

Common Sense

Volume II, No. 1

Published By The Students of American High School

October 19, 1973

OF THE PEOPLE + FOR THE PEOPLE



(Shawna O'Neill)



(Cheri Olson)

By Terry Callaway

Beginning on October 15 was Spirit Week, which will be capped by tonight's Spirit Dance from 8 to 11, and climaxed by the biggest game of the season against Washington High tomorrow evening at Tak Fudenna Field. Game times are 6 and 8 p.m.

In order to represent Spirit, one Spirit Queen, four princesses, and an Ugly man are elected by the students. All candidates were first nominated by a club, organization, or class. The five finalists who were selected last Thursday for Spirit Queen are Jill Coshow, Lisa McGrath, Cheri Olsen, Shawna O'Neill, and Lisa Rice.

The five finalists for Ugly Man are Joe Abercrombie, Doug Church, Shawn Delaney, Matt Farrer, and Mitch Farrer.

Pictures of the ten finalists have been on display all week at

12th Grade Student Services. All candidates are seniors, as this was a requirement for nomination.

From the five girls, one shall become Spirit Queen and the others shall serve as her Princesses. The girls are allowed to choose their own escorts and all will dress formally for the Spirit Dance and football game against Washington. One Ugly man is chosen from the five male finalists, and he will also reign at the dance and game.

The final results of both contests will be announced at the rally.

The following themes were chosen by the classes for Spirit Day: seniors, Halloween; juniors, Hawaii — American style; sophomores, American Graffiti; and freshmen, The Sound of Music.

Each class was responsible for decorating thrones for the Queen and her Court, and will transport it to Tak Fudenna Stadium tomorrow.

So let's all give a loud cheer for American High School and "Beat Washington!"



(Doug Church)



(Joe Abercrombie)



(Matt Farrer)



(Lisa Rice)



(Lisa McGrath)



(Jill Coshow)



(Shawn Delaney)



(Mitch Farrer)

Young Love Goes "Soggy" At Picnic Or I've Got A Rash On My Arm

By Brenda Savage

Don't blame us! It was all Mr. DePiola's idea! He wanted the seniors to get together in the beginning of the year instead of the latter part so that "young love could have its chance to blossom out." Plus, there are so many early graduates that we wanted to have the picnic when all our class mates could attend.

But, Mr. DePiola's "young love" idea was washed out. Slightly before lunch, it began to rain and it kept raining until 1:30. At that time, three bus loads of "young 'drenched' lovers" took off, back to this controlled environment.

But then there were us brave ones who stuck it out until 3:00 o'clock. It was a really nice experience for those who were able to walk along in the woods (and catch poison oak) and take in all the beautiful scenery Yuvas Meadows has to offer.

The rain added a certain mystique to it all and to our spirits. The one remaining bus load of seniors returning to American had a great sing-a-long in the bus; guitar music provided by David Fox.

Even Mr. Agee joined in. The climax was when he took off his wet shirt and exposed his CHEST . . . OOOH! RAW (rah) SEX!

Despite the rain, the Senior Picnic did provide the time and space for the senior class to get together and attack Dennis Facchino during a rowdy football game (sorry about that Dennis). Dennis is now recuperating from knee surgery.

Actually, we should be thankful for the rain, because it cooled off any young lover who got too hot!

Special Note . . .

Remember that Open Campus is not forever! When we wreck it, we kiss it good-bye.

Example - The people at the Normandy Apartments just spent a lot of money planting new things and suffered \$500.00 damage during the rain when our kids walked through instead of around.

If they, and other concerned citizens complain, there goes open campus. JUST REMEMBER!!!

Principal's Note . . .

As I indicated with the first publication of Common Sense last year, this student newspaper is dedicated to the same ideal as American High School. Tolerance, cooperation and dedication are our by-words and are reflected in this first edition of "Common Sense."

Bookie At Work

By Kathy McCullough

An industrious staff of sixteen students is diligently working during first period and after school, when necessary, to put together the '73-'74 yearbook.

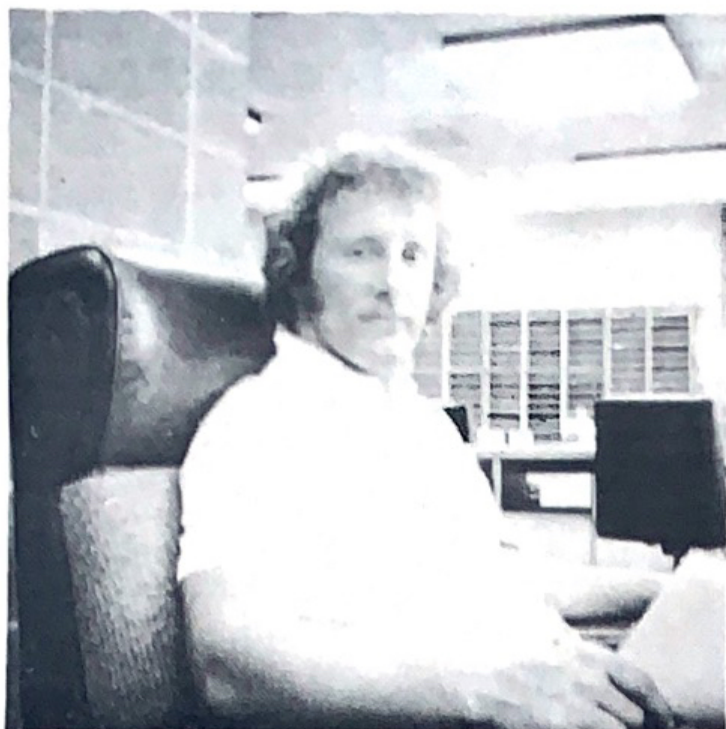
They are also selling suckers, and spending their lunches, brunches, and after school time to sell the yearbook. This seldom recognized group deserves credit for the service they are doing for this school.

For those of you who did not buy your yearbook during the first sales week, there will be two others; during the week of Nov. 12-16, and during the week of Dec. 10-14.

This year's book will be a change from last year's. The staff is trying to keep the same thoughtful mood while adding a little color and "pizzazz."

For those of you with a sweet tooth who liked the suckers they sold, there will be another sale later in the year.

The yearbook will be passed out on June 3 for seniors and on the 6th for underclassmen. Don't be left out. Buy your yearbook!



(Dennis Burns - Reclining - Again!)

Feature Teacher: Dennis Burns

Mr. Dennis Burns, or Mr. Electricity to his friends, is best known on campus as the varsity wrestling coach. His friends, however, know a whole different side to Dennis.

His nicknames include Brillo, Pig Pen, Super Flake, Snow Flake, Curly Top, and Hambone. He is also known as Hercules with curlers.

Sparkie has been asked several times just how it is that he manages his hair that way. He claims that that particular effect is achieved by placing his finger in an electric socket. Kissing an outlet works almost as well.

Mr. Burns has also been teased about his long friendship with Skip Cain, who is his roommate. Did you know, for example, that he often gets letters addressed to Mrs. Denise Cain and Mrs. Skip Burns.

Dennis has a favorite Black Cat that follows him everywhere ever since he "meowed" at it one day. He loves quail eggs in his salad, and is not very punctual. In fact, he is the only person who can make five different appointments for a certain time and miss them all due to sleeping in.

Speaking of sleep, Dennis often falls asleep at parties, but that, understandably, comes from his long association with Skip Cain.

Neatness is not his best feature. He is always leaving things everywhere. He'd be the perfect "OSCAR" of any "Odd Couple."

In closing, we have only one question. Who is Harry Shmink? Whoever it is, Dennis excuses himself almost daily to talk to Harry for four hours at a stretch.

P.S. - Thanks, Dennis, for being a good sport!

U.N. To Meet

By Wanda Flores

Probably, many of you frown when you see something like a poster about the International Club. The words mean nothing to you. Only the design catches your eye. Many of you also hear about it, but it goes in one ear and out the other.

Well, I'm going to fill you in on what this club is about: as all of you know (well, most of you know), International means everybody; in other words, the whole world. This club has to do with the whole world. We celebrate many holidays which people in the United States don't usually celebrate.

Remember last year's "Cinco de Mayo" celebration, with the folk dancers, pinatas, Cinco de Mayo queen and Mexican food? Remember the terrific time you had that day? Being in the club is even more terrific!

You get to help make posters, food, decorations and much more. You'll even learn a little about different nationalities. This club makes learning more of an enjoyment than a job. You'll meet some new faces, too.

International Club meetings are held in the 500 wing during lunch. If you're interested in the happenings of the club, contact your nearest foreign language teacher or Daphne Favroth. Better yet, come to the next meeting!

"Sunshine"

By Shawna O'Neill

You seem so close,
Yet you're so far away.
How are you?
What did you do today?

Did you get to sleep alright last night?
Did you have a happy dream?
I dream about you all the time,
Or every night it seems.

When you woke up this morning,
What was the first thing on your mind?
I thought about you first my love,
You are my "sunshine."

When you were hard at work today,
I was sitting here at home.
Thinking about last weekend,
When we were all alone.

This poem is just to let you know,
I hope you had a good day.
A peaceful one, a happy one,
Nice in every way.



Daphne On The Loose

By Doug Johnson

Daphne Favroth, a student at our school, took a trip to Europe during the summer, and it proved to be more exciting than she expected. Daphne, a sophomore, took the trip with Nancy Rosellini and Cindy Sloan, two students from A.H.S. and 247 other students from all over the United States. All of these went through Scholastic International, an Organization which organizes many such trips.

The students visited England, France, Holland, Scotland, and Switzerland on the trip, but didn't get a chance to tour Scotland or Holland. After visiting foggy England, they arrived in Paris to stay for 3 days. On one of these days the following "adventure" took place:

At about 9 p.m. the band of students was taken to a famous hill, called Montmartre, and there toured the Artist's Quarter, an area for artists to display their wares. While still on the hill, Daphne decided to trail behind the group to buy a \$40 painting.

When she finished buying the painting, she found that everybody in her group was gone.

Daphne hurried to the subway, where she knew they were planning to go next. But they weren't there. She also couldn't remember the name of their hotel. She was lost and all alone in Paris.

Daphne found some other English-speaking students in the subway. With the help of an African student, she found her way to a police station, which was a better place to be than wandering the streets at night in a bad area of the city.



("DAPHNE")

She sat and sat and sat until she was identified from a missing persons report. The report had been filed at midnight. It wasn't until 4:30 in the morning that she was taken home, in a paddy wagon.

The event was recalled with help from Mrs. Gerkhe

The event was recalled with help from Mrs. Gerkhe, who happened to arrive in Paris the

same day as those going through the special program. Scholastic International will be organizing more of these trips in the summers to come.

For more information contact Mr. Jerry Hennings at Centerville Junior High or Mrs. Gerkhe. The visit is partly educational and partly for pleasure. It is a 6-week trip, and everyone who has gone on one says it is easily worth the money.



Straw Hat
Pizza

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In Production:



(Motroni, cutting up between scenes.)

By Roy Sekigahama

This year's fall production, "A Man For All Seasons", began rehearsals in mid September after a week of try-outs. More than 30 students from all grade levels participated in the try-outs.

The female leads went to Barbara Wyatt and Dorothy Asma. Matt Farrer and Stuart Golden again received the two major male leads. Other members of the cast include David Glazier, Mitch Farrer, Scott Arey, Lisa Condeff, Bill Watson, Serena Jones, and Phil Ritter.

Supporting players include

Laura Lynn, Cindy Bomkamp, Kathy Allen, Debbie Berlenn, and Steve Burnside.

This is the first time faculty members tried out for a school production, resulting in Bill Swift and Dennis Facchino being cast in supporting roles.

Mr. Facchino has performed in drama before, but this is Mr. Swift's debut as an actor. Both are doing quite well, in spite of Mr. Facchino's leg injury during the Senior Picnic and Mr. Swift's sheer terror at the thought of learning lines.

The play, performed in late November, will run three nights at a cost of \$1.50 for general admission and 75 cents for A.S.B. sticker holders. Don't miss it.



(The Cast; Ganging Up!)

PAC Needs You

By Dolly Milke

For a change of pace, there's always the P.A.C. (Performing Arts Club) to arouse and maintain an enthusiastic interest in the performing arts.

Anyone — parent, teacher, student or member of the community — who has the interest to be involved may join. We are hoping you will join — it doesn't take much money, not does it require much time.

Our general meetings are held every other month. Our "support" comes when one of the groups, band, drama, choir, dance group, or all the groups requests help.

It may be to assist in coaching, ushering, transportation, serving refreshments, chaperoning, whatever the need may be. We hope you will join — to give of your time, effort and, most of all, your support! Membership is as follows:

- A Single Membership \$1.00
- A Family Membership \$2.00
- (Two or more members)

A member must also be a member of the ASTPC... so to be a single PAC member, the total of \$2 is required. One dollar for the parent club, and one for the PAC. For the family membership, \$2 goes to the parent club and \$2 to the PAC making a total of \$4.

All members of PAC will be entitled to a reduced rate for tickets sold to various performances. Your membership card must be shown to be eligible for reduced rates.

Please fill in the membership blank and return it to Gateway Services, or mail to Mr. Richard Levin, c/o American High School, 36300 Fremont Blvd., Fremont, Calif. 94536.

Thank you.

Membership Application

Name:
 Address:
 Telephone Number:
 Single Membership:
 Family Membership:

BAND GOES ON

By Lynn Filbert

American High's newly formed marching band, under the direction of Mr. Levin and Mr. Lillenthal started the second day of school. For the first two games we served as a pepband but since then have advanced to marching.

We have twenty-one hard working members. They stay after school every day except Mondays from 2:50 until around 4:30 p.m. Some days are spent practicing the music and others spent learning and reinforcing marching techniques.

Being a new band poses problems in trying to get new memberships. We are small and about 90 per cent of the members have never marched before.

Dave Grecco, a former student of Campbell High School of San Jose was recently selected as our first Drum Major. He has had previous experience in this line. After working for the band for several days Dave said: "I think the band's spirit is really great and I think that we can do really well if we keep up that spirit."

I might add that marching and playing an instrument at the same time is definitely not easy. It takes a large amount of coordination which gets easier, but with a considerable amount of effort on an individual's part.

The T.C. Are Coming

By Donna Bisbiglia

Yes, American's own Town Criers are at it again. This year they're coming at you with new people and new music. This year they also sing four part harmony.

The people in this song-dance-comedy group were chosen from among many students of the school. The judging consisted of singing a song. The people were judged on audience appeal and seeing if you can carry a fair tune.

The judges were Loretta Filice, Sue Adams, Mike Agee, Richard Deming, Garo Mirigian, Sonia Koujakian, and Jeannie Thomson.

The Criers, headed by Garo Mirigian, are: Debbie Gilmour, Kary Pomroy, Donna Bisbiglia, Lori Gubera, Cindy Fulton, Elizabeth Lopez, Valerie Millier, Anna Marie Sadorra;

Mitch Farrer, Russ Mendivil, Greg Goddard, Roger Chang, Chris Lott, Ken Clark, Stuart Golden, and Matt Farrer.

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HOMEcoming TOMORROW

It's not every new school that has a first place football team, and we're proud of it. At least as of this printing, we were on top. For those of you tuning in late to the Football thing, here is some background matter for you:

Football practice began this year on August 27, and pre-season games started with the start of school. Our two openers weren't that hot with losing scores to Dublin of 41-0, and Sun Sunnyvale with 28-6.

The games that count, however, were a different story. Our team royally took Memorial, 51 to 7, and followed that with a win against Kennedy of 12 to 3.

We are facing Mission this week, but not in time to be reported in this issue.

Top players include (playing offense) Martin Redmond, H. B., Jeff Zentner, Q. B., Glenn Schermesser, End, and Mark Doran, Tackle.

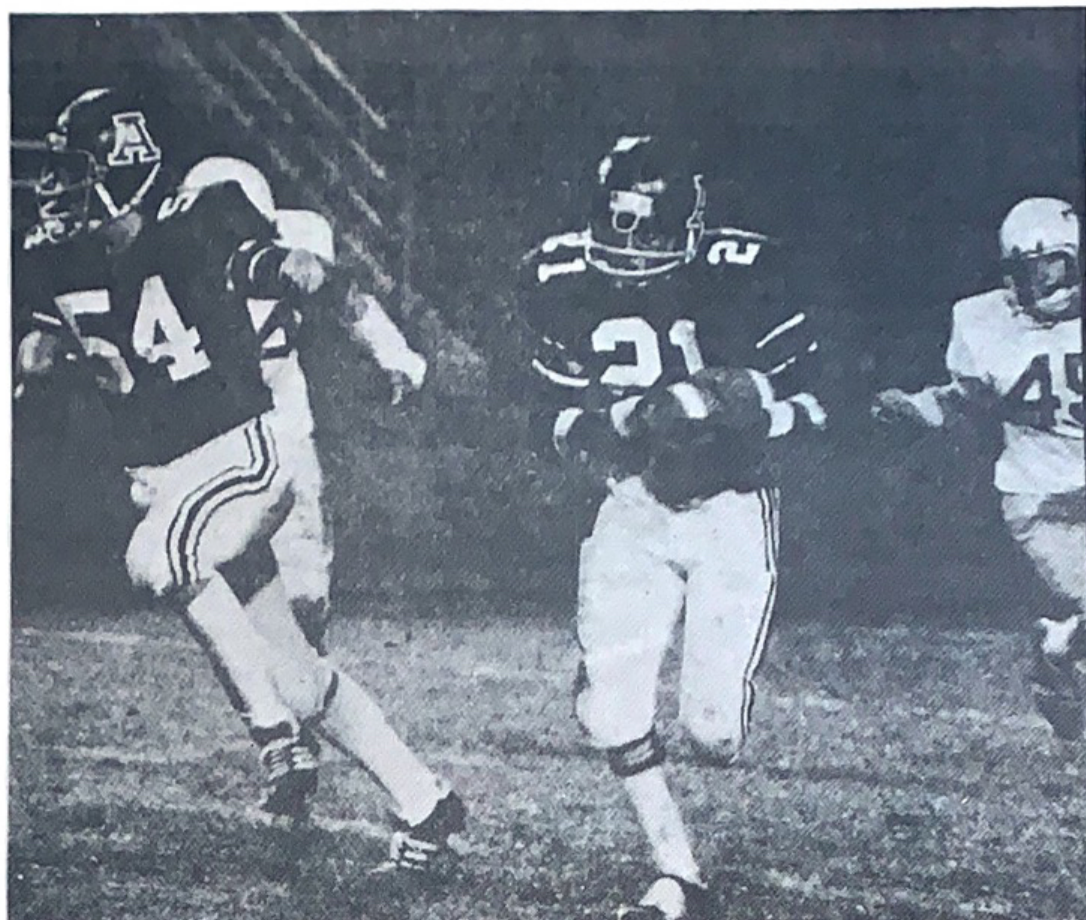
Top defensive players include Jerry Mendes, L. B.; Tom Simmons, end; Doug Church, safety; and Dave Weinstein, safety.

Coaching this year's hot team are Wayne Crow as Head Coach, Leroy Gallardo and Bill Dawson as Assistants.

In discussing team strengths with Coach Crow, he told out staff that our greatest strengths are in our speed on the outside, our plays, a good passing attack, and great hustle and attitude.

Our greatest weaknesses seem to be a lack of size and a lack of team depth.

The team's greatest attention has been placed on our big game tomorrow with Washington High. A great rivalry has been developing between us and Washington, and tomorrow's Homecoming game against them would be a perfect time to show them we're still number one.



(American's Martin Redmond and Jerry Mendes during our game against Kennedy.)

GYMNASTICS SCHEDULE

Thursday, Oct 25	Irvington, American at Washington
Tuesday, Oct. 30	Mission, Memorial at American
Wednesday, Nov. 7 (Night Game)	American at Newark

Why Not Give Us A Tumble!

(The American High Gymnastics Team)



For a little extra excitement, why not try Gymnastics. There are quite a few American High girls already in the swing of things, and this year's Gymnastics team is looking good.

Drop in to the gym any day after school and you'll probably see the smiling crew pictured here practicing for one of their tournaments with another school. Last Thursday, in fact, our Gymnastics team went through a Mock-Tournament here just to test their own abilities and really get in shape for the competition ahead.

Coaching the team are Sharon Ceresa and Mary Boothby of our P.E. Staff. With this coaching and staff ability, we can't be beat. Come and see for yourself.

TEAM PICKS NOV. 5

It's getting close to Basketball time again, and all prospective Basketball players should take notice of this special announcement:

Any and all boys interested in participating in Varsity, Junior Varsity or Freshman Basketball must sign up and have a physical exam and parent permission slip on file with Coach Garcia by November 5th.

For all interested fans and participants, practice for Varsity and J.V. candidates will start at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, November 5. Freshman practice will start approximately one week later.

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