AIDS: FACTS, FALLACIES, FEARS

By Nina Galang

Much of the so-call ed AIDS hysteria in public schools is fuel ed by incorrect information, and the admission by federal health officials they don't know much about the disease. transmitted, and timately if there is a cure in sight.

lhe chances a teenager will contract acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) from a classmate are

teenagers out of millions reportedly have AIDS -- but fear of the unknown is prompting school officials nationwide to at least get more information about the disease, and in many cases, set district-wide policies. Currently, there is no policy in the Fremont Unified School District concerning AIDS.

Trying to "ease pen ples' fears" about the risks of getting AIDS,

the Centers For Disease Control (CDC), in early September, геleased the first federal guidelines educating AIDS victims. The center says since AIDS isn't transmitted through "casual" contact, victims should he allowed to attend school, but a team of health care professionals, educators parents should evaluate each case.

AIDS is no longer a disease associated with only homosexuals. AIDS has moved into the general population through blood transfusions childbirth, and un-sterile needles. The disease attacks and weakens the body's immune system, gradually leaving the victim defenseless against infection. If one has been exposed to AIDS they may not have symptoms of the disease but can pass it along to others.

According to the

CDC 7,157 14,125 people in the U.S. who have contracted AIDS have died. Two-hundred-four people age 12 or younger have contracted AIDS. and 124 are dead. Sixty-eight teenagers are known to have contracted AIDS, but the CDC says the number of deaths is unknown. (Refer to the map on page

See AIDS page 8.....

HIGH

SCHOOL

Happy Stankagining. American

Volume II Number 3

Fremont, CA 94536

November 22, 1985

By Matthew Hoffman Asst. Editor

For the past couple of weeks the Senior Class has been in the process of staging a mock United Nations. Traditionally, Senior Class at American High is asked to run either a mock U.N. or a mock presidential election for American Studies. All seniors must participate. The U.N. project is consid ered to be the more difficult of the two projects, and is only

given to the senior classes, which the American Studies teach ers feel can bandle it Mr. Barton stated, "Between myself and the other American Studies teachers we unanimously decided this year's Senior Class was talented enough to take on the challenge of staging the United Natiens."

program 13 run by dividing up the senior American Stud-

countries. Each country sends one delegate to serve on one of the four councils. These councils oversee and make decisions on the issues brought foward to them by various nations. These meetings take during lunch place everyday, and times the discussions grow into very heated debates. The issues being discussed range from the Soviet influence in Afganistan and

Latin America, to the threat of world terrorism. Overall there are more than 50 issues and each country is responsible for researching at least

The U.N. project lasts for nearly a month, but culminates with U.N. Day on December 5. On this day all seniors dress up according to the customs of the countries they are representing. Theatre 70 is decorat-

ed with the flags of all the participating countries, and a wide array of technical e-quipment, such as microphones and cameras will be placed throughout the facility. The seniors spend much of the day trying to resolve the most controresolutions have been brought forth during the lunchtime councils Every year the U.N.

See U.N. page 8.....

UC Wants You To Know

The New Admission Requirements For Fall 1986

By Laura Templeton

The amount and level of high school course work needed to meet the University of California's admission requirements will in2 crease in the fall term of 1986.

Besides the minimum preparation, students are encouraged to take a full load of challenging courses, including honors level and Advanced Placement courses in their junior and senior years.

Under the new syswill tem, students submit one application form to the Universiindicating campuses where they

wish to be considered. All campuses to which a student has applied will consider that application simutaneously. Admission notices for fall, 1986, will be mailed to successful applicants by each campus between January 1 and March 15, 1986.

Students who are admitted for fall 1986 will be required select one campus by returning to that campus by May 1, 1986, a statement of Intent to Register.

lherefore, high school and transfer students can now apply to as many UC Undergraduate campuses as they wish by filing just one application form.

Course work for the new requirements, according to the University, should include: *1 year of US History/ Government.

*4 years of English

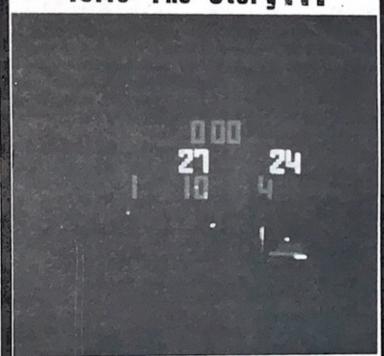
· 3 years required, 4 years recommended of mathematics

*2 years required, 3 years recommended of foreign language.

· 4 years required of prep eleccollege tives.

*1 year required, 3 years recommended of Laboratory science.

If you are in need of more information, get in touch with your high school counselor, or call the University California at: 1-800-UC- ADMIT.



On Friday Nov. 8, the American High Eagles turned the Washington Huskies into "Burnt Toast." The Eagles took a 27 to 24 victory to help secure a TRI- Championship.

IN DEFENSE OF THE SENIORS

By Craig Hintzman Editor-in-Chief

There is still a feeling, among some, that the Senior Class' skit was to risque. complaints concern explicit lyrics in the opening rap and the "Nasty Girls" scene. A number of faculty members and students were shocked and offended by the suggestive lyrics of the rap and the suggestive movements of the Nasty Girls. Some people felt that the Nasty Girls skit along with the Chippendales Dancers' were part of a show that was too sexually oriented. Others simply felt that there were too many sexual overtones throughout the skit and felt the seniors should have tried to capture a more conservative "Nightlife". Why?

The rap was a masterpiece of ingenuity. So the artists slipped in a few phrases that weren't acceptable to some of the audience. Suggestive phrases are commonly used in songs, magazine articles, and other literature, that are freely distributed among adults, teenagers and children. The meaning of the words should be left to the individual listener. "An eight ---- toy" is suggestive only to those people who wish it to be. Others may listen and enjoy the rap like most of the audience did, by overlooking (completely missing) an "offensive phrase." I think the rappers should be given credit for their ability to fit an entire out line of the skit into the rap, and not chasised for use of a musical license which all professionals use.

As for the hooker scene. What was wrong? Did they play their part too well? If that is what offended people, it's a shame. The object of a skit is to act and portray their role as best as they can. If students aren't allowed to perfect a role, then why act at all?

The Chippendale Dancers and Chorus Line captured two other aspects of "Nightlife." I saw nothing in either of these scenes could have offended someone. The Chippendale Dancers (or any of the other scenes) showed nothing that couldn't be seen on a beach. The Chorus Line is part of many "high society" stage shows and therefore shold not be fensive. Hello Hollywood is more explicit.

Don't say, "But these are high school students not adults." That's absurd. Does something magical happen after graduation so it be comes acceptable to portray a prostitute or gigolo, or say something offensive? No! so don't use that as a reason for arguing that the senior spirit show was unacceptable.

The show was seen beforehand by advisors and other adults. There was a dress rehearsal and all costumes were presumably viewed. Therefore any changes to "make the production See DEFENSE page 3



* * Letters to the Editor * * *

The American Express is published manthly by the journalism class and is the official student publication of American High School, 18300 Frement Boulevard, Frement, CA 74536. Opinions expressed on the editorial page do not necessarily reflect viewpoints or official policies of the school. The American Express welcomes readers opinions on aff topics. Letters must be signed, but names may be withheld upon request and with the concurrence of the editorial board. The editor reserves the right to reject, edit, or shorten letters. All letters should be turned into the American Cabe turned into the American Ca-press Hailbox in faculty com-

As Thanksgiving Day approaches, this might be a good time to consider what we have to be thankful for. But we also consider what we "don't" have to be thankful for -maybe peace-should challenge our national leaders to a contest to see whether the teens or the govbring ernment can peace to their arena And wouldn't it be incredible if the kids put the elders to shame?

First, let me explain what war is. "It's stress. Stress is the enemy of peace, and vice versa. So to overcome stress, you resist it with peace. But it takes a commitment, because what you actually do is fabricate a spiritual shield around yourself that stress can not penetrate. You simply refuse to accept bad vibes, and even though you'll certainly be aof them, they won't bother you like before.

Also by tuning in to peace, you'll eliminate stress creating areas in your own life You won't play the radio so loud, talk as loud or as long and not kill time just driving around. fact, you could make a list of all the things that you do which

create stress for others, and either quit or modify them. What you can look for is for others to reciprocate at home, school and in the community.

This societal war, which I call WWIII, began long ago, but it has greatly intensified in recent years. Many try to escape it with drugs and excapades of one sort or Some can't another. relief and find any commit suicide. there is permanent relief just waiting to be tapped. It's the power of the spirit overcome can evil with good. The Pilgrims founded Ply-Colony. Your school can found the New World.

Wayne L. Johnson 16759 Meandro Ct San Diego, Ca

92128

Lettergirl squad all went to USA camp in They too Santa Cruz. numerous won have have done awards and well at camp. very recieved the They "Unity Plaque", A "Su-Trophy", Perior Stick and Spirit "Superior Banner" for

their song routine. Three Superior ribbons were earned by each individual on squad (Note: superior is the highest award you can get at camp). Also a few won sensational" "super ribbons for doing the best out of the routines they had to perform there at USA.

I'm not trying to brag about the Lettergirls here at American but I think they all the credit deserve earned! have Good job you guys!!

Signed, Someone just conon ym at bedreated in my nonar.

Dear Editor, and diesi and mission credit!

I'm writing to you in concern of the Varsity Lettergirls here at American High.

No offense or anything, but all I ever around AHS is hear either something about the "Cheerleaders", or the "Songgirls". Nothing is really menthese tioned about girls... EVER

You guys may think "What is a Letter-Let me tell girl?" you. A Lettergirl is in between a Cheerleader and a Songgirl. They do precise arm movements combined with dance movements choreographed to songs you would like to see

they only mentioned about the Cheerleaders, Mascots and Songgirls going to the NCA camp Stanford.

Dear Someone,

The reason Lettergirls are "ignored" is because the majority of the world thinks of anybody who encourages a team as a cheerleadpeople Most don't make the distinction Cheerleaders, Lettergirls and Songgirls. Lettergirls the would like more recognition for their awards, they can submit information to Gateway to be announced over the bulletin. If At the first rally the Lettergirls in print, then submit information on competitions to the Newspaper Staff.

The Editor



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IT'S A SEASON OF THANKS AND GIVING

By Chrissy Darrow

Our country is one of great abundance. When most of us think of Ihanksgiving; we think of turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, pie, and all the trimmings. Ihanksgiving is the time of year where family is present and good cheer is in evidence.

As students of AHS and citizens of the United States, there are many things to be thankful for.

Senior, Chris Davis, said, "1'm most thank-ful for my car." Senior, Angelo Bradford, said, "My All-League Varsity jacket is important to me."

Most of us consider our material possessions when we give thanks, but there is much more to be thankful for other than our goodies.

We tend to take for granted things like

our freedom, the abundance of food that we enjoy, friends, loved ones, our health, and even our education.

Thanksgiving is the time of year to take time and think about all the things that we should be thankful for.

When you sit down to dinner this Thanksgiving, try and appreciate what you have, and let's all have a happy Thanksgiving!

BE ALL YOU CAN BE ?

By Lisa Sturges

In high school, especially if you are in your junior or senior year, there is a lot of pressure on you to make a decision about what you are going to do with your future. One option is enlisting in the armed services. Military recruiters will be fill your happy to head with all sorts of promises emphasizing the wonderful life you could have if you join the armed services. Before you enlist you should consider some of the things the recruiter doesn't tell you about military life.

Although the military can provide educational training in some vocational fields their main goal is to fight wars, and the military needs you to operate the weapons that will cause death and destruction.

"Death and Destruction", you say
"That's stupid, there
isn't a war going on
now." Let's look at
at the facts, the
United States is
spending more than a
million dollars a day
to wage a war against
the Salvadoran people.
Since January of 1984,

3,000 tons of over have been dropped in the Western Hemisphere. US pilots reconnaissance missions for the Salvadoran military. Those pilots were in high school, just like you, only a year or two ago. The US is not only thinking about war, it is preparing for war, and it will be you, not your parents or your government leaders, that will be the first to

faced you're with this decison, don't take it lightly. Whether you're on the front lines with a gun aimed at someone's head, or sitting at a computer creating bombs and missles, you will still be causing the deaths of human beings. Can your conlive science with that? Perhaps it will be your head that the gun will be aimed at, then your conscience won't have to live with the results.

So when that recruiting officer asks you to sign that enlistment paper, remember what you put down won't just be your name... it will be your life that's on the line.

STUDENT SERVICE SECRETARIES

By Heather Campbell

Pictured Top to Bottom: Mrs. Richmond, Mrs. Strangio, Mrs. Stockton, and Mrs.

Out of a desire to spend summers with her children, the ninth grade secretary, Mrs. Lorraine Richmond, began working for American High School eight years ago. Mrs. Richmond said that one of the high points of her career occurred last year, "when the Senior Ball was dedicated in my honor.

Mrs. Strangio, the tenth grade secretary, has worked at AHS for seven years. In addition to secretarial work, she says, "her duties include, "attendance, mother, nurse, counselor, friend, and everything else that comes my way, I never get bored.

Mrs. Connie Stockton, eleventh grade secretary, has been with AHS since it opened 14 years ago. She said that the job requires, "the abilities to do several things at once, make split decisions, and handle emergencies, and all the while have a sense of humor."

The Senior Class Secretary is Mrs. Agnes Chrzan, who has also been at AHS since it opened in 1972. Although she enjoys working with young people, she plans to make this year her last one at American High School. She said, "I will graduate with the class of 1986."





DEFENSE

more acceptable" should have been done then. The seperate dances were practiced numerous times and there were plenty of chances for someone (advisors?) to say that a dance routine should be cleaned up. I'm not blaming the advisors for anything! I'd like to thank them for being there and giving up their time.

Their supervision is just another fact in the Senior Class' favor, that proves that their skit should not be labeled as a flesh show.

Attempts were made to add "conservatism" to the show. A Johnny Carson number was put in and then dropped, and then there was Senior Vice. Or what about the Stray Cat Strut and very moving finale "Cherish?" "Nightlife's" very essence was captured by the Seniors and Matt and Zee zee's "date." Applaude the seniors on a job well done and hope that the rest of their year is as successful as the Spirit Week Show they produced.

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EYE

This month's question Is: What one thing are you most thankful for?



By Michelle Hirschman



Cohoon (9) "I'm thankful for the opposite sex"



Charlotte Pereira (11) "I'm thankful for all of my friends"



Beermann (11) Steve "Passing all of my classes, hopefully."



Latelo Padilla "My lrans-Am."

HIGH SCHOOL WAS HARDER

IN THE 50'S



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army. BE ALLYOU CAN BE.

DEWEY

Are you having prowith parents, peers, or life in genernl?

the American Express staff is starting a "Dear Dewey" advice column to begin in our December issue.

Please send your problems to the American Express Editor's Box, located in faculty commons.

If you have a problem and need advice, please write us. If we don't get enough letters cannot we start this column. Really, this whole column relys on you!!!

By Horold Smith, Guest Writer

High school in lexas and Oklahoma during the mid 1950's was today's high school. We took four "solid" courses, PE, and study hall. If you took band, choir, yearbook, etc., then you had no study hall. In English, we studied grammar rules, diagrammed sentences, studied spelling rules memorized poetry, hand ed in book reports, and did a little cretive writing.

The only mathmatics courses offered were general math, two

years of algebra, geometry and trigonometry, in that order

eral math. General science. biology, chemistry, and physics courses were offered in science. Our periodic chart had 96 elements listed (it was an old chart.) However, we did have well-stocked biology and chemistry labs.

unless we skipped gen-

few girls took advanced math or science classes and no boys took home-economics classes. No girls took auto-tech or wood working classes. few boys took typing or other "business cour-Bes."

Everyone took PE for four years. Athletes were exempt from Pt during the season.

Most students ate the school cafeteria or went home for lunch. There were no "fast food" places and absolutely no one would be caught bringing a bag lunch.

Hall passes required to leave class, but we were only allowed to leave in emergencies. There were few emergencies.

Being tardy strictly forbidden. 1 don't remember punishment. 1 don't think anyone was ever tardy.

To sum up: the school day was structured, rules were tight and the curricular offering was limited.

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Teachers of the U.N.

By Cindy Pargett

All seniors are currently involved in a United Nations project in their senior Government classes. There are four instructors in the program-Mr. Irent Barton, Mr. Pete Murchison, Mr. Jed Morrow, and Mr. Chris Kinder.

Mr. Barton and Mr. Murchison were asked why they incorporate the United Nations project in their course. Mr. Murchison responded, "It can be a great learning experience where students can learn about the world around them by experiencing first hand through debate, voting, and communication." Mr. Murchison went on to say even though he has to give up his own lunch time, so meetings can take place, he enjoys watch students get involved.

Mr. Barton's response was very enthusiastic when he was asked why he's participating. He replied, "It's a lot of fun, and it's good experience for the kids." Like Murchison, he agrees it's a lot of work. Mr. Barton says it's hard to determine what group of seniors has done the best job. Out of eight years of experience, he says each year gets better and better. Mr. Barton was asked if there was anything else that he would like for the student body to know. As far as the underclassmen go, he replied, "They're gonna get it too!" Barton mentioned that it is a "cooperative venture."

Both teachers are pleased at how smoothly the project is moving. They feel that



the December 5 United Nations Day will be well worth all the effort. All teachers and underclassmen are

Teachers- Mr. Barton, Mr. Kinder, Morrow, and Mr. Murchison, meet with the executive council of the United Nations.

MONEY AIN'T NOTHING de de littli de de

DATES AREN'T FREE!

By Michelle Schaeffer

Have you ever been on a cheap date? Some cheap dates can be fun like playing pee-wee golf or going on a picnic. There are two kinds of cheap, one is when the guy or girl is tight with the bucks, the other is when either of the two people are on a tight budget. Most teenagers today will share or take turns paying the bill.

The woman of the 80's seems to be most willing to pay for the date. On the other hand, if the guy insists on paying, let him. It usually isn't worth arguing over.

The first thing that comes to mind when you think of a cheap date is the first matinee of the day and maybe lunch at McDonald's. 1'm not saying go to McDonalds all the time, but sometimes these kinds of dates can be fun. lt just depends on who you're with.

There are many places in Fremont that would not be considered for a cheap date, they are; Stargaze, costs \$7 a person, certain movie theaters, which usually charge \$5.50 to like to go out to din-

\$6.50 per person, and many of the full service restaurants which can cost \$20-\$30 for a dinner for two.

If you're on a budget and you still want to date, here are some suggestions for an inexpensive date in the area. If you need something to do during the day, try going on a bike ride or maybe taking a picnic lunch to Coyote Hills. you are the quiet type maybe you would feel comfortable spending a quiet evening at home watching a movie with that special someone. Some people

ner. 1 suggest perhaps some nachos at Fat Fanny's or maybe a sandwich and a sundae at our newest ice cream parlor, Leather-

Most important of all, don't forget your school's sporting events and dances.



Junior Tracie Elm and Senior Eddie Compbell discuss which school has the cheapest activities.

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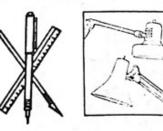
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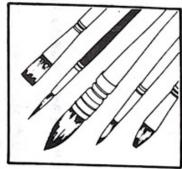
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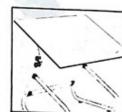












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-SPORTS LOOK-



By Ron Martin Sports Editor

litle IX, a series of federal regulations designed to end sex discrimination in education, has been a blessing for American High School. Although litle IX deals with many areas relating to sexual discrimination, it's greatest impact has been in the field of athletics.

The result of Title IX has been an increase of participation by girls in high school sports. This in turn has resulted in an increase of MVAL Championships at American High School. Within the last few

years girls varsity teams have excelled in the sports of basketball, volleyball, tennis, and cross-country.

Of all the sports, girls basketball has experienced the greatest success. Under the leadership of Art Johnson girls varsity basketball have earned five MVAL Championships in the last ten years. current sports year at AHS has alproduced league champion in girls volleyball, a second place finish in girls cross-country, and a second place fin ish in girls junior varsity tennis.

Title IX has provided the opportunity for young ladies to excell in athletics at the high school level. The girls teams at AHS have taken full advantage of the opportunity.



Kim English bumps the ball to set up another successful play for the Eagles.

Murray's maidens Vex vikes

By Patty Gallegos

No one really expected the Varsity Girls Volleyball leam of American to take sole possession of first place. No one except for the team itself, that is. The Championship season was the first in five years. Now they're on their way to NCS and have a real shot at winning the tournament.

The Eagles started the year with enthusiasm and an attitude to win. They played in the Panther Classic Tournament where they took first out of seven other exceptional teams. There definately was a different air

about the team than last year. Lisa Bozzo (senior) stated, "We are just one big family playing on the court."

Mrs. Debbie Murray says that this has been her best season of coaching in the past seven years. lt's been a pleasurable experience that hasn't come to an end quite yet. The Eagles toughest competition in the MVAL has been Irvington and Logan. The Eagles have managed to come out on top each time the teams met, with the exception of one loss to Irvington. "Our team has been made of quality not quantity", stated Murray. The Eagles are now going to NCS filled with confidence and a group of seniors that will be looking their last chance glory. All in all it was, an exceptional year for them and as Jill Vigallon stated, "It (the volleyball season) was a great start to what is going to be a great year." All of the eight girls who made up the team gave their all to making this a winning season. The abundance of different skills each player possessed, made them come together as





NCS BOUND



An ecstatic Coach Larsen congratulates his team after their big win over the Washington Huskies.

The Boys Basketball program is experiencing its smallest turnout of players in its history. Head Coach Dave Garcia is not conscerned with the small number of players trying out for the team, he feels that the quality of the player will determine the outlook for AHS during the 85-86 season.

After experiencing a dismal 2-12 season last year Coach Garcia is expecting a good showing from three of last years starters, Seniors Shawn Irask, Demetrius Carter and Mike Lusk. He will also be looking at the sophomores and the juniors now on the squad.

Sophomore guard,
Lance Otani, "May be
one of the best in the
league", said Coach
Garcia. The other
sophomores are Mike



Lipps, Sheldon Forhand and Robert, Androtti, who is the biggest on the team at 6 feet 5 inches tall.

The rest of the team consists of juniors Marty Schonover, Gregg Bailey and Dave Hooning.

"I hope to have at least a .500 season or better this year, anticipates Coach Garcia. "We expect a winning development from the small turnout."

Head Coach Art
Johnson expects and
anticipates another
championship season
from the Girls Varsity
Basketball squad with

7 returning players and a JV co-champion-ship team now on the 85-86 squad.

Senior guards, Kim English and Linda Kirby, who were both selected to the All-MVAL Team last season, will be starters again this season as well, senior forwards Lisa Bozzo, Vicki Foster and senior center Tabatha King.

"My expections are to play better than our capability,"states Coach Johnson, "and of course win the championship for our third consecutive season, which is very realistic."

But then again there's Logan and Washington who will be thriving to shoot down the defending champion Eagles. Coach Johnson feels that Logan and Washington can and will provide his team with stiff competition.

Eagles share Tri-Championship

By Ron Martin

As the 1985 Mission Valley Athletic League football season came to an end three teams had compiled 5-1 records. One of them being the mighty Eagles High American School. The three way tie for first place between American, Washington and Newark Memorial resulted in a Tri-Championship for American. But that's all the Eagles have to cheer about. This friday Night, Nov. 22, American will be playing San Ramon Valley in their first ever North Coast Section playoff.

The Eagles only league loss was handed to them early in the season by Newark Memorial, 11-7. With the loss to Newark the Eagles would have to defeat an explosive Washington Huskie team if they hoped to get a piece of the championship. Seeking revenge for a humiliating defeat they suf-

fered last year against Washington, American downed the Huskies 27-24 for the biggest win in Americans 14 year history.

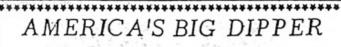
Lagles went on to shutout James Logan 13-0 in their MVAL With their entire season behind them Americans fate now relied on the turnout of one game, Washington Newark Memorial. game provided the Eagles with everything they wanted. A Washington victory plus a offensive lack of yards by Newark asthe American championship berth in the and a Coast Section North

A very pleased Coach Larsen had this to say about the year, "If we didn't get to go to NCS it would still have been a great year. Having the chance to go, is like icing on the cake."





Above left Dave Garcia Boy's Varsity coach. Above right Art Johnson Girl's Varsity coach.





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SOURCE Centers for Daease Control (2) HIGH SCHOOL NEWS & GRAPHICS The Centers for Disease Control report in addition to the 204 cases of AIDS in those age 12 and younger, 68 young people age 13 to 19 have AIDS.

4 Pennsylvania

Michigan 1

New Jersey 27

North Carolina 1

Ohlo 1

Missouri

Violence: How do We Stop

By Jennifer Macias

Recently, there has been several reports of violent attacks on students. As the amount of violence grows, it is equally matched by public awareness.

In the last few months there has actually been only one "physical" attack. Apparently a sophomore was attacked from behind and the attacker was never identified. During spirit week a senior, on her way to skit practice, was approached and threatened with a knife. Fortunatly, the police

were close by and the offenders fled.

According to Principal Joe Tranchina, the crime rate is surprisingly down. stated, that the acts themselves are only deviant behavior. There have been several incidences of young men running by female students and physically accosting them. Mr. Tranchina feels incidences occur only to promote shock on the part of the victum

The best solution to these attacks, acording to Mr. Tranchina, is public aware ness. He feels that when students are informed there are more reports to the principal because students feel a clear path to the administration and know that the issues will be dealt with.

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The amount of violence apprears to run There in cycles. seems to be a rash of incidences or nothing at all. Mr. Tranchina feels that we can prevent these acts by act ing on them. He suggests that students arrange carpools or walk in large groups. We can prevent the situations from happening.

the academics fad

By Theresa Campbell

has an honorary guest speaker. This year Mr. Barton is trying to persuade a Soviet diplomat from the Russian consulate to deliver the keynote address. If he is unable to persuade him, he hopes to attract the interest of another foreign diplomat. After the convention the seniors of American should have a pretty good idea of how the United Nations oper-

ates.

Mr. Barton stressed that the project is run by students, and it's success depends on, "the partiinterest. cipation, and preparedness of the students." Mr. Barton, who has done this project several times, further remarked, "how much of a learning experience the convention is, and how important it is for today's students to recognize and attempt to deal with the crises facing our world."

According to a national survey there is a The fad new fad on high school campuses. seems to be a turn towards academics. Rocco Marano, of the National Association of Secondary School Principals, says that the key to the change is "good study habits".

Marano states, "Since 1980, study habits among high school students have been improving. AHS Principal, Joe Tranchina, said, "I do

not think there's any question that students have improved academically. They are much more into school, period."

Some say that academic success has replaced long-hair and self-indulgence as a high school

Mr. Tranchina seems to agree. He states that, "the late 60's and early 70's were a disaster time for schools, and were destructive to students across the board, not just academically." Iranchina continued by saying, "We are in a kind of 'what goes around comes around' situation, with the 60's and 70's being an extreme from which we are recovering. I think we're seeing a kind of return to an earlier set of values."

It seems, that students see what they need to do to be successful, and that includes getting good grades. At AHS, a good example of this dedication to academics are the calculus students who arrive at school by 7:10 every morning.

The student of the 80's seems more cerned with their academic success, and less oriented toward the "me first" attitude of the 60's.

A.I.D.S

Chuck Fallis, public relations specialist for the Center Disease Control For says teenagers should know: "no cases of AIDS have been transmitted through casual contact." There are some myths about AIDS which are prevalent in schools. Students are afraid they might pick the virus up from sharing a locker with someone who has been exposed to AIDS. Some,

> "It can be transmitted in one of four ways:

- through sexual contact
- dirty needles
- blood transfusions
- mother-to-child

also fear they will get it by eating next to someone with AIDS, swimming in the high school pool or by do-

By Laura lempleton

The 1985-86 Spirit Queen, Anna Faustino. was crowned at the all-school Homecoming rally November 1, 1985.

Anna has been an active member of the Class of '86 since her freshman year and has a continuous list of accomplishments which she has aquired with her time, talents, and dedication to AHS.

When asked how she felt when she heard her name announced for Spirit Queen, she replied, "above all, I was happy and excited! I want to thank everyone at American High who made this possible for me because without I wouldn't be

By Laura Templeton

Thanksgiving Vacation at last! It will start on Monday, November 25 and we will return to school Monday, December 2, 1985.

November 25 and 26 are the dates set aside for the 1985 Parent Conferences.

Parents have had notices sent home stating the time they are to attend the conferences.

Students who wish to take the SAT and ACH tests, can do so on Saturday, December 7, 1985, at American High School.

blood. nating blood just held a drive on Monday Nov. 18) The CDC found no cases o f AIDS being transmitted through saliva tears, although there have been traces the virus found in these fluids. Like the herpes virus. AIDS virus cannot survive long outside the human body. Most afflicted of those get the disease through sexual intercourse.

The AIDS problem seems to be filled with rumors, misinforfear. mation, and Parents, students need and faculty t o work together to deal with the dilema. the experts say, no disease has had the stigma this one has had.

where I am today." Members of the 1985

-86 Homecoming court consist of four princesses and four uglymen. The Mr. American finalists were Eric Carter (Senior Uglyman), Mike Johnson (Junior Uglyman), Mike DiPaola (Sophomore Uglyman) and Gabe Ortiz, Uglyman). (Freshman The Spirit Queen final were Zee Guiol (Senior Princess), Ellen Encarnation (Junior Princess), Lisa Sturges (Sophomore Princess) and Irenc Advincula (Freshman Princess). All have contributed much AHS throughout to their high school years.

The 1985-86 American Varsity Football team will play San Ramon Valley in the NCS play-offs friday November 22 at Dublin High's field at 7:30. If they beat San Ramon in the game, they will play again in the semifinals, Friday, November 29.

Newark Memorial High School is holding a MVAL dance with D.J. Ultimate Creations in the gym, Iuesday, November 26, from 7-11 pm. The doors close at 9:30 and students will need an ID card, a ticket, and \$3 to get in. The school's of the Mission Valley Athletic league are invited to attend.