

## BAHS Gets A Facelift

By Eugene Peterson

From April 17 to 28, 136 seventh and eighth grade students from Mr. Kjome's five science classes were seen outside the school doing their part in making the school a nicer place to be.

The idea to beautify came to Mr. Kjome when the community commander asked all members of the Berlin community to participate in Spring Cleanup Week. Mr. Kjome said, "I was concerned about the attitude of the students. One day after school I walked through the halls and counted over 900 pieces of trash. That's over one piece of trash per student and that was only inside the school."

During the time they have been working, the students have put in over six hours apiece: that is over 822 hours in beautifying our school. During this time, they have cleaned the entire school grounds, trimmed trees, planted over 130 shrubs, spread between thirty and forty pounds of grass seed, and tried to put dirt in all the spots where there was sand so that grass will grow again.

"The purpose of this activity was to help the students gain an appreciation of their school environment. They are studying the environment in class and the effects they have on it - both good and bad. They also learned practical things, such as how to use tools and plant trees," said Mr. Kjome.

The work was done entirely by the seventh and eighth graders. Instead of offering to help, the upperclasses have spit and thrown trash on the students working. There have also been two incidents of vandalism. Two brooms were broken when they were accidentally left out over the weekend, and later, some of the shrubs were pulled up.

On the whole, the project has been a success, and some of the students had this to say about their work:

Kelly Bell - "It's a good project, and when I look around it makes me feel good."

Steve Goodmanson - "I think it's a good idea and I learned a lot."

Doug Wallis - "It's a lot fun, the fresh air makes you feel good, and we get a grade for having fun."

Alex Mills - "I think it's a good project, and the school looks better after we're done."

Sean Harding - "It's fun and we learned a lot of stuff."

## Final Exam Schedule

SENIORS

Per. 1, 3, 5 June 5  
Per. 2, 4, 6 June 7  
FINISH ON JUNE 7

GRADES 7-11

Per. 1, 2, 3 June 9  
Per. 4, 5 June 12  
Per. 6 June 13  
Take-ups June 13  
Lock Turn In June 13

## Berlin Tops Speech/Drama Festival

By Renee Trenholm

The 1977-78 Speech and Drama Festival was held in Baumholder, with nine schools, Bad Kreuznach, Baumholder, Berlin, Bitburg, Bonn, Frankfurt, Hahn, Hahnau, and Wiesbaden, competing. The festival lasted for two days, Thursday and Friday, 4-5 May.

Arriving in Baumholder around 4:00 Wednesday, the Berlin students and their sponsors, Ruth Reeves, Cathy Ewing, and Mrs. Williams were taken to their temporary homes before the festival began Thursday morning.

Berlin went to Baumholder with three participants in each event, except pantomime and original oration, which had only two competitors. Finally, the Berlin team had the one-act play, "The Old Lady Shows Her Medals." In original oration, Gabi Drum placed in the top three with an excellent speech on the Berlin Wall, and Dianna Sneider won a place at the top for oral interpretation. Sarah Chapman ranked in the top three in the improvisation category.

Berlin's one-act play was ranked number one by the judge. All members of the cast, Debbie Tolbert, Tony Gussman, Shari Robinson, Sherri Senay, Regina Williams, and Duane Kaneckow, received ribbons for their superior performance. Debbie Tolbert and Tony Gussman later received ribbons for best actors.

In solo acting, Berlin walked away with the two top places. Debbie Tolbert gave an outstanding performance in a scene from "Portrait of a Madonna" and Billy Short portrayed Oliver Barrett IV in a scene from "Love Story".

In duet acting, Berlin once again came out on top with Katy Steger and Cheryl Wild in a scene from "The Miracle Worker", the story of Helen Keller and her teacher, Anne Sullivan.

Berlin took the trophy for best over-all, placing at least once in seven of the eleven events. Berlin won a total of ten awards, including the trophy

BAHS should be proud of the students who went on the trip. They proved that Berlin is #1.

## Peterson Elected President

By Tulip Chaudhury

May 1, International Labor Day, was also an important one for Berlin American High School, since the student council executive board elections were to be held that day. All the weeks of passing out buttons and hanging posters had reached a climax, and now, in class assemblies, the students would make their choices after listening to the candidates. The people running for offices were: Brenda Wacter for S.C.A. secretary of correspondence, Myra Turner for secretary treasurer, Frank Mellon for vice-president, and lastly, running for the office of president of the student council, were Eugene Peterson and Ed Phillips.

The assemblies were held during the first three periods, and toward the middle of the fourth period the results were announced. The winners were Brenda Wacter, Myra Turner, Frank Mellon, and Eugene Peterson. There were also a few votes for such well known personalities as Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck, and Idi Amin.

## Bitburg Hosts Chorus Festival

By Debbie Doty

On the night of April 27, fourteen students and three chaperones left Berlin on the duty train on their way to Bitburg for the annual District II Chorus Festival. Six schools besides Berlin participated in the Festival: Bad Kreuznach, Bitburg, Frankfurt, Hahn, Hanau, and Wiesbaden. The best voices from each of the school's choruses were selected to attend the festival, and the groups combined to form one large chorus of over 120 students, with seven alternating directors.

After the last of the schools had arrived Friday afternoon, practice for Sunday's performance began. At 5:00, rehearsal was over, and the students met their sponsors and spent the rest of the day with them.

Saturday was spent practicing, and afterwards, a banquet was held for all the participants in the festival. After the meal, entertainment was provided by those students who wanted to take part. From BAHS, Toni Hassell and Regina Williams sang solos. Following the entertainment, a dance was held to finish off the evening.

Sunday's concert was the climax of the weekend. Each of the directors conducted at least one selection. The program consisted of a wide range of styles, including blues, jazz, popular, spiritual, folk, and even a Chinese song called "Five Chinese Proverbs". After the concert, termed "fantastic" by the audience, the buses arrived to take the students to their respective schools. For those who took part in the chorus festival, the word was that rehearsing was exhausting, but it was well worth the effort. Festival students arrived in Berlin Monday morning with a feeling of satisfaction from the weekend.

## ESCA Summit Held in K-Town

By Connie Phillips

This year's European Student Council Association spring conference was held in Kaiserslautern on April 14, 15, and 16. The delegates from Berlin were Brenda Lee, Connie Phillips, Frank Sprinkle, and Mike Phillips, who went as eighth grade observer. Ed Phillips and Frank Mellon accompanied these delegates as part of the ESCA executive board.

The ESCA conference was very successful, with three countries and seventeen different cities represented. There were nineteen different topics discussed, ranging from school reports to the smoking policy to the seventh and eighth grade integration problem and the revision of the constitutions. Many of the problems discussed were sent to Dr. Mason, the director of DODDSEUR.

The Berlin delegates were proud of the fact that they knew their Parliamentary procedures well enough to express their feelings throughout the conference.

Berlin returned with two honors. Ed Phillips won the election of Secretary General, better known as president, of the ESCA for his second term, which is the first time this has occurred in the history of the ESCA. And Frank Mellon won his second term as Secretary of Interior Affairs.

Most delegates felt that this conference was almost as good as the fall conference, held in Berlin. Everyone felt that, at the fall conference, more was accomplished while delegates still had a good time. At the fall conference, there were five different countries and twenty-one cities represented.

## Father of Airlift Dies

By Beccy Lewkowicz

Sunday, April 16, after a long period of illness, "the hero of Berlin" died. General Lucius DuBignon Clay, the man behind the engineering of the post-war airlift of supplies to the blockaded city of Berlin, was 80.

A West Point graduate in 1918, he rose from the rank of captain to general in seven years. General Clay has been described as a "true friend of Germany." During the 1948-1949 Soviet land blockade of West Berlin, Clay engineered the round-the-clock airlift of supplies. Planes landed approximately every minute. Though the French and British participated in the airlift, the Americans played a greater role. The blockade was cracked. It was designed to force England, France and the U.S. out of the German capital.

The street Clayallee was named for General Clay, who was very dear in the hearts of Berliners.

## Berlin's U-Bahn Expands

By Tom Dorry

April 28 is a day that will go down in annals of the history of the U-Bahn system of Berlin. On this day, a six-stop extension of Line 7 (Rudow-Fehrbelliner Platz) was opened. Line 7 now extends to Richard Wagner Platz in the district of Charlottenburg. Contained on this new section of the U-Bahn is a transfer station to Line 1 (Ruhleben-Schlesisches Tor) Bismarck Strasse.

For the regular concert-goers of Berlin, getting to the Deutschlandhalle will no longer pose as great a problem as in the past. Instead of riding to Wittenbergplatz and transferring to Line 1, the rider now has to get off at Fehrbelliner Platz and transfer to Line 7 in the direction then of Richard Wagner Platz. The person transfers at Bismarckstrasse (four stops) to Line 1 and rides to Kaiserdamm. For those who didn't follow the above explanation, there is an illustration below.

This annexation is only part of the future construction plans of the Berlin Transit Company (BVG). If the plan, which the BVG hopes to initiate, goes into effect, the U-Bahn system will be over 200 kms. (124 miles) long. The construction is expected to end by the mid-80's.





# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

I would like a report on the situations of our bathrooms. I understand that Student Council has been making an effort to improve them, but as yet, little progress seems to have been made. In my personal opinion, a greater effort could be put forth by all parties involved. To the student body of BAHS I'd like to make an appeal. If you see someone smoking in your bathroom or writing on your bathroom walls, you should ask them to stop; the second time, they should be reported. If this is the only way to keep our bathrooms open and clean, then right on!

Signed,

Keep our bathrooms clean

Dear Alias Clean:

I applaud your letter. For the life of me, I cannot understand how people can crowd five or six into a toilet stall, smoke, eat lunch (yes, eat, lunch trays and lunch sacks are often found in such quantities in toilet stalls, particularly in girls' restrooms), and carry on conversations in the restrooms. For those who have got to smoke, let's help get them out of the restrooms and into the bright light of day. With clean air to breathe, perhaps they (you, for the readers whom the shoe fits) will start thinking in cleaner terms of what is really best for them (you).

I think the writing on the walls is another type of problem. The dirty, hateful remarks usually expressed in this graffiti can only be associated with people handicapped with interpersonal relation problems. They/you who write on walls are usually people who have not learned how to deal comfortably and confidently with other students, teachers, but most particularly with parents. They/you did not become a wall writer overnight, but over many years have learned to accept and need poor ways of relating with others.

Usually, help is needed for a person to understand and change these practices, partly because they have become a way of life, and partly because the person is usually not aware of these practices and how they affect their/your ability to get along well with parents, students, and teachers. Do you think you have such a problem? Have you been writing on restroom walls? Do you have trouble getting along with others and don't know why?

Look for help where it is at. Mom or Dad - favorite teacher - your counselor.

Mr. Stowell

Dear Editor:

When the soccer season started I noticed that a girl, Diane Westrom, was trying out for the team. My question is: Will the same opportunity be offered to boys next year when tryouts for volleyball are held? Since volleyball is a collegiate sport as well as part of the Olympic games, it should at least be a co-ed sport if a boys' volleyball team is not either financially possible or lacks enough interested people.

Steve Coffin

Dear Steve:

At the present time, under present regulations this will not be possible.

Mr. Kubarek

Dear Editor:

Being a second-floor faculty member, I wish to express my concern about the supposed improvements made in the men's lavatory on that floor.

I realize it is impossible for anyone to hurl "objects d'art" from bolted windows: I realize heat and fumes do not escape from such windows, either. These are marvelous means of conservation, but is there to be no consideration for those of us who still have functional olfactorys? Cool, fresh air is sometimes, there, most necessary.

Could not the restroom be condemned by the sanitation authorities if no ventilation is installed?

Just sign me...

...Lacking fan and mask.

Dear Lacking:

I believe that the reason for the restrooms being closed from time to time is known and understood. The lower windows are to be functional so fresh air can enter the area. There appears to be no regulation that requires windows for restrooms. The bad smell comes from lack of use and is usually strongest right after the place has been closed for a few days.

Mr. Stowell

Dear Editor:

In response to the Frank Zappa article printed in your newspaper, a few of us would like to say you should get someone who knows good music to write the review. It's true, the concert may not have lived up to expectations, but Zappa's band this time was very good, and it was very tight and together. So, before the writer can make comments like he did in the article, we think he should know his music, because the musical part of the show was excellent.

Signed,

Disgusted Zappa Fans

Dear Disgusted Zappa Fans:

Every critic or supposed-critic has his likes and dislikes on whatever subjects he is writing about. The article was meant as a critique and not an objective news report. I, therefore, expressed my criticisms of the concert and not anyone else's. I hope that you will understand my point of view.

Tom Dorry,

Editor-in-Chief

Dear Editor:

Why is it that whenever an administrator is requested to give a clarification to a letter to the editor, the reply is often indirect or evasive? Why cannot a straight-forward answer be given?

Sign me,

Anti-Circumlocution League

Dear Anti:

It appears you would prefer a yes or no response to reasonably complex questions without benefit of background information or material.

Mr. Kubarek

## Editorial Comment

If the student council elections are in any way indicative of what next year is going to be like, it may turn out to be another apathetic year. This editorial is not condemning the people who ran for offices. Quite on the contrary, the candidates are of an excellent calibre and look to be promising officers.

The problem lies rather in the student body for not showing more interest in student council by running for an office. The state which prevailed at the elections was one that was similar to a state or country with one political party. Actually, the speeches which were presented to the student body were unnecessary, because there was only one candidate running for each office except the presidency.

It is time that the students of BAHS learn not only to elect wisely but also emerge from their cubbyholes and lockers and realize there is more to school than just books and tests. The students of our school do have power, contrary to popular belief, and the only source in which this power can be exercised is SCA. Therefore, some realization of the importance and power of student council on the part of the student community of BAHS is necessary.

The SCA executive board of this year has been severely criticized by many people in the school for not having accomplished anything. Why? Not because the officers were incompetent, but because you, the students, did nothing to help. Student council is not going to be a successful form of government if students don't become involved with it in some manner.

## The Last Term

By Astrid Lieber

The last term of the school year always seems to be the hardest. The first term is full of excitement while everyone is making new acquaintances and trying to get settled in. The second and third terms are usually run on a fairly smooth schedule with the exception of a few sudden outbursts.

The last term is an entirely different story. The students are very restless, because it is nearing the end of the year, and when the weather is nice, it is almost impossible for anyone to study in a stuffy classroom. The last quarter is extremely difficult for the seniors with the jitters caused by the nearing of graduation and the anticipation of passing all their classes. Seniors try to cram everything into the last term, knowing they are really going to miss school when it's over.

Hopefully, the students of BAHS will be able to tolerate the last term of school without too much inner frustration.

## Seniors are Gods

By Beccy Lewkowicz

Contrary to popular belief, seniors are gods. It is, therefore the job of all underclassmen to show their utmost respect for these seniors.

In the past, senior classes have had one or two outstanding people. But, unfortunately, this senior class does not believe in following tradition. We have 79 plus outstanding people.

What talent these seniors have!! The hub-lifting champion, Steve Craig, can lift a hub in one second flat. Debbie Speich and Jason Sprankle are the

kissing champs (3 hours; 4 minutes and 5.3 seconds). And then, of course, there are the jocks. Victor "Reaver" Blackson, is the school's basketball champion. He can juggle eight basketballs at once. Don Pierson, 6'11", can put his head through the basketball rim. The champion discus thrower, Lori Rhynsburger, threw the discus 4 miles, 2 inches. She threw her dinner plate out the window when her mom tried to force her to eat the food.

So as you freshmen, sophomore idiots, and sooners walk through the halls, and see a shining light, (a senior) cower to him/her, kiss the feet, and offer to do any and all homework.

## LETTERS cont...

Dear Editor;

I implore the hospitality of your columns to refute the base insinuations of a Miss Tulip Chaudhury who would have been better employed at a flower festival in the Netherlands than in contributing to an absurd attempt to undermine the splendid reputation of that fine teacher and humorist, Mr. Philip B. Sullivan, the master of the revels in room 105.

Mr. Sullivan NEVER threatens students to obtain their completely spontaneous response to his merry quips. Mr. Sullivan was completely overcome by the vile implications of the now NOTORIOUS libel of Ms. Chaudhury. He challenges anybody to interview anyone of his classes in his presence BEFORE the final examination. He is charitable enough to admit that Ms. Chaudhury may have misinterpreted his prediction that Mr. Dennis Rears would become principal of this school as a threat. How she could have done so is obscure. Being principal of BAHS is a pleasant sinecure and a wonderful career for a bright young man. Think of what it would be for Mr. Rears! There is no reason to assume that Mr. Sullivan in any way threatened Mr. Rears.

I assume that Miss Chaudhury will reconsider her charge that Mr. Sullivan uses any form of extortion in getting pupil responses to his jests. She will be well advised to publish a retraction at reasonable time BEFORE final grades are issued.

I Have the Honour to be Yours, etc.

Benedict P. Navillus

LTC, Bengal Lancers, Ret.

## Peterson Addresses Student Body

As newly elected student council president for next year, I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank all the students that supported me.

I have big expectations for next year and hope I will be able to live up to my campaign slogan "Put the Student Back in Student Council". Next year student government will be under a new constitution that hopefully will provide for more student action and involvement in student council. The new student council executive board and newly elected class officers will be meeting and working together over the summer, planning new projects and activities for next year. Some proposed projects for next year are a school carnival, student talent/fashion show and more activities that will involve the students and faculty. There will also be a student complaint box in the student activities room where students can write in their complaints, criticisms, suggestions, and compliments and they will be dealt with by the student council executive board.

Next year can be what you want it to be. I ask that all students support their class officers. Give Student Council a chance to work for you.

# Season Summary

Steve Coffin

When the Berlin soccer team started their season, they were faced with a shorter practice time to get in shape than the other teams, caused partly by the absence of a coach. (Mr. Ziegler was hired after a discrepancy in his contract was taken care of.)

With only a couple of weeks of practice under their belts, the team traveled down to Nürnberg and were handed a 0-7 defeat by the Eagles.

When Hanau came up to Berlin, the team was handed its second loss, 2-5, with Rick Kuhlbars and Tamiki Takagi scoring their goals in the second half.

Traveling down to Bad Kreuznach, the team was dealt their third straight loss, falling 1-3. Steve Lynch, assisted by Rick Kuhlbars, scored the lone goal for Berlin.

Against Karlsruhe the team turned things around as they gained confidence winning 7-5 in overtime. Steve Lynch scored three goals in regulation time, and John Drezwicki, Rick Kuhlbars, Dale Westrom, and Cliff Reeves scored elf meters to carry Berlin to victory.

Wurzburg visited Berlin and were outplayed by the score of 3-2 with Rick Kuhlbars scoring two goals and Tamiki Takagi putting in the final goal.

For the final game of the season, the soccer team traveled to Baumholder where they were turned back with a 0-2 loss. Dale Westrom and David Barton scored the only goals for Berlin. The soccer team ended the season with a record of 2-4.

## TENNIS

### Tennis Ends Season 4-2

By Steve Coffin

The tennis team has fared well in recent competition, taking victories over Nürnberg April 8, Bad Kreuznach April 22, and Karlsruhe April 29, but dropping to Hanau on April 15, and Wuerzburg on May 6.

Against Nürnberg the boys swept all nine sets, with first seeded Chris Alexander leading the way, winning 9-5. The girls' half of the team had a bit more trouble, only winning three out of nine, with first seeded Chris Ricchi gaining victory over her opponent 9-7. The score was Berlin 12, Nürnberg 6.

When Hanau came to town, the teams' two-match winning streak was stopped by the Panthers. The boys provided the only victories in the 14-4 defeat. Second seeded Chris Alexander and fourth seeded Irvin Hicks won in singles competition, while in doubles the second seeded team of Alexander and Greg Price won their set 9-4. The third doubles team of Scott Flynn and Peter Stein also won 9-6.

On April 22 Bad Kreuznach visited Berlin and Berlin walked away with an easy victory of 17-1.

The team split up with the main body staying at

out to the Dieppel courts. Starting at the Muettenweg bubble, Richard Clarke, second seeded this week, overpowered his opposite as he went on to victory 9-1, "captain" Chris Ricchi followed with a 9-4 triumph. Third seeded Kay Martinez put down any threat as she won 9-1, and Scott Flynn stroked strongly, defeating his counterpart 9-4. Greg Price, fourth seeded, had the upper hand as he won 9-0. Sherri Flynn, not to be outdone by her brother, won with a comforting 9-1 victory.

At Dieppel, fifth seeded Irvin Hicks, watched Price's playing and was the victor by the identical score of 9-0. Following close behind her fellow teammates, Linda Fournet strolled to a 9-2 triumph. Steve Coffin, sixth seeded, followed the example as he also shut out his opponent 9-0. Astrid Lieber won by forfeit, as Bad Kreuznach had only 5 girls (a boy was supposed to play but was not feeling well). In doubles competition, the third doubles team of Hicks and Peter Stein volleyed to a 9-1 victory, and Susan Schmidt and Linda Fournet also won by a score of 9-3.

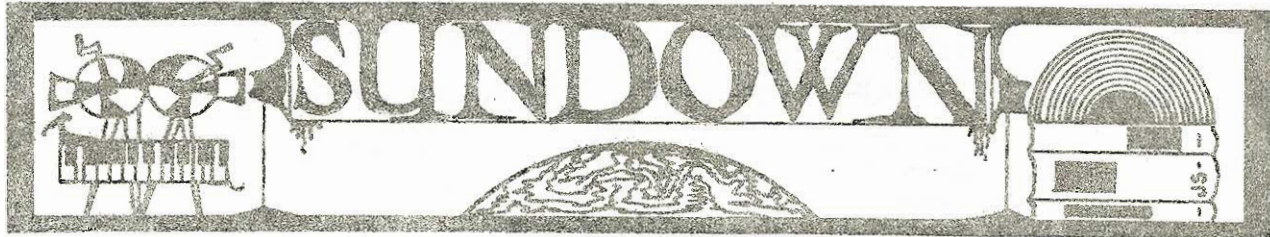
Back at the bubble, top seeded Chris Alexander had no trouble disposing of his opponent, as he went on to win 6-4, 6-2. Cheryl Wild, first seeded for the girls, posted the only loss as she fell 2-6, in a hard-fought match. In doubles, the first team of Clarke and Flynn played to a one-sided victory of 6-0, 6-2; not to be shown up by their male teammates, Chris Ricchi and Kay Martinez coasted to a 7-6, 6-0 win. The second seeded doubles team of Cheryl Wild and Sherri Flynn went on to win 9-7, as Steve Coffin exchanged places with Alexander to team up with Greg Price and take a 9-3 victory.

In the fifth week of competition, Berlin traveled down to Karlsruhe and came back with a close 10-8 victory.

Top seeded Chris Alexander started off the hard way, taking three sets to defeat his opponent 4-6, 6-1, 7-5 as Cheryl Wild was defeated in straight sets of 2-6, 2-6. Chris Ricchi, second seeded, rebounded, showing good form as she won 9-2, while her counterpart, Scott Flynn, fell to a 1-9 loss. Third seeded Richard Clarke and Sherri Flynn were both overcome by the score of 4-9. Irvin Hicks, fourth seeded this week, had little trouble as he won 9-4. Kay Martinez took one more game to win 9-5. Fifth seeded Astrid Lieber volleyed into a 9-2 victory, and Greg Price was also victorious with a score of 9-6. Susan Schmidt, sixth seeded, won a close one, 9-8, while Peter Stein fell to a 2-9 defeat.

In doubles competition, top seeded Scott Flynn and Richard Clarke won in a tight match 6-4, 5-7, 6-4, but Chris Ricchi and Kay Martinez lost 2-6, 5-7. Second seeded team of Chris Alexander and Greg Price took a loss of 7-9, as Cheryl Wild and Sherri Flynn also lost 4-9. Astrid Lieber and Susan Schmidt, third doubles team, won 9-2, with Irvin Hicks and Peter Stein also winning 9-6. The team was then treated to a picnic lunch by Karlsruhe, a good way to end the day.

(continued on Page 6)



## Dry Ice Machos: QUEEN

By Becky Lewkowicz

"Queen is the best band that I have heard in a long, long time. Queen convinced me that a concert isn't just giving out money for a ticket and listening to the music blasting out at you..."

Queen is currently one of the biggest groups in the world. Japan, Australia, and the U.S. are their biggest markets for records.

When Queen, a group of four professors, first began, they knew what they wanted to be: a real heavy band that could combine heavy music with melodic harmonies.

Their road crew is permanent; Queen is one of the few bands who keeps a road crew, even if the band isn't touring.

Queen recently returned from a two month U.S. tour. As they put it, "We finally managed to crack the South. It was hard." They are only the third British band to be successful in the South.

Some people think Queen is out only to make money. "Not so," said Roger Taylor, the band's bass guitarist. "If people think so, it's because, back in the early days, we would work just as hard and not see the money."

"Queen's music has gotten much simpler recently, and in terms of studio use and recording technics, We Are The Champions is the most simple track in the charts at the moment," says Freddie Mercury, Queen's lead vocalist.

When asked about Queen's current hit We Are The Champions and what it means, Taylor said "We" is meaning us, the audience, whoever's listening. It's not meant to say we are the best group, so up you. It's a 'let's all rejoice' feeling."

## ELO Comes Out of the Blue

By Tom Dorry

ELO, the Electric Light Orchestra, presently touring Europe, granted a brief interview to a group of journalists present at the group's arrival at Tegel.

Jeff Lynne and Bev Bevens were the spokesmen for the group and cordially answered the questions that the journalists had.

Jeff Lynne, the creator and main driving force behind ELO, is the lead guitarist and vocalist of the group. Bev Bevens is the drummer and one of the co-founders of Electric Light Orchestra. Before creating ELO, both Lynne and Bevens had played in one of the most notorious British bands of the psychedelic era, the Move.

After leaving the Move, Jeff Lynne, Bev Bevens, and Roy Wood (currently a solo act) decided to lay the foundations for a band that was to experiment with new ideas and music styles. ELO was to play what critics and writers were to coin "classical rock."

When Jeff Lynne was asked about the success of Out of the Blue, he replied, "It's unbelievable." It is indeed unbelievable, since the album has already sold approximately three million copies worldwide and is still selling.

Out of the Blue took three months to make and was recorded in Munich. Bev Bevens said that although the group did not have much experience in European recording studios, ELO preferred the Munich studios over the ones in England.

So far, the Electric Light Orchestra tour has gone through Japan, Australia, and part of Europe. Asked what their favorite audience was, both members agreed that all the audiences have been great. Jeff Lynne specified that the German audiences were "tremendously receptive".

Electric Light Orchestra plans to complete their world tour at the end of 1978 or beginning of 1979.

## Climax Blues rocks Neue Welt

By Julie Ely

Climax Chicago Blues Band, or Climax Blues Band, as they are more commonly known, are an extremely talented group of musicians who all enjoy the non-synthesized, not-so-electric sound of blues and certainly play it well.

Before their recent concert here in Berlin, this writer had the privilege of meeting two of the band's members; bass guitarist Derek Holt, and drummer John Cuffley. The other three members of Climax Blues are lead guitarist, Peter Haycock, who plays a mean slide guitar, Colin Cooper, who plays sax, harmonica, guitar, and sings most lead vocals, and keyboard player, Pete Filley.

Climax Blues has been together for nine years and still has all its original members. Their big jump into the realm of AM radio came a few years ago with the song "Couldn't Get It Right." The group has released several albums, Tightly Knit, and FM Live to name a couple. Their just-released album, Shine On, is the theme for their European tour.

Playing an average of five gigs a week, the group says they definitely prefer the stage to the recording studio. "The stimulus to play better and harder comes from your audience", says John Cuffley.

"The band enjoyed their U.S. tours," says Derek Holt, "the audiences really get into the music". The South and the Midwest U.S. were some of the favorite areas they toured. The band enjoys playing with other blues bands. John Cuffley and Derek Holt are great fans of Stevie Wonder, and have toured with him. In the past, the band has been the opening act for other groups and played in large rock festivals with other popular bands, and they hope one day to go on tour with all of the blues greats on a world tour.

## Tennis cont...

Berlin ran into some tough competition, as they ran into Wuerzburg, losing 8-10. The boys provided most of the victories, as the girls managed only one win.

In boys' competition Chris Alexander, Irvin Hicks, Scott Flinn, Greg Price, and Steve Coffin won in singles. In doubles Clarke and Flinn won as did Price and Coffin.

In girls' competition the only victory came from Fournet and Schmidt who won in doubles.

Peter Stein played in an exhibition and won 9-5.



# Uncle Al tells his — story PP

The Editors of BEARIN' DOWN have asked me for the story of my exciting, fun-filled life to be published in their tacky paper. I have to admit I was a bit put off by this request, as, up to now, I thought I had at least a few friends in this school. Also, I gathered most people had read my life story when it was published several years ago under the title "Gone With The Wind". But after giving the matter much thought, I decided to go along with this weird request. I met the Editors at the Editorial Office of BEARIN' DOWN on the 35th floor of the Europa Center, and it was decided that if they agree not to take my class next year, I would give them the story of my life.

I was born in Madagascar shortly after the end of the Crimean War. My birthday is easy to remember, as it is a national holiday in several countries. It is "Yak Round-up Day" in Outer Mongolia. It is "Yak Turn-loose Day" in Inner Mongolia. It's the date of the "Strawberry Rash Festival" in Peru, and it's also, alas, Bella Abzug's birthday.

Shortly after I was born, my family moved to Hong Kong. There I spent a carefree childhood on a Chinese junk in a typhoon shelter. When it came time for me to attend school, my family could not find a suitable school for me in Hong Kong, but there was an excellent school in Burma. This caused a problem, because the school bus had not been invented yet, and we were too poor to afford a kayak. This pressing problem was solved when it was discovered that I could take the Noon Balloon to Rangoon each day.

By the time I finished my secondary...and third-ary...education, America had been discovered and so I enrolled in Harvard University. Soon I received a degree in "Understanding Punk Rock" and went forth to earn my living.

The Second World War had started by that time, and I was eager to enlist. One day I received a phone call from someone who said: "Hello, this is World War 2. You are requested to report for your physical". I really did not think I would pass the physical as all the NFL quarterbacks had failed their army physicals that year, but it seems even then "thin was in" and so I joined the army. But the war was soon over and I went forth to earn my daily bread.

I heard they were looking for film writers in Hollywood, and so I went to California. I got a job writing movies for Shirley Temple, but soon became bored with that. I mean, there are just so many lines of dialogue you can write between choruses of "On The Goodship Lollypop". So I quit Hollywood and returned to New York.

Television had just started, and so I got a job doing television shows. You may be familiar with some of the more excellent shows I worked on, such as "Ding Dong School", "Romper Room", "Huckleberry Hound", and "Crusader Rabbit".

After I left television, Paul Newman asked me to make a film with him. The critics were very cruel in their reviews, but I feel I must defend the film. It had an excellent cast - the leading lady was Bella Abzug's mother. The critic for "Time" magazine called it the worst film of the year, but what does "Time" magazine know about films. I have to admit, it was no "Star Wars", but it only lost \$23 million.

Elvis had come along by that time and rock and roll was all the rage. I decided to put together a

group and write songs. My group was called "Attilla and the Huns". I have to admit, we did not go over very big in America, but the group swept through Europe. You may recall their hit single - "We Love You, Bella Abzug". One of my songs made the "Top 10,000" for a week in 1957. I wrote such hits as "I Want to Hold Your Head" and "We All Live In A Yellow Submerged Volkswagen".

After that I had several exciting...and challenging...jobs. I delivered Stars and Stripes in the Amazon Rainforest, I sold refrigerators to Eskimos, I was head of the "Mrs. George A. Custer Fund for Indian Relief", I was a member of the "Bella Abzug for Sheriff" Committee, and I was a clerk at the Mt. Everest PX.

So how did I get to Berlin? I was flying out to the Minsk Film Festival on Treetop Airlines when we developed engine trouble over Berlin. We made an emergency landing near the Bahnhof Zoo, and I found out it would take several months to get new rubber bands for the propellers. I decided to look for work and learned the Berlin American High School for Malcontent Teenagers was looking for teachers. I checked out the school and took the job in spite of the squirrely students I saw everywhere. I mean it was "space city"!!! So here I am, at 27 years old, trying to teach the difference between Jingoism and Teapot Dome. I feel like I'm back in "Romper Room"!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

## A Look at C.W.E.

By Debi Cohoon

Mr. Hildenbrand visited all 9-12 first period classes to explain C.W.E. (Cooperative Work Experience) to all students interested in taking it next year. All C.W.E. students explore a career field of their choice, and there are many career areas for students to explore which will be beneficial in later career choices. Students may work at areas including the Army Hospital, AAFES, TCA, McNair, and Tegel. C.W.E. is important for juniors and seniors who benefit most from a practical career experience. In order to take C.W.E., students must have at least two free hours together or they can work sixth period and after school (for additional credit). Questions may be directed to Mr. Hildenbrand in the Career Center.

## Drama Comes to Gym

By Beccy Lewkowicz

On May 11, in Victory Hall, the actors who participated in the Speech and Drama Festival performed four scenes for several classes in BAVIS. Billy Short, who received an award for outstanding actor for his solo, performed a scene from "Love Story". He took his scene from the book and did his own script and cutting.

A cutting from "Our Town", done by Margo Horton and Steve Steger, showed two young people as they discovered their love for each other.

A duet from "Plaza Suite" was about a father and mother, and their daughter, who was about to be married. Duane Haneckow and Sherri Senay portrayed the anxious parents.

The last scene, from "The Miracle Worker" was about the struggle between Hellen Keller, played by Katy Steger, and her teacher, played by Cheryl Wild.