

THE SENIOR ISSUE

AIDAN REILLY • Editor-In-Chief

No one said it would be easy; no one said it was even feasible. Yet here they stand: Adams' ten valedictorians. Ten individuals standing above the rest, prescribed to walk a path of Eagle immortality; an unblemished record that cannot fall; a perfect game.

Through every late night, every tear, every 4th cup of coffee, every assignment, and every Monday morning, Adams' largest ever group of valedictorians stands tall. Today we recognize them on the stage, tomorrow we'll be resigned to their photographs on the wall. Yet the message does not change: perfection. Ten students who earned perfect 4.0 GPAs through four years of life's first – and arguably toughest – marathon. As cited by a recent UCLA student investigation and renowned psychologist Robert Leahy, "The average high school kid today has the same level of anxiety as the average psychiatric patient in the early 1950s." In the face of sinking acceptance rates, ubiquitous social media influences, a slow-to-recover economy, and myriad other factors, teens are more stressed than ever before.

The 2015 graduating class of 366 has overcome challenges never before seen. Still, the class will yield businesswomen and businessmen, mechanics, teachers, writers, cooks, lawyers, builders, doctors, and much more. Yet wherever they end up, they have all conquered the same jungle known as high school.

While everyone has accomplished a herculean feat, only the ten valedictorians finish with perfection. Today, The Tower recognizes those ten:

•ELIZABETH BAYS:

Elizabeth will attend Yale University in New Haven, CT in the fall. During her time at Adams, Elizabeth participated in mock trial, coached Science Olympiad at Stanley Clark, was in Honors Orchestra, and was a proud member of the Dork Club. Elizabeth is renowned for her prowess in math and science: she has taken multiple college-level courses at Notre Dame and was Adams' only Seimen's Science Talent Search Semifinalist, marking her as one of the top 300 student researchers in the nation. Elizabeth will major in math and biology and hopes to one day teach at the university level. Her favorite memory at Adams is traveling to New York with her mock trial teammates and competing in the Empire Mock Trial Tourna-

VALEDICTORIANS



ment; at Empire (International Finals) Elizabeth garnered 29 ranks out of a possible 30, winning Best Lawyer and making her one of the most decorated mock trial lawyers in the world.

•STEPHEN BIGGER:

This fall Stephen will study in a place few Adams students will ever see: Ireland. Stephen will attend the University of College Dublin, widely recognized as one of Europe's top research-intensive universities. Stephen will receive an exemplary education as the University of College Dublin is the national leader in research funding and has Ireland's largest contingent of international and postgraduate students. At Dublin Stephen plans to study international commerce and hopes to one day pursue a profession in the field. While at Adams Stephen ran cross country, participated in NHS, and regularly administered private piano lessons. Stephen was most successful and most proud of his mock trial team—this past year his team won the state championship and represented the state of Indiana at nationals in North Carolina. Stephen's fondest memories at Adams are the cross country camping trip and the annual field trip Ms. Stanton leads for her IB Spanish classes into Chicago.

•CHRISTY CHENG:

Christy will matriculate to Harvard College in Cambridge, MA. These past four years Christy has done just about everything: she works at Old Navy and Game-

Stop, played in the Adams Orchestra and SBCSC Honors Orchestra, was an active member of JAVA and NHS, and helped to found the John Adams Theatre Orchestra.

Christy also volunteers at South Bend Animal Care and Control and finds peace in the ceramics room. Christy plans to concentrate on visual and environmental studies with a citation in Chinese; however, she is also considering a joint concentration in either neurobiology or human evolutionary biology. Christy's favorite moment came when she was able to play as second chair with the Notre Dame orchestra during their performance of Dvořák's 9th Symphony.

Christy has been recognized as a Visual Arts Scholar and National Merit Finalist.

•CLARE DRISCOLL:

After graduation Clare will become a freshman at the University of Notre Dame in Notre Dame, IN. Clare intends to become a PLS (Program of Liberal Studies) Major and minor in French. With an acute liberal education, Clare hopes to one day become either a psychologist or an editor. At John Adams Clare had a hand in everything: she ran cross country for four years, swam for three, played tennis for one, sang show choir, and participated in JAVA, NHS, mock trial, and French Book Club. Clare's favorite memories are a byproduct of all cross country and swimming meets and show choir performances. Her most notable memory occurred when the girls' volleyball team played Justin Bieber over the loudspeaker and would stop only if money was donated; unfortunately for the volleyball team, the student body became quite fond of the hit "Baby" and proceeded to hum it incessantly. Clare's most prestigious honor is the the Laidig Scholarship. In addition to attending Notre Dame on a full ride (fully funded), the Laidig Scholarship grants her four summers of paid internship. Clare is also fluent in French. This past summer she was selected to participate in the Indiana University Honors Program in Foreign Languages, IUHPFL, where she lived in Saumur, France in a complete immersion program, unable to speak English, use her phone, or drive for seven weeks.

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EDITORIAL POLICY

The Tower serves to supplement the educational environment of John Adams High School by providing an informative and entertaining source of news and communication to the students, faculty, staff, parents and the community. In addition, the publication is committed to the conversation of fine journalistic standards. All unsigned editorials represent a majority vote of the Editorial Board which consists of Tower members and the advisor. Signed editorials, cartoons, and illustrations represent the viewpoint of the individual author or artist. The tower reserves the right to refuse any advertising copy or ad which does not meet our standards. Advertising and letters may be delivered to room 1831, Mrs. Buchmann's mail box, or mailed to John Adams High School 808 S Twyckenham Dr, South Bend, IN 46615.

•CALEB GEISSLER:

Caleb will attend Purdue University in West Lafayette, IN. All of his life Caleb has had an interest in the world around him. At Purdue Caleb will major in chemical engineering. After graduating from one of the nation's top engineering schools, Caleb hopes to work on the development of large-scale applications of alternative energy. While at Adams Caleb received the very exclusive and distinguished National Merit Scholar; this marks Caleb as one of the top overall students in the county based off of his PSAT scores. Caleb was involved in myriad activities. Caleb played an integral role on the mock trial that finished 3rd in the state, ran cross country, participated in NHS and JAVA, performed in various theater productions, was a part of student government, and held a job. Caleb cites "anything and everything" to do with Ms. Raymer as his favorite memories at Adams.

•NICOLE GORMAN:

In the fall, Nicole will attend the University of Notre Dame in Notre Dame, IN. While a few other Adams students will be joining Nicole at Notre Dame, Nicole's path is unparalleled. An extremely decorated fencer, Nicole will be fencing for a Notre Dame team that finished 3rd in the nation this past year and features two individual national champions. At Adams, Nicole was also a part of JAVA, NHS, the Adams Girls' Golf team, and worked at Martin's Super Market. Nicole is also extremely talented in French as has consistently tutored kids in the language. Nicole plans on majoring in environmental sciences and aspires to become a wildlife biologist. Nicole's favorite memories are the JAVA Dance-a-Thons and the dramatic, iconic 2012 football win over Washington when recent alumnus Shaq Vann scored a walk-off, game-winning kick return touchdown as time expired. Nicole is most proud of maintaining her 4.0 while juggling volunteering, work, and competing in golf and tennis.

•SYDNEY IMES:

Sydney has been accepted to Purdue but was waitlisted at Washington University St. Louis, Vanderbilt, University of Virginia, and Cornell: she will attend one of the aforementioned schools in August. While at Adams Sydney was very successful in her extracurriculars. In mock trial she won multiple Best Lawyer awards and led her team to a 3rd place finish in the state. This past year Sydney was also president of the entire John Adams student body. Sydney's greatest honor, however, came when she was chosen to represent the state of Indiana as a delegate at the 2013 Youth Summit for the Environment in Washington DC. Sydney now plans on majoring in environmental studies and hopes to one day become a wildlife veterinarian. Sydney was also a part of NHS, worked and volunteered regularly, and cites all times with her friends as her favorite memories.

•MICHAELA LEWIS:

This fall Michaela will attend Purdue University in West

Lafayette, IN. Though only a car ride away, Michaela's path to Purdue was much longer and required a lot more running. Dubbed the star distance runner since beginning at Adams, Michaela has not failed to disappoint. Holding multiple school records, Michaela led the cross country and track team for four years and has been a captain for both teams since her junior year. Most remarkable, however, is Michaela's academic prowess. Michaela was a three time state qualifier in mock trial, choreographed for Show Choir for four years, was a student government representative, was the student body treasurer this past year, and an avid volunteer—she is a co-coordinator of the annual Hannah and Friends 5k Run and Fun Walk this year on June 27th, 2015. Michaela plans to major in biomedical engineering to pursue her dream of developing technology to aid disabled individuals. Her favorite memories all stem from cross country: they were the senior speeches and the last night of the team camping trip. Michaela's greatest honor came when she was selected to represent Adams as an Indiana Academic All Star and received a scholarship from the Indiana Association of School Principals.

•CHLOE SHERRY:

Chloe is a unique case: she knows exactly what she's doing for graduate school. A scientific genius, Chloe was accepted into the Accelerated Medical Degree Program at Pennsylvania State University (class of 2018) and the Jefferson Medical College (class of 2022); yes, Chloe is on course to graduate from medical school just seven years from today. Chloe was very busy in her time at Adams. She was a JAVA board member, played soccer for all four years, volunteered as an EMT at Memorial Hospital, was the Adams track manager, played piano, and competed across the country for her science research project. Chloe will receive her Bachelor of Science from Penn State in Pre-Medicine and her Medical Degree from Jefferson; she plans on using these skills in developing, underprivileged nations. Chloe's greatest honor came her junior year when she took 2nd overall at ISEF, International Science and Engineering Fair, in California for her work with Planarian Flatworms.

•CLAUDIA TACCHERI:

This fall Claudia will travel to the heart of American politics: Washington DC. Claudia will attend Georgetown University and is set to graduate as a Hoya in 2019. At Georgetown Claudia intends to study biochemistry and plans on entering the workforce specializing in that field. While at Adams Claudia consistently impressed her friends and teachers with her ability to balance various extracurriculars. Claudia played soccer, was in NHS and JAVA, performed in the South Bend Youth Symphony, and engaged in science research. Most notably, however, Claudia was an exemplary lawyer in mock trial. This past spring her team won first in the state and represented Indiana at nationals in May. Claudia cites "becoming the state champion" as her greatest honor. Claudia's favorite memory is playing late night soccer with all of her friends on the beach.

EXPULSION / SUSPENSION RATES DOWN

TREVION MCFARLAND • Assistant Editor-In-Chief

James Seitz, first year principal at John Adams High School, had his mind set on change the moment he entered Door 1 on his first day this past August. He began to set expectations not only for students, but also for teachers and other staff; it by meeting with each class. His goal was to build positive relationships, to allow students to feel comfortable, and to bring students from every sex, gender, and race together to talk through any problems that many face. Seitz clearly stated there would be no tolerance for negative behaviors, physical or verbal altercations, and disrespect from any party to another.

Seitz and his administrative staff began patrolling the hallways, sitting in classrooms to observe teachers and students, and going to sporting events and other extra curricular activities. "If a student is involved, they are less likely to get in trouble," Seitz stated, "and if they are involved, they know that there are consequences behind every action." Seitz believes the teachers in this building have done a good job of enforcing the rules, but he knows that there is always room for improvement.

Since Seitz became principal here at John Adams, suspensions have gone down by 34 percent. As a result, students have spent 15,768 more minutes in class than they did last year. Sixteen expulsion requests were made in the 2013-14 school year; this year, the number has reached 22.

Seitz believes teachers are doing a very good job in following the Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports (PBIS) initiative. Parent contacts from the 2013-14 school year were 194, while parent contacts the current year year have jumped to 658—a 239 percent increase. This indicates that the teachers are making more phone calls home; however, it is possible that more calls home are on a negative note than a positive one. "Our goal is to be more proactive, than reactive," Seitz stated. "We plan to continue to follow through."

When it comes to expulsion, all the school can do is request for a student to be expelled. An expulsion hearing is set. The expulsion then goes before a board that decides whether or not the removal will be approved or denied. If denied the student is readmitted to school and expected to follow the rules.



THE OPPORTUNITY: *"Your program rejuvenates my soul. It connects me with a cadre of intelligent and excited educators. It reinvigorates my teaching and provides me avenues to extend and enliven the projects that I can offer my students. Without the Quarknet program I am sure that I would have left teaching years ago."*

THE PLAYERS: *High school students, teachers and physicists working together on physics research projects exploring the hidden nature of matter, energy, space and time.*

THE QUESTIONS: *What are the origins of mass? Can the basic forces of nature be unified? How did the universe begin? How will it evolve?*

ADAMS STUDENTS IN ND QUARKNET PROGRAM

ALEX SEARFOSS • Reporter

Three Adams students are participating in a prestigious science program at Notre Dame known as QuarkNet. QuarkNet is a program that offers hands-on experiences to learn about the cutting edge of physics research. Three JA students, Josh Isaacson, Katy Dyer, and Aidan Reilly, were selected to be part of this program, and it is safe to say they are excited to start their research. The program will run from June 15th to July 24th, and in that time all of the high school interns will become paid employees of Notre Dame. They will have the opportunity to work with physics professors and researchers from ND, as well as some from IUSB. The investigations being conducted include observing data from the large hadron collider (the world's largest particle accelerator) and dark matter detection. Dyer expresses interest in the latter, saying "I personally think [dark matter detection] would be a really interesting experience, especially since I ultimately want to go into the field of astrophysics." After the students have finished working with the professors, they will present their findings, which have the possibility to be entered into science research contests sponsored by the likes of Intel and Siemens. Dyer stated, "I just find it inspiring to think that our internship will yield concrete research results that could actually influence the field of physics."

SENIOR RESPONSES

THE JOHN ADAMS TOWER STAFF

This is a collection of responses from the senior class as to who their favourite teacher at Adams was, and the school they will be attending.

<p>•A: - Alda Abdulhadi Ivy Tech Mrs. Miller</p> <p>- Maria Aguado Ivy Tech Mrs. Beatty</p> <p>- Carlos Aguilar Ivy Tech Mrs. Beatty</p> <p>- Adriana Alamilla IU Bloomington Mr. Clark</p> <p>- Madeline Allin IUSB Ms. Raymer</p> <p>- Jonathan Alsip Michigan State University Mr. Wilson / Mr. Szucs</p> <p>- Isais Arevalo Ivy Tech Mrs. Miller</p> <p>•B: - Marcus Bailey N/A Mr. Cooper</p> <p>- Corie Baker N/A Mr. Kern</p> <p>- Alex Baker-Jones U.S. Army Mr. Kingston / Mr. Clark</p> <p>-Triston Banks Art Institute of Chicago N/A</p> <p>- Malik Barnett-Tyes Full Sail University Mr. Hall</p> <p>- Stephen Bauer Purdue University N/A</p> <p>- Elizabeth Bays Yale University Mr. Longenecker</p> <p>- Abby Bernacki Southwestern Mr. Amato / Mr. Wilson</p> <p>- Stephen Bigger University College Dublin Ms. Raymer</p> <p>- Kayla Bieck IUSB Mrs. Costello</p> <p>- De'Anna Blackmon Indiana State University Ms. Raymer</p> <p>- Eric Blickensderfer IU Bloomington Mr. Hall</p> <p>- Robert Bonds Southwestern Michigan Ms. Morgan / Mrs. Costello</p> <p>- Sarah Bowling IU Bloomington Ms. Raymer</p> <p>- Kevin Bradford II University of Dayton Ms. Hoston / Mr. Bartholomew</p> <p>-Leah Bramlett IU Bloomington</p>	<p>Ms. Ramyer/Ms. Stanton</p> <p>- CJ Brewer Grand Valley State University Mr. Bartholomew</p> <p>- Samantha Buczynski IUPUI N/A</p> <p>- Aubrey Bushey IUSB Mr. Clark</p> <p>- Warren Bynum N/A Mrs. Costello</p> <p>•C: - Christopher Carbonaro University of Notre Dame Ms. Raymer</p> <p>- Rebekka Carlson IUSB Mrs. Costello</p> <p>- Destiny Carpenter IUSB Mr. Kern</p> <p>- Sharena Carter Ivy Tech Mrs. Farrow</p> <p>- Myra A.J. Carter IUSB Mr. Clark</p> <p>- Devontae Casins Southwestern Michigan Doc Maley</p> <p>- Deirdre Cawley Saint Mary's College Ms. Raymer</p> <p>- Kacey Yung Chandler Jr. N/A Ms. Morgan</p> <p>- Jared Chapla Lincoln Tech Mrs. Costello</p> <p>- Nikki Chapman Kendall College of Art and Design Amanda Zablocki / Ms. Raymer</p> <p>- Christy Cheng Harvard University Ms. Kubacki</p> <p>- Michele Chipres N/A Mr. Burkhart</p> <p>- Erica Coleman Ball State University Mr. Hall</p> <p>- Kristina Copeland Eastern Kentucky University Mrs. Costello</p> <p>-Hanna Crane Ball State Ms. Raymer/Mr. Clark</p> <p>- Darius Cristler Ancilla Mrs. Thomas/Mr. Walsh</p> <p>- Casey Crowley Bethel College N/A</p> <p>- Breon Crumbley Indiana State University Mr. Kern/Mr. Wilson</p> <p>- Aubrey Curl</p>	<p>IU Bloomington Ms. Raymer</p> <p>•D: - Angela Davis N/A Mrs. Farrow</p> <p>- Danielle Davis Bethel College Mr. Kern</p> <p>- Preston Davis Southwestern Michigan College Mr. Cass</p> <p>- Grace Dehorn Wake Forest University Ms. Raymer / Mr. Cline</p> <p>- Laura Deren Maryland Institute College of Art Ms. Zablocki (Amanda) / Ms. Raymer</p> <p>- Dale Dickey Ivy Tech Mr. Ebright / Mr. Cooper</p> <p>- Laura Dillon Middlebury College Ms. Raymer</p> <p>- Deandra Dixon Xavier University of Louisiana Mrs. Costello</p> <p>- Madeline Doctor University of Notre Dame Ms. Raymer</p> <p>- Izola Donaldson Indiana Southeast Mrs. Costello</p> <p>- Allen Doolin Purdue Mr. Clark</p> <p>- Marshall Dundy Ball State University Mr. Amatto / Mr. Wilson</p> <p>- Tin Duong IU Bloomington Mr. Bartholomew / Mr. Longe- necker</p> <p>•E: - 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- Connie Minchew IUSB Mr. Clark	- Brian Otieno Bethel College Mr. Kern	- Alana Richmond Saint Mary's College Ms. Costello	- James Strombeck N/A Mr. Clark	- Marilyn Velazquez Ivy Tech Mr. Kern	- Ryan Younger Southwestern Michigan Mr. Kern / Mr. Lambert
- Omar Miramontes N/A Mrs. Miller / Mrs. Richardson	•P: - Tania Pacheco IU Bloomington Ms. Holcomb	- Roque Rodriguez Ivy Tech Rocky Rose	- Alexandra Strong N/A Mrs. Beatty	- Anke Vereecke University of Leuven Mrs. Costello / Mrs. Worsham	•Z: - John Zamara Ivy Tech Mr. Kern
- Priscilla Mojica International Business College Mr. Kern	- Tiler Pangallo Army Mrs. Costello	- Estevan De La Rosa Ivy Tech Mrs. Beatty	-Kyrstin Staggers SMC Mr. Kern	- Christian Villalobos IUSB Mr. Clark / Mr. Kern	- Skyler Zenisek IU Bloomington N/A
- Jonathan Molnares Ivy Tech Ms. Hoston	- Rachel Parker Holy Cross College N/A	- Diante Rouhselang IU Bloomington Mrs. Costello	- Kayla Syson International Business College N/A	- Isadora Vincent Michigan State University Ms. Costello	- Ryleigh Zumbrun IUSB Mrs. Buchmann
- Jesus Montano-Cardoso IUSB Mr. Kern	- Danica Patrick IPFW Mrs. Costello	- Irvin Rozenblit IU Bloomington Ms. Raymer	•T: - Claudia Tacceri Georgetown University Ms. Raymer	- Serena Visser Jacksonville University	
- Alicia Moreno IUSB					

DEAR FRESHMAN ME

COURTNEY WOLFRAM • Reporter

Dear Freshman me,

I have some advice for you, and everyone else still in high school. First and foremost, you do not have to be friends with people who do not accept you for who you are. Find friends who enjoy being around you and will celebrate every part of you because they care enough about you. Also, it wasn't a great idea for you to slack off in the beginning because you complained that high school work was too much. Why not? It wasn't worth it because it ended up hurting your GPA. Freshman year is the most important year of your high school career because it's not only the kickstart of your high school life, but it sets the standard for the rest of your student career.

Sleep is extremely important for your overall health and well-being. That being said, do not stay up until 2am watching TV, scrolling through every social media account, and texting every last person you can think of—these are all nothing more than trivial distractions. When you don't feel like studying is usually when you should be studying the most. Do not procrastinate on studying for tests or finishing projects; the greatest feeling of accomplishment is when you can finally say that you are ready to take a test and are ready to present a project.

It's okay to fail as long as you pick yourself up, and don't be mad at yourself if your performance doesn't meet your expectation. Work hard and cherish your time in high school with your friends, show school spirit, and take pride in the fact that you are now in high school and should be acting as such. Thank the people who motivate you and who will never let you settle for less than your best. Even if you don't understand a subject and you don't perform easily in it still try or ask for help if you need it. Though you make think teachers aren't on your side, really they're there to help you.

Popularity doesn't matter, but be nice to everyone even if they aren't nice to you because that can only strengthen your reputation. Take time to get to know people you normally wouldn't. There might be a moment of loneliness, but it isn't permanent; a time will come in the upcoming months or years when you will feel an overwhelming warmth from the people around you. The moments of sadness will be overcome by countless moments of happiness. Find something that motivates you that no one can take away and go after it, and reap the benefits of the excellent opportunities laid in front of you.

Say yes to getting to know new people and experiencing new things, and don't hold yourself back and make up countless excuses on why you can't go. Understand that there will be people who do not like you, stop trying to be please everyone and be happy with who you are. Whenever you need time to sit back and reflect on life take time to do it. Always continue to make progress. Live and learn through your experiences; after all, high school will be full of them.



SUMMER MOVIE PREVIEW

MADDY KIMMELL • Scene Editor

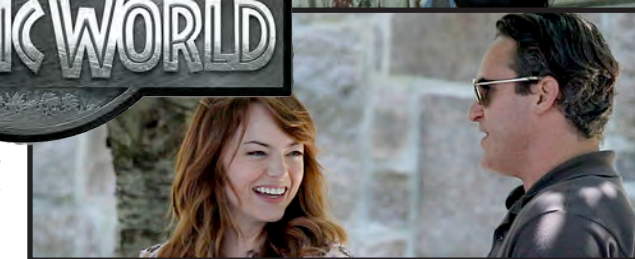
Summer is rapidly approaching and many of you may not have plans to fill each "lazy day" you've been awarded, so in preparation here is a list of the most anticipated films of the summer of 2015.

•JUNE 12TH: JURASSIC WORLD

The highly anticipated sequel to the franchise "Jurassic Park" has almost arrived. "Jurassic World" is the fourth installment of the popularized series. Now twenty-two years after the shocking events at Jurassic Park, a new tourist attraction has opened. The parks extreme success has made tremendous profits for the parks owner Masrani Global Corporation; however, the owner soon realizes that in order to keep attracting visitors they must keep producing new and exciting attractions. This corporate greed results in the creation of a genetically modified hybrid dinosaur called Indominus Rex. The new dinosaur escapes and terror and death ensue as the Indominus Rex destroys the park from within. Owen Grady (Chris Pratt), who researches the behavioral patterns of the dinosaurs, becomes the only person able to save the park.

•JULY 10TH: MINIONS

The spin-off of the wildly successful film "Despicable Me" has long been long anticipated. Ever since the minions first arrived on screen back in 2010 they have constantly been able to make us laugh. To clarify, a minion is a small yellow creature whose primary purpose is to serve the world's most despicable villains. The film has attracted stars like Sandra Bullock, Jon Hamm, and Michael Keaton to lend their voices to some of the characters in the film. The film's plot will follow three minions, Bob, Kevin, and Stuart, in their search of the world's most evil villain. The trio stumbles upon Scarlett Overkill (Bullock), a new villain eager to get to the top.



•JULY 17TH: IRRATIONAL MAN

After being released at the Cannes Film Festival back in May, "Irrational Man" has received mixed reviews; many critiqued the film's apparent lack of humor and central purpose. Nevertheless, anyone who considers themselves a fan of Woody Allen's quirky idiosyncratic films has reason to be excited. "Irrational Man" gets its title from the William Barret novel "Irrational Man: A Study of Existential Philosophy". The film features a philosophy professor going through somewhat of an existential crisis who enters a relationship with one of his most promising students. It seems like Allen uses the film to conduct an unconventional philosophical investigation that audiences are expected to revere. The film stars Joaquin Phoenix, Emma Stone, Parker Posey, and Jamie Blackley.

•AUGUST 14TH: STRAIGHT OUTTA COMPTON

"Straight Outta Compton" is a new biopic about the revolutionary musical group N.W.A, from their promising beginning to their devastating end. The city of Compton is notorious for the excessive amount of crime that takes place there. The group N.W.A formed back in 1989, the group's controversial music dealt with the pressing issues of the challenging environment they were faced with daily. N.W.A consisted of Ice Cube, Dr. Dre, Eazy-E, DJ Yella, and MC Ren. The film will delve deeper into the interrelationships of the group. Ice Cube commented on the film saying, "We're taking it to the nooks and crannies, I think deeper than any other article or documentary on the group...These are the intimate conversations that helped forge N.W.A."

TEACHER'S ADVICE

For seniors, high school is just about over. Now is the time to enter the real world. It can be a bittersweet moment, and advice now can be most beneficial. Here is some advice from some of the faculty here at John Adams High School:

•MR. MILT COOPER:

PHYSICAL EDUCATION & BASKETBALL COACH

"I don't know if my advice would apply to the Adams High seniors of today. I was really good looking and super intelligent; you kids don't have that. This tidbit might help all.

As you journey on... It's not where you go, but who you're with that really matters."

•MR. BRYAN HALL:

PSYCHOLOGY, SOCIOLOGY, & HISTORY TEACHER:

"Your days of learning have only just begun – Learning is a lifelong endeavor. The minute you stop learning is the minute you cede opportunities to others. Always look to challenge and refine your thinking. Life is about learning and unlearning, developing and growing. Don't waste your experiences – view them as learning opportunities. Do not be afraid to make mistakes or be wrong. Some of the best inventions and creations of humankind have begun as a result of mistakes and errors. It is the learning from these mistakes and errors that will truly separate you from those who are unwilling to try for fear of failure."

•MR. NEVIN LONGENECKER:

IB BIOLOGY, & SCIENCE RESEARCH:

"Your education and learning have barely begun. When you leave JA, you are on your own and no one will be "looking out for you." To be successful in your career you..

will need to read and study every night from tonight on or the competition will pass you by.

Also, have your genome sequenced and read ASAP as you need to know your future potential and make plans!"

•MR. DAVID PINKHAM:

ALGEBRA I-II & ALGEBRA II HONORS

"As you journey through life, your highest aspiration should not be the declaration of your principles and ideals, but the fact that you live your life by them."

•MS. CECILIA STANTON:

SPANISH 1-5 & IBSL SPANISH TEACHER,
NHS (NATIONAL HONORS SOCIETY) SPONSOR

"Waking up every morning and feeling happy about what you are doing is so important. Find something you love to do and this will make the start of each day so much brighter and worth waking up for. Good luck next year and remember to find adventure and meaning in life. Buena suerte!"

•MR. MICHAEL SZUCS:

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT HEAD, GOVERNMENT TEACHER:

"Pursue your dream with vigor. You can accomplish almost anything if you are willing to sacrifice and persevere. Great accomplishments are the result of relentless pursuit."

•MR. HEATH WEAVER:

IBHL US HISTORY, LAW EDUCATION, IBSL PHILOSOPHY, & IB THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE INSTRUCTOR

"Regret for the things we did can be tempered by time; it is regret for the things we did not do that is inconsolable."

- Sydney J. Harris

Oh, and most importantly - study abroad!

As you enter into a new chapter in your life, reflect upon the things that made you who you are. Every experience is a learning experience. Good luck in your future endeavors.



5 PLAYERS (Left to Right) ALEC GODFREY, NATE BONK, NATE RITZLER, ROBERT SWAIN, AND JACK IMBUR

ADAMS BOYS' GOLF WINS CITY CHAMPIONSHIP

CORANNE WOODS • Reporter

A few weeks ago the John Adams Boys' Golf Team won the city championship. Adams continues to gain steam, performing exceptionally well in conference. The Eagles currently stand 5-1 with their only loss to Saint Joseph. Adams' success is extremely impressive considering the team has only one senior: Nate Bonk.

Nate Ritzler, star junior, stated, "Even when we lose Nate Bonk, our only senior, I see us the favorite to win city again."

Ritzler and Riley's Austin Luft were seeded number one overall and went "neck and neck" against each other. The competition came down to the last two holes when Ritzler missed a few putts and fell to Luft by three strokes. Ritzler said, "Luft and I have been going back and forth all year." Nevertheless, with Ritzler hot on Luft's tail and the rest of the team performing well, Adams proceeded to win the city championship. The match after city JA won by six strokes.

Adams' coach and science teacher Dan Walsh said, "We won because of teamwork on the golf team." He continued, "This is the third year in a row that we've won tournament."

Nate Ritzler has played golf every day since the summer before seventh grade. His goals are to attend University of Penn and attend a D1 college.

ON THE ROAD TO GRADUATION

MARIAH RUSH AND ALLI GREEN • News Editor & Reporter

It has been said that graduating high school is one of the biggest accomplishments in a person's life. Last school year, 85 percent of Adams' seniors graduated. About 3.5 percent (12 students) of the senior class dropped out during the 2013-2014 year. So why is graduation so lauded? In addition to attending school, there may be other challenges in a student's life such as working, extracurricular activities, taking care of siblings, and maybe even living on their own. Some kids may even be the first to graduate high school in their entire family. Students at Adams are handling some of these challenges, if not more. Nevertheless a majority of students have worked through problems that may have risen during high school and are now willing to share their wisdom.

Senior Gilbert Tossa came to the United States when he was five years old from Lomé, Maritime, Togo in Africa, near the gulf of Guinea. Tossa is a member of the National Guard and a board member of JAVA (John Adams Volunteer Association). He runs track and loves fixing anything that involves technology. He is going to attend IU Bloomington in the fall of 2015.

"My greatest challenge in high school was accepting the reality of things. I'm a fun, outgoing, and energetic person with a crazy imagination... it has its pros. But the cons are much more noticeable," said Tossa.

Having someone to motivate you and push you through the difficult times can make all the difference. "What made me want to be successful is seeing what my little brothers are going to turn into," said Tossa. "I'm their prime role model and if they see me grinding, I'm sure they'll do the same!"

Tossa credits his success and resilience to the motivational words of his teachers. "Honestly, I got the greatest advice from most of the teachers at Adams high school. But the only person that can really get you going is yourself, and how much ambition is in your blood."

No matter where you go or what you want to be, graduating high school is one of the biggest and greatest accomplishments in life. The knowledge gained through hard work and perseverance play integral parts in one's character development. While high school has finished for Tossa and his classmates, they enjoy the solace of being prepared for life's next great test.

"If not now, when? What is your possible excuse now that you won't have then?" - GILBERT TOSSA

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: CJ BREWER

BRETT FINE • Sports Editor

There's no question about it: Adams baseball is a different team. In 2015, Adams has improved drastically from previous seasons. A myriad of factors have contributed to Adams' turnaround, but two distinct factors are new coach Mike Cass and star senior infielder CJ Brewer.

Brewer grew up a little-league star, and didn't live too far from Adams. Brewer was raised in River Park and played little league baseball at East Side Little League, where he first blossomed. Brewer won a state title with the 12-year-old all star team at East Side. He then played ball for the Jefferson Bulldogs before heading to Adams.

As a freshman, Brewer started on junior varsity, and quickly became a role player for varsity by the time he was a sophomore. His junior year he flourished under previous coach Sean Stires. Brewer was a pitcher and a second basemen, but started to undergo shoulder issues before his junior year, causing him to be cautious about pitching that season. The Eagles finished 5-21 overall that season, with only 3 NIC wins.

Yet when senior year hit, Brewer exploded. His batting average this season is .433. In addition to hitting well, Brewer has been getting on base rather consistently. His on base percentage is .478 and he has a slugging percentage of .683. Brewer also leads the team in home runs with 2. He also has a triple this season along with a whopping 9 doubles.

The explosion at the plate came on the heels of a switch to shortstop, moving Austin Chapman to second base. Chapman and his teammates have noticed Brewer's great year, saying, "I don't have CJ's stats or anything, but I do know he is hitting very well."

Brewer has a personal goal similar to coach Cass. Brewer said, "The goal for me was to first win NIC, and then win sectionals." Brewer has enjoyed the team more this season as the Eagles have a record of 8-7 in the NIC. Brewer added, "I think the improvement was because of our relationship with Cass and his different coaching style from Stires." Brewer admitted he enjoys this system much more than any other year he's played.

Brewer was named 2nd Team All-NIC second baseman last year, and will most likely get a similar accolade after the season. Brewer recently made his college decision as he plans to continue his baseball career and walk on at Grand Valley State University.