Pre-registration Will Reveal Changes By DAVID BAUDER Guidance counselors are now beginning to make pre-registration more binding than ever. "We're going to try to hold people absolutely to what they pre-registered for, on registration day," commented Gerald Heffernan, principal of DHS. "We want to assure that you get the classes that you choose," he said, but he mentioned that getting specific teachers or periods cannot be guaranteed.

On registration day "no student will be able to walk off the floor with more than one course change," stated Mr. Heffernan. A pupil may indicate on his pre-registration sheet the two additional English class he wants and may go on a waiting list. He must also tell what class the claim of a second course choice comes through.

There will be ten fewer English elective offered, eight of them being cut out of the Board of Ed. Two courses will not have their names altered: "Weird, Exotic, and Bizarre" will be changed to "Weird, Exotic, and Bizarre: Gothic Literature and Composition." "Film As Art" will now be "Critical Written Analysis of Film."

Mr. Matheson explained that the number of courses offered on the master schedule will be determined by the pre-registration. A computer will give a cross-matrix of the course choices to build the master schedule.

Should The Senior

By SUE LANE and Tom Hembree

"I think the Senior Common should be just for seniors. I mean when we're sophomores we're not going to want to have little runchins hanging around," expressed one bright-eyed sophomore.

George Emerson, DHS head librarian, has caused discussion among DHS "Commoners" when he expressed his opinion to the School Council that the Senior Common should be renamed the Senior Commons and that all underclassmen should enjoy the facilities. However, this would not apply during the lunch shifts," stated Mr. Emerson.

Mr. Emerson feels that "there is a need for a School Commons and the logical place for it to be is what is now called the 'Senior Commons.' I think the seniors should go after something else for a 'privilege,'" he adds. "I don't think the Senior Commons is used that much by the seniors." In recent interviews, Reverend Lew Moore, chairman of the committee, and Patrick Cosgalia, vice chairman, informed Reverend Moore of the committee's function in the community. Its main purpose is to inform the Board of Selectmen of the needs of the youth in Darien. The committee officially is made up of seven elected (people able to vote) and seven non-elected.

Approximately one year ago, there was a survey 'taken of both the junior highs and the high school in town. This survey asked the students to indicate what their weekend activities were and what they felt they needed for the youth in Darien. From the results of the survey, the Selectman's Committee For Youth made recommendations to the Board of Selectmen.

On the arena scheduling day, no changes will be permitted from what the students pre-registered for, with the exception of Physical Education electives. People will be allowed to change these electives on the floors.

The method of awarding points toward graduation will be changed from the Carnegie Unit to the point credit system.

Should the Senior Commons Become A School Commons?

By MARY McGOLDRICK

The Selectman's Committee For Youth is an appointed group in Darien. In recent interviews, Reverend Lew Moore, chairman of the committee, and Patrick Cosgalia, vice chairman, informed Reverend Moore of the committee's function in the community. Its main purpose is to inform the Board of Selectmen of the needs of the youth in Darien. The committee officially is made up of seven elected (people able to vote) and seven non-elected.

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DHS Drama: To Be Or...

By SUSAN LANE

Our goal was to increase the number of productions at DHS. We didn't even attempt to get a new building," explained Gerard Coulombe, vice-president, about the two new additions to drama this year, Theatre 308 and the soon-to-be-presented Mme. However, Theatre 308, the traditional outlet for drama, this year. Mr. Coulombe explains that he was not satisfied with two plays," which the Theatre 308 dramatically produced. With no-tutoring, Mr. Matheson "did not feel he could take the time" to Theatre 308 and resigned last fall. But the lack of an advisor-director (the position went unfilled this year) did not daunt Theatre 308 members.

An alternative to Theatre 308, Catania, principal of DHS has remained a "beneficial activity." A Christmas Carol, originally an independent study project, and A Night Of Our Own were Theatre 308 productions. Brian Donofree explains that the club is "totally self-sufficient. We didn't even have to resort to bake sales." Theatre 308 has continued producing plays, but the lack of an advisor-director (the position went unfilled this year) did not daunt Theatre 308 members.

According to English teacher Craig Matheson, former advisor to 308, the administration wanted him to direct three regular productions, plus the senior class play, a musical, and an entry into the state drama festival this year. Mr. Coulombe explains that he "was not satisfied with two plays," which Theatre 308 dramatically produced. Without tutoring, Mr. Matheson "did not feel he could take the time" to Theatre 308 and resigned last fall. But the lack of an advisor-director (the position went unfilled this year) did not daunt Theatre 308 members.

"Theatre '76 involved students 12 in Drama in a musical. It also included Special Education students throughout the show," said Joan Edwards, director of the Theatre '76 production, The Wizard Of Oz. Theatre '76 originally started as a project of the Special Education students, then was opened up to all his students. Mr. Matheson feels the production "pulled so many people together in a very short period of time." It was not satisfied with two plays and was not satisfied with two plays for the Theatre '76 production, which, according to Mr. Catania, could not work out. Mr. Catania is confident, however, that 308 will have an advisor by next fall. Mr. Matheson feels an advisor would help to change the department from the dramatic arts who could not only function in the community. Its main purpose is to inform the Board of Selectmen of the needs of the youth in Darien. The committee officially is made up of seven elected (people able to vote) and seven non-elected.

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The Junior Class openly protested the Activities Council's assessment of $20 on all profits from the activities. The Junior Class openly protested the Activities Council's assessment of 20% on all profits on the ground that they had not been informed of the decision to do such and therefore the activities for which the activities had actually been done. They objected to the procedures pursued by the Activities Council, and doubted the constitutionality of the procedures.
DHS Wavers To Flood Florida, Review Russia

By LISA McCAY and MISSY McMACHON

With April vacation rapidly approaching, the imaginations of our DHS students are going wild. Dreams of faraway places rush through their dreamy, school-ridden minds.

For many, Darien will be the reality—a week of wondering what there is to do! Also, for many people, Florida sunshine will be more of a reality. The DHS “wave” is, as usual, just as big as ever and is now getting prepared for its great journey to the endless Florida beaches.

But for 12 DHS students, bigger and better places await them. These students are preparing for their two-week excursion to the U.S.S.R. with Dr. Robbins, starting April 11. Accompanying Dr. Robbins will be Mrs. Robbins, David Herbert of the Foreign Language Department, and Robert Barrett, a professor from Borchuck College, New York. Beside the group from DHS, there are also four New Canaan High School students and one college student going along. These students are all being prepared for the trip by attending two-hour seminars every Thursday night until their departure of Spring break. Instructing such things as language, history, geography, and current events are Dr. Robbins, David Herbert, and Nancy Halman, Russian Studies major from Manhattanville College.

Our New Location
Clothing and Jewelry
Our New Location
871 Post Road
(Near Baskin & Robbins)
Monday-Saturday: 9:30-6:00

Some of the main objectives for this trip are, as Dr. Robbins outlines, “to get acquainted with the culture, customs, principles and practices of a now Communist country, compare the Russian educational system and its students with that of the U.S.A., share ourselves and our country with the Russians and in turn relate our experiences and impressions of that with the DHS community.”

A brief outline of their trip will be as follows: There are two main republics to be visited, the Ukrainian Republic and the Russian Republic. The group will visit two large cities in each. In the Ukrainian, they will visit Kiev, the old capital, and Odessa, a port city situated on the Black Sea in the southern portion of the republic. In the Russian Republic, Leningrad and Moscow will be the major points. Museums and other cultural events will be seen. Not only will the group visit historical sites, but schools and other contemporary areas as well. They are seeking a personal type experience by meeting with the everyday Russian people in a person-to-person relationship.

Dr. Robbins feels that this trip will be a very worthwhile one for those who go, and also for those who talk and relate with the students involved. Dr. Robbins has had several students of past years say that this particular trip was the “most significant event during their high school education.” Dr. Robbins is also pleased that sharing such a special experience with New Canaan students and achieving a mixture of adults and students in such a close relationship is taking place this year.

He is hoping that the students involved will be able to view closely a different society and a different culture and lifestyle from that of our own. “It will be a rewarding experience.”

A log must be kept by all of the students involved. Part of the requirements for this trip is participating in “follow-up” seminars, where they will be able to share their experience with the other students and anyone else who is interested. The best of water fountains at DHS, as compiled in Neirad’s latest survey. (Photo by Cindy Tower)
Whopper or Big Mac? Burger King’s new franchise challenges Mc-
Donald’s for burger supremacy. (Photo by Cindy Tower)

An Outlook For Youth: Young Life

By NANCY NORTON

Over the past few months a very ac-
tive young group called Young Life has
attracted quite a group of D H S
students to its regular Monday night
meetings and involved them in many of
its activities.

Since its initiation about six years
ago, there have been several "ups and
downs" in its popularity. But recently it
has become quite a trend at the high
school.

The purpose of Young Life is, as the
leader of the Darien club, Dean Blank,
states, "to present to the high school
students to its Christ, and to show His relevance to
level an alternative - life with Jesus
leader of the Darien club, Dean Blank,

During February vacation 37 people
died to help the more poverty stricken
of those two orders. The Double Beef
burger offers a burger that is almost
it at 30¢. If you want to learn a little more
about God. No matter how much or how
little anyone does, he or she is still a
member of the group.

By MISSY McMAHON

As this year's seniors begin to hear
from various colleges, it is now the
juniors' turn to face up to the major
event of their high school career - get-
ing into college. It all began a couple
times for four years, says, "The Young Life club has
really helped a lot of kids. It helps them
discover that there is more to life than
they think." Jeff Eng, another senior who has
been involved for four years admires
that, "Young Life is not forced on
anyone in any way. It is open to anyone
who just wants to learn a little more
about God. No matter how much or how
little anyone does, he or she is still a
member of the group.

Early Decision: One of Your College Choices?

schools. Yale, Harvard and Princeton
are now the only Ivy Leaguers that do
not invest in it, probably because they feel
that most candidates who make their
school will want to attend it, and they
don’t want or need the applicant’s as-
urance that he or she will attend.

Many colleges now use two forms. E.D. with separate forms that usually
must be signed by the candidate, parents, and guidance counselor, and an
elaborate explanation of what it is.

Originally Early Decision was
started by schools where there was too
big an overlap in admissions with other

The Battle Of The Burgers

McDonald’s Vs. Burger King

By HOLLY WOOD

The battle of the decade — it is
the State of California versus Patty
Hearst or All versus Foreman or the
Junior Class versus the Activities
Council? No, it is none of the above! In
the mind of a typical DHS student, the
battle is between Burger King and
McDonald’s in the fight for burger
supremacy.

The traditional lines of McDonald’s,
the golden arches, have been reduced to
mere decorations, and, in place of that
brazen table, wooden tables and
wrought-iron chairs. Burger King has a
similar welcoming exterior with one
added feature — a drive-through line which can best be approached on a
cool summer night when you don’t feel
like leaving your toasty car.

While the atmospheres are similar,
the prices definitely are not. Everyth-
ing costs more at Burger King except
French fries, which cost the same.
However, Burger King offers a greater
variety of hamburgers. That could be
important for people with large appetites, because the biggest offerings at
Mac’s are a Quarter-pounder (75¢;
with cheese, 85¢) and a Big Mac (85¢).
Burger King offers a burger that is
about the same size and price of either
of those two orders. The Double Beef
burger costs $1.49, $1.50. With a half
pint of coke you can almost double its
price and it will take the average human being at least one week to con-
sume it.

Here is a list of the other offerings of
the two places. First, McDonald’s has
regular hamburgers which sell for 39¢,
cheeseburger for 44¢, French fries for
40¢ and 43¢, milkshakes (vanilla,
chocolate and strawberry) for 40¢.
Soft drinks sell for 24¢, 30¢ and 40¢.
Cookies sell for 20¢.

Burger King offers a Whopper for 99¢
(99¢ with cheese), a Whopper Junior for
99¢, a regular burger for 30¢, a double
hamburger for 65¢, a cheeseburger for
40¢, and a double cheeseburger for 70¢.
French fries sell for 30¢ and 45¢, union
rings for 39¢ and 59¢, milkshakes (same
flavors that Mac’s has) for 40¢, 50¢
and 70¢, and soft drinks for 24¢, 30¢
and 40¢.

Brown's catalog states, "While many
candidates feel there is a competitive or
advantage to be gained through an E.D. application, no such advantage
is offered or implied in an E.D. application.
You should not feel that you are going to buy one, but it at McDonald’s where it is 3¢
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Girls' Track Team Hopes For Good Start

By LISA RICH

The Darien Girls' Track and Field Team will open its season on Friday, April 27, against a supposedly strong Wilton team. There are about 35 girls out working very hard this year. Mrs. Rosemarie Jooosten, who has been the girls' coach for the past years will be assisted this year by Miss Rosemarie Shagrian of the "Shagrian and Woodcock" duo that monitors the DHS halls.

"This is a rebuilding year. We won't be as strong as last year," remarked Nevio Ottavi, coach of the DHS Golf Team.

Ottavi doesn't seem to be too optimistic over this year's team as he further commented, "Last season we had players such as [Peter] Conley, [Lee] Smith, [Wes] Castle, and [Allen] Kirkley, and we were hoping for the state and FCIAC championships. This year we have no high expectations, but who knows...we may surprise."

Ottavi did note one bright spot the return of two-year letterman and the '76 captain Allen Kirkley. "Kirkley will be our number one man," said the coach, who believes the captain can hold his own against the best in the county.

Captain Kirkley expressed a different view of the Linksters. "Even though we have a lot of inexperienced players, there is potential," explained the top golfer on the team. "I'm looking forward to a successful season."

To live up to Kirkley's hopes the team will need some strong showings from seniors Brad Irwin, John Stevenson, Anthony Todilo, Tony Zangrillo and junior Tom Larkin, who are expected to be the Linksters' top five men under Captain Kirkley's leadership.

Year For Golfers

Coach Ottavi also pointed out that there are many promising "hot shot" sophomores who may make one of the eight varsity spots.

The Wavers, along with lacking experience, must also face the problem of having limited practice time. According to Mr. Ottavi, the golfers can practice at Wee Burn and Country Club of Darien only on a limited basis. Meanwhile, surrounding squads can tee-off every day on public courses.

"Mrs. Jooosten and I expect the team to do very well in regional and state competition this year," commented Miss Shagrian. "There is a great deal of potential and many of the girls are in great shape to begin with."

Mrs. Jooosten and Miss Shagrian have met with the two boys' coaches, William Brase and Steve Norris, to discuss mutual cooperation in teaching various skills. They feel that because there are more than fifteen events, cooperation could be advantageous to teaching efficiency. The girls compete in the 100-yard, 220-yard, and 440-yard dashes, the 880-yard, mile-and-two-mile runs, the long jump, high jump, hurdles, discus, shot put, and javelin.

The coaches have also arranged to have the girls use the weight machine in the boys' locker room twice per week in order to increase strength needed for various throwing as well as running events.

Distance runners are running much greater distances in practice this season and are venturing five and mile away around such places as the Wee Burn and Woodway golf courses. The girls have eight meets this year, two of which are duals. They hope that the Girls' Track Team's spectacular showing in the Counties in February is an indication of their chances this spring, for there are a few girls from the winter team on the spring team.

Eager Rackettes Ready To Rally

By SALLY O'CONNOR

DHS's Girls' Tennis Team has started practice for the '76 season with high hopes of equaling last year's county champion's undefeated record. Despite the loss of five seniors and two underclassmen to private schools, including last year's number one player Kris Kinney, there is a strong nucleus returning from last year's squad.

Coach Rebecca Strominger feels that this year's team has great depth, a strength which proved very valuable last year, as the team's closest match was decided by a 7-2 margin.

As the team stands now, senior Co-captain Trudie ten Broeke, who Miss Strominger terms "strong and steady," is the number one singles player, followed very closely by Co-captain Donna Burns and junior Libby Pierpont at numbers three and two respectively. "Sneaky good" sophomore Laura ten Broeke has earned the fourth position, while Barb Hunter is in the unofficial number five slot.

This year's doubles teams are currently topped by seniors Diana Burns and Sally Campbell, followed at number two and three by juniors Nancy Spellbrink and Bebe Herbert, and the team of senior Missy McMahon and senior Kathy Mullin. Coach Strominger feels that these teams are all very strong, and very close, and feels that the three teams will change positions often as they play challenge matches. Juniors Christy Beckworth and Joan Morgan are the number four doubles team, followed by rookies Beth Maffucci and Julie Harker in the number five slot. Miss Strominger feels that the top 12 doubles teams could all conceivably play varsity, and feels that there will be many challenges for the numbers four, five and six positions.

Co-captain Donna Burns and Trudie ten Broeke remarked, "This year's team looks much better than we thought it would, considering we lost so many people. Both the captains and Miss Strominger said the team attitude is "excellent," and expected that the team wouldn't have a letdown during the season.

Darien's first match of the season is home against Brien McMahon on Monday, April 26. Their two toughest opponents of the season, Greenwich and New Canaan, will also play them that first week, on Wednesday and Friday.
Wave Commentary

Why Blue Wavers Drowned Foes

This winter a spectator at a DHS athletic event had an excellent chance of viewing a win. Why did the teams this winter, unlike other winters, perform so well? A recent discussion with some of the Blue Wave coaches (Isidore Battino, William Brause, Michael Sangster, Richard Persudani, and Del Mautte) brought out some interesting theories to answer this question. (Photo by Cindy Tower)

"High School athletics is 80-90% mental," one of the coaches stated. Most of the coaches generally agree with this comment by Coach Sangster. Of course, a team, as Mr. Brause stated, "needs the horses [talent]" to win, but a winning attitude can go quite far. Many of the Wavers this winter had this outlook, which this columnist believes can be greatly attributed to the fact that the football team had a fine season this year. Winter teams obtained the winning attitude for two reasons:

First, any member from the large football squad who went on to play a winter sport maintained this winning attitude he got from his fall experiences. Many of the coaches pointed out Rod Walters, starting football and basketball player, as a fine example of this. Walters himself agrees that the football team's success influenced him and the rest of the hoopsters' outlook on the court. The second reason relates to the self-fulfilling prophecy which states a person has a better chance of succeeding if he's told he can succeed by others. Football, unlike other sports, attracts thousands of fans and top publicity. As a result, belief in the proficiency of the Blue Wave gridiron was spread throughout the town. Darien High School was a winner in the eyes of the town and school spectators. The fans, therefore, went to a winter event expecting to see a Waver victory. "You can see the excitement in the stands," one of the coaches pointed out. Suddenly, the team wearing blue had obtained a winning tradition and as Coach Sangster remarked, "It can carry you a long way."

So, perhaps the football team started the ball rolling. But, this only brings up the next question: How did the football squad begin winning? The answer lies in the actions of head coach Del Mautte. Mautte reasoned that to make a winner out of the 76 team he would need to build a winning attitude.

"When they [the players] first came out, they didn't believe, when they left, they did believe," explained the mentor. Coach Mautte obtained this attitude by getting the school community involved. He knew an athlete with a thousand people rooting for him would "believe" better than one with ten people cheering. He asked to the administration and called for a greater support of the team. He asked for an improvement in the band and for a proper pep talk. He helped set up the pep rally. It is this job of a head coach which is most important.

Yes, if he wants a winner.

The excited coach got immediate results. The school community came out and vocally supported the team because it felt involved. This was all the confidence the team needed to win since it already had an abundance of talent.

This column applauds Mr. Mautte's tactics of looking beyond the field for a winning football team which transmitted winning results to other teams this winter. He showed that perhaps the key to football's winning attitude for two reasons:

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