



# Bearin' Down

Vol III No. 10

Berlin American High School

May 16

## North Germany Honors Festival Held in Berlin

by Toni Hassell

On May 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, Berlin American High School provided the location for DODDS North Germany 1980 Music Festival. A total of 105 students along with 20 music directors representing 12 different schools throughout North Germany came together for 3 days of intensive study work, and practice sessions which resulted in a spectacular performance on Sunday, May 24, 1980.

Participants for the festival were chosen on the basis of an audition which was submitted by tape. Many students auditioned but only 105 were chosen to represent the various schools. The competition was very stiff this year and many good musicians were turned away because there could only be a limited number.

Fifty students made up the festival's band and the remaining students made up the chorus. The band was directed by the various directors from the various schools. Mrs. Linda Dystra directed the festival's chorus. The participants represented North Germany's most talented young musicians.

Berlin American High School was represented by, band: Marie Reno, Cedric Anderson, Howell Sasser, Ralph Smith, Shawn Vorrath, Matt Mosler, and Barbie Peterson, chorus: Toni Hassell, Von Johnson, Connie Brininger, Michelle Schuetze, Lynie Tolbert and Curtis Adkins.

## NHS HOLDS INDUCTION

By Steve Slifer

On Friday, the 9th of May, the Berlin Chapter of the National Honor Society performed its only induction ceremony of the 1979-1980 school year.

The induction took place during sixth period in "Victory Hall".

National Honor Society President, Mark Workman, opened the ceremony. He was followed by four National Honor Society members, Brent Norum, Brenda Wacter, Steve Slifer, and Skip Sherrell, who gave qualification speeches on Scholarship, Service, Leadership, and Character respectively.

The new members were then announced. From grades ten through twelve, only six students qualified for membership: Joan Chartier, Mike Clarke, Julia Howell, Grace Soltys, Helen Spiller, and Ted Wugofski.

Acceptance speeches were given by Mr. Roger Stowell for the Faculty, and Mrs. Barbara Payne for the National Honor Society; guest speaker was Minister David Anderson.

## BERLIN AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL ACTS UP



by Julia Howell

This year's Drama Festival was held in Frankfurt April 21<sup>st</sup> through the 25<sup>th</sup>. The participants came from twelve DODDSBUR schools in Germany.

After arriving in Frankfurt they could attend workshops sponsored by teachers sent in from different areas. The workshops consisted of: Pantomime, make-up, voice, toastmasters, and movement. The categories the students could participate in were: Oral Interpretation of Poetry

## M.S.C. WITNESSES BERLIN'S FINEST

Mark Workman

On Wednesday, April 23rd the Educational Trip Club rallied at the RTO to depart on its final trip of the school year. The destination was Heidelberg High School for the annual Mock Security Council. A total of eight schools from DODDS participated; representing over fifty different nations.

The four USSR delegates from Berlin, Jim Nelson, Mark Nelson, Mark Workman, Ted Wugofski, arrived in Heidelberg Thursday morning just in time to give their opening speech. In the afternoon, all the delegations were divided into various committees.

Friday consisted of open debate in general assembly. The four Soviet delegates did very well considering the present world situation. After closing ceremonies, the students were dismissed to recover from two days of debate with "a night on the town."

## NJHS INDUCTS NEW MEMBERS

by Ross Bennett

On Wednesday, April 30, the National Junior Honor Society inducted four new members. This recent induction brought the total membership to thirty-seven. There were three ninth graders and one seventh grader inducted.

The ninth grade students were Judy Casey, Robert Campbell, and Touraj Taghizadeh. The only seventh grade student was Elizabeth Wood.

The ceremony was not as large as the last one, but was just as important to those who participated. After the induction ceremony, a small reception was held for the members and parents.

and Prose, Informative Speaking, Improvisation, Original Oratory, Solo Acting, Duet Acting, One Act Plays, Impromptu, Readers Theater, and Extemp Speaking.

The second day of competition the participants performed for Frankfurt High School. On the final day the points were tallied for the different categories. Awards were given for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in each category. Then awards were presented for superior actors and actresses who scored high in a variety of events. Berlin placed fifth over all. Taking second place for Berlin was Margot Horson in the Informative Speaking category.

The following students represented Berlin American High School: Robin McDonald, Margot Horson, Karen Mann, Corinna Kleinstiver, Marisa Holzelaw, Vincent Lingner, Larry Beece, Suzanne Wood.

## DINNER HONORS TEACHERS

By Steve Slifer

The Parent, Teacher, Student Association in collaboration with the Student Council Association, held a teacher appreciation spaghetti dinner on May 8, 1980 at 6:00 p.m.

Mrs. Brodie and her Home Economics class provided the dinner for the teachers and their student escorts.

The PTSA then awarded appreciation certificates through the student escorts to the teachers. The PTSA business meeting began, and elections for next year's officers followed. The President of the 1980-1981 school year PTSA is Ltc. Gamino; Vice - President is Mrs. Mercer; Program Vice - President is Debbie Stowell; and Secretary is Mrs. Conover.

The meeting closed with the Drama Club/class presentation.

## SENIORS SHOW APPRECIATION

by Karen Reilly

The Seniors of 1980 will hold a Parent Appreciation night on June sixth at six o'clock p.m. It will be held at the Wannsee Recreation Center. From six o'clock until eight o'clock p.m. the seniors will host their parents and the faculty at Berlin American High School in a cold buffet style reception. This reception is being given to thank our parents for their support and encouragement throughout our school years. At eight o'clock, the parents and faculty will depart and the seniors will enjoy a dance deejayed by John Greene.

# Features

## DRAMA CLUB ENTERTAINS

by Lynnig Tolbert  
On Monday, May 5, the Drama Club performed for sixth period classes. Selections performed were those used for the Drama Festival and practiced in the Drama Class. Students participating in this performance were: Vincent Lingner, pantomims; Suzanne Wood, Solo; Danny Short and John Teeters, pantomime; Robin McDonald, Oral Interpretation; and Martha Andrews, Kelly Brymer, and Judy Gamino performed a short scene which they produced themselves.

On Thursday, May 8, the Drama Club also performed for the PTSA.

## YEARBOOKS ARRIVE

by Joan Chartier  
After a great deal of hard work by the Publications Class, the 1979-1980 yearbooks have arrived. The books were given out to anxious students on May 13.

Everybody seems to be pleased with the book, which has arrived the earliest in the school year in quite a while.

## ACTIVITY DAY

Valerie Jackson  
Activities Day for 1980 will be held on May 23rd and this year each class is going to various places. Some of these are historical and others are purely recreational.

The Senior Class is going to enjoy the day at Freedom Bridge. The Juniors are spending it at the Wannsee and the Sophomores are at Tempelhof. Lubars is where the Freshmen plan to be. The eighth graders will be at Rose Range and the Andrews Barracks Yankee Stadium is where the seventh graders will be.

## STAR TREK

by Michele Schuetze  
All trekkies can rejoice that the Starship Enterprise is still alive and kicking. Although having withstood a total overhaul and a little streamlining, it is still basically the same ship we all came to know and love in the TV series that ended in 1968. The old cast was the same which included William Shatner as Captain/Admiral Kirk, Leonard Nimoy as Spock, DeForrest Kelly as Bones and of course, Scotty, Chekov, Zulu, Uhuru, and Nurse/Dr. Chaplin. With the help of new uniforms and a little Grecian Formula the entire crew didn't look any older than the last time we saw them in the many reruns that kept the series alive.

Though the plot was a little slow in developing the special effects were excellent and it was good to see our old friends again.

## \* EDITORIAL \*

by Bryan Reiff

The quality of education in American schools has been going downhill for a long time. Some say it started when Latin was taken out of school. Others say it started when God was kicked out. Still others say it is because of the general apathy of students. Well, I think it is all of these things and a lot more. For instance, what are the chances of getting a good education in a school where the teachers carry guns only to protect themselves from the students? In a place like that, you can be sure that no one is kept back a grade, and for good reasons, too: to discourage teacher deaths, and to get rid of the animals as soon as possible.

In a school where it is possible to get an education, the same problem (that of no flunking) still exists to some degree. True, getting an F on a test or a grade card can be a traumatic experience, but if the teacher simply sits back and hands out A's to anyone who asks, is that really an education? If a student does F work, he should be graded accordingly. What good is a high school diploma and a collection of A's if the student is a moron and can't read or spell?

Not that the deserved F is the end of it, and the student is kicked back every year until he learns, of course. Slower students need and deserve special attention, and if they get it in time, it may be possible for him to be promoted with the rest of his class. Flunking should always be the last resort, but more harm than good is done if the student is passed out of pity.

Drugs, of course, are also a major contributing factor to poorer education, which is the fault of the individual student, and again, special attention must be given.

There have been many studies made and reports written about American education. Some of them have shown some pretty ridiculous results, which, unfortunately may have resulted in the following want-ad from the "Journal Messenger" from Manassas, Virginia describing hiring criteria for the C. Rinker Paving Company: 1. Must be able to tell time. 2. Must have hair short enough to see and hear. 3. Must know address or make and model of car you are living in. 4. Must have shoes and trousers. 5. All nose and earrings should be light enough not to interfere with your work. 6. Must be able to go for eight hours without drugs or alcohol. 7. Must know left from right and be able to use a phone. 8. Must be able to check the gas and oil in a vehicle. 9. Must be able to drive from Manassas to Centreville nonstop. 10. Must be able to gulp down a sandwich in 30 minutes and be able to work at least 30 minutes without going to the restroom or drinking something.

Whoever wrote that ad had a pretty poor view of youth, and a lot of it is pure ignorance and stupidity. But maybe it is a reflection of how much—or how little—we are learning in school. I think we need to bring back Latin, and God—if He will come—and make school synonymous with education again.

ACTIVITY DAY MAY 23
PROM MAY 24
BACCALAUREATE JUNE 1 4:00
GRADUATION JUNE 8 2:00



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# Horizons

## BLUE

Carla Sutcliffe

Blue, blue.  
 What is blue?  
 Blue is the sky  
 And the eyes of you.  
 Blue is my birthstone,  
 Blue is the sea  
 Blue are the words  
 We exchange, you and me.  
 Blue is stone cold  
 And I think that blue  
 Best describes the relationship  
 We share, us two.  
 Blue is our jeans,  
 But the blue as in art  
 Is not the same as the blues  
 That sing in my heart.  
 Blue, blue.  
 It can't be true.  
 Blue is the feeling--  
 Because I don't have you.

## JUST FRIENDS

Tracey R. Turner

When we first met we both were shy,  
 but time went on and we got b .  
 We learned each other's needs and wants  
 and we seemed right for each other.  
 But once together we seemed to change,  
 each of us seemed to each other strange.  
 For deep inside we did not know,  
 how to let our true feelings show.  
 Then time went on, and we both knew,  
 this kind of love, for us, wasn't true.  
 We both found out, in the end,  
 sometimes it's best to be just friends.

## CHILDHOOD

Whispers sound through empty halls.  
 Dust lays heavy in the air;  
 Silencing memories of echoing laughter.  
 The essences have all gone.  
 The faded Jack  
 Hangs over the parapet of his box.  
 Block civilizations  
 Have long since fallen.  
 The rusty door will never be opened  
 To reveal the remnants of childhood.  
 Robin McDonald

## SEASONS OF LIFE

Spring is here today,  
 Its warmth is overflowing,  
 Flowers sprout up everywhere,  
 Their petals slowly showing.

Winter will be here tomorrow,  
 Its coldness never ending,  
 Snow will settle everywhere,  
 Old gloves people will be mending.

Life is here all days of the year,  
 At times it's spring, at others winter.  
 But no matter what season life is,  
 It is always worth living.

By Cathy Jones

## "P."

Name withheld

I really do love you-I just wanted you to know.  
 Even if it is the hardest emotion for me to show.)

You know, all those jokes and cracks that I make,  
 is just my way of telling you it's your heart I want  
 to take.

I love the depth of your cool brown eyes, plus the  
 darkness of your hair, and a glimpse of that sweet  
 smile (which when I need it)-is always there.

I love the warm touch of your gentle hand, because I  
 know in my heart by my side is where you stand.

When we are together, no matter what we do,  
 It seems to me my sweetheart, we could never be through.  
 Yet I know one day I'll have to go, still there's one  
 important thing that I wanted you to know-  
 I really do love you-"P."-I just wanted you to know.

## WHO DO I ADMIRE. ?

Name Withheld

There is one person I admire more than anyone in  
 the world.  
 She is not an actress, singer, or anyone else  
 famous.

I admire her for the way she can sometimes put  
 herself in my position and understand me.  
 I admire her for trusting me in an adult situation.  
 I especially admire and love her for wanting me to  
 have all the things she couldn't have when she was  
 my age.

This person I admire so much is my Mother.  
 She may not be famous to anyone,  
 But she is the one person I admire more than anyone  
 else in the world.

# Bearin' Down on Sports

## Track Team Improves

by Ron Watt

Three weeks ago, the B.A.H.S. track team went to Bonn to compete in a triangular meet with Osterholz and Bonn. The Berlin women's team compiled 35 points and took third place in the meet. The men's team won 27½ points and they also took third place. The women's team collected five first places, two thirds, and two fourths. The men's team won four first places, two thirds, and two fourths.

Christy Schliefer led the women's team, winning three first place berths. Christy won the 800-meter race in 2:34.0, the 1500 in 5:20.0, and in the 3,000 in 11:52.2.

Trisha Lindsey won two firsts, one second, and one third. Trisha placed first in the high jump, jumping 4'4". Trisha placed first in the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 16.57. She also placed second in the long jump, with a jump of 13'11" and third in the 100-meter dash, with a time of 14.2 seconds.

Tena Steiner won a first place berth in the grueling 400 meters. Her time was 66.2 seconds.

The women's sprint medley team made up of Tena Steiner, Debbie Stowell, Patrina Smith, and Nina Buenviaje; placed third in the meet with a time of 5:23. The women's 1600-meter team took second place, with a time of 5:12.0.

Cletis Smith shined in men's action, winning three firsts and a second. Cletis won the long jump, jumping 19'7". He won the triple jump with a jump of 39'10". In the sprints, Cletis won first place in the 200 meters, with a time of 23:9 seconds.

Brianrazier won one second and one third place berths. Brian took third in the 400-meters, with a time of 54.7 seconds. Brian took second in the long jump, jumping 16'6".

Orlando Rivera won a first place spot in the 3,000 meters, a fourth in the 1500 meters, and a fourth place in the 800-meters. His times were 10:17.4 in the 3,000-meters, 4:40.7 in the 1500-meters, and 2:22 in the 800 meters.

Other runners on the men's team who placed in the top four were: Ronald Watt, who placed third in the high jump; Bobby Harrell, who won two fourths in the 100 and 200 meter dashes; and J.C. Cleary, who placed fourth in the 3,000-meters.

This weekend the track team will travel to Frankfurt to compete in a qualifying meet. This meet determines who will go to Munich for the German Track Regionals. The top six places will qualify for Regionals. The meet will be between FIS, ISB, Baumholder, Hanau, Wuerzburg, and Berlin.

## Schliefer, Smith Sport Figures...

by Ronald Watt

This issue's female sports figure is track star Christy Schliefer. Christy, who is only a freshman, holds the fastest 800-meter time in Germany. She is a very consistent scorer for the track team, usually winning a first place berth in her races. Christy competes in the 800 meters, the 1500 meters (the mile), and the 3,000 meters. Christy runs very hard at practice, usually running several miles per day, training hard for the upcoming track finals which are being held at Munich. Mr. Perry Jones, track coach for the team, feels Christy could be the European champion in the 800-meters.

This issue's male sports figure is also a member of the track team. His name is Cletis Smith. Cletis, an exceptionally good football and basketball player, is also a super track competitor. Like Christy, Cletis is a very consistent scorer for the track team, taking first in most of his events. Cletis holds the Honor Roll record in the long jump, with a jump of 21'4". Cletis is also tied for the fastest time (this year) in the 200 meters, with a time of 23.2 seconds. Cletis also runs in the 100 meters and the triple jump.

## TENNIS TIES 1 WINS 2!

By Tracey Turner

On the weekend of the third, the Bitburg Barons travelled to Berlin to compete against our Bears. The competition was stiff as the Bears battled it out to the end with the Barons.

Kelly Brymer had the only win for the girls singles defeating Bitburg's Cheri Drew. There were no Berlin wins in the girls' doubles. The Boys won every singles match and only lost one doubles match.

On the weekend of the 26th the Bears hosted the Zweibruecken Trojans in their first home meet in 80.

All of the boys, except one won their matches. On the other hand only one girl won hers.

"So far this season the team has 2 wins and one tie. Which is very good," said Miss Barlow. Because the boys team is so good as a whole, they are close in wins on their own ladder. They're battling it out for third place because only the top three men may go to Regionals."

This weekend the Bears will be travelling to Zweibruecken to, once again compete against the Trojans.

## BARONS BLISTER BEARS 9 - 2

Cletis Smith

The Berlin Bears lost their second, and third straight games, by losing to the Zweibruecken Trojans, and the Bitburg Barons, in their prep Soccer games, here in Berlin.

In the Zweibruecken game, the Bears lost by a score of 3 to 1. Tony Nelson scored the only Berlin goal, while Scott Cheetham, performed excellently on the defensive side of the game. The Junior Varsity team lost their game also, to the Trojans by a score of 4 to 2. Steve Hoeffler, and Scott Feldman scored the goals for Berlin, while Steve Slifer and Mike Phillips played superb during the whole game. Coach George Pepoy said that "the next time we meet them, we're going to beat them." The Bears will meet the Trojans May 10th in Zweibruecken.

In the Bitburg game, the Barons just dominated the first-half by scoring all their goals in that half to defeat the Bears by a score of 9 to 2. The Bears first-half goal came off the toe of Don Groover. Then John Oberst closed out the scoring in the second half.

In the J.V. game, the Bears beat the Barons in overtime by a score of 3 to 0. Thomas Wolf, Phillips, and Hoeffler each scored goals, while Gus Wedin played excellent defense at goalie for the Bears.

## EFSL HOLDS CHAMPIONSHIPS

The European Forces Swim League held its annual individual championships at the University of Heidelberg swimming complex on May 3. A number of the members of the Berlin Bear-a-cudas participated and did very well.

Out of all 48 events, 24 European records were set. Those from Berlin who earned honors were: in the 11-12 age group; Melinda Mosler with 6th place in the 50-meter backstroke and 8th place in the 50-meter butterfly, Katherine Kepurh was the only triple winner with gold in all three of her events, and set a European record in both freestyle and butterfly. Cherie Sherrell captured 3rd place in freestyle, 4th place in backstroke, and 6th place in the individual medley.

In the 13-14 age group Susan Sams placed 7th in 100-meter butterfly and Cindy Slifer placed 5th in that same event. Didi Stowell took 4th place finish in backstroke, a 5th place in the individual medley, and a 6th place in freestyle.

In the 15-18 age group, Veronique Alderson took a 2nd, 3rd and a 5th. While on the boy's charts, Mark Nelson got two 7th's, Ted Wugofski placed 4th and 9th, Jim Nelson finished 5th and 8th, Mitch Mosler took a 5th and two 7th's, and Skip Sherrell gained two 1st places and a 3rd.