

Common Sense

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A B.S.U. for All Students

American High Students

Are you aware of our B.S.U. (Black Student Union). You may think that it is only for blacks. Anyone is welcome to participate in the B.S.U. The group allows you the chance way what you want and let people know where you are coming from. The B.S.U. officers are: President, Weletta Kirk; Vice President, Toni Briggs; Secretary, Carla Bowers.

The officers are prepared to do their best and like their jobs very much. And many fund-raisers are being planned. A skating party was held on February 7, 1977. The B.S.U. is trying to organize a show for Black American Day, March 5, 1977. This year's show is of a more serious tone than last year's.

The B.S.U. is attempting to make the non-black community aware of the importance of Black American Day.

The program, scheduled for March 5, will include plays concerning the meaning of being black. Many funny things will also be included, but the general tone is serious.

Many other activities are being planned. Please watch for announcements and support the B.S.U.

American High Big Annual Black History Activity

BLACK HISTORY

by Regina Hughes

Dear Everyone, from everywhere, you are invited to attend American High School's Fabulous Black Show. This show is being broadcast to you by the B.S.U. of American High School. These students feel that there should be something special happening at their school to help represent the Black History week. This show will consist of a fashion show that will present the latest fashions in African and modern styles. There will also be outstanding performances that will consist of singing, dancing, music, and other thrills and chills. There will be excellent speeches spoken out of the real mouths of black people. Yes, this entertainment show is going to be one of the greatest shows American High School has ever had. Hurry and buy your tickets now. \$50 a ticket per person and \$.75 per ticket at the door. There will also be refreshments to sip on along the way.

ONE'S OPINION

by Regina Hughes

Carol Jones says, she feels that American High's Black History Week is going to be a dedicating week. Especially since she is going to be playing a special part in the B.S.U. Black History Show. Carol plans to bring across her sincerity and concern during her part in the show. She hopes that her dance performance will be meaningful and sincere in that special type of way. Carol also wants everyone to know that this show means a lot to her and it will be a much better turn out if everyone would not only attend the show, but also give tribute towards it. This activity will take place in March.

ROOTS Earthshaking Event

The T.V. movie adaption of ALEX HALEY'S bestseller ROOTS was a smashing success. Upwards of a hundred million people viewed this landmark movie over a span of eight days. Public reaction did not stop in the living room. It spread to classrooms, jobs and the streets. Fights and riots broke out due to people reacting to ROOTS.

Nothing of this scale happened at American High, but still many people hold strong convictions about the movie.

Mark: I like it. It was really good, but people got the wrong impression from the movie. It showed our roots to make us proud. Many blacks got hatred for white people instead of learning black identity.

George: I thought it was good. It affected me but too many races have been through the same type of things. It hasn't really affected my opinion of blacks. I did feel sorry for them and any

others that have been made slaves.

Kathy: I thought it was good. It reminded me of "Gone with the Wind." It made me more aware.

Shawn: I liked it, it showed me everything I had already learned in school.

Meshell: It was great. I don't hate whites for what they did back then. While I watched ROOTS, I hated white people but I'm not bringing my feelings to school.

Lisa: I felt it was a good movie. It showed me the way whites acted. It affected my relationship with my black friends. It showed what slavery was really like.

Debbie: It opened our eyes to what really happened to the slaves: the torture, mistreatment and abuse. It will help the white majority deal with the black minority.



West Side Story
page 2

TYPEWRITER ABUSE

The typewriters at American High are becoming almost impossible to use. Everyday someone abuses them and they break. Then they are no longer useable by the typing class. We are not saying that it is only people who are not in a typing class, it is everyone. We are deeply concerned and upset at this unnecessary abuse and breakage. The cost to fix a typewriter is outrageous. We simply cannot afford to fix 30-40 typewriters a week. We would sincerely appreciate some cooperation in the care of the typewriters. So please if you use the typewriters use a little T.L.C. (Tender Loving Care).



Pop
Concert...
tonight



"The Ritz"

by Barbara James

If one hasn't seen the movie, "The Ritz", and is not easily offended by the subject matter, it is a movie must.

"The Ritz" starring Jack Weston, Rita Moreno, Jerry Stiller and Kay Ballard is hysterically funny.

"The Ritz" concerns a homosexual (Gay) hotel and unsuspecting Jack Weston. Weston is trying to get away from his brother-in-law (Jerry Stiller), who has a contract on him. He asks a taxi driver to "Take me to the least likely place that I would be found." Naturally, he finds himself at the gay hotel "The

Ritz". You can believe me when I say this is when all the fun really begins.

Possibly one facet of the show's success is due to the fact that Weston, Moreno, Stiller and Ballard were in the original Broadway production of "The Ritz".

Rita Moreno won a Tony Award for Best Supporting Actress in "The Ritz". In the movie she portrays a fiery Latin girl who is trying to make it big.

The time of quality performers contributes to the movie's effectiveness. The movie, "The Ritz", is definitely worth one's time and money.



"WEST SIDE STORY"

"WEST SIDE STORY"
by Barbara James

"To think when the heart should rule, and to use the emotions in situations where one should think." This is the theme of "Romeo and Juliet" and also for Tony and Maria in "West Side Story."

I received this simple answer from David Motroni when I asked him what he thought the theme of "West Side Story" was.

Motroni is one of three directors for American High's Spring Musical, "West Side Story." Motroni, who is the acting director has also done some directing for Palo Alto Community Theatre.

When I asked Mr. Motroni why they chose "West Side Story" he

replied, "Speaking for Mr. Levin, Mr. Mirigian and myself, it's a challenge for everybody, acting, orchestrally, vocally and choreographically."

I asked Motroni what he thought about tryouts. He answered, "I like many people, it shows interest. There was close to 100 people for "West Side Story" auditions. With that many people it make it really hard, not so much to choose, but to hear everyone."

To listen and watch the people that David Motroni, Rich Levin and Garo Mirigian chose, go see "West Side Story". Playing March 31, April 1 and 2, in Theatre 70. It's a show you won't want to miss.

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BIG & TALL
SIZES TOO...

Your Future in the signs

(March Horoscope)

by Marla Kelsey

Pisces (February 20—March 20) A time for uninhibited joy and sharing. North Indians celebrate spring's arrival with the festival of Vasanti Panchami in which "earthly pleasures," including physical passion are encouraged. Use every opportunity to renew your romance and escape self-consciousness through awareness of how others feel. Deep yellow, the color of the Indian spring, becomes you.

Aries (March 21—April 20) Loosen up and let go. A journey brings happiness and improves a relationship with someone you care for. Your charm and intelligence appeal strongly to a family friend but he is too shy to show his devotion. Early in March an event irritates you, and you are tempted to change your mind; seek advice.

Taurus (April 21—May 21) You are urged to make quick and firm decisions. If you feel entitled to a promotion, seek it before March. Clarify your summer position now, and don't let your love life jeopardize a marvelous opportunity. In your job, try coasting for a few weeks.

Gemini (May 22—June 21) Your enthusiasm and determination to win attract many people. If you realize financial gains, put them into solid investments. The time is favorable for community projects, but accept no responsibility unless you have the power to make decisions.

Cancer (June 22—July 23) A venturesome period. If you take full advantage of your opportunities and do not leave things to others, you can move ahead by giant steps. An opponent tries to force you into a difficult position. Don't lose your temper; watch for a chance to outplay him.

Leo (July 24—August 23) The pace is almost relentless; slow down and let others wait for decisions. A flirtation would be harmless and fun. Health problems ease in March. March 22 or 28 could bring a pleasant surprise. If finances bring concern, improvement comes before summer.

Virgo (August 24—September 23) The Hindu religion counsels yielding with grace to the inevitable and reserving one's strength for occasions when one has a chance to win. Go along cheerfully with a change, for you have no other choice; in any case, it will turn out better than you expect. Young people need guidance now.

Libra (September 24—October 23) Use this restorative period to prepare for stringent new demands on your energies later. Pay close attention to physical problems; especially chronic ailments that can be cured through proper discipline. A daily exercise routine, breathing training and wholesome diet are helpful now.

Scorpio (October 24—November 22) You long to make an extravagant purchase or take a luxurious trip but neither would improve your mood for long. Your real solution is work, preferably with people of your own age group. Avoid activities that make you feel guilty. Spend more time at a job or develop interests that expand horizons.

Sagittarius (November 23—December 21) Your stars offer a strange chance to alter your life pattern—if that is what you really want. Discuss alternatives with close friends, for they can save you from error in judgment. Once you know your goal, you can achieve it quickly.

Capricorn (December 22—January 20) Increasingly bright stars provide opportunities for festive occasions. Seek new acquaintances. You are sometimes very hard on those less fortunate than you; try to be more responsive to their needs. From March 21 to 28, do postponed work.

Aquarius (January 21—February 19) Keep faith with yourself and never doubt your capabilities. This is a delicate period, but you can use your intuitive knowledge of others to help you cope. You may be forced to give up something important, but if you don't you will regret it later. A trip for yourself would help you sort things out.



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What's Up?...

March Activities

- 3-3 Pops Concert
- 3-4 Triangular Track Meet vs. Samuel Ayer & Livermore
- 3-4 Dance — Class of 1980
- 3-17 Track — American vs. Kennedy
- 3-18 Senior Show (date changed to May 14)
- 3-25 Dance — Class of 1979
- 3-31 Track — American at Newark
- 4-2 Spring Musical — "West Side Story"

Spirit Leaders:

Deserving of Recognition

Our American High Spirit Leaders are a very dedicated lot. Spirit Leaders are one of the few groups that are totally involved in our school.

Our cheerleaders should be given a lot of credit. They spend as many as four nights a week at schools in order to cheer our athletes on.

Once a girl becomes a spirit leader, her commitment is absolute. In addition to cheering at games, the girls also have a commitment to keep their grades up.

The pressure on our spirit leaders is intense. In addition to night games there also is practice, often five days a week for two hours.

Another problems for cheerleaders is money. It costs several hundred dollars to become a cheerleader. The girls have to buy uniforms, pay for camps and much more.

Their lives are not all roses. As TERRI KOLODZIECZAK put it: "Cheerleading has made my grades go down because I have less time to study. But it has made me more involved with the school."

What makes the adversity bearable is their success at competitions. At Summer Camp, the Varsity and Freshman squads each won firstplace trophies while the J.V. won third. The Eagles overall won first place trophy for spirit. In the Irvington competition on January 15, our Varsity and Frosh again won first place trophies.

Cheerleading is not only good for the girls' egos, it teaches them lessons of life. CANDI COX feels that... "It has made me more dedicated to the school. It has allowed me to make more friends."

When asked what cheerleading had taught her, she replied that it showed that something one puts one's mind to, one can do.



Concert Corner



CONCERT REVIEW

by Dorothy Borrego

Bill Graham presented Foghat, Sammy Hagar and Rick Derringer at the Cow Palace, February 5, 1977. Ronnie Montrose guest-starred with Sammy Hagar. The bands played to a sold out crowd.

Rick Derringer started the night off fairly well. He played expected songs which included, "Teenage Love Affair" and, of course, for an encore he did his "Rock N Roll Hoochie Koo."

Sammy Hagar played a great deal of songs off his latest album "Reds." He was later accompanied reacts with the expected frenzy. They played a couple of Montrose hits. Hagar and Montrose held nothing back; they played with an intensity.

Foghat's opening song was

"Fool for the City," their performance wasn't as well as expected. After Hagar and Montrose, the audience was quiet through most of Foghat. Much of the crowd's energy and enthusiasm wasn't burnt out. They snapped out of it though, when Foghat played "Slow Ride," unfortunately, it was their last song.

Hagar and Montrose took the show. Sammy Hagar was very impressed with the audience. He told the crowd that he wanted every single person that was in the Cow Palace to be at his next concert in the Bay Area when he's top billing. He also yelled that he "...loves S.F. Bay Area."

All in all it was an excellent and well enjoyed concert.

Guess who Bill Graham's presenting on Day on the Green 1 and 2?

COW PALACE
BOSTON 3/11

WINTERLAND
JOURNEY 3/4

QUEEN 3/6

NILS LOFGREN 3/12
GRATEFUL DEAD 3/18-19

GENESIS 3/25-26

RON LEVIN

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R R A O A A H P O R F E E E
O E W S L G O Q O T T G M T
M N Y L L A N W D R N A O N
K A H E M R E P W I E P N I
C Z E N A R X E R E G F T W
A N N N N P Y R R W U R R A
L A D O P C E R C K N E O N
B M R N S D Y Y A I D H S O
E A I C R A G M F N E L E T
C P X Z Z I M B E G S E P P
K R A L P H S B T Q N Y Y A
T E N O S I R R A H P D H L
Z F R A M P T O N M A Y H C

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SHON
WINTER
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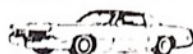


up coming concerts



Varsity Basketball 2nd place

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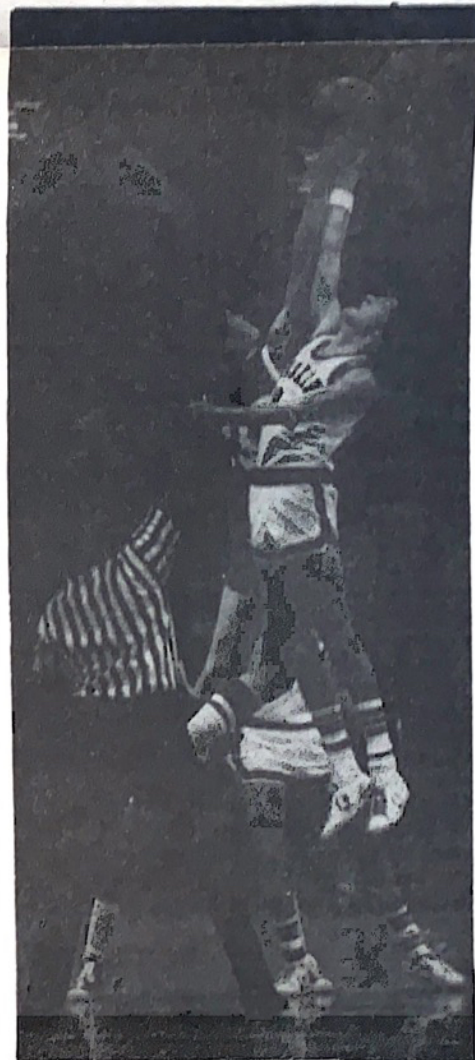


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American High VARSITY SOCCER 1976-77

The American High Eagles Varsity Soccer Team started out hot by winning the consolation finals in the M.V.A.L. Christmas tournament. Simon Chafer was the leading scorer in the tournament with ten goals and four assists. Rich Tenbosch and Simon Chafer were selected to the All-Tournament team. Other Eagles receiving votes for All-Tournament team were Gordie

Medeiros, Jeff Cole and Jeff Brown. As Ray Gerkhe put it, "We had a great pre-season setting six school records."

In league the Eagles got off to a bad start losing their first three games. The Eagles have been in five of their seven games. They pasted Mission 4-0 and tied Kennedy 2-2 and Logan 1-1. The Eagles best game of the year was against league-leading Newark,

unfortunately we lost 1-0.

Coach Ray Gerkhe named Simon Chafer, Rich Tenbosch, Jeff Brown and Dean Kollwe as stellar players for the Eagles. Final words from Coach Gerkhe, "We have been going through a period of hard times, but I'm proud of the way this team has stayed together and fought hard in every ball game!!"



THERE IS A NO. 1 TEAM AT AMERICAN

by Diana John

Not much is said about the girl's J.V. basketball team. Only losing one game, the J.V. team is in first place. Their previous record is 11-1.

On Friday, February 4th, the girls' J.V. team met the Huskies for a tie-breaker; the Eagles defeated the Huskies and this put the Eagles in first place. On Thursday, February 10th, the Eagles met up with the Mission's girls' J.V. team, and this is the only team to defeat the Eagles all season. It was a good battle up to

the last quarter, and this is when the Eagles came through with a tough defense and offense to defeat the Mission team. To lead the Eagles to victory, Helen Whittaker and Roberta Padilla showed an outstanding performance.

The top offensive players of the team are Helen Whittaker and Nancy Clayton. Roberta Padilla, Moana Glinister and Gina Dias as top defensive players. Along with a strong bench, the Eagles have a good chance to end their season well.

American High School

Varsity Baseball - 77



AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY BASEBALL SCHEDULE 1977

Date	Day	Opponent	Place	Time
March 1	Tues.	O'Dowd	American	3:30
March 5	Sat.	Pinole Valley	American	11:00
March 8	Tues.	Sunset	Sunset	7:30 p.m. or 3:30
March 11	Fri.	Livermore	American	3:30
March 15	Tues.	Hayward	American	3:15
March 18	Fri.	San Ramon	American	3:30
March 26	Sat.	Lions Easter Tournament		TBO
April 2, 4, 5, 6		Lions Easter Tournament		TBO
March 29	Tues.	Newark	Newark	3:30
April 1	Fri.	Mission	American	3:30
April 12	Tues.	Memorial	Memorial	3:30
April 15	Fri.	Washington	American	3:30
April 19	Tues.	Kennedy	Kennedy	3:30
April 22	Fri.	Irvington	American	3:30
April 26	Tues.	Logan	American	3:30
April 29	Fri.	Newark	American	3:30
May 3	Tues.	Mission	Mission	3:30
May 6	Fri.	Memorial	American	3:30
May 10	Tues.	Washington	Washington	3:30
May 13	Fri.	Kennedy	American	3:30
May 17	Tues.	Irvington	Irvington	3:30
May 20	Fri.	Logan	American	3:30
May 26, 27, 28		NCS Regionals		
June 3, 4		Northern California Championship		

by R. Hernandez

This year the varsity team looks pretty good, but it will have a tough pre-season. The first pre-season game is March 1, and it's against a hard Bishop O'Dowd team from Oakland. Last year O'Dowd took second place in the Catholic Athletic League, so it should be a good game. There will be 13 games played at American, we would like to see you out there to support the team, and I know the players would appreciate it. Most all of the games will start at 3:30, except for one Saturday game. It will start at 11:00. The N.C.S. Regional Finals are going to be held on May 26, 27, 28. And on June 3, 4 are the Northern California Championship, and we're all hoping for our team to be in them.



Varsity in action