

the john adams tower

Scholarly Seniors Soar To New Heights

by Derek Lannuier

Once again John Adams High has proven itself to be a leader in academic excellence. This year the school boasts claim to three NMSQ. To what? That is in the colloquial, three students who have qualified for the National Merit Scholarship program. The program was set up to benefit exceptional students who have made great progress in the field of academics. The students who qualify for the NMSQ then have a chance to win partial or full scholarships to the college of their choice. Sounds easy, eh? Sorry, Buddy. If you want to qualify you have to work for it. The NMSQ does not take into consideration a person's GPA (grade point average) so a person's personal background in school has no effect upon his eligibility to qualify. He/she must, however, take the PSAT during his/her junior year. They must then have their scores sent to the NMSQ Board for review who will determine what their score is and see if it is comparably higher than that of almost all other juniors. If the score meets these standards, which are by no means an easy task, the student is then eligible to qualify for the National Merit Scholarship program.

Who are these scholars, these men, er . . . (and women) of wisdom, these conglomerates of knowledge? They are none other than Christina Bird, Ted Liu, and Cindy Russo; all of whom are



National Merit Semifinalists for 1982 are, left to right, Ted Liu, Christina Bird, and Cindy Russo.

seniors here at Adams.

I recently had the pleasure of talking with Christina, Ted, and Cindy, and asked them a few questions about the PSAT. They informed me that to qualify for the NMSQ one must have a score which is above the top 1/2% for all juniors who take the test. This meant they must have scored above a mean score of 190 which is an accomplishment in itself. In preparation for the test they had to sharpen their math and verbal skills. I asked what kind of things the test entailed. For the math section they said you must be well acquainted with such things as fractions, graphs, geometry, percentages and so on. The verbal section concentrates mainly on vocabulary, analogies, antonyms, and reading comprehension.

I also asked them when they took the PSAT and they informed me during sometime in October (81) here at JAH. Before leaving I asked them what, if any, future plans they had. Christina hopes to major in physics at Notre Dame, Ted is undecided on his major but hopes to attend Stanford University, and Cindy plans to go into computer science.

In order to receive a scholarship, Christina, Ted and Cindy must take the CEE - SAT (College Entrance Examination - Scholastics Aptitude Test) and send their scores to the NMSQ Board along with an application. We wish them the best of luck in this future endeavor.

by Ann Krege

Underclass Pictures

Underclass pictures will be taken on October 5th and 6th. All

information should have been delivered to your house by now -

if not, please see Mrs. Maza in Room 216.

Dramatic Contest

The Drama Club needs a nickname! So they're sponsoring a contest -

to the person who comes up with the winning nickname, the Drama Club will award a gift certificate good for dinner for two at the East Bank Emporium, along with two

plementary tickets to their first show to complete evening.



Give your suggestions to any of the club officers:

Kristin Clay, Rick Ellis, Jenn Freiden, or Lee Lodyga.

Allergy Research Awarded Grant

by Ted Liu

John Adams senior Alan Engel received a \$100 grant from the Indiana Academy of Science this past month. He received the grant to alleviate the costs of a research project that he is currently undertaking. He applied for the grant, which is available to secondary school students, in June of last year and was informed of his acceptance in early September.

"Possible Effects of Differing Medication on Allergic Reactions to Ragweed Pollen" is the title of his research. As the name suggests, his project deals with a subject with which many are woefully familiar: allergy. Engel's project is a follow-up of a previous research project in which he administered food substances to laboratory mice and measured responses associated with allergic reactions.

His current project is a comparative study of antihistamines and steroids as a treatment

for allergenic symptoms.

Physicians prescribe both antihistamines and steroids to patients complaining of allergies. Both of these substances control allergic reactions, although they accomplish this in different ways. Substances called histamines cause allergic reactions when they come in contact with certain cells. Antihistamines relieve

allergic symptoms by preventing histamines from coming in contact with the cells, while steroids work by simply reducing the levels of histamines. Steroids, however, are rarely used because, by lowering the levels of histamines, they may also reduce the body's resistance to infection.

Engel's research will compare various allergenic reactions and

immunological responses in mice that are administered steroids versus mice that are administered antihistamines.

Engel stated that he came up with the idea for his project because he has a personal interest in it. He has allergies and in the past has received both antihistamines and steroids for his symptoms.

Alan is entering his third year of biological research at Adams. He is under the guidance and supervision of Adams biology teacher, Nevin Longenecker. This is Alan's second grant. He has also received a \$150 grant from the American Lung Association for work that he has done in previous years.

He added that he would like to thank the South Bend Medical Foundation and the staff at Upjohn for their assistance, and a special thanks to Mr. Andrew Kandis of Upjohn for supplying Alan with some of the chemicals.



by Ann Krege

Letter to the Editors

Engel criticizes editorial policy

To the Editors,

Recently I read what I believe was the first edition of Notre Dame's newspaper, **The Observer**. Although only an adolescent compared to the Adams **Tower** (**Observer** started in 1966 - **Tower** in 1941), **The Observer's** editorial policies are much less strict than those of our "independent student newspaper," **The Tower**. The reply, "**The Observer** is a newspaper for people in COLLEGE!" is inadequate. "But I mean real college!" So? I ask? Not 130 days ago, 330 young men and women graduated from this educational institution and over half of them are now among the ranks of our nation's ten and one quarter million studying on college campuses today.

Not 130 days ago these

students were subjected to the rather conservative Adams editorial policy. Many of these students are presently being exposed to newspaper editorial policies that are as strict as Oakland manager Billy Martin's stealing orders when Ricky Henderson is on base: in other words, extremely liberal editorial policies. This excuse of age difference of readers, however, is a token one, at best.

In Notre Dame's **Observer**, a writer mentioned "the rise and fall of Gerry Faust." Just seven words? No, certainly not! Those seven words, although describing a real-life drama, a true situation, were painfully critical of Faust's first year at Notre Dame. However critical, those words spoke truth in regard to Faust's 1981 year in South Bend. The

editorial page reads, "**The Observer** is an independent newspaper published by the students of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's colleges. It does not necessarily reflect the policies of the administration of either institution."

From personal experience, this writer believes that an equivalent expression describing a faculty member at Adams in a similar situation would not have been printed. Although I have been a member of the **Tower** staff for the past three years, I must truthfully admit that I have no explanation for such a strict editorial policy. Now, we, the students, must weigh the issue: Is the **Tower** an independent student newspaper, as it claims? I think not. And if it is not then it has no right to be labeled as such.

However, as present co-editor, Cathy Gergesha, wrote last year, in regard to Ram Neta, "It is not always necessary to say something shocking in an effort to make a point." Cathy, I totally agree! But I do hope that the rest of the **Tower** will wipe the dust off some of its present policy and realize that like **The Observer**, it too, is an independent STUDENT Newspaper; written by students, edited by students, published by students, and read mostly by students. In the future, may I suggest that the editors not scrutinize an article on the basis

of fear of repercussions after an article is published, but instead look for accuracy, objectivity, and truthfulness. As basketball legend John Wooden once said, "It's courage that counts." Mr. Wooden, in this instance, please allow me to add truth also.

Alan Engel

From the Editors:

Comparing the John Adams **TOWER** to the Notre Dame **OBSERVER** is not an entirely fair comparison. In the first place, a staff position on a college newspaper is won competitively and considered an honor. How many people, we ask, consider being a **TOWER** member an honor? The difference in attitude shows.

It is true that the Adams editorial policy has molly coddled certain groups that are favored by the faculty while ignoring issues

that the student body considered vital. None of us can deny that. We do feel, however, that Alan hasn't given the 1982-83 staff a chance yet. As a new group, we're trying to bring different, and hopefully more up-to-date, attitudes to our work.

As a high school paper, the **TOWER** is in a somewhat delicate position due to school corporation policy and the relationship between the students and the sponsor. No matter how violently people disagree, we can't print libelous material, nor articles that will cause riots. This judgment rests on the editors-in-chief, but what we must bear in mind is that what we publish reflects ultimately not only on us, the newspaper staff, but also on Adams High School. And we refuse to print anything to hurt the school's image.

Christina Bird and Betsy Killeen.

Climb to reach your goals

by Marci Whittenburg

Once upon a time there existed the Land of Grading Scales. On the side of a mountain was located a castle where "A"s were given to deserving students. The land was made up of three kingdoms:

The first kingdom was the Kingdom of Ruined GPAs. It was located under a cliff. To get an A, an aspiring student must climb the cliff. The cliff was very steep, and few students ever made it to the castle.

Occasionally, two students would try to help each other climb the cliff. Sometimes this worked. But if the Keeper of the Castle ever found out, he would remove their A and push them over the edge of the cliff all the way to the bottom. Sometimes a student would be hurt so bad that he would never be capable of even attempting to reach the castle again.

The next kingdom, on top of the mountain, was ruled by Eustace Zebediah Anthermaclean. To reach the castle, a student only had to walk down a smooth path. This worked well until the student had to move to the lower kingdom.

Because it was rather easy to get to the castle, many of the students became lazy. When they relocated, they had a harder time climbing the cliff.

The third kingdom was located on the opposite side of the mountain. A winding road connected the kingdom with the castle. The Keeper of the Castle had the power to twist the road, make it steeper, or straighten it. While a student may have had to work to reach the castle, it was possible if he disciplined himself.

The motto of the Land of Grading Scales was: An A on a curve is easier than two on a cliff.

RHPS

by Rick Ellis

It was the one year anniversary celebration Friday and Saturday nights, September 24 and 25, for the "Rocky Horror Picture Show." Shown every Friday and Saturday night for a full year at the University Park Mall, the midnight show has been a big success. The celebration, however, was even more of a success. Friday night accompanying the show was live music by the hit band Fieldstone. Saturday night prior to the show a costume contest was held. The costumes that were exhibited consisted of various ideas: copies of costumes in the show, punk costumes, and oddities created by some of the Michiana area's most imaginative minds. Through the shouts and uproar of the crowd it was, overall, an exciting evening.

The Medicine Shoppes



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Wanted: Suggestions

by Betsy Killeen

It's here once again; you just can't keep it away. The **TOWER** has dug the suggestion box out of the dusty, dark corner of its closet, from the rubble of last year's issues, dried up felt-tip pens, and scraps of border tape. The staff dusted it off and placed it in the Guidance Office.

If the third time is the clincher, well, this is the third year that the **TOWER** has tried to start a successful suggestion box. The staff hopes that you will use it.

The **TOWER** welcomes any contributions from students. We want to hear from you. While we cannot guarantee that each and every contribution will be published, we will do our best to publish it. In order to consider a student's or teacher's contribu-

tion, we must know the author's name--students wishing to remain anonymous will not have their byline printed.

Students often find much to complain about school. The **TOWER** is your paper--students buy subscriptions, read, and support the paper. The Opinion Page is your page; for your thoughts, ideas, and reactions to anything you feel strongly about. Contributing to the **TOWER** is an effective way to voice your ideas, a more effective way for other students to hear you. Other students, responding to your ideas, might write in agreeing or disagreeing with you. And Adams would have a successful suggestion box for its students.

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Drama Club Breaking A Leg

by Kim Mitchell

There is a club at Adams that receives little recognition for all its hard work. Many long hours are put in by its devoted members to give the school outstanding musical and dramatic productions. This club is the Drama Club. It is an organization which has faded into the background of the John Adams club scene. Instead of getting the support it badly needs, people tend to take the Drama Club for granted, expecting it to reel off production after terrific production with seemingly no effort.

Well, it's time this school was brought up to date on the current Drama Club. The officers and members together have come up with several ideas and have high hopes for a completely renovated club. At the end of last year, the club was rapidly falling into a state of decline resulting from poor leadership and a stagnant attitude exuded from most of the members. But now a different feeling is prevalent in the atmosphere of the club. This feeling is made up of interest and genuine excitement from both new and old members alike. The meetings have been changed from a haven from homeroom as in the past to a time of creativity and discovery. At the first meeting, the members participated in such activities as improvisational skits and make-up demonstrations.

This is a far cry from last year's boring meetings, as the many new members who attended seemed to agree. "The number of people that showed up for our first meeting really proves that we're



starting to break away from our past image," says vice-president Jennifer Frieden, "but we still have a long way to go."

The other officers include Kristin Clay as president, Lee Lodyga as secretary, and Rick Ellis as treasurer. Together they have formulated exciting plans for this year's Drama Club. Some of these plans are going to Chicago to see musical productions and sponsoring a costume dance. The club also plans on undertaking several money-making schemes. To get off on the right foot with their new image, they are holding a contest to find a name for the Drama Club.

As good as this all sounds, the club still falls considerably short of their own expectations. They would like to recruit many more members as well as attempt to change the somewhat negative attitude about drama felt by many here at Adams. The Drama Club members feel that the majority of people don't understand what the club's all about, and don't take the time to find out. They seek to educate our student body on the merits and the needs of the Drama Club, while at the same time having a tremendous amount of fun themselves.

"As the only senior officer and the president, I'd like to establish a strong drama club before I graduate," says Kristin. Well, they're certainly off to a good start, and from the look of things we'll be seeing a lot more of the Drama Club in the future.



by Ann Krege

Adams Welcomes Y.F.U.

By Cathy Gergesha

What does it mean to be a foreign exchange student? It means traveling to a foreign country, learning an unfamiliar language, and adapting to a new family and new friends-ALONE. What student has never dreamed of traveling abroad to different countries- to new experiences. However, only a few have the initiative, courage and opportu-

nity to make this dream come true.

Three new students have done just this through Y.F.U. (Youth for Understanding): Abraham Cardoso, Frederick Lu and Carlos Skarmeta.

Abraham is 17 and a senior. He is from Recife, Brazil. When asked why he decided to come abroad he responded, "First of all, to learn the language.

Second, to have a new experience, be alone, and make decisions alone." He commented upon differences between the schools here and in Brazil. In Brazil the students stay in one classroom and the teachers move from room to room.

Frederick is 16 and also a senior. He is from the Philippines. He also came here "for more English and the experience." Carlos, who is from Ponda Arenanes, Chile, lives with the same family as Frederick. He is 16 and a junior.

Most of the students admitted to homesickness. But most felt that was a normal reaction and that it was something they would soon overcome.

In addition to these three is Jana Kolar who is from Yugoslavia. Because her father is teaching at Notre Dame, Jana and her family will be living here for a year.

Each of these students is presently being exposed to new people, experiences and a new language. Say hello. Make them feel welcome. They are truly people to be admired for their ambition and courage.

B-Team Poms

What's new at Adams? A ten-member team known as the John Adams B-team Pom Pon squad. It is made up of five sophomores and six juniors. The students on the squad are: Dianne Austin, Gerry Chmiel, Debbie Dreibelbis, Mary Elliot, Debbie Fenner, Diane Fisher, Sandy Humes, Theresa Johnson, Becki Kissell, and Kim Painter.

Dianne Austin is the Captain and Becki Kissell is Co-Captain. The sponsors of this new squad

are Mrs. Kay Dreibelbis and Mrs. Karen Fenner.

The B-team squad performed the pre-game show for the Adams-Mishawaka game on September 17 and will continue to perform weekly until October 8. They will also perform the B-team basketball games when the season starts this winter.

The new team is hoping that the student body will accept them and have the same enthusiasm as they do for the varsity team.



B-Team Poms

by Ann Krege

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Knute Rockne Rolls Over

by Alan Engel

--Hey Knute, Knute Rockne, hey, hey Knute.
 --Hmm. Huh? Who, what? Oh, uh, yeah.
 --Hey-Roll over. Everybody's sayin' you'd be rollin' over. YOU KNOW!
 --Huh? What are ya' talking about?
 --We WON, Knute, ND won.
 --Ha! You don't understand, Kid! ND always . . .
 --I don't understand?! You mean you don't . . . look Rock . . . when was the last time I talked to ya?
 --The Fall of 1978 right after St. Joe High lost.
 --What? Oh! St. Joe. Ha, yeah, they lost again. After winning thirty-four straight regular season games, they lost.
 --Ughh!! That's too bad!
 --But Rock, listen. Notre Dame won! Couple weeks ago, Saturday--they beat U of M.
 --. . . of course they did. I told you, Notre Dame always . . .
 --But Rock, they played at NIGHT! You know, with Musco Company.
 --What?! At night? Mus-who?
 --Musco . . . the light company. Come on, you know.
 --What are you talking about?
 --Rock--ya mean--ya--you. No one ever told you! Are you serious? Ah, Knute--hey. We're sorry.
 --Sorry about what? Look, Kid.

X-Men Surging

by Paul S. Steinhofner

The John Adams Cross Country team, off to a slow start is now building towards Sectionals. Losing to arch rivals Elkhart Memorial, Penn, and Michigan City Elston put the X-Men out of NIC contention. But as the season progresses the Adams runners are closing the gap between them and their competition.

Against Elkhart Memorial and Penn, the Eagle Harriers were led by Junior Kevin Otolski, finishing 4th in a time of 16:42. Utilizing pack running, Adams captured 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th positions. They were, however, unable to stop a strong Memorial team, and also lost a heartbreaker to Penn 27-28.

The next week conference leader Michigan City Elston

NO ONE bothers the Rock for nothing. This better be good.

--It is. It is. The Irish won and they weren't even wearing green!

--Green? What?!

--Ya see, ND beat Michigan 23-17 at night. They put up lights around the stadium.

--I bet Ara was happy about that!

--No, Rock. We got a new coach, Gerry Faust from Moeller High School.

--A high school coach! What! At MY Notre Dame? NO! NO! How, well why, who, who did that?

--I don't know, Rock, but he's pretty good.

--At night? Hey Kid, what do you mean at night?

--Musco, this company put up six big bulbs to light up the stadium. And they had ABC there and everything! I'm not sure if Howard Cos . . .

--AB who?

--Uh, ah, I mean the game was on radio and everything!

--A what?

--No, no Rock. Radio . . . radio.

--So, Kid, how many games is that in a row?

--One.

--No, I said how many games have we won in a row now?

--I told you, one. Ya see, that Faust guy didn't have a real good season last year. He only went 5-6.

--5 and WHAT?

--Is your hearing bad, Rock? I said 5-6.

--At MY Notre Dame?? 5-6? I think I'm gonna die.

--Ha. ha.

--What?

--Nothing. Say Rock, did I tell you about the refs?

--No, uh uhn.

--All Big 10. I mean they were the pits: We're talking even Moe Aronson could've done better.

--Moe, who?

--Forget it, Knute.

--OK.

--Hey, did ya roll over yet?

--What's this business about rolling over? Everytime ND wins some big game someone's always sayin' "I bet if the Rock knew he'd turn over." There's barely enough room in here.

--Look Rock, I don't have all day. So are you gonna roll over or not?

--Yeah, look Kid, what do you have to do?

--It's Friday, Knute. I gotta go to school.

--School on FRIDAY! Ya mean they make you kids go to school on Fridays. That's unfair and unjust punishment.

--Well, you have to understand. We got this new Superintendent, Dr. Scammon--and ah, well, that's another story. I gotta go.

--Goodbye, Kid.

--Bye, Rock.

Shattered

by Mary Slafkowsky

The John Adams Seagals have once again proved that they are a strong team. Under the leadership of Coach Jeanne Porteau and Captains Jean Parker and Katie Manley, they are looking forward to a successful season. Already five new school records have been set by the Seagals. Junior Beanie Tenney set records in the 50 free and 200 back. Freshman Jennifer Ready set records in the 200 IM and 500 free. Also, the 400 free relay consisting of Kim Beckman, Jennifer Ready, Jenn Parker, and Beanie Tenney set a school record.

The Seagals have established a 2-2 record as of this writing beating Washington and a tough M.C. Elston team, but losing to Valparaiso and Elkhart Central.

The Demise of J.A. Football

by Kevin G. Baer

Another Friday night and another loss, the Adams football tradition rolls on. The blame cannot be put on the players, but instead on the coaching in the Adams system.

Neither present coach Bill Farrel nor past coach Andy Mihal are the whole problem. Adams has had only one or two good football teams in the last fifteen years.

For the answer to the problem, look at the football system as a pyramid. The top of the pyramid is the varsity team, and the base is where the players learn the techniques [blocking, tackling . . . etc] of playing football.

A solid base in the Adams football program has never existed. The seventh and eighth grade teams at Edison and Jefferson have only been organized sandlot teams! The varsity coaches at Edison and Jefferson have neglected to realize that these kids will be the varsity high school players in three short years.

If the high school varsity coach would spend some time seeing that the junior high football players learn the fundamentals of football, then he would have to spend less time teaching the juniors and seniors in high school these fundamentals. This would give him more time to work on the important points of a game.



by Jerry Donlon

Beaten at the Wire

by Val Lane

If you've ever seen two state ranked volleyball teams play, you know that excitement and quality play are guaranteed from nearly every point. On October 23, number four ranked Adams proved this to be true when they battled number three ranked Mishawaka in one of the finest and most exciting games ever played in the John Adams gym. It brought back memories of previous years when Adams was considered the very finest in the state and was crowned state champions in 1976 and 1978.

Adams grabbed an early first game victory winning 15-6 behind the consistently strong serves from co-captain Karen Gillis. The second game was much like the first only the roles were reversed, and the Cavemen's comeback

surge was well underway winning 15-6. The final game reflected from both teams the outstanding dedication and skill which awarded them state rank honors.

The third and deciding game could have gone to either team. But with the score 15-14, Adams was called for an illegal set which was a controversial call. From that call, Mishawaka was awarded the victory and dropped Adams record to 1-1 in the NIC. Not enough can be said for the Eagles dedication and determination. Co-captains Julie Yazel commented "A 16-14 loss is not really a loss, especially to Mishawaka."

The team's overall record stands at 7 wins and 3 losses. Good luck to the girls in the upcoming John Adams Third Invitational.

Striving For Awesome

by Alan Engel

Another one! An NIC victory for the Netters or an award for PK (Paul Koscielski)? Both. As of last Monday the Adams Boys' Tennis Team, under the direction of Coach Mike Allen had amassed a 28 match conference win streak spanning four seasons. And two weeks ago Paul Koscielski was named WSBT-TV's first "Pride of Michiana." "It was a great honor to receive the award," said Paul. The award is given weekly to an outstanding high school student athlete. Paul's athletic achievements need no recapitulation but what many don't realize is that Paul carries a 3.83 GPA.

Along with the Netter's 28 match win streak goes an unmarred 11-0 dual match record this year. In invitational competition, the Netters have done quite well against the best teams in the state. In the Lafayette Jeff invitational Adams placed third among 16 teams. Pretty good considering the number one and two placed teams in the state took first and second in Lafayette. At the Homestead Invitational, however, Adams then took fourth in the state and was upset by Marion, Indiana (5th in state) and brought home a second place finish out of a field of eight teams.

"We're looking good, not awesome, just good." Attempting to reach the state of being awesome Coach Allen has made several changes.

Of course PK will remain at number one singles. Chris Toal, however, will move to number two doubles with Phil Grayson while John Rohan will go to number three singles. Junior Benson Yong will move up to number two singles. That leaves the tough number one doubles team which stays intact with Chris Foley and Kurt Roemer. Junior Mike Morris remains at the alternate position.

Sectional play starts tomorrow at Leeper Park. Coach Allen remarked, "If we can get out of this Sectional we could go pretty far down state." Pretty far is a rather conservative statement as only one of the top three teams can come out of one of the Southern Regionals. The Netters, only competition outside of the Sectionals, on their way down state, will come from number 17, Jasper. With the school behind these eight young men at tomorrow's Sectional, that elusive State Championship Trophy might just find a home here at Adams High School.



Dick Walker

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