BAHS program lets students see 'the real world'

by Ken Anthony

Remember how frustrated you felt as a high school student at the number of years it took before you could get into the "real world"? Berlin American High School has a solution.

BAHS offers a Career Work Education Program that enables a student to get up to three high school credits for working in an area of his vocational interest. The student works at his job for from two to three hours during the school day. At the end of the nine-week grading period, the employer and one of the program directors, Linda Culea, Adam Hildenbrand or Joe Fergusen, evaluates the student's performance.

Some get paid

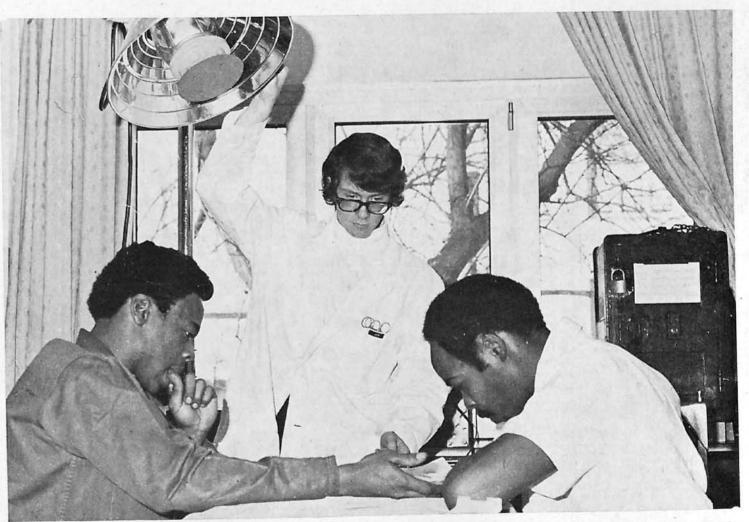
Many students are excited about being able to help others while helping themselves. Besides receiving credit, some students receive pay. CWE students who work as EES illustrators or PX or ESSO employees receive 75 cents an hour. More importantly, their experience makes them preferred summer hires.

Variety of positions

Currently there are about 100 students in the program working throughout Berlin. Students work in such diverse places as a German kindergarten, dental clinics, AFN-TV, supply, Berlin Observer, Thomas A. Roberts Elementary School with the teacher aid program and the hospital.

Debbie Cole, a student in CWE, says, "It is a very worthwhile program because it gives the student a chance to have the responsibilities of a regular job."

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STUDENT MEDIC — Joe Lewkowicz (center) is a CWE student who works at the McNair Barracks Troop Unit Aid Station. Here Joe assists Specialist 6 Ivory Fletcher (right),

a clinical technican, with the unit's electro-surgical unit. The patient is Private Rickey Jones of Combat Support Company, 6th Infantry. (Photo by Gary Maxwell)