

This is the last issue of **The Tower** for the 1985-86 school year. Have a great summer vacation!!! We will.

Recently an Adams junior paid a visit to Poland. A report of his findings and conclusions is on page 2.

Student body needs to play bigger part in school affairs. For additional comments, turn to the opinion page!

The Tower

May 16, 1986 Vol. 46 No. 12

John Adams High School

308 S. Twyckenham Drive

South Bend, IN 46615

Niemier nurtures numerical knowledge

By Jane Burke

Once again the honor of Teacher of the Year has been awarded to a very dedicated, personable teacher. This distinctive recognition goes to the much deserving Mr. Niemier. In addition to his many innovative ideas, Mr. Niemier is involved in much more than just classroom activities.

With superb appraisals from staff members and students, Mr. Niemier has been recognized as Teacher of the Year from Adams and will continue to compete in further Teacher of the Year contests. Next is the South Bend Community School Corporation Teacher of the Year and then on to regional and state finals.

Many people wonder how a teacher is chosen for such an honor. A questionnaire is distributed to all staff members, who recommend their opinion of who most deserves the award. Along with a list of accomplish-

ments in varied areas, teachers receive letters of recommendation from other teachers, former students, and present students.

Mr. Przybysz stated that the type of teacher that is named Teacher of the Year is "innovative, has a deep concern for students, and goes above and beyond the basic daily preparations." These qualities are quite typical of Mr. Niemier.

He needs to be recognized for his remarkable record of activities. He puts forth many extra hours, not to benefit himself, but to help other people. Much of his time goes to Quiz Bowl, as he is the city coordinator. He has begun a new class dealing with Probability and Statistics which has become very successful. He also works with the staff on a weight loss program. From his sixteen years of teaching, five have been at Adams. When Mr. Przybysz discovered that Mr. Niemier might be transferred to

Adams he felt that he "definitely wanted him. He's a real asset. He's an exceptional, young dedicated teacher who deserves to be recognized."

Well-known by such phrases as "meanwhile, back at the ranch" and "as the Fonz would say-aaaaaa," Mr. Niemier loves teaching and takes on the difficult task of making math fun. One of the greatest qualities he has is that he always is there when help is needed. He takes the time needed to explain when someone can't seem to understand.

Mr. Niemier's favorite part of teaching is "seeing the students everyday. I enjoy passing on knowledge to students to help them with their future careers and experiences."

This well-trained, knowledgeable mathematician deserves to be recognized for the great impact he has on others. Congratulations on your award and thanks for a job well done.



Mr. Niemier

Dan Carter/Tower

Two Adams teachers say farewell to beloved school

By Corrie Wolosin

Mr. Rocco Germano, the orchestra director for the past eleven years, has decided to retire. In these years, he has contributed incredible amounts of time, energy, and talent to many different organizations. The scope of his activities range from performance to production. The professionalism he brought to his job reflects the high standard of musicianship Mr. Germano exemplified during his career.

Born in Italy, Mr. Germano moved to Mishawaka when he was eight years old. He began studying violin in elementary school, under the guidance of Frances Koch, who has remained a close friend of Mr. Germano's. After graduating from Mishawaka High, he attended Notre Dame. In this period, he switched to viola and continued private study.

Mr. Germano began a tradition of conducting musicals while in the army in Wiesbaden, Germany. This tradition has continued—Mr. Germano has been involved with vocal and orchestral rehearsals for Riley, St. Mary's,

the Presbyterian players, and the South Bend Civic Theater, as well as all of the Adams productions.

His involvement in community music has helped to make South Bend a center for the arts. He is a co-founder of two prestigious organizations: The South Bend Youth Symphony and the South Bend Chamber Music Society. The SBYS is an orchestra for seventh, eighth, and ninth graders. Mr. Germano has been its sole conductor for nineteen years. The Chamber Music Society has evolved into the Fischhoff National Chamber Music competition, which increases in participation each year.

Mr. Germano has had an extremely illustrious career as a performing musician. He has played with the Chicago Symphony, where he was Principal Violist. He also toured one season as Principal Violist with the Boston Pops under Arthur Fiedler. He played with many great conductors of the era; Ormandy, Bernstein, Kubelik, and Reiner.

As a student of Mr. Germano's, I feel very lucky to have been able to work with such a great musician. In the classroom, Mr. Germano is demanding, as a good

conductor should be. He shouts, dances, blows whistles, and even swears on occasion. He really knows how to make a performer play well.



Mr. Germano Dan Carter/Tower

By Ida Primus

June is just weeks away. To the students here at John Adams, that means finals are coming, followed by summer vacation, and then, for most of us, a return to school. Most of the teachers, too, can look forward to another year teaching the same course to a new group of students. Not all of our teachers will be returning

this fall, though. Mr. Moriarty, the freshmen basic science teacher at Adams, will say good-bye to our high school this summer. He will be beginning his well-earned retirement.

Moriarty has been teaching in South Bend for thirty-three years. He began at Jefferson, where he taught 6th, 7th, and 8th grade science for twenty-five years. For the last fifteen years, Moriarty has been teaching classes at I.U.S.B. Moriarty transferred from Jefferson to Adams seven years ago. Here he teaches basic freshman science and earth science. Mr. Moriarty also introduced two new courses to the Adams science department, one in astronomy and one in meteorology.

Mr. Moriarty will not be returning to Adams this fall, but he plans to continue teaching courses at I.U.S.B. He would like to do some travelling and plans to devote more time to his interest in geology. Moriarty will be spending a lot of time doing field work in Montana, which he says is like a second home to him.

Moriarty has a unique ability to "turn kids on to something they never thought about before," explained Mr. Przybysz.



Mr. Moriarty Michele Ault/Tower

Mr. Moriarty will be leaving Adams this summer, but the impact he has had here will remain for years to come. He has worked hard to influence many students and to improve the Adams science department. Time and time again, Mr. Moriarty has proved himself a devoted, industrious member of our faculty.

Poland is an unforgettable experience

By Richard Primus

Early on the morning of Saturday, April 13, I left South Bend for a nine-day journey into the past. I would arrive in New York that afternoon and in France the next day, with Poland as my eventual destination.

I had been selected as one of twenty-three American youth delegates to participate in an International Youth Mission to Poland. The Mission's purpose was to allow youth from around the world to investigate the Nazi Holocaust on location. (The vast majority of the Holocaust, the German-sponsored murder of six million Jews during World War II, took place on Polish soil.)

I arrived in New York and met with the other American delegates. We all felt a common excitement and nervousness about what we were about to do. We all knew about the Holocaust—that the Nazis had planned to destroy the entire Jewish population of the world, and that they succeeded in killing two out of every three Jews then living in Europe, equal to one out of every three Jews in the world. We all thought that we understood the importance of our Mission, and we were nervous both about that and about the idea of traveling to Poland, a communist country.

We arrived in Paris on Monday, April 14. There we met the other fifty delegates from around the world, from places including Canada, Mexico, England, France, South Africa, Argentina, Australia, Israel, Switzerland, and many more. We traveled to Poland the next day, arriving in Warsaw on Tuesday, April 15.

Arriving in Poland was like entering a different world. Warsaw looked like any European city with its modern-style airport and its twentieth-century buildings and streets. But some things were different. People were very quiet and reserved, as if they were afraid to talk.

When we drove between cities, we saw nothing but farms which looked like they were out of the 1700's—horses and wooden ploughs. No tractors or any other changes in seemingly hundreds of years.

But Poland's strangeness was only a sideshow to our real mission. On Wednesday morning we went to the site of a Nazi death camp called Majdanek (My-DA-nek). Much of the camp still stands as it did forty years ago.

The Majdanek camp was my first encounter with true horror. The camp is enclosed by a barbed wire fence, and when I crossed the gate I realized that hundreds of thousands of other people had passed through that same gate, and they had never come out.

Inside the wire I found the first set of gas chambers. The Germans used to deport Jews by railroad cattle cars to the camp, and when they would get off the trains, those who did not look young and strong enough for slave labor would immediately be put into the gas chambers. They would be pushed inside; the heavy doors would slam shut; then Zyklon B gas would be pumped in. In the room where I stood, thousands of people died every day.

I went farther into the camp, and I discovered the buildings where the Nazis stored the possessions of their victims. The first building, a barracks about one hundred feet long and thirty feet wide, was filled with shoes. Just shoes. Each pair of shoes once belonged to a pair of feet that died at Majdanek.

There were three buildings filled with shoes.

Farther in the camp I found the crematoria, where the bodies of the dead were burned.

I left Majdanek with a heavy heart and a troubled mind. That night, I felt death everywhere, and the next day offered no relief, for we were to travel to a town in Southwestern Poland whose name has become synonymous with evil—Auschwitz.

For every person who died at Hiroshima, fifty died at Auschwitz. The concentration and death camps there encompassed forty square kilometers dedicated to killing people. There were more gas chambers and more crematoria. I even found one large room filled with human hair.

At Auschwitz, the Jews tried to revolt and actually succeeded in blowing up two of the crematoria, which stand to this day as piles of rubble. My grandparents were prisoners at Auschwitz, and I felt very uneasy there. It is said that the sun never shines at Auschwitz.

As I left the camp, I was very hungry, I hadn't eaten for several hours, but I had candy bars in my pack. I tried to take one, but I looked back at the camp and couldn't touch the food.

We spent the next two days in Warsaw, studying especially the site of the Warsaw ghetto. The Warsaw ghetto was a two-square-mile area into which the Nazis crammed, at one point, half a million Jews. The inhabitants were not allowed to leave, and each was allowed only 177 calories of food per day. Thousands died of starvation and disease. Thousands more were deported to the death camps.

But the Warsaw ghetto is a symbol of pride to many, for it was the site of the first revolt anywhere against the Germans. On April 18, 1943, with only a few thousand tired and hungry people still left in the ghetto, the uprising began. They had only the weapons which they could build for themselves.

We left Poland the same day. When the plane left Warsaw, we all breathed a sigh of relief to be out of the grasp of the contemporary reality of the totalitarian system. Upon my return to the United States, I was elated to feel that freedom. I knew, however, that I would never be free from the grasp of the horror that I saw.

Evaluation is favorable

By Jeff North

For any organization that is as large as John Adams High School, evaluation is a useful tool to insure that the organization continues to meet objectives and function smoothly. On November 19-22, the school was visited by an independent team of administrators and teachers from the North Central Association who studied all facets of John Adams. The study resulted in an 84 page evaluation that points out strengths and weaknesses in current departments and gives recommendations for improvement.

The report is by no means the end of the process. In fact, it really is only the beginning. Now, the real work of implementing and determining courses of action to solve the problems that came out must begin. Already, every teacher in the building has received a copy of their department's report, and they have started the process of proposing solutions and objections in writing to problems pointed out in the report.

The report is very positive about John Adams, stating that "John Adams High School is an excellent school with an experienced staff" and that "the committee was greatly impressed by the maturity and behavior of the student body." They believe that "a very strong academic program exists at John Adams."

The report was not good in all areas, however. The committee was most critical of the present facilities. Especially emphasized was the state of the library. The report states that "the current situation short-changes the students and staff and is intolerable for a high school with the goals and philosophy of John Adams High School." Strong recom-

mendations were made for greatly enlarging the current space, adding a photocopier, employing another full time professional person, increasing the current operating budget and shifting responsibilities for inventory control to a more appropriate department.

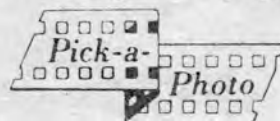
The committee was also critical of the deplorable condition of the bathrooms. A remodeling of the bathrooms facilities is already in process. The lower level boys' locker is "a little short of medieval in its appearance and maintenance." They also cited a need for increasing the regular maintenance staff.

Other than building related difficulties, the committee cited a number of departments for not conducting regular meetings and not having written outlines for many of the courses being taught. Because the committee does not evaluate individual teachers, only general comments were made. Several departments were criticized for having too much teacher-dominated class time and not enough for active student participation.

In their summary, the committee emphasized that, as Mr. Przybysz said, "It's a good high school and we've got good things going." Perhaps the best thing that could happen is that the entire John Adams community could rise to the challenge of using the evaluation for the betterment of the school in the future. It would be grossly negligent of every person involved with John Adams High School not to strive to take into consideration the recommended changes and begin to work to improve the school. Only a combined effort will result in changes that maintain John Adams' position as one of the top high schools

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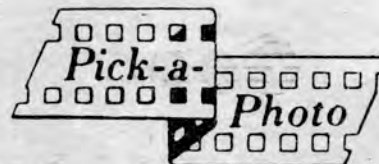


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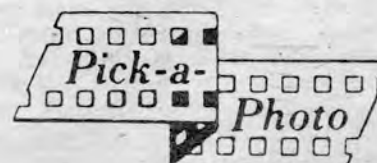
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Adams softball is striving for improvement

By Sharna Chapman

The John Adams Girl's Softball team is returning this season after a disappointing 6-11 record last year with the hopes of capturing the Northern Indiana Conference Championship title. This goal is sought after by a great deal of effort and team work. The team was not greatly affected by the loss of three seniors who graduated, however there were many spots to be filled within the infield.

Coach Bryan Flora, in his 9th season as the Eagles head coach feels that although they have a very inexperienced infield they have a very promising future and should dominate the area. He also commented, "the key to the teams success is the desire to improve every game and to keep working toward the goal." Jennifer Weisjohn, former John Adams softball player is assisting Coach Flora's program.

The team is led by 3 outstanding senior leaders. Although Captain's are not selected until the end of the season. Rae Hetterson, Tammy Brittain and Teri Landen prove to be excellent leaders. Juniors' Kathy McMahon

and Patty Dennin add their experience to the team. Rae Hetterson stated, "We do not have any major weakness that may halt our success." She added, "With more game experience, I feel that this team has an excellent future."

in the teams performance. Patty Dennin feels that "With strong performances from everyone and good leadership the Eagles should have a good season."

The Eagles began with an excellent start by easily defeating St. Joe 13 to 4. After being defeated year after

"...this team has an excellent future"

—Rae Hetterson

Due to the losses of senior Varre Watson and freshman Amy Golden because of injuries, the Eagles infield is rebuilding. It is lead by Patty Dennin at short stop, alternating pitcher Amy Gola at third base, sophomore Molly Lennon covering second base and freshman Jill Cutter at first base. The outfield however is more experienced with Teri Landen in left field, Kathy McMahon covering center field and sophomore Ann Henkle in right field. The experience of catcher Rae Hetterson and pitcher Tammy Brittain are strong points

year by tough St. Joe teams, this win felt good. The next contest was against Clay, which was also at home, when they defeated them in a shutout. Tammy Brittain pitched a no-hitter and struck out record eighteen batters while breaking the previous record of fifteen. After defeating a tough Marion squad, the Eagles met a tough intercity team Washington team. In a record low temperature day of 40 degrees, the team lost in a close game of 3-1. They then defeated Penn in an away match. Last Thursday, they however suffered another loss to Warsaw.

Girls tennis still on the upswing

By Molly Lennon

Third year Coach Cleo Kilgore has more reasons than ever to be optimistic about his tennis team. The Eagles boast a 6-1 record, their only loss coming from a tough Plymouth team. "We have a good chance of going

downstate," commented M.C. Patton.

Returning for the Eagles are senior tri-captains Sara Miller, Leslie McCloskey, and Lee May. With the help of freshman Marta Roemer, and sophomores M.C. Patton, Carrie Hamilton, Marie Koscielski, and Kay Grissom, this

tennis team has a reason to be optimistic about the season.

After battling it out for #1 singles, Marie Koscielski came ahead in the tie-breaker to take the spot. Marta Roemer, otherwise known as the freshman wonder plays #2 singles. Carrie Hamilton and Kay Grissom, who moved up from the B-team, switch off playing #3 singles. Playing #1 doubles are seniors Sara Miller and Leslie McCloskey. Lee May and M.C. Patton complete the team playing #2 doubles.

Recently at a tournament at Fort Wayne Homestead, the #2 singles and #2 doubles came in second place, giving inspiration to the team. "Although we're a young team," said Marta Roemer, "we have a lot of potential."

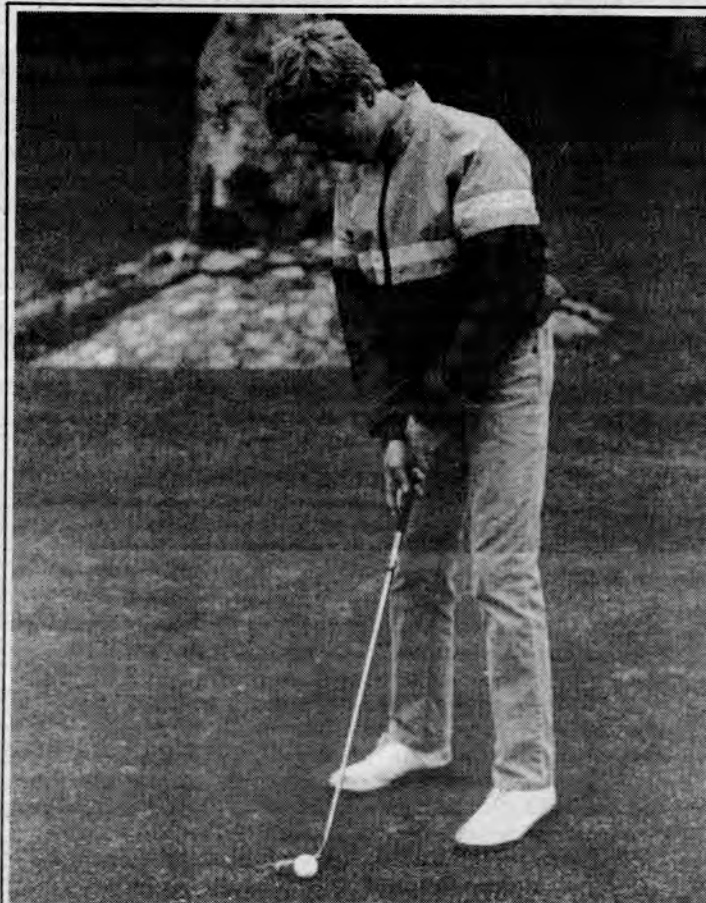
The inspiration is spreading. All the members seem to express the same sentiments. "I think going downstate is possible. We've been playing well and if we keep it up we can go as far as we want," said Carrie Hamilton.

Examples of this were matches against LaSalle (a 5-0 stomping) and LaPorte when Marta Roemer pushed the team to victory with her tie-breaker.



Sophomore Kay Grissom backhands a return during a match against LaSalle. Grissom triumphed, and Adams won the match 4-1

Micrele Ault/Tower



Freshmen Kevin Kaeppler concentrates before a putt in a recent match at Eberhart.

Tim Foley/Tower

Girls track looks strong

The girls' track is having one of its best seasons in years. In the recent city meet, they were runner-up to LaSalle.

Co-Captains Dawn Sivak and Shonda McDonald lead the team in the 800 and hurdles, respectively. Lyletta Robinson is strong in the field events while Cathy Cane heads the team in the sprints. With a strong crop of underclass talent like Lara Johnson, Casi Bolden and Shelley Biggs, the teams promises to be strong again next year.

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TOWER

FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION

Student Government needs more student input

By P.H. Mullen

Several weeks ago, surveys were taken in every homeroom by Student Government. The purpose was to ask the student body, "What can student government do for you?" Student government used this as a way to reach a greater number of the students because it has become more of an elite council than representative of the entire school. Most people don't even know what student government does, when they meet, or who the members are.

Student government plays a major part in enhancing this school to both the students and the outside community. Several years ago, they originated and organized a canned food drive that is held

in the late fall. In the past two years, over 3,000 cans have been collected so that poverty stricken children may eat.

Another big way the student government successfully reached all the students was Spirit Week. To collect money for the Stature of Liberty's "Save the Lady" campaign and "Farm Aid," spirit links were sold by each class at ten cents apiece. During the pep assembly, all the links were laid out and practically blanketed the entire floor. Lead by the class of 1988 over \$700 was made.

But other than those two instances, student government has failed to make the student body aware of its presence. This is not by lacking of trying of student government's part; it is basic apathy on the part of the students. People

continually complain about problems, and question what their representatives actually do. Yet there hasn't been a single instance this year when a non-involved student has come to a meeting and verbally presented an idea or a problem to everyone. The meetings are almost always open to anyone interested in attending and publicized announcements are made. The student government calender, located across from the cafeteria, clearly states the meeting dates as well as other activities.

Among the quiet things that student government does is organizing the semi-formal in January, run the highly successful carnation sale for Valentine's day, and host student exchanges days. An exchange involves sending four of five

Adams students to another school for the day so they can see how it works and garner some of that school's student government ideas. In return students from other schools come to Adams. So far this year, only St. Joe has visited Adams and they attested that they had never seen a meeting as organized or well run as ours. If only the student-body would play a bigger role.

When the student government officers looked through the replies they received from their survey, they found many along the lines of "impeach the president" and "burn the school". But several did make good suggestions that will be considered in upcoming meetings. Student government does a lot for the school. With more input from everyone it will do more!

Comparative college data

	Male enrollment	Female enrollment	% of applicants accepted	Annual costs
Berkeley	12,035	10,168	55	\$ 9,960
Cornell University	6,793	5,811	30	\$14,055
Harvard University	3,829	2,691	17	\$15,200
Indiana University	10,836	12,039	80	\$ 5,122
Lake Forest College	522	555	61	\$11,450
Michigan State University	16,200	16,339	80	\$ 7,567
University of Notre Dame	5,350	2,050	45	\$10,505
Purdue University	17,250	11,590	82	\$ 5,282

Another look at colleges

By Marc Conklin

With the spring there bloom many thoughts of the future, which, for many, mean college. One might associate college with the hassle of filling out applications and the (almost) certain immense workload, if he chooses. But if he does he is a depressing person and should be ignored, because just about everything associated with college is extremely enjoyable.

First there is the enjoyment of choosing colleges. Some fantasize about an endless ivy garden in the East, some about the friendly warmth of the South and West, and some simply want to find Animal House, wherever it is. The East seems to remain the most popular (there is a rash of Cornell sweatshirts this year.)

In a peculiar way, college seems to be more a state of mind

than a school. Very seldomly at Notre Dame will you ever see a student wearing a shirt or sweatshirt saying "Notre Dame". What you will see is "Harvard," "Stanford," etc. It's as if they wanted to go through the whole experience a second time.

Narrowing down the fantasies can also be enjoyable. For a lot of people it means forgetting about going anywhere besides Purdue or IU. For some it becomes a matter of which college has the best sports teams. And for the lucky few it becomes merely a matter of choosing between the state of California and Florida.

Of course the main limiting force in choosing a college is money. Some may argue that it's grades but that's generally not true. In most cases, those who don't have the requirements for a "Brown" wouldn't be caught dead there anyway. No, it's

definitely tuition—the great paradox that to make money one needs money, and to make a lot of money one needs a lot of money. Maybe life should be lived backwards so we could all go to college...

Lastly there is that final choice of a college. For the people who only get accepted one place, no problem. For those who get to choose between two or three, however, there is a special feeling of accomplishment. Maybe the person received acceptance to his/her first choice and knows he/she doesn't have to settle for second best. Or maybe they can just enjoy the fewer of being able to choose a major part of their life's course of action.

By the way, beware of rumors; especially the one's about Indiana and Purdue not being good schools. The ones about social life at Ball St., though.....

Jobs pay well

By Julie Herr

A summer job. It seems everyone could use one, but the question is, can they stand it once they have it, or more importantly, can they get it in the first place? Of course there is always at least one lucky person who has all the right connections, be it a father who owns a business, or just a nice man down the street who manages the corner grocery store, but unfortunately that leaves most of the rest of us still hunting.

The first job, whether it's for over the summer, or during the school year, seems for many to be the hardest to find. "I've put in applications at at least fifteen different places now," commented one junior, "and I've heard back from one—MacDonald's—my last resort. Most places just don't want to hire a sixteen year old who's never worked before." The story is much the same from others, and competition from college students, can make the search even tougher.

The majority of high school students who do find jobs, work in restaurants or retail stores and by far, most agree that grocery or department stores are the best choices. Some pick small clothing stores such as those found in University Park Mall as their first choice, but many dislike the high degree of visibility in these jobs. Far and away the job chosen as

Of course there are those who actually enjoy their jobs. Says junior Susan Quimby, "I really like working," although she admits it can be a pain at times. Getting to meet new people and making new friends are just two of the pluses to having a job. Of course as most would agree, the extra money is the nicest part. For those who plan to go to college, a summer job can mean the difference between a relatively comfortable year at college and a meager, hand-to-mouth existence. Others just enjoy the extra spending money. But whatever the reason, it is doubtless that these jobs will provide valuable knowledge and experience for the future.

the worst, was one in a fast food chain. The low pay (usually sub-minimum wage) and ugly uniforms were two big drawbacks in this type of job. As one senior put it, "Honestly, who looks good in brown polyester?"

But whatever the position finally obtained, many are in for a big let-down. "I was really excited at first," said one sophomore, "all my friends already had jobs. They told me it was a real pain, but I guess I didn't believe them. Now all I want to do is quit. My manager could only be described by a four-letter word you can't print in the paper, and my social life has dwindled down to somewhere around zip."



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