

American Express



Senior

Special

Edition





American Express

SPECIAL EDITION III

CLASS OF 1987

JUNE 8, 1987



Kurt Svendsen walked about Disneyland with Monica Serresseque on one arm and Kim McMurtrie on the other. What a stud.



Jeff Kleven fixes Marty Schoonover's tie so that he can look as spiffy as he does.

Grad Night

SPECIAL LAST NIGHT FOR SENIORS

By Laura Templeton

"This is truly your last chance to be with your class, to have fun together in such a unique situation," Principal Joe Tranchina told the 220 excited seniors before loading the buses to Grad Night at Disneyland June 5.

Girls were required to wear a dress, skirt, or coordinated pantsuit. Guys wore slacks with a coordinated jacket and tie. Patty Gallegos commented, "The guys looked really cute all dressed up!" American was one of 164 high schools that attended.

The evening turned out to be a great success according to most. Pam Seipert said, "The whole evening seemed like a dream! It was amazing to see all those seniors together!" Stephanie Abaar stated, "Videopolis was the best! Everybody was dancing and I liked the video screens we can see ourselves in."

Disneyland provided many forms of entertainment for the Seniors. Wang Chung, Ready for the World,



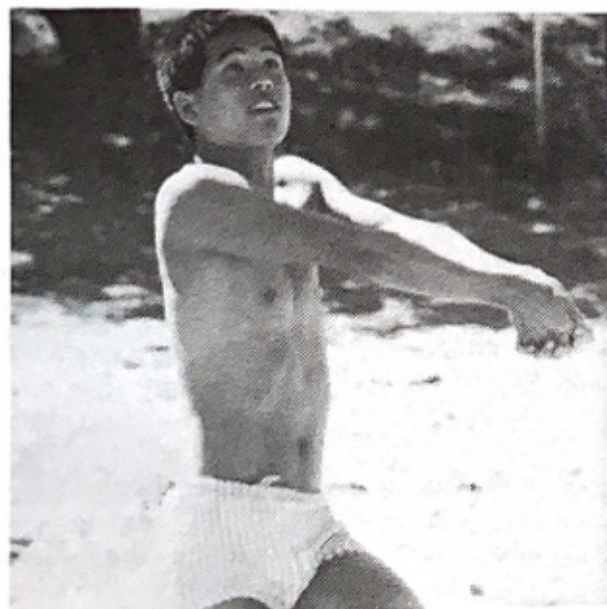
Lead singer of "WANG CHUNG" struts his stuff for the Seniors at Grad Night.

Glass Tiger, and other groups performed. The Seniors received a complimentary photo with a character, and of course there were rides and attractions. One of the most popu-

lar rides was the new Star Tours. Jeff Kleven said, "Star Tours and the Matterhorn were the best!"

This year the Grad Night tickets were sold for \$45.

SENIOR PICNIC- A SPLASH HIT



Alec Wong plays volleyball

By Jenny Murphy

With swimming gear in hand, 193 seniors set out for Oakwood Lake Resort in Manteca on Sept. 22 for their long awaited Senior Picnic.

After arriving at the park, which was only open to American High School, the seniors played either volleyball, football, frisbee, or just sunbathed. About 11:30

the waterslides opened and brave souls experienced the icy chill of the water. Afterwards, to warm up and dry off they huddled around the barbecues where Mr. Barton, burned the hot dogs and Mr. Smith undercooked the hamburgers.

SEE SPLASH PAGE 6



Tiffany McKinney and Kathi Libke munch at the Senior Picnic,



Bill Cluverius and Angela Vassallo show all the couples in the dance floor how to really dip to the music.

Never Say Goodbye

After hours of searching for the perfect dress, tux, date and limo, May 9, 1987 finally rolled around.

The night was happily greeted by many Seniors. This was the night; the night of Senior Balls. As the night grew closer to 8:00, couples started to arrive at the Sheraton Palace Hotel in San Francisco. Limos, Cadillacs, Rolls Royce, and other cars lined

the street to drop off the couples.

From 8 to 9p.m., dinner was served. The most amazing part of the evening was that the food was actually edible.

Dancing began soon after dinner ended. The dancing went on until 1:00 a.m. The music was okay- if you didn't mind "beat" the whole night. Despite the lack of variety in

the music, everyone seemed to enjoy dancing.

Although the Senior Ball officially ended at 1:00a.m., the celebration and partying had just begun. Couples went sight-seeing in San Francisco, on the bridge or to the beach. It was a night Seniors won't soon forget. They'll never want to say good-bye to the memories.

What Did You Like Best About The Senior Ball ?

Keri Bean:

"The best part for me was cruising around in our Rolls Royce with Michael and seeing that we didn't have the puky carpet in our pictures."

Kristy Tobeck:

"Looking at all the beautiful dresses, being able to eat the dinner, the picture background was changed and seeing everyone in the Class of '87 together one last time."

Diane Stahulak:

"Seeing everyone dressed up and having a good time and being with Dave."

Kurt Svendsen:

"The ride home in the limo. (Ha Ha Ha)"

Valerie Canario:

"The whole night was perfect - dancing and seeing everyone all dressed up. My date was gorgeous!"

Stephanie Abarr:

"Seeing sexy Dynasty Jr. as soon as I walked in. He took my breath away!"

Wayne Pedranti:

"Certainly not the music."

Patty Gallegos:

"Meeting Steve our chauffer."

Patty Warnick:

"Troy came home!!"



Seniors Chris Medina and Fran Vegliante show how to stand as they check out all the ladies in their dresses. But look out guys here comes your dates!!

Darin Rodrigues:

"I didn't like the picture line but I loved the food."

Brian Balingit:

"It was my first and last one- that's what made it the best."

Jason Wold:

"Dancing and the time after the ball."

Dave Griffin:

"My date."

Rich Hedlund:

"Slow dancing with Arhlene, the plate of cookies and the beach!"

Dana Godwin:

"Just being with Greg."

Jill Jeffreys:

"Eating breakfast at the Fairmont."

Laura Templeton:

"Jeff singing to me (out loud) in the middle of the dance floor at the top of his lungs!"

Toni Ortega:

"I was glad to see Monica attend the Ball with us. I liked dressing up and going to a party afterwards!"

Anon:

"The best part would have been dinner but someone was stuck on Mexico time and we missed it."

Kim McMurtrie:

"I can't think of one single good thing because the whole night was fun."

Chris Medina:

"My date - she was beautiful."

Melanie Catingub:

"The whole thing-knowing that everyone was having a good time. There was a lot of hard work put into the night and everything turned out great."

Rochelle Eggleston:

"Just seeing the whole Senior Class dressed up."



Continuing the celebration after the Ball, Seniors Michelle Black, Linda Segal and Kristina Morrison show off their party hats for Kevin Pierce's 18th birthday.

Linda Segal:
"The entire evening was fantastic. Seeing everyone so formally dressed and just having a great time with my date and friends. I loved it all!"

Keneen O'Dell:
"I got engaged!!!"

Lorraine Olivo:
"Desert...Ha Ha"

Jeff Thomas:
"Stripping down naked and bathing in a tub of jello afterwards."

Bill Cluverius:
"Getting naked and bathing in a tub of jello with Jeff."

Jim Schinkel:
"Owning the tub Jeff and Bill bathed in and dining on the jello afterwards."

Sonsoles Albarran:
"Seeing how the Senior Class was all together and checking out all the guys in tuxes-Wow! What a difference!"

Janie Ng:
"My date Chris!"
Tanya Wong:
"Being with Jeff and all my buddies one last time."

Russ Sass:
"My date and the whole night- I had a lot of fun."

Kevin Pierce:
"I was no longer jail-bait for my date. Also how great my date looked and falling asleep in her arms that night and the day after on the beach."

Pat Geddes:
"Mrs. Koujakian dancing."

Kristina Morrison:
"I enjoyed the people I was with, riding in the limo and listening to my date talk in his sleep."

Brian Hammers:
"The whole night was fun. But the most surprising thing was the food was edible!"

Helle Nielsen:
"That I could experience an American Senior Ball. It was just great."



Kelly Thomas laughs as her date Bruce Ronquillio interrupts Arnie Espinosa and Nikki Soria as they try to finish their dinner.

Jim Quilici:
"Dancing."

John Uhren:
"My date- she looked terrific."

Todd Vasko:
"Being with my girlfriend and the limo ride after."

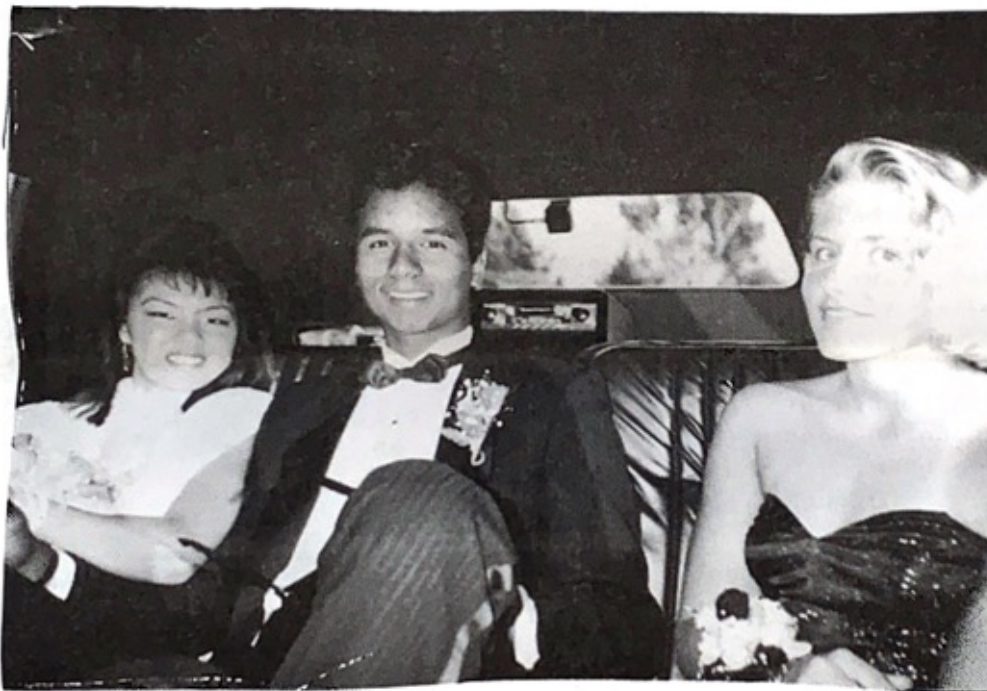
Karin Harrison:
"Going with my friends in a limo and dancing all night."

Teresa Lin:
"Having fun with my friends and seeing everyone so happy."

Anita Abuyuan:
"Jim looked cute all dressed up."

Tammy Biffano:
"Having two guys at my disposal. j/k!!"

Jason Campbell:
"Having two girls at my disposal. J/K!"



Janie Ng, Chris Medina, and Lori Dudgeon show off the inside of their limo as they make their way to the Senior Ball.

Lori Dudgeon:
"My date."

Sylvia Padilla:
"Everything! The whole night was perfect- my date, the ball, and afterwards."

Marci Sibayan:
"Seeing everyone dressed up and having a great time."

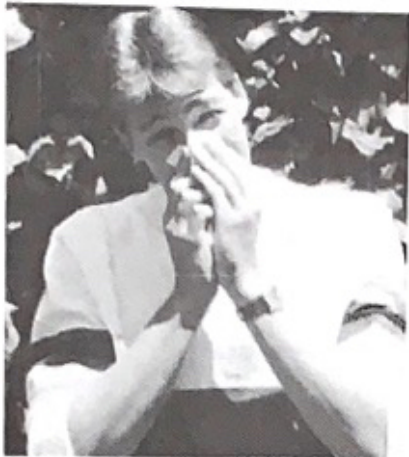


Class Clown Jim Schinkel and Anita Abuyuan slow dance to the music as Jim makes his best faces for the camera.



Senior Class President Melanie Cattingub and her boyfriend Mike leave home to start a magical night in San Francisco.

★ ★ ★ LETTERS ★ ★ ★



By Bill Cluverius

I can't honestly say it's hit me yet. I don't know when it will. It could hit me tomorrow, or it could hit me the moment I'm handed my diploma. It may not hit me till the day I leave for college, but regard-

less of when it happens, I still know it's going to happen. And this is what frightens me.

By now I'm sure your aware of what I'm talking about. I'm talking about that bitter sweet dilemma that must happen to every student at the end of his senior year. I'm talking about graduating.

For some it won't be a dilemma, but for me it will. I've constantly been told to "seize the opportunity and take advantage of high school." These are

the best years of your life" the phrase echoes in my mind. Somewhere along the way I must have become convinced, because I can't help but offer the same advice to underclassmen now.

Maybe that's what frightens me so much. Trying to come to grips with the idea that my turn has finally come to take a place in society. I'm no longer a kid anymore, I'm an adult. An adult who must make "adult decisions" and do "adult things." This is what frightens

me.

It's like a movie I once saw. In the movie, people were forced to die at a certain age, whether they liked it or not. They didn't say anything, because "that wasn't the thing to do." So they died. Well damn it, I'm saying something! High school has been the best thing to ever happen to me, and I'm not afraid to admit it. Without high school I wouldn't have discovered the world. Hell, I wouldn't have discovered myself.

After high school,

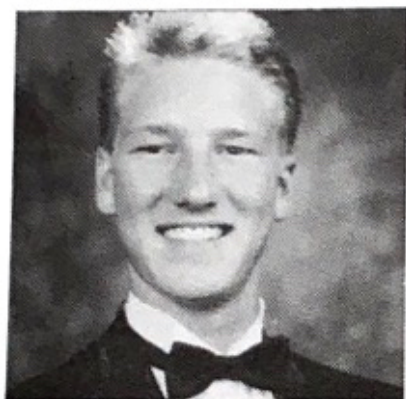
what will I do? Well, fortunately for me I know what I'm doing (some are less fortunate). I'm going to college where I will further my studies for the field I plan to enter. As to whether there will be "greener pastures awaiting me" at college, only time will tell.

Regardless of what happens though, I know I will never forget my high school experience. It made me, and now it's time to go to use.

Thank you American High School, I'm eternally grateful.

ASB President

The High School Experience



Senior Class
Vice-President

Think back on your many years of procrastination. How life has repeatedly granted you periods of grace, of which you have taken no advantage. It is time now to realize

the nature of the universe to which you belong and to understand that your time had a limit set to it. Use it, then, to advance your enlightenment or it will be gone and never in your power again.

Our class has definitely had our share of disappointments. There have been both good and bad times, yet they have all been memorable, and we have successfully made it through together as the Class of 1987.

I want to wish you all eternal happiness and sincere success in your futures.

Best Wishes,

Keith W. Rinehart

Senior Class Vice-President

As the year draws to a close, I find it hard to put into words everything I feel inside about this class. So I've put together this dedication of songs, and I hope it brings back many memories of our years together. And I ask that whenever you hear any of them, you think about our class and all the good as well as bad times we've endured---together.

"Whenever the going got tough we never were the type to think of backing down, so when we got more than our share in a minute, we knew our hearts were in it. We knew that it would make us be our best, and put us to the test, so if sometimes it seems not worth the battle".

Senior Class President

...just remember..."As we go down life's lonesome highway, the hardest thing to do is to find a friend, a helping hand, some-



one to understand, and when you feel you've lost your way, you've got someone there to say "I'll show you." "Say you, say me, say it forever, that's the way it should be. Say you, say me, say it together, naturally...." and "When the night has come, and the land

is dark, and the moon is the only light we'll see, I won't be afraid, just as long as you stand by me!" So let's "Never Say Goodbye, never say goodbye. You and me and my old friends hoping it would never end. Say goodbye, never say goodbye..."

These past four years together have been full of ups and downs, good and bad. But they will always be our years! The years of laughing, loving and learning-together as the Class of 1987! Remember that always!

I'll miss you!

Melanie Catingub

Senior Class President

The Support Behind the Seniors

By Christine Young

The class of '87 has faced more than their share of mishaps. Because of this, the class has felt a lot of anger and frustration. However, Ms. Adams and Mr. Johnson, the class advisors, have patiently faced the rough times together with the class.

Ms. Sue Adams and Mr. Art Johnson have been advisors to the class of '87 throughout their four years of high school. From the experience, they have been able to observe the students in the classroom as well as out. Ms. Adams explains that "you get to see the kids doing things entirely different from class work. You get to know their different personalities." The two advisors have served their purpose well, with out overdoing it. They have given the class suggestions and advice, but the final decisions have usually been made by the class. Contrary to popular belief, Ms. Adams says that "the class doesn't need any putting up with. They're independent." Mr. Johnson adds that there is a "strong bonding and unity" in the class.

Both Ms. Adams and Mr. Johnson feel that the senior class has been a special one to work with. Mr. Johnson explains that while some classes are mainly academically inclined and others are mainly socially inclined, the class of '87 "has a balanced outlook. They're academically oriented, but they also have a good time." The two advisors feel that the students are ready to face the future, and the challenges which lie ahead.

The experience of being a class advisor can either be fun or a headache, depending upon the class involved. Ms. Adams and Mr. Johnson both seem to have enjoyed their experiences in working with the class. They've had a chance to see a side of the students which other teachers may miss.



Ms. Adams

Mr. Johnson



TOP TEN : THE HEADS OF THE CLASS

By Christine Young

Experience

What will I do? Well, fortunately for me I know what I'm doing (some are less fortunate). I'm going to college where I will further my studies for the field I plan to enter. As to whether there will be "greener pastures awaiting me" at college, only time will tell.

Regardless of what happens though, I know I will never forget my high school experience. It made me, and now it's time to go to use. Thank you American High School, I'm eternally grateful.

dark, and the moon the only light I'll see, I won't be afraid, just as long as you stand by me!" let's "Never Say Goodbye, never say goodbye. You and me and my old friends popping it would never change. Say goodbye, never say goodbye..."

These past four years together have been full of ups and downs, good and bad. But they will always be our years! The years of laughing, loving and learning together as the Class of 1987! Remember that ways!

I'll miss you!

Melanie Catingub

Senior Class President

High school brings to mind many different stereotypes. At the top of the list are the jocks and cheerleaders. At the bottom of the list, and wrongly so, are the "brains." You know, the students who live in the library and are never without erasers or calculators. Well, the main "brains" of American High, the Top Ten, defy this stereotype. Within the Top Ten are cheerleaders, jocks and people who definitely know how to enjoy life.

The members of the Top Ten are (in alphabetical order): Lori Dudgeon, Rochelle Eggleston, Eva Fredricsson, Larry Keller, Joselito Laudencia, Judy Lee, Teresa Lin, Anthony Pan, Alice Tso and Alec Wong. Each of them represent all aspects of high school. For example, Rochelle and Eva are cheerleaders; Judy plays badminton; and Alice and Joselito are heavily involved in clubs. So what has happened to the stereotypes? Why aren't these people al-

ways home studying? Well, probably because humans are generally social beings. They enjoy interacting with people, so it's natural that they'd be interested in sports and activities. As Joselito explains, "It is a must that you have a social life, but you

possible to do it all, as long as you're organized."

Obviously, being so well-rounded is not without its struggles. One must have great endurance, perseverance, confidence and the ability to face sleep deprivation. There is also a lot of

modest about their achievements. Valedictorians Lori and Eva, for example, have also broken the stereotype of "dumb blondes," being that they are blondes who are tied for the number one spot. However, Lori feels that her grades "happened to be good

mically inclined. As Larry put it, "Success is not really how well you do in comparison to others. It's just whether you put in your best shot and did a job that would make you feel proud and satisfied."

Each member of the Top Ten has their own methods of gaining high academic achievement and success in activities. Using each member's viewpoints, I have summed up the four basic ingredients to being in the Top Ten as time management, determination, endurance, and computer skills. Time management is essential if one desires academic excellence as well as social involvement. Determination pushes you on, and brings you closer to your goals. Endurance keeps you going, especially during those late-night study sessions. And the computer skills? Well, if all of the above fails, Anthony suggests that you "break into the school computer and add a digit to the GPA."



Class of '87 Top Ten Members.

must also have an academic life. You need that balance to get you through life. "What makes the Top Ten different is that they know their priorities, and how to manage their time. Lori says that you should "figure out what is important to you. It is

pressure to keep up grades and other levels of achievement. Alice sums it all up by saying, "Perseverance and tenacity, that is what Top Ten epitomizes."

Although each member of the Top Ten has met success in various areas, they all remain

enough to make Top Ten," while Eva says that being in the Top Ten just "worked out that way" from her hard work in school. The Top Ten attribute their academic success to hard work and positive attitudes. However, success is only a part of being acade-

Dear Mrs. Stockton



By Christine Young

Teachers usually come and go in high school. It's pretty rare for a student to have the same teacher for all four years. For class secretaries, however, the situation is different. Mrs. Connie Stockton, the Class of '87 secretary has been with the

Mrs. Stockton class since their freshmen year. She has seen the students grow from awkward, unsure teenagers to mature young adults.

Mrs. Stockton has helped the Class of '87 with a variety of activities, including filling out Off-the-Ground passes and being a good friend to the students. Now, it's time for the class to give their thanks to Mrs. Stockton for all of her support.

Dear Mrs. Stockton,

"Thanks for everything. You're the best. We all love you!"

--Eva Fredricsson

"A secretary, a match-maker, a mother, but most importantly, a friend. Thanks for it all."

--Bob Mallon

"I want to thank you for giving me and Janie a break all those times we were late or absent. If I could build a statue representing understanding, I'd dedicate it to you."

--Chris Medina and Janie Ng

"When I first came to this school, I was so confused. I just want to thank you for making the adjustment easier."

--Stephanie Abarr

"Thank you for being so helpful to us."

--Lisa Gomez

A COUNSELOR WITH CLASS

By Christine Young

Mr. Tremewan, the Class of '87 guidance counselor, can usually be found sitting at his desk with stacks of paperwork. Students are often seen in his office, asking for help or advice. He answers question after question, patiently and proficiently. This is a high school counselor's typical day. Sounds a bit dull, doesn't it?

Wrong. Although a high school counselor may encounter lots of paperwork and repetitive questions, each day is different because of the students. There are rough times, and extremely busy times, but it is the students who make those times bearable. Mr. Tremewan says that "the kids' individual personalities" keep him going during the hectic periods. Smiles

and thank-you's also help brighten the day.

Mr. Tremewan has helped the Class of '87 with such tasks as class schedule plan-



Mr. Tremewan

ning and college and career advice. His involvement, however, goes much further. He has supported the class during Spirit Week by dressing up in costume. At the Senior Picnic, he even had a great time on the waterslides. Mr. Tremewan has also attended

major events like the Junior Prom, Senior Ball and, most recently, Grad Night.

After working with the class for four years, Mr. Tremewan has developed a positive impression of the class as a whole. He expresses that "this class enjoys having fun, and they have potential. I'm ready for them to leave (high school) because they are ready to leave."

He believes that the students generally have the ability to be successful in the future. The students can make a world of difference for a high school counselor. Depending upon their attitudes, they can create problems or help to solve them. Mr. Tremewan says that watching "how the kids develop, grow and mature over the years" has been the best part of being the Class of 1987 counselor.

Mr. Johnson





Who cares how I look says Alicia Chin while Kristy Tobeck and Linda Segal pose for the camera.



Mr. Tranchina whispers sweet nothing into Stacy Chisom's ear as she laughs.

SENIORS SPLASH AROUND

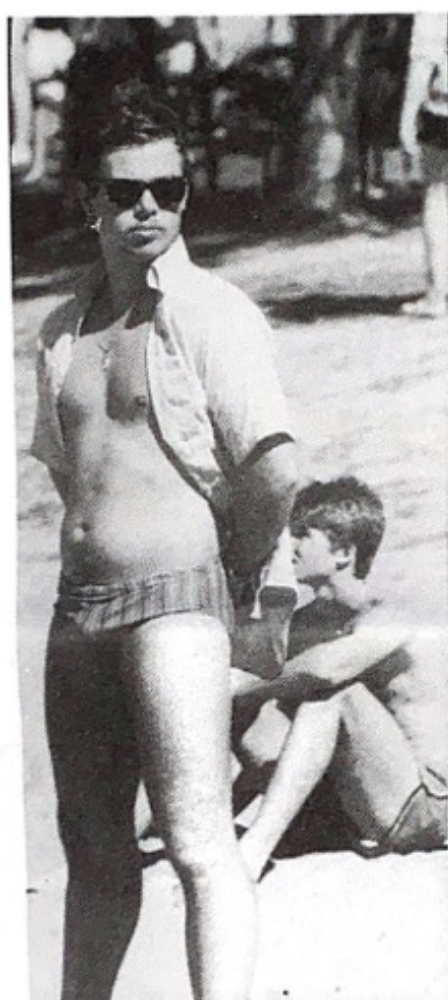


Wow! "Look at Steve Lewis," says John Belew to an awed Jerry Henderson.

Splash...

The seniors were on their best behavior and no mishaps occurred until senior Kurt Svendsen's eye was almost cut by a piece of his sunglasses. The only ones who found trouble were Mr. Murchinson, Mr. Gyax, Mr. Tremewan, and Mr. Johnson who disobeyed the rules by going down the water slides the wrong way. Mr. Tremewan said, "I was the only one who was banned from the water slides because I was caught coming down on my hands and knees."

In spite of early morning cloudy weather the sun finally shone brightly for the Senior Picnic. Senior, Arlene Encarnacion exclaimed, "It was a lot of fun and I still have my entrance band."



Erik "Speedo" Smits



Jim Churchill masters the water slides with his eyes closed

What was most memorable about the Senior Picnic?

*Captain Speedo!
-Mark Fegan

*Riding the innertubes with a bunch of my friends.
-Dilly Melo

*When Kurt Svendsen almost got his eyeball popped out by his ray bans--scarry!
-Janie Ng

*The guy who wore the speedos!
-Alice Iso

*Getting stuck on the innertube rapids for 15 minutes.
-Jill Jeffreys

*Being stranded by Jeff on the beach when I was stung by a bee.
-Valerie Canario

*There wasn't a colder spot on the face of the earth.
-Jim Quilici

*That I wasn't able to do anything because of the 'brace on my leg.
-Todd Vasko

*Riding the innertube ride with a bunch of friends.
-Andy Andrews

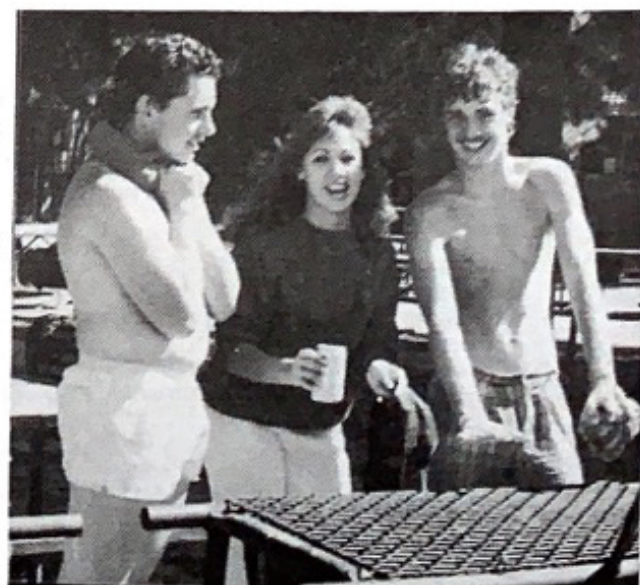


Arlene Encarnacion and Shelley Cross admire Speedo.



Monica Serresseque and Kim McMurtrie show that Pepsi is the choice of the senior generation.

Jim Churchill, Diane Stahulak, and Mickey curran try to warm up after the water slides.



THE SENIOR POLL

Who is most likely to be found gossiping:

Rochelle Eggleston 20%
Tiffany McKinney 12%

The questions you always asked your friends in private but not in public has finally been asked by that brave school newspaper: The American Express. The seniors picked the following class members to represent them in these categories:

Who has the most noticeable strut:

Steve Lewis 45%
Kevin Smith 15%

Which senior is most likely to be kissing up to a teacher:

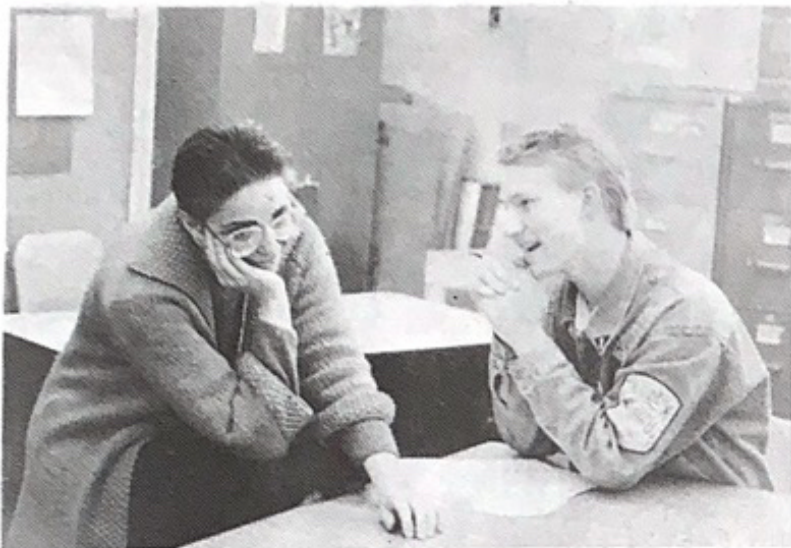
Keith Rinehart 47%
Alice Tso 19%

Which senior has the craziest laugh:

Monica Serresseque 56%
Darlene Balugo 25%

Who is most likely to be sleeping in class:

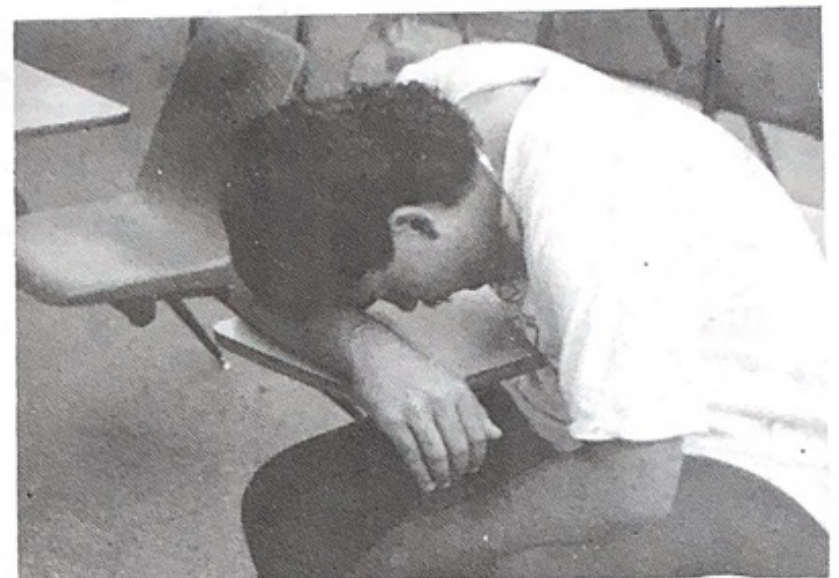
John Moreno 14%
Jeff Scott 11%



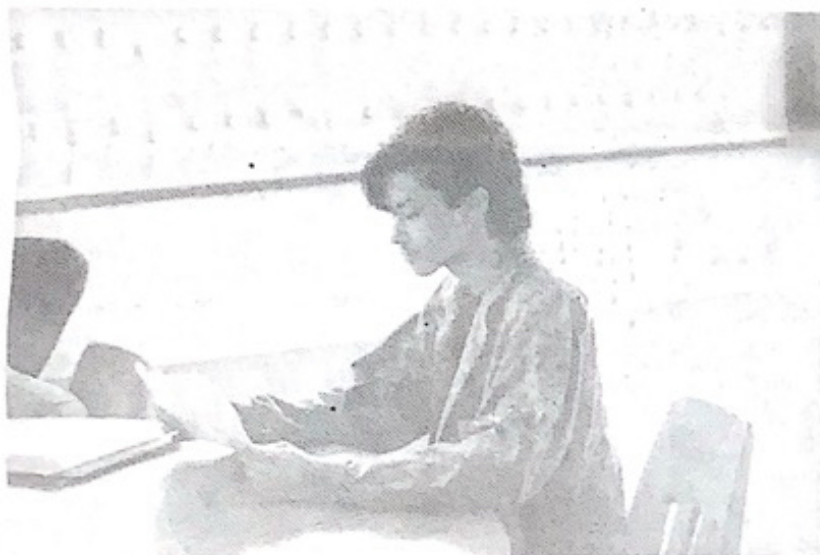
Keith Rinehart



Monica Serresseque



John Moreno



Bobby Dale

Who is most likely to be found out of class:

Bobby Dale 11%
Janie Ng 11%
Rochelle Eggleston 11%



Janie Ng

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SENIOR S

Oh. BABY! They've got
the cutest little baby
faces--but who are they??

By Kristy Tobeck



Small FRY

How many of these kids
can you recognize? You'd
know them in a minute now.

For names--see page 11.

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SENIORS WALK THROUGH WINTER WONDERLAND



"Cotton the act" (pun), Ron Gibson works the controls behind the "Killer Snowman!"



AHS students hold their breath as they watch the "Killer Snowman" (shown above) take over their school.



Tim Lightfoot and Shawn Arroyo pose as statues to lure the parking lot seagulls into the gym where they could catch 'em.

By Bill Cluverius
Editor-in-Chief

How do you begin to tell a story that has no ending? How can you possibly sit down to read a book knowing the last page has been ripped out of it? This was the situation I was faced with when I was asked to write an article on Spirit Week. How could I possibly write an article that would not only satisfy the other classes, but also do justice to the Seniors? After hours of contemplation I finally arrived at the perfect solution. Rather than speaking of point totals and "winners and losers", I decided just to write about the experience (when you think about it that's all that really matters).

Their theme wasn't a first, but their commitment and excellence was. With a little ingenuity and a lot of co-operation the class of '87 transformed a normal everyday portion of the rotunda into a winter haven. A haven that could best be described as a wonderland, a "Winter Wonderland."

For their last year the Seniors pulled out all the stops. The word decorations doesn't even begin to capture the atmosphere they created. For the event they constructed a "Toyland" workshop, and 25 ft. snowman, which would remain standing for a good part of the year. To give this all the right touch they added a little snow (just enough to last till our 25th reunion).

The lunchtime show served as the perfect compliment to this "utopian" setting. Music and humor abounded as rapping santas and hot and cold misers highlighted the extravaganza.

The stirring finale to all this came when the entire cast performed their own rendition of the miser routine. It was a fitting finish to a tremendous effort.

The class of '87 began the year with high hopes. Although the final point totals would indicate another "winner" they knew in their hearts that they were the best. Ironically enough, they learned from this "loss" more about winning than they ever could have had they actually won Spirit Week. Through it all they remained together, a class. It is for this reason that they all are considered winners. Congratulations class of '87, you deserve it.



Diane Stahulak and Shelly Cross "shake that grey right out of their hair."



Amy Villegas practices writing the letter "G" after learning it in Mrs. Koujakian's class.



The Toyland Elves wave good-bye to American High School as they prepare (along with Santa looking over their shoulder) to embark on their journey around the world.



Aaron Casey contemplates what it's like to be a blonde.

SENIOR POEM

By Don Naylor and
Rochelle Eggleston

It was the night before Homecoming
And all through the school
All the classes were nervous
But the Seniors were cool.
The decorations are up
Made with hard work and care
Much time has been spent
Laziness was rare.
The skits have been practiced
With meetings at night
It's our last chance to show
That the Seniors do it right.
The class of '90's skit
Went 'round the world in a wiz'
They really did well
For Freshman that is.
The class of '89
Visited New York back east
They were better this year
They had a throne at least.
Then the class of '88
Went to the land of Fairy Tales
A good idea, but compared
To the Seniors, it pales.

So sit back and relax
Watch, look and listen
It's the Senior skit day
Now watch our stars glisten.
With our M.C. Lost Hope
And the Misers Hot and Cold
The scene will be set
And our story will be told.
There are toys that come alive
And elves that can dance
We'll show we're the best
It's our very last chance.
With a Santa who raps
And trees that can kill
Our show will amaze you
You know that it will.
There's lots of Winter Lovin'
And commercials for some rest
With all this in our skit
The Seniors will be the best.
Now it's our turn to show
Just exactly what we've got
Letting everyone know
That the Seniors are hot.
So enjoy today's show
You'll think you're in heaven
It's a Winter Extravaganza
From the CLASS OF '87!

ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

LORI DUDGEON

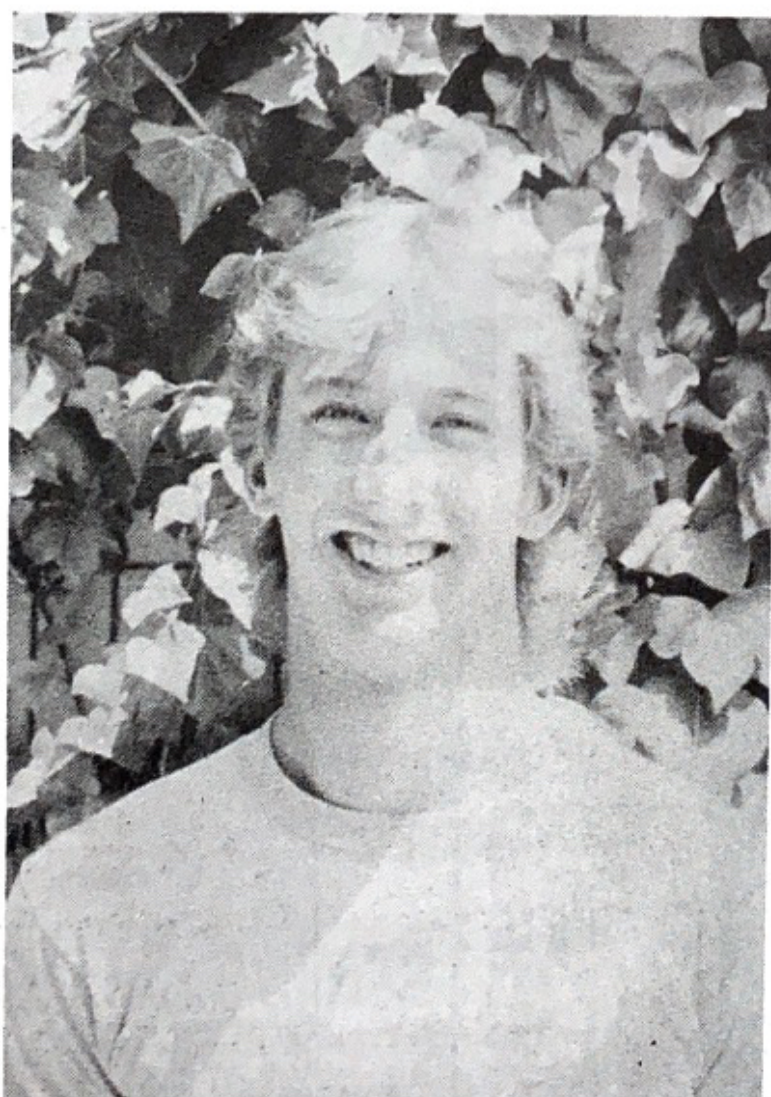


The other exceptional athlete worthy of being named female Athlete of the Year is swimmer, Lori Dudgeon. Lori has been a varsity swimmer for American since her freshmen days. She has made the All-MVAL team and been a North Coast Section finalist all four of her high school years. Being a top swimmer also gave Lori the qualities of leadership needed to be team captain. She was honored in both her junior and senior year. Her team-mates were able to look up to her and voted her the Most Val-

uable Player in this her final year to shine. As Lori added, "I want to thank my second dad, Mr. Gygax. Lori is not only a standout swimmer, she also excelled academically. Lori received the Scholar Athlete award four years running. As a senior ready for the expenses of college, she really appreciates the grant of \$1,000 that she has received from Pacific Bell and CIF. Lori will be attending will be attending the California University of Davis this fall. She won't, however, be swimming at Davis. She will be carrying a big load since she plans to major in biological sciences. She may do some intramural swimming but she isn't sure yet. "I got a lot out of swimming but it's time to move on," stated Lori. Whatever you move on to, we're sure you'll do great. Good luck!

Tim Lightfoot

This year's male Athlete of the year is the ever versatile Tim Lightfoot. Whether it is football or baseball, Tim is a natural. On May 19, 1987, Tim was honored with this very prestigious award the coaches of American got together and selected Tim as their top Choice. Tim has participated in athletics ever since his freshmen days here at American. Tim was captain of the football team this year and made the ALL-MVAL team this year at the position of free-safety. Tim was very excited and honored at being named Athlete of the Year. Tim will be attending the University of Davis this fall. The Senior Class of 1987 is very proud of Tim and hopes that he has much success in whatever he does in the future. Congratulations!



TINA SATO



What's this? two female Athlete's of the Year? Ya, and one of the lucky recipients is Tina Sato. When you talk about an all-around athlete, Tina's name usually comes up. You can't get any better than her. Her training in the field of running has got her into condition. She is a natural runner and it really paid off in the sports she endured. Tina was on the cross-country, basketball and track team at American all four of her high school years she was captain of the cross-country team her sophomore year and this year she was captain of the girls basketball team. Tina also received the Lady Eagle award for her

great leadership from the girls basketball team. Tina made the All-MVAL team in Cross-country her freshmen year. Pretty impressive for a freshmen. Tina excelled academically as well and received the Scholar Athlete award. Just recently, Tina received a varsity letter ring for having earned an astounding ten varsity letters. She will be attending the California University of Davis in the fall and plans to major in Biological Sciences. "I want to give thanks to my number one fan who yelled at me and criticized me after every basketball game and every cross-country meet. Thanks dad," added Tina. Congratulations.



adidas

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Teacher Of The Year

By Patty Gallegos

The Senior staff of the American Express is proud to have selected Mr. Frank Gygax as the 1987 Teacher of the Year. Mr. Gygax has given us many fond memories in his Anatomy and Physiology Class (like the big scare) but he has not only been a great teacher this year alone. The Class of 1987 has looked up to Mr. Gygax ever since we were freshmen.

Mr. Gygax is a graduate of Washington High School here in Fremont. He has lived here since the age of six and a half after moving from Newark. In high school he was an All-American in water polo but after going through a week of workouts, he decided he didn't want to pursue his dream and try out for the Olympics. Despite all this, Mr. Gygax knew from age fourteen on that he wanted to be a teacher. At fourteen he was a recreation leader and discovered that he liked working with kids. As he put it, "I like seeing success and being a teacher, I see success."

San Jose State University is his college



alma mater. He was "recruited" (as he put it) by Mr. Tranchina from

Irvington to apply for a teaching position here at American and he's been here ever since. That's fifteen years that I'm sure he would like to relive over and over. Am I right? Mr. Gygax has been the only swim coach that American has ever had and his dedication is admired by all, especially by seniors who have come to know him like a dad. For the first three years he also coached soccer here but it's the water that he loves. He began water sports at age eleven and kept it up even through his surfer

days in high school as he rode the waves at Santa Cruz.

Mr. Gygax loves to teach and says that he would never give it up and go into the family real estate business (Gygax Realtors) full time. He does, however work part time in the real estate business but prefers teaching. Right now he's enjoying life and sees no growth as far as administration positions go. He likes the classroom atmosphere and aspect of communicating with the students. Out of all of the subjects he teaches, Anatomy and Physiology is his favorite. "I see it as recreational because everyone wants to learn because I think

they see that I care."

In the summertime Mr. Gygax coaches a swim club from 6 a.m. to 12 and attends meets on Saturdays. He works at Gygax Realtors from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. and so he's busy all summer except for the month of August. That's when he packs up his wife and three children and heads up to Lake Tahoe for two weeks and then goes camping for another two weeks. When he isn't spending time with his family, he likes to do any kind of mental or physical sporting competitions with his buddy Mr. Ron Rodrigues. Another one of his passions is golf. "If I could I

would retire and play it everyday," he added with a grin.

Let's hope he does not plan to retire just yet. We seniors will always have fond memories of Mr. Gygax. Whether they're of him getting reprimanded at our Senior Picnic in Manteca on the water slides or helping us decorate the rotunda during Spirit Week. And hey, do you remember in Life Science from our freshmen days They got you through the day. Gosh, the Senior class will really miss you Mr. Gygax but we hope that you remember us as fondly as we will remember you. You've never turned your back on us and your enthusiasm was a source of inspiration to many of us.

"Out of all the classes I've seen (with the exception of the Class of 1978) this is the best in my opinion. They all have different personalities and aren't afraid to let them show," stated Mr. Gygax.

Thank you for everything Mr. Gygax. The Senior class of 1987 congratulates you!

Farewell To A Dynasty

By Patty Gallegos

Well, this space was reserved for head cheerleader, Rochelle Eggleston, and head song girl Arlene Encarnacion to give their final spiritleader farewell. Of course, though it isn't finished. I guess they were doing their hair or something. Actually, they were to each have written their own farewell but it must have been too hard to handle because they decided to work together and write only one letter.

Spiritleaders, you gotta love them (because if you don't, you won't be cool). You're probably thinking, that's so typical of spiritleaders. They leave you hanging and nothing gets done

but their make-up. Now now, don't be that way. Look at all they've done for American. Ok, so look harder. They have given American some great Welcome Back dances and have made tossing hair and looking bored an art form. All right, all right. All kidding aside. I must admit that I occasionally do admire some of the tricks the spiritleaders perform when they occasionally perform. They don't do many stunts but when they do they're pretty good. Seriously, I'm the first to applaud a good routine. I think it's great and if they focused more on their pyramids than the length of their uniform, everything would be ok.

Spiritleaders help get the crowds going wild but not for the sporting event. Just so that they will please do a cheer before the game is over. That's right, put that mirror and rouge down and concentrate on the game. If they were ever asked to attend, heaven forbid a girls sporting event, they attended reluctantly and cheered when they realized it was over. Of course, there were the ones that actually didn't mind attending and cheered. That's good. Ok, you spiritleaders are thinking, "Well, when we did show up for games they gave us dirty looks." Maybe so but you should be used to it by now.

The other day I viewed a cheerleading competition from Florida. I was totally in awe. They were fantastic and it put what little faith I had back into cheerleading. Maybe, by some chance, a trickle of hope... naw. Our spiritleaders would never hurdle themselves in the air, tumble, AND put their hair in a ponytail. Especially on t.v. The girls on t.v. looked like they were having fun and they looked very athletic and worthy of being named athletes. All right already, spiritleaders do practice more than other sports but I won't be satisfied until I see Arlene toss back her hair with sweat drip-

ping from it.

Seriously though, high school wouldn't have been what it was (a living Hell) without our spiritleaders. I'm sorry. I lost it again. They're good people and I'm sure the Senior spiritleaders will really miss American. They gave up their time to do something they enjoy doing and are good at. That is four years of hard work and dedication. Besides, stereotyping, (as I've done) should be abolished because there are different kinds of people as there are different kinds of spiritleaders. So with this in mind, farewell all you senior spiritleaders.

MOCK CONVENTION

By Amy Villegas

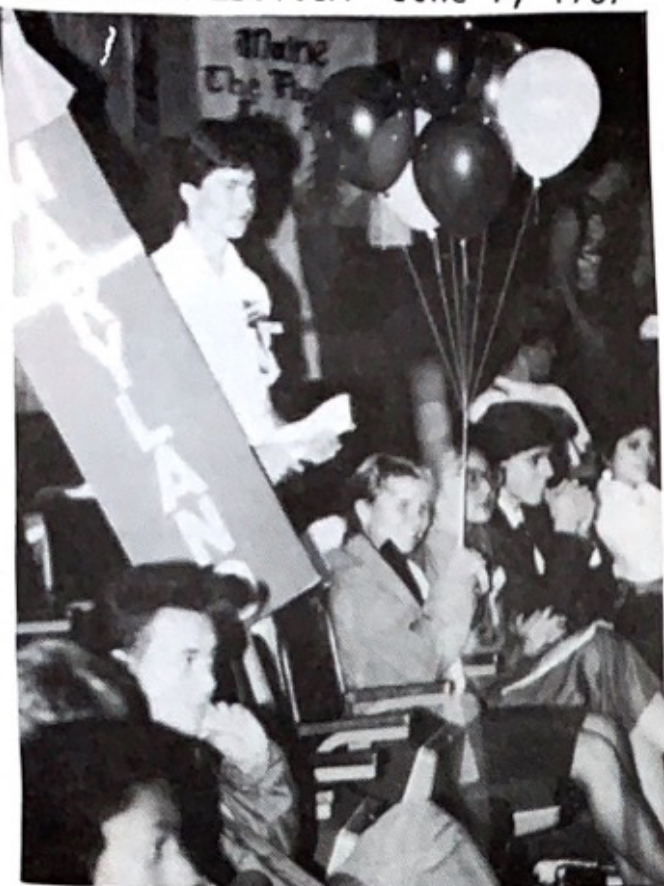
On Friday, November 14, 1986, the Mock Convention was held in Theater 70 for all Senior Government classes.

Remember when the newly elected President Jerry Henderson passed on the words of Martin Luther King Jr? "Unity At Last--Unity At Last--Thank God Almighty--Unity At Last!"



"I have a dream..." states Jerry Henderson.

Pictured: Candid shots from the Mock Convention.



John Uhren prepares to speak out on the topic of Aid to the Contras.



Marty Schoonover shows off the latest fashion from the state of Indiana



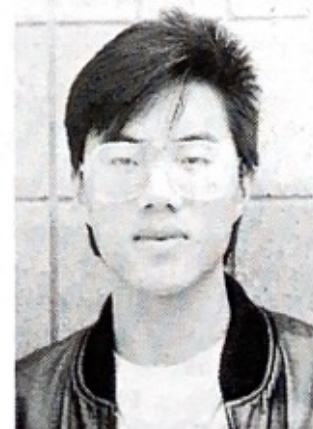
Seniors listen intently to a candidates speech.

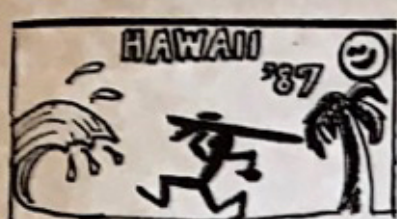


Jeff Wolf says; "Vote for Bill!"

Artistic Seniors

Below are drawings from various artists in the Senior Class. The artists are (from left to right; Jeff Thomas, Danielle Quan, and Greg Sim who were each asked to do self portraits of themselves.





SENIOR

Graffiti

HAWAII '87
Keri Michael

Mara ♥
JMS
(Oscar)

Rina ♥
and
Bob !!

TO AR-
Let's
near it
for blonde
Boys!

Metanel
and
Mike
ARLENE-N BOBBY

I made it Joe
JAGG

Bob,
Thank you for all the
great memories I'll
always love you !!
FOREVER - Rina

WE'LL
MISS
-U-
MOM
DAD
Mrs Stockton
& MR. "T"
Thanks 4 the memories

TO: BLACK M-R-2
Thanks for the
Senior ball! Have
you no conscience
From: Somer-set

TO MY BUDDIES:
GOOD LUCK TO ALL
OF MY "ABOS" FRIENDS
SEE YOU AT THE
REUNIONS!! Breat

CLASH

CLASH

COOLING IN THE
CRAB ON A HOT
SUMMER DAY
Rina Spikes

MEESH DUCKIE TREVIN
LIN TREV
JUNGLE - KEASME
PASSION IN HAWAII
HELLO TO POLOMAN &
A FARMER ANDY.

TO MY JAG, YOU R
PUSCHE LOVES YOU
VERY MUCH.
TO FRAN AND BRUCE
DONT FORGET TO
"PUMP THAT
BASS!"

To all my friends,
I love all you guys!
Even you, Teresa!! JIK.
JOSEITO CHATO LEATHER

awesome - awesome
fearsome - fearsome
goodbye to the great

Best of luck to Jen, Rina,
Bob, Tina, Dartene, Jose,
Teresa, Tammy, Larry,
& Anthony!! - Ally

TO ALL MY FRIENDS,
I'LL MISS YA VERY MUCH.
GOOD LUCK IN FUTURE
SUCCESSES!!
HUGS & KISSES
JOANNE

TO JIM, BEWARE OF
VALUABLE WONTONS

SKEEZERS
Bumpin' 63

HAPPY GRADUATION!
MONICA
WEDDIE
BUDS
CLASS OF '87
MISS VALERIE
YOU

AMERICAN EXPRESS
SPECIAL FRIENDS!
WE'LL MISS YOU MR. JONES!
CHRIS YOUNG
JIMMY SCHINKLE
LAURA

TO MY FAVORITE CUG,
Tanya -
Hope you get rid
of your stepmonster!
Love, A

TROY STOKES
X can't wait 4 -
our night in
HEAVEN (alone!)
X'll name the TIME,
you name the RACE
(6-12-87)
SEE YA THEN!!!
P.D. YOUR NOT
GOING DOWNHILL! Sister

Strive to Reach
As far as you can see,
And once you get there,
You will be able to see farther

B.B.E. Goodluck
With Jr. Keepin
touch and keep
on rolling in the
Red Rambler.

Hey Chrissy,
We're almost there!
Say adios to the good
old U.S.A. Summer time
Kiddo

TO ALL MY FRIENDS,
I'LL MISS YA VERY MUCH.
GOOD LUCK IN FUTURE
SUCCESSES!!
HUGS & KISSES
JOANNE

NEVER SAY
Goodbye
87

Diane
-n-
Dara

THANKS TO ALL THE
A.B.O.G.'S
FOR MAKING THIS LAST
YEAR. TOO MUCH FUN!
YEEOW!!!
DINO BOINGO

TO ANDI C. (YIKAB)
WE'LL MISS YOU
YEAR IS OVER AND
I'M OUT OF HERE, TO
BAD WE SEPARATED
ON A BAD NOTE. BREAT

GENESIS
DALLAS
LAZERS AS

TO THE HAWKS, BUCKEYES
and pilgrims, I'll miss
you guys, don't forget
about our REUNION
in 1995!! the head
hawk!

CHAD
This is for you!
your Best Friend Jagg

TO THE GROUP LORI,
A.B.O.G.S, FRAN,
and especially CHRIS.
THANKS FOR
ALL THE GR-B
TIMES. (X-MAS BIRTHDAY
AND DANCE "BANK")
I'LL MISS LOVE
U GUYS! NIG.

Kristy & Jody - Thanks
so much for being there
when I needed you guys!
Good luck always!
Love Dianne S

JAMES (J-ME):
LOOKIN' FORWARD
TO BORROWIN' YOUR WEED EATER!
I EXPECT A PICTURE POSTCARD
FOR X-MAS! (MISS YA NEXT YEAR) BUS-
WOMAN

1986-1987
Varsity Song

Hey and
Marty -
a change of
pace! K.A.P.

TO THE MISINFORMED PEOPLE -
"GET THE RUMOR STRAIGHT!"
*****Last Dance (5-29-87)
S.C.'s house -
***S.C., B.K., C.P., D.B.,
A.V., P.S., D.C., P.G.*****
"Hey-no BIG deal people!"
...And by the way -
WE DID HAVE FUN!

Di, Jody, Mickey, Frank,
Keri, Mara, Bruce, Brian,
Bill, Jim S., Amy, Monica,
Linda, Janie, Jeff, Keith,
Mara, Tanya, Jim C.
the best SENIOR friends
I know. I'll miss you all!!
Kristy

MEESHKA, my very best friend who made it to college
I'll miss ya so - But I'm so proud of U!
Janie - my counselor - thanks so much! T.M.
Keith - I'll always love you!
Tom - Thanks for laughing at my jokes.
Frank, Di, Andy, Kevin, John, Bob, Brian.
Good luck to you all!!

Di, we made it through
everything - together.
I wish you the best
for the future. I'll
never forget all our times
we shared as best friends.
Thanks for crying, laughing,
hoping and dreaming
with me, we're out of
here, babes! ya, Kristy

Kathi - To the most
wonderful girl
a guy could ask
for. You mean more
to me than words
can say! You'll do
great at U.O.
TROY STOKES
(PATRICK GEORGES)

TO MY SECRET ADMIRER;
(with the PURPLE Oscar de
la Renta perfume bottle!)
Thanks 4 the Wonderful
It was fun while it lasted!
Glad we're still friends!
♥-Your Secret Admirer

TO MY BUDS KIM, LOLLY AND
VAL - I LOVE YOU! THANK
YOU 4 the memories. TO
MY GIGALO HUBBY - THANK
YOU FOR THE 92 POINTS
and 4 A MEMORABLE
2nd Semester. MONI

THANKS FOR GIVING
ME THE BEST
YEARS OF MY
LIFE! - MR. FRESH

**SHOE...
I'LL MISS
YOU!
L+P. JAM**

HEY, GUYS! (JAMI, CLAUDE,
PAT, MARK, JIM, & U ALL)
LOOKS LIKE WE MADE
IT! WE R NEW
UNLEASHED!!
LUV U ALL - SHUESHANK

LANCE BLACKMORE
(JON NELSON)
JON

CLASS OF '87

THANKS FOR ALWAYS BEING
THERE. I'll never forget
all the great Naps we
had. CAN'T WAIT TELL
HAWAII! KNOWTRELLO
LOVE, CRUISER

**SHOE...
I'LL MISS
YOU!
L+P. JAM**

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**SHOE...
I'LL MISS
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L+P. JAM**



The Senior Newspaper staff presents: Express, Wind and Fire. Floating in the sky: our worshipped advisor Ken Jones. Top Row: Editor Bill Cluverius. Second Row: Laura Templeton, Christine Young. Last Row: Amy Villegas, Kristy Tobeck, Jenny Murphy, Monica Serresseque, Patty Gallegos, and Jim Schinkel.