

'MONUMENTAL ACHIEVEMENT'



UConn head coach Dan Hurley, middle, celebrates with his team after the Huskies defeated Gonzaga 82-54 Saturday to win the West Region final and reach the NCAA's Final Four for the fifth time.

Behind Dan Hurley's leading of the UConn men's basketball team to the Final Four

By Mike Anthony

LAS VEGAS — There really is no joy in winning, UConn men's basketball coach Dan Hurley often says. There is only relief.

So it was with great relief Saturday night that Hurley climbed a ladder under a basket at T-Mobile Arena, entering a different coaching stratosphere at age 50. A pair of scissors had been placed before him but he just ripped what remained of the frayed net, placed it around his neck and grabbed the rim as if he had dunked on America.

"Let's go!" he screamed, overlooking the gathered crowd on the court, clenching his fists.

To Houston, that is. *UConn men continues on A8*



Proposal limiting restraint, seclusion in schools advances

Key provision left out of bill OK'd by education panel

By Alex Putterman

HARTFORD — A bill aimed at reducing restraint and seclusion in schools advanced out of the legislature's Education Committee on Friday — but without the provision advocates wanted most.

As originally written, the bill would have banned schools from secluding students in locked rooms, a practice many special education advocates consider harmful and traumatizing, while still allowing schools to put students in "time out" in unlocked settings.

The version the committee advanced on Friday instead calls for continuing to allow seclusion, provided a mental health professional monitors secluded students either virtually or in person.

Additionally, the bill would limit the circumstances under which students may be physically restrained and strengthen rules around notifying parents when their children are restrained or secluded.

"This bill tries to look to help enforce what we currently have on the books and to add extra provisions in the proposal," Rep. Kathleen McCarty, R-Waterford, the Education Committee's top House Republican. "I'm happy to support this proposal."

Restraint continues on A4

Stamford High slated for \$4M asbestos removal

By Ignacio Laguarda

STAMFORD — A \$4 million asbestos remediation project at Stamford High School will mean shuffling students and staff from one classroom to another throughout most of the next school year, if final plans are approved.

The work, which will mostly be done while students are out of the building, will be focused on the second floor of the main 1927 building that runs along Strawberry Hill Avenue. Workers have already removed asbestos in *Asbestos continues on A4*

'They didn't let anybody down'

Auriemma, praises team's grit, reflects on the end of UConn women's season

By Paul Doyle

SEATTLE — The game, the season, the stakes were minutes from ending and UConn women's basketball coach Geno Auriemma stood calmly amid the chaos at Climate

Pledge Arena Saturday afternoon.

Arms folded, Auriemma looked at the scoreboard high above him and grimaced.

Sixteen years advancing to the NCAA Tournament Elite Eight, over.

Fourteen years playing in the Final Four, over.

"The problem with streaks is, the longer they go, you're closer to it ending than you are to the beginning of it," Auriemma said after a 73-61 loss to Ohio State. "And it's just a matter of time."

The end to this season of turmoil came with a loss defined *UConn women continues on A8*



UConn head coach Geno Auriemma reacts to the Huskies' 73-61 loss to Ohio State in the Sweet 16.

Darien officials expand blight ordinance to commercial properties

By Mollie Hersh

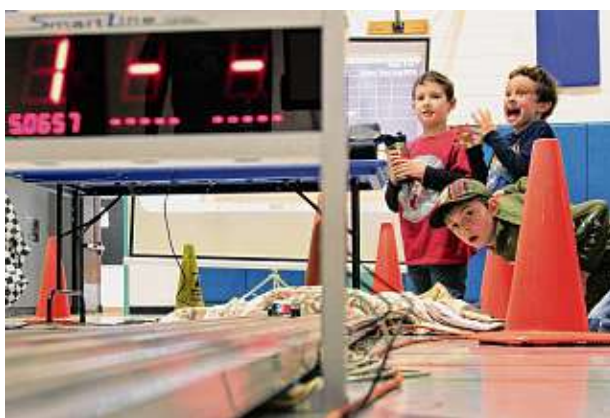
DARIEN — The Darien blight review board will now be able to penalize commercial properties in a state of disrepair instead of only having jurisdiction over homes and their lots.

Darien's Representative Town Meeting voted to amend the town ordinance on March 20 granting the blight review board jurisdiction over

both commercial and residential properties. After debate, the fines for either type of property in violation of the ordinance will be the same: \$100 per day and a lien filed on the land records until they come into compliance.

Created in 2017, the blight review board is responsible for determining if a property owner is in violation of the town *Blight continues on A4*

A PHOTO FINISH IN NEW CANAAN



Cub Scout Packs 45 and 7 held a Pinewood Derby at East Elementary School in New Canaan on Saturday. The Cub Scouts raced for medals, trophies and a spot in the district final in April. More photos, A3.

Stamford wants to build 'sister city' ties with war-torn city in Ukraine

By Brianna Gurciullo

STAMFORD — Kramatorsk, Ukraine, may be under constant barrage from Russian shelling, but it has a lot in common with the state's second-largest city — enough so that a city-to-city match could benefit both, according to the leader of a nonprofit organization supporting Ukraine. The Board of Represent-

tatives is set to vote April 3 on a resolution recognizing a sister-city relationship between Stamford and Kramatorsk. The board's State and Commerce Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the full board pass the resolution this week.

Bridget Fox, Mayor Caroline Simmons' chief of staff, told the committee *Ukraine continues on A4*

