School fuel costs up, conservation needed

By Nelson Ehinger Jr.

The skyrocketing prices of oil will force Darien High School to attempt to reduce energy costs during the 1979-1980 school year.

According to Principal Donald C. Robbins, Darien will follow these suggestions in an effort to conserve fuel:

- The thermostat will be set no higher than 65 degrees during school hours and no higher than 60 degrees during the night.
- The hot water temperature will be set no higher than 125 degrees.
- Portions of the building that are not being occupied will be heather.
- The row of lights closest to the windows in a classroom will be removed to be replaced by natural light.

Dr. R. Craig Wood, assistant superintendent of business and plant cleaning, estimated that the school will use 50,000 gallons of fuel oil this year. About one-fourth of the Darien taxpayers' money goes to heating the high school. This year the heating costs will be 50 percent higher than the last fiscal year, Dr. Wood added.

Dr. Robbins said that the cutting of fuel costs "will not have a major effect on student activities if there is an effort in conservation."
Should athletes take PE?

Why should athletes, many of whom participate in two or even three sports during the school year, be forced to take physical education? The daily two to four hour period spent in training for an interscholastic sport decreases a student's studying time. He should not, therefore, be forced to use more of this in-school studying time for more physical exercise. An athlete should not be subjected to the additional risk of injuring himself during a gym class.

Darien's athletic program this year requires that students take physical education every year of the high school experience, while neighboring towns of New Canaan and Stamford relieve students for a physical education requirement for one of their senior high years. The previous DHS policy of excusing athletes from physical education classes was changed in 1976 to require that all students attend gym classes for all three of their high school years, including the time when they are in training for interscholastic sport.

Why? A valid reason has yet to be suggested. We feel that DHS varsity sport fulfills the requirement of physical activity that gym period every other day achieves.

We suggest that athletes be exempted from gym classes at least during the time period in which their sport is being run to give them more time to study and decrease their chances of being injured.

Open letter to DHS

From this moment on, I am asking the student body of Darien High School to "stand up and be counted." It is the General Assembly's responsibility to make your views known to the administration. It is your responsibility to make your views known to the General Assembly. Every homeroom has a representative to the General Assembly whose job it is to communicate between the homeroom and the General Assembly and vice-versa. If the student body does not communicate with its homeroom representative or its school officers on a one-to-one basis, very little can be accomplished.

The importance of an increase in communication cannot be stressed enough. If you have any ideas or suggestions, or any other way in which you can get involved in the decision-making process, a list of these include:

1. Anyone attending three consecutive GA meetings is automatically a member.
2. People are still needed for a brainstorming committee which will establish possible goals for DHS five years down the road.
3. People are needed for the self-evaluation committee of Darien High School.
4. People are needed for the casting committee.
5. People will always be welcome to serve on any GA committee.

Open campus

By Vincent LaVerea

Why do seniors need open campus? This question was presented to the student body during homeroom in the auditorium. When responses were made to the survey, most were similar.

The chief response was that seniors need the open campus privilege "to run errands during school." One case many seniors cited is that banks close at 3 p.m. and students who have activities or work afterwards, do not get to the banks in time.

Another reason was that seniors should be accustomed to handling the responsibility of open campus because next year those seniors will attend college.

Do not come up with the excuse of there is nothing you can do for the school. There is plenty. There are many opportunities offered by the junior class and any Assembly officer to write down your name as an interested member of the student body and your talents will be employed.

In this year's first issue of Nead, the editors called for school unity, town unity and national unity. But there will be NO UNITY if people in this school remain APATHETIC to every cause. Unfortunately, people don't give a damn about an issue unless it affects them personally. That is the cause.

One person realizes that he or she is apathetic is a start, but it is not enough. That person must also change and try to change the people around him or her. If 50% of the people or even 99% of the people change it is not enough. There must be 100% change in the DHS community if we want to start being productive. Then and only then can we start to pursue goals and to realize them.

In conclusion, I want to say to the students and the faculty: "Let's go. Let's get involved. Let's start communicating and let's start supporting each other. We have to start to show concern about what goes on around us. Even if we don't like it, let's start throwing our goals we have out the proverbial window.

Tim Saburo, Moderator
General Assembly
Apocalypse Now: An epic in film

By Mark Gleason

After risking $30 million, three years of filming under adverse conditions and the near destruction of the movie sets, Francis Ford Coppola has brought us the not-to-be-missed Apocalypse Now. This latest work from the man who made both Godfather films and Apocalypse Now is the riveting tale of one man, Captain Willard (Martin Sheen), who is assigned to travel upriver into Cambodia to assassinate the notorious Colonel Kurtz (Marlon Brando), a former Green Beret who has gone mad, due to his extremely evil experiences with the horrors of war, and created his own army and empire, similar to Jim Jones’ Jonestown.

We see the war through Willard’s eyes as he journeys deeper into history, at the well-known jungle battles and the abandoned jungle bases that have been burnt to the ground. Willard has his hands full of trouble as he faces the dangers of the jungle and the mystical power of the jungle itself.

The most outstanding of these scenes is the famous hallucinating helicopter ride over the Vietnamese village, led by Roger Daltrey in a brilliant performance as the “gun-ho” Lieutenant Kiroya, a man who destroys the village and its inhabitants, the surrounding beautiful landscape, and the base headquarters hiding in the jungle.

Willard’s four companions, young soldiers assigned to escort him to Kurtz’s compound, are described as being “rock and rollers with one foot in the grave.” This is where the horror of Vietnam touches us. These are not mechanical “John Wayne” soldiers who are rarely contaminated by the enemy without a second thought. The war was much more human: “our boys got in Vietnam” were just out of high school, expecting to survive on the Rolling Stones and a hit of acid. Indeed, they found death and destruction.

These elements combine with beautiful photography and a moving soundtrack that includes both rock and classical music, to touch our senses and bring back the ambient sounds of combat.

Nazareth

New advisor directs 308

By Viviane Carley

“Two Gentlemen of Verona” is provoking laughter and cries of irreverent treatment of William Shakespeare by the new director, exclaimed Dorothy Curr, the new advisor.

The audience of 308, a musical version of Shakespeare’s comedy written by John Guare, consisted of students, faculty and alumni. The show was originally performed at the Fox Theatre. The show features a number of songs and dance numbers.

Mr. Currie is a respected tenor and lead actor in the play. He was personally invited to the theater and a sure-fire hit for the season. The love-tangled, romantic plot of the play is a perfect choice for an afternoon outing.

Mr. Currie replaces Jonathan Edelman as the new advisor. Mr. Currie said he anticipates that the play will be performed in the fall. The play was directed by Mr. Currie, who is a licensed vocational nurse and a dog-nosed crab.

Night review

The Dining Car rated ‘very good’

EDITOR’S NOTE: It is a violation of Connecticut State law to engage in the consumption of alcoholic beverages if one is of less than major age. It is also a violation to engage in the act of possessing a minor with alcohol or otherwise possess identification with a false date of birth for the purpose of purchasing.

By J. McMahon

Mellow is the word that first comes to mind when one enters the lobby of the Dining Car Restaurant at the Sterling College Shopping Center, just off the Darien-Norwalk line in Norwalk. The ambiance is inviting, the lighting is bright and somewhat cheerful.

The menu includes a wide variety of food, from appetizers to main courses, and there is something for everyone. The prices are reasonable, making it a good value for the money.

The Dining Car is open for lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and dinner from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., with the last table served at 9:15 p.m. The restaurant is open daily except Sundays.

Neirad's Rating System

- Fair
- Good
- Excellent

Reviewing one of the best in the area.

Concert for 'Boat People' by Linda Armstrong

The General Assembly is planning a benefit concert to aid the starving people in Cambodia. The concert is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, November 12. The proceeds will benefit the Boat People of Cambodia. The concert will be held at The Hall in New Canaan and opened last year's First Annual DHS Talent Show.

Mark Brogger, secretary of the General Assembly, is directing the concert. The GA hopes to raise $1,000 to $2,000, which will be donated to the organization that sends money to Cambodia.

For the concert will be held on November 12. Posters will be posted throughout the school and tickets will be sold.

Monday prior to the concert, social studies teachers will take their classes to discuss the Cambodia situation. This will stress the importance and need of the benefit concert.
The leaves are all dead on the ground.
Save those that the oak is keeping....

And the dead leaves lie heaped and still
No longer blown hitter and lighter.
—Robert Frost

Lyons bikes 2,412 miles

By Breck Elgebener

Can a “middle-aged” English teacher accomplish the feat of cycling over 2,000 miles along the back roads of America on consecutive summers? Robert Lyons of the English Department did just that this summer. After having cycled the roads of the Pacific Coast last summer, covering 2,138 miles, Mr. Lyons conquered the Atlantic Coast on his Schwinn LeTour this summer.

Setting out on June 25, from Key West, Fl., Mr. Lyons pedaled northward 2,412 miles concluding his trip 21 days later in Lubec, Me.

Explaining his motivation for cycling on the long-distance trips, Mr. Lyons says, “I enjoy seeing the country at a reasonably low cost, meeting people and proving to myself that I can still do interesting things though deep in my middle ages.”

Among the most impressive sights Mr. Lyons said he saw were the Kennedy Space Center in Florida, the Cape Hatteras National Seashore and the Wright Brothers Memorial, both in North Carolina.

Many other people Mr. Lyons came in contact with on his journey requested that he send them a postcard once he reached Lubec. Of the people he became acquainted with on his trip, many

Guide to buying wine 'n cheese

By G. Burns Filippo

“Look not thrus upon the wine when it is still as a breath like a serpent and stingeth like an adder,” the Bible instructs (Prov. 23: 31-32). But did the Proverbs’ author ever have a wine and cheese party? If he did, he probably spent too much money. Now, however, DHS students can have this popular party format for the upcoming holidays at a surprisingly low cost. New York and California wine and less expensive varieties of cheese offer new hope to partiers of these ancient victuals.

Still universally fermented in “tuns,” huge barrels, wine is available in a wide variety of types and prices.

Something to drink with cheese

Red wine is delicious with cheese and purveyed by many people as a dinner wine. The California product is available for as little as $1.50 a quart. The three B's of French red wine — Burgundy, Beaujolais and Bordeaux — are available for next to nothing ranging from $5 to literally thousands of dollars per bottle.

New York produces less red wine, since grapes grown there must be hardy varieties like catelwos or concord.

White wine is slightly more expensive in general, but bargain bottles can still be found. A 26-ounce bottle of French white table wine can be purchased locally for about $3.25.

Champagne is a necessary element in a wine and cheese party. Festive, elegant and surprisingly inexpensive New York state and California champagne can be guzzled at a price as low as $3.50 a bottle. French champagne is available for the lips of those well-heeled enough to afford the $10 to $100 a bottle price tag.

Other wines include rose, a light-colored, low-calorie red wine; Italian chianti, a spaghetti and pizza lover’s red companion, and sake, a very Japanese rice wine served warm.

Cheese is available in three major types, all very different and delicious. Soft-ripening cheeses like Brie and Camembert, semi-soft cheese like Swedish Ambrosia, Creamy Havarti and Danish Fontina, and hard cheeses like Swiss Emmenthaler and Cheddar should all be elevated at a good wine and cheese party. Succulent soft-ripening cheeses cost about $4.99 a pound. Prices are as low as $3.25 for the mild, semi-soft cheeses and anywhere from $5.99 to $4.99 for a pound of hard cheese.

A wine and cheese party giver should be aware that a thirsty and hungry guest will very likely drink most of, if not all, of a bottle of wine and eat as much as a quarter pound of cheese. (Be sure to encourage people to try a taste of each kind of wine and cheese available.) This constitutes an overly large expenditure for many high school party givers, but there is a way to avoid this problem.

Ask a guest to bring a specific quantity of cheese. With this method, as the guest number grows so does the amount of food and drink. This method is guaranteed to hold down the cost for the host while providing delights for all guests.

Be sure to have plenty of everything — including a good time!
**Ammer, Gavula lead hockettes**

By Kathy Evans

It's almost time for the field hockey team to put down its sticks until next season. The girls had an outstanding year which shows in their final record of 7-2-0.

The team played against Westerly on October 19 and by winning this game, Danen qualified for the State Championships. Senior Louise Shannahah scored two goals in the winning goal for the State Championships. Senior Louise Shannahah scored the winning goal for the team and was named the Most Valuable Player.

Darien JV's were undefeated, ending up with a very impressive 7-2-0 record.

**Basicly, Ammer, Tricky Williams, and Lisa Stewart were the main scorers for their team, and each will be returning players next year. For the JV team, Barbara Ostrander was the top scorer in addition to Sarah Scott and Leslie Cullum.**

Players who also often would go and defend the goal are those who play defense for the team. Sandy Winship was Darien's starting fullback and Louise Shannahah, Christina Falsani (replaced by Nina DiGilio) was the goalie.

Ammer, a forward, scored 16 goals and 14 assists, while Gavula, a defender, had 4 goals and 10 assists. Ammer's two goals were against Greenwich (8.7) and Westerly (10.1), each game ended in a close score. The Darien JV's, however, won each of their games against those schools.

Co-captains Darien's starting fullback and Louise Shannahah, Christina Falsani (replaced by Nina DiGilio) were the main scorers for their team, ending up with a very impressive 7-2-0 record.

With the season ended, the field hockey team will now be preparing for the girls to be playing in mid-November.

**(Photo by Vincent LaBella)**

Co-captain Mag. Seppels backs up Ana Maria Casalino as she awaits the ball. The volleyball team has its best season ever.

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**Battino inspires excellence**

By Pam Duggre

When the season was over for coach, donated that Scott, the boys gymnastics captain,

When the season was over for coach, donated that Scott, the boys gymnastics captain, the boys gymnastics captains.

**(Photo by Vincent LaBella)**

Coach Battino attributed his success to his outstanding leadership, through his years, a good program, excellent coaches, a strong team, and of course, hard work and dedication.

When in Mexico, Battino taught English at a school and a gym, and was a track coach and a basketball coach for two years. He also ran a New England gymnastics camp, for 11 summers.

At last year's gymnastics meet, Coach Battino was named the New England Gymnastics Champion.

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**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 fingertips.

(Catty-Cornered Across from the Town Hall) 748 Post Road, Darien, Connecticut

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Co-captain Mike Flood breaks away from a Trumbull player as Bill Stanton awaits a pass. The soccer team hopes to do well in the states.

**Bootees defeat third ranked Ridgefield in quest for states**

By Breck Elgibner

For the second year in a row, the Darien soccer team has qualified for the state championships. With but three regular season games remaining, the team has amassed an impressive 9-3-2 record.

"This is one of the best soccer teams I’ve ever been with,” states head coach Jim Cugley. The defensive unit has been a pleasant surprise, playing better than expected thus far, it has been helped immensely by the brilliant goal tending of Steve Grimes who has only given up five goals and has shut out the four games he has played this year. Steve suffered a concussion against Ridgefield, forcing him to miss two games.

Following the first two games when Darien couldn’t score a goal, the offense began showing its strength. October 20, Darien defeated Trumbull in a 7-0 blowout, with goals by Bill Stetson, Tim Orr, Tim Houchin, Steve Brill, R.J. Kelly and a pair by Julian Houchin.

**Biggest Upset**

Darien’s only two losses this far came against Norwalk, 3-2 and division leader Staples, 0-1. The team humbled rival New Canaan, 1-0, annihilated Stamford Catholic, 7-0 and defeated Stamford, 3-0. Darien posted back to back victories with a 4-0 shutout of Wilton and a 3-2 win against Andrew Warde. These victories coupled with what Coach Cugley terms “possibly the biggest upset in the state this year” against Ridgefield, at the time ranked third in the state. R.J. Kelly scored a pair of goals as Darien toppled Ridgefield, 2-0. John Pfenning was injured in a collision with a Ridgefield player and had to leave the game late in the first half.

In game preceding Trumbull, Darien battled to a 2-2 tie against Roger Ludlowe.

Over the season the team has been plagued by injuries to some of its key players, Mark Hoffman, Abu Hattab, Steve Grimes and Sean Smyth, who missed the last six games due to a concussion.

Coach Cugley feels that Darien’s play has been inconsistent, “but when they concentrate on what they are doing they look very good.” He is impressed by the play of the team’s defense. “The defense has been surprising.” The defensive unit is anchored by John Pfenning who has been helped by the fine play of Josh Heim, Neil Johnson, Sean Smyth, Mike Morgan and Tom Wisnewski.

If the defense remains at its current level of play and the offense displays its potential, the Darien soccer team may go a long way in the state championships.

**Gridmen ‘Tidal Wave’ wash up FCIAC teams**

By Doug Page

Under the tutelage of Jack Davison, the Darien football program has been turned around.

Last year the former All East backfield lead the Blue Wave to a 5-4 season, the first winning season in three years. This year hopes of an undefeated campaign are in the air.

The “Tidal Wave” defense as it has become known has given up the least amount of points in the FCIAC, 15 at press time. Darien’s defensive linemen Charles Bounty, Don McDonald, Doug Marchesi and Mark Von Kneuer and backfield Dan Pletsch have averaged four quarterback crunching sacks per game. Blue Wave defensive back Bob Price made headlines when he was named “Player of the Week” by The Telegraph after he intercepted a stalwart’s aerial for a touchdown.

Darien’s offense has shown that they’re not a passing team, but rather a running one. The Blue Wave has averaged over 200 yards rushing per game. The “Four Horsemen” of Darien, Mike Koenig, Troy Van Nostrand, Mac Budd and Jay Chandler, have become as great a threat to any defense as “The Four Horsemen of Notre Dame” were back in the 1920’s. Koenig is the leading rusher with over 500 yards gained.

With ball carriers like Koenig, Van Nostrand and Budd, Blue Wave quarterback Chandler has not had to throw that much. Chandler did display his arm when he fired a 16-yard scoring pass to Chris Quinn against rival New Canaan. Chandler has also shown his willingness to run the ball if necessary. The signal caller’s highest rushing day was against Westhill when he ran for 70 yards and one touchdown.

Offensive linemen Bill Hughes and Doug Hart have led the blocking has been improved.

Coach Davison has also shown Darien’s second string of Bill McManus and Rich Daragon. Bill McManus and Rich Daragon.

Coach Davison feels that a lot of Darien’s success goes to assistant coaches Jim Girard, Steve Lauren, Bob Joy and Jeff Bramer.

**My Very Own Column**

By Bruce MacBain

The soccer team seems to be "jelling at the right time. The defense has been consistently strong and the offense seems to be coming around." We’re in good shape for the states," commented co-captain John Pfenning.

Both Yarrow and Cugley were hurt by the physicality of the boys’ cross country team. Jeff McGhee has done an admirable job in Matt’s absence, winning the three races.

The girls’ swim team lost a close meet by four points to Norwalk but still enjoyed a successful season. “Norwalk is good but we’ve got them in the states,” declared co-captain Linda Armstrong.

In its fourth year of existence, the volleyball team had its best year ever. One of the keys to its success was the playing of AF student Ana Maria Casasfranco who set the ball up for the other players. Unlike Motzaw was also overpowered by her spiking.

The boys’ gymnastic team surprised everyone with its undefeated regular season. The team has many members contributing important points and has a good chance to win the states again.

We’re really excited and are hoping to do as well as last year, said co-captain Liz Marasculco after the field hockey team qualified for the states. This team lost many seniors from last year and Coach Rebecca Strominger has been commended for her fine coaching job.

The girls’ cross country team had a surprising winning season, improving last year’s 3:9 record to 7:6 this year. Their sixth place finish in the counties was a bit disappointing, but for such a small team it was a good showing.

Despite not having much fan support, the cheerleading squad has done an excellent job. They practice at least two days a week and have appeared at all the football games, most home soccer games, a field hockey game and a volleyball game. Such dedication deserves more support from the fans.

A county leading defense and a good offensive line has led the football team to its great season. The team looks so good that any loss would be an upset and a disappointment. Jay Chandler threw the first touchdown pass of his life against New Canaan.

**Hailstones on Mike Koenig sweats left against New Canaan. The football team clinched its division and is undefeated.**

**Girls x-country makes states**

By Breck Elgibner

The Darien girls’ cross country team has posted an even 6-6 record, with an opportunity to improve on that record against Staples.

The contest against Staples is a makeup of a previously cancelled meet. The team participated in the season’s first State Championships beginning October 29.

Patriots’ Choice

- The six wins the team tallied this season came against Brian Mulryan of Wilton, Charles economic and Democratic. The team has fared well considering an early season injury to coach Pam Jeliffe.

Coach Lisa Light emphasized that anyone wishing to try out for New Canaan, Reserve offensive backs Jon Nelson and Dave Curtis had two interceptions speeche against New Canaan.

The boys are still capable of doing better. We’ve got to improve both on the team and individual level of performance. In this league you’ve got to beat everybody,” Davison said.

Davison feels that a lot of Darien’s success goes to assistant coaches Jim Girard, Steve Lauren, Bob Joy and Jeff Bramer.