Gym Squeeze Troubles Teachers

By MEG MCGOLDRICK

Physical education teachers have expressed concern about space problem in their department in recent Neird Reader articles. "The student population has increased over the past year," a great many teachers have said. Physical Education Chairman Mr. Deshauter, "and there hasn't been a big block added to this building yet. The gym classes can be handled adequately enough during the spring and fall, when the outside facilities can be utilized, but not in the winter, according to Mr. Martha."

The present three-year high school building committee is working on plans for the high school and other schools in the town. It may be five years before there are any additions to the gym.

There is little room for extra gym courses, physical education teachers maintain. The boys have to wrestle in the locker room. Karen Emmons' dancing classes would dance in the auditorium if it didn't interfere with play rehearsals. Due to a cut in the budget, Mrs. Emmon't only taught during the first eight weeks of school. The 61 girls will now be combined along with the field sports, tennis, and gymnastic classes into double classes of up to 65 kids. Physical education teacher Rebecca Stonemeyer maintains, "The 61 girls this morning, the whole school, "I just had 50 girls this morning."

She adds, "We try to limit the tennis classes to 25, but it's hard with all the kids. We have to hope someone will be absent, because there aren't enough, and we don't have to alternate on the court."

308's Debut With 'Under Milk Wood' Turned A Success

By ROGER HORINE

Review

Theatre 308 and Director Craig Matheson deserve great praise both for the selection and presentation of Dylan Thomas, Under Milk Wood. While originally written only for voices, the commissioned suite of staged playlets provided great visual humor in addition to the witty lines.

Since the play follows the thoughts and actions of about two dozen characters chronologically, the audience must be able to place several characters, the play could have been very confusing. However, the company showed (or doubt their ability to execute it properly. The direction by Ms. Dolin, Frances Veneto, Matt Pulks, and Debbie Carter were especially convincing.

The lighting was monotonous; a general wash of the stage and two spotlight isolating the featured actors as they came from their stools down to the specially built thrust.

Several times the normally dormant company jumped up and let loose with a blood-curdling cry. While the effect might be great when the audience can only hear voices, it seemed to break concentration on the play, and seemed rather pointless. Other scenes where the company imitated dozens of clocks striking the hour came off very well, and unlike the mass outbreaks, was well served to further the plot and the action.

Brian Donofree, playing a genial man who sets and reads loud-announcer reports on each letter he delivers, has an excellent style of delivering and appears as though he had been making his rounds for years.

Tracey Ellis, who plays a woman talking to herself while looking at her reflection in a shaving mirror, drew many laughs for her expressions and a very convincing monologue.

The First Voice, the (narrator) played by John Schott was also outstanding. John's voice is pleasant to hear, and can nisi with excitement when both he and the audience get caught up in a scene. Other Neird students and friends watch the dress rehearsal on Thursday, some of their comments included.

Andy Walworth: The opening monologue was a bit confusing...

Florence Harper: It is a bit confusing because the play itself is rather dreamlike, working almost at a subconscious level. When needed, the logical sequence of events in time.

Robert Davis: Tea is a dreamlike quality, but a number of scenes are crystal clear and they stand out like jewels. Mr. Pugh (Stuart Duke's plotting death for his wife (Debbie Carter), for ex- ample) and Mrs. O'Gorn-Fitchard (Lisa Gijs) lying in bed with her bare-breasts ghost, was excellent.

Andy: I guess it's best if you are aware of the fact that this is not a normal play, but a dream, and watch for the signs of the beginning. . . . The language is a bit confusing.

Sandy Ward: Yes, but the language makes the play. It's amusing; you actually feel the words, especially the narrative.
Student Power: Still Alive And Well

It has been predicted that the '70s wld bring a return of the student apathy of the 50's. Kids were tired of movement, tired of trying. In the past few weeks Student Power has once again become a force in shaping our school community. Dr. Bruno's new home room policy has finally had a direct effect upon the student body. For a while it had been suspected that it would be dropped, but now there is the word that it is to be continued. Actually, one for five days. Students who firmly believe the policy unjust begin to take action. Strikes were threatened, called off, and threatened again. A petition (of signatures was collected, calling the new policy "wrong and unjust," stating that it should be "abolished immediately." An open meeting was called. Over 200 students and faculty members showed up. The students did more than unity by initiating the new home room policy by any other single measure has in the past three years.

Luckily, we have an administration with an open ear to student grievances. The School Council is now in action at formulating a new policy. Dr. Bruno has personally attended one Council Sub-Committee meeting, and it seems that the administration is ready to join the rest of the school community in a search for a new, fairer policy.

Speaker: Power is a strong, living force. What a shame it takes such drastic measures to make it felt! If we could only keep this power and utility alive, and direct it upon some of the other problems facing us. We have taken one step towards a better school, let's not stop there. If we can change school policy, we can clean up our cafeteria, our smoking area, and our library. We can even field a winning basketball team....

We Do Our Thing... But Unisex?

By MRS. C. E. BAKER
A DHS GRANDMOTHER

These are peculiar times for older women. We did our part to destroy the "Op shop" image. Today the young people seem to speak out on so many days is that their generation is closer to the skin as to whether they're girls or boys.

In addition to this look alike mystery, I am at a loss to comprehend as to why boys and girls seem to eschew style with such glee. It appears that the more worn, wrinkled, and shabby a garment is, the more it is esteemed. Hence, this new "layered look" on tap is all the rage. I wonder if the form of rags short peaking is the same. At a recent social gathering it was obvious that some of the young guests thought "In Fashion" and those in the unmentionables and T-shirt, preferably with "American" printed in red, in the neck. In self-defense, I'm getting plenty of sleep, light eating, and keeping myself in the best possible health hoping to outlaw some. I won't have them coming to my funeral dressed in those pants with that hair.

Every Body Needs Gym

By TODD BURGER

In reference to a "Viewpoint" published in NEIRD No. 5, there are a few points which need to be clarified. Physical education is an important part of our school system and a requirement is that it be important to have your mind fit and body, but it is also important to have your body physically fit. If you were to look around the school, everyone is dressed in shirts and sweats. If you do not do some type of exercise, you will not gain strength and you will grow weak. This can lead to a variety of health problems.

In conclusion, the Editor's Note states, "The first step in fight for better conditions is to formulate a new policy." It is hoped that this goal will be reached soon.
Fashion Findings...What Girls Are Wearing Now

By KIM HOFFMAN

Darien High School is a kaleidoscope of many different moods, colors, and lifestyles. While strolling down the halls, one is bombarded with a variety of tastes in clothing, indicative of the new freedom of fashion. The blue jean skirt has taken on so many appearances that it can almost be considered a DHS uniform for the fall of ’72. Favorite blouses to be worn with the skirt include a “button down” or a turtleneck. As winter nears, a sweater, vest, or blazer seems to be “in.” The footwear usually concludes the look in either “top siders” or those famous wooden Dutch clogs. An outfit like this suits any purpose from a busy day at school to an after-dinner dance.

Another popular look is that of the typical, coordinated “School Girl”: a kit skirt, turtleneck, and pull-over sweater could be on anyone. Other “school girl” apparel includes the simple “A-line” dress, which some consider a more feminine look. “Non-jean” pants are also popular among those who wish to remain more conservative in their dress. The non-jean refers to wool, gabardine, and knit pants, which, when co-ordinated with the right top, can “pull” any outfit together. Those who do not want to afford or don’t care “to dress up” are by no means out of fashion. With the current nostalgia phenomenon, long skirts and dresses, camelhairs, floppy hats, scarves, and platform shoes are all in fashion. Of course, you can go out and buy these things new, but those resourceful and creative enough can find entire wardrobes in old trunks, attics, and thrift shops. The most popular attire at DHS is, as ever, (can you guess?) BLUE JEANS! T-shirts, Levis, and Levi’s hold up to any activity all day long. They are comfortable, practical, and cheap. Any type of top can be jazzed up with a jacket, a scarf, or old blue jeans.

When is what you make it. At DHS, it all depends on what a girl feels about herself, and what she wants to transmit to the world. She can dress so that she wants, and set her own style of her own. In a scene directed by Ferris Mester, eighteen of seventeen students to page from the Farmers Almanac, it’s the individual all the way.

Fender Philosophers: There’s No Place Like Home

By JANE ADAMS

While cruising America’s highways I suddenly realize that my thoughts are not my own. Slogan propaganda, with both good and bad aspects, has invaded my mind. I am being urged, nagged, amused, persuaded, and influenced by a sticky 4 x 16” piece of paper, the bumper sticker.

“Think Snow,” I commanded, while another demanded “Play ‘Em Again, Sam’ You Can Read This. You’re Too Damn Close.” I was threatened. The bumper sticker, a suburban take-off on the scrawled graffiti of the city and the school room, has emerged to bring Americans out of the private isolation that the automobile promotes. There are both merits and flaws to this bumper bumbardment and it is likely to continue because Americans have discovered the usefulness of the stickers. The driver of a stickered car attracts attention to the car and to the cause. The bumper sticker enables an advocate to present opinions to the public in a concise statement of feeling. It breaks the monotony of driving.

Formerly, one was accosted mainly with political slogans such as the band “Quinn For Attorney General.” Now, many bumper stickers are serious in subject, but entertaining.

Most bumper stickers arise out of political events, such as Watergate. Many have been inspired by the news of the “Great On’the One,” “Free the Watergate 500” and “Don’t Blame Me – It’s All From Mass” in a few examples. Other comments on a wide variety of issues are also found, for instance the bumper sticker, “Join Litterbug, Are You?” the energy crisis – “I Y. R. Believe Gas Prices,” the American anti-war revolution – “HooK If You Love Jesus,” Vietnam – “M.I.A.’s – Only Hanni Knows For Sure,” and art – “The Only Jan For Me Is Abstract Expressionism.”

Political factions can also be identified by typical bumper stickers. “If Guns Are Outlawed Only Outlaws Will Have Guns,” “America – Love It Or Leave It” and “If You Don’t Like Police – Next Time You’re In Trouble Call A Hippie” seem indicative of a right winger. Latest retaliation with “Make Love, Not War,” and “America, Change It Or Leave It.”

A negative aspect of the bumper sticker is that it pollutes the highways in the form of shiny, psychedelic, advertisements for tourist attractions, for example a graphic illustration of Canoe Lake Park. Often plastered on without the driver’s knowledge, these stickers seem to mid-lane and gray quickly and they are without redeeming value except as a free advertising for greedy tourist attractions.

In its present form, the bumper sticker is a new medium of expression for middle class Americans. It can be thought provoking, expressive and humorous and it enables Americans to keep in touch with one another in an increasingly impersonal society.
Field Hockettes Reach Semis; Eliminated By Granby

By MEG MCGOLDRICK

The DHS Field Hockey Team reached the semi-finals of the first Connecticut State Field Hockey Tournament, but the Blue was eliminated in a 4 to 0 tie with Granby School on Tuesday, Nov. 12. To reach the semi-finals Darien had defeated New Milford, Staples and Maloney.

The Granby game, played in New Haven, was given to Granby because they had more penalty corners after a scoreless 15-minute overtime, nine to Darien's six.

The two undefeated teams played a very evenly matched game. Darien had more opportunities to score, but could not get the ball by Granby's tough goalie. Granby maintained its 4-game winning streak, the longest in the state.

Darien blanked New Milford 2-0 in their first post-season game at home on Wednesday, Nov. 7. Julie Hendrickson blasted the ball in off a short corner with about a minute remaining in the sudden-death overtime period.

Darien outscored Staples 3-2 in an exciting game Thursday, November 8. It was a fast, action-packed first half as Darien kept putting the pressure on the Staples goalie. Finally, with ten minutes remaining in the first half, Hendrickson, on a breakaway, rifleed the ball by the Staples goalie, to give Darien, a 1-0 lead at half time.

With three minutes gone in the second half, Staples scored, in spite of goalie Liz Keen's excellent save attempt at asave. Then with the game tied 1-1 and 15 minutes to go, Alison King scored from a scramble around the goal cage. But two minutes later Staples came right back with a goal to tie it 2-2.

The game had to go into sudden death overtime. After a first penalty from Coach Strominger, Darien came out fighting and Hendrickson scored with one minute left. The Waverys took on a really tough. Maloney team in the quarter finals on Friday.

The beginning of the second half Darien scored first. Debbie Grant, the left wing, flew by two Maloney defenders and the goalie, which led to Darien's first goal. Then, about the halfway mark of the second half one of the Maloney players blasted the ball by the goalie to tie it up 1-1. After 12 hard minutes neither team could score, so they went into sudden death overtime.

Both teams' defense was so good neither team could put together a goal. So the game ended with Darien in front 1-0 and goal. The rest of the game was a defensive battle with Hart, Frate, Stites, and Cushing holding for the Blue.

The Bootiers won their second straight game in tourney play as they whipped West Haven 4-0 on Wednesday, Nov. 7, at the victor's field.

With just three minutes elapsed in the first quarter, Art Fletcher scored his second goal in as many games to put Darien in front 1-0. Co-captain Brian Nadrichzky quickly made it 2-0 as well.

As Season Ends

Andy Nelson

Senior Safety Tim McAllister was the defensive standout intercepting three passes giving him a total of eight for the year. Final score Darien: 14—Staples: 0.

Darien then traveled to Wilton Saturday, Nov. 9, to play their final game of the season.

The Bootiers led 6-0 at the half.

The Darien offense led by junior fullback Dick Hamannreich scored two touchdowns in the second half. Both touchdowns were short plunges by Hamannreich. The second touchdown, set up on a pass interception by Tim McAllister, was scored with 20 seconds remaining in the game. Both extra point attempts failed. Final score: Darien 12 Wilton: 6.

The win left Darien with 5 wins, 2 losers and 2 ties, the best record posted by a Darien football team in seven years. Darien finished with the best defensive unit in the FCIAC, allowing only 42 points in nine games.

They went on to win another 18-minute overtime. Darien appeared at first to be falling apart. With about five minutes left Leslie Milne made a spectacular stop in front of the goal cage, which saved Darien from losing the game. Then Wiring顿 got a scoring drive together with some fine passes that set up Allen King's goal. This got Darien the tie. And the privilege of going to the semi-finals.

They completed a fine season and post-season with a 10-1-3 record over all. The Granby game must be counted as a loss, according to Miss Strominger.

Soccer Team Nipped In Quarter-Final Effort

By CURT STITES

The Darien High School soccer team lost their quarter-final game against Prince Tech of Hartford, 2-1, thus eliminating them from the State Tourney.

The Blue opened their post-season competition on Monday, Nov. 5, by edging Bristol Central 1-0 on the Waver's field.

Darien scored what proved to be the only tally of the afternoon as Art Fletcher headed the ball past the outstretched arms of the B.C. goalie. The first half ended with Darien in front 1-0, and goal. The rest of the game was a defensive battle with Hart, Frate, Stites, and Cushing holding for the Blue.

The Bootiers won their second straight game in tourney play as they whipped West Haven 4-0 on Wednesday, Nov. 7, at the victor's field. With just three minutes elapsed in the first quarter, Art Fletcher scored his second goal in as many games to put Darien in front 1-0. Co-captain Brian Nadrichzky quickly made it 2-0 as well.

The Bootiers won their second straight game in tourney play as they whipped West Haven 4-0 on the Waver's field.

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