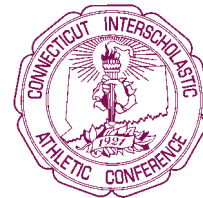


# BULLETIN

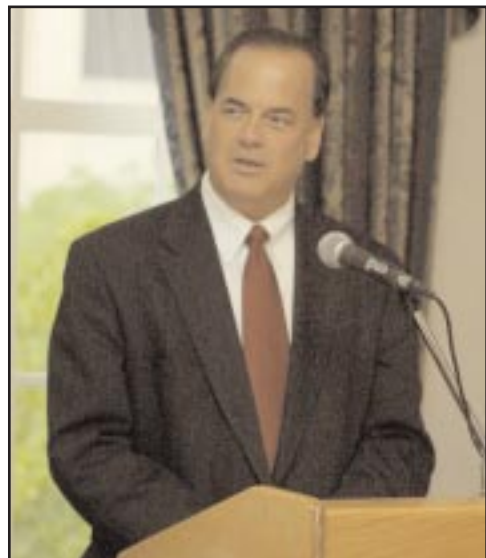
The Connecticut Association of Schools  
The Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference



Affiliated with the National Association of Secondary School Principals ♦ Member National Federation of State High School Associations ♦ Member National Middle School Association

VOL. 75 / NO. 9

JUNE/JULY 2001



## SENATOR GAFFEY ADDRESSES CT's FINEST

Dr. Robert Carroll, Asst. Executive Director

At a special luncheon held at the Hartford Club last month, Senator Thomas Gaffey, Co-Chair of the Education Committee, addressed the *2001 Governor's Scholars*. This year's scholars, the top twenty students in Connecticut, were chosen from a pool of 138 applicants. The program is sponsored annually by American Express Financial Advisors. Each of the 20 scholars was pinned by Senator Gaffey and received a plaque and a \$500 check from American Express. In April, American Express sponsored a Commissioner's Breakfast to honor the 20 scholars and their respective schools.

Senator Gaffey, standing in for Governor Rowland, told the honorees, "I encourage and challenge each of you to apply your talents, abilities, and hard-won knowledge to the future of education and to the students of tomorrow. It is incumbent upon one generation to instruct the next - share with them the gifts you obviously have and obviously put to good use."

The Senator urged each scholar to remain close to home and to take advantage of all that Connecticut has to offer. "As you pursue your education, please give strong consideration to doing so right here in

*continued on page 8*

## STAFFING CHANGE BRINGS FAMILIAR FACE TO CENTRAL OFFICE

### Galvin Leads Principals' Center

Tom Galvin, CAS Assistant Executive Director for High School Education, has been named the new director of the Connecticut Principals' Center. The position became vacant in April following the untimely death of Tim Doyle.

"While I regret the circumstances which have led to this move, I am very pleased that Tom will be serving in this important role. He is a most capable and fitting successor," said Executive Director Mike Savage.

Tom will also serve in the capacity of an associate executive director of CAS. As such, he will be responsible for oversight of all CAS-sponsored professional development activities. Tom began his new duties last month while continuing to carry out his responsibilities as CAS Assistant Executive Director for High School Education

### Buckley to Replace Galvin

Dr. Michael Buckley, long-time principal of Avon High School and member of the CAS Board of Directors, will replace Tom Galvin as Assistant Executive Director for High School Education.

As Tom's successor, Mike will serve as liaison to the Connecticut Association of High School Principals' Board of Directors, the Student Activities Board of Control, the High School Professional Studies Committee, the High School Program, Committee, and the Assistant Principals Committee. He will also be involved in grant-writing and, in addition to his CAS-related duties, will likely oversee non-regulatory CIAC activities such as sportsmanship and leadership programs.

"For more than 20 years, Mike has been an important and abiding influence within the leadership of the association. As chair of the High School Board, Mike has provided superb leadership and clear direction, carefully working with colleagues to identify needs, rethink current practices, and explore alternative paths. Mike will bring a wealth of talent and

experience to CAS-CIAC. His intimate knowledge of the association and its mission, his extensive professional experience, and his well-earned reputation as a respected leader within Connecticut's education community make him an ideal successor for Tom," said Mike Savage.

A 33-year veteran educator, Mike has served both CAS and CIAC in a myriad of capacities since 1979. The close of this school year marked the end of Mike's four-year tenure as chair of the High School Board. Ever sensitive to the professional needs of his colleagues, Mike helped to design new programs and expand old ones in critical areas such as diversity, NEASC evaluation standards, instructional leadership, and school violence. Under his leadership, there was a significant increase in the number and quality of programs available to high school administrators.

Mike graduated from Bowdoin College (Maine) with a degree in history and served four years as an officer in the United States Army before assuming his first teaching job at Glastonbury High School in 1968. In 1973, after serving two years as assistant principal at Glastonbury, Mike became principal of Central Middle School in Middletown. In 1977, he was appointed principal of Coginchaug High School in Durham where he worked for eight years before relocating to Massachusetts. Mike returned to Connecticut in 1987 to become principal of Avon High School. Mike earned a Master of Arts and a Diploma of Further Study from Wesleyan University, and a Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Connecticut.

Mike will begin his new responsibilities immediately after Labor Day.



**Dr. Mike Buckley**

# LEGAL MAILBAG

By Attorney Thomas B. Mooney, Neag School of Education, University of CT



**Editor's Note:** As part of a new feature in the BULLETIN, we invite readers to submit short, law-related questions of practical concern to school administrators. Each month we will select questions and publish answers. While these answers cannot be considered formal legal advice, they may be of help to you and your colleagues. We may edit your questions, and we will not identify the authors. Please submit your questions to: [legalmailbag@casciac.org](mailto:legalmailbag@casciac.org).

**Q. Dear Mailbag:** A parent has gotten increasingly belligerent in her telephone calls to me, and I fear that her behavior may soon escalate to criminal threatening. I have been recording her conversations ever since I bought one of those suction cup microphones from a television offer. Can I use these recordings and file a charge against her?  
*Taking No Prisoners*

**A. Dear Taking:** You can certainly file a complaint with the police if you believe that you have been threatened. You may want, however, to rethink your secret recordings. While it is permissible under the Eavesdropping Statute for one party to a conversation to record it without the knowledge of the other, such conduct may still violate the law. Specifically, the Recording Statute provides that a private telephone conversation may be recorded only if all parties consent, or if there is an announcement at the beginning of the conversation, or if there is a distinctive beep every fifteen seconds while the recorder is operating. If you make such recordings, you may give this parent a perfect opportunity to really make your life miserable.

**Q. Dear Mailbag:** Parents at my school want to donate money. The problem is that they are always telling me what to spend it on. First, they gave me money for a volleyball coach. Now, they are offering me quite a pretty sum, but only if I spend it on additional computers for the library. Can I take their money but tell them that I will decide how best to spend it?  
*No Charity Case*

**A. Dear Charity:** At the least, you had better tell the parents of your plans before accepting the money, so that you don't get sued for fraud. Your question, however, raises a larger issue. School districts, and individual schools, can accept gifts and donations. If the donor specifies how the money should be spent, however, he or she may not be able to deduct the amount of the gift as a charitable donation. Moreover, it is important that the school district, rather than just your school, have a clear policy on when and how gifts will be accepted. Since 1997, school boards have had a duty to assure "an appropriate learning environment for its students, which includes . . . equitable allocation of resources among its schools." If parents in a particular school are especially generous, the board of education can have a problem in this regard. Also, who is going to pay for volleyball next year?

**Q. Dear Legal Mailbag:** I have been trying for months to get my superintendent to have the playing fields resodded. She keeps singing a sad song about no money, but I am afraid that someone will get hurt. I am thinking about putting the problem squarely in her lap by writing a memo in which I describe the serious injuries that may occur if we keep using the field in its current condition. Can you give me some good legal terms to use?  
*It's Her Problem Now*

**A. Dear Problem:** Not exactly. You have a difficult professional judgment to make, but any attempt to pressure the superintendent may backfire. By writing a memorandum describing dangerous conditions while still permitting students to use the fields, you will have assured liability for the school district if a student is injured. Liability arises if, when you have a duty of care, you act unreasonably and someone gets hurt as a result. Such a memorandum would be Exhibit A that you knew the fields were dangerous, and your continued use of the fields in that condition would be the "unreasonable action" that creates liability. It would be much better if you can work with the superintendent without dramatic warnings, especially in writing.

The CAS BULLETIN has been selected by Lightspan as one of the best educational resources on the Web. It is a featured site on Lightspan's StudyWeb®, which is one of the Internet's premier sites for educational resources for students and teachers. Since 1996, its expert reviewers have scoured the Internet to select only the finest sites to be included in StudyWeb's listing of educational links. The BULLETIN can be viewed through StudyWeb® by visiting [www.studyweb.com](http://www.studyweb.com) and clicking on the following links: U.S. State-Specific → State Education → Connecticut → Newspapers/ Magazines.



On June 13, the Connecticut General Assembly enacted Public Act No. 01-166 (formerly Substitute Senate Bill No. 1175), AN ACT CONCERNING HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION AND THE CT ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE TEST. The bill, once signed by the governor, will require that, on or before September 1, 2002, local school boards:

- (1) specify the basic skills necessary for graduation for classes graduating in 2006, and for each graduating class thereafter;
- (2) include a process to assess a student's level of competency in such skills. The assessment criteria shall include, but shall not exclusively be based on, the results of the tenth grade mastery examination (the Connecticut Academic Performance Test); and,
- (3) identify a course of study for those students who have not successfully completed the assessment criteria to assist such students to reach a satisfactory level of competency prior to graduation.

The law already required boards, by July 1, 2000, to review their promotion and graduation policies to (1) include objective criteria; (2) measure students against the criteria and report the results to them and their parents; (3) include alternatives to promotion, such as transition programs; and (4) provide supplemental services. By law, school boards may require students whose academic performance jeopardizes their promotion or graduation to attend remedial after-school, summer-school, and other programs.

To read the full text of the bill, visit <http://www.cga.state.ct.us/2001/act/Pa/2001PA-00166-R00SB-01175-PA.htm>.

This bill speaks to the increasingly critical issue of student assessment, a topic which will be the focus of the Annual High School Conference on October 30, 2001. The conference, which will be held at the Waterbury Sheraton, will feature Grant Wiggins, President and Director of Programs for the Center on Learning, Assessment and School Structure (CLASS) and special consultant on assessment.



## national news &amp; notes

## ■ ALERT! NASC Members

The Student Leadership Network of Chicago, Illinois, has resumed its solicitation for student council memberships to middle level and high schools. This is the same group who, in the spring and fall of 2000, used a deceptive form resembling an invoice that was mailed to the attention of accounts payable at individual schools. Its new membership form, which is titled Membership Acceptance, also uses the National Association of Student Councils name in the top left corner. The Student Leadership Network is not affiliated with or endorsed by NASSP or NASC. Please be careful that you do not mistake the Student Leadership Network invoice for your school's official NASC Membership Invoice or Renewal Invoice. Also, school and district accountants should be notified to be on the lookout for mailings from Student Leadership Network. To help your school avoid any confusion caused by Student Leadership Networks' questionable practice, we want to remind you that:

- (1) NASC dues are always sent to our Reston, Virginia address: NASSP, PO Box 3250, Reston, VA
- (2) The NASC LOGO appears on NASC membership forms and renewal notices.

■ *Best of Times, Worst of Times For World's Children:* Polio has been nearly eradicated, fewer toddlers die before the age of 5 and more youngsters are in school than ever before since the United Nations' first World Summit for Children in 1990. But a children's report card for the 21st century showed that more than 10 million children die each year from preventable causes, 150 million are malnourished and 100 million are out of school, 60% of them girls. While, there has been real progress for children over the last 10 years in education and other areas, with children higher up on many nations' political agendas, the HIV/AIDS epidemic has reached catastrophic proportions, particularly in Africa, unraveling decades of gains in children's survival and development. But the biggest obstacle to a solution is a lack of will to invest in children, the report said. With few exceptions, developing countries devoted only about 12% to 14% of their budgets to basic social services. Rich countries allocated only 10% to 11% of their shrinking foreign aid budgets to meet needs of children in healthcare, nutrition, basic education and clean water. (Source: Reuters Health, Jun 11)

■ A survey of 4,500 high school students nationwide found that nearly half believe their teachers sometimes choose to ignore students who are cheating in class. The survey, conducted by Donald McCabe, professor of management at Rutgers University, also found that more than half of the students surveyed said they had used the Internet to commit plagiarism. McCabe has been researching college cheating for decades and now has turned his sights to high school students. As to why teachers may be looking the other way, McCabe says teachers are "afraid of retaliation by the parents."

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■ A new study by researchers at the Center for Injury Research and Policy at the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health supports the findings of a 2000 study which showed that, for new teen drivers, laws that keep the number of passengers they can carry to a minimum may save lives. Some states have already enacted laws that restrict the number and age of passengers that teen drivers can have in their vehicle. The rationale behind the legislation is that young drivers may not yet be experienced enough to deal with the potential distraction of passengers, especially if the passengers are other young people. Last year's study, which was published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, concluded that the risk of fatal injury for both male and female drivers age 16 or 17 increases with the number of passengers in the car. In this year's study, researchers examined traffic data and information from motor vehicle crashes that occurred throughout the United States in 1995 and estimated that, depending the scenario, between 48 and 493 lives could be saved each year if passenger restrictions are placed on teens.

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■ The average teacher salary increase in the 1999-2000 school year is among the smallest in 40 years and failed to keep pace with inflation, according to the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) annual teacher salary survey. The average national teacher salary for 1999-2000 was \$41,820. This salary was up 3.2 percent from the previous year, which is slightly less than the year's inflation rate of 3.4 percent. The average beginning teacher salary for 1999-2000 was \$27,989, up from 4.2 percent from the previous year, a slight decrease from the 4.4 percent salary hike in 1998-1999. For more information about the 2000 salary survey, visit [www.aft.org/press/2001/051601.html](http://www.aft.org/press/2001/051601.html).

■ Charter School Students Show Some Gains, Some Losses: Arizona students attending charter schools for two or three consecutive years improved their reading test scores more than their counterparts in traditional public schools, according to a report released by the Goldwater Institute. The report, *Does Charter School Attendance Improve Test Scores?* The Arizona Results," also found that charter school students enrolled in charters for two years were slightly better off in math compared to similar students in traditional public schools. However, students in charter school for three years posted slightly lower gains in math than their regular public school counterparts. Arizona has more charter schools than any other state. More than 400 charter schools are operating in the state.

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■ Researchers were surprised to find that California's experiment with single-sex schools actually promoted gender stereotypes. Under a program established in 1997, six single-sex academies were created in the state, designed to give at-risk students "a chance to excel without the pressure of having the opposite sex in the classroom," writes the paper. A two-year study, funded by the Ford and Spencer foundations and conducted by researchers at the University of Toronto, UC San Diego and UC Berkeley, found reduced distractions and "enhanced candid conversations." However, discipline, instructional methods and the "messages delivered by teachers reinforced sexual stereotypes," reports the paper. The Legislature has eliminated funding for the academies, and only one remains open.

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■ The 2000 U.S. Census report marks a slight decline from 1990 in the number of households comprised of married couples with children. Fewer than one-fourth of U.S. households are made up of married couples with children under age 18. EDUCATION WEEK writes that the new data are likely to "revive questions about whether the nation's schools have the right blend of programs to serve students from homes that are not in the traditional two-parent mold."

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■ A new Rand report found that while more than half of the states reward or penalize schools based primarily on test scores, methods used to identify good and bad schools are less reliable than many state leaders may think (Olson, EDUCATION WEEK, 5/23). "The question is, are we picking out lucky

*continued*

## ... more national news & notes

### *continued from previous page*

schools or good schools, and unlucky schools or bad schools?" asked David Grissmer, senior management scientist at Rand. "The answer is, we're picking out lucky and unlucky schools." Researchers found that between 50% and 80% of the improvement in a school's average test scores from one year to the next was temporary and caused by fluctuations that had nothing to do with long-term changes in learning or productivity. The study will be published next year.

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■ By ages 8 to 10 years, low birthweight children are at higher risk than normal-birthweight children for difficulties in thought, social interactions and attention, according to data from a multinational study. Evaluating children from the US, Canada, Germany and the Netherlands, researchers found that, compared with almost 3000 country-specific, same-age, normal-birthweight children, the extremely low-birthweight children scored significantly higher on scales measuring social, thought, and attention difficulties. These difficulties included acting young, not being liked, hearing or seeing things, and being unable to concentrate. "The fact that different cultures, having somewhat different childrearing practices and schooling,

exhibit the same elevation of problems in children born at extremely low birthweight may point in the direction of there being something organically different in the brains of these individuals," said lead researcher Dr. Judith Feldman, of Columbia University and New York State Psychiatric Institute. (Source: Reuters Health)

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■ Individuals with poor parenting skills may put their child at risk for anxiety or depression, according to researchers who investigated the role of parental behavior in pediatric psychiatric disorders. The investigators interviewed almost 600 parents and their children about psychiatric disorders and poor parenting behaviors, such as verbal abuse, arguments between the mother and father in front of the child, poor child supervision and inconsistent rule enforcement. The researchers found that more than 60% of the children who experienced high levels of such parental behaviors developed an anxiety, depressive, disruptive, personality or substance abuse disorder during late adolescence and early adulthood. "Such findings are of particular interest because it may be possible to prevent the onset of psychiatric disorders among many children and adolescents by helping parents to modify their child-rearing behavior," according to Dr. Jeffrey G. Johnson of Columbia Univ.

Public Agenda's latest report, **Just Waiting to be Asked?: A Fresh Look at Attitudes on Public Engagement**, is an attempt to study the relationship between public schools and the public. The report tries to answer the questions: How much input do educators really want? How much does the public really want to give? The report found, for example, that 70% of teachers feel left out of the education decision-making process. On the other hand, 70% of teachers said school officials talk with them only to gain their support for "what the district leadership wants to accomplish." Researchers also interviewed school superintendents, school board members, parents and the general public. Other findings from the report are:

- ⇒ Only 4% of superintendents view communication with the community as their most pressing concern.
- ⇒ 78 % of superintendents said public-engagement efforts were underway in their districts.
- ⇒ 41 percent of superintendents said they set policies with other school leaders first then seek community support, rather than garner public opinion before making policy decisions.
- ⇒ While parents and the public would like to see more community involvement, two-thirds say they are comfortable leaving decisions to the professionals.

A summary of the report can be viewed at: [www.publicagenda.com/specials/pubengage/pubengage.htm](http://www.publicagenda.com/specials/pubengage/pubengage.htm).

## legal news & notes

■ The American Bar Association voted to recommend ending "zero-tolerance" school discipline policies. According to the Association, "zero-tolerance" policies are too rigid and do not consider the "circumstances or nature of the offense or the student's history." To mandate expulsion (or some other specific discipline) for any and all infractions is inappropriate and unfair. (Source: CABA Journal April 2001)

■ A 2-1 ruling by a panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit struck down an Oklahoma school district's policy of requiring students participating in extracurricular school activities to take a drug test. The decision distinguished the Oklahoma case from a 1995 U.S. Supreme Court ruling that upheld drug testing of student athletes. "It is difficult to imagine how participants in vocal choir, or the academic team, or even the [Future Homemakers of America] are in physical danger if they compete in those activities while using drugs, any more than any student is at risk simply from using drugs," wrote the majority in the Oklahoma case. To read the full text of the decision in *Earls v. Board of Education of Tecumseh*

*Public School District*, visit:

//caselaw.lp.findlaw.com/scripts/getcase.pl?court=10th&navby=case&no=006128&exact=1

■ The U.S. Supreme Court ruled 6-3 that public schools may not keep religious organizations from meeting on school premises after hours, no matter how much proselytizing takes place. The decision in *Good News Club v. Milford Central School* continues the Court's recent trend of viewing student religious activities as a form of protected free expression rather than as an establishment of religion. Using the language of free speech cases, the Court said the Milford, N.Y., school district engaged in unconstitutional "viewpoint discrimination" when it barred the Good News Club from meeting after school in an elementary school cafeteria. The meetings were aimed at exposing children aged 6 through 12 to Christian Bible teachings. The ruling appears to erase a line that several appeals courts had drawn between permissible clubs that discuss social issues from a religious perspective, and organizations that can be barred because they are "too religious" or overtly evangelical. (Law.com, 6/12/01)

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### THE BULLETIN

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**SHORT TAKES:****News and Views on Drug Use**

*(Reprinted from the Governor's Prevention Partnership Newsletter, Winter 2001)*

- **Marijuana Not Addictive?**

- **Treatment Numbers Say Otherwise**

The number of U.S. teens treated for marijuana use jumped 155 percent from 1993 to 1998, according to the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment. About 78,500 teens were admitted to centers for treatment of marijuana use in 1998, up from 31,000 in 1993. Nearly half (49 percent) of all patients admitted for marijuana use are under the age of 20. (Source: PDFa bulletin)

- **High School Seniors**

- **Say Ecstasy "Easier to Get"**

The percentage of high school seniors who say Ecstasy is "easy" to obtain has nearly doubled over the past decade, according to the Monitoring the Future Study. The survey of high school students nationwide found that in 1999, 40 percent of seniors said Ecstasy was "fairly easy" or "very easy" to get. That's up from 22 percent in 1989. More information about the survey can be found at [www.monitoringthefuture.org](http://www.monitoringthefuture.org). (Source: PDFa bulletin)

- **Peer Pressure to Drink, Smoke Hardest on Girls**

A National Institutes of Health study finds teenage girls may be more susceptible than boys to powerful peer influence that pressure them to take up smoking and drinking. However, the study also finds that supportive, involved parents can help girls and boys alike resist these types of pressures. Children who said their parents were "highly involved" in their lives were two times less likely to drink than children with more "distant", "less involved" parents. (Source: Health Education & Behavior, 2001: February)

- **Study Shows 20% of Teens**

- **Say They Used Drugs with a Parent**

A new survey of nearly 600 teens in drug treatment in New York, Texas, Florida and California indicated that 20 percent have shared drugs other than alcohol with their parents, and about 5 percent of teens were introduced to drugs -- usually marijuana -- by their moms or dads. (Source: USA Today)

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS !****CT Principals' Center Programs for School Administrators**

- **"Reflective Leadership: A Retreat for Career Principals"**

July 17, 18 and 19, 2001 / The Heritage, Southbury

- **"Welcome Back Cook-Out and Legal Update"**

August 15, 2001 / 3:00 p.m. / CAS office  
*Attorney Tom Mooney will present a 2001 legislative and legal update, followed by a cook-out at 4:30.*

- **Annual Convocation for Principals and Superintendents**

September 19, 2001 / 5:30 p.m. / Aqua Turf, Plantsville

- **Information Technology for the School Administrator**

September 28, 2001 (all day) / The Heritage, Southbury.

- **Administrative Aspirant Program**

November 1 and 2, 2001 / The Heritage Center, Southbury.

**Connecticut Association of High School Principals' Programs**

- **NEASC Panel Discussion**

September 25, 2001 / 3:00-5:00 / Maloney HS, Meriden

- **High School Annual Conference** featuring *Grant Wiggins*

October 30, 2001 (all day) / Location: TBA

- **"The New Connecticut High School"**

November 14, 2001, 3:00-5:00

Dr. Betty Sternberg, Associate Commissioner of Education, Law H. S., Milford

- **SDE Update** with *Dr. Ted Sergi, Commissioner of Education*

December 11, 2001 / 3:00-5:00

- **Legal Update** with *Attorney Tom Mooney*

January 9, 2002 / 3:00-5:00 / Hamden High School

**Nationwide poll finds teachers are most admired**

It may not seem possible from all the noise coming out of Washington, D.C., and talk radio. But teachers -- at the core of what is rumored to be a crumbling education system -- are far and away the most admired career professionals in the nation.

That's the finding of Maritz Marketing Research Inc. -- one of the nation's leading business research firms -- which said the national poll it conducted to find the most admired career had surprising results. Not only did teachers lead the field, they owned it -- beating the next most-admired career by better than a 2-to-1 margin.

The poll, conducted among 1,398 people, found that teachers were selected as most admired by 57 percent of respondents. The next most respected were

doctors, selected by 25 percent.

After that, little seemed attractive to an apparently wary America. Social worker came in third, with just 8 percent. Fourth was athlete, with just 2.4 percent.

"I did not anticipate that teachers would come out on top in this poll at all," said Phil Wiseman, vice president of marketing for Maritz. "We thought doctors might come in first, or athletes.

"But when it comes right down to it, teachers do have the respect of the majority of America, even though the education system has come under scrutiny and criticism of late."

Who scored the lowest? Lawyers came in at 1.9 percent; politicians 0.9 percent. Corporate leaders didn't score at all.

*(Reprinted from unknown source.)*

## I REMEMBER HIM NOW

By Dave Stead, Executive Director, Minnesota State High School League

*Editor's Note: This is a wonderful message to be shared with teachers -- and all others who work with children -- upon their return to school in the fall.*

A new school year has begun. Class schedules have been finalized ... and changed ... and finalized ... and changed ... and ...

In between the academic days, schools sandwich athletic contests, concerts, musicals, fine arts events and parent/teacher conferences. Teachers and administrators are oftentimes asked to do more with less; to expand already overcrowded planning sessions with one more thing; to attend an added, but needed, faculty meeting; and to spend more time focusing on "added value" programming than on the basic educational concepts.

As you focus on the internal demands of classroom and administrative schedules or on external environments, I would challenge you to keep an eye out for the youngster who may hold you in higher esteem than you might imagine. Students look to you for guidance; they listen to what you say and see how you conduct yourself. Students look to you for leadership as they hear your message, "I believe you can do it."

Psychologists say that a human being seldom uses more than 15 percent of his or her ability. Because of this underutilized ability, we need to show students that they can do anything they want to do. As Ivan Fitzwater of Trinity University said, "... Teacher is SHOW BUSINESS." We need to show that we care. We need to show our confidence in their ability. We must show students how to keep life in perspective. We must stay connected.

It's essential that you know each of the students in your class. Look into their eyes and try to understand their hearts. It's a huge task. But, it's an essential element in the profession you've chosen.

No one, no class, no theory can adequately prepare you for the challenge you face each day in the classroom. I hope that none of us has to face what Fitzwater wrote about in his poem "I REMEMBER HIM NOW."

I remember him now, a shy little boy who sat in the back of my class. He never talked, he did his work just barely enough to pass. He never tried to play the clown, nor did he seek my aid. It haunts me when I think about the difference I might have made.

The principal said I'd be the one to tell his family. A suicide note addressed to no one simply said, "I've got to be free!" "Why," I protested, "should I be the one to bring the horrible news?" I hardly knew him. I taught him, yes, but there are others you should choose.

It's because of this note that we found in his things that we ask you to be the one.

The memory book that the dime store gives and the kids find so much fun. He only wrote on a single page, that pathetic little creature. He wrote your name on the page that says, "This is my Favorite Teacher."

As you embrace your class(es), I would encourage you to choose to know each one of your students a little better than you did last year. Move beyond the obvious exterior and the academic message for which students come into your classroom.

Good luck during the year ahead while you learn from your students as they learn from you. You're a favorite teacher to someone. That's an awesome responsibility. I know you're up to the challenge.

## An Outstanding Tires Act?

By Carole Kennedy

Dear Colleagues,

Through the years, you and I have had to endure many in the business world telling us how to do our jobs and how to improve our schools. Well, maybe it's time to turn the tables.

I think as school leaders we're missing a monumental opportunity to speak out about a business/industry problem that is in need of serious change. A few weeks ago I was watching the Firestone people try to wriggle their way out of a rather problematic situation -- and I was just waiting for them to figure a way to blame their problem on the public schools.

Then it hit me, WE should be telling them what they need. After all, their action in putting those tires on vehicles popular with parents and young people who are potential parents -- is endangering OUR school's supply of natural resources. AND we should be speaking up.

You might wonder what I know about tire manufacturing. Well, I've been DRIVING for many years and every vehicle I've ever driven has had 4 tires on it. I have shopped for and purchased several sets of tires and I've even changed a flat tire or two. Certainly those experiences would qualify me to give advice.

Here's what Firestone needs. Firestone needs HIGHER STANDARDS and more ACCOUNTABILITY for their products and cer-

tainly HIGHER EXPECTATIONS for all employees. Starting with those providing the raw materials and moving up the ladder to the CEO.

And ASSESSMENT is certainly in order. Test those people once, twice, whatever it takes to ensure that they are CERTIFIED to do their jobs. Those who don't pass will be RETAINED in positions until they can improve their performance. Or given tests for special placements. For those who don't qualify an ITMIP (individualized tire manufacturing improvement plan) will be written and special classes will be provided. The government will mandate these classes and promise to fund up to 40% of the costs but, Firestone, don't count on it.

REPORT CARDS will definitely need to be issued. Test scores for each section of the plant will be published in the local paper so that customers can compare the scores of one plant to those of others. RETRAINING should occur immediately -- even before the reason for low scores has been established. This training will take place at the end of the workday or on the weekends or vacations with NO OVERTIME COMPENSATION. In fact, no additional financial support will be given to this improvement endeavor. After all, it's obvious this company is unable to use appropriately the funds it has now. AND AS CUSTOMERS, WE'RE IN NO MOOD TO THROW GOOD MONEY AFTER BAD!!!!

If things don't improve, the plants should

be RESTRUCTURED. Managers and workers will be removed from positions then required to reapply or they will be moved to another plant where hopefully they will perform to higher levels.

NEW MANAGERS AND SUPERVISORS FROM OTHER INDUSTRIES should be brought in -- perhaps from the medical or hospitality fields. How could anyone be so narrow minded as to think that those who supervise tire making need to know anything about manufacturing tires. New managers and supervisors are needed so that ALL TIRES -- will successfully make their way from a blob of raw rubber to a wonderful tire of exacting specifications -- regardless of their humble and challenging beginnings. AFTER ALL, WE KNOW THAT ALL TIRES CAN ROLL!!!!

If these changes don't ensure success then tire buyers will be given VOUCHERS to take to the tire company of their CHOICE or to CHARACTER TIRE COMPANIES, OR instructions can be given on how to home manufacture tires. If all this fails then the plants will be taken over by the government -- AND THAT SHOULD SOLVE THE PROBLEM!

*Carole Kennedy, former elementary and middle school principal in Columbia, MO, and a former President of NAESP, is in her second year as the Principal in Residence with the U.S. Department of Education.*

## CARRITHERS AND BARNEY RECEIVE CAS CITATIONS AT 49TH ANNUAL MEETING

The 49th Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Association of Schools was held on May 10, 2001 at the Southbury Hilton. The over one hundred administrators in attendance — predominantly from member high schools — adopted new principals' association bylaws, elected a new slate of officers, and approved a nominal dues increase for elementary, middle and high school members.

### Old Business

CAS President Tony Molinaro, principal of King Street Intermediate in Danbury, reflected on the association's growth and successes during the 2000-01 school year, applauding the recent reorganization which helped to strengthen the association's already prized leadership role within Connecticut's educational community. He encouraged members to "stretch beyond what is traditional or comfortable" and to take risks to further advance the work and mission of the association. He praised members for their dedication and commitment to the organization. "CAS is a reflection of the talent, creativity, and expertise that each of you bring to your work on the variety of committees and boards that operate within the organization," said President Molinaro. *(To read President Molinaro's complete remarks, please visit the CAS website at [www.casciac.org/casindex.html](http://www.casciac.org/casindex.html))*

In his annual report, Executive Director Mike Savage commented on what he perceived as the three most critical trends in education today: technology, assessment, and staff turnover. He discussed some of the challenges that each of these trends brings to today's educators and offered words of encouragement to inspire administrators to continue on in "a very challenging job with many frustrations and perils." *(To read Mike's report in its entirety, please visit the CAS website at [www.casciac.org/casindex.html](http://www.casciac.org/casindex.html).)*

CAS Treasurer Elaine Bessette, headmistress of Greenwich High School, reviewed the association's financial activities during the 1999-2000 year. Reporting a net favorable operating balance of \$68,022, Dr. Bessette explained that a continued decrease in legal fees and the Institute for Teaching and Learning (ITL) grant from the state department of education contributed to CAS' favorable financial year. She reported that the net worth of the

association on June 30, 2000 was \$793,860, an increase of \$65,561 over the previous year. She further reported that the CIAC Endowment Account, which was drawn upon to pay off the building mortgage last year, had been growing steadily and the association would once again return a portion of the balance to CIAC member schools to offset dues increases.

### New Business

The membership unanimously adopted a proposed change to the Student Activities Board of Control Bylaws which allows elementary schools to be exempt from the regulation which prohibits Sunday activities. The change came about because the elementary parochial schools appealed to the SABC for an exemption from this restriction due to their longstanding tradition of using Sunday for activities. The SABC, with the approval of the Connecticut Association of Elementary School Principals, voted to revise its bylaws so as to grant an exception to ALL elementary schools, not just catholic schools.

In other action, the membership elected a new slate of officers and board members and approved a budget which called for a \$200 dues increase for high schools, a \$50 dues increase for middle schools and a \$25 dues increase for elementary schools. Furthermore, the individual memberships of each of the three principals' associations — the Connecticut Association of High School Principals, the Connecticut Association of Middle School Principals and the Connecticut Association of Elementary School Principals — adopted new bylaws for each of their respective organizations.

### Award Presentations

The awards dinner began with the presentation of life memberships to retiring administrators. The following individuals were in attendance to accept their life membership cards:

- Daniel Casey, Principal Wethersfield High School
- Richard Hoffman, Principal Burnham and Booth Free Schools
- Marie Langdon, Principal Roberts Avenue School, Danbury
- Michael Ward, Principal Booth Hill School, Trumbull

### Distinguished Friend of Education Awards

Maggie Fraser, principal of Goshen Center School, presented the Distinguished Friend of Education Award to Margaret Wood, describing the unique and magical contributions that Mrs. Wood has made to her school over the course of 30 years. Mrs. Wood, a 90-year-old Goshen resident, "is a living museum who has devoted her life to the preservation of the history of Goshen and to the dispersing of this knowledge to the students of Goshen Center School," said Mrs. Fraser. Mrs. Wood received a standing ovation as she approached the podium to receive her award.

CAS Executive Director Michael Savage presented the second Distinguished Friend of Education Award to Attorney Thomas Mooney. One of the foremost authorities on school law in Connecticut, a professor in residence at the Neag School of Education at Uconn, and an adjunct professor at the UConn Law School, Attorney Mooney has long been a well-known and highly regarded figure within Connecticut's educational community. He has donated countless hours of his time as well as his extensive expertise to CAS and to many other education groups in the state. "Tom is a fierce advocate for education and a steadfast supporter of CAS. His first love is education, and this is reflected in all that he has done to support CAS and its member schools," said Mike Savage.

*continued on page 8*



Goshen Center School Principal Maggie Fraser presents Distinguished Friend of Education award to Mrs. Margaret Wood.





Old Saybrook M.S. Principal Mike Rafferty receives a Letter of Commendation from Southington H.S. Principal Dr. Jerry Auclair.



Bolton H.S. Principal Joe Fleming receives a CAS Letter of Commendation.

## 49th Annual Meeting, *continued*

### Additional Awards

Dr. Jerry Auclair, principal of Southington High School and chair of the CAS Nominating Committee, made the following award presentations to those members who have made outstanding contributions to CAS and to the member schools it serves.

#### Assistant Principal of the Year:

- David Pearson, Assistant Principal Timothy Edwards M.S., S. Windsor
- Anne Jarvis, Assistant Principal Glastonbury High School

#### Principal of the Year:

- E. Patricia Llodra, Principal Northwestern Regional H.S.
- Preston Shaw, Principal Griswold M.S., Jewett City

#### Letters of Commendation:

- Dr. Gary Rosato, Principal Great Plain School, Danbury
- Andrienne Longobucco, Principal Litchfield Center School
- Michael Rafferty, Principal Old Saybrook Middle School
- Paul Berkel, Principal King Philip M.S., West Hartford (*not in attendance*)
- Art Arpin, Assistant Principal Hamden High School
- Joseph Fleming, Principal Bolton High School
- Gladys Labas, Principal Maloney High School, Meriden
- Walter Zalaski, Assistant Principal Simsbury High School

Two individuals were awarded the prestigious CAS Citation: **William Barney**, principal of the Morgan School in Clinton and **Dr. Dennis Carrithers**, principal of Simsbury High School. Citations, the association's highest honor, are awarded only to those members who have made extraordinary and long-term contributions to the organization.

Mr. Barney, who has served the association for 25 years, was described as "an outspoken, assertive and decisive leader" and "one of the most loyal and committed members in the history of CAS-CIAC."

Dr. Carrithers, an active and dedicated member of the association since 1979, was lauded for his vision and perspective, which "have enriched many a discussion and influenced many a decision." "You have always taken a global view of the work of the Association and invariably worked in the best interest of the greatest number," praised Dr. Auclair.

Dr. Allen Fossbender, Vice President of CAS and Chair of the CT Principals' Center Advisory Board, made a special presentation to Dr. Gordon Bruno, Executive Director Emeritus of the Center for School Change, and Dr. Kathleen Butler, Director of the Learner's Dimension. Dr. Bruno and Dr. Butler were honored with Distinguished Service Awards for their tremendous initiative and extraordinary efforts in helping to shape the mission of the Principals' Center and in guiding the center's work through its inaugural year.

## 2001 GOVERNOR'S SCHOLARS

- |                                  |                                  |                                  |                                |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ★ Katherine Ayer, Ledyard HS     | ★ Johann Cutiongco, Hall HS      | ★ Miranda Kosowsky, Hamden HS    | ★ Lina Pezzella, S. Windsor HS |
| ★ Allison Balter, Amity Regional | ★ Swati Deshmukh, E. Lyme HS     | ★ Matthew Laboda, Rockville HS   | ★ Emily Ragaini, Brookfield HS |
| ★ Meghan Bordonaro, Mercy HS     | ★ Jessica Eckert, Maloney HS     | ★ Ryan Larcom, New Fairfield HS  | ★ Suzanne Roosen, Avon HS      |
| ★ Sarah Brown, E. Hampton HS     | ★ Kristin Fosdick, Bacon Academy | ★ Ryan McLaughlin, Hous. Valley  | ★ Melanie Schorr, Suffield HS  |
| ★ James Caswell, H. Ellis RVTS   | ★ Lauren Grosberg, St. Joseph's  | ★ Julia Oat-Judge, Farmington HS | ★ Andrew Thompson, Kennedy     |

### Governor's Scholars, *continued from page 1*

Connecticut — where our reputation is synonymous with world-class education facilities, and where homegrown talent is welcomed and appreciated," said Gaffey.

Education Commissioner Ted Sergi and William Rasmussen, Associate Vice President of American Express Financial Advisors, also addressed the scholars. The Windsor High School Jazz Ensemble provided music during the program.

Laura Fernandez, Assistant Principal of Masuk High School in Monroe, chairs the CAS Committee that selects Connecticut's "best of the best." Lorraine Ferrero, a member of the English Department at Windsor High School was in charge of program arrangements.



The 2001 Governor's Scholars



## middle school news

### CAMSP Membership Meeting

*In a meeting of the membership of the Connecticut Association of Middle School Principals on May 10, 2001, Chairman Richard Huelsmann, Principal of East Hampton Middle School unveiled tentative goal areas for the upcoming year and invited members to submit ideas. Here is a summary of the goal areas and an invitation to participate.*

- An ongoing area of work for the association concerns certification of middle level teachers. Because legislation and regulation over the past few years have significantly reduced the pool of qualified middle level teachers, the CAMSP Board and the Advisory Board for the Center for Early Adolescent Educators have had ongoing discussions and dialogue with state department certification officials. The joint boards intend to continue these discussions into the next year and to investigate the latest department of education proposed solutions to the problem.
- Following a highly successful mini-workshop for teachers on integrated instruction held this spring; the joint boards will explore expanding this type of offering next year. In addition to a sequel to the first workshop, afternoon programs will be offered on a variety of topics of interest to teachers. It has been suggested that workshops aimed at teams of teachers and administrators would also be helpful. Readers of this column are invited to suggest workshop topics of interest. Mini-workshops are offered at the CAS offices in Cheshire from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at a modest cost.
- According to those at the meeting, diversity is still a hot topic in middle level education. Although Connecticut is an increasingly diverse state, many of our communities don't reflect that diversity. As part of our mission to prepare students for life after their home communities, diversity programs, especially those that involve intra-district initiatives should be encouraged.
- Careers in education are another topic that garnered interest at the meeting. Because middle level students are forming values for the future and exploratory subjects are a vital part of the curriculum, exposure to the intrinsic values and benefits of careers in education could be integrated into instructional and guidance programs.
- Because of the growing shortage of middle level educators, those in the profession have a responsibility for the active recruitment of high achieving students to the profession. Because the middle level is perhaps the least understood area of education, the CAS middle level boards will take a leadership role in extolling the virtues of a "career in the middle."

Because goals and objectives will not be finalized until late summer, readers of the Bulletin are invited to comment on these tentative goals and suggest other topics for consideration. Please e-mail your comments or suggestions to me at CAS.

*Earle G. Bidwell, Assistant Executive Director  
ebidwell@casciac.org*



**Eastern Connecticut President, Dr. David Carter**

### **Dr. Carter Challenges Scholar Leaders**

By Earle G. Bidwell, Asst. Executive Director

Songwriter Harvey Fuqua wrote...

*"To each of us is given the power to be strong, to be right, to be wrong. We all have the power to win or lose. What do you choose?"*

These words were the essence of the challenge issued by Eastern Connecticut President, Dr. David Carter to over 1,400 at the Seventeenth Annual Scholar Leader Banquet on June 4, 2001. The 278 scholar leaders, their parents and invited guests sat in rapt attention as Dr. Carter went on to state, "...that the difference between a dream and reality is hard work." In a keynote address that had the audience on its feet at the end, students learned about Dr. Carter's rise from humble beginnings to a position of leadership and prestige.

Scholar-leaders were challenged to define themselves. Quoting the late Anwar Sadat, Carter said, "I was brought up to believe that how I saw myself was a lot more important than how others

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## Newsletter

### Notes

#### ■ **KP Bakes to Ease Hunger**

Eighth grade students at King Phillip Middle School recently spent a morning with a baker from the King Arthur Flour Company in Vermont to learn the skills they need to bake bread. Students were then given a recipe and the needed ingredients to prepare two loaves of bread at home with their parent/ guardian(s). One loaf was to be enjoyed by their families, and the other was to be donated to various food shelters.

*KP Headlines, King Phillip Middle School*

#### ■ **Middlefield Student Wins National Award**

Congratulations to Jessica Robison for being awarded a 2001 Prudential Spirit of Community Award. Along with ninety-nine other top youth volunteers from across the country, Jessica received a check for \$1000 and was praised by Secretary of State Madeline Albright and Miss America Angela Perez Baraquio for her volunteer activities. Jessica and fellow Connecticut award winner Jennifer Alexis Smith of Simsbury were feted at a gala dinner celebration at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History in Washington D.C.

#### ■ **Art Express**

The tradition of Art Express at Portland Middle School has become a series of events that include contests, visiting artists and self-evaluation. This year it coincided with Youth Art Month. In a Name-the-Artist contest, students were challenged to discover, through a series of clues, which artists created the works on display in the school halls. Students were encouraged to use the school library and the Internet to reveal the artists and earn a chance at a prize. Visiting artists, Wild Bill Taylor, cartoonist extraordinaire, and professional potter David Frank were featured guests during the celebration.

*Portland Middle School Newsletter*

## ... more middle school news

### Dr. Carter, *continued*

saw me." The second challenge was to commit to excellence and quality. Mediocrity is not an option. He reminded the audience of Alan Webb, the high school runner who recently broke the American record in the mile and said, "I never enter a race without wanting to win it. Stretch yourself. Be the very best you can be." The third point was, don't let anyone shake your confidence. In the words of Harlem renaissance poet Langston Hughes, "Life for me ain't been no crystal staircase. It had tacks in it, and splinters, but all the time, you keep climbing, reaching another landing, turning corners." The final challenge was to have courage to: stand for noble ideas, to embrace diversity, to be honest and of good character, to be responsible, to give back, to be humble enough to say, "thank you."

In closing, Dr. Carter challenged all in the audience to embrace some of the words of Mother Teresa, words he carries with him daily.

People are often unreasonable, illogical, and self centered;  
Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives;  
Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies;  
Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you;  
Be honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight;  
Build anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous;  
Be happy anyway.

The good you do today people will often forget tomorrow;  
Do good anyway.

People may really need help, but may attack you if you help them;  
Help them anyway.

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough;  
Give the world the best you have anyway.

You see, in the final analysis, it's between you and God.  
It was never between you and them anyway.

Dr. Sergi and Dr. Carter presented plaques to each scholar/leader to honor their accomplishments; a special award honoring an outstanding career in middle level education was given to Ms. Cynthia C. Field of Timothy Edwards Middle School in South Windsor.

The audience was also treated to remarks by Commissioner Ted Sergi, WTIC Sports Director, Scott Gray, who served as master of ceremonies and CAS President, Anthony Molinaro. The award winning West Rocks Middle School Jazz Ensemble under the direction of Mr. Jeff Bellagamba kicked off the festivities.

CAS is indebted to The Coca-Cola Bottling Company of New England and the McDonald's Restaurants of Connecticut for their ongoing support for what has become the premier event in middle level education in Connecticut. CAS is grateful for the outstanding commitment of these two fine civic-minded companies in supporting the youth of our state.

## elementary school news

### OUTSTANDING PROGRAMS HONORED

By Robert F. Carroll, Ed. D., Asst. Executive Director

Nearly 1000 teachers and school administrators were in attendance at this year's Elementary Schools Program Recognition Banquet held at the Aqua Turf on May 21st. Education Commissioner Theodore Sergi presented awards to 108 schools.

Sponsored annually by CAS and Weekly Reader, this awards banquet, inaugurated in 1994, recognizes unique school programs that have made significant differences in the operation of the school. All programs selected for recognition are featured in a monograph that is distributed to all participating schools.

Pat Pavelka, a nationally known educator, consultant, author, and presenter was this year's keynote speaker. In addressing the honorees, Pavelka reminded the audience of the power of educators to touch the lives of so many children. "Our enthusiasm and expectations play a critical role in students' success," said Pavelka. She shared strategies and activities that teachers can use to create positive learning environments for all.

Charles Peddock, Executive Editor of Weekly Reader Corporation, sponsor of this annual awards dinner, told those in attendance that, "We at Weekly Reader view our relationship with both teachers and parents as a real partnership. When we began, the mission was to awaken the children's interest in the great world in which they live, to give them a broader view of life, prepare them for good citizenship, and help equip them for success. That mission statement is as relevant today as when Weekly Reader was first published in 1928."

Kit Bishop, principal of Daisy Igraham in Westbrook and Nena Nanfeldt, principal of Nathan Hale School in Meriden were co-chairs of this "premier" event. Geoff Fox, Action News Weather Center Director was an enthusiastic and energetic master of ceremonies.

### Governor honors East Hartford teacher for blood donations

*Reprinted with permission of the Journal Inquirer; 03/03/01;  
by: Heather Nann Collins*

Steve Socolosky, an East Hartford teacher, was honored by Gov. John G. Rowland with the 2000 Governor's Award for his extraordinary volunteer commitment to the Red Cross blood service program.

Socolosky, a 13 gallon blood donor, is a familiar face at the Red Cross, which nominated him for the honor. In fact, Red Cross education coordinator Carol O'Hala said, "the organization can count on seeing Socolosky just about every 56 days -- the minimum time between blood donations. But even more important is Socolosky's commitment to the next generation of blood donors." When O'Hala wanted to educate young people on the importance of donating blood, she turned to Socolosky. Together, the two developed an elementary school curriculum-enrichment project now used by 28 schools. The curriculum-enrichment project ties in science lessons on the circulatory system to blood donation. Students take a free field trip to the Red Cross' Farmington headquarters, where they play games and visit the laboratories. The visit gives students a better understanding of why it's so important to donate blood, Socolosky said. "They see it's not gross or disgusting, but that it's about saving lives," he said.

For more information on bringing your school to the Red Cross in Farmington, contact Carol O'Hala at (860) 678-5483 or email her at [ohalac@usa.redcross.org](mailto:ohalac@usa.redcross.org).



## ... more elementary school news



### CAESP CHAIR RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD

Dr. Gary Rosato has been selected by Nova Southeastern University to receive the Kathleen Cooper Wright Award 2001 for his dissertation entitled "Evaluating a Third-Grade Local History Curriculum Using a Mixed-Method Approach." This distinguished honor is given in recognition of outstanding achievement in serving the educational needs of students through the implementation of a dissertation. This year, over 100 dissertations were submitted for approval and Gary was one of eight finalists nominated for the award before being selected as one of the two candidates to receive it. He will be honored at the Nova Summer Institute in Scottsdale, Arizona this July where he will receive the award.

Dr. Rosato is principal at Great Plain Elementary School in Danbury, Connecticut. His background includes over twenty years in regular and special education as a teacher, curriculum coordinator and administrator. He is Chairman of the Connecticut Association of Elementary School Principals and recently chaired the National Distinguished Principals Selection Committee for Connecticut. Gary is a member of the Board of Directors for the Connecticut Association of Schools and serves on the Board of Trustees for the Danbury Museum and Historical Society. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Western Connecticut State University in Danbury and earned advanced degrees in Elementary Education, Special Education and Administration and Supervision from Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven before being awarded a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Nova Southeastern University. He lives in Danbury with his wife Francine and son Daniel.

### ELEMENTARY AWARDS CELEBRATE TOP EDUCATORS

By Robert F. Carroll, Ed. D., Asst. Executive Director

Each year, the Connecticut Association of Elementary School Principals sponsors a number of awards programs to recognize outstanding individuals and educational programs within the state. CAESP is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2000-2001 CAESP awards.

#### Connecticut's National Distinguished Principal Award

*Anne Marie Cullinan, Principal of Carrington School, Waterbury*

#### Outstanding School of the Year

*Myrtle H. Stevens School, Rocky Hill*

#### Outstanding Teacher of the Year

*Elizabeth Burns, Lincoln School, New Britain*

#### Educational Project Grant

*Cecilia Frenkel, Vance Village School, New Britain*

#### Exemplary Principal Program Award for Special Education

*Jeanne Camperchoioli, Whiting Lane School, West Hartford*

#### The Marjorie Bradley Award for Exemplary Curriculum

*Nena Nanfeldt, Nathan Hale School, Meriden*

#### John C. Mulrain Community Service Award

*Mary Reynolds Luce - Jack Jackter School, Colchester*

#### John Wallace Award for A Student Going into Administration

*Patricia Vance, East Hartford-Glastonbury Magnet School, East Hartford*

#### John Wallace Award for a Student Going into Teaching

*Bethany Tkaczyk, Hebron Avenue School, Glastonbury*

#### William Cieslukowski First Year Principal Award - To be selected in the fall

CAS would like to congratulate all the winners. We would also like thank all those schools and individuals that submitted nominations and encourage them to participate again next year. Nomination and applications forms for the 2001-2002 school year will be found on our website [www.casciac.org](http://www.casciac.org) in the fall.

### ARTS FESTIVAL A BIG-TOP SUCCESS!

CIGNA Healthcare sponsored the Second Annual Elementary Arts Recognition Festival. The event, which was held at the Aqua Turf Club in Southington on May 14th, was designed to honor elementary students who have outstanding ability in the performing or visual arts. The theme of the event was once again "Under the Big Top," with a variety of circus-type entertainers on hand to amuse and astound the students and their families.

All aspects of the evening were child-oriented, from the food to the entertainment. Cotton candy, popcorn, and sundaes lined the banquet hall. After dinner, students romped around, enjoying music and magic, bean bags and balloon artists, clowns and caricaturists. After students were presented with their award certificates, they were treated to an engaging and comical magic show which brought the evening to a climactic close!

Many thanks to CIGNA Healthcare for recognizing the importance that the arts play in Connecticut schools and for treating outstanding elementary age artists to an evening of great circus fun and excitement!



CAS President Tony Molinaro presents award certificates to King St. Intermediate students Komal Patel (l) and Kim Ashayeri.

#### ■ U.S. SUPREME COURT: ADA APPLIES TO SPORTS

The Supreme Court ruled that the PGA has to allow golfer Casey Martin to ride a cart between shots, despite the tour's insistence that walking the course is a fundamental part of the game. This has been viewed alternately as a triumph of compassion and as a threat to the integrity of the game -- some believe the decision opens the door to any number of unreasonable accommodations for athletes with disabilities of varying seriousness.

#### ■ NCAA TO PLAY FRIDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL

The NCAA lifted its longtime ban on Friday night collegiate football, allowing teams to schedule games during a time traditionally reserved for high school football. "The action by the NCAA, in my personal opinion, is a mistake," said Grant Teaff, executive director of the American Football Coaches Association and one of the drafters of the Arizona Sports Summit Accord. "High school football in America needs support from the NCAA and other entities, not the distraction Friday night college football will bring." Though some conferences have already scheduled Friday night games, others, such as the Southeastern, Atlantic Coast and Big East conferences, are refusing to do so. "We feel strongly that Friday nights should be reserved for high school football and we want to do everything we can to cooperate with the high schools and protect their game," ACC Commissioner John Swofford said. "High school football is extremely important to college football and it is vital that we work together on matters such as this."

#### ■ TENNIS PLAYERS DISQUALIFIED FOR USING PROFANITY

A high school doubles team from Tennessee was disqualified from its Class AAA championship match when one of the players yelled "Jesus Christ!" Interestingly, the U.S. Tennis Association's definition of profanity, cited by the athletic association official who ended the match, allows players to yell either "Jesus" or "Christ" separately, but not together. [Source: The Associated Press, 5/25/01]



Congratulations to the members of the 2000-2001 CIAC Boys Volleyball Committee. Their hard work and diligent efforts helped make the first-ever boys volleyball tournament a big success! Pictured above are: (front row, l to r) Barbara Startup, Nancy Bond, Frank Samuelson, Ruth Hewston, Tom Abbruzzese, Tony Mosa; (back row, l to r) Mike Savage, Rich Trczinski (tournament director), Ed Bengermينو, Glenn Mackno (chair), and Cliff Emanuelson.

## CIAC MEMBERSHIP RATIFIES NEW TRANSFER RULE

Only one bylaw change was presented to the CIAC membership at the Annual Meeting on May 10, 2001: the proposed "19th exception" to the Transfer Rule. The CIAC Board of Control, at its regular meeting of October 19, 2000, voted to add a 19th exception to Section II.C of the Code of Eligibility, commonly referred to as the Transfer Rule. The new regulation went into effect immediately upon adoption by the CIAC board and, as mandated by the Constitution, needed the approval of the membership at the annual meeting. The proposed change was adopted with a near unanimous vote.

The new exception makes it possible for a student who has transferred to a new school without a change of address and who does not meet any of the other conditions for exemption from the transfer rule to play a sport he had played in a prior school during grades 10, 11 or 12 after a 30-calendar-day wait period. Previously, the student would have been subjected to a full year (365 day) wait period. (The 30 day wait commences on the first allowable play date in the affected sport.). To view the language of the new rule visit the CIAC website at [www.casciac.org/ciacindex.html](http://www.casciac.org/ciacindex.html).

## EDITORIAL: Kids Need More Fun in Sports

By Tom Condon, *Reprinted from the Hartford Courant*

It's too early to tell if David Coleman and Tom Magro of West Hartford are revolutionizing sports, but stay tuned. Here's what they're doing: They reserve a field, one evening a week. They bring a soccer ball. They invite kids, theirs and others, to come and play.

That's it: drop-in soccer with no leagues, standings, uniforms, travel or screaming coaches and parents. I know it's radical, but it seems to be working.

David and Tom, friends of mine, are experienced coaches who give the kids some drills and instruction, then just let them play. The youngsters don't have to sign their lives away to four days a week or more of travel soccer.

In this country we can never leave well enough alone. There was a time when kids just went to fields and played ball. Now 9-year-olds are on highly organized teams and train as if preparing for the World Cup, often crowding out homework, reading, music, religious education, scouts and regular old playtime.

My bias here is that of a sports nut. If all goes well, I'll bike, play tennis, coach baseball (a twice-a-week kids' team) and watch the Sox this weekend. I just think kids need to balance athletics with other activities.

If not, they risk becoming "trufflehounds," very good at one thing and not much good at anything else. The metaphor is from "The Game of Life," by James Shulman and William Bowen, a fascinating look at the state of college sports.

They found that varsity athletes are over-specialized. They spend ungodly amounts of time training but have, on average, lower SAT scores and lower grades than their classmates. It's not true just of football players at big schools, but also of tennis players at small, elite schools. A generation

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## . . . more ciac news

## SHEA RALPH BRINGS CROWD TO ITS FEET



The 2001 Annual Scholar-Athlete Banquet, held at the Aqua Turf Club in Southington on May 6th, was one of the most memorable events in the eighteen year history of the awards program. UConn Basketball sensation Shea Ralph delivered a stirring and inspirational keynote address which received a standing ovation from the more than 1,700 students, parents, and educators in attendance.

Shea delivered a stirring address, bravely sharing some very personal stories

about the obstacles she encountered on her road to success. She described how her love of basketball and her determination to play helped her conquer an eating disorder when she was in high school. "Being anorexic is part of who I am and it taught me some very valuable lessons. . . I learned that loving myself for who I am is way better than trying to love myself only if I'm PERFECT," said Shea. Her message spoke directly to the student-athletes, who identified with many of the experiences that she revealed. "I'm in a position where I can share with people like you the lessons I have learned so that you may find your own place in the world with a tad more ease, but with enough toil so that you know you've earned what you have and you've made yourself who you are," she offered.

For the 17th consecutive year, Bob Picozzi served as Master of Ceremonies of the banquet. The evening's program included remarks by Education Commissioner Theodore Sergi, CAS President Tony Molinaro, CIAC Chairman Paul Hoey, Andy Santacroce, McDonald's Owner Operator, and Jay Margnelli, Coca-Cola Manager.

The banquet, hosted annually by CAS-CIAC, honors one boy and one girl from each Connecticut high school who have excelled in both academics and athletics. Many thanks to the event sponsors, McDonald's Restaurants of Connecticut and Coca-Cola Company.



*The CIAC thanks John Pouzzner, retiring CIAC Boys Tennis tournament director. John served as a member of the Boys Tennis Committee for 26 years.*

**HIGHLIGHTS:****CIAC Board Meeting - May 24, 2001**

- The Board took no action on a request from the CIAC Football Committee to increase the number of football divisions by 2 (from 4 to 6), and the number of qualifying teams from 16 to 24. The board did not necessarily object to the proposal, but felt that more time was needed to reflect on all the ramifications.
- A member school was fined \$100 and its boys basketball program was placed on probation for one year for allowing an eighth grader to participate in a single high school boys basketball practice during the past season.
- The board voted to request from the football committee definitive reasons why the CIAC Board should NOT eliminate spring football practices.
- A discussion was held regarding the continuance of the rule that prevents CIAC athletes from using school equipment (specifically helmets and goalie equipment) at summer camps. No action was taken.

**9th Annual Golf Benefit A Huge Success**

By J. Robert Ford, Director of Development

The 9th Annual CIAC Golf Benefit was held at the Torrington Country Club on June 4, 2001. Honorary Chairman Kevin Nathan of NBC-30 headed a field of 107 golfers. Included in the field were several principals and athletic directors. As usual, the Connecticut business community played a big role in enabling the day's program to set a new financial record. The CIAC Endowment Fund was able to raise \$28,300 from the event. The previous record set in 2000 was \$21,440.

The Mohegan Sun and the Aqua Turf were again major sponsors. The 10th annual event will be played again at the Torrington Country Club, June 24, 2002.

**NOTE:** An important meeting of all CIAC gymnastics coaches is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on Monday, November 19 at the Ramada Inn in Meriden. Information on National Federation rule changes, the 2002 CIAC tournament, among other items will be discussed by Gymnastics Committee members.

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# SPRING 2001 CIAC SPORTS CHAMPIONS

## ■ Girls Tennis

L - Fairfield  
M - New Canaan  
S - Darien

Singles: Chazerina Saricas  
Trinity Catholic, Stamford  
Doubles: Jessica DiRubio/  
Casey Cartwright  
New Canaan

## ■ Boys Tennis

LL - Fairfield  
L - Staples, Westport  
M - New Canaan  
S - East Catholic, Manchester

Singles: Alex Jacobs  
Staples, Westport  
Doubles: Eli Brandt/Scott Mathews  
Cheshire

## ■ Lacrosse

Div. I - New Canaan      Div. II - Ridgefield

## ■ Boys Outdoor Track

LL - Danbury  
L - Fitch, Groton  
MM - Wilbur Cross, New Haven  
M - Montville  
S - Hyde, Hamden  
Open - Wilbur Cross, New Haven  
Decathlon - Adam Polite  
Staples, Westport

## ■ Girls Outdoor Track

LL - Norwich Free Academy  
L - East Lyme  
MM - New Canaan  
M - Bloomfield  
S - Coginchaug, Durham  
Open - Hillhouse, New Haven  
Decathlon - Venita Barns  
Middletown



After 3 overtimes, New Canaan defeats Fairfield Prep 6-5 for the Division I championship.

## ■ Boys Baseball

LL - Stamford  
L - Staples, Westport  
M - Sheehan, Wallingford  
S - Immaculate, Danbury

## ■ Girls Softball

LL - Amity Reg., Woodbridge  
L - Daniel Hand, Madison  
M - Morgan School, Clinton  
S - Hale Ray, Moodus

## ■ Golf

Div. I - Simsbury  
Div. II - Berlin  
Div. III - Bethel  
Div. IV - East Catholic, Manchester

## ■ Boys Volleyball

L - Trumbull  
M - Staples, Westport



Daniel Hand outswings Lyman Hall for a 4-2 victory in the Division L softball championships.

## Editorial, *continued*

ago, a wrestler or lacrosse player at a liberal arts college was indistinguishable from the rest of the student body. Now they are part of an isolated subculture.

Yet varsity athletes are heavily recruited, fawned over, given preferential treatment.

What do schools get in return? Well, not much. The authors -- Bowen is a former president of Princeton -- found that nearly all college sports programs, even most big-time programs, lose money. Winning programs don't increase alumni giving. Athletes aren't more likely than other

graduates to assume leadership roles in business or civic life. Recruiting athletes doesn't contribute to a school's racial diversity.

Yet at some prestigious small colleges, 35 percent of the students are varsity athletes. Will schools continue to pass on more academically qualified students to get enough linebackers and field hockey players?

It's an issue parents have to think about. You want a chance for a gifted athlete to play and improve, yet you probably don't want a kid so heavily specialized in a sport that he or she isn't academically prepared for college, if college is the goal.

The trick is to find a balance.

I offer a good place to go for assistance. The Web-based Center for Sports Parenting is a collaboration between two of the country's leading youth sports advocates, Dan Doyle of West Hartford and Rick Wolff of New York. Doyle, a coach, author, and clinician, and Wolff, author, columnist, radio host and sports psychology expert, are of the sound-mind, sound-body philosophy. Their excellent website can be found at [www.sportsparenting.org](http://www.sportsparenting.org).

If you drive by the Coleman-Magro soccer game, you'll see kids laughing, playing and having fun. I think they're on to something.



## President's End-of-the Year Message . . .

by Robert Lehr, AD, Southington High School

The Connecticut Association of Athletic Directors enjoyed a successful 2000-2001 school year. Some of the highlights of the past year included taking the initial steps to effecting legislation related to the sale or distribution of performance enhancing supplements within a school. Continued efforts related to that topic will take place in the next school year. CAAD proposes a joint effort in this regard involving the cooperation of the CIAC and the state coaches association.

A goal for the year was to enhance the lines of communication between CAAD and our state's interscholastic athletics directors. It is important that all areas of the state be represented and that all concerns be addressed. In order to achieve that goal, one of next year's monthly meetings will be held in Fairfield County and the following year a meeting will be scheduled in the eastern part of the state.

CAAD is committed to providing opportunities to its membership for professional growth. One of the major methods by which that happens is through Leadership Training Courses. Pam Goodpaster is the state coordinator for the LTC courses and devoted a great deal of time to that effort in 2000-2001.

A successful Girls Sports Initiative was held during the past year. That event provided opportunities for girls interested in sports related fields to learn more about them. CAAD provided support of that endeavor, including financial support.

CAAD was represented on the committee that studied the out-of-season regulation, and although no proposal to alter that regulation came out of its work, it did provide a forum for views that could provide positive direction for future deliberations.

The 2001-2002 school year will see CAAD develop a position statement on middle school athletics. There is a wide divergence of program offerings within the state's middle schools; addressing that issue will be a worthwhile endeavor.

The experience numerous other states are having with state legislatures, etc., is alarming. With the cooperation of CAAD, the high school coaches association, the CIAC and its associated bodies, our state association will remain the vibrant voice of interscholastic athletics in Connecticut. That is something to which every member of every related organization should be committed.

Best wishes for a relaxing summer!

## CAAD ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ John Novakowski, Bristol athletic director, is stepping down as CAAD newsletter consultant. Replacing John will be Ray DeAngelis, athletic director at O'Brien RVT in Ansonia. Please send Ray any AD news.

■ If any AD is interested in joining the CAAD faculty, contact Pam Goodpaster, athletic director at Joel Barlow High School, Redding.

## ANNUAL CONFERENCE DRAWS RECORD ATTENDANCE

By Raymond DeAngelis, AD, Emmett O'Brien RVTS

The Seventeenth Annual Connecticut Association of Athletic Directors Conference was held at the Holiday Inn in Cromwell on March 22 and 23. A record number of athletic directors attended the two-day event. The conference was also host to the NIAAA Section I meeting.

The conference began on Thursday with a presentation by Michael Savage, Executive Director of CAS-CIAC. Mr. Savage provided updates on CIAC issues and then gave an annual test to the athletic directors.

Robert Lehr, president of CAAD, led the CAAD annual meeting. Various reports were presented and accepted by the athletic directors. President Lehr offered the group a crackerbarrel topic, the out-of-season coaching rule. Should the rule be modified, changed or kept as is? Discussion would be held on Friday. Merit certificates of service were also handed out to those athletic directors with 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40 and 45 years of service.

In the general session, guest speaker Harvey Allston gave a highly charged motivational speech on the importance of communicating with people. Alston, a former educator and coach, spoke on how to deal and understand people from different backgrounds.

Later in the afternoon, the athletic directors had a chance to attend one of three workshops. Robert Lehr talked about planning for the unforeseen, Paul Maskery presented a retirement seminar and George Hall gave a tour of Berlin High School's athletic facilities.

The annual awards banquet concluded the first day's activities. Distinguished service awards were presented to five recipients -- Ken Hoagland, Ann Malafronte, Ray DeAngelis, James Girard and Pam Goodpaster.

On Friday, the CAAD breakfast meeting speaker was Diane Gray from the State Department of Education. Ms. Gray spoke about the new coaching regulations.

The next session was the statewide faculty workshop to certify CAAD members to teach Module 5 of the CAAD coaching certification course. The conference closed with a spirited discussion on the out-of-season coaching rule.



(l to r) Conference Coordinator Fred Balsamo, Keynote Speaker Harvey Allston, and Avon H.S. Athletic Director Jeff Sunblade

## Retired AD's Corner

By Ed Tyburski

■ **LIFE MEMBERSHIPS** - At the annual CAAD breakfast meeting on May 9, 2001, eleven athletic directors received their Gold Life Membership cards.

- Peter Barbarito, New Haven Schools, 1977-2000
- Robert Broderick, Simsbury H.S., 1969-2000
- Robert Byteck, Staples H.S., Westport, 1981-1996
- Robert Keller, Enfield/Somers High Schools, 1978-2000
- Michael Landolphi, Bolton High School, 1964-1985
- William Lesinski, Windsor/New Britain High Schools, 1980-2000
- Alan Lussier, East Hartford High School, 1994-2000
- Eugene Reilly, Portland High School, 1980-2000
- James Scully, Wolcott High School, 1970-1999
- Robert Summers, Avon/Terryville High Schools, 1957-2000
- Ivan Wood, Plainville High School, 1938-1955

■ **MILESTONES** - The following AD's have announced their retirements.

- **Jerry McDougall**, an athletic director for 40 years, served at Central Catholic for 6 years and Trumbull High School for 34 years. Was President of the Connecticut High School Coaches Association and National High School Coach of the Year in football. He was a successful varsity coach in football for 37 years, varsity coach in baseball for 28 years and varsity indoor/outdoor track for 11 years.
- **George Hall**, after 36 years in education. Served as athletic director at Berlin High School for 23 years. Was the recipient of CAAD's Distinguished Service Award in 1999. Has been on CAAD's executive board for 8 years. Was a successful coach in men's varsity basketball for 10 years, women's varsity basketball for 10 years, and varsity women's tennis coach for 11 years.
- **Patrick D. Spinola**, after 36 years in education. Served as athletic director and department chairman of health and physical education at Norwalk High School for 25 years. Was on the CAAD executive board for 4 years. Was a successful men's varsity swim coach for 22 years. Also coached varsity women's swimming for 5 years, varsity men's soccer for 5 years and varsity men's track for 5 years.
- **Joseph Noto**, after 35 years in education. Served as athletic director at Danbury High School for 9 years. Officiated baseball, basketball and football for 25 years.
- **Raymond Mainville**, after 37 years in education. Served as athletic director at Maloney High School in Meriden for 8 years. Was a successful coach in varsity wrestling for 15 years, and was coach of the year in wrestling in 1979. Also coached varsity football for 4 years.

## CAAD Officers and Consultants 2001-02

### Officers:

<b>President</b>	Robert Lehr Southington High School
<b>President-elect</b>	Paul Mengold Amity Regional H.S., Woodbridge
<b>Secretary</b>	John Shukie N.W. Catholic H.S., West Hartford
<b>Treasurer</b>	Ken Marcucio Derby High School
<b>Past President</b>	Pam Goodpaster Joel Barlow H.S., Redding

### Representatives:

<b>District #1</b>	David Leete, Bolton High School Robert Demars, Putnam High School Leo Bravakis, E. Windsor High School
<b>District #2</b>	Patrick Burke, Old Saybrook H.S. Judy Samaha, Sheehan H.S., Wallingford
<b>District #3</b>	Sue Murphy, Platt RVT School, Milford Patrick Spinola, Norwalk High School Bob Tait, Foran High School, Milford
<b>District #4</b>	Jeff Sunblade, Avon High School Charlie McSpiritt, Torrington High School Matt Perachi, Shepaug H.S., Washington

### Consultants:

<b>Awards</b>	David Johnson, Bunnell H.S., Stratford
<b>CIAC Rep.</b>	Joseph Tonelli, Notre Dame, West Haven
<b>Constitution</b>	Chip Dorwin, Guilford High School
<b>Convention</b>	Fred Balsamo, East Haven High School
<b>Newsletter</b>	Ray DeAngelis, O'Brien RVTS, Ansonia
<b>Officials</b>	Paula Fitzgerald, Westbrook High School
<b>Prof. Development</b>	Pamela Goodpaster, Joel Barlow, Redding
<b>Retired AD's</b>	Edward Tyburski (retired)
<b>Seasons Limitations</b>	George Hall (retired)
<b>Sports Consultant</b>	Barbara Startup, Glastonbury High School