

The Tower

John Adams High School

808 S. Twyckenham Drive

South Bend, IN 46615



Sophomores Julie Devetski, Anna Mullet and Jenny White take off to the slopes during our unexpected vacation. Photo by Mrs. Mock

It's Sectional time

by Guy Hamilton

On February 26th, the South Bend boys' basketball sectional at Notre Dame begins with Adams trying to defend their title. The stiffest competition will come from our northside enemies, the Clay Colonials, who have beaten Adams twice this season.

If Adams and Clay are to meet again, it will be in the championship game of the sectional. The two teams are in opposite brackets of the eight team sectional field. Adams cannot however, afford to look toward the finals yet. They must first win two games to get to the finals.

Adams opens the tournament against LaSalle on February 26 at 7:00. In their only previous meeting this

year in the Eagle's nest, Adams won handily 82-60.

The score, however, is deceiving because the game was close except for a couple of spurts by J.A.

Since their loss to Adams, LaSalle has steadily improved to be a great team, and they even pulled a big upset over Clay, which allowed Adams to win the NIC.

The game to follow the Adams-LaSalle clash is Riley vs. Marian. Riley is also much improved since they lost to Adams in December. Like LaSalle, they also upset Clay, but the game was at Clay. Adams has not faced Marian.

In the lower bracket and playing on February 27, Clay will face Washington followed by the St. Joe vs. Mishawaka game. Clay and St. Joe are the two dominating teams in this

bracket and should square in the semi-final.

The Adams-LaSalle winner will face the Riley-Marian victor in the first game of a doubleheader on Friday, March 1 beginning at 7:00. In the second game one week from tonight, the Clay-Washington victor will play the St. Joe-Mishawaka winner. The sectional championship game will be played on Saturday March 2 at 8:00. All games will be at the Athletic and Convocation Center (ACC) at Notre Dame.

The sectional winner will advance to the Michigan City Regional which will be two weeks from today on March 8 and 9.

Let's go out to Notre Dame and show that Adams has the best "6th man" in town.

National Merit Finalists

by Corrie Wolosin

When Viktor Berberi and Kurt Hoffacker took the National Merit Scholar Qualification Test like many other juniors, little did they know that a long journey was beginning.

Because both Kurt and Vik scored very high in their selection index, they were chosen as National Merit Semi-Finalists. This honor was based on the number of

students who took the test and did well on it, so the difficulty of the test was accounted for. Each state may have a certain number of Semi-Finalists, according to the state's population.

The next step involved filling out an application which included essays, teacher recommendations, and SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test) scores. To avoid possible cheating or a "lucky" day, SAT scores must be comparable to

PSAT/NMSQT scores for an applicant to receive Finalist standing.

When Kurt was asked about preparation for the tests, he laughingly replied, "I didn't study at all, but got a good night's sleep and ate breakfast." This truthfully sums up the fact that solid knowledge based on hard work serves a student best, and that cramming becomes all too obvious one day.

An enchanting play

by Sarah Greene

Though this has been a pretty dismal winter, there is a bright spot in the not too distant future.

The winter play is in the works. *The Enchanted*, a comedy by Jean Giraudoux will be presented by the John Adams Jesters on March 8th and 9th.

If the word "enchanted" made you think of something slightly out of the ordinary, you're on the right track. The enchanting "person" in this play is actually a ghost, played by sophomore John Korpel.

He bewitches a lovely young school teacher named Isabel,

Casimer. Several other people who are acquainted with Isabel are somewhat disenchanted by this ghost.

The Inspector (Rom Zablocki, an IUSB student), in particular, is determined to rid his town of the apparent ghost. He tries to capture the ghost. Isabel's suitor, the Supervisor of Weights and Measures, played by Sophomore Chris McNamara, senses a rival in the ghost, and wants to get rid of him.

Thus Isabel is forced to make a choice between "her ghost," and the devoted Supervisor, which makes for a very enchanting story with more than a few surprises.

Other "ghost catchers"

(more commonly known these days as "ghostbusters") include the Mayor (Pete Dahlstrom), the Doctor (Paul Radecki), two cranky, gossipy old women, two cowardly executioners, and five cute but obnoxious little girls.

Directing the show are two IUSB drama majors who do more than just tell the actors/actresses where to stand and how to express themselves. Before each daily rehearsal, the students perform a series of vocal, as well as physical, exercises.

Remember: the dates are March 8th and 9th; the time, 7:30 p.m.; the place, the John Adams Little Theatre.

What's news

C.O.E. contestants

On February 9, Janice McEndarfer, Nancy Nieter, Pat Bickel, Robert Martino, and Jim Halterman attended the Office Education Association (OEA) District Competitive Events and Leadership Conference at Warsaw High School.

Junior Kiwanian

Senior Julie Hobing has been selected as the Junior Kiwanian for the six week period ending March 21. She will represent Adams at the weekly lunches. Julie has been involved with the girls' soccer team, FOOTPRINTS, and art. Congratulations!

Photography awards

Junior Amy Richards has been awarded two Gold Keys from the regional Scholastic Art competition. They are given to art students who showed outstanding work. Amy's medium is photography, and she works on both the TOWER and ALBUM staffs as a photographer. Amy's pictures will be on display in the Warner Gallery in the South Bend Art Center from now until March 2. Congratulations to Amy and her outstanding teachers!

Junior Achievement winners

Four Adams' students, Martha Sternitzke, Chris Coussens, Tina Swartz, and Jeff Eslinger, have been involved in preliminary competition in local Junior Achievement. All are either runners-up or finalists. A spring contest they will enter could qualify them for the National Junior Achievers Conference in August. The time and effort they put in shows a special talent. Best of luck in the future to all of them!

Abortion: a relevant topic

by Liz Panzica

Teenage pregnancy has become a growing problem in the United States. Around a quarter of a million infants were born to teenagers in 1984. Of course, not all young women choose to have their children, about 40% abort.

An abortion is an artificially induced termination of a pregnancy before the fetus is able to live outside the womb. In the United States 30 to 33% of all abortions are performed

on teenagers. The majority of these young women happen to be unwed.

The stages of a pregnancy are divided into three

"Two factions wage a moral war against one another."

trimesters each lasting twelve weeks. Most abortions, 51.5%, are performed in the first eight weeks, only about 39.8% chose to terminate the pregnancy between nine to

twelve weeks. After the sixth month an abortion cannot be performed because at that period of time the fetus is considered viable or able to live outside the mother's womb.

The moral issue of abortion has caused a heated controversy since it was legalized. Two factions wage a moral war against one another.

The Pro-lifers feel life begins at conception and that every unborn child has a right to life. Supporters of pro-

choice believe everyone has a different view point and that a woman has a right to make the decisions about what goes on in her body. It seems that the only answer to the controversy lies in one's beliefs and

"3,485 abortions were performed last year...."

feelings.

The Right to Life movement is pushing legislation to ban abortions. Many people feel

this would not stop abortions but that it would just raise the number done illegally in unsafe conditions. They also believe it would cause an increase in the number of unwed teenager mothers.

In the state of Indiana 3,485 abortions were performed last year on girls between the ages of 15 and 19. The choices to a pregnant teenager seem to be very few and traumatic. Yet, as in all situations in life the decision must be based on one's beliefs.

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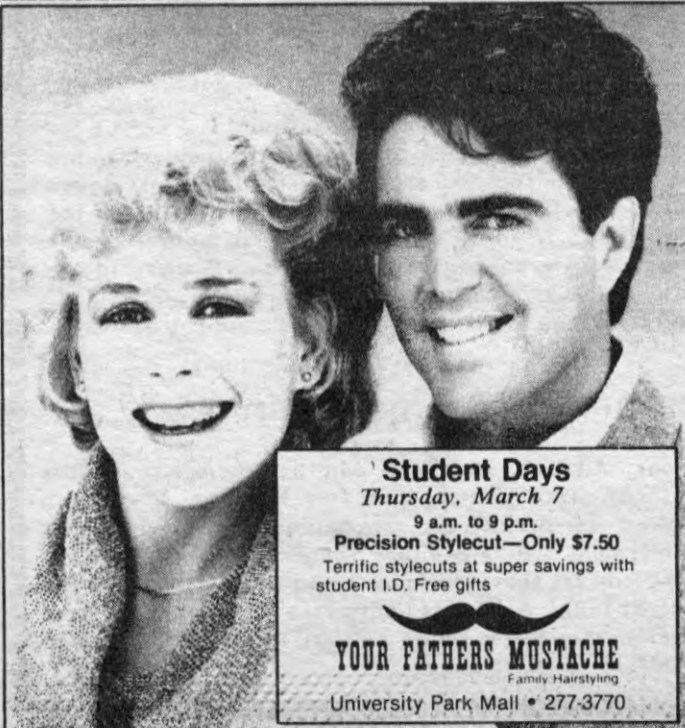


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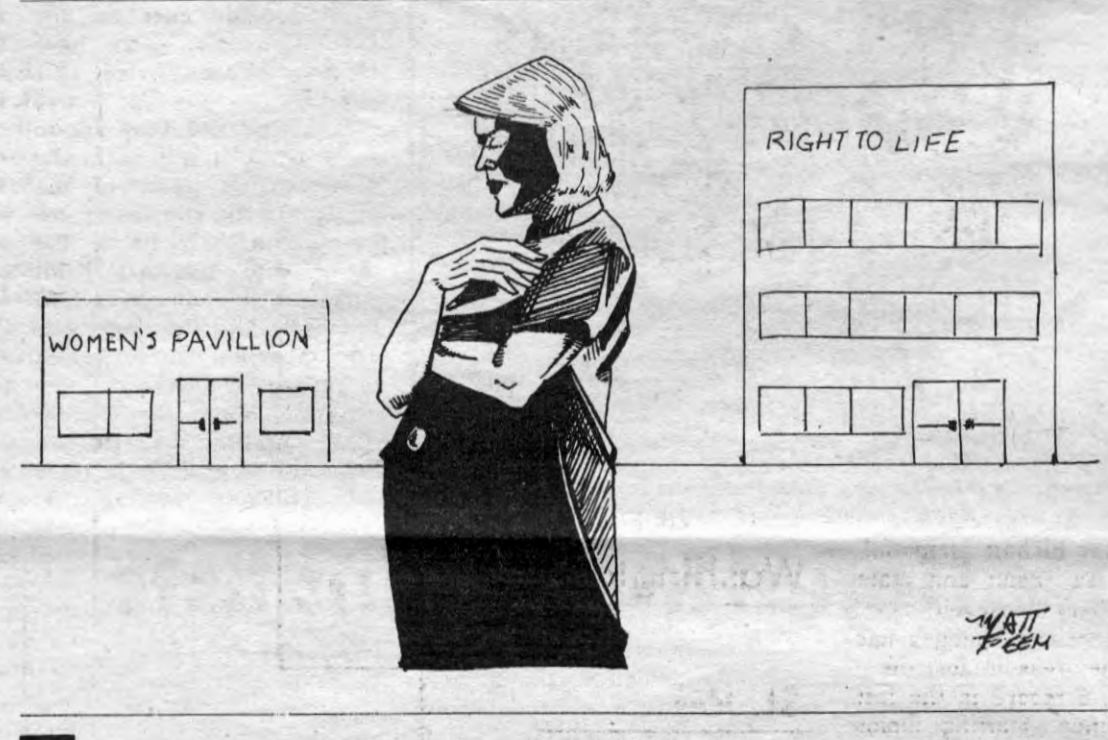
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Teenage pregnancy

by Gini Petersen

The initial feeling of a teenager who is pregnant is panic. She is overwhelmed with fears and worries. What will people think? How should I tell my parents? What will the father of my child do? Should I get married?

These are only a few of the fretful thoughts that run through a teenager's mind. After the initial shock somewhat subsides, however, the teenager is bombarded with important decision making.

As the mother begins to overcome the initial panic, she is confronted with "the fear of making the decision of her life and her child's life,"

according to adoption social worker Peg Donovan. Donovan expresses four basic options that a pregnant teenager has: marriage, abortion, being a single parent, and adoption.

The father is faced with these decisions as well. "It's a side that is significant, but we often can't realize it," says social worker Bev Donati. The

father has many legal responsibilities and this is often overlooked. A pamphlet regarding these responsibilities can be found in the counselor's office.

Donovan said that there is no perfect solution for every situation. A great deal depends upon the individual's goals, family support and finance, support of the father, and maturity of the individual. A person should take these things into account when making the decisions.

Seeking professional help is greatly advised. A person who

There are many places one can go to consult with professionals. Child pregnancy agencies, welfare departments, pregnancy care centers, family doctors, priests, and ministers can be a big help to a pregnant teenager.

Seventy percent of teenagers who have babies drop out and never complete high school. As a way of dealing with this problem, the South Bend Community School Corporation has set up the School Age Mothers Program. In this program, the mother will attend school at the

"Teenage pregnancy is becoming a frequent crisis in our society...."

is more familiar with the options of a pregnant teenager can aid in the decision making. It is often helpful to ask advice of someone outside the family who is not emotionally involved and who will not be personally affected by the outcome. This will give a more objective view of the situation.

YWCA. The curriculum is the same as the regular high school and middle school curriculum, but a child development course is required.

Teenager pregnancy is becoming a frequent crisis in our society today, but the South Bend community is willing to lend a helping hand.

A roller coaster ride

by Guy Hamilton

The boys' basketball team closes out its regular season with a home game against Fort Wayne Elmhurst tonight. The B-team starts at 6:00 with the varsity to follow around 7:30.

They're reaching the end of the season with high hopes

This year's team has been a roller coaster ride for its fans. The Eagles began the season with great expectations with a pre-season #1 ranking, but they were rudely awakened on January 6 with a 6-6 record.

Since falling completely out of the Top 20, Adams bounced back with seven straight wins before losing to Michigan City Rogers last Saturday. The streak included victories at Washington, St. Joe, and Michigan City Elston and at home over Elkhart Memorial, Mishawaka, Penn and state ranked Gary Roosevelt.

Key personal changes has been the reason for the Eagles 7-2 record in the last nine games. Starting junior Jeff Mitchell and bringing senior Tommy Lee Bridgeman and sophomore Adam Friend off the bench for the extra spark has proved to be the winning combination.

Also, senior Kevin De-Craene, finally overcoming his bad ankle and a brief encounter with tonsillitis, has strengthened the inside game and taken some pressure off junior Raymond Richardson.

Another key change is at the point guard position where junior Ron Chrobot has taken over the responsibility of running the offense. This allows senior Milton Davis to

be free to do more scoring. Sophomore Tony Wilson has also made a major contribution off the bench.

The roller coaster ride has been fun, but we do not want to hit another valley. We want to rise to the highest hill and capture the state title. But, that climb begins with the game against Lasalle. Good luck; we are with you all the way!

Adams

Feb. 26, 7:00

LaSalle

Mar 1, 7:00

Riley

Feb. 26, 8:30

Marian

Mar 2, 8:00

Clay

Feb 27, 7:00

Washington

Mar 1, 8:30

St. Joe

Feb 27, 8:30

Mishawaka

The pH factor

by P.H. Mullen

I'd like to compliment the girls basketball team on a fantastic season. They also did a great job throughout the Sectional tournament. I only wish someone had remembered to tell St. Joe that it was a basketball tournament and not a keep away game.

You know it's so easy to say, "Don't worry you'll get them next year." But what can you say to Colleen Lennon, the only person who won't be returning next year? She played great all year, but I'm sure that means very little to her. She and the team weren't able to win the big one. Diane Grundy, Rae Hetterson, Terri Landen, and the rest of the team will all be able to avenge their defeat when they win Sectionals next year. But all Lennon can do is hold her head high and know that she and the team did their best.

It's now time for my "Real Athlete of the Month" award. This award is given to an athlete from Adams who has

distinguished himself in his/her respective sport during a given month.

This month, the award goes to an unheralded hero. Feared by the opposition, this young man is so incredible that he sometimes even scares himself. His name? His name is MARCO KENNEDY!

Marco swam on the swim team this past season, and he had an excellent year. Admittedly, he was shaky at first, but once he overcame his fear of water, he was all set. This young man can culminate his great season in the final meet when he exploded off the blocks, and was finally able to beat his sister's (also a swimmer) best time in the 500 freestyle.

Congratulations Marco in a fine season!

Until next time

In the fast lane

Icercers end season

The hockey team ended their season last weekend with a loss to Fort Wayne Northrup 7-3 in Indianapolis. The season put renewed hope into the once dismal hockey program. The highlight of the season was defeating Clay three times in two weeks. Another bright spot was the city runner-up title, although they lost to Riley in the final.

The team will miss seniors Steve Gruenig, John Rohan, Scott Hutchings, and Brian Bartlet, but the future has been established with a solid foundation. Eagle hockey will be strong once again next year.

One to State

The boys' swim team showed great effort at last Saturday swim sectionals. Though expected to finish in the lower half of the 12 teams field because of their youth and inexperience, Adams placed a strong 4th. Soph. P.H. Mullen nailed down two 3rds in two events, and qualified for the state finals in the 500 free. Not far behind was senior Scott Terlep, finishing with a 5th in the same event. All three Adams divers, Larry Piser, Doug Sakaguchi, and John Rhoutsong, reached the finals, and finished 6th, 9th, and 12th respectively. Pat Brothers, John Newell, and Martin Rohan each turned in noteworthy performances.

With their overwhelming youth and eagerness, look for the Eagles to make themselves known in upcoming years.

Sectional tickets

Tickets for the South Bend Basketball Sectional will be on sale at the ticket office after school on Friday, February 22 and Monday February 25. A sectional ticket is \$8.00. Come to the sectional and support your John Adams Basketball Team.

Spring sports

With spring right around the corner, many of the spring sports are getting organized. If you are interested in either track, girls' tennis, soccer, golf, baseball, or softball contact the coach or a previous letter-winner.

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T.V. Survey

JA ratings: CHEERS on top

by Jim Halterman

With the life of the high school student filled with so many extra curricular activities (sports, jobs, etc.), it is surprising to find in a survey of John Adams students that, despite a busy schedule, many still find time to watch their favorite television shows.

Cheers, the NBC Thursday night comedy, was most often chosen as the favorite of the students polled. Set in a Boston bar, **Cheers** stars Ted Danson and Shelly Long and has been hailed as one of the best comedies ever made for television. It is consistently in the Nielson Top 20 and with the on-again off-again romance of Sam and Diane to become on-again before the season is over, the success of the show should remain the same.

Senior Tom Petersen summed up the mutual feelings about **Cheers** by saying that the cast is a group of, "characters and not just a bunch of people acting." Many of those surveyed felt the cast of **Cheers** could not be touched by the acting of such shows as **Dynasty** or **The A-Team**.

Family Ties and **The Cosby Show**, both NBC series, were

also chosen frequently by those surveyed. Ironically, both of the shows precede **Cheers** on NBC's popular Thursday night lineup, which also includes **Night Court** and another popular choice, **Hill Street Blues**.

One student felt the reason NBC's Thursday night lineup is so popular with students is that, "it's the only night of the week that has intelligent shows."

Another student felt that such shows as **Riptide** and **The A-Team** were, "total garbage," compared to NBC's Thursday night.

St. Elsewhere, another NBC series, was strongly favored in the survey. Although the hospital drama is a critical favorite, its viewing audience is less than fantastic. Adams' students, however, enjoy the show.

Other shows that fared well in the survey were ABC's **Dynasty** NBC's **Remington Steele**, and CBS' **Knots Landing**. On the other hand, some of the shows that are consistently in the Nielson Top 20 were not even mentioned by those surveyed. These shows include: CBS' **Dallas**, **Magnum, P.I.**, and **Cagney & Lacey**; NBC's **TV Bloopers**,

Knight Rider and **The Facts of Life**; and ABC's **The Fall Guy** and **The Love Boat**.

Another thing this survey

showed was that NBC is far ahead of ABC and CBS in popularity. With shows such as **Cheers** and **The Cosby**

Show challenging the likes of **T.J. Hooker** and **Hardcastle & McCormick** it is not hard to see why.



Members of the cast of "Cheers," from left rear, Rhea Perlman, George Wendt and John Ratzenberger, are joined by members of "St. Elsewhere," from left, Norman Lloyd, Ed Flanders, and William Daniels, as the good doctors visited the "Cheers" set during filming of an upcoming episode of "St. Elsewhere."

Draft still remains a hot issue

by Donald Marti

For several years, the United States government has required that all 18 year old male citizens register for military conscription. During the time that this law has been in effect, over 98 percent of all people who are required to

register have done so. Those who do not register usually are ignorant of the laws that require them to submit themselves as human sacrifices to the nation-state, and

promptly turn in their registration forms when reminded.

If those high school students who register for the draft are actually conscripted into the armed forces by the government, they will probably be sent to Central America to kill and be killed in an undeclared war. In Central America, the United States

government supports fascists, dictators, juntas, death squads, and multinational

conglomerates in their crusade to rid the world of socialists, land reformers, nuns, and other supposedly evil liberals. The President and other moral imbeciles are aiding the right to win 'allies' with constantly increasing shipments of weapons, military advisors, and money.

Most draft age citizens, however, do not have military or economic interests in Central America, and usually lack interest entirely. They are opposed to United States

intervention in Central America, which will, if continued, lead to a wasteful, unpopular war resembling the one in Vietnam.

Despite students opposition to a war in Central America, they continue to register for the draft, walking like sheep to their local Post Offices. Why? One possible explanation is that many high school students support the United States' current right wing

administration. By registering they could be showing their support for the politicians now in office.

The most effective way that high school students and other potential draftees could take action against conscription would be by refusing to register for it. The government would be unable to prosecute large numbers of unregistered people, and the draft system would collapse.

The Tower

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