

The Argo

Vol. 5, No. 1

RUTGERS PREPARATORY SCHOOL

September, 1957



Mr. Sperduto "graduates" from lower school.

New History Instructor Joins Upper School Staff

There is an addition to the upper school faculty this year in the person of Mr. Frank Sperduto. Mr. Sperduto will teach three courses: United States History, a ninth grade world geography course and a course called "The United States and the World" to the eighth grade.

Mr. Sperduto was graduated from Rutgers where he majored in history, and he has received his master's degree. Currently he is working toward his doctorate.

Seventh grade teacher five years

For the past five years Mr. Sperduto has taught the seventh grade in the lower school. He has been the upper school's J.V. coach, and for the last three years instructed regular gym classes for the sixth and seventh grade boys. This, and the fact that he has taught at the lower school so long, has made him quite well-known to those who have passed from the lower to the upper school.

Oddly enough, the students of Mr. Sperduto's first seventh grade class are now seniors and will help compose his U.S. History class. Therefore, Mr. Sperduto will have no difficulty in adjusting to his new position.

FLASH!

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sperduto became the proud parents of a baby girl, Heather, on August 2.

Headmaster Discusses Future Status Of Independent Preparatory School

by David M. Heinlein

It is with deep pleasure that I welcome each of you members of the student body of Rutgers Preparatory School. Today we begin our 192nd year of service in the educational traditions of our country.

This 192nd year is a noteworthy one, for the School is now a truly independent school. On July 1 of this year our Board of Trustees assumed full control of this historic school.

The record of this school has been one of honor and distinction. Its graduates have taken their places in fine colleges, professions and community life. Each of you has a future in our country; each a responsibility to develop your talents and understanding to the utmost.

As you face this year of study and activity, you should feel confident of your ability to earn a place among the others who have preceded you. Newspapers, magazines, radio and television have been featuring the so called "tidal wave" of students. If you are to believe the statistics they quote your chances for a college education would appear slim, indeed. I would like to say that your chances of entering college after graduation are extremely good! You have the necessary ability, and you will be receiving the necessary preparation for college work. You are a student in a fine school, being instructed by an outstanding faculty. Make the most of this opportunity which your parents and the School give to you.

Astronomy Club Participates In Geophysical Year Studies

During the summer the members of the Astronomy Club have had the opportunity to play a part in the International Geophysical Year's visual meteor program. The purpose of this program is to secure more accurate statistics on the number of meteors of various sizes encountered by the earth.

Each member received from Mr. Heinlein a report form on which to record data concerning the sighting of meteors on specified nights. These reports will be sent to the National Research Council in Ottawa, Canada to be compared with radar sightings.

Three New Courses Strengthen Schedule

The schedule this year includes three new courses. These are an advanced literature course for seniors, world geography for freshmen and German.

The literature course is open to any senior who believes he can handle the job, since he will be studying English IV in addition to it. Mr. Dumarae's plans for the course, completed this summer, and Mrs. Wilson's plans for English IV will be correlated so that the ideas developed in English IV will be carried over and expanded in Mr. Dumarae's class.

Either world geography or Ancient History is available to freshmen this year, so that they can build a better background for the more advanced history courses.

German is back on the schedule for the first time in some years. Mrs. Rooda, who has a German accent that could fool a Nazi officer, is instructing the course.

With the addition of these three courses the school will have a curriculum that will offer each student four years of science, mathematics, English, and history plus the required units in any of four foreign languages.

HEP HAMBURGER HOP!

The student council has planned a "Hamburger Hop" for Saturday, September 21 at the school gymnasium. The main purpose of the barbecue is to enable the students to become better acquainted.

Refreshments consisting of hamburgers, hot dogs, and soft drinks will be served. The faculty will do the cooking over portable grills lent by the students. Music for the "Hop" will be supplied by any student who wishes to contribute records. If the weather is fair, the event will take place on the basketball court adjoining the gym. In case of rain the barbecue will move inside the gym.

The "Hamburger Hop" is a wonderful chance for new and old students to meet, and every student should plan to attend this first social event of the school year.

ARGO STAFF
RUTGERS PREPARATORY SCHOOL
 Somerset Street
 New Brunswick, New Jersey

Editor-in-chief Louise DiLalo

Class Editors:

Jonathan Margolis

Linda Levy

Ronald Smyth

Peter Wintersteiner

Faculty Adviser Margaret Wilson

Summer Students Try New Activities

One hundred and fifty students attended the six week summer session at this school from June 24 to August 2.

The students enrolled to improve their grades in one or two of the fifteen courses taught by nine teachers. Two of these teachers came from New Brunswick and Manasquan high schools and the remaining seven were the regular faculty.

Coach Richard O'Connell conducted a basketball camp at our gym from August 12 to 23. The camp was for boys in the area who were interested in improving their game.

Other basketball coaches from preparatory and high schools and some well known basketball personalities, notably Dick Gains and Chet Forte, one of the countries leading scorers last year, assisted Coach O'Connell.

The boys worked out inside the gym and on the outdoor court and were shown film strips taken by the New York Knicks.

Both the summer session and the basketball camp were established as a service which this school wishes to render for the betterment of our community.

Travelling Teachers Back In Classrooms

Mr. Alfred C. Gaggini is back with us after a year's leave of absence during which he taught English in French Indochina on a Fulbright teaching assignment.

Mr. Gaggini held his position on the faculty for five years before his absence. He has returned to resume his teaching of French and Spanish and again act as adviser on our yearbook, the *Ye Dial*, where his presence was most missed.

Since his departure, Mr. Gaggini has become a world traveler. He visited Cambodia's surrounding areas during his vacations, and his trip home included stops in India and Pakistan and short sojourns in Beirut, Lebanon and Istanbul, Turkey. On the final leg of his trip Mr. Gaggini visited Athens, Rome and Paris and arrived home August twentieth.

Miss Warr turns "pedaler"

Miss Warr has literally pedaled her way through the summer while leading an American Youth Hostel Group bicycle trip across the United States and into Canada.

The group traveled most of the way by bicycle, but in Canada's rough country and in sparsely inhabited areas which would be almost impossible to travel by bicycle, buses and trains were made available to the cyclists. The trains they used were specially equipped box cars with living facilities including cooking units which were necessary in the unpopulated areas through which they passed.

Miss Warr, who taught eighth grade courses last year, will take Mr. O'Connell's position as biology and general science instructor in addition to teaching Eighth Grade English.

'Oak' Leaves In Fall

by Jonathan Margolis

After five years of coaching some of our finest athletic teams, Richard S. O'Connell has left his position to take a place in the physical education department of the new Piscataway Township High School.

Mr. O'Connell became coach in 1952. Since then our basketball teams have consistently ranked among the best in the area. In five years O'Connell-coached basketball teams won 64 games and lost 39, a most commendable .621 percentage.

In 1952-3 the Prep team completed a 10-10 record and the next three seasons rank among the best in our history. Al Marasko broke the school record during the '53-'54 season and led the team to fourteen victories with only three defeats. The following year ended with a 15-3 record. In 1956 Coach O'Connell's squad won the Group III state tournament.

The "smiling Irishman" has kept things lively both in sports and in his science classes. Although his presence will be missed, we wish him luck in his new position.

Trustees Vote To Buy Site

The Board of Trustees has approved a plan to acquire a 7½ acre site on River Road which would be used for the lower school. The present building must be vacated by June 1, 1958.

The board voted to make an offer for the property of Eugene R. Julian. The purchase will be financed both by mortgages and gifts from alumni and students' parents.

If their offer is accepted, the board will consider the purchase of an adjoining nine acres for the site of a new upper school.

SCHEDULE 1957-58

PERIODS

Teachers	I	II	III	IV	Lunch	Activities	V	VI
BLAKE	Trig.	A. I	—	A. III			Plane	A. II
DAVIET	Sci. 8	—	Chem.	Chem.			G. Sci.	Phys.
DUMARAE	—	Lat. I	Lat. III	Lat. II			Ad. L.	Anc.
GAGGINI	Fr. III-IV	—	Fr. I	Fr. II			—	Fr. I
HOLLEY	S. H.	Mod.	—	—			Math. 8	Math. 8
MOFFAT	E. III	E. II	E. II	—			S. H.	E. III
ROODA	—	Sp. I	Gr. I	Sp. II			Gr. II	—
SPERDUTO	—	U. S.	S. H.	S.S. 8			Geog.	S. H.
WARR	Sci. 8	Bio.	E. 8	—			Bio.	E. 8
WILKERSON	A. II	—	A. I	A. I			A. II	Plane
WILSON	E. I	S. H.	E. IV	—			E. IV	E. I