring both goals and the JV's winning 2-0 with both goals scored by Lindsey Gimming.

Sue Harrington, who is captain of the UConn team, said that the team has a lot of depth and with even more focus throughout the season, shows real potential for qualifying for States and having a winning season.

Coach Rebecca Silberman and JV Coach I have Keene shared the same opinion and added that they hope students and faculty will make an effort to come out and cheer on the girls.

**C.I. STUDENTS!**

Our up-to-date Category Index will direct you to the information you need — facts and all shades of opinion on contemporary issues are at your disposal.

**Swimmers psyched for super season**

By Kathy Evans

There aren't many swimming heroes in the realm of athletics at DHS, yet four people continue to be in the athletic circle of family and friends. Knowing that James Kim is Connecticut's most valuable swimmer, the Danbury YMCA Hurricanes, under the guidance of Jeff Jap, Coach Kim's daughter, is one of the most successful teams in the state.

This year's team, under the guidance of Coach Kim, is one of the most successful teams in the state.

Coach Kim said that she has a lot of respect for her team, only and also the competition and excitement.

Kim expressed the importance of being in the water and being in the pool. "We have trained very hard and we have trained very hard. Everything is going to happen. We will be doing it the right way. We will be doing it right way.

Then we have to put in a lot of hours in the water and in the pool. We have to put in a lot of hours in the water and in the pool. The team has to work hard, and we have to work hard for everything. We have to work hard, and we have to work hard for the team.

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The team has to work hard, and we have to work hard for everything. We have to work hard, and we have to work hard for the team.
Experience makes gridiron competitive

By Doug Page

Eighteen lettermen, three of whom were absolutely last year, returned to second-year coach Jack Davidson.

Darien is 2-5 last year and tied for third against Staples in the FCIAC East. Davidson said that this year’s squad has come further at this point than last season’s.

Darien’s All-County halfback Mike Koenig will be in the backfield, with Tim Van Norden and Mac Kast. All-county guard Doug Hart will fill the hole vacated by the injured Waveny looking at the season’s starting line-up, including Bob Hughes, Bill Schloetter, Bill Price, Evan Wynn, and junior Richard O’Brien.

The Blue Wave pass rush will be led by all-FCIAC defensive tackle Charles Bouny, Doug Macieli, Dan McDonald, Mike Maxon, and Mark Von Kneuer. Jeff Turner, John Neezon, Chris Goss, Price and Budd will defend against the pass for Darien.

At press time Darien had just defeated the heavily-worked Danbury Hatters 10-8. Danbury was 7-2 last season and second in the FCIAC West behind county champ Brian McMahon.

Middletown Dan McDonald had a spectacular day sacking quarterback Ed Chapman three times. Turner had his first interception, and the senior quarterback sacked up a sack of his own for minus 9 yards.

Chandler was only able to complete 4 of 14 passes for 19 yards with one interception.

Chandler was throwing well, but his receivers kept dropping balls.

The commuters had several touchdowns, but the wave was being held back by the defense.

The Blue Wave defense is strong, and they will be hard to stop.

Darien opened its season with a 0-0 deadlock against a strong Brian McMahon team. Two Darien goals were nullified in the game, one on a ball that was previously called dead and the other on a confusing penalty call.

The second game of the season against Danbury yielded the same results, a 0-0 finish. In both games, the Darien power was not overpowering, and they were unable to convert.

Offensive talent abounds on strong soccer team

By Breck Egelbarn

The potential offense the Darien soccer team possesses should determine the success of this year’s team. The team hopes to improve on last year’s 9-2-4 record, which earned them a spot in the state championships.

Coach Henry Quigley said that this team is more advanced than many of the other Darien squads that he has coached. He added that he has tried to decrease individual play with a more team-oriented style.

The team is led by co-captains Mike Flood and John Penrose, Tim and Julian Hochohn, and Mark Von Kneuer, with midfielders Bill Stanton, Mike Flood and John Penrose filling the backfield positions.

Dave Laffin, R.J. Kelly, Mark Hoffman, Jeff Wicke, Mike Moran, and Richard Schroitz will all contribute on defense. Steve Grimes will tend goal.

The strength of this year’s team lies in the offense. If the team has a weakness, it’s the defense, mainly due to inexperience.

But according to co-captain John Penrose, the offense has great potential and could take the pressure off the defense.

The team will have to compete in the strong FCIAC league with such powers as Staples, New Canaan, and Westhill. Mike McMahon and Brian McMahon are no major problems.

The strength of the offense is the line-up, but the team is still young and will need time to develop.

The Darien team is one of the favorites to win the FCIAC this year, and they will be a team to watch in the state tournament.

Scott leads boy gymnasts

By Linda Armstrong

Is it possible to have 100 teams again this year as last year’s boys’ gymnastics team did? Although boys’ gymnastics coach Isidore Batinoff reports that he's optimistic about the team this year, he believes that the team will not have an obvious advantage without last year’s top gymnasts.

Without gymnasts such as Tom Kraiky, the team will face several difficult meets.

The team’s first meet was September 28 against Hartford. Led by co-captain Rob Scott, this year’s team will compete against three good teams: Stamford, Greenwich, and St. Bernard.

Batinoff said that one weakness of the team this year is that while there are a few outstanding boys, there are many new people. Several sophomores and returning junior/I do look promissing Batinoff emphasized.

On the day Rob Scott, who came in second in the State individuals last year, could not participate. Junior David Lumsden will be a strong competitor on the side horse. Darien should see good results from junior Steve Shannan and sophomore Jack Schemm with their floor routines. Shoj Mamiya, a second-year gymnast, is a “second man” in many events.

With a final note of optimism, Batinoff added “A lot of them are working on good moves, so if they can just put it together…”

The volleyball team, led by Wolf, is off to a good start.

My very own column

By Bruce MacBain

Jay Chandler practiced straight and snowball but has been very impressive this year at quarterback. He’s giving the football a passing attack which is something they looked for last year. ‘We’re hoping to pass more and have a more balanced attack than last year,’ commented Jay. The team’s good enough to compile a good record this year, which should put them in the thick of the division race. The first game of the year against Trumbull could decide it all.

If there are more talented, are better athletes, and the sophomores have added depth,” stated Tracy Stewart, commenting on this year’s swimming team to last year’s. The swimmers and divers are very talented, but the competition is a tough one for them to improve last year’s fourth-place finish in the states.

The boys’ swimming team appears to have a little less than last year’s state and county championship teams, but the coaching of Isidore Batinoff makes them a third this year for the state and county titles. Rob Scott, John Muroto and Chris Burt will try to offset the loss of last year’s state captain Tom Kraiky.

Both cross country teams have last year’s MVH’s returning. The boys’ team started off slowly, but fell behind a good chance of winning the real of their meets. The two top runners in the county will face each other Oct. 12 when Darien’s Jeff Mataras takes on Westhill’s Kevin King. The girls’ team has MVP Karen Goburn, who looks to be a serious challenger for the state titles, although they would have to do well in the county.

The team needs more girls to join first-place sophomores.

We think she’s a disciple of Hitler and we’re not little Nazis, commented co-captain Sue Harrington, former girls’ field hockey coach Rebecca Strominger. The team has only four returning starters, but still hopes to win this year.

Another team that should do well in the states is the soccer team. Their weakness was supposed to be defense, but that has greatly improved and appears very solid.

The gridiron team has few returning varsity players from last year’s squad, but is hoping players from the 13-2 JV team can play well enough for the varsity to qualify for the state tournament.

Tim Saban’s debut as football announcer was excellent. “Smilin’ Tim” is said to have offered a job at WABC-TV as a replacement for the “Dandy” Don Meredith. “I turned them down because I wanted to concentrate on school and football,” Saban said. “I don’t have the time for my horse.”

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Photo by Vincent Laliberté