

Dr. Levanto announces retirement

By ERIC FRIEDMAN

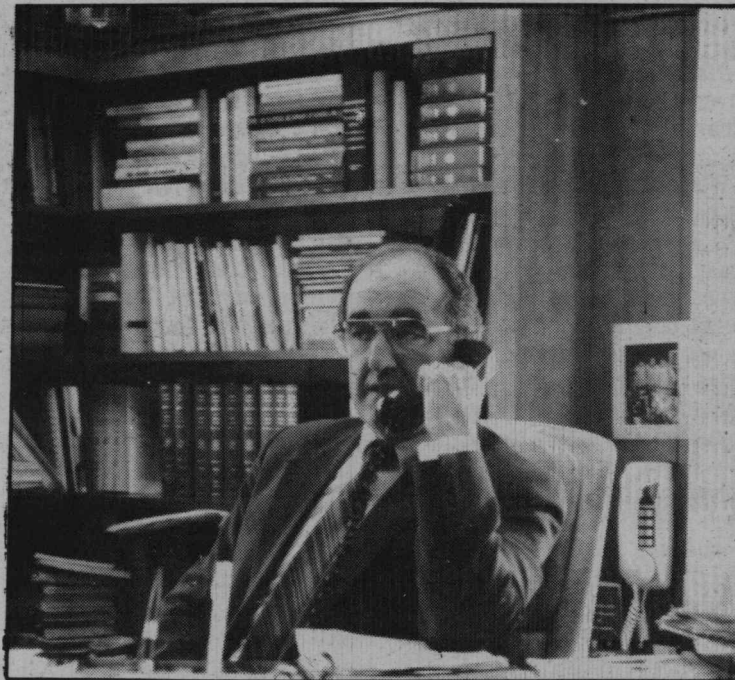
"It was a very difficult decision. I thought it would be easy, but it wasn't," said our principal, Dr. Joseph Levanto, of his announcement last month to resign from office by the end of the school year. Dr. Levanto assesses his thirty four-year teaching and administrative career at NFA, as well as his future plans, in this exclusive interview with the Red & White.

When asked why he is resigning from office, Dr. Levanto replied that he felt the time was right for a change in his life:

"Since I am retiring at a relatively young age, I can enter another career in the business field," he said.

"The job of headmaster is so broad, that it's almost undefinable," remarked Levanto when describing what the job of headmaster (also called principal & superintendent/principal) entails. In addition, he stressed the fact that the headmaster is involved in management on all administrative levels:

"As headmaster, you have to be a leader, a father, a lawyer, a policeman, a diplomat, a public relations man, a businessman, and a model citizen: all in



Vlado Coric/Red&White

one!" Levanto said.

"It's just amazing what is expected of you," he added.

What's more amazing is that Dr. Levanto has surpassed all expectations as our school's eighth headmaster.

Known affectionately as 'Dr. Joe' by many on campus, Dr. Levanto has had a truly eventful

thirteen-year term in office, one which has heralded revolutionary change at NFA. In describing what he deemed to be the most important accomplishments of his term, Dr. Levanto focused on several changes in the academic curriculum, such as the re-institution of a differentiated diploma system, and

the highly successful reorganization of the school attendance policy in 1973. Also of great significance was Levanto's unprecedented introduction of computers at NFA for record-keeping purposes, and, of course, the more recent revamping of the NFA corporate structure, which, according to Levanto, will "pave the way for progress in the future."

On the opposite side of the coin, Levanto stressed the recurring struggle to keep NFA an independently-run institution, a factor which Levanto considers critical to the survival of NFA's unique academic offerings. Furthermore, Levanto also discussed the challenging task of frugal budget management, and explained the difficulty of maintaining high-quality education with our school's limited resources.

Levanto summarized how he emerged successful from trying ordeals with these problems as follows:

"You have to strive to be good. Otherwise, you're not going to be in business."

Since he began teaching at NFA in 1953, Dr. Levanto has watched thirty-three classes of

NFA students progress from orientation day to graduation. In sharing his own observations on the development of the NFA student over the past four decades, Levanto stated that the student body seemed strongly conservative during his first teaching years here. Later on, however, by what Levanto called "the roaring sixties", most students had become strongly liberal-minded and much less concerned with academics. But since the early eighties, Dr. Levanto has noticed a change in NFA students:

"They seem more practical-minded and more concerned with academics and their own future," he noted.

Dr. Levanto flagged further enthusiasm for students by proclaiming his confidence in the classes of the eighties and nineties:

"They're going to do a great job," he said.

Concerning the appointment of his successor, Dr. Levanto dismissed circulating rumors, stating that the Board of Trustees would soon hire 'an executive search firm' to begin a nationwide search for a candidate.

see page 3

Sheila Kelly remembered

By TERRIE WALDEN

Recently we lost a valued member of our student body. However, Sheila Kelly will never be forgotten.

Sheila loved school. She loved NFA especially. She was active in many clubs and organizations. She served as a coordinator in Project Outreach and did all its public relations work. She was on the staff of the *Red and White* and the *Mirror*. She also took part in the Marching Band and the announcers/engineers club. Sheila loved all of her classes and teachers.

We will always remember Sheila as a cheerful person. She wanted everyone around her to be happy. If you weren't, she would tilt her head to one side and smile — it always worked. Walking between classes she'd always wave and say "hi."

A memorial fund has been set up in Sheila's memory. If anyone would like to donate to the Sheila Kelly memorial fund, send all donations to: The Sheila Ann Kelly Memorial Fund care of the Norwich Free Academy.

Recently I spoke with Mrs.

Theresa Kelly, Sheila's mother. Mrs. Kelly would like to thank all the people who attended the funeral and the wake, gave flowers, cards, services, and support. She feels there are so

many people to thank that she doesn't want to miss any of them. To all those of who attended the funeral and wake and gave support: "Thank you," from Sheila's family.

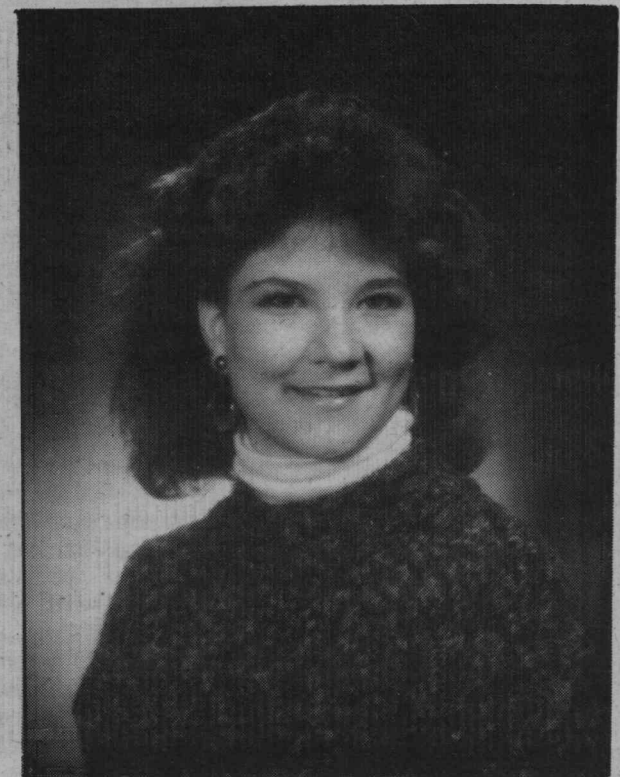
We wish to express our sincere gratitude to all who sent beautiful flowers and messages of condolence following the tragic loss of our daughter, Sheila.

There are no adequate words to express the feelings of warmth and appreciation to all who attended her services.

We find great comfort in knowing that Sheila had so many friends and touched so many lives of others in such a positive manner.

The kind words spoken by so many will long be remembered as the memory of Sheila lives on in our hearts and minds.

Mr. and Mrs. John Kelly
and family



Sheila Kelly 1970-1987

Censorship alive and well in the U.S.

By JONATHAN TAYLOR

If one had the pleasure of hearing Jello Biafra, lead singer of the now defunct band, *Dead Kennedys*, speak at Connecticut College on December 8th, one had to have been impressed with Mr. Biafra's argument against censorship. Having been a recent victim of right-wing attempts to censor forms of expression, Biafra loaded his presentation with interesting, and rather frightening insights into the ways in which censorship works here in the United States.

On June 2, 1986, the day before an election day, Jello Biafra was charged by the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office with violating section 313.3 of the California Penal Code ("Distribution of Harmful Matter to Minors"). The charges were filed based on a single complaint from the mother of a Sylmar, California, girl who purchased a *Dead Kennedys* record as a Christmas present in December of 1985. On the front cover of the album was this warning: "The inside fold-out to this record cover is a work of art by H.R. Giger that some people may find shocking, repulsive or offensive...Life can sometimes be that way." The Sylmar mother, however, felt that the insert (an erotic, surrealist painting which would be difficult to describe in this paper) was more pornographic than artistic. She promptly wrote a letter to the California Consumer Affairs Department,

who turned the matter over to the L.A. City Attorney's Office, who promptly filed charges against all parties involved in the distribution of the record except Wherehouse Records, a large record chain who sold the record. If you're wondering why Wherehouse Records wasn't charged, you're in good company. It seems that the L.A. City Attorney's Office did not want to go after a large corporation that could afford to hire good lawyers to beat such charges. The L.A. City Attorney's Office described it as being "cost effective." Although the L.A. City Attorney's Office was looking to win this case, a loss, coupled with a long, drawn-out, expensive trial would have been victory enough for it would probably put the band and its record company, Alternative Tentacles, out of business. And it did just that.

For a year-and-a-half, L.A. Deputy Prosecutor, Michael Guarino, pressed on with his case, despite the fact that there were more "cut and dry" cases of pornography or even prostitution and sexual assault which needed his attention. Guarino also dismissed the fact that H.R. Giger, a Swiss surrealist, most noted for his Academy Award winning set designs for the movie *Alien*, has had his art work published in books and periodicals and is frequently exhibited.

The case went to trial in the summer of 1987. Biafra based his defense on the fact that the

insert was an integral part of the entire record package and it would have been foolish to include it for no apparent reason. Biafra received some help from the ACLU, and after a three week trial, the jury voted 7-5 in favor of Biafra. Although not a clear victory, it was enough to dismiss the case.

While this episode may seem rather remote to those who don't like the *Dead Kennedys*' type of music, censorship by right-wing conservatives is in vogue, and it is not only limited to the music industry. Book-banning has always been a popular sport in the United States, and though it would be impossible to list all of the books that have been involved in censorship litigation, such a list would include Kurt Vonnegut's *Cat's Cradle*, John Gardner's *Greendle*, Sylvia Plath's *The Bell Jar*, Ken Kesey's *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, Mark Twain's *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, Joseph Heller's *Catch 22*, J.D. Salinger's *Catcher in the Rye*, and even the American Heritage Dictionary (this author currently possesses the dictionary-it contains definitions of many of the more popular slang terms). *Playboy* and *Penthouse* magazines have been pulled from all 7-11 stores after receiving pressure from the Meese Commission on Pornography and after a meeting with Rev. Jimmy Swaggart, executives for Wal-Mart, one of the world's biggest discount store chains,

decided to pull from its shelves 32 rock and teen magazines, including *Rolling Stone*, *Creem* and *Spin*, in addition to albums by Eddie Murphy, Richard Pryor, Ozzy Osbourne, and Motley Crue. Censorship of rock music has been a problem since the invention of the phonograph, but has become much more aggressive since the beginning of the "rock-era." One must recall the initial shock of Elvis' gyrating pelvis, and the numerous problems that many black performers had endured. Today, however, rock music censorship has been addressed by the infamous Parents Music Resource Center (PMRC). You all remember the PMRC, that extremely powerful Washington-based group that favors the ratings of records much like the motion picture industry, but much more definitive. The PMRC would like to see songs with profane or sexually explicit lyrics an "X" rating; songs that advocate drugs or alcohol would receive a "D/A"; songs that refer to the occult, "O"; and songs that glorify violence would receive a "V". The PMRC also favors the printing of all lyrics, and the PMRC has gone so far as to suggest ratings for rock concerts that would bar those under the age of 18 from attending shows given an "X" rating.

If you recall, the PMRC was unable to force the record industry into a ratings system, though many record labels now voluntarily adhere stickers to their

albums, tapes, and C.D.'s (didn't the *Dead Kennedys* do that back in 1985?).

The PMRC is quite an interesting group. It was formerly led by the hypocritical Tipper Gore, wife of Presidential hopeful, Albert Gore. Now that her husband is running for President, Mrs. Gore has stated that the PMRC should not have attempted to censor music (some of the larger campaign donations are made by members of the entertainment business). Mrs. Gore and the PMRC also never went after the Country/Western industry, even though many CW songs talk of drinkin', smokin' and fightin'. Would this have anything to do with her husband's constituency being Tennessee, home of the 'Grand Ole Opry'? The PMRC still receives support from over 16 senators and/or their wives, the National PTA, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and several corporate sponsors including: the Adolph Coors Co., 7-Up Bottling Co., American Airlines, and the Marriott Corp.

The Constitution of the United States was intended to protect such freedoms as the freedoms of speech and the freedom of the

see page 7

Nuclear wedding cake

beneath the plastic daisies
the wavy lines of
ruin

Ah, 1988.

We here aboard the good ship *Red & White* extend a most hearty and sincere "Happy New Year!" unto you, our loyal readers. We hope that you have broken yourself of the habit of writing '1987' and we hope you received lots of loot over the holiday vacation. Isn't that the beauty of a holiday?

But seriously, folks. This year the *Red & White* is going to make some changes. We hope in 1988 to publish this paper more frequently so you can enjoy fine journalism and catchy headlines every time you turn around (well, maybe not *that* frequently), or, if you so choose, your gerbil may be a heck of a lot more comfortable. Most of us here at the *Red & White* have been busy with college applications (and we hope that all of you 'college bound' seniors are working on yours; according to what we heard from your mothers, you aren't), winter sports, winter depression, and winter apathy. All of these factors have

combined to delay the publishing of our paper. We will try to alleviate these problems.

Along with this increase of issues, you, the reader, can expect to find the journalistic quality exceed any of our past editions and the matter of our papers will continue to be interesting, far-reaching, and occasionally far-fetched. However, try to remember, amid all the New Year excitement, that the quality of your *Red & White* depends largely on the contribution of you, the reader. Monetarily? No, no, no. We need you to contribute your precious time, energy, and well-written material to the *Red & White*.

If you are not fully convinced of our need for your articles, let me ask you this: Haven't you ever read our paper and thought, 'I could write better than this guy'? Sure, you have. Well, now's your time to contribute to NFA's best production. We need your help. Of course, if you *want* to give money...

Let's look at Creationism

By PATRICK CUMMINGS
and JONATHAN TAYLOR

When the Greek Myths are taught in school, they are taught as works of literature, not as fact. No English teacher stands up in front of a class and says, "Listen kids, whenever you see lightning, it is because Zeus has grown enraged with mankind." It is a scientific fact that lightning does not come from the hands of the mighty Zeus. Any teacher who attempted to teach this myth as scientific fact would be fired (if not committed) because, in general, school boards try to discourage the instructing of false lessons.

Unfortunately, this is not always the case. Every few years, usually in the South, a group of concerned citizens declares that America's children are being cheated because they are not getting enough religion in school. The answer to this "crisis" would be something called Crea-

tion-Science, according to these citizens. If one wants to know what Creation-Science is, then one simply has to pull out a Bible, turn to the first chapter of Genesis, and read it while being sure to skip over the word "God" whenever it comes along because Creation-Science makes no mention of the existence of a Supreme Being. Instead Creation-Science maintains that the Earth was created in six days (Astronomers feel that the Earth was created over a period of a million years), that the Earth is 10,000 years old (astronomers and geophysists have proven that the Earth is more like 4,500,000,000 years old), that all life appeared on Earth at the same moment (biologists disagree), that Man at one time shared the world with the dinosaurs, as they do on the Flintstones (biologists once again disagree), and that at one time a layer of water in the atmos-

phere produced a "greenhouse effect" that allowed some people to live for few hundred years (no one is quite sure how Creation-Science came upon this notion, but again, those pesky biologists disagree). The biologists, astronomers, and geophysists are joined by nuclear physicists, geologists, archeologists, and many others. More importantly, though, these opposers of Creation-Science are supported by facts upon facts; Creation-Science has no facts to support it, just the Bible; which has nothing to do with science.

It does not take anyone with a Ph.D. to see that Creation-Science is just another attempt by the religious right get religion into America's schools. But then, not many people with Ph.D.'s are behind Creation Science. One man who has a Ph.D. and supports Creation-Science is Dr. Lester Lane. Dr. Lane in all

see page 7

Financial aid available

The College Board

Last year, thousands of students didn't even bother to apply to the college they most wanted to attend.

Grades were not the problem. Many of these students would have been accepted at the college of their choice anyway.

The problem was that these students assumed they couldn't pay for the whole cost of attending college. They decided there was no point in applying to a college they couldn't afford.

But according to the College Scholarship Service (CSS) — the financial aid division of the College Board — students who limit their options and rule out colleges because of high costs alone could be making a big mistake. Actually, many students and their families can't pay the full cost of their education without outside help. And CSS expects more than \$21 billion in financial aid to be available in 1987-88 to help students attend college.

Most financial aid is awarded on the basis of financial need, which is based on the difference between the amount your family can pay and what the college costs. What a family can pay

stays the same, whether you attend an inexpensive college or a costly one. So, as college costs go up, your financial need increases, *but the amount you have to pay stays the same.* At a higher-cost college you will have greater financial need, and will be eligible for more financial aid. In fact, if the college you like can meet your financial need, the cost to you may be the same as it would be at one that costs less.

So don't let estimates of high costs discourage you. Don't give up on the college you really want to attend simply because you're not sure you can afford it. The only way you'll know for sure if you can afford the college of your choice is to apply for both admission and financial aid.

Keep your options open. Find out *what* you have to do to apply for financial aid, *when* you have to do it, and *how* to do it right the first time. And if you have questions, ask someone: your counselor, or a college financial aid administrator. It's worth the effort!

from page 1

"Hopefully a successor will be found within the next three to four months," Levanto said.

When asked about programs which he would like to see continued by his successor, Levanto pointed to his cluttered desk, quipping "I have enough work here to keep me busy for the next twenty years!"

On a more serious note, he expressed his confidence in the continuation of planning for a college of art on campus, the proposed renovation of the Norton-Peck Library, and other ren-

ovation projects yet to be started. Dr. Levanto also expressed hopes that the corporate restructuring and the upcoming revision of the daily schedule would be utilized to the limit of their potentials.

As for the Doctor's immediate post-Academy life, he is eagerly looking forward to three long months of blissful vacation (he has only had two weeks off from work over the past 15 years!). Later, Dr. Levanto plans to look into job opportunities in the business world. Has our principal

seen any openings in the job market yet?

"I've already had a few job offers," he said "but I'm not making any decisions at the moment."

And what hopes does Dr. Levanto have for the future of NFA?

"I hope that the Academy will continue to be an academically strong and independently governed institution," he stated "And, most of all, I hope that the wishes of its founding fathers will be perpetuated."

Want to pay less for college?

New England Board of Higher Education

Do you want to study something not offered by public colleges and universities in Connecticut?

The New England Regional Student Program enables you to study at a public institution in another New England state at a reduced tuition rate if the degree program you wish to study is unavailable at the public college or university in Connecticut. Connecticut residents saved more than \$2 million in college tuition costs in 1986-1987 through

the Regional Student Program. According to enrollment figures, 951 Connecticut students took advantage of the program, each saving an average of \$2,207.

Degree programs open to Connecticut residents include an associate's degree program in Marine Biology and Oceanography at Southern Maine Vocational-Technical Institute, and bachelor's degree programs in Textile Marketing at the University of Rhode Island, Hotel, Restaurant and Travel Administration at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst

and Occupational Therapy at the University of New Hampshire.

In fact, there are more than 1,100 degree programs offered through the Regional Student Program at 85 participating public New England institutions.

Interested parties should contact:

New England Board of Higher Education
45 Temple Place
Boston, MA 02111
(617) 357-9620

This years Bee: a proverbial cliffhanger

By ERIC FRIEDMAN

The sixth annual Lillian Young Spelling Bee, held in Slater Hall November 24th, was a full-fledged showstopper, one which had many a surprise for those who watched it.

At the start of the Bee, Mrs. Frances Leta, English Department Coordinator, introduced the 1987 co-chairpersons Mrs. Janice McIntyre and Mrs. Carreen Jennings, official timekeeper Miss Barbara Dombrowski, the surprise participation of supreme word-announcer Mr. Timothy Sullivan, and of course, the all-important judges: retired English teacher Mrs. Shirley Goldberg, Acting Superintendent of Norwich Public Schools Mr. William Juzwic, and Mr. Kenneth Ring, a corporator of the Academy. Mrs. Leta also explained the drop in amount of prize money due to the recent stock market crash (from \$750 to \$650) and emphasized that the Bee's outcome largely depended on "the luck of the draw." Finally, with that ultimate cliché "Let the words begin", the Spelling Bee commenced.

Next the spotlight turned to the sixteen Spelling Bee finalists, those hardy and diligent

souls who had endured the seemingly-impossible trials of nerve and literacy to reach this apex of the NFA spelling universe.

First up to bat at the proverbial 'plate' were the three anxious and somewhat nervous Junior finalists: Michael Baffaro, Nikolas Griffith, and John Pelliccio. After a lengthy stalemate, Pelliccio was disqualified when he misspelled the verb 'jeopardize'. Soon afterwards, Griffith misspelled 'manganese', following which a calm Michael Baffaro spelled the word correctly and claimed victory with 'obstinate'.

Next to put their heads on the proverbial 'chopping block' were the three Lower contestants: Robert Breen, Elizabeth DeBartolo, and last year's Junior winner, Kelly Moriarty. This round proved to be slightly more suspenseful than the first. After DeBartolo's disqualification with 'whirligig', Breen and Moriarty faced off for the championship. A heated battle ensued until the overly-cautious Breen misspelled 'gingham', opening the way to victory for a confident Moriarty with 'courtesy'. With this win, Kelly became the first back-to-back repeating champion in the history of the Bee.

Then, of course came the six spelling aces from the Upper class, all of which have been finalists in past years: Jared Bierylo, Jacques Friedman, Lauren Gwin, Patricia Sullivan, and Ted Tumicki. This contest was great fun: Following the early disqualifications of Tumicki with 'Epicurean' and Sullivan with 'colossal', Lauren Gwin, a favorite to win this year, misspelled 'torrify' (a word about which she later said "I've never heard in my life.") This narrowed the contest down to Bierylo and Friedman, who proceeded to do battle for the title of 'Spelling Emperor.' This proverbial 'War of the Words' lasted until the over-confident Bierylo's surprising blunder of spelling 'utterence' as 'utterency'. Friedman then wrapped up this astounding victory with 're-nege', a hard-earned win for this intrepid youth, who has been a Bee finalist since his Junior year.

At last, as the grand finale, came the Senior finalists: Lorraine Roberts, Deborah Peikes, Joseph Chaisson, Emily Camp, and Kerry Bellisario (who brought along her own cheering section). Unknown to all, two of these contestants were destined

to engage in one of the all-time most spectacular face-offs since the Cuban Missile Crisis.

The round proceeded rapidly with the early disqualification of Chaisson with 'ophamologist', and the later misspelling of 'desiccate' by the popular favorite, Deborah Peikes. After Emily Camp's misspelling of 'excrecence', however, the real competition began: a spellbinding showdown between the two remaining finalists, Roberts and Bellisario.

It all began harmlessly with Robert's misspelling of 'maestro'. A Bellisario victory seemed seemed in the proverbial 'bag'. But the imminent victor also misspelled the word! Thus, according to Bee regulations, the two contestants moved on to the next word, 'misogeny'. Amazingly, both finalists also misspelled this word! And the next word, 'querulous', as well! One can only imagine the tension in Slater Hall at this moment. One could almost cut it with a proverbial knife.

It seemed as if history would repeat itself for the third time when Roberts misspelled 'masseuse', but Bellisario broke tradition and spelled it correctly! All that stood in the way of a

Bellisario victory was the adjective 'stymied'. And did she spell it correctly? YES SHE DID!! She snatched victory from the proverbial 'jaws of defeat'! And her cheering section roared!

All this was a victory, Bellisario later told Dr. Levanto, "done on purpose!"

Right, Kerrie.

A well-deserved congratulations to the winners and to all the finalists.

Epilogue: How did the winners feel about their victory?

Michael Baffaro: "It was very nervewracking."

Kelley Moriarty: "Good!"

Jacques Friedman: "Relieved!"

Kerrie Bellisario: "Pretty good!"

Post Epilogue: What will the winners do with their prize money?

Michael Baffaro: "Put it in the bank."

Kelley Moriarty: "Save it for college - and a car."

Jacques Friedman: "Save it for college."

Kerry Bellisario: "Use it to visit the San Francisco Art Institute."

Mr. Delaney makes students his business

By MARY MURPHY

Unless you are enrolled in the business education program here at NFA, many of you may not have the privilege of knowing Mr. Delaney. However, those of you who have had him in the classroom know him and know him well. In his own words, he says, "I have a reputation for discipline."

Mr. John Delaney began teaching 28 years ago after graduating from the University of Connecticut as a business major. He has been a teacher here at the Academy for the past 25 years. Within that time he has taught every business course except shorthand. For the past three years, he has been responsible for accounting classes only.

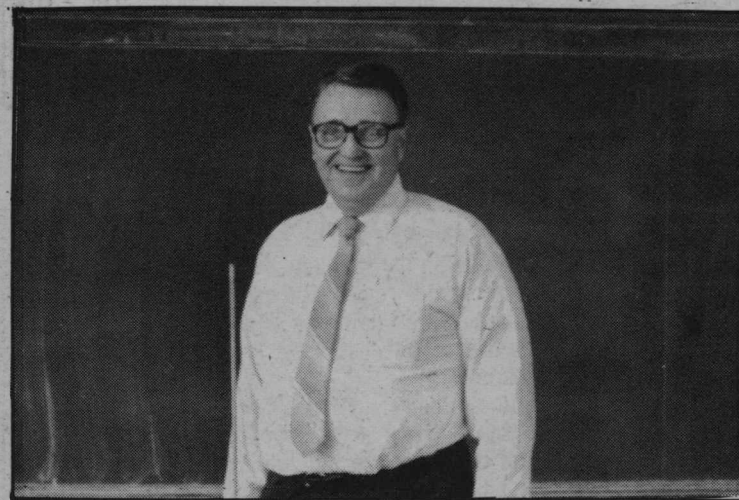
Mr. Delaney explains that he always wanted to become a teacher, as he enjoys working with his students. While some teachers may have difficulty controlling their classes, Mr. Delaney claims that disciplining

is not a problem for him. It doesn't bother him in the least. His years of experience have proven that, "It is much easier if you start with discipline. It is easy to lighten up if you are too strict, but it is difficult to go easy then toughen up." Mr. Delaney pointed out that most behavior problems arise in first year classes, when new students are not familiar with his methods. The second time around goes much smoother, as his pupils are much more accustomed to his disciplinary techniques. He compares discipline to a pendulum, with behaviors and attitudes swinging in both positive and negative directions. At present, he feels that discipline is the best it has been in years.

As for changes within the Business Education Program, Mr. Delaney notes the increase in computer technology within the past eight to ten years. He also draws attention to the fact

that enrollment in business courses has dropped considerably. He attributes this drop to the fact that "the product" is not advertised well enough. He explains that accounting courses should be brought to the attention of college bound seniors who plan to major in accounting in college. If students were to take two or three years of accounting in high school, they would receive the fundamentals, which are bypassed in college courses.

Commenting on the new administration, Mr. Delaney said, "I would hope that the trustees and their wisdom would consider hiring both a superintendent of schools and a principal. The school has grown out of one person and two personalities would be ideal for the position." He also feels that the new schedule will create some problems for both faculty and students alike. However, as nothing is carved in stone, the problems



Mr. Delaney flashing a toothy grin

Vlado Coric/Red&White

can be remedied as they arise.

Mr. Delaney foresees retirement in the next two to four years, at which time he can begin to focus his attention on his private business, an income tax and accounting service. He would also like to spend some time vacationing. Until then, he

will remain at NFA, doing what he has done for the last 25 years. When asked what one thing he would like most to see from Santa under his tree on Christmas Day, he replied, "My daughter." Merry Christmas, Mr. Delaney, and a happy New Year.

Dr. Levanto's life summed up

BY ERIC FRIEDMAN

1929 - Born in Norwich, CT
1947 - Graduated from NFA
1952 - Earned B.A. in Sociology & Biology at American International College
1952-53 - Was project planner at Electric Boat (worked on USS Nautilus, world's first nuclear-powered submarine)
1953 - Was science teacher and sports coach in Attleboro, MA
1953-60 - Returned to NFA, taught biology and physical science
1957 - Received National Science Foundation Grant in

Oceanography from Wesleyan University
1960 - Received National Science Foundation Grant in Oceanography from Rutgers University
1960 - Introduced IBM computer system at NFA for record keeping purposes
1960-64 - Taught part-time and became involved in NFA administration
1964 - Became full-time NFA administrator
1960-67 - Attended IBM Corporation School of Data Processing
1968 - Went back to school at

University of Connecticut
1970 - Earned M.A. in Education/Administration
1973 - Earned Ph.D. in Administration
1975 - Appointed headmaster, succeeded Charles Hamblen
1976-83 - Had major role in design & construction of the NFA field house and all-weather track, as well as the campus television station, observatory, and planetarium
1987 - Announced his resignation by June 1988

Skolnick rising in NFA ranks: Local boy makes good

By MARIA RATHNAM

Many of you seniors who have had Mr. Skolnick as guidance counselor may not be aware that he now has a new title: Special Administrative Intern.

Mr. Skolnick's experience and education has been a major factor in his being assigned this position. He graduated from UConn in 1975 with a master's degree in counseling, and this year he will be completing his 13th year at NFA.

So what is a "Special Adminis-

trative Intern?" Mr. Skolnick's major duty in this position involves disciplinary action for senior attendance. He is also in charge of the Bradlaw building and the Department of Business Education. He still remains a guidance counselor, and is presently in charge of 130 students.

The most satisfying part of the job, Mr. Skolnick feels, is the opportunity to have more input in school policy. He enjoys communicating his ideas for NFA, and finds this "challenging and exciting."

Mr. Skolnick admits that the job does have negative aspects. The least satisfying part is the angle of disciplinary action involving student suspension. He has a "dual feeling" because he has to discipline students as an administrator, yet support them as a guidance counselor.

As an administrative intern, Mr. Skolnick is learning the skills to have a full administrative position, which is the next step in his career.

Carolers were "tres bien"

By Sheri Prociou

Not one Christmas season leaves us without the joyful singing of the carolers. Mrs. Ivansheck and fifty-two active members of the French Club made sure that this one didn't either.

This year they added a twist to traditional carolling; all their songs were sung in French! Some of the popular carols include "Joie sur la Terre" ("Joy to the World"), "Petit Renne au Nez Rouge" ("Rudolf the Red Nose Reindeer"), "Tinte Clochettes" ("Jingle Bells"), and "Oh Beau Sapin" ("Oh Christmas Tree"). They also sang some

other less known songs such as "Il est ne, le Divin Enfant."

This year was the first time in a while that the French Club has performed an activity such as this. They visited the Norwich Convalescent Home, the Convalescent Center of Norwich, and Backus Hospital. At the convalescent homes there are at least ten French speaking patients so this was something extra special for them.

"Just the fact that out of fifty-two are taking part in this activity shows tremendous enthusiasm," says Mrs. Ivansheck, the French Club Advisor.

Army band invades NFA

By Jessica Arneson

Once upon a time, in a gymnasium far, far away, a band dressed up in camouflage and army boots and played hit after hit to thousands of adoring fans. By now you must have guessed that the gym is located at NFA; the thousands are the students and faculty at NFA, and the band is that great band, straight to us from the army here in Connecticut!

On Thursday, November 19, sixth period (or G channel for

the more stringent among us), we all enjoyed an hour of rock and roll, past and present. Not only did we listen, but some of the zanier students were brave enough to get up there with those soldiers and go crazy (by dancing of course)!

While we all wish that we could do something like that every day, we do appreciate that one hour of pure enjoyment. Much thanks to Dr. Levanto and the faculty for allowing us, (and them) that hour.

Steve does it again

By STEVE ERICKSON

Swans/ *Children Of God* (Caroline Records) The Swans used to literally play heavy metal. They once used large metal objects as drums. Their previous records have had names like *Filth*, *Cop*, *Greed*, and *Holy Money*. Their latest record starts with "New Mind," previously released as a single. It has an incredibly loud dirgelike drum beat, and the guitar sounds like a tape recording of an airplane crash played at 16 rpm. The singer sounds as if he's singing at 16 rpm too, judging by the screams and chants of at least five other people. It is exactly what I expected from a Swans record. The next song is sung by keyboardist Jane Jarboe. She is accompanied by piano, bass, and flute. I never thought I'd hear flutes, oboes, or cellos on a Swans record. What's even more surprising is that at least a third of the songs on *Children Of God* are gentle ballads dominated by Jarboe's beautiful singing and acoustic instruments. The dirges are just as loud and painful as before, but they benefit from the contextualization provided by the ballads. On "Our Love Lies," the highlight of *Children Of God*, both strains are combined into something that sounds like nothing else the Swans have ever recorded. *Children Of God* is a two-record set that might have been better if stripped down to one record, but it's much better than I expected.

Metallica/ *Garage Days Re-revisited* (Elektra Records) I thought that past Metallica releases were all okay, but there was something missing. For instance, *Master of Puppets* would

have been better without "Orion," which was basically an eight-minute guitar solo; it seemed to me that most of their songs went on for about two minutes too long. *Garage Days Re-revisited* contains everything I liked about Metallica and deletes most of what I disliked. "Helpless" and "the Small Hours" are the longest songs at a mere six and a half minutes apiece. I'm not very familiar with any of the songs that they cover, but they do a song each from the heavy metal bands Diamond Head, Budgie and Holocaust, one song by the gloom-rock band Killing Joke, and two from the hardcore Misfits. Their version of the Misfits' "Green Hell" is one of the best combinations of hardcore and metal I've heard yet, and "Last Caress" is notable for its interesting lyrics. The rest of the songs are just as good. *Garage Days Re-revisited* is an excellent record. Even people like me who don't like heavy metal might agree.

Green River/ *Dry As A Bone* (Sub Pop Records) Seattle's Green River put out an LP, a single, a few tracks on compilations and this EP in the course of a year. Then they broke up this October. Why am I reviewing them in the course of a heavy metal review? They played a truly unique combination of heavy metal and punk rock. Instead of playing heavy metal fast, they sound like the Sex Pistols might have if they were influenced by Aerosmith and AC/DC. People who like early '70s heavy metal would really like Green River if they ever got a chance to hear them.



INDESTRUCTIBLE NOISE COMMAND

Although they've broken up, and their LP and single are hard to find, this EP is fairly recent. It's not too late.

Wrath/Nothing To Fear (Medusa Records) You have nothing to fear from Wrath unless you have something against bad music. If you already have everything Metallica has released and you are desperate for more, you might like Wrath. They sound as if they were deeply influenced by Metallica to the point of plagiarism. The songs have titles like "Ripped To Pieces" and "Hell Is Full," but I can't make out any of the lyrics. That's probably good. This LP

was produced by Ronnie Montrose, in case anyone cares. I don't care who he is or about Wrath.

The Indestructible Noise Command/ *Razorback* (Giant Records) The Indestructible Noise Command is from Bridgeport, Connecticut and they recorded their record in West Haven. I have never heard any other Connecticut heavy metal bands, so I.N.C. is original in that respect. They play very fast, and are obviously inspired by many other, more famous, speed metal bands. The singing sounds more punk than metal, but the music is more metal

than punk. I don't think I'm the right person to judge a band like this, but *Razorback* sounds fairly listenable to me. I can recommend it if you like speed metal.

CORRECTION: The Top 40 article in the last issue of *The Red & White* had an error in its byline. The byline should have read, "list compiled by Steven Erickson, Richard Hartson, and Chris Valace."

Planes, Trains, Autos, Max, and JJ

By MAX QUINN and JJ RANON

The two of us recently had the pleasure of seeing the new John Hughes' film "Planes, Trains and Automobiles."

JJ: When I first heard that this was a new John Hughes' flick, I said to myself "J.J., man, this is a new John Hughes' flick." I have never been impressed with any of Hughes' previous attempts at making movies. I thought that "Sixteen Candles" was insipid. I thought that "The Breakfast Club" was even worse. I did not have much hope for this new film. I thought the talents of two of my favorite comedic actors, Steve Martin and John Candy, would be wasted.

MAX: JJ, I must agree with you. I thought that "Sixteen Candles" was like a "Porky's"

with all the good parts cut out. I thought "The Breakfast Club" was a stupid story about a group of five idiots packed together in the same room, where they succeed at making total jerks out of themselves. Besides, there were no good parts like in "Porky's". As it turned out, "Planes, Trains, and Automobiles" fit the image of a classic John Hughes film. It stunk. I hated it. Watching this movie was like watching "Sixteen Candles" while chewing tin foil.

JJ: Max, you were obviously too busy chewing tin foil to realize that "P.T. and A." was a tremendously humorous movie. It was too funny. While it is true that the plot was slightly weak (though, when compared to previous Hughes attempts this film

has the strength of twenty mules pulling a red carriage), the harmony that Candy and Martin achieve in this film is like sugar on a grapefruit and their performances outweigh this small imperfection.

MAX: JJ, sometimes I think you eat lead. Or, at least your head's full of it. How anyone can laugh when Martin and Candy caress each other in bed or when Martin wiped his face with Candy's oversized briefs is beyond me. Those aren't good parts. I sat through this entire film waiting for some good parts. I kept hoping that at some hotel Candy and Martin would bump into some fair maiden, and then the good parts would start. It never happened. That's the major reason why I, as an

intelligent movie critic, cannot ethically recommend this film. It's just to superficial.

JJ: Max, I may have had a few lead paint chips for breakfast when I was a kid, but it hasn't clouded my mind and right now I'm thinking that you obviously had your mind set on only one thing during this movie: good parts. You must have been waiting too hard for the good parts that you totally missed the funny parts. The movie stars Martin as a 'yuppie' marketing executive who is trying to get home in time for Thanksgiving. His flight home is cancelled because of bad weather and the movie deals with his ill-fated quest for home using various modes of travel. He, of course, can't seem to rid himself

of the annoying Dell Griffiths, a shower curtain ring salesman who is travelling in the same direction. This scenario is conducive to much gut-wrenching, mucus and tear producing laughter.

MAX: Well, Well, Excuse me! Mister Perfect. Mister I'm-a-movie genius. I didn't just hate this film because there were no good parts. There were a million reasons why I hated this movie. I kinda hated the way Hughes directed the film. It was bad. He's no good. And Candy's pretty ugly. That little mustache looked like an infected scab. And Martin, he looks like he kinda wears a wig. Old Going Baldy Head, that's him. And

SAB news

By Charmaine Oakley

The S.A.B. meeting of Wednesday, November 18, was something no one should have missed! They discussed and picked out days for Spirit Week—yes, that FUN and EXCITING week of school SPIRIT! The schedule for December 14-18 was set and followed, as per usual, from Stripe day to Red and White day.

Dr. Levanto came to visit the S.A.B. on November 24. He was very informative and gave logical explanations for a variety of topics, concerning dances, the school schedule change, our relations with St. Bernard's, the process of choosing the new principal of NFA, the building of a new library, a pool for Alumni Hall, NFA's foundation, and the Slater Norton Corporation. Needless to say, this was the longest meeting they'd had yet this year, but it was WORTH EVERY MINUTE OF IT! Here are some interesting facts:

1. Underneath the Main building's wood floor is concrete! The walls are brick, and it has a

SOLID GRANITE FOUNDATION! NFA was built like a FORTRESS! (Makes you wonder if they were expecting any earthquakes, doesn't it?)

2. Dance rules may be changed back to the original set because of the huge loss in profit from last year's dance!

3. The process of finding a new principal may take at least four months.

4. The schedule change anticipated for next year would give us a much longer time in school, but it would better accommodate the different towns' buses.

5. Relations (as in SPORTS) were dropped with St. Bernard's because several years ago St. Bernard's dropped NFA in basketball for NO REASON. So, we dropped them in everything!

6. At the meeting of December 2, a possible BLOOD DRIVE was discussed for the spring! Sharon Dibble, a member of the Red Cross, came to lobby for support for the drive! The canned food drive was also discussed.

"Wall Street" is a sound investment

By LAURIE GWIN

Oliver Stone, the man who exploded the Vietnam war in our faces with "Platoon," has exposed the brutality, and meaninglessness, of a different kind of war in "Wall Street." Instead of a bloodthirsty platoon leader, there is one Gordon Gecko—the money hungry, financial cut-throat, played effectively by Michael Douglas. Good old American dollars become obscenities at his fingertips. Only they evoke passion in this cynic.

"Love? Love was created to keep people from jumping out of

buildings." He is 'Evil', as Stone sees it, and deliciously so.

The story, however, is based on a young stock broker, Bud Fox, aptly called "Buddy" through most of the film, played by Charlie Sheen. He worships Gecko, and in order to be an underling to his idol, he would commit the most lowly, stinking, and — gasp — illegal crime a Wall Street monetary gameplayer could commit; he gets some quick inside information. (Heads up, Boesky fans, but keep in mind that this film was made before Ivanscam). The information itself is a little vague: a

certain rich man, enemy of Gecko, has lunch at a certain place, and later hops his jet to Iowa. Buddy tells Gecko; Gecko immediately buys up a certain company's stock, thereby gleefully thwarting the other guy. And it's all in the name of fun.

Everything magically falls into place for Buddy. "Mr. Gecko" is now "Gordon" or even "G.G." (uttered slowly in a scolding voice). He's bought a

huge apartment, has his fantasy of a girlfriend (Daryl Hannah), and even pays back, and takes to lunch, his working class, man of the people, union leading father. There is of course only one problem. His latest transaction skewered his dad's small airline company, and all the workers—people, he is reminded, who were around him as he grew up.

Not a few critics chide "Wall Street" as a vague morality

play. It does become somewhat absurd when Buddy gazes confusedly out of his penthouse high-rise window into the night, and plaintively asks, "Who am I?". The symbolism does tend to run somewhat rampant. Stone does turn preacher in parts, attempting to enlighten the viewer with his versions of "right and wrong."

Big deal. I liked this movie. You should go see it.

Chain escapes "earthly woe"

By TONYA STRONG

It's been said that to reap the fruit of the ethereal, one must suffer the agony of earthly woe. So it was at the Living Room on November 12th when Rash of Stabbings and Opal played with The Jesus and Mary Chain.

Rash of Stabbings was the first band to play. Although their set was a bit too loud, it wasn't bad. Then again it really wasn't good. Most of their songs were very rockish and basically bland. There were a few bright moments, however, most memorably "a song about igno-

rance" which they apparently didn't bother to name.

Next it was Opal's turn. What had we done to deserve this? Their sound technicians must have been picked at random off the street before the show. The lead vocals were drowned out by keyboards and an overpowering guitar which went out of tune within the first fifteen minutes of their set.

You may have enjoyed some of the set if you are really into the music of say, twenty years ago, otherwise you would probably have been left disgusted with

the redundant '60's guitar riffs that wave through the new age keyboards and shoddy vocals in every single song.

Finally, at 11:30 p.m. they were interrupted right in the middle of a song and asked to leave the stage. Yes, there is justice. It was time for the Chain.

If you were looking forward to the old Chain standard of a fifteen minute show filled with nothing but consecutive noise performed in a drunken stupor, then you were in for a big disappointment. At the same

time, if you were expecting the more mellow side of the band as conveyed in their "Some Candy Talking" EP and even more so in their new album, again you'd be mistaken because when the four Scottish angels descended to the stage garbed in basic black with hair askew, it was "Psychocandy" time. Even their new stuff, for the most part, was done psycho style. This was the Chain: the Chain that emerged from the blatantly redundant, unimaginative, underground scene of 1984, and spat on the boredom which sur-

rounded it.

There was one disappointment. Bobby, their old drummer, had been replaced with a drum machine. Sad as this was it would take much more than that to ruin their performance that night and the simple yet strong beats of the machine actually ended up complementing the songs really well.

Everything else was bordering on perfection. Jim's lazy voice lulled over the everpresent yet never overpowering distortion that the Chain are renowned for.

see page 7

CONSIDER IT A PASS TO YOUR FAVORITE CLASS.

UNITED STATES ARMY ENLISTMENT GUARANTEE.

_____ is a member
of the U.S. Army Reserve Control Group (Delayed Entry),
and is scheduled to enter active duty in the Regular Army on _____

for training in _____
Military Occupational Specialty
and for assignment to _____
Area, unit of choice, if applicable

Signature of U.S. Army Guidance Counselor _____ Date _____
The statements in this card do not take the place of the enlistment guarantee/promises
contained in the enlistment agreement and supporting statements which you have signed.

The Army's Delayed Entry Program helps you get the skill training you really want.

It's simple: while you're a senior in high school, pick one of the over 250 challenging skills offered for training. Qualify, and your Recruiter will give you a card like the one in the picture. It saves you a spot in class.

Once you graduate, and your training becomes available, you're on your way. You'll be learning something exciting and new, maybe even something you'll use the rest of your life.

If your future's important to you, check out the Delayed Entry Program. All it takes is a phone call to your local Army Recruiter. Call today.

889-6718

Norwich Army Office
372 West Main Street

ARMY. BE ALL YOU CAN BE.

the
R
E
D

A
N
D

W
H
I
T
E

the one
to read

Riflers shoot for strong season

By CHRIS ADAMS

The NFA Rifle team is looking stronger than ever this year. Strong enough to contest several state records. In an early season open tournament held last week, the Wildcats competed against over a hundred of the best junior shooters in the state in head to head competition at Quaker Hill; the results were encouraging. The Wildcats four-man varsity team finished third overall, defeating nine other teams. In the individual competition Chris Adams shot 276 (of a possible 300) to garner in class A (overall), losing first by a single point. Tim Whitten fired a fine 270 for fifth place in class A and his brother Mike was at 243 for

second in class B. In the sub-junior prone category, Pete Palmer shot 215 for a fourth place in class C.

The team's strength was built up this past summer at Camp Perry, Ohio, site of The Annual National Rifle Championship. L.J. Fusaro, Tim and Mike Whitten, and Kris Kimbro all participated in The Advanced Smallbore Position Rifle School. Chris Adams captained Connecticut's state team (four man junior prone) to a National Championship Title. NFA's rifle team abounds in depth this year like never before. This season should be a strong one for the Wildcats from start to finish.

Mr.X's tryout

By JOHN ENRIGHT

The following is a story about a student at NFA who tried out for a team and made it. He didn't want to be identified by his real name, but by the name of Mr.X. The reason Mr.X tried out was "I thought I would enjoy it, so I said what the heck. The practices were so tough. I didn't think it was worth it. I felt like quitting, but the drive of competition kept me going. I also kept going because the coach was on the team's case. At one point he was pushing us so much I

thought he was going to break me in two." I couldn't get an opinion out of Mr.X about what he thought of the people on the team except "My comment is no comment."

Mr.X had his first meet on December 17 with this new team. He thought that the meet was "cool". He also liked the part about putting on a shirt and tie. He said "I think it's cool and it gets me psyched for a meet. Another important factor is that I can also make a fashion statement."

Indoor track: better late than never

By CHAD & JOSHUA GEORGE

Indoor track is finally under way. We talked to Miss Levin, the indoor track coach, about the events that led to the formulation of indoor track this season, this year's schedule, and other such important information.

Miss Levin is a permanent substitute teacher who can be found in a number of rooms in the Main building. Her knowledge of indoor track comes from the experience she had running long distance indoor track in

college.

Miss Levin readily gives all the credit for indoor track to the people who went to talk to Mr. McPhail, the athletic director, and Dr. Levanto. According to Miss Levin, all she had to do was accept the job as head coach and indoor track was off the ground.

Indoor track will be running between January and March. Since there is no indoor track facilities on campus, all meets will be away. Several meets that are tentively scheduled include

The Eastern Relays at UCONN on January 16, The Yale Invitational on January 22 and 23, The Hartford Invitational on February 12, The State Invitation's on February 18, and The Class L Invitational on February 24.

75 people signed up for indoor track. The assistant coach is Mr. Delucia. If you have any questions concerning the indoor track team or interested in joining the team, Miss Levin will be happy to accomodate you.

Wrestlers grappling for sixth title

By CHRIS SCHULTZ and CANUTE RAMON

The 1987-88 season has been initially frustrating but still may be another great one for the NFA Wildcat wrestling squad. The frustration has come over early season losses to both Waterford and Simsbury, leaving the Cats with an normally impressive but still slightly disappointing 6-2-0 record. While this record is outstanding by most schools' standards, in the wake of five straight state championships, to Coach Snitkin and the wrestlers themselves the losses come as serious threats to the achievement of a sixth championship.

The team is led by a strong senior class. Tri-captains Kyle Manseau(125), Doug Senecal(135), and Rob LaRose(160). The squad also includes Jeong Han(103), Dino Ricafranca(112), Warren Strong(140), Mike McHale and Ed Hyde(145), Bill Anderson(152), Tim Rogers(171), Wayne Sharkey(189), and the Heavyweight Bill Marcavage will provide both leadership and experience. However, changes in the Varsity line-up have recently been made by Coach Snitkin to stir up the upper weight-classes.

The Wildcats were originally-

anked first in the pre-season coaches poll and won their first five matches. The Wildcats' losses came, consecutively, to Waterford High School, 32-30, on January 6, and Simsbury High, 42-23, on January 9.

from page 2

press. Those who advocate certain forms of censorship claim that their mission is for the "public good," but it seems that they are only succeeding in restricting the right of the public to make its own decisions. If parents find a book, magazine, record, etc. that they deem offensive, then it is up to the parents to decide not to purchase it, and if the offensive matter is already in the possession of the child, then parents should discuss with the child why they find the matter offensive. To ban, rate, label, and blacklist such materials just makes them that much more enticing to the child.

from page 2

his wisdom, has developed a thoroughly profound theory to explain why most other science fields conflict with Creation-Science; they're all wrong. Dr. Lane teaches this theory, among other things, at Jerry Falwell's Liberty University. The Rev. Falwell, a farsighted science genius (I am being sarcastic, he is really a narrow minded preacher), has vowed that graduates from Liberty University will teach Creation-Sciences arch foe, Evolution, in order to show "...why it's invalid and why it's foolish." Thanks, Jerry.

This examination of Creation-Science may be somewhat satirical, but it really does not have to be. Any theory that states that water in the atmosphere allowed our ancestors to live hundreds of years or that man and dinosaurs once walked the Earth together only a few thousand years ago and then ignores thousands of facts stating otherwise, is a parody of itself. People who support this theory are supporting ignorance, and ignorance has no place in America's classrooms.

from page 6

Each song from "Living End" to "Taste of Cindy" to "Some Candy Talking" even to "April Skies", was treated as the individual it was. They didn't run together into one vague slew of sound as do some band's sets, including Opal's. At the same time, they were all linked together by the energy, or perhaps more accurately, the lack of energy that is distinctively the Jesus and Mary Chain.

But everything has an end and this show was no exception, yet they couldn't just leave the stage. So it happened. Jim's enthusiasm rose as he broke into a classic destruction of his brother's amp. The other members flew away on one cosmic wave of distorted feedback. For about three minutes it seeped through our bodies, our minds and into our souls- nirvana.

Then it was over. But the sweet taste still lingered in our mouths, "Just Like Honey".

R&W STAFF

Editors-in-Chief:

Jonathan Taylor
Reuben Taylor

Layout:

Josh Foley

Layout assistant:

Jen Pratt

Photography:

Vlado Coric
Tom Hospod

News:

Eric Friedman

Features:

Heather Oakley
Laurie Gwinn

Entertainment:

Steve Erikson

Advertisement:

Jenn Bennett
Bob Parija

Editorials:

Patrick Cummings

Copy Editors: None.

Distribution:

Dawn Deslandes

Advisor:

Mr. Sullivan

We here at the Red & White welcome any response to any article any of you read in our paper. Please drop them off without explosives attached to room 245 on the top floor of Commercial.

from page 5

you're a bonehead, dipstick. Go stuff your head in a bowl of razor blades and grapefruit juice!!!!

JJ: Grow up Max. Insulting me is just your little way of saying "alright, I lose." The Constitution gives you the right to say that this film sucked rocks, but then again, you also have the right to say that Norwich is exciting. I have nothing more to say.

MAX: JJ, just drop dead and shut up your face. You're always so perfect. Well, folks good bye, and until the next issue and next film, remember: I rule.

Predictions for '88...

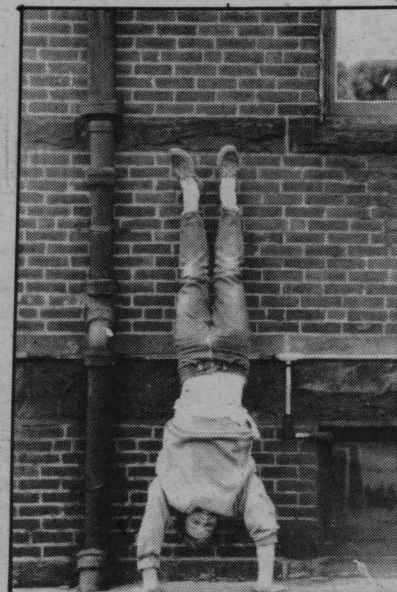
By VLADO CORIC



Heidi Sorensen- "A lot of things will change with the election of a new president."



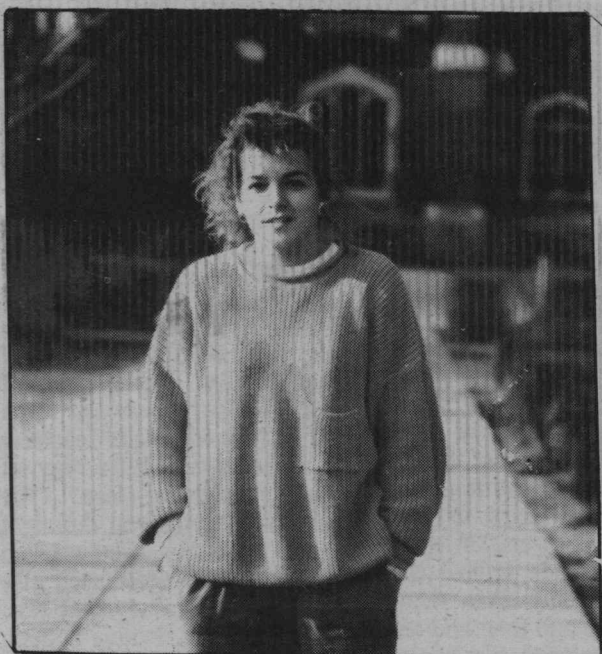
Sandra Lesiur- "M.T.V. will come to Norwich."



Chris Schultz- "Gravity will suddenly reverse itself."



Ed Nowicki & Ulysses Jones- "Everyone is going to to be hypnotized by evil dogs."



Nini Pilotti- "College life will corrupt us all."



Mr. Driscoll- "The dollar will be worth ten yen."



Beth Mulrey- "People will continue to be ignorant."



Kristine Horton- "Aliens will take over."