

THE TOWER

John Adams High School 808 S. Twyckenham Drive
South Bend, IN 46615

Spring is here when young men's fancies turn to thoughts of baseball. Turn to page 3 for a review of spring sports.

Adams comes through with four National Merit Finalists

by Holly Lindberg

The National Merit Scholarship Finalists of the 1987 competition have been announced, four of which are from John Adams. Deserving applause are Steve Hartman, P.H. Mullen, Richard Primus, and Ted Scheel.

The National Merit Scholarship program is an academic competition which provides recognition and scholarships to high school students. In entering the competition, Steve, P.H., Richard, and Ted took the 1985 PSAT/NMSQT as juniors.

Out of the more than one million juniors who took the test, these four and about 15,000 other students were designated as Semifinalists on a state representation basis. They were notified in September 1986 and their names were released to news media and to certain four-year U.S. colleges and universities.

These hopeful semi-finalists then began the rigorous competition for Merit Scholarships. To qualify as finalists, these students had to fill out a scholarship application, be recommended for a Merit Scholarship by Mr. Przybysz, have a record of high academic performance, and plan to enter a U.S. college or university with a regional accrediting commission on higher education.

Almost 90 percent or 13,500 of this year's semifinalists, became finalists. These finalists were announced in February and will be considered for about 6,000 Merit Scholarships worth \$21 million. All finalists also received a Certificate of Merit.

In choosing which of the 44 percent of the 13,500

finalists will receive Merit Scholarships, including the big National Merit \$2,000 Scholarships, a committee of experienced college admissions officers and secondary school counselors will evaluate the applications and select the winners. They will consider academic accomplishments such as course load, subject difficulty, grades earned and class rank; personal attributes; extracurricular achievements; and contributions to the school and community.

The scholarships will be offered on a representational basis as in the designation of semifinalists. About 18,000 students will be selected for the National Merit \$2,000 Scholarships.

Almost 200 U.S. colleges and universities sponsor the four-year Merit Scholarships for students who will enroll in their institution. NMSC will send checks to scholarship winners beginning in September 1987 following the student's selection for an award.

The winners must reapply annually, however, to reach the requirements which follow: normal year-to-year academic progress, maintaining good academic and disciplinary standing, and continuing to fulfill all required terms as specified at the time of offerance and acceptance of the scholarship.

The winners of the Merit Scholarships will be contacted in March and April of this year through the mail. Once NMSC has received award acceptances, the names of the Merit Scholars will be publicized.

Competing for the scholarships, the names of Steve Hartman, P.H. Mullen, Richard Primus, and Ted Scheel are expected to be heard. Congratulations and good luck to these four fine and well-deserving scholars!

Senator Quayle pays a visit

By Liz Panzica

Senator Dan Quayle was in South Bend to promote Special Olympics. He wanted to stop at an area high school and chose Adams at the advice of an assistant who was a '77 Adams' graduate.

The senator addressed three major topics: the budget, arms control, and competitive society. He also devoted a considerable amount of time to student questions on a wide variety of issues.

Senator Quayle believes that the \$187 billion dollar deficit is the major issue facing Congress this year. He contends that the threat can only be reduced by cutting spending across the board. Quayle said that there was no room for sacred cows in federal spending and that cuts must be made in all areas to be effective.

On the topic of arms control; Quayle felt that talks are "moving forward" and that an agreement might soon be reached. Quayle contends, however, that an agreement should not be reached at the expense of the Strategic Defense Initiative, better known as Star Wars.

Quayle talked about how the world is "far more competitive" than when he was in high school. When fielding a question by junior, Molly Lennon, about some economists' predictions that the standard of living in the United States will decrease, Quayle termed himself an optimist. He said that economists were forecasting the same for his generation, yet, the standard of living continues to rise.

Many students showed concern over the Iran scandal. Senator Quayle believed the entire Reagan plan to be "fundamentally wrong." But, he did explain Reagan's rationality for the deal. Although, he disagrees, Quayle claims the President wanted to reach out and have a better relationship with Iran, an important country because of its location and resources.

Adams' students were given a rare opportunity to speak to one of the 100 members of the Senate of the United States. Senior, Lisa Sager felt, "It was great of him to take time out of his schedule to talk to high school students. I learned so much more by him giving us answers first hand as opposed to just reading about it in the newspapers." Government student, Jeff Rieckhoff also said, "I thought he did a good job communicating with high school students."



Tristine Perkins/Tower

Senator Quayle fields questions from Adams' students

The Senator answered questions ranging from farming to governmental spending, but he stressed that students, "Keep our belief in the people."

He urged students to study literature, mathematics and to develop problem solving skills in order to prepare for the future of the United States which would soon be turned into their capable hands.

What's News

Yearbook Wins Awards

The 1986 Yearbook won a second place in the Columbia National Scholastic Competition. This contest is intensive and every page is scrutinized. The Yearbook won a first place in photography and the student life section.

Junior Rotarian

Angela McDonald has been named Junior Rotarian for the month of March.

Drama Club

The John Adams High School Drama Club and Thespians have been invited to perform their production of the one-act play "PRESENT TENSE" at the Indiana State Thespian Convention. The convention "INDIANA THESPIANS AND THE TEMPLE OF THEATRE" will be held May 8, 9, and 10 at Columbus North High School in Columbus, Indiana.

The John Adams Drama Director, Joseph B. Good, is pleased to announce that three members of the Adams Troupe have been selected for the 16 member all-state cast of "FEIFFER'S PEOPLE" which will be presented the last day of the conference.

The students from John Adams are planning to take a large delegation of young Thespians to participate in all the events at the state convention.

CAST--"PRESENT TENSE"

Debbie Arney, Doug Booher, Sharna Chapman, Pete Dahlstrom, Jocelyn Kapsa, Ray Rauch, Mark Zielinski, Gayle Shaw.

ALL-STATE CAST--"FEIFFER'S PEOPLE"

Pete Dahlstrom, Staci Slabaugh, Mark Tuten.

Footprints Receives Award

Adams' student literary magazine "Footprints," sponsored by Mrs. Germano, has won superior ratings from the National Council of Teachers of English. Adams is among the only three in Indiana to receive the prestigious award.

DECA Recognition received

Congratulations to Brian Weller who placed first in Food Marketing Communications and fourth in the overall category of Food Marketing Series Event in the State DECA Career Development Conference. Brian will be attending the National DECA Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana April 29-May 3. Good Luck in a job well done.

Summer Job Program

The Summer Youth Employment Program is now taking applications from students between the ages of 14 and 21 at Central Career Center, 317 West Washington Street, downtown South Bend. Students may apply from Monday through Friday, 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. 14 and 15 year olds can sign up for SYEP's JUMP education program! Space is limited so, if you are a resident of St. Joseph County, between the ages of 14 and 21 and economically disadvantaged, just call 233-SYEP for your job opportunity.

Quiz Bowl takes on tournament

by Betsy Furlong

Name the two battles in which Edward, the Black Prince, participated. Identify the Bret Harte book which has a famous setting in the title. On what island is the city of Messina? Who first said: "Nothing is certain but death and taxes?" What state is named for the king who stood up for Handel's **Hallelujah Chorus**? If you can answer such questions, maybe you should try out next year for the Quiz Bowl team.

After beating Washington by almost two hundred points, the Adams team clinched the league championship.

The Quiz Bowl team which wins the local tournament will advance to the national competition in Columbus, Ohio, in early June.

Quiz Bowl competition began locally in 1982 with only two teams, Riley and Adams. The next year the program grew to five teams and now there are nine. Adams won the league championship in 1984, but lost to Clay in the final round of the tournament. The following year, Adams won both league and tournament and travelled to Dallas.

A Quiz Bowl match features two teams with four players each, and substitutions are allowed between the four rounds. The first round consists of twenty-five toss up questions worth ten points each. In round

two, toss up questions correctly answered are followed by a bonus question. The round continues until a total of eight bonus questions are asked. Round three lasts only sixty seconds, but it is worth up to 120 points for each team. The final round is just like the first.

Questions are written by experts in the fields of music, art, mathematics, foreign language, science, history, sports, and general knowledge. A winning team must answer questions in a wide variety of topics and respond in a split second to beat the other team.

The Adams Quiz Bowl team is led again this year by senior Richard Primus. Other seniors are Jeff Rieckhoff, Mike Jones, and Sue Wills. Betsy Furlong, Tom Killeen, Joe Wolter, Mark Bartholomew and Kurt Legee round out the team. Bartholomew and Legee won places on the team although they are only freshmen. The team sponsor and coach is Mr. Lantz.

After beating Washington, Jeff Rieckhoff exclaimed, "I FINALLY answered more questions than Richard-- for the first round anyway."

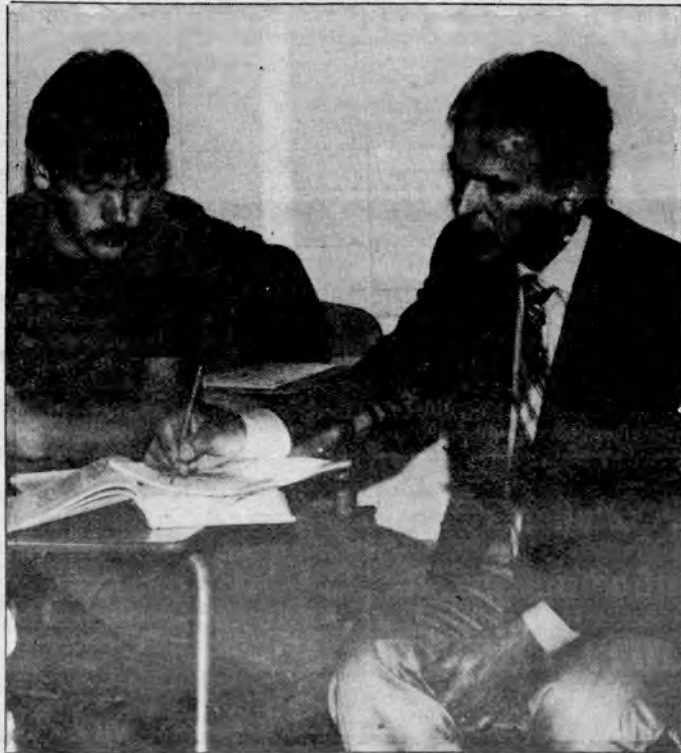
Quiz Bowl is an interesting and entertaining spectator sport.

For anyone wondering about the sample questions, the answers are: Crecy in 1346 and Poitiers in 1356, **The Outcast of Poker Flat**, Sicily, Benjamin Franklin, and Georgia named for George II.



Adams Quiz Bowl members, Richard Primus, Jeff Rieckhoff, and Sue Wills move in for the kill at last Wednesday's match against St. Joe. Steve Hartman/Tower

Mr. Kline wins a Shakespearean research grant



Mr. Kline shares his expertise with befuddled senior, Todd Sikorski.

by Ida Primus

On January 7th, Mr. Kline applied for a Lilly Endowment Teacher Creativity Fellowship. 500 teachers across the state submitted proposals. Each applicant requested a grant to support a summer of research and development on a particular topic.

Mr. Kline's proposal was to study Shakespearean drama in Northeast America. Mr. Kline explains that the material now available is simply not "up to date." He hopes that students will respond better "to a thing that they know is real, instead of something four hundred years old."

Lilly Endowment, Inc. notified Mr. Kline on March 6th that they would be funding his project. Of the 500 submitted, only 75 proposals were approved, four from the South Bend Community School Corporation.

Mr. Kline plans to investigate every aspect of Shakespearean drama in the Northeast. He will attend five Shakespeare festivals and interview actors, directors, and other affiliates. His research

will include what happens at the festivals, who goes to them, and who pays for them.

If scheduling permits, Mr. Kline will end his journey with a four day seminar at McMaster University. The seminar, which lasts from July 13-17 will give Mr. Kline direct contact with Shakespearean actors and directors.

Mr. Kline will receive \$4,000 to help cover the cost of his research. The funding will not cover all of his expenses, but, says Mr. Kline, "It certainly will help."

The agenda for Mr. Kline's trip is still somewhat tentative. He says that a lot will depend on timing. Presently, he expects to cover at least 2,500 miles driving. Scheduling could force him to backtrack, adding countless more hours behind the wheel.

Mr. Kline will probably start his trip in Madison, New Jersey, a relatively unknown and highly experimental group. From there, it's off to New York for a festival in Central Park. Camden, Maine will most likely be next, and then Burlington, Vermont.

The next stop, Stratford,

Ontario, should be one of the highlights of the trip. Stratford is perhaps the center of Shakespearean drama in North America. An unexpected bonus will be a musical performance of "Kiss Me Kate" by the Royal Shakespearean Company. The Company, on tour in America, will visit both Toronto and New York.

The final product of Mr. Kline's research will be a slide-tape presentation which Mr. Kline and other teachers will later use in classroom presentations. It may also be used for staff development meetings.

Mr. Kline has two main goals this summer. First, he hopes to convey to his audiences some of the excitement involved in Shakespearean drama. On a more personal level, Mr. Kline is also "fully expecting a greater personal understanding of Shakespeare."

Is he looking forward to trekking across the East Coast, attending performance after performance? Any student who has ever had Mr. Kline for a teacher can answer that. As Mr. Kline phrased it, "I intend to revel in it."

IN MEMORIUM

**John Frances
Smith**

**December 23, 1970-
March 8, 1987**

Century Formalwear Bridal-Tuxedo

Prom Gowns ordered up to size 42

Tuxedo prices begin at \$36

Cumberbunds and ties at no extra charge

1622 Mishawaka Avenue South Bend, IN

[219]287-5938

See us on how to receive your 1/2 price
Prom Gown or your free Tuxedo.

Bring this in for 20 percent off your Prom Gown or 5 percent off your Prom Tuxedo.

COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF PURCHASE

Spring sports preview

by Scott Scheel

Since there is no drug testing in high school and last nine week's grades are in, everyone remaining on the practice field is eligible for this spring's sports season. Six of Adams' teams will try to improve over last year's achievements while the boys' soccer team will try to equal theirs. Let's glance quickly at how these teams hope to accomplish this.

The first team up to bat is baseball. Coach Buczkowski's squad has the basis of a good team and should be a force this year. The veteran coach has a lot of young talent that includes only five seniors. One of these seniors is highly recruited Dave Zielinski, who will try to stay out of the hospital where he has spent much of his injury plagued, yet brilliant career. His batting, along with the pitching of Sean Grey should help coach Buczkowski exceed last year's .500 record.

But enough said about baseball, now I need to put in a quick word about golf. In only his second year at Adams, coach Flanagan has already built an incredible team that contains no seniors. Steve Ziolkowski, Joe Dennen, Kevin Keppler, and Scott Lanier should stroke above the rest of the very competitive field.

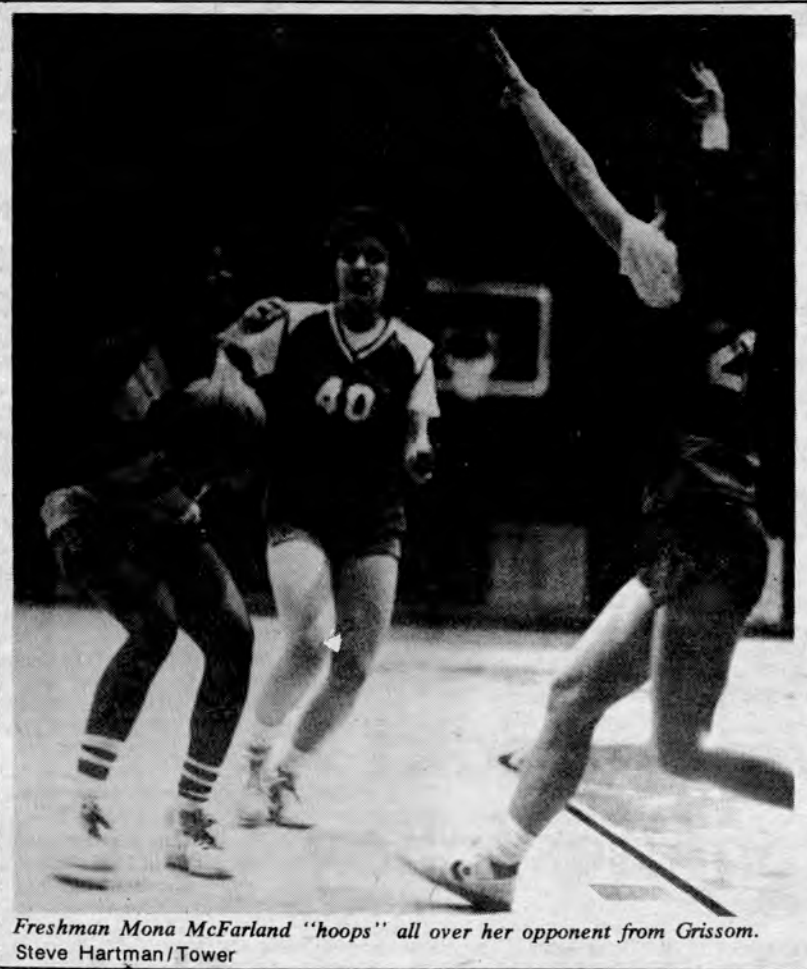
Now for a quick rundown of this year's track teams and, of course, I'll do the ladies first. "We're going to be tough this year," says coach Randy Isaacson, and he has already started to prove this. "In order for us to be really good, our field events will have to come through," Isaacson continued. Dana McDonald, Shannon Monahan, Evon Harris, and Anke Bartl should take care of that.

Even though they are small in numbers, the boys' track team should have a good season this year. Having eighteen people out for a sport may seem like a lot, when that sport has fifteen events like track does. The team will be led by senior Jevon Williams, who finished third in the state last year in the 200.

First year softball coach Mary Wisniewski has acquired quite a ball club this year. Patty Dennin, the only senior, and pitcher Amy Golba should spark this year's team which hopes to repeat a sectional championship. Sophomore Amy Golden summed up everyone's feelings about this year very well when she said, "With our new coach and promising new talent along with most of the players from last year, this year's softball team is heading for a prosperous regular season which will point us right to state!"

Captains Marie Koscielski, Marta Roemer, and Carrie Hamilton will top the girls' tennis lineup this spring. "We lost three seniors, but their spots will be filled with little problem," says Marta. The spots to fill are in the four doubles positions, and eight girls are vying for those positions. The girls hope to avenge a sectional championship loss to Marian, and a regular season loss to perennial power Elkhart Central.

It could very well be that I have saved the best for last. The boys' soccer team cannot do much better than last year, because they won the Northern Indiana State Cup. They will be led by talented seniors Matt Kelly, Joe Loux, Adam Friend, Ricardo and Dan Fallon, Mike Trott, Kal Max, and Ted Scheel.



Freshman Mona McFarland "hoops" all over her opponent from Grissom. Steve Hartman/Tower

Students, and faculty consider code

by Lisa Primus

"I understand the rules and regulations for student-athletes," reads the bottom of the Student-Athlete Code of Conduct. "I agree to comply with the rules and regulations of my school, the conference to which my school belongs, the SBCSC, and the IHSAA, and the direction given to me by my coach."

Every high school athlete in the South Bend Community School Corporation signs this form. Difficult though it may be to believe, each one promises.

among other things, to "conform to the truancy and tardy policies of the school," and to "exhibit poor behavior," and most importantly not to use or possess alcoholic beverages.

The need for such a code is fairly obvious. Not only do these rules encourage discipline and dedication among athletes, but according to Mr. Przybysz, like it or not, by joining athletic teams students "place themselves in leadership positions. They represent something," and therefore should conform to higher standards than the average

student.

Actually signing a form makes students think about the rules, and knowing that they could end up on the bench or off the team can keep people following them, but how much the code of conduct actually accomplishes is unclear.

Apparently, there are few repeat offenders for school-related violations such as truancy or fighting, but preventing students from drinking is much more difficult. Proving that this rule has been violated is difficult, and the violators know it. Some students do stop drinking for part

of or all of their sports seasons, but many do not.

"People who are going to drink," said freshman Molly Dunman "are going to drink."

Clay High School athletic director Mr. Schlunet and some other administrators are trying to change the rules to something "much more drastic" for Clay student athletes, and possibly for all of the school corporation. Violators of the new code, which has not been proposed yet, would be suspended from school sports for an entire year, not just a game or a season.

Also, the code would forbid from attending parties at which drinking takes place. Supposedly, anyone at such a function would know about the drinking and would probably participate, therefore making him or her worthy of a punishment. This could make it easier to penalize people who do break the rules, and it might even prevent people from drinking at parties, but many people don't think it will change a thing.

"People will just get slier out it," explained junior Cathy Kennedy.

This rule would hit hardest student athletes who do not drink. Those who go to spend time with their friends and to meet new people would find few parties they could attend without risking getting benched. Technically, even those who came to a party and left as soon as the drinking started would be breaking the rules.

Not only could this rule be annoying to students; it could actually be dangerous. People who stay sober so that they can drive their friends home would be as guilty as those who drink. The non-drinking athletes who generally drive people home would not be allowed to anymore, and people who ignore the rules, attend the parties, and drink "only a little" would drive themselves home.

Mr. Schlunet stressed, however, that the proposal is still in the planning stage.

The John Adams Adult Booster Club supports

the current South Bend Community School Corporation

STUDENT ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT which states:

1. Student-athletes shall not have in their possession or use:
 - A. Alcoholic beverages
 - B. Marijuana or any other controlled or abusive substances
 - C. Tobacco products
2. Student-athletes shall not have property in their possession that belongs to any school except that property officially issued to them.
3. A student-athlete shall not intentionally abuse, damage or destroy property of others or the property issued to them by the school.
4. Student-athletes shall not use abusive language, be involved in fighting, be insubordinate or exhibit poor conduct.
5. Student-athletes shall not become involved with law enforcement agencies resulting in charges and/or conviction for misdemeanor and/or felony offenses (excluding minor traffic violations).
6. Student-athletes must attend school on the school day competition unless excused by the school administration.
7. Student-athletes must conform to the truancy and tardy policies of the school. (In-house suspension shall be administered on an individual school basis.)

**Take Pride in the privilege
of representing John Adams Eagles!**

NATIONAL LIMOUSINE PROM SERVICE



TV • VCR • STEREO CASSETTE

237-0156

Should spring be yearbook time?

by Tess Harrington

At the end of a hot August, towards the end of vacation, students at John Adams are savoring the last days of summer. School has been out for months and, except for trips to Ayres' and Hudsons' back-to-school sales, the idea of school has remained smugly in the back

"The senior year is now at its peak, and this is the time Seniors want to reminisce over high school..."

of most students' minds. As September draws near, underclassmen anticipate yet another school year towards graduation. And June graduates pack off to work or college with hope, worries, and practically everything else—except yearbooks. This late delivery of the yearbooks, the first week of the new school year, is both annoying and unsatisfying.

School officials have cited spring sports and prom pictures as reasons for the yearbook's late delivery. High schools like Riley, and other local schools, however, have

solved this problem by issuing a spring sports supplement, full of pictures of the various sport activities, and a prom booklet. These could easily be printed up and distributed at John Adams at the end of the school year. These pamphlets would be much more thorough, especially for the prom, which in the yearbook usually consists of four or five pictures—someone pouring punch, someone dancing, someone laughing, and a prom glass with a wilting rose next to it. Both spring sports and prom coverage is important to many seniors.

The excitement of the senior year starts the summer between junior and senior years. College catalogs are looked at and campuses toured. Goals are set, and a burning curiosity of what the last year of high school will bring sets in. As autumn rolls in, tests must be taken, and applications filled out. After a winter of waiting, spring brings not only news, but also recognition—award ceremonies and honor assemblies shower the seniors with appreciation. After four years of hard work, graduation is finally within reach. The senior year is now at its peak, and this is the time Seniors want to reminisce over high school—especially the last year—and exchange promises of correspondence with good friends and favorite teachers. This is the time for a yearbook.

The yearbook can be an item of value. Not so much the first year after high school, when the alum is starting a new life of work, marriage, or studying, but in later years when he wishes to show his spouse, or friends, or children what his high school years were like. And the real value doesn't come from empty pages of print, but from the scrawlings of jokes, promises, and high school wisdom on the inside cover from former dates and old friends. A difference of only three months can change a yearbook from a dull, almost worthless book, to an album of pleasure and satisfaction for a lifetime.

The situation seems quite apparent. There is no acceptable reason why the John Adams yearbook needs to be delivered to the students so late. Supplements that contain spring sports and prom pictures can easily be printed and distributed to the students at the end of the year. Most important, an immeasurable amount of value can be added to the yearbook by distributing it at the peak of the senior year.

Editor's note: A spring yearbook would not include any events happening after February 28th, such as spring sports and prom. A supplement including these events would be issued in August. If you would like a spring yearbook, please contact your class president.

Vatican edict confuses followers

by Jerry Manier

On March 10, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith issued an edict prohibiting members of the Catholic religion from using certain artificial means of fertilization and other advances in birth technology, making its transgression a sin. Among those methods banned were: artificial fertilization involving two unmarried people, in vitro fertilization, or test-tube babies, surrogate motherhood, and collection of sperm for the purpose of artificial fertilization, or for that matter, any purpose, when it is not obtained through the conjugal act.

Not since the late sixties edict against Catholics using artificial birth control has the Vatican put forth such a sweeping, if untimely, ban on such a widely used practice. Indeed, going a step further than the contraception document, Congregation head Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger called on law-making bodies to pass measures which would put a stopper on many of the activities described in the document, including surrogate motherhood and the creation of embryo banks. So for the first time in such matters, the Church has made a statement which would not only restrict its members, but in addition calls on the state to take action on its wishes.

The reason for any marriage is the intent of the couple to express their mutual feelings in a legally and morally acceptable way and, particularly if the couple is Catholic, to have children. However unrealistic it may be in a modern setting, the Vatican's proscription on contraceptives can at least be described as consistent with what followers have always been taught: the

purpose of marriage is to conceive a child. With the new proclamation, followers are faced with the dilemma of personal desires conflicting with official wishes in an area where such a crisis was never foreseen.

The underlying directive which has brought about the papal prohibition is the Church's teaching that marriage is a union entered into by two people for the express purpose of procreation by means of the essential act of sexual intercourse. The Church opposes the practice of bringing the sperm and egg into conjugation by means of a method which is independent of sexual intercourse. But, as George J. Annas, professor of health at Boston University points out, "That's what the new artificial procreation methods are all about. What the Church is saying is that they reject that separation, and if you do that you basically reject all the methods."

When it comes down to it, all of the new and old (artificial insemination has been with us for a century) birth technologies have one common goal: the ability of a couple to have a child. The thousands of couples who have no other alternative in the matter are being led by the Vatican's edict to wonder, "How can that be a sin?" To make a sin of such a common and miraculous occurrence in modern society is a mistake. With so many other, greater evils in the world today, the Church would do well to use its considerable influence to more productive ends, such as furthering world peace by active opposition to and edicts against things like nuclear weapons. Purely biological and personal matters should be left to the individual.



Matt Beem/Tower Artist

CTBS comes once again

by Richard Primus

The rites of spring are upon us. The swallows are returning to Capistrano, the trees are starting to show their buds, bicycles and baseballs are emerging from garages, and young men's fancies are lightly turning to thoughts of love.

And high school students are taking the Comprehensive Test of Basic Skills. The Comprehensive Test of Basic Skills, better known as the CTBS, is an often overlooked rite of spring, but it is just as dependable as any. Every March, local high school students must spend six classroom hours taking this battery of basic multiple-choice examinations. The scores from these tests are used to measure the progress of the students and their schools from year to year.

With all that has been said recently about the need to raise the basic aptitudes of American students, it would seem that these tests would be a valuable meterstick.

But these tests are, in the words of one Adams senior requesting anonymity, "Stupid." This sentiment is widely echoed by other victims of the testing system. "These tests are a waste of time," said senior Steve Hartman.

Why the hostility toward what

seems like a worthwhile endeavor? For starters, the tests are comprised of exactly the same questions every year. The same reading passages are used for comprehension tests. The same misspelled words need to be corrected. The same mathematics equations must be solved.

"I heard that lots of people don't even read the reading selections anymore," said Junior M.C. Patton about the comprehension test. Junior Mike Komaskinski is one of them. "I just remember them from last year. There's the one about the holograms. And then there's the one about the camels and the caravans where they always ask us what 'drinking the wind' means. Why should I bother to read them again?"

In addition, the level of difficulty of the questions is low enough to make most students lose interest rather rapidly. The mathematics section actually features the question, "How many sides does a rectangle have?" A graduate of Big Bird's School of Geometry should have no trouble with that one. Other challenging math questions include calculating a worker's weekly wages, given his daily wages and a five-day work week, and adding single-digit numbers.

Most students do not take these

tests seriously. (Over 90% of those polled in an unscientific survey thought that CTBS stood for 'California Tests of Basic Skills'). Junior Betsy Furlong suggested that test-takers should "Just mark answers down to the end of the sheet and then do something else."

Many students and teachers seek creative ways to, in the words of one teacher, "Salvage something from an otherwise wasted morning." Many students rush to finish each test and then study for other classes until the next test begins. One teacher moved computers into his classroom and instructed his students to run educational programs during their lag time. These and other efforts to maximize the use of time are clandestine, however, because administration insists that no one "deviate" from the standard schedule of testing (e.g., forty minutes for math, fifty for reading).

If the state wishes to institute basic skills testing requirements, which is probably a worthwhile objective, it should put forth the effort to design a test that is not so deservingly a target for ridicule.

Perhaps next year's rite of spring won't have the same story about the camels.

The Tower

Co-Editors-in-Chief-Kristin Bergren,
Holly Lindberg
News Editors-See-Ming Phan,
Matt Trinh
Feature Editors-Melanie Maslin,
Lisa Primus
Sports Editors-Jim Cowen,
Karl Roemer
Asst.-Gabrielle Mickels

Opinion Editors-See-Eng Phan,
Jeremy Manier
Asst. Kathy Strieder
Advertising Manager-Rivka Medow,
Sarah Szumski
Business Manager-Molly Lennon,
Kristin Mitchell
Distribution-1st hour Publications
Head Photographer-Steve Hartman

Advisor-Babette Maza
Principal-William Przybysz

THE TOWER is an independent bi-monthly student newspaper. Views expressed in this publication are those of students and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the TOWER staff of John Adams High School. THE TOWER reserves the right to edit material submitted. Any opinions, comments, or letters to the editors are welcome; they should be directed to Mrs. Maza, room 216. All material must be signed although names may be withheld from print upon request of the author.