

# Bearin' Down

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## BAHS Attends DODDS Germany Speech Festival

by Rose Hanson

The Berlin American High School had a four man team come home from the DODDS Germany Speech Festival in Kaiserslautern, with 11 awards.

The competition began on Feb. 8th, the morning the team arrived and went on for three days. On the third day (Feb 10) the awards were given.

Larry Speer was the big winner, he recieved 3 (gold) superior ribbons, one for significant speech (Martin Luther at Diet of Worms), Lincoln Douglas debate, and serious prose (Shooting an Elephant), and 3 blue (Outstanding) ribbons for his serious prose, debate and impromptu speaking. Larry said that he felt it was an immense success, he added "especially for me."

Tom Britton came home with 1 gold ribbon for debate, and 2 blue ones for his significant speech (McCarthy) and debate. Tom said that despite discrepancies in judging, he thought they all did well.

Tim Murphy and Rose Hanson both came home with 1 red ribbon (excellent). Tim won his for original oratory and Rose won hers for humorous prose.

The team came home with 11% of the awards and Mr. Schmoll the teams coach and sponsor was given a plaque to be engraved with the best winning names and placed in the school display case.

Mr. Schmoll said that he felt taht all of the students did their best to give their all. He also felt that all of the team members learned a great deal from the festival and the traveling by both German and American trains.

The Speech Festival was obviously a success for the Berlin American High School contenders. Since the top two winners from our school were seniors, we'll have to hope that next year we find some new and talented students.



## Drama Club Shows Their Many Talents

by Laurie Barsh

This year's Drama Club has recently been involved in many activities, both in the school and in the community.

On Wednesday, the second of March, the Drama Club along with a group of German students, provided the entertainment for the PTSA meeting. Mrs. Beech and Mrs. Ahrens helped with our school's Drama Club and Mrs. Jarrett was the sponsor of the German group. The show consisted of Connie Beech and Rod Kennard reading *I'm Herbert* by Robert Anderson, then leading into two dance routines. The Germans performed an American song by the Blues Brothers and the Americans did a German comedy song. Laurie Barsh, Larry Speer, Rod Kennard, Mike Beech, and David Melvin were the Drama Club members that performed in the dance routine.

The Drama Club also performed three one act plays at the TAT Theater at TCA on March 10-12. The plays were, *If It Don't Hurt, It Ain't Love* by John R. Carroll, *Mystery Of The Silver Backed Hairbrush* by Burton Crane, and *A Danish Soap Or "The Danes Of Our Lives"* by Peter Filishia. The play *If It Don't Hurt, It Ain't Love* showed a message while the other two were very light hearted.

Later in the month, eleven members will be attending the Drama Festival held in Zweibrucken on March 21-23. They are Connie Beech, Mike Beech, Tim Beech, Laurie Barsh, Rod Kennard, Larry Speer, Renee Gigon, David Melvin, Patty Duffy, Andrea Dedmen, and Michelle Barsh. They will be entered in the one acts, improvs, solos, and duets. This year they have more entries in more catagories.

Several club members are currently involved in a radio theater at AFN with Jerry Curry. Debbie Kottke is the president of this group. They are now working on a series called Allentown High.

## Osterholz hosts S.O.P.A. festival

by Sam Anderson

Recently, Mr. R. Lindsey and Mrs. L. Cleveland, of the BAHS music Dept. traveled to Osterholz to pick the "Symposium Of the Performing Arts" musicians.

The symposium, most commonly known as SOPA, was supposed to be held in Berlin, but due to major difficulties it will be held in Osterholz. The dates which have been set are the 21st, 22nd, and 23rd of April.

The band members that were selected were; David Bryant, Staci Edwards, Jeff Hoss, Carol McAllister, Scott McAllister, Mallissa Murray, Tricia Platz, Bryan Potyk, Alan Robinson, Bruce Sullivan, Sean Toner, Natascha Urban, Brian Wacter, Laura Chapman, Makalena Young, and Marcela Jones. The chorus list was not available at press time.

This past week, 18 BAHS students traveled to Bonn to participate in the 1983 Honors Music Festival. Among the elite group there was: Frank Ambrusco, Debbie Ambuel, Sam Anderson, Penny Bland, Staci Edwards, Tim Felker, Beth Deasy, Candy Haines, Janette Juris, Suk Morrison, Larry Speer, Loren Washington, and Eric Wahlquist, all from chorus. The Honors Band members were: David Bryant, Sonya McKnight, Alan Robinson, Bryan Potyk, Sean Toner, and Bruce Sullivan.

On another musical note Mr. Lindsey has started his own publication, the "Tah-Dahl". It is done totally by him and it contains all of the coming band events.

## Tourism Fair showed students the sights

by Didi Stowell

The Berlin American High School sponsored a trip for a limited number of students to the International Tourism Fair at the Funkturm on Wednesday, the 9th of March.

The International Tourism Fair is an exhibit where 100 countries showed items which they have to offer to tourists in their countries. Some of the countries involved were Spain, France, Denmark, Norway, U.S.A., Bulgaria, Turkey and many more. There was a large selection of goods with many varieties of posters which they gave away free.

Only one hundred students from Berlin American High School, sponsored by Herr Prigge, were able to go to this fair. The students left the school at 2:10, the beginning of 6th hour and stayed until 5:30. The students only had to pay 4 DM where as tickets at the fair cost 20 DM. This expedition turned out quite well and hopefully will be done again next year.



Bears,  
Irish you a  
happy & green  
St. Patrick Day



## Features

# BAHS JOURNALISTS SPEAK OUT ON VARIOUS TOPICS OF INTEREST

### Berlin Is A Place Of Beauty, Fun & Interest

by Elizabeth Waldrop

"This place is so boring. There's nothing to do here. School sucks. Man, in the States you can do so much. What a drag Berlin is." These are just a few phrases heard throughout the halls of Berlin American High School. The Berlin American Community probably is "a drag" as most people phrase it, but Truman Plaza isn't all of Berlin. There are so many other places in Berlin and outside of Berlin that are exciting and I'm not just talking about places to go out and get drunk or stoned in.

Berlin is a place of beauty, adventure, interest and fun. There are many examples of this. Look at the many parks in Berlin, this is just one example of beauty. The Wannsee, which is open to everyone, is free of cost and filled with many different activities.

The historical places in Berlin are numerous. The Wall is probably the best example of this. The Kaiser-Wilhelm Church, Brandenburg Gate, Charlottenburg Palace and many other places like these are open to all of the public for just a few dollars.

And then there are the "excuses". "It's too far away. It costs too much. I don't know where it's at. I don't speak German."

Berlin is filled with tourism centers in the German Community as well as the American Community. The information center located in Truman Plaza gives out free information for practically every place, activity or anything else happening in Berlin. ITT Tours goes to many historical places in Berlin for minimum cost.

Transportation in Berlin, is a simple process once you learn how to use it. Buses and U-Bahns go to anyplace you desire to go to, and once you've bought a ticket, it's good for around one and one half hours, as long as you're going in the same direction.

As far as the language goes most Germans speak a little bit of English and it wouldn't hurt if one learned a little of the German language. The communication gap between the two cultures seems to be one of the major causes for the distant relationship between the Germans and Americans.

In conclusion there is no excuse for not trying to enjoy oneself. Maybe Berlin isn't the United State but it shouldn't stop a person from enjoying all of the places and people of this fascinating city.

### PROMISING PROM PLANNERS NEED HELP

by Didi Stowell

Here it is, the big event of the spring is almost upon us again! And what is happening? That's a good question. Things are moving slow, maybe even crawling. The Juniors seem to be having a hard time raising the money for the Prom.

No one can say that the slow progress is from any one reason such as capability of the officers, or the sponsor or apathetic Juniors. It's a combination of the three. The officers do try hard but the Prom, which is traditionally planned and sponsored by the Juniors should not be put on the shoulders of three people. It would be such a help toward preparation of the Prom if more people became involved. Afterall, it is a class project, not a class officer project.

The officers once jokingly threatened to hold Prom at Oskar Helene-

heim with balloons in the trees and two bags of Doritos. Wouldn't it be terrible if that was all the Juniors could afford.

Let us contemplate the future, what is next years Prom going to be like? It is quite obvious that the Juniors of 84 are the most spirited class this year, and look how apathetic they are. It is high time that some one started caring about what their Prom is going to be like. When Prom comes around and it is not as successful as it could have been, just remember there was always the chance to help.

#### Attention Students:

In each issue of the Bearin' Down, following this St. Patrick's Day newspaper, Publications staff members will be "speaking out" with their opinions on a variety of topics. We are sure that these editorials will be of interest to many students at Berlin American High School.

If you should have any comments or questions concerning the opinions presented in the editorials, we encourage you to send a Letter to the Editor without any hesitation. We respect the opinions of all students and will put all printable letters on the Features page.

We hope to receive some kind of reaction to any article printed. Please sign your name to your letter and if requested, we will withhold your name. Thank you.

PUBLICATIONS STAFF  
1982-83

### Will BAH Students Be Cruising Berlin With Driver's Ed?

by Kenda Hehn

Why is it that Berlin American High School does not offer a driver's education course?

Under the guidance of a qualified driver's ed instructor, a person can get his learner's permit and practice driving (as long as the instructor accompanies him) at age sixteen, and then apply for a regular driver's license at age seventeen. In the U.S., many States have age requirements as low as fourteen and fifteen, and yet when people coming to Berlin already have a stateside license, they still must wait until they're seventeen to get a driver's license over here.

Especially for those who do not already have a stateside license, a driver's ed course would truly benefit many of the students at BAHs who are approaching or have reached eligibility as far as getting a license is concerned.

As Mr. Wieland recently explained, BAHs has a number of reasons for not supporting this idea: a qualified instructor must be found to teach the course; automobiles to be used in the course must be purchased or borrowed; and the insurance the school would have to pay to cover the program is very high.

But, if enough student interest and support could be drummed up, maybe word would get through to the Berlin Command, and make the plan a stronger possibility.

### Bearin' Down Staff

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# Outlook



The little leprechaun is all green tonight.  
The songs and the laughter in his mind shine bright.  
Beware if you tease him, he may start to fight.  
Oh little leprechaun you bring us such delight.

Andrea Dedman  
Grade 11



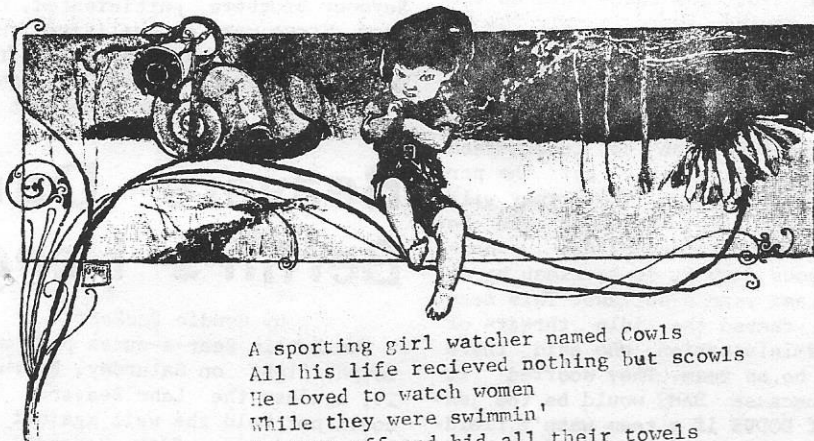
It's St. Pattie's day,  
and I'm in my green.  
and so is everyone else.  
so far, that I've seen.

There he is,  
over there.  
Should I pinch him,  
do I dare ?  
Oh no, he might  
have green underwear !

I pinched him anyway,  
and I did it right.  
He saw me, and  
blew up like dynamite !

Now I know why  
he has reason to despise...  
I completly forgot  
his Irish green eyes !

Andrea Dedman  
Grade 11



A sporting girl watcher named Cows  
All his life recieved nothing but scowls  
He loved to watch women  
While they were swimmin'  
He went off and hid all their towels  
-Tim Felker

A young whipper-snapper named Trapper  
Loved to play with his lolipop wrapper  
But he ran out of luck  
When his tongue became stuck  
Now he talks with a lisp through his flapper  
-Tim Felker

There once was a boy from Manhattan  
Said "I can do more than my dad can"  
So he moved to the coast  
of the sun made the most  
And came back with the world's perfect tan  
-Kenda Hehn

There once was a place in Peru  
Were everyone went to Ka'choo  
They called it Cold City  
So I wrote this sad ditty  
Now maybe they'll get a "bless you!"  
---Rose Hanson

One day while travelling the country  
My car was attacked by a tree  
I now ride the bus  
Which isn't much worse  
So long as the sightseeing is free  
-Kenda Hehn

There once was a midget named Mo'  
Who was constantly out of dough  
He tried robbing a bank  
But his little heart sank  
'Cuz he couldn't open the do'.  
-Cheryl Dearing



I found me a four-leaf clover.  
Gave it to me old pal Grover.  
But it slipped from his hand.  
Blew away in the sand.  
Our courting days are now over.

Andrea Dedman

There once was a cook named Mare  
Who served frog legs in the Square,  
But he was sued into submission  
By the Reptile Commission  
And now he makes little wheel chairs!  
-David Melvin

A sporting girl watcher named Squire  
majored in female attire  
But the girls were all meanies  
They called him a weenie  
Because he works at Oscar Meyer  
-Tim Felker

There once was a teacher named D. Jane  
Who seldom from yelling would refrain  
With verbal barrages  
She'd abuse her young charges  
In this madhouse it's the one way to stay sane  
-Pete Boatner

There was a young man named Rod  
Whose talents were extremely odd  
He could only shoot pictures  
of electrical fixtures  
And for that, he thought he was God.  
-Laurie Barsh





# Sports

## Men's Varsity Challenges Bucs

by Tim Felker

On Friday, February 25th, the Bears travelled to Baumholder to take on the Buccaneers. In Friday night's game Berlin started slowly, managing a 12-4 first quarter deficit. However, the second and third quarters belonged to the Bears as they out-scored the Bucs 20-12. In the beginning of the fourth quarter Berlin broke a 24-24 deadlock to take a 3 point lead, but from there on out it was downhill for Berlin. The buzzer sounded with the Bucs on top 46-33. Ronald Moffett was high scorer with 10 and George Moffett scored 8 points for Berlin.

On Saturday, misfortune befell the men's varsity team once again this tumultuous season; guard John O'Connell broke his toe and center Markus Fischler quit the team. So the Bears took to the floor with a weakened line-up, but nonetheless fought bravely and did a commendable job. Howard Makynen, putting up 18 points and hauling down 10 rebounds, had an outstanding game for the Bears. George Moffett scored 11 and Tim Felker had 8 points to round out Berlin's high scorers. Baumholder won by the score of 71-48.

## The Bucs Beat Bears

by Elizabeth Waldrop

The Berlin American High School Women's Basketball team traveled to Baumholder on February 28th and 29th. The team had a bye (no game) the previous weekend.

The She-Bears played Friday night and nothing seemed to go their way. The first half of the game Berlin couldn't handle the quickness and accuracy of the Baumholder Bucs leading 46-10. The Bucs are now conference champions for the third year in a row. The Bears worked their way up during the second half but Baumholder's lead was so great there was no way the She-Bears could catch up. The game ended in tragedy for the Bears losing to the Bucs 95-26. The high scorer was Cheryl Flack with 10 points and 5 rebounds.

Saturday morning was no different for the She-Bears or the Bucs. The game seemed to be a duplicate of Friday night's game. At half time Berlin was losing 25-7 and the game continued to go the wrong way for the She-Bears. Berlin lost 71-28 making their record 0-6 for conference games. Sydnee Matheny and Cheryl Flack were the top scorers for Berlin leading with 10 points a piece with 4 and 6 rebounds respectively. Jennifer Waldrop had 6 rebounds and added 2 points for the Bears.

### SPORTS EDITORIAL

Soccer . . . . A Follow-Up

by Mark Millen

If you remember last issue's sport's editorial, you can recall that the soccer team was being held responsible for the larcenous actions of last year's team and it told about the actions of the administration. But the major question was, is there going to be a soccer team? The answer is yes.

But how did the actual decision arrive that there would be a team? The soccer team successfully raised around \$120. The coach matched the sum by paying approximately \$90.00. This total satisfied the Athletic Director and was readily accepted by him. He went ahead and ordered new jerseys.

What recognition do those team members receive? They get the personal satisfaction that they will be playing for a school who believes they are samaritans whose righteous duty it is to clean up after last year's outlaws. This team never feared the idle threats of the administration, who said there would be no team. They scoffed it off, because BAHS would be the jester of DODDS if a team wasn't fielded because of lack of funds. They raised the money out of the kindness of their hearts because they didn't think the man who signed for the jerseys should be held responsible for the full price. So they raised the money and got their team; a job well done!

Hopefully a lesson has been learned by the administration with this incident. It would be a shame if next year's team is faced with the same dilemma. Maybe it will be more organized this year and players will be forced to sign for a certain jersey. Other coaches should take note, that this doesn't happen to their teams.

The soccer team is willing to forget the past and is looking for a good, unhindered season.

## Where Have All The Athletes Gone?

by David Bryant

There are several people who participate in sports at BAHS, but few athletes.

An athlete need not be the best at what he does, but he must like what he is doing. The athlete must give it his best shot. An athlete must combine desire, hardwork, concentration, discipline, sacrifice, and teamwork in order to be successful.

Most of our so-called athletes at BAHS perform on the basis of how they feel. For example, if their government teacher is on vacation during the week of a scheduled event, the participant will go all out. But if the person's coach yelled at that person for not working the person will lie low or ease back just to spite the coach.

Most students involved in sports at BAHS smoke or drink. In today's

## '83 Wrestling Season Ends

by Sean Toner

Stuttgart hosted the AA Gold Regional Championships on Feb. 19. The Central European Wrestling Championships were held the next weekend, 25-26 Feb., in Afcant, Belgium.

Two members of the small Berlin team, George Seymour and Steve Seymour, qualified at regionals for the Central European Wrestling Championships. Neither one of the Seymour brothers participated, however. Steve was disqualified when he failed to weigh-in below the designated level for his category. A stomach ache caused a default by injury for George.

## Beavers Dam Berlin's Hopes

by Cyndie Duckett

The Berlin Bear-a-cudas put up a tough fight on Saturday, February 19, against the Lahr Beavers, but could not hold the wall against the better swimming of the Beavers. The score was 210-196.

When coach Ted Colquhoun was asked how the team did in this past meet, his response was "We did really well. 80% of the times on the team were improved. We just were not ready for the Lahr team. Many of our key swimmers were away that weekend, which also contributed for the loss."

Bethany Ballard broke the 50m breaststroke league record for 11-12 girls. Todd Walsh broke the 100m breaststroke league record for 13-14 guys.

On Sunday, March 6, the Bear-a-cudas went up against the Mannheim Marlins. It was another victory for the Bear-a-cudas with a score of 296-120.

society there is nothing wrong with smoking or drinking, but an athlete is supposed to be in top physical and mental health. Smoking and drinking will only hinder the performance of an athlete. Imagine running a two mile race after smoking two cigarettes. Imagine playing in a football game with a hangover or blurred vision.

For all of you out there who have dreams of being an athlete but are not willing to work toward success, please don't go out for the teams. This would only waste the coaches' as well as the dedicated athletes' time. They don't need you.

Athletes are a dying breed here at Berlin American High School. It is sad to see so many potential athletes that don't even go out for a sport because they can't or won't give up their bad habits for a couple of months.