

Mr. Robinson: Administrative Renaissance man

By HEATHER OAKLEY

Who is that man darting from meeting to meeting and actually enjoying the pace? It's a bird, it's a plane, it has an aristocratic-sounding middle name. It's John Robinson, administrative assistant/jack-of-all-trades. His middle name is Archibald and he is indeed a busy fellow. He managed to fit into his busy schedule an interview with the *Red & White*, but during the interview, the phone rang incessantly. When asked how he feels about the amount of work he is doing, he simply replied that it is "a good kind of busy," and he's certainly not on the verge of "nervous breakdown." In other words, he has time to do the things he enjoys: spending time with his family, participating in basketball and softball leagues, travelling and gardening. He's definitely not bored.

Mr. Robinson came to Norwich from a tiny boarding school in Maine called Lee Academy, 50 miles from the Canadian border, with his wife, three daughters and a son because he was "tired of living in the woods."

He was educated at Phillips Exeter Academy, Rutgers University, and the College of William and Mary in Virginia. He is currently enrolled in a 6th year program at the University of Maine.

One of the things he has been working on is the new schedule for next year. A faculty committee, chaired by Mr. O'Donovan, came up with the plan. The biggest change is that there will be no early dismissal on Wednesdays and Fridays — all school days will last from 7:45 to

2:15. Classes will follow a 7 day cycle, with each class meeting 6 times per cycle, instead of the current weekly schedule with the classes meeting 4 times per week. This means that next year if school is out on a particular day, the new cycle picks up where it left off, instead of the current practice of going on to the next day's schedule. Each class will not be locked into a particular time slot, but will meet at a different period each day. Classes will be 52 minutes long, with 5th period lasting 55 minutes plus 30 minutes for lunch.

He has also been involved with the introduction of the new administrative group detentions which have resulted in a significant drop in class cuts. He is also thinking about some kind of incentive program to encourage



Mr. Robinson (left) on phone (right)

kids who cut frequently to attend classes. Mr. Robinson said that some schools go so far as to give students one dollar for every class they are present. Sorry, this is *not* what he has in mind for NFA! He feels that students have to be conditioned to believe that going to school is

more worthwhile than not going.

All in all, he likes NFA a great deal. He finds the students and teachers friendly and sharing and he is amazed at the vast number of activities available for students here.

Welcome to the school, Mr. Robinson.

Modern day Beowulf

By ERIC FRIEDMAN

Most of us have either seen or heard of our new Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Steven Hosmer, whose arrival at NFA has caused what some are calling a 'crackdown' on school regulations, as well as a 'shakeup' in the administration. Just who is Mr. Hosmer, and what are his views on some of the major issues facing NFA today? An outgoing and personable individual, Mr. Hosmer was eager to reveal himself in this special interview with the *Red & White*.

Mr. Hosmer possesses excellent credentials in administration: Raised in Waterford, he attended college in New Mexico, where he earned his B.A. in business administration. He then pursued graduate work at the University of Maryland, University of Rhode Island, and University of Connecticut, earning additional degrees in business education and educational administration. Mr. Hosmer has had extensive experience in his field; he held high school administrative positions in East Hartford, Stonington, and Lincoln, RI.

Our new assistant superintendent was much impressed with NFA when he first visited the Norwich area. According to him, our school's curriculum "is highly unique." Stressing NFA's great fortune in having the Sla-



Mr. Hosmer, filling the heroic vacuum

ter Museum and extensive art facilities on campus, he stated that NFA "offers many opportunities which most... students can only dream of and many small colleges do not offer." He was also surprised at "the maturity of the student body," and has enjoyed working with a "high calibre administrative staff."

Mr. Hosmer denied the administration's rumored indifference to needed repairs in the school observatory (which has not been repaired at the time of this interview), stressing that the observatory has been repaired when necessary in the past, and will be repaired if problems should arise in the future. Furthermore, he urged that all astronomical precision instruments require important "preventive

maintainence," so as to keep them in top working condition.

When asked how NFA should deal with student smoking in accordance with new state smoking regulations, he emphasized the importance of educating students about the proven health hazards of cigarette smoking. He admitted that it is becoming increasingly difficult for NFA to permit student smoking.

"We are one of the last schools to have smoking on campus," he said.

Mr. Hosmer also discussed the now-infamous new school schedule:

"A committee... was established last year to look at a schedule," he stated, "and they

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Changes in Main torture English teachers

By MARIA RATHNAM

As most of us know, renovations are taking place in the Main building in an attempt to modernize its facilities. Although these renovations are meant to provide more convenience upon their completion, in the meantime, they are causing many headaches for English teachers in Main.

The biggest problem deals with temporary removal of the bookroom previously located in Room 2. English books and reference materials were stored in this room, and they were made

available for teachers to bring into their classrooms. Due to the renovations, however, the books were moved to the ladies' lounge. The room is very disorganized and this has made it difficult for teachers to locate the books they need.

"During the summer renovations," commented Mr. Camp, a Main English teacher, "the books from the bookroom were placed in boxes and piled in one very big heap in the ladies' lounge."

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Levanto agrees with smoking ban

By GILBERT LaPOINTE, JR.

In light of new state smoking regulations and among rumours of a movement to ban smoking here at NFA by the administration, the *Red & White* interviewed our principal, Dr. Joseph Levanto, for the following "inside story."

When asked of his opinion of smoking at NFA, Dr. Levanto, while personally agreeing with smoking bans now being enforced in other high schools, stated that "the Academy has a rule about smoking in school buildings," and added that NFA, unlike other local high schools, "has set aside smoking areas for both faculty and students."

Dr. Levanto defended the controversial closing of one smoking section in September, saying that students could smoke in only one section "in compliance with state law." He also added that two cafeteria tables have been set aside for faculty smokers near an exhaust fan.

When asked if smoking at NFA by both faculty and students put the school's non-smokers' health in danger, Dr. Levanto responded by stating that the outdoor location of the smoking section posed no health hazards to non-smokers, but that if outdoor smoking should be banned, illegal smoking "will be brought into the toilet areas,"

Photo by Vlado Coric

Photo by Vlado Coric

AIDS controversy hits home

By JONATHAN TAYLOR

In light of the recent workshop dealing with AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) here at the Norwich Free Academy, we felt it necessary to address this problem. As laymen, we realize that we really have no right to approach this from the medical aspect of the disease and how it is contracted, but we would like to express some thoughts on how the AIDS controversy affects us here at the Academy.

As members of the general public, we have been bombarded with mostly meaningless statistics that give us such trivial "facts" as the number of possible AIDS carriers; the number of possible AIDS victims; the number of possible AIDS carriers in the year 2021; the number of possible AIDS victims in 17 years in Toole, Utah, etc. Most of us usually disregard statistics. It would seem logical, however, that at an institution the size of NFA, there might be a carrier of the HIV virus, or even an AIDS victim. It is also our understanding that at this point in time, NFA has no official policy concerning AIDS. We doubt that the administration is holding a "wait and see" atti-

tude towards the whole matter, but with such a devastating disease, it would be impractical of the administration not to have formulated some sort of policy dealing with the disease and the rights of the affected, the students and the teachers. We realize that when one proposes hypothetical situations, one is only dealing in ignorance, but let us say, for example, that a student or faculty member were to contract the illness through an accident here at the Academy in which blood was exchanged. A question that would certainly be addressed is whether or not the student or faculty member has the right to sue the school for hospital costs and punitive damages. One obviously cannot sue the school for the contraction of such illness as the common cold or mononucleosis, but would the school be liable for the contraction of a disease which is not spread through casual contact? Another question which must be answered by those formulating our school's AIDS policy is, would an infected student be allowed to continue his or her studies here at the Academy, or would a private tutor be appointed for the student? This is obviously a very delicate situation, for should our

policy dictate that a tutor will be utilized, there will be those who feel, as we do, that the rights of the student will have been grossly abused. Conversely, should our policy allow the student to remain in the classroom, there will be, as seen in related incidents, a greater number of people opposed to this plan. There is, unfortunately, the belief that an infected student should be barred from the classroom. We believe this is only an ignorant response to this problem. A possible explanation for this panic is the fact that we have been told so many differing opinions by "supposed" experts in this area that we really don't know who to believe anymore.

We sincerely hope that some light was shed on this subject at the recently held AIDS workshop. We also empathize with those who have to construct our policy concerning AIDS; it is by no means an easy task. It would be a very good idea for the administration to have the medical center compile a booklet on AIDS. Lack of knowledge regarding the disease is running rampant here at NFA. Ignorance breeds fear, and fear breeds misconception.

High school sports are taken too seriously

By PATRICK CUMMINGS

This article was written in response to the writings of several local and state newspapers which seem to put too much emphasis on winning in high school sports. One paper even prints projected scores for football games. What is the use of predicting one team to beat another? The purpose of high school sports is to get students involved in some physical activity. Winning should be secondary.

Throughout their high school years, students are urged to take part in some extracurricular activity, and for many this means sports. Not all sports are the same, however. Games like football and basketball are spectator sports, that is, they are active and exciting contests that are easy for a spectator to get involved in. Other sports, like Rifle and Cross Country, do not generate the same type of excitement nor do they attract



the same size crowds as Football and Basketball. Because spectator sports draw large crowds, they tend to be taken more seriously than other sports by the public. Are they taken too seriously?

If a team is having a poor year then the press will do nothing but put it down. The athletes and their personal achievements receive little attention, no matter how hard they work. A team with an excellent record, though, is praised to the point where individual players are treated like heroes. Both teams may practice hard, but one may simply have more talent than the other. The more talented team deserves recognition for its accomplishments, but each team should be given credit as being a group of tough working high school kids.

Last year, when an assembly was held to honor the wrestling team for winning five Class LL Championships in a row, some people thought it was unfair. It was not. The wrestling team had achieved a record unmatched by any other team, and were entitled to some sort of special acknowledgement. If another team matches the wrestling

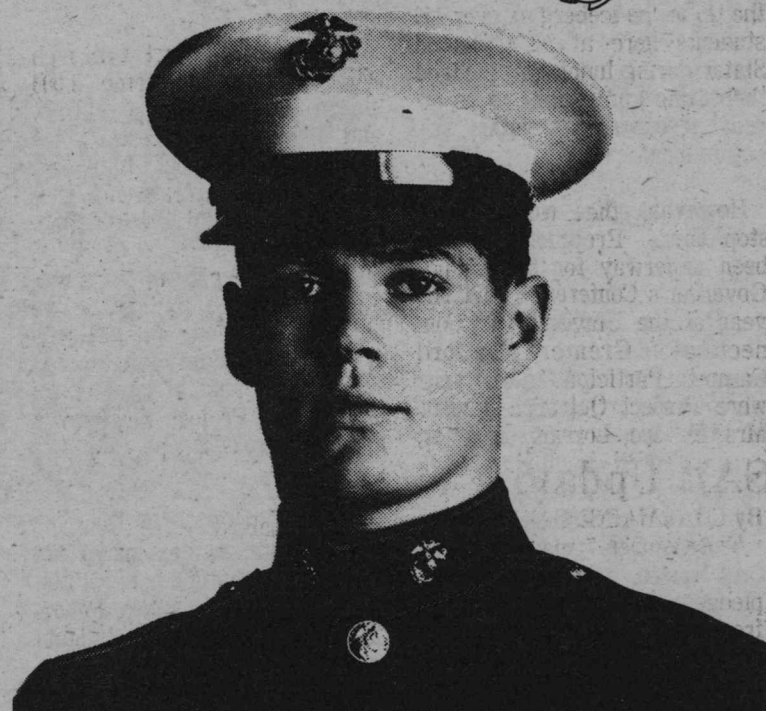
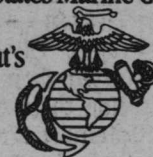
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team's record, then it should be treated equally.

In all, high school athletics are meant for the benefit of every player, not for glory of the school.



CAN YOU FIND ROY
IN THIS FIELD OF
HOLSTEIN CATTLE?

The beef on House Councils

By CAROLYN LEFFINGWELL and ELENA MANDIA

The House Councils are subordinate branches of the student government, which extends the interaction between the SAB and the students.

The House Councils were started in the late 1960's to address the need for a more unified student body. The House Council is made up of representatives and alternates from each home room who are given the responsibility of informing the students of happenings in our student government. A House Council representative is also a member of the SAB, so a trickle-down action is produced from the SAB to home rooms. Information is passed on when a representative reports back to home rooms. The representative then attempts to obtain ideas

from the home rooms to be brought back to the House Council.

The meetings are supervised by advisors, but are run by the president. The advisor oversees how the meetings are executed, makes sure things stay on track, and discusses upcoming events with the House Council members. The advisor for Shattuck House Council is Miss Bosco; for Cranston, Mrs. Flahive; for Bradlaw, Mr. McGrath; and for Tirrel, Mrs. Ivenshek.

House Council meetings vary with each building. In M.T. everyone meets on Thursday mornings, but in Cranston meetings are held with representatives every morning and alternates every Wednesday morning. In contrast, Shattuck meets only when necessary dur-

ing home room period or after school and Main has entire House Council meetings every Wednesday morning.

Committees are formed to enable House Councils to supply the buildings with volunteers to carry out needed functions. Of these committees, the Fund Raiser Committee sets up fund raisers such as carnation sales or car washes. With the earned money, contributions are given and extra curricular activities are held.

The Decorations committee, as the name implies, brightens our buildings with cheery ornaments of the season. The Bulletin and Letter Board Committees try to keep students informed of the latest happenings. There are other committees which perform other needed

programs.

The House Council has duties that include school accomplishments as well as those that reach the community. Shattuck has given a bike rack, bulletin board, bench, letter board, a clock for the teachers' room, and a small refrigerator. For the community, they have been held canned good drives which have been running for over twelve years.

The Main House Council has donated a bronze plaque to commemorate NFA students who served in the Korean and Vietnam wars. It has also donated an award in recognition of Mr. Hartson who is retiring this year. The Lester Hartson award of \$50.00 will go to a senior Main Council officer who participates and shows school spirit.

The Bradlaw House Council puts up spirited decorations cheering on the football team and also wishing "Seasons Greetings." They designed the Bo McIvor Award in memory of Bo, a former president of the Bradlaw House Council. The award goes to a person who works most for the House Council.

Cranston House Council has donated two letter boards for their hall walls. All buildings keep bulletin boards up to date.

Future hopes of the House Councils include more House Council competitions, combined house meetings, and SAB House Council meetings. Also, they hope to get the Councils informed of SAB happenings and get more input from the students.

Project O extends itself

By SHIELA KELLY

As the 1987-88 school year began, Project Outreach had already started their volunteer work. Holding their annual Job Fair on September 23rd was just the tip of the iceberg as over 150 students here at NFA visited Slater during lunch and pledged their time and energy to volunteer organizations within the community.

However, the work didn't stop there. Preparations had been underway for the annual Governor's Conference held this year at the University of Connecticut's Greater Hartford Campus. Participating this year were Project Outreach advisor Mrs. Devore, Lorraine Roberts,

Tesha Scolaro, Richard Hartson, and Kelly Putz. All participated in swap shops designed to bring together students from all over Connecticut that are involved in organizations such as Project Outreach.

This year, Project Outreach will be collecting some 2,000 children's books for ages two and up in order to establish a library for Project Independence. Project Outreach asks that anyone who would like to donate books for this book drive to deposit them in Room 127 sometime during the day or before homeroom period. The children at Project Independence need your help. Bring in your books and make Project Outreach's drive a successful one.

SAB Update

By CHARMAINE OAKLEY

The October 7 meeting of the SAB began with the routine pledge of allegiance. The new freshmen members were then sworn in. The few girls and one boy repeated their vows and then sat down to applause. The next item on the agenda was the Crew Club charter. Dr. Levanto has said that he doesn't want the charter granted yet because of insurance matters.

And, wonders of wonders, the campus store will be open from 11:00 to 2:00 every school day. Lastly, Mr. Hosmer came to discuss the new school policy that has been the source of debate for students concerned about dances and Homecoming. After a long discussion that went around in circles (and ovals and spheres), the meeting was adjourned with nothing in that

matter resolved.

The October 14th meeting of the SAB was very exciting. Everyone stuffed and licked envelopes for the upcoming Parent's Night. Finally, they were done and many members of the SAB rushed to the water fountain to revive their dried-up tongues.

The October 21st meeting of the SAB covered many topics. Mr. Baker came and agreed to work with the SAB on Parent's Night, and members of the SAB were asked to man polls for the elections on Tuesday, November 3rd. Class Night was discussed and hoped to be a success. The carnations arrived and certain members planned on tagging them on October 22nd. The meeting closed with the announcement that no meeting would be held on October 28th because of the half day.

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did come up with some proposals."

He said that the administration is seriously reviewing one of these proposals, a schedule which fulfills specific time requirements for classes of each department. With the installment of this schedule, a variety of new features may be added to some departments: Science

classes which lead directly into labs in the same period, English writing workshops, and language labs. But Mr. Hosmer stressed that this schedule has not been finalized yet, though it will probably be approved within the next several weeks.

Finally, when asked about the so-called 'crackdown', Mr. Hosmer tried to explain the importance of enforcing school rules by

comparing the job of the administration to that of a police station:

"We both must enforce rules vital to the continued health, safety, and welfare of our people."

So stay tuned to the administration this year, folks, and don't fret. With Mr. Hosmer on the beat, the coming years at NFA might not be so bad after all.

NFA clubs diverse and varied

By DANIELLE STOLMAN

Which of the following are clubs at NFA: Band, Cross Country, Football, A.V. Club, Announcers Club, and D.E.C.A.? They all are: NFA has clubs for all interests. The following is a list of some of the special clubs our high school has to offer.

□ *The Dance Club* meets after school each Tuesday and Thursday. The club meets from September through June. Members of the club learn to dance routines in Jazz, ballet and tap. At the end of the year, the Dance Club members put on a special recital with costumes. Contact: Mrs. Schermerhorn in Cranston.

□ *A.V. (Audio-Visual) Club* sets up all the equipment used to show students all the movies they see in Slater Auditorium. The A.V. Club is also helps out with the student I.D.'s done at the beginning of the year. Contact: Mr. B. Tedeschi in Slater.

□ *Shakespeare Club* emphasizes that Shakespeare can be fun. In 1977 the head of the club, Miss Heilig created, organized and chartered the club. One

year later in June 1978 the club gave most of its proceeds from its production of "As You Like It" to the Norton-Peck Library. Fund raisers since 1980 have had the goal of establishing an annual playwriting contest. That goal was finally reached in 1986. Contact: Miss Heilig.

□ *Art Club* is a club open to all students of any grade at NFA who are currently taking or have taken an art class at NFA. The Art Club's officers are President Samantha Couture and Vice President John Carter. A biannual activity of the Art Club is the seasonal painting of the windows at the Norwich Pequot Teacher's Credit Union. Contact: Mr. Novak.

□ *Outdoors Club* has no regular meetings or meeting dues, but interested parties must pay for the trips and activities attended. Listen to the P.A. in the morning to find out about the upcoming ski trip. Contact: Mr. Clendennin or Mr. Bailey.

□ *D.E.C.A. (Distributive Education Clubs of America)* has no regular meetings after school

and there is no new membership this year. It is a two-year program students can only join in their third year at NFA. The Club is responsible for the D.E.C.A. store on the top floor of Commercial. Contact: Miss McCusker.

□ *Announcers Club* is responsible for telling students when your clubs are meeting or when not to go to your regular classroom. There are no meetings, after school, but announcers report to their homeroom building office every homeroom period. There are many announcers now, but there will probably be openings in the spring. Contact: Mr. MacAdie in Shattuck.

□ *Foreign Language Clubs:* There are several such clubs at NFA. Meeting times and days may vary greatly. To join, listen to announcements for meeting days or talk to activity heads: French: Mrs. Ivansheck Latin: Ms. Fusco German: Mrs. Piuck Russian: Mrs. Palkes

The other lives of Mr. Tamborra

By TONYA STRONG

Mr. P.E. Tamborra — does the name ring a bell? Perhaps you have had the privilege of being in one of his CP Chemistry or Physics classes or maybe you were among the select few who were a part of his one time only, never to be repeated, CP freshman biology class last year.

Those of you who know the man undoubtedly love and admire him and realize the profound importance his role at NFA plays in each of your lives. If you're not fortunate enough to have been in any of his classes, then here I am to introduce you to this one and only Guru of science.

Mr. Tamborra is famous for many things: his stories about Vito, the 300lb+ living legend, his procrastination, and his friendliness and fairness to-

wards his students in particular.

The Vito stories he insists are true. Vito was his cousin and friend throughout his childhood. Vito played an important role in his youth because he provided "a spark and a push" to Mr. Tamborra's shy and quiet nature. The stories started back in 1981, and Vito soon acquired a relatively large cult following. Mr. Tamborra has not been able to avoid telling the stories since. No matter to him, he likes telling them, but at times, he says, his students are too demanding and don't want to have class. They only want to listen to Vito stories. This could be a problem for any mere mortal, but "Super Tam," as some of his students have dubbed him, strategically weaves Vito stories into his lessons. This reporter will dedicate no more of this

article to Vito, but will leave you with this: Vito is waiting to hear from certain officials concerning certain crimes which cannot be mentioned here.

Ah, but back to Mr. Tamborra. What really makes him different from any other teacher at NFA? Well, for starters, he's like most of the kids in school. He loves rock music; he has over 3000 albums of all types of music, but mainly Rock-n-Roll. Some of his favorite performers include Bob Dylan, The Boss (Bruce Springsteen), Talking Heads, and U2. In fact, he has seen Springsteen five times, from the time he was practically a no name to his most recent tour. He was also at the Bob Dylan & The Band concert in 1972 that *Rolling Stone* magazine recently voted one of the top 10 most influential concerts of the

past twenty years.

He thinks it's "neat" when he talks to kids about music because, "They all have a preconceived notion that all teachers listen to bathroom music." Instead, he gets some silly reactions and likes to be able to relate to at least some musical tastes of his students.

He's very open minded about the types of music he listens to. As long as he likes them, the tunes can be from any musical category. "I like any music that has lyrics I can think about and rhythm and sound I can feel," he says.

What also sets him akin to his students is that he retains the procrastination he had when he was young. He still puts things off until the last possible moment and often tests won't be corrected for a week, maybe

more. One of the reasons is that he really is busy. Beside teaching at NFA he works part time at the Dow Chemical Lab as a lab technician. But, he admits, there are times when he could do things but just puts them off. Sound familiar?

Mr. Tamborra is by no means perfect and he doesn't expect perfection from his students, only some kind of effort. He's also very patient, and this, perhaps, is why it's so easy to be in one of his classes or just sit around and chat with him. He's enthusiastic about a variety of subjects and just talking with kids in general. So, if you've never met him, feel free to stop by Room 33 any time of the day and wave, say "Hi," ask him about Vito or his favorite element, carbon, or just pay homage to this teaching God.

Excuses, excuses

By MICHELLE VANASE

What do you do when you wake up one morning and remember that your term paper on "The Political Security and Economic Status of Bangladesh" is due first period, but you have not even started. Right here on this very page are some sure-fire life saving excuses:

STAY HOME: Staying home from school is always a good choice if it were not for those menacing pink cards. There is always forgery as an option. If you're feeling ambitious you can try to trick one of your parents into signing it. What are some good things to tell them? Illness is obviously the best excuse. Migraines, vomiting, dizziness, and seeing spots are good. If you're in biology and are learning about tumors and cancerous

diseases, you could use those, but you run the risk of having to go to the doctor's office.

Mental illness does not always work, but it is the most fun to try (and if you are in Playshop, it's a great experience). You could play any of your favorite heroes for the day. You could be Karl Marx preaching revolution, a flowerchild from the Sixties singing "Give Peace a Chance," or even Ollie North (that would really scare your parents).

There is not much left after mental illness except if your parents are really gullible. You could always say that NFA has the day off, but then there remains all of that "pink card" nonsense to go through.

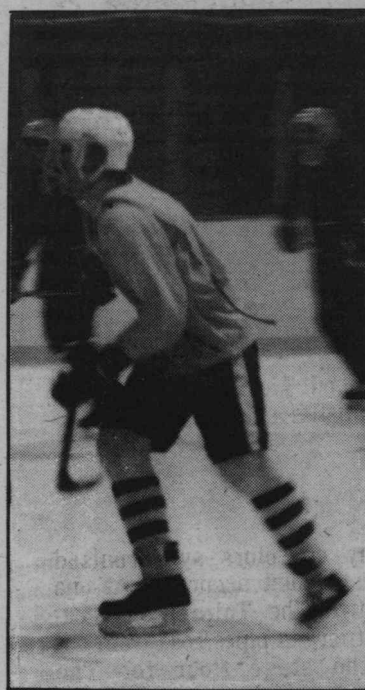
2) GO TO SCHOOL: If you are

daring enough, you could brave the rapids and go to school.

However, the only excuses available to use on your teachers are flimsy ones. "There was a death in the family" or "The dog ate it" are not going to make it unless you use a certain amount of

earnestness and melodrama.

Well, there you go, "students," the advantages and downfalls of today's excuses. Keep this in your pocket, and you are ensured a prosperous school year.



The NFA Hockey team had another promising 0-0-0 season

Never a dull moment

By LAURIE GWIN

Try reading a book in the middle of a three ring circus-sometime. Think you could concentrate? Think you could get past the title and still remember it an hour later? Chaos is not an unknown concept to Mr. Alan Driscoll. It's all around him; he has learned to drown it out. Mr. Driscoll has been left "homeless" by the Main building construction and is currently holding classes in Slater annex. Having to teach over films in

Slater B and the auditorium and among A.V. whatnot is what he affectionately calls "Grand Central Station." The 9:05 to Boston might not be so out of place.

Isn't it all distracting? More to the Point, why hasn't he gone looney? "In a perverse way," he mused, "it can be rather enjoyable. There's so many things going on, so much activity." Apparently all the hustling and bustling adds to the charm. "Man's greatest enemy is bore-

dom." With all the commotion he may forget what boredom is.

It's been an easy adjustment. For twenty years, he taught across from the band room. "That raised my voice about 30 decibels. I'm all set." His students can hear him. But hey, what about those students? How is it possible to think? "This is good for them. They're learning to concentrate under fire." And those who don't want to concentrate? "The kids who talk a lot

resent the noise because their neighbors can't hear them."

Now that they're working so close together, Mr. Driscoll and Mr. Tedeschi, the Audio-Visual coordinator, have become the Odd Couple. Sometimes people think Mr. D is Mr. T, and equipment gets dumped on Mr. Driscoll's desk. But things gets straightened out. "I mess it up and he cleans it up."

Though his old room, Room 2, may end up a Christmas

Present, he does not resent it. "I've been in the business long enough. When you've been teaching General English for twenty years, it takes a lot ruffle you." It will probably be difficult to adjust to the silence. Really, what's it like? "It's like trying to ride a bicycle in a Phone booth," and, he hastens to add, "I can't get into a Phone booth anyway."

Nevertheless, he does believe that all this movement forced upon him will keep him trim.

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thus directly endangering the health of both students and faculty members.

Finally, he affirmed the validity of teachers' smoking within the teachers' lounges of each building and stated that if student smoking was to be banned at NFA in the future, "smoking by teachers should be banned as well."

Mr. Camp was not wrong in his convictions. The books in the ladies' lounge are scattered about the floor in much disarray. This makes it nearly impossible to locate the appropriate books.

The renovations have not only

inconvenienced English teachers, but have prevented women teachers from taking breaks in the ladies' lounge because of the disarray of books.

However, the teachers understand that these are inherent problems of the renovations.

"The English Department has been cooperative," continued Mr. Camp, "and the renovations have been going smoothly with the exception of the books."

Despite appeals by the English teachers for the quick restoration of the bookroom, delays have occurred. If things go as expected, there should be a bookroom in the second floor of Main by the middle of the year.

T-Rex it is not: Steve's picks from the land of obscure rock

By STEVE ERICKSON

Dinosaur/ *You're Living All Over Me* (SST Records)

Dinosaur is a trio from Amherst, Massachusetts. Their live shows have become infamous for their excessive volume levels. As a result, they've been banned from playing at many clubs in Massachusetts. Unfortunately, they have had to change their name to Dinosaur, Jr. after a dispute with a San Francisco band called Dinosaur. Under this name, they've released a 12 inch single containing two songs from this record and one unreleased song.

Dinosaur's sound is based around the guitar playing of their singer, James Mascis. At times, they sound like a punk version of Neil Young's Crazy Horse. The opening track and single, "Little Furry Things," is similar to Neil Young's "Like A Hurricane." The guitar solos are long and often laced with feedback and distortion, while other parts of the songs are often pretty and folk-like. The subtlety and beauty of Dinosaur's music becomes apparent after playing the record a few times. And if that is not strange enough, the final song on the album, "Pole-do" alternates between the sound of a ukulele, feedback and shortwave radio.

Chills/ *The Great Escape and House With A Hundred Rooms* (Flying Nun Records)

The Chills' music is more overtly pretty than that of Dinosaur. They remind me of the third Velvet Underground album. They're from New Zealand and have released a long string on that country's Flying Nun label, and have also released the albums *Kaleidoscope World* and *The Lost EP*. Their second LP, *Brave Words*, has just been released, but I don't have it yet. Their latest two singles are easier and cheaper to find than their previous releases because they have been distributed by Rough Trade in England. I also recommend the latest issue of the British fanzine *Bucketfull Of Brains* because it includes a free single containing two unreleased Chills songs.

Musically, the Chills' songs are dominated by piano ("House With A Hundred Rooms") and organ ("Living In A Jungle," "I Love My Leather Jacket"). "I Love My Leather Jacket", the B-side of "The Great Escape," is not what it might seem but is actually about the death of a friend. "House With A Hundred Rooms" and "The Great Escape" are haunting ballads of loneliness. In spite of the current high price of imports, these

two singles are well worth trying to find.

Angry Samoans/ *Inside My Brain* (PVC Records)

The Samoans were one of the greatest bands from the 1981-1984 glory days of hardcore. Unfortunately, their first two records have been out of print for the past few years. PVC is planning to reissue the LP *Back From Samoa* later this month, and has reissued the 1980 EP

Inside My Brain and added five previously unreleased songs to it. Earlier this year, they released the new EP *Yesterday Started Tomorrow*. It showed a new sound for the Samoans and was overtly influenced by 1960's "garage" bands such as the Sonics and Thirteenth-Floor Elevators. The new version of *Inside My Brain* shows them to be the equals of such great bands as Black Flag, Minor Threat,

the Descendents (sic) and Circle Jerks. I'm looking forward to the next Angry Samoans LP, whenever that may be released.

My next column will deal with heavy metal. Yes, I will actually review some records from planet Earth this time. I'll be writing about Metallica, Motorhead, the Misfits and Green River.



Photo by Naomi Peterson

DINOSAUR

Concert update

By TONYA STRONG

Here it is. What you've been waiting for — the concert guide to bands that will be playing throughout the month. Anyone who is anyone is listed here and, if they are not listed, you can find out where and when they're playing, along with times and prices of those already listed, by calling: The Living Room at 401-521-2520, the New Haven Ticketron at 624-8497, the Hartford Civic Centre at 727-8080, or Ticketron in Groton at 446-1111.

Nov. 13th-Ron Wood and Bo Diddley at The Living Room

Nov. 14th-Physical Graffiti at The Living Room

Jethro Tull at The New Haven Coliseum

Nov. 18th-The Thilfers, The Horns, and the Screaming Blue Messiahs at The Living Room

Nov. 19th-The Ramones will be at the Living Room and the Squeeze play the New Haven Coliseum

Nov. 20th-Blue Oyster Cult at the Living Room

John Cougar Mellencamp at the Hartford Civic Center

Nov. 21st-El Deen, the Feelies, and the Bolshoi at the Living Room

Nov. 25th-Rain Dogs, Pax Romana, and Tyger Tyger at the Living Room

Nov. 27th-Tribe, Rash of Stabbings, and the Neighborhood at the Living Room

Nov. 28th-Max Creek at the Living Room

Nov. 30th-Shark Paris and Lizzy Borden at the Living Room.

Dec. 3rd -Yes at the Hartford Civic Center

Dec. 12th-Jay Leno at the New Haven Palace.

Boston rocks Hartford

By JOHN BURSE

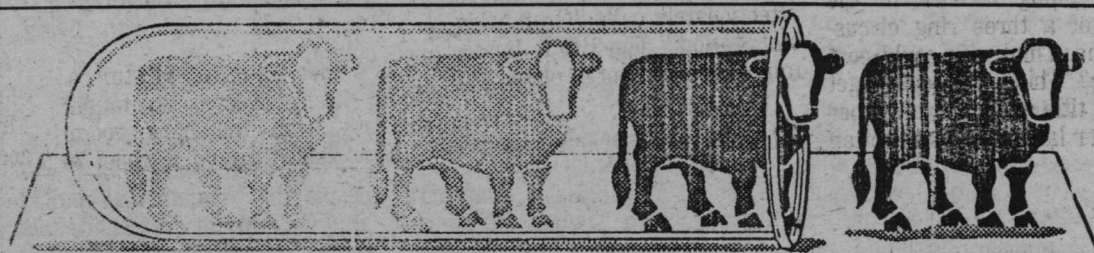
If you were fortunate enough to see "Boston" for their sold out shows at the Hartford Civic Center, you certainly received your money's worth. The group's Third Stage Tour, which started this spring, approached its end with the November 2 and 3 shows. For many fans, the shows, as well as their latest album, were long awaited.

After the opening band, "Fahrenheit," finished their act the show opened with the timeless

tunes, "Rock and Roll Band," "Peace of Mind," and a Tom Sholze guitar solo that segued into "Don't Look Back." The band then played the entire Third Stage album and came out on stage for several encores. Brad Delp, the group's lead singer, proved to have an extraordinary ability with his voice. It is one thing to listen to the band's vocals recorded, but to hear them live was a breathtaking, hypnotic experience. The music was accompanied by a light show that comprised of an

array of colors synchronized with pinpoint accuracy. At one point in the Third Stage segment, organ pipes rose from out of the stage floor for The Launch, which can best be described as the "ignition of the world's largest organ powered vehicle."

With its wide repertoire that included nearly every song on their three albums, Boston's performance will long be remembered as a classic in the hearts and minds of many.



In the Red & White's never-ending quest for the truth, it was discovered that Mr. Ochs injured his arm during a freak genetic cow incident on his test tube cattle ranch

Erickson discovers best 40 albums of all time

By STEVE ERICKSON

When I decided to compile a list of the 40 most popular albums of a representative sample of the NFA student population, I never realized what a massive effort it would be. I got votes for approximately 180 different albums from the 23 people I asked. Obviously, this was not a scientific sampling. However, I was very surprised by the results myself. Pink Floyd seemed to be the most popular band with the people I polled, and their albums *Meddle* and *Relics* barely missed this list. Heavy metal and and hardcore bands also came out better than I expected. Several albums by U2, AC/DC, R.E.M., Metallica, the Beatles, Crosby-Stills-Nash-Young, Bob

Dylan, and the Cars also received votes but missed the list. People voted for such bands as Life Sentence, Fates Warning, Wire, Nixon's Head, the Freeze, Suicidal Tendencies, Exodus, Venom, Black Sabbath, Nuclear Assault, Adrenalin OD, the Circle Jerks, 7 Seconds, Greco, Pop Group, The Flesheaters, "Jane Fonda's Workout Album", Minor Threat, the Minutemen, Coil, Ed Gein's Car, Peter Tosh, Chastain, Doug E. Fresh, Collins/Copeland/Cray and DRI. Enjoy this list.

1. Pink Floyd — *Wish You Were Here*
2. Pink Floyd — *The Wall*
3. Sex Pistols — *Never Mind the Bullocks*

4. Dead Kennedys — *Fresh Fruit For Rotting Vegetables*
5. Buzzcocks — *Singles Going Steady*
6. Beatles — *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*
7. GG Allen — *Hated in the Nation*
8. Led Zeppelin — *II*
9. Anthrax — *Among the Living*
10. AC/DC — *Back in Black*
11. Metallica — *Master of Puppets*
12. U2 — *The Unforgettable Fire*
13. Velvet Underground and Nico
14. Jesus and Mary Chain — *Psychocandy*
15. Iron Maiden — *Somewhere in Time*
16. Metal Church — *The Dark*
17. Pink Floyd — *Dark Side of*

the Moon

18. Derek and the Dominoes — *Layla*
19. Simon and Garfunkel — *Greatest Hits*

20. Cat Stevens — *Teaser and the Firecat*
21. Michael Jackson — *Bad*
22. Whitesnake
23. Slayer — *Reign in Blood*
24. Firehose — *Ragin' Full On*
25. Beatles — *White Album*
26. Buzzcocks — *Total Pop*
27. Squeeze — *Singles: 45's and Under*
28. Who — *Meaty, Beaty, Big and Bouncy*
29. Rolling Stones — *Hot Rocks*
30. Beatles — *Magical Mystery Tour*

31. Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young
32. Velvet Underground — *White Light/White Heat*

33. Traffic
34. Talking Heads — *Stop Making Sense*
35. Cars — *Door to Door*
36. Einstürzende Neubaten — *Halbert Mensch*

37. Agnostic Front — *Victim in Pain*

38. Led Zeppelin — *Houses of the Holy*
39. Queensryche — *Rage for Order*
40. Pink Floyd — *A Momentary Lapse of Reason*

U2 packs Sullivan Stadium

By PATRICK CUMMINGS

Ten years ago a group of four Irishmen formed a band. Little did they know that in nine years I would be going to see them in a football stadium. The football field is Sullivan Stadium in Foxboro, Massachusetts, and my name is printed up top. I managed to get a ticket by the grace of He who made the blind see and Abbey McCloskey. After missing the exit to Foxboro, having to stop to get a pizza, and parking the car, I was in Sullivan Stadium parking lot. I was greeted by the pouring rain and about a half million scalpers. I walked onto the football field stopping only twice; once to hand over my ticket, and the other time to be frisked by a security guard.

While I was on the field, the

rainclouds passed. Everyone stood around for two hours being pushed closer together. Some of the people around me had driven down from Maine for the show. Two girls were passing the time by telling everyone around them, "As soon as that man walks out, we're up there!" Everyone pretty much just flashed a polite smile. The man next to me did not smile much. He had brought his wife and children to the concert and seemed a bit disturbed by some of the things that people had smuggled in.

As twilight set in, the first opening band came out. They were the Pogues, a group of loud, hard drinking, Irishmen who belted out fast Irish folk-songs. Their voices were harsh, as was their playing, but all in

all they were not bad. The Pogues were followed by a pathetic character named Little Steven. Little Steven's best moment was when he stopped.

It was now 9 p.m. There was a pause as the stage was made ready for U2. Technicians scrambled everywhere while music was played over the loudspeakers. John Lennon's version of "Stand By Me" was being played, and no one really thought much of it until Bono appeared on stage. His arm was in a sling from an accident on a previous night. (Those two girls never showed up). Bono took over for Lennon, and suddenly everyone in the stadium knew the words to "Stand By Me."

By the time the song had ended, Bono was joined by the Edge, Adam Clayton, and Larry

Mullen. They did seven songs off the Joshua Tree. "I Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For" was concluded with the audience, which filled the stadium, repeating the chorus over and over. Other songs were "I Will Follow," "Sunday, Bloody Sunday," "New Year's Day," "Pride (In The Name Of Love)," "The Unforgettable Fire," and "Bad." Halfway through the show, while everyone else was taking a breather, The Edge remained on the stage and played "October."

During the course of the performance, Bono told the audience that the Seven Towers in "Running To Stand Still" was a club in back of Bono's house in Dublin where some of his friends would go to shoot up on heroin. He said that U2 wants to

be known as a "good band" and not as a political or religious group. He also had several unkind comments for the scalpers.

They left the stage after "Pride" but were persuaded to come out for an encore. "One Tree Hill" started the encore and was perhaps the best song performed. U2 used to refuse to play it for personal reasons. "With or Without You" followed, and "40" was the end. While the crowd was singing "How long to sing this song," each member bowed out separately. The final one to leave was the drummer, Larry Mullen.

Thus was my experience at my only U2 concert. I would like to see them again, but Bono announced that they might not be back for a few years.

What will you be doing on Friday the 13th?

By CHARMAINE OAKLEY and SUE DESROCHES

Do you dare to venture out on Friday the 13th? If you have the courage, playshop is presenting "Any Number Can Die," a murder mystery with all the right stuff: the uninvited guests, the strange and sinister butler, the "sweet, young thing," the servant who predicts the future, the mysterious figure in black, and a pinch of romance here and there. Come, be drawn into a night of murder, intrigue, and suspense, while a storm rages around the island of Raven's Head. For those who idolize Sherlock Holmes, come and match your wits against those of

Agatha Withers and Hannibal Hix, two very clever detectives, as they attempt to unravel the mystery of Raven's Head. For those who yearn for excitement, entertainment and thrills, "Any Number Can Die" will be playing November 13 and 14 in Slater at 8:00 p.m. So be there—If you dare!

Playshop's next events will be a series of one act plays. "Red Spies At Night" is a hilarious scenario with English, Russian, American, and French spies. They are all trying to steal a professor's secret formula. "Gloria!" is a comedy about Hurricane Gloria and was written by a student here at NFA,

Christopher Crowe.

In the spring, Playshop will be performing their first musical called "Gypsy." It promises to be great fun as well as a challenge, but if we know Playshop, they'll pull it off with flying colors.

Remember, "Any Number Can Die" by Fred Charmichael, will be playing November 13 and 14 at 8:00 P.M. in Slater. Tickets are \$2.50 in advance and \$3.00 at the door. You can buy them from most Playshop members. There will be no admittance after 8:00 until the first intermission.

Jazz masters play MCC

By SHEILAH COLEMAN

If you're looking for some funky jazz music and don't feel like traveling to New York City, then you shouldn't miss Rob Silvan & Fine Line in Norwich, November 14. Rob Silvan's unique jazz techniques have been acclaimed from the West Coast to the East. Mainly playing in Greenwich Village, Silvan performs with a very talented group of musicians. Their music is notorious for "bringing down the house." Thanks to the efforts of The Mohegan Community Col-

lege Foundation and The Norwich Arts Council the community has the opportunity to catch these New York artists. Jazz enthusiasts should reserve this date for an night of good music. Rob Silvan & Fine Line will be appearing Saturday, November 14, 1987 at 8:00 in Mohegans Auditorium. Tickets are \$8.00 for adults, but only \$5.00 for students and senior citizens. Purchase them at either the Norwichtown Bookstore or the Student Activities Office at Mohegan.

Gruber, Boys soccer did alright

By JOHN ENRIGHT

The N.F.A. Boys Soccer team failed to qualify for the state tournament this year, but Jon Gruber, one of the tri-captains of the team and the starting goalie had an excellent year. When asked about the team's performance (and his own) Jon said "The team has played well this year. There have been times when we have missed on good opportunities to score, which would have helped us to win some more games. On my own performance, I feel I played well."

Jon has been playing soccer since the fourth grade and he's played on the varsity level at N.F.A. for the last three years. He feels that the attitude of the team has improved this year. The practices have been better, even after losing a game. Jon also feels that the soccer program will get stronger in the years to come. "The players are becoming more skilled at the game, and more players are attending soccer camps during the summer. In the past only four or five players had good skills. Now I feel everyone on the team does."

When talking about some individual players Jon said, "David Shea and Jay Price have played well and have scored a lot of goals. David has been a surprise to us this year because he didn't

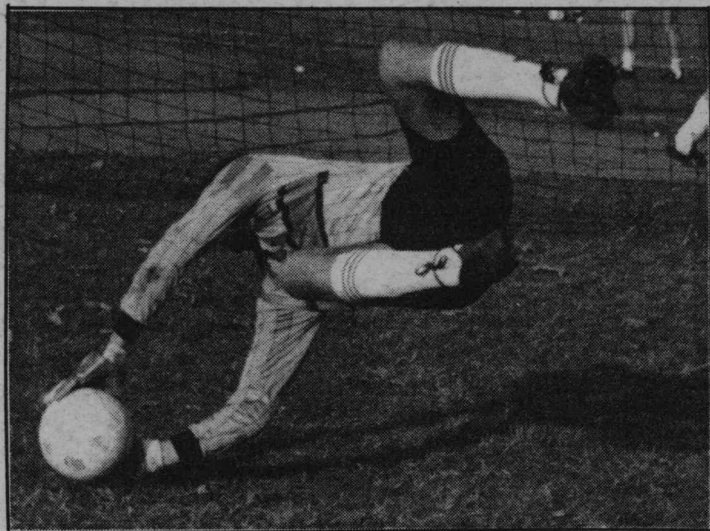


Photo by Vlado Contic

Jon Gruber (right) dives for ball (left)

play during the summer. The most improved player was Tom Holdgate. I felt he was more aggressive this year and scored more goals than last year. The midfielders, who had to play offense and defense, did a good job. This is a hard position because you have to run a lot. Carl Newnan, Larry Webman, James Wicker, and Brian Way played well at this spot. The defense played the best they could this year. I felt we played a lot of quick teams this year. Joe Parker, Glenn Gorden, and James Holzworth played at this position." The teams final record was 5-8-2.

Jon also felt the J.V. squad had a very good year and finished with a record of 10-0. "The coach of the J.V. team is Lon Pinhey who is great with the guys. Matt George and Troy Ruff are two good forwards who can score, and goalie Paul Goyette had a good year."

His future plans are to go to college and major in History or Liberal Arts. Jon said "I would like to play soccer in college. Some people have said I could play Division I, but it's still up in the air." This year both Jon and upper Brian Way made the All-ECC team.

Freshmen working hard

By L.J. FUSARO

N.F.A. has been blessed recently with fine frosh football teams, and this year is no exception.

This year's freshmen team began the season with an impressive victory over the highly rated Hamden team. Having observed the freshmen team before the game, it was obvious that they displayed the emotion that it takes to win. On the field, they showed their prowess by shutting the Dragons down with a score of 40-6.

Under the direction of first-year Head Coach, Bob Spayne, and a host of N.F.A. graduates, which include coaches Lee, Roberts, Ouillet, Boler, and Tewksbury, the Wildcats have compiled a 3-3 record, with three games remaining. The team has played well all year, beating Hamden, Waterford, and East Lyme, while losing some hard fought games to Windham, New London, and Middletown.

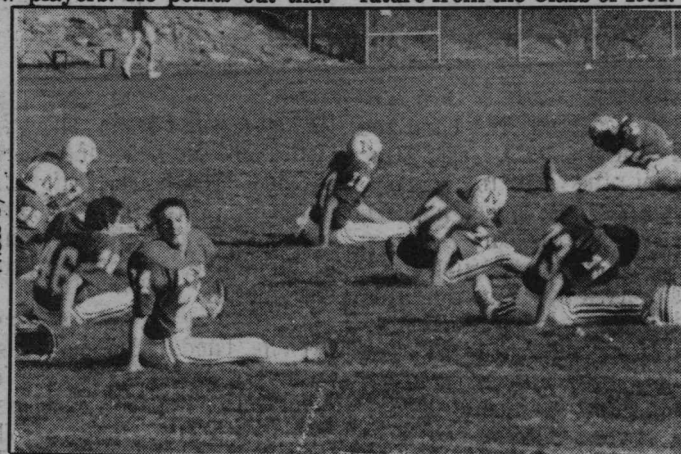
Coach Spayne is very pleased with the performance and overall attitude of his players, and he said that they are all almost "too good" to mention only a few players. He points out that

they all have "a good work ethic" and "give 100% effort." Coach Spayne is very happy with the results he has received from offensive linemen Matt Way and Brent Southworth, while on defense, Steve Urban and David and John Love have been some of the hard hitters. Also, Coach Spayne said that he was fortunate enough to have two field generals, Jeff Raymond and Tim Fusaro, to handle the quarterbacking chores.

"It is truly an honor to coach at N.F.A. ...there is a lot of interest and support for the freshmen from the varsity level," says Coach Spayne.

The coach is hopeful for this group of freshmen and he plans to keep track of their off-season activities and encourage them to lift weights, but most of all, he wants them to keep their grades up because, "School comes first and football is extracurricular."

The freshmen Wildcats have a group of talented, hard-working individuals that have displayed intensity on both the game and practice fields. If this highly motivated group sticks together and keeps up its good work habits, the Academy can look forward to a promising football future from the Class of 1991.



An NFA Football player smiling

Wildcats' season disappointing

By JOHN ENRIGHT

The NFA Football team has had many ups and downs in the last three weeks. On October 17, the Wildcats traveled down to Bridgeport to take on Bassick High School. In a game that saw NFA jump out to a 20-6 lead, Bassick stormed back to take a 26-20 lead late in the fourth quarter. However, on the kickoff after the go ahead touchdown by Bassick, Sophomore Jamal Davis, who has been one of the bright spots for the Wildcats, ran the ball all the way back to give NFA its first win of the season by a score of 27-26.

The following week NFA returned home to play their homecoming game against East Lyme. The offense couldn't get on track during the game, but the defense played extremely well, shutting out East Lyme for three quarters. However, East Lyme was able to score two touchdowns in the fourth quarter to make the final score 12-0.

On October 31, Fitch turned out to be NFA's worst nightmare. The Wildcats were held to 33 yards of total offense. Meanwhile, Fitch's offense racked up 403 yards and cruised to a 56-7 win.

Photo by Vlado Contic

Skateboarding for the novice

By JAMES SYRING

There are many unfortunate people out there who have no idea what skateboarding is about. When they think of skateboarding, the first thing they envision is a seven-year-old with his hat on backwards, riding down the street, violently pushing off every 10 feet. Skating is much more than that. There are many types of skateboards and many challenges to be experienced and conquered.

The skateboard is made of three basic components and many "protection" devices. The basics are the deck, which is usually made of seven-ply maple for durability; the trucks, which are the axles and turning points of the board; and the wheels, which are self-explanatory. The trucks are usually separated from the board by riser pads, which serve as a cushion, and are fastened by nuts and bolts. The wheels contain cased bearings. There are different sizes of wheels. Depending on the person, harder wheels are used for ramps, and softer wheels are better for the street. Copers are used to protect the trucks and

help stretch out the length of a grind. Rails protect the graphics and help with boardslides. The tail plate helps to preserve the tail. Noseguards are used to protect the front end, or "nose" of the board.

Two of the less popular skating activities are slalom and downhill. Downhill is usually a race for speed, time and place. Slalom is very similar. It is a race downhill for time through cones or flags set randomly through the downhill track. The most famous form of skating is ramp riding. The ramp is called a Half pipe. It is usually 30 feet wide and about 20 feet high with about 5 feet of vertical. There is usually about 3 to 5 feet of straight at the bottom but not always. Many tricks can be accomplished such as hand plants, aials and grinds. One of the most popular and hardest tricks is the McTwist, a 360 degree flip while airborne, which was mastered and introduced by Tony Hawk.

Another famous type of skating is "freestyle" or "streetstyle." This involves a great deal of footwork. This type of skate-

boarding involves tricks and jumps. One of the most famous tricks is a hand plant. One hand is used as a balance on the ground while the other hand is holding the board on your feet which are up in the air. "O'lies" are popular jumps because they involve "catching air" while using only feet. It is done by snapping the back foot on the tail and very swiftly lifting your foot up while pushing forward. These tricks can be done basically anywhere there is a hard surface to ride.

One might ask, "Does it hurt when you fall?" The answer is DEFINITELY. However, there are many protection devices that are available. Some types of equipment used are "Rector" knee and elbow pads with hard plastic covers. Helmets are used mainly on ramps. Wristguards are also used mainly on ramps and are used for supporting hand plants. Hightop sneakers help support the ankles. Converse and Vans are the most popular brands.

Now that you know a little about skateboarding, grab a board and "Rip it up!"

Montie enjoys CC success

By JOHN ENRIGHT

The Norwich Free Academy Boys Cross Country team finished second in the E.C.C. Championships. A big factor in this year's success was Senior co-captain Dwayne Montie.

Dwayne was happy with the team's performance this year. He thought that the other co-captain, Wes Ludlow, also had a good year. Uppers Jim Tetrault and Eugene Banks ran well and

Freshman Frank Manguel was impressive. Dwayne was also pleased with his own performance. His best time in the three mile run was 16 minutes and 44 seconds. He ran that time against the NFA alumni on Sep-

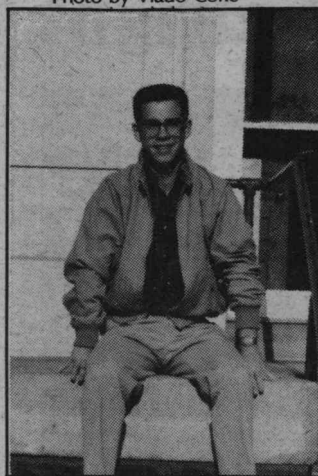
tember 5th. He finished first out of the team and eighth overall in that meet.

After being named co-captain for this year's team, Dwayne said he was "glad Coach Crowley gave me the responsibility. I couldn't do the job without Wes Ludlow, the other co-captain. I felt that the team gave me a lot of support which I appreciated... There's a big responsibility being a captain. The Coach and the team depend on you."

Dwayne first started to run when he was a Freshman at NFA. He said, "I got interested in running from my neighbor Jon Jacaruso. I enjoyed it, so I kept on running."

Future plans for Dwayne include going to college and majoring in a science-related field. Three colleges he is looking at are UConn, Arizona State, and The University of Miami. He

Photo by Vlado Conic



Dwayne Montie (center) with nothing (left) and nothing (right)

doesn't plan on running for the team in college, but will do it just for fun.

Other interests Dwayne has are playing football, pro wrestling, and, as Dwayne likes to say, "hanging out with my friends."

Lady harriers run to the head of the pack

By MARY MURPHY

For the past few years, the Lady Wildcats have consistently compiled winning records during their cross country seasons, and this year was no exception. Losing only one meet, the lady harriers remained a force to be feared in the area.

Newcomer Tina Tetreault was a welcome addition as she filled the number one position easily. Although Tetreault is only a Freshman, she performed like a veteran, and will undoubtedly be a dominant runner as her career progresses. Senior member Abbey McClosky ran number two throughout the entire season, giving the team a big lift. Jen Fayden and Sue Shaw, also Seniors, were key runners who made important contributions to the team's success. Other essential members of the nucleus were uppers Trica Sullivan and

Jen Paradis. These top six runners managed to run in a tightlyknit pack, giving the opposition little opportunity to break through.

Outside of the first six, the remainder of the team included Julie Palonen, Jen Pratt, Janel Gustafson, Rose Wieworka, Janina Botchis, Tara Ludlow, Nancy Mills Sue Kaminski, and Wendy Martin. As the season came to its end, the lady Wildcats saw their hard work pay off when they landed their second consecutive E.C.C. Championship. It was a joint victory, as NFA shared the honors with Fitch and Ledyard. The team will lose three key members to graduation in June, but from the looks of things, the cross country team is already in the process of rebuilding.

Girls tennis nets bright future

By JASON GERE

Watching the Girls Tennis team play at the Norwich clay courts early in the season might have been disappointing. Ideally, we expected to see the team that won the ECC Championship last year on the courts, but it wasn't the same team.

After losing many varsity players to graduation, the season was designated as a rebuilding year. According to Senior Gayla Bradford, the loss of many seniors last year left the team with only two varsity players, Upper and top player Dee Passarello, and Senior Carol Morosky. There is no question that the girls have the talent, it is just the fact that they don't

have much experience on the court. As Upper Sheilah Coleman pointed out, when the girls rebuild their strength, as well as their attitudes on the court, they will become a top ECC team again.

Weeks later, the girls played Waterford. Although they lost the match, there was a big improvement since those first few weeks. The girls were much better conditioned and their games were stronger. The ECC tournament is coming up soon and if the girls can place well, then they will have accomplished much for the season.

Although their record (currently 5-9) would indicate a poor season, this season was no way

near a failure and in fact helped set some goals for next year. "Although we've had a lot of bad breaks, I'm optimistic about the rest of the season and hopefully we can do well in the ECC tournament," said Senior Julie Dumas.

The emphasis is now in preparing for next year. "The team outlook looks bright," said Upper Kelly Durga. "We will be better next year with Dee returning along with Rebecca Stockton, Angela Capone, Sheilah Coleman, Jennifer Maurice, and me. As for this season, it shouldn't be remembered for the poor record, but for the goal it accomplished: rebuilding for the future."

JV Girls soccer squad formed

By ROB NOON

As the new school year has begun, so has a new girls sport's team. This is the Junior Varsity team for Girls Soccer. Last year there was only a varsity squad, but now there is an opportunity for girls who are not old enough or do not possess enough of the skills needed to play varsity-level soccer.

The JV coach, Mr. Harnois, says, "The JV team was established to teach the fundamentals and give the girls some game experience. Some of the girls have never even played soccer before."

The Lady Wildcats started off slowly this season losing to Waterford 3-1. The lone goal was scored by Lower Katey Crawford. The second game was different, as the team defeated East Catholic 1-0. Freshman

goalie Ramona Bernier recorded her first shutout with 17 saves. Lower Carol Fishbone had the winning goal.

Since their 1-1 start the team is 1-5. The coach says he has seen improvement since the beginning of the year. They have two games remaining and hopefully will win them both.

Other starters for this year's squad are Freshman Amy Shatz, Jennifer Grelotti, Melissa Maciejny, Robin Kjos, and Melissa Higgins. Upper starters include Stacey Selvidio, Tanya Hancin, Jennifer Higgins. Also coming off the bench are Lisa Gilliland, Andy Post, Amy Galligan, Andrea Banas, Stacy Ginetti, and Stacy Tarbox. Coach Harnois says, "They are a young team and a great bunch of girls."

Crew team stays afloat

By DEBORAH GREENE

Yes folks, rowers at NFA do exist. As some may remember, crew had its ups and downs last

year. It was a rocky beginning but now things are running better than ever. Last spring and summer saw a lot of hard work between the Chelsea Rowing Club and NFA students. Slowly

but surely, a team of rowers from NFA was formed. NFA students trained in singles and one of three four-person sweeps owned by the Chelsea Rowing Club over the summer in anticipation of the Head of the

Thames Race on September 20.

One four-person, a double, and a single rowed by NFA students successfully took part in the regatta under the Chelsea name. The head race proved to be one small step for NFA rowers and one giant leap for a future NFA Crew.

The Chelsea Rowing Club has also hired a coach for the youth rowers. Vic DiGravio is the senior coxswain on the Connecticut College crew team and coaches the students in the four at regular practices. The students are

learning proper rowing technique and building their strength and skill. A scrimmage of two

four-person sweeps and NFA students is to be held on November 21.

A meeting of NFA rowers will be held after school on Monday, November 16, in the ecology

room of the library. Any NFA students interested in rowing now or in the spring are welcome to come to this meeting. Future plans will be discussed and details of the scrimmage will be given.

BCC takes second second place

By CHAD GEORGE

The boys cross country team finished with an impressive second place finish behind Killingly as they ended their season with a 7-2 record.

In a discussion with Mr. Crowley, the cross country coach, he stated that there were no real highlights to the season because there were so many close meets. He also cited dedication, good shape, good concentration skills, and the ability to push through self-made limitations as what it

takes to be a good runner. Apparently, the cross country team possesses these skills in abundance.

One person who definitely does is Frank Manguel. Only in his freshman year, he has already broken the freshman and sophomore record. In fact, some freshmen are so good that every once in a while they run with only one shoe. Alan Maunch has started this trend and it may become the thing to do in years to come.