

# Drills reveal inadequacies galore

## Senator's Stance



Michael Cohen

I don't know where you were on Tues., March 12 during the tornado drill that Antioch Community High School had, but I was in the north gymnasium and I experienced a lot of revelations.

Everyone had been anticipating the drill; everyone knew that it was going to happen; everyone, that is, except for my gym teacher. It doesn't make any difference to me that he forgot about the drill; in fact, it doesn't make any difference to me that he had no idea where we were supposed to go for the drill. After all, it was "only a drill".

At least the drill effectively revealed the fact that our drill procedure needed to be examined more closely.

What made the series of events even more humorous was the fact that, naturally, everyone began to make their way into the boys' locker room. As both boys and girls gathered around the walls of the shower and faced the walls with their heads down, the girls suddenly realized that maybe they hadn't had it so bad all these years.

Because the girls' locker room renovation is underway, the girls just assumed that their locker room was inferior to the guys'. What the girls didn't realize, until the tornado drill allowed them to see the guys' locker room for themselves, was that their locker room actually has soap dispensers by the sinks. (They realized that they have soap in their soap dispensers, too.)

The girls also saw the paper towels that are always strewn across the floor and only picked up when it becomes impossible to enter the restroom.

I'm surprised that the girls were allowed in the boys' locker room in the first place. I remember the violent intruder drill that we had last year (I happened to be in the south gym for that one, go figure).

And, naturally, all of us in the south gym began walking towards the girls' locker room (boys licking their chops) for safety

from the "violent intruder's" rampage. All the boys were suddenly stopped in their tracks when the female coaches didn't allow the boys in the girls' locker room for safety.

We were arranged in a single file line and sent across the gym foyer, making our way to the (already locked) boys' locker room. Of course, if there really was a violent intruder, we couldn't have made it any easier for him to kill all of us as we were marching down the hallway in the single file line. (Man, that drill was effective, too.) There would have been at least twenty boys killed in just a few moments.

So, I guess my life isn't as highly regarded as a girl's life is, but I've been conditioned over the years to accept this.

So, to save time in the future, in the event of violent intruder drills, girls should find cover and follow procedure while the boys head out and combat the terrorist. The school should keep a stash of weapons on campus and prepare us boys for the big fight.

Getting back to the tornado drill...

So, we were all crouched down in the boys' locker room, and we were being scolded, not only for taking so much time to get to safety (after all, even our

teacher had no idea where to go), but because we were talking.

What is the problem with talking with our friends during a tornado?

Or are we supposed to be quiet in order to hear the screams of others as the tornado whisks them away to their deaths? I just don't get it.

On a side note, I thought that, during a tornado drill, both teachers and students were supposed to sit down facing a wall. Hmm, well, I didn't see any teachers doing that (again, not that I really mind), but I did hear a lot of deans and disciplinarians conversing over their radios.

Well, the tornado drill revealed a lot of things to me, I hope you had fun with it also.

**“So, to save time in the future, in the event of violent intruder drills, girls should find cover and follow procedure while the boys head out and combat the terrorist.”**

# National security: Are the problems we face fixable?

## Random Notions



Ashley Foster

With the six-month anniversary of the September 11 attacks, the subject of national security is still being broached.

Due to the attacks, and the lingering effect they have had upon the United States, security has been an issue we are currently trying to improve upon.

There have been various suggestions of ways to better security; however, many of these infringe upon citizens' rights.

The question at hand is, "How many rights are we willing to give away if it means that our

land who were angry with our government killed innocent Americans.

Could this tragic event have been prevented with heightened security while simultaneously preserving the rights granted under the Constitution? I'm not so sure it could have...

Living in America, we acknowledge the liberties that we are given under the Constitution. These rights that tenacious soldiers gave their lives for during the

Revolutionary War and each war thereafter have been the focal point of our collective American energy as we make the world democracy "friendly".

It worries me that some people suddenly have no

qualms about such issues as racial profiling. We have worked for generations to eliminate discrimination in this country. Now, we are ready to leap right back to it with no concerns of future repercussions.

This approach to protecting national security would, no doubt, have been embraced by the likes of General Nathan Bedford Forrest, the first leader of the uniquely American patriotic group, the Klu Klux Klan.

People are willing to set aside morals and values that they once had in order to feel secure.

In my opinion we need to stop worrying about how we can pick these terrorists out in a crowd, and instead focus on the cracks in our national security system, including the National Immigration Services.

I propose that we make sure immigrants coming to America are verified with the proper documents.

I'm not saying that we should not admit immigrants; however, it is important that all procedures, insuring legality are followed correctly when allowing admittance into the United States of America. Overall, as citizens of the freest nation in the world, we need to be happy that we can live our lives with such freedom, we need to acknowledge that people have died in order to make sure future generations have such freedoms.

Instead of taking liberties away from citizens of the United States, we should alleviate worries of future attacks by making the country more aware of foreign entanglements that may provoke action by disgruntled individuals or foreign governments, and furthermore, educate the public on the dangers of racial profiling.

**“It worries me that some people suddenly have no qualms about such issues as racial profiling.”**



national security is vastly improved?"

Personally, as an American citizen, I do feel privileged to have an immense number of rights guaranteed to me under the curtain of the flag of the United States.

I am willing to give up certain liberties in order to establish a better security foundation for the nation; however, we need to maintain a proper perspective.

It angers me that people are willing to preach their views on national security and say they are willing to sacrifice their rights; however, the majority of these white, middle class Americans will never be directly affected by the measures they advocate.

We all know that national security needs improvement. The questions are how much improvement and how do we accomplish that task.

We have had the past six months to analyze the attacks that occurred. Passionately religious people from a foreign

# ... to the Editor

## ACHS teachers question student involvement

CALLING ALL STUDENTS AT ACHS-what have you done to improve attitudes and spirit here at ACHS?

This is not meant to be a reprimand- simply a question we would like you to pose to yourselves. How can things here at school get better if all we do is complain? Student council members work hard trying to come up with new ideas and things for the school student body to do.

We would love to see you get involved instead of criticizing the efforts of other students. We agree that the rally could have been run better (by the way it was in the announcements and we did give away two blockbuster gift certificates)

but we feel that some of the days, like hat day and spirit day had good student and faculty participation. We have had comments concerning pep rally's being held during the day - as a school, we wonder, how do students learn what spirit is if they aren't exposed to it?

How can we build on it and get more people involved and feel pride in their school if they don't see it first hand. No- we can't please everybody- yes we have held rally's at night and only some people come. Education should be an equal opportunity employer.

While we hare happy to accept your critique- don't shoot the messenger- Student council members work hard and we are very proud of their efforts!!! Please come and voice your opinion at our meetings held every Monday after school in room 212.

-Joy Edge & Susan Shrader  
Student Council Sponsors

## Senior challenges staff with parking

I've waited to park up by the tennis courts for the last three years. Finally, when I'm a senior I'm forced to park ten minutes away down at the football field, even though there are still empty spots by the tennis courts.

Is it that big of a deal to park up top that teachers need to take time away from teaching to go call a tow truck and wait outside for the truck to come?

ACHS tells students they would never make their students do something that they would never do. Let's (driving Antioch students) put that to the test and have ACHS staff park down at the football field and walk through the rain and brutally cold weather, when they arrive to the classroom upset and wet I'll ask what's wrong.

-DAVE A. NIELSEN  
ACHS senior

**Complaints? Voice your opinion...**

**Send in Letters to the Editor to room 202, or to Tom Tom staffer**

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