

The Tower

John Adams High School

South Bend, IN 46615

**Has Adams
gone to the dogs?**

Get the real picture.

See page 3.

Teachers question layoffs

by Chris Scanlan

This is the second in a two-part series about the personnel cuts resulting from the school corporation's financial crisis. This article examines the reactions of teachers and others to the current budget cuts.

The budget cuts in the South Bend Community School Corporation (SBCSC) are often presented to the public in terms of "unassigned pools" and "teacher-to-pupil ratios." For faculty and staff who are facing relocation and possible layoff, budget cuts have a very different meaning.

For Mr. Garry Tutorow, an English teacher at Adams, the financial squeeze will probably mean assignment to yet another school. He began his teaching career within the SBCSC about ten years ago at Navarre, and during the major financial crisis of the 1981-82 school year, he was moved to Dickinson. Recently, he transferred to Adams.

Mr. Tutorow feels that fewer teachers should be cut, while more administrators

should be displaced. While his ten years of seniority will probably allow him to "bump" another teacher with less experience in the South Bend schools, he feels uncomfortable in that role. "What concerns me most is not my own personal status at this time, but the fact that I have to bump other teachers," he said. "I don't like to see teacher turned against teacher. Teachers should stand together

laid off. Now the contract's language has been changed, and a recent Supreme Court decision involving white SBCSC teachers concluded that such an "affirmative retention" plan is unconstitutional. As a result, Mr. Johnson, who has been in the South Bend schools since 1980, is now facing the uncertainty of a major change in his work. He said that during the late 1970's the SBCSC had

he hopes the SBCSC will not leave black and white students without black teachers as role models.

A member of the board of the South Bend National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), a civil-rights organization, expressed similar feelings. "Minority students may bear the brunt of the cuts," said Lee Gloster.

Richard Beeching, the UniServ director of the South Bend National Education Association (NEA), which is the principal teachers' union in the SBCSC, fears that all students, especially those in classes where there may be the maximum of thirty-two students—such as general level English classes—will suffer. While "we recognize that the state mandated the three-million-dollar cut," Beeching said that the SBCSC should cut more administrators and begin hiring new staff as soon as the Corporation stops losing money.

And perhaps the teachers' greatest worry is a sense of uncertainty about their future. "Hardly anyone knows anything right now," said Mr. Tutorow.

"Those doors of opportunity are not as wide-open as they seem."

—Mr. Johnson

...and make sure cuts are made elsewhere." Mr. Tutorow feels that the process is making teachers feel like they have a "collar around their necks."

Another teacher, Mr. Johnnie Johnson, a Social Studies teacher at Adams, would not have been displaced during the 1981-82 crisis, because he is black. At the time, the teachers' contract stated that black teachers could not be

made a major effort to recruit black teachers, as part of an Affirmative Action program. But now that Affirmative Action programs have been trimmed down, blacks, who Mr. Johnson said continue to be "last hired, first fired," are being displaced by the financial crisis. "Those doors of opportunity are not as wide-open as they seem," he said. While he supports the idea of seniority,

Journalists cited for excellence

by Kathy Strieder

This year, a number of Adams publications students received prestigious awards for their accomplishments in the field of journalism. The organizations which offered these honors included Quill and Scroll, Sigma Delta Chi, the South Bend Tribune's Next Generation Page, and Adams High School's publications department.

Sigma Delta Chi held its honors ceremony for the annual High School Journalism Contest in the Notre Dame library on May 1. Ida Primus and Stace Burnside both received recognition—Ida for a feature article on juvenile crime, which received third place, and Stace for a sports interview with Walter Payton, a second place winner, and a personal experience piece, which won first place in the opinion category. The judges cited Ida's feature story for "doing a good job of mixing local information on juveniles with national trends." Stace was commended for her "extra effort and gumption" in arranging the interview with Payton, which "was well-aimed at its audience of students," according to the judges.

The Tribune's Next Generation Page honored twenty-one students from Adams for their contributions in writing, art, and editing. It granted fifteen honorable mentions, three special achievements, and three college scholarships to these participants. Amy Golden received \$100, Stace Burnside

\$150, and Jennifer Crosson \$200 towards the colleges of their choices. "The Next Generation Page was a lot of work, but I felt lucky to receive that much money for something I really enjoyed doing," Jennifer said.

Adams's journalism adviser, Mrs. Maza, also cited a number of students for their efforts. Sixteen members of yearbook and ten members of the newspaper staff lettered in their areas. "We did extremely well this year due to the expertise of the staffs and the long hours they put in after school," Mrs. Maza said of the award winners' work.

Quill and Scroll also welcomed thirty new members to its ranks. Students gained admission into this organization through nominations from their advisers, followed by selection from the Quill and Scroll admissions board.

The following juniors and seniors were inducted into Quill and Scroll: John Anella, Charlotte Austgen, Stace Burnside, Keri Cook, Jennifer Crosson, Tricia Davis, Amy Eslinger, Sarah Friend, Amy Golden, Heather Hedman, Courtney Hosier, Brenda Hull, Terese Martinov, Gabrielle Mickels, Kristin Mitchell, Susan Naffziger, Peter Nazaroff, Ida Primus, Lisa Primus, Marta Roemer, Andrea Sanchez, Chris Scanlan, Scott Scheel, Kathy Staton, Kathy Strieder, Sarah Szumski, Matt Trinh, Peter Tulchinsky, and Andrea Wong.

And for the first time, a sophomore, See-Ming Phan, was also inducted into the group.



Mishawaka Mayor Robert Beutter, South Bend Mayor Joe Kernan and SBCSC Superintendent Dr. Monte Sriver [behind Kernan] address students in Mr. John Panos's Social Sciences Survey class. The officials came to speak to the students about Project Business Week. Courtney Hosier/Tower

New student gov't elected

by See-Ming Phan

The results are in and the votes have been tabulated. Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors chose their class officers for the 1988-1989 school year. And on Tuesday, May 10, the principal made his announcement to expectant students, as well as candidate hopefuls.

For the class of 1989, the class officers are President, Amy Eslinger; Vice President, Sally Cunningham; Treasurer, Amy Golden; and Secretary, Ralph Gillis. Student representatives are Ralph Gillis, Marta Roemer, Sally Cunningham, Jackie May, Kasi Bolden, Amy Eslinger, Amy Golden, Matt Frankiewicz, Pete Johnson, John Anella, Joe Dennen, and Dan Bonham.

For the class of 1990, the officers are President, Mike Shide; Vice President, Mary Kate Kelly; Treasurer, Judd McNally; and Secretary, Jeff Case. Student representatives are Elizabeth Sweeney, Steve Jones, Mary Kate Kelly, Brian Wendling, Tiffany Dempsey, Mike Shide, Wendy Biggs, Jeff Case, Jeff Thompson, Judd McNally, Quincy Brown, and Laura Costello.

And for the class of 1991, the



Sophomores Martin Johnson, Dyanna Dotsen, Rebecca Lewis, and Ramona McFarland exercise their right to vote at Student Government elections. Gabe Mickels/Tower

officers are President, Kelli Mumaw; Vice President, Matt Nelson; Treasurer, Jason Kelly; and Secretary, Todd Olson. Student representatives are Jessica Kapsa, Kelli Mumaw, Jason Kelly, Holly Rosencratz, Todd Olson, Ernie Mudis, Tanya Colt, Guy Loranger, Brian Blandford, Danielle Schreiner,

Brenda Gillis, and Matt Nelson.

Despite some criticism from students, accusing them of negligence or passivity, student government officers are quick in their defense. "We have a lot of projects lined up that will directly relate to the students; we should be very busy next year," Mary Kate Kelly said.

What's News

Most Valuable Junior Staffer

Peter Tulchinsky has been named Most Valuable Junior Staffer for this year's yearbook.

Commencement

Commencement exercises will be held on Sunday, June 5, 1988 at 1:30 p.m. in the John Adams Auditorium.

Finals

Final exams for underclassmen and juniors will be given on June 6 and 7.

Summer School

Students may register for summer school in the Guidance Office. Fee is \$10.00 per class, payable at Riley the first week of school. Dates are June 13-August 5.

Youth Advisory Council

Joe Dennen has been named the Adams representative to the newly-formed Youth Advisory Council of South Bend. He will serve a one-year term, beginning June 1.

N.I.A.S.H.F. Scholarship

Senior Mike Komaski has received the National Italian American Sports Hall of Fame scholarship. He will be attending Vanderbilt University next year.

History Contest Awards

Sophomore Mark Bartholomew won first place in the World History division of the I.U.S.B. history contest. Adams took third place overall in the event.

Regional Math Competition

Senior Yuhui Ren received first place in the comprehensive exam of the St. Mary's Regional Math Competition. Senior See-Eng Phan took third place in the same event.

Future Problem Solvers

The John Adams Future Problem Solvers Team has won third place in state competition.

Virtuoso Solo Championship

Junior Leslie Hoffman won the distinguished Virtuoso Solo Championship at the Great Lakes Music Festival and Competition in Kalamazoo, Michigan, which was held in April. She won the award for her performance on the accordion.



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CORRECTION

In the last issue of the Tower, the photograph of Matt Nelson was incorrectly credited.

The picture was taken by staff photographer Sarah Szumski.

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Sleeping is a classy thing to do

by Lisa Primus

It's math class. You and twenty-eight other students have your eyes fixed on the teacher. Then, suddenly, your eyes start to feel a little heavy. Last night's all-night study session is catching up with you, and you don't know how much longer you can hold out. Now you're starting to yawn, and in your mind, the debate begins.

To sleep or not to sleep; that is the question you and thousands of other students must answer on an almost daily basis.

The first problem is whether or not to sleep at all. Several factors must be taken into account. First, can I afford to? Sleeping through a lecture the day before a test is usually a bad idea, especially if the information isn't in your textbook. Unfortunately, by the time students have to decide

whether or not to drop off, their minds are too far gone to consider anything a full twenty-four hours away.

The next factor is the teacher. Sleeping in some classes is dangerous. Most teachers simply ignore the dormant pupils, but some have been known to slam

books on sleepers' desks, sending the sleepers flying and permanently deafening them. Another teacher sprays the fire extinguisher on tired students.

Believe it or not, many students take the teachers' feelings into account.

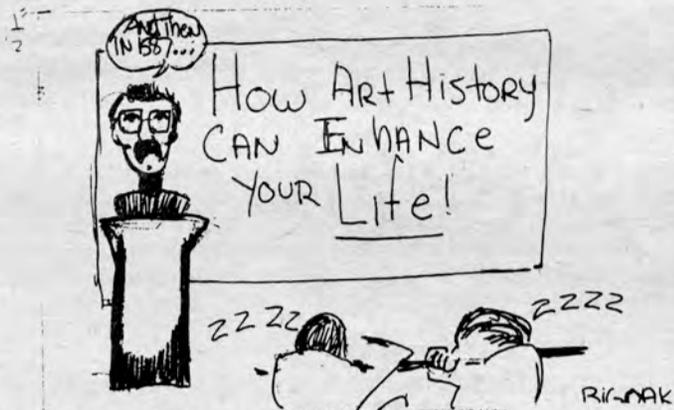
"It's kind of difficult for a teacher to teach when three-fourths of the class is asleep or staring out the window," said junior Tony Van Es. "Of course, sometimes we can't help it."

The most important factor is, of course, how tired the student is. If he was up watching Monkees re-runs until 5:30 that morning, there's not much that will keep him awake.

The next question is how to sleep. The safest way is to rest your elbow on your desk and put your head in your hand so it looks like you're looking down at something on your desk. This makes it difficult to prove you are sleeping. If you're not experienced in this type of sleeping, however, you may find your elbow wobbling and your head slamming down onto the desk, a situation as embarrassing as it is painful.

Some people can fall asleep slouching in their chairs by simply closing their eyes, but the easiest way is piling up the books on the desk and plopping the head on top. For most students, this is the most comfortable way to sleep in class, but it is also the riskiest. Any student who conks out sprawled across his desk must assume that the teacher knows. Besides, the head-on-desk method is guaranteed to mess up one's hair.

The dangers of in-school sleeping are many. Sleepers run the risk of being awakened in many unpleasant ways by angry teachers and bored students. They also run the risk of not being awakened at all and finding themselves in an empty classroom long after the bell has rung, but, regardless of the risks, for many students in-class sleeping is just a part of life.



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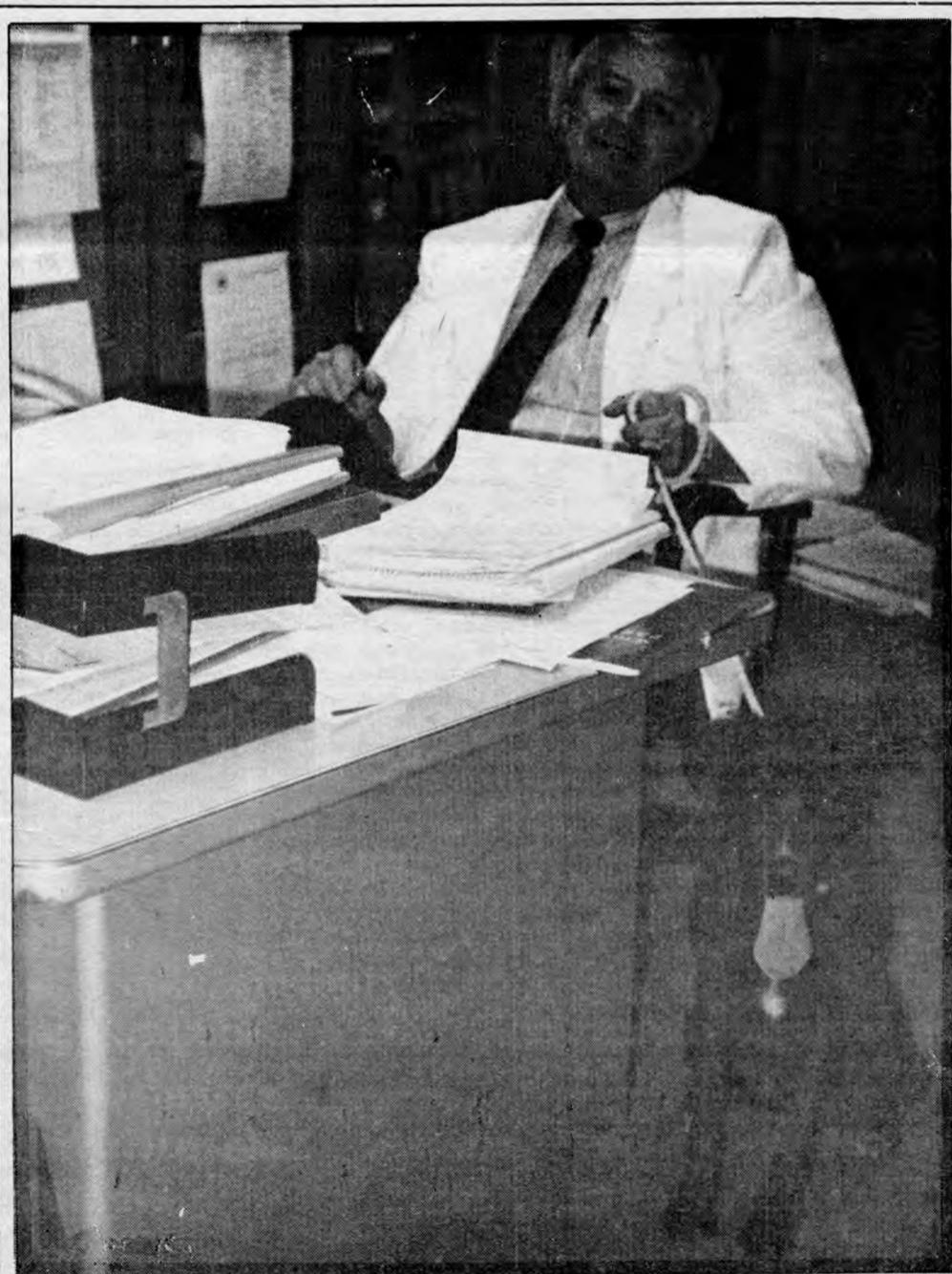
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Mr. Przybysz proves who's boss as he disciplines yet another juvenile delinquent. This luckless runaway was caught loitering in the halls at John Adams.
Gabe Mickels/Tower



"Practice makes perfect" is junior Bobby Bushman's motto as he works on his putting game.

Coley Cook/Tower

Tennis struggles

by Opus

Unlike past years, Adams' girls tennis lacked raw talent. With the loss of last year's varsity players, Marta Roemer, Terese Martinov, and Martha Champlain, the Eagles had to train intensely early in the season to prepare for the

lity of #1 doubles, while Andrea Wong and Rivka Medow rounded off at #2 doubles. The young and mostly inexperienced B-team was made up of seniors See-Eng Phan and Susana Hernandez, junior Mary Loranger, sophomores Susan Smith, Gretchen Long, and Jenny Wargo, and freshmen Kelli Mumaw, Jessica Kapsa, and

practice, they are hoping for a favorable outcome. Their spirit is still running high and MC Patton summed it up, "I think we're going to be ready to stomp on them by tournament time." In order to perform well in the sectionals, Adams has to capitalize on their strength which is their "ability to exemplify

"The approach was to rebuild the team and get as much experience as possible for the post-season tournament."

long and turbulent road ahead of them.

"The approach was to rebuild the team and get as much experience as possible for the post-season tournament," commented an ever optimistic Coach Kilgore. "We wanted to get as well-prepared as possible before entering sectionals."

The varsity squad was led by an experienced group of seniors. Marie Koscielski led the team at #1 singles, while Carrie Hamilton and Kay Grissom followed at the #2 and #3 spots. MC Patton and Kathy Staton took the responsi-

lity of #1 doubles.

The Eagles started their season with a disappointing loss to Plymouth, but then rebounded quickly by defeating LaSalle and Washington. They went on to add to their record with a win over an aggressive Elkhart Memorial.

Adams as of now has a record of 3/9. "We're frustrated because our hearts are in it, but the record doesn't show it," stated senior Carrie Hamilton.

The Eagles are now concentrating mainly on performing well in the sectionals. With intense

fortitude in each match," according to Kilgore.

Whatever the outcome, the Eagles experienced a fun and learning year, which they can use to better themselves in the future. "Tennis has been a rewarding and exciting adventure," as one player put it.

Coach Cleo Kilgore commented on his team, "This was one of my most coachable seasons because of the rebuilding of the team."

In any case, the past year has proved one more year of experience and one year less to experience.

Golf is 1st in NIC

by Sarah Friend

Though it lacks some of the physical rigor of football and may not require as much padding as hockey, the Adams golf squad clearly proves that golf is as competitive as either of these contact sports.

With a little more than three-quarters of the season behind them, the boys' golf team boasts an impressive 8-0 record in the Northern Indiana Conference (NIC) and 16-1 overall. With an experienced team composed of two seniors and three juniors, the squad has set high goals but isn't looking too far into the future.

The one loss thus far was by a single stroke to the first-in-state Warsaw team. More recently, victories over Michigan City Elston and Riley clinched the N.I.C. title and secured a ninth place ranking in the state.

The five individuals responsible for this prestigious ranking are seniors Steve Ziolkowski and Greg Klinger and juniors Joe Dennen, Kevin Kaeppler, and Bobby Bushman. Approximate averages for the group are 38 (strokes per 9 holes) for Ziolkowski and 38 for Dennen. Kaeppler averages about 39, Bushman about 40, and Klinger, 43.

"Maybe this year we can do something great."

Said junior Joe Dennen, "We have a lot of potential, and if we can handle the pressure, we should be able to pull off some key victories."

Led by senior captain Steve Ziolkowski, the team won a key match against a strong St. Joe club, which was ranked fifth in the state at the time. The Eagles went on to place first in the LaVille Invitational out of twelve other teams.

The B-team is also having a good season entering the last few matches. Junior Reed Bingaman and senior Martin McNarney lead this team.

Coach Jerry Flanigan's team is presently entering the final weeks of preparation before sectionals on May 27th at Elbel Golf Course. Kevin Kaeppler reflected, "We've been rebuilding for the last several years, and maybe this year we can do something great."



Sophomore Quincy Brown heads upfield after leaving his St. Joe opponent in the dust. The Eagles lost to St. Joe in a close 1-0 game at School Field. Sectionals begin Saturday night for the Eagles who will enter with an 11-4 record.

Root Photographer



Anthony Williams sets the pace in the Adams 4x400 meter relay in a recent meet against Mishawaka.

Root Photographer

Boys' track team goes out with a bang

by Stace Burnside

There is only one word to describe this year's boys' track team. Potential. With only four senior members—Lance Harris, Melvin Johnson, Brad Helmkamp, and Anthony Williams—the team has fresh young talent to keep it alive.

This year's fresh, young talent includes sophomore George Davis. Seeing Davis run, one would never think that this is his first year running track. Davis is a member of the 1600 meter relay team and the 400 meter team. He runs the 400 meter in approximately 51 seconds. He is also a member of the 400 meter relay team, in which his time is approximately 11.4 seconds, and the high jump team, in which he jumped a season high of 5'10".

When you think of long jump, think of Prescott Woodard. Woodard has a season's-best jump of 20'9". He also is a member of the 1600 meter relay team, with a time of approximately 54 seconds. The 200 meter team wouldn't be the same without Woodard, who usually runs a 14.3 second race. The only goal for Woodard, according to him, is "State."

Senior Melvin Johnson has really brought a second wind to this year's squad. Johnson started the season in the 400

meter race, but volunteered to run the 300 low hurdles. As a result, Johnson has made the hurdles his race. "It was a big change, but I managed to work at the 300 lows to make it my best event. And I've helped the team with my participation in this event. It was a good move for me." Johnson improves every meet, and his drive gives the team that extra push to do things that seem impossible.

"800 meters" are the two key words to describe Lance Harris. Harris has proven to be the city's best 800 meter man with an undefeated status and a Penn Invitational record of 1:55.8 this year. Like Davis and Woodard, Harris is also a member of the 1600 meter relay team, with a time of approximately 55 seconds. State championship status is the destiny for Harris. "If I can run the race like I want to, and not make any mistakes, I think I can finish near the top in the state," said Harris.

Other teams consist of the 2-mile team of senior Brad Helmkamp, freshmen Ian Gluck, Colin Betts, and Kerwin Watson; the 1-mile team of Kerwin Watson and Brad Helmkamp; the 800-meter team of Lance Harris and Anthony Williams; the 200-meter team of juniors Bobby Anderson, Prescott Woodard, and Chad Taylor; and the

100-meter team of juniors Gus Giger and Bobby Anderson.

Lance Harris, Anthony Williams, George Davis and Prescott Woodard run the 1600-meter relay; and the 400-meter team consists of Prescott Woodard, Gus Giger, Bobby Anderson, and George Davis. The 300-meter low hurdle team includes Melvin Johnson and junior Steve Frye. The 110-meter high hurdle team belongs to Steve Frye. The long jump team is Prescott Woodard, Gus Giger and Chad Taylor, and the high jump team has sophomore George Davis and freshman, Anthony Day.

Head coach of the boys' track team is Carl R. Hamilton. His assistant coach is Leon Stines, and the team manager is Stace Burnside.

Despite their record of 1-9, the track team is still climbing up the ladder to success. "Our boys are good, strong people with a lot of depth," said junior Latasha Taylor. This depth could help the team to conquer their next three obstacles: sectionals, regionals, and the biggie...STATE!

No matter what it takes, the members of the track team will go to Indianapolis to participate in the State Championship meet—so that Coach Hamilton will be able to sport his fierce yellow Corvette on the streets of our state's capital.

Softball hopes to play the spoiler

by Scott Scheel

The girls' softball team is starting the final preparations for the sectionals, which begin next week at Mishawaka. Sectionals have been the main focus of the team for quite some time now, since winning the conference became unattainable.

The probable starters for next week's games are junior Jill Cutter at first base, sophomore Michelle Sharpe at second base, junior Megan Moloney at third, and junior Amy Golden at shortstop.

The outfielders will be sophomores Molly Duman and Tracy Gillis and freshman Carrie Foster, or possibly Anne McNarney. Senior ace pitcher Amy Golba will be throwing to junior Mari Whitcomb, who will start behind the plate.

The team may seem surprisingly optimistic about sectionals in light of their mediocre record, but according to star hitter Megan Moloney, there are reasons for being optimistic. "All of the

games that we've lost have been close," Moloney explained, "and we could have won all of them."

They are also a very young team which is starting to gel at the right time. "We're starting to have the union of our offense and defense," said team captain Amy Golden.

Another thing the Eagles have going for them is the leadership and outstanding pitching of captain Amy Golba. She has been pitching and batting consistently all year.

The Adams' softball team has traditionally been a team which peaks at sectional time. Two years ago, they were 8-6 in the regular season and went on to win the sectional. Last year, an 8-10 team played the spoiler by beating sectional favorite LaSalle.

"Once the tournament starts, records don't mean anything," said Amy Golba. "Everyone is 0 and 0."

Molly Duman summed up the attitude of the team when she said, "Look for us in the Sectionals."

Scoreboard

Promising teams to look for in Sectionals

Baseball: As of 5/18 Adams' baseball is 19-4. They are ranked 6th in the state and tied for first in the N.I.C. "In four years we have never beaten Washington—until now. We beat them both times in conference games," said senior captain Mark Navarre.

| | Adams | Opp. |
|--------------|-------|------|
| Clay | 3 | 5 |
| Elkhart Mem. | 1 | 9 |
| Mishawaka | 4 | 1 |
| Penn | 1 | 0 |
| Washington | 4 | 3 |
| Marlan | 2 | 5 |
| M.C. Elston | 4 | 5 |
| Marlan | 4 | 2 |
| LaSalle | 9 | 3 |

Soccer: As of 5/18 Adams' Soccer has a record of 11-4. They are 2nd in the N.I.S.L.

"I think some of the younger players on our team really add to our strength," commented senior captain Chris Loux.

"We have a long, tough road ahead of us. If we play as a team and to our potential we might just go all the way."

| | Adams | Opponent |
|---------|-------|----------|
| Penn | 1 | 0 |
| LaSalle | 3 | 0 |
| St. Joe | 0 | 1 |
| Warsaw | 3 | 0 |
| Riley | 0 | 1 |

Golf: As of 5/18, Adams' golf is first in N.I.C. and 9th in the state. Its record is 18-1.

"If we continue to make the clutch shots, we could go very far," said junior Joe Dennen.

| | Adams | Opp. |
|-------------|-------|------|
| LaVille | 152 | 176 |
| Warsaw | 152 | 151 |
| NorthWood | 152 | 175 |
| Plymouth | 315 | 318 |
| John Glenn | 160 | 200 |
| Northridge | 310 | 313 |
| M.C. Elston | 158 | 162 |
| Riley | 158 | 165 |
| Clay | 157 | 158 |
| LaSalle | 157 | 198 |



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Thespians take state conference by storm

by Paula Winicur

"Good morning fellow Thespians!" This, along with music from "Phantom of the Opera" was the wake-up call that awoke thirty-five Adams students at the State Drama Conference the weekend of April 22-24. The conference, held at Floyd Central High School, brought together approximately 525 students and adults from all over the state of Indiana for a weekend full of drama.

"If you like lots of enthusiasm, twenty-four hours a day, for two and a half days of theater, and very little sleep, then a state conference is just what the doctor ordered, if you can muster it," said drama director Mr. Joseph Good.

Adams performed "Postponing the Heat Death of the Universe" with Marilyn Thomas, Kent Bell, and Jocelyn Kapsa. This was one of seven shows that was performed on the mainstage. It was chosen for a spot at the international conference.

Adams and St. Joe gave a workshop called "Getting in Style." It was "Romeo and Juliet" done as a farce, a comedy, a tragedy, and a melodrama. The workshop, which was given twice on Saturday, received widespread acclaim.

The whole drama club wore sweatshirts designed by Kent Bell with the skyline of South Bend on them — including the John Adams Tower.

Adams was one of three schools to put up a display of the plays and activities their drama department has done. Some of the plays included were "Meet Me in



Kent Bell/Tower Artist

St. Louis," "Adams Eve," "Voices from the High School," and "The Unsinkable Molly Brown." The displays were done by Radecki Galleries.

Many competitions were held, such as the "Krazy Kompetitions." They

consisted of a costume contest, a "Hello Dolly" song writing contest, and a "princess" contest. Though Adams did not win any prizes on these, the contests were still a lot of fun.

Adams did win a prize, called a Thespi,

for being the school to travel the farthest distance. "It was really neat!" said senior Alycia Messenger. "I've never felt so close to the forty-seven people I rode on the school bus with." Thespi were given out in a style like the Emmys and Grammys are.

In January, auditions were held all across the state for the All-State cast. Eighteen high school students were chosen to perform a play called "Feiffer's People" by Jules Feiffer. Adams sent freshman Paula Winicur down on the Wednesday before the conference started to rehearse with the rest of the All-State cast for the play, which was given on Sunday.

Adams also sent down sophomore Doug Booher a day early. Doug is a member of the students' state board. He was elected along with sophomore Matt Radecki to be on next year's students' state board. Mr. Good was elected by the teachers to be on an adult board of six members.

The weekend was an educational and exciting experience for all involved. "It was entertaining! A massive conglomeration of Thespians from around the state formed an enthusiastic entity of outstanding theatrical ability," said junior Randy Nickerson.

This is the second year that Adams has participated in the conference. Will they continue? "As long as the Adams students are as well behaved and outstanding in performance as they have been, they will continue to participate at the state level," said Mr. Good.

Toga or not toga?

by Grant McDougal

Garbed in togas and masks, Mrs. Rickles' and Mrs. Maza's AP English classes ventured forth on their steady steed—a school bus—to Warsaw Freshman High School to take part in their Elizabethan Days festivities on April 22nd. This is the third year that the Warsaw school has commemorated Shakespeare's birthday with costumes, performances, and more. Although there were fewer participants there than in previous years, there was plenty of activity.

After fortifying ourselves with doughnuts during a rest stop, we proceeded to the school where we were greeted by our guide, dressed appropriately in Elizabethan attire.

Honors students from Warsaw and AP students from Adams shared their theatrical efforts. Our hosts presented a parody of Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet" which they performed for the public on the weekend of April 29-May 1. The play was done in a country style with actors using larger-than-life swords and clubs.

In return, the Adams sophomore AP English class showed their latest video release, "Julius Ceizure," replete with snowball and whipped-cream-pie battle scenes.

An Elizabethan lunch of fowl

and potatoes, alias chicken and spuds, was served. Depression set in when students realized that, no matter what cafeteria food is called, it is still cafeteria food.

The day ended with Adams students judging costumes, coats of arms, and decorations to award prizes. The favorite costume was worn by Joe the Fool depicting a jester.

The majority of the students and teachers were disappointed because they expected more, but although the celebration was not as impressive as in the last two years, students were still able to meet new people and experience new traditions.

In fact, some teachers at Adams are hoping to bring a variation of this tradition to South Bend. English teachers Ms. Cwidak, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Maza, and Mrs. Rickles are already working on the plans, and they are looking for students who are willing to help plan the Adams Shakespeare festival for next April.

"I want it to be as community-oriented as possible," said Mr. Kline, who hopes to enlist the help of people at Notre Dame and I.U.S.B.

If you are interested in working for next year's Adams Shakespeare festivities, contact Ms. Cwidak, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Maza, or Mrs. Rickles.

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Reagan administration's drug policy fails

by Chris Scanlan

The rate of drug abuse, by almost any estimation, surpasses the level of an epidemic. A special ABC News documentary labeled it a "plague," reporting on the astounding rise of drug-related gang violence in both the largest and smallest towns of America. *Newsweek* magazine reports that eighteen million Americans regularly use marijuana. And a vial of crack runs for \$3 in some cities. Even the youngest children are not immune. As a response, the Reagan administration claims it is waging an all-out war against drug abuse.

Unfortunately, as with so many other Reagan administration projects, the current campaign on drug abuse is a "magical mystery tour." The supply of cocaine is up, not down. The level of gang violence is up, not down. This war has made only the slightest dent in levels of

drug abuse. A political cartoonist might portray the situation as one where Nancy and Ronald Reagan benevolently tell young people to "just say no" while wicked drug dealers ply their trade behind their backs.

Actually, this would be a grossly inaccurate portrayal of the problem. A correct representation would show the Reagans saying "just say no" while passing a few thousand dollars to drug dealers standing by their side. A shocking portrayal, but supported by growing evidence. For instance, the *New York Times* reports that American intelligence services have been aware for a long time that U.S.-backed rebels in Nicaragua and Afghanistan traffic in drugs to finance their causes. Indeed, the law enforcement agencies of this country started to investigate a link between the Contra forces and drug trafficking, but investigation of the Iran-Contra affair revealed that this effort was delayed by

high-ranking administration officials.

In the meantime, the administration has thrown millions upon millions of dollars on the "Stars Wars" program. Millions of wasted dollars after the birth of this program, the government's scientists now say that "Star Wars" will only be able to protect key military bases from foreign missiles. To date, I have not heard of a space-based weapon system that will protect the residents of America's inner cities from drug-kindled gang warfare.

What is needed now is a new look at our national priorities. Either we will continue to subordinate the needs of our most desperate citizens to the "patriotic" causes of anti-communism and domination of the Western Hemisphere, or we will begin to realize the moral impossibility of standing up as an arrogant "voice of freedom" while the most basic securities are not available to people within our own borders.

General Noriega, currently under attack for his own links to the lucrative drug business, worked on the CIA payroll starting in the mid-to-late 1970's. His drug dealings are hardly anything new—the press now reports that he could have been indicted on the day Reagan took office—but the case was hushed up until very recently, when Noriega began to show signs of independence in his foreign policy.

Considering the lies and cover-ups inherent in the Reagan administration's drug policy, is it a real surprise that the war against drugs is a failure? And how can this "war" succeed if the President's policy on this issue continues to be based on a cynical moral vacuum? A draft budget submitted by the administration in 1987 actually called for cutting the drug education budget. Certainly throwing money at a problem isn't a solution, but is taking money away a solution?

High school demands self-motivation

by Nick Maeri

Is high school all it's cracked up to be? Many would say it isn't, but it's as much the fault of students as it is the fault of the administration and the faculty. During classes, a typical high school male would rather think about the weekend, his car, or the girl who sits across from him. A typical female would prefer to think about the prom, the guy who won't ask her out, or the great time she had in a far off place.

Part of the problem is the fact that all parties involved are not willing to make the best of what we have here at Adams. Because our generation has relied heavily on T.V. for entertainment, we think that fun things have to happen "just like the movies." With many other distractions besides T.V. and movies, such as college visits, athletics, and parties, it's tough to put a conscientious effort into the whole aspect of John Adams High School. Studying isn't always fun. Sports are exciting to watch, but only if our favorite team wins. Taking part in clubs can be interesting, but we often tire quickly of the subjects they concern.

One major problem Adams students face is that they are pushed too early into the mainstream of events, and by their senior year they have long since adjusted

to the various aspects of high school life and find that it no longer offers them the challenges it used to.

The desire to have fun must be proportional to the amount of effort put forth to achieve it. Few want to take on the responsibility of initiating the good times. People are so accustomed to looking forward to being someplace else (such as a college, beach, etc.) that they aren't willing to give the opportunities at home or at school a chance.

Students aren't completely to blame for this rush to find other places, because some teachers and administrators risk mental illness just trying to complete the school year. Sometimes they are so caught up in herding us around like cattle that they forget what an important part of our lives high school is.

We look upon high school, however, as another step, sometimes a huge obstacle that we must face. We make do with what we have been given and what we are able to accomplish.

High school is purely what you make of it. You may work hard to have a good time, but you are rewarded with joy. You may be lazy or apathetic and feel high school is dull, or even a waste. One of the remarkable things about high school is that almost anything can happen, and sometimes will.



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News media relies on shock effect

by Jennifer Crosson

In his book *A Few Minutes With Andy Rooney*, humorist Andy Rooney, a correspondent on CBS's *60 Minutes*, wrote a satire in response to the complaints he often receives from television news watchers protesting that the network news shows are unduly obsessed with catastrophic or tragic events, and too often fail to devote equal amounts of time to stories on more benign topics. To show these critics "what it would be like if you had it your way," Rooney creates an imaginary news broadcast made up of stories on a series of some rather mundane topics, such as this coverage of the eventful flight of a jumbo jetliner carrying 168 passengers from Chicago's O'Hare Airport to London: "The plane took off without incident. It landed without incident too. Everyone on board is now in London."

It is probably safe to say that even Rooney's most vocal critics could not watch the news shows for long if they adopted such a dull format. We all say that we watch news shows to be informed, but in making that statement, we often fail to qualify it by defining "information" as knowledge which is actually interesting to us, something which is enough out of the ordinary to hold our attention. In short, we want our news to be entertaining too, and that is why we frequently choose to learn it from the television screen rather than the one-dimensional coverage offered by a newspaper.

To be sure, the marriage of the television medium with the mission of journalism has had some very significant benefits for the American public. Television can, indeed, make the news

come alive. It can give the viewer a feel for the frenzied motions and sounds of war, neither of which can be conveyed through words and paragraphs. It can bring a Presidential candidate to life for the viewer through the tone of his voice and the strength of his on-camera presence. At such times, the printed word's power to inform can seem pale in comparison to the powers of the microphone and the camera to observe.

Unfortunately, however, the network news shows are rooted as deeply in the nature of the television medium as they are in that of journalism, and the power shared by these two tools is all too often abused. Because the television medium is so much more sensually involving for the viewer, it tends to be obsessively oriented towards keeping his attention and sparking his interest. Televised news is no different. Like any onscreen character, the news has become a product which must first be noticed if it is to sell. And like any good promoters, the producers of these shows will do whatever is necessary to secure that notice.

To put it mildly, their techniques often test the limits of the journalistic ideal of informing without exploiting. Recently, when a hijacked plane holding members of the Kuwaiti royal family was grounded in Cyprus, the murder of a passenger by the hijackers was one of the day's major stories. Just for good measure, all three major networks chose to feature a prolonged shot of the man's mangled body being thrown from the plane and falling to the ground below. The shot was definitely noticed, but its deployment for reasons of shock effect could hardly qualify as human interest—or as professional journalism.

Of course, the degree to which graphic

violence should be shown on televised news is always a delicate topic—a dilemma which is not helped any by the public's natural, if not morbid, fascination with tragedy. When the space shuttle Challenger exploded on January 28, 1986, the realities of neglected maintenance and irresponsible bureaucracy—the real "who, what, where, when, and why" behind this story—were not even considered by most Americans. Who really wanted to read about such mundane details, when the television screen was filled with reruns of the shuttle blowing up and disintegrating? These were the kind of shots worth hanging around the set all afternoon for.

Sensationalism on television is nothing new, but it has been slowly building up to a point where it interferes with the American public's interest in staying properly informed. In 1981, when John Hinckley attempted to assassinate President Reagan and shot White House Press Secretary James Brady, one major network's anchorman opened his report with the statement, "President Reagan has been shot, and James Brady is dead." Four minutes later, he "updated" the latter's condition as "brain-dead." It took eight full minutes before he could confidently concede that Brady had, in fact, been shot through the skull at close range, but that no one as yet actually knew his condition. To admit that no one knew was, of course, not very informative. But to report unjustified rumor as a preferable alternative to losing the viewer's interest through prolonged suspense was a travesty of the journalism code of ethics.

It isn't difficult to understand why viewers are so easily taken in by the exploitation and sensationalism of

television news. To put it simply, having the news fired at us in a shellacked package is easier. It doesn't demand the attention span needed to read an article all the way through, and it allows us to see the aspects of a story which interest us while passing over the others at the touch of a button. And, of course, it is delivered by an anchorman whose face and character are as comfortably familiar as any member of the family. Small wonder that the American people are so uninformed about current events. In an age when television has taken on an integral role as a passive method of filling in social gaps, its taking on the role of informer—perhaps "gossiper" would be a more accurate term—is an unfortunate inevitability.

Telejournalism is a delicate business. Because it exists as a middle medium between journalism and televised entertainment, the realities of both limitations must be considered in determining the tone of the coverage, and a difficult dilemma often ensues. To be as factual and exhaustively comprehensive as a newspaper article would be drawing dangerously close to the situation in Rooney's parody; to rely exclusively on the society's obsession with the unusual, as most television does, would be to transform the news from a vehicle of awareness of the state of the world into a variety show specializing in cliffhanger drama and rapid-fire special effects. The telejournalism code of ethics must be a balanced compromise between these two, and this will require a great commitment to responsibility on the part of all those involved—and, hopefully, might even result in an increased responsibility to remain properly informed on the part of the public.

Kristin, Stace, See-Eng and Holly

Rivka, Jim, Chris S. and Molly

And anyone else who's helped with the TOWER

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