



The Oscars comes under fire for its lack of racial diversity in its nominations

PAGE THREE



2



## OPINION

Obama's prisoner swap with Iran comes under criticism

5



## LIFESTYLE

The Tower remembers the life of actor Alan Rickman

6



## LIFESTYLE

The Democratic Primary contest intensifies

7



## LOCAL

Representative Jackie Walorski decries the Iran Nuclear Deal

# ADAMS EARNS SBCSC'S HIGHEST RANKING

ABIGAIL MYERS • REPORTER

John Adams High School (JA) has officially made history in the South Bend area. During the 2014-2015 school year, last year, Adams received a "B" rating from the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE). In previous years, Adams, along with the other South Bend High Schools, Clay, Washington and Riley, received a grade of "C" or below by the IDOE. Adams has achieved something no other South Bend High School has: attaining an IDOE grade above a "C".

The South Bend Community School Corporation (SBCSC) as a whole has consistently received a "C" rating from the Indiana Department of Education with the exception of 2012-2013 school year, when the SBCSC was given a "D" rating, earning a total of only 1.98 points out of 4. After the release of those scores, IDOE Superintendent Glenda Ritz, then superintendent of SBCSC, filed a lawsuit against the IDOE for a decreased grade due to the newly implemented grading system that year. However, that lawsuit was dismissed before it went to trial. Other area high schools who are not a part of SBCSC, have received higher school ratings, but South Bend Schools have something that those other schools don't have. We have a higher percentage of students with a variety of ethnic and economic backgrounds, in comparison to all other high schools in our county and across the state of Indiana. According to the Indiana Department of Education, South Bend school student population includes a much higher percentage of 'minority' students such as African Americans, Hispanics, American Indian, and people of mixed race.

The Indiana Department of Education began rating schools on a

scale of A (an outstanding school) to F (a school far below expectations) in 2005. Since then, the grading system has undergone some changes. In 2012, the official School Accountability Grading System was refined to make it easier for schools to get a higher grade: standards were lowered and grading became less strict. Now, IDOE's school rating system is dependent upon four main factors. Approximately 40% of the IDOE score relies on Sophomore ECA test scores, which are determined by the percentage of students who passed each of the exams. An additional 30% is reliant on a school's graduation rate from the previous school year. The remaining 30% of the score is based off of a school's promotion of career and college readiness, which is determined by the number of graduating students who have either scored between 3 and 5 on an AP exam, earned a score between 4 and 7 on an IB exam, taken a dual college credit class, or earned an industry certification from a school program (such as South Bend's Career and Technical Education program (CTE)) or a specialized class.

Despite all of this, many still wonder, what makes John Adams High School so special? Sophomore Chynna Victory said, "Adams is really good because it seems to have a lot of opportunities for the students." Renée Nerenberg, another sophomore at JA, agreed, "Adams [is] more academic, because that's just our magnet program." By earning a "B" rating from the Indiana Department of Education, John Adams has become more comparable to other popular high schools in the county like Penn High School, Mishawaka High School, Marian High School, and St. Joseph High School who have either received A or B ratings for the past three years. "I think we are really close to Penn H.S. quality wise, there is not

much difference when I think of Adams vs. Penn," explained JA sophomore Aubrey Dubree.

In addition to a remarkably high rating from the Indiana Department of Education, JA has more to celebrate. The graduation rate here at John Adams High School has increased by 6% percent going from 86.1% in the 2013-2014 school year to 91.1% in the 2014-2015 school year. Also the South Bend Community School Corporation overall has increased its graduation rate by 5%. In contrast, the state of Indiana as a whole witnessed a drop in graduation rate going from 90% to 88.9% between 2014 and 2015.

But what do school ratings and high graduation rates mean for students here at John Adams? Principal James Seitz answered by saying, "Earning a 'B' certainly shows the success of the students, teachers, and parents in our building. It also shows that everyone is working together to increase the achievement levels of our students." In other words, achievements of the school as a whole are reflected back on individual students, and in this case, that is a benefit for John Adams High School students. "Some colleges do look at the school grades when determining college acceptance [for students]," continued Principal Seitz.

Many at Adams are appreciative of our school's grade and believe it is a deserved recognition for all that Adams students have accomplished. "I feel as if it's a good, fair grade. We deserve a B with all the things we accomplish as a school. There's still room for improvement to get that A next year," mentioned John Adams sophomore Gabe Trevino. Trevino continued, "It makes me feel glad that we're finally being recognized for the things we accomplished." Others are more hopeful for what affect it will have on our school. "I think it'll definitely push the staff and students to maybe keep the rating up," stated Aubrey Dubree. As Principal James Seitz put it, "I want to congratulate the students, teachers, and parents for their hard work and dedication for making John Adams High School the number one high school choice in the area and number one in the SBCSC." Congratulations Eagles! Keep up the good work!



THE JOHN ADAMS

**tower**

STAFF

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Aidan Reilly

OPINION EDITOR

Mariah Rush

LIFESTYLE EDITOR

Alli Green

CREATIVE DIRECTOR

Daniel A. Ernsberger

LAYOUT ASSOCIATE

Edward A. Nagy

REPORTERS

Amanda Ellison

Alice Goulding

Sydney Granlund

Halle Green

Niki Hakimzadeh

Samantha Jankowski

Maddy Kimmell

Maddie McConnell

Abigail Myers

Kaity Radde

Alex Searfoss

ADVISOR

Samantha Lewis

EDITORIAL POLICY

*The Tower* is a student-run newspaper publication and a voice for the Adams student body and staff. Editorials submitted must pertain to Adams lifestyle, student/staff opinions, or local issues. Editorials must be sent to [slewis@sbcsc.k12.in.us](mailto:slewis@sbcsc.k12.in.us), or submitted physically to room 1831 or mailed to John Adams High School, 808 S. Twyckenham Dr.

*The Tower* thanks the *South Bend Tribune* for printing services.

We at *The Tower* also request that readers consider donating to help pay for the printing & production of our newspaper. Your donations will help the growth of a voice for the local community; your help and contributions are greatly appreciated.

Photograph by Adelle M. Banks



## IRAN PRISONER SWAP

KAITY RADDE • REPORTER

After no less than fourteen months of secret, touch-and-go negotiations, Iran and the United States came to an agreement: the exchange of American prisoners held in Iran for Iranian prisoners held in the United States. Iran released four Americans - and a fifth, separate from the deal - and the U.S. released seven Iranians, dismissing charges against fourteen more.

Simply looking at the numbers, one can see that the United States was the loser in this agreement. But upon further examination, a more frustrating scene emerges.

The Americans released were Jason Rezaian, a Washington Post reporter who was unfoundedly arrested for espionage in 2014; Amir Hekmati, a former U.S. Marine who was accused of spying for the CIA while visiting his grandmothers in 2011; Saeed Abedini, a convert to Christianity who was building an orphanage when he was detained for disrupting national security in 2012; and Nosratollah Khosravi, who the media knows little about. Two Americans remain imprisoned or missing in Iran.

The seven Iranians released were being held on charges of trade embargo violations, sanction violations, money laundering, or selling technology to Iran - in short, real charges. These freed Iranians are actually Iranian-Americans, none of whom have left America.

Our government should have gone and searched for the golden ticket, which would have resulted in the release of all of the Americans held there. Instead, we grabbed the first chocolate bar

we saw - four prisoners - because we were tired of waiting for a better deal. What happened to Roosevelt's "speak softly and carry a big stick"?

To add another dimension to this exchange, think back to that nuclear deal that was so controversial. The prisoner swap has more to do with that than you might think: all of this comes just before "Implementation Day," or the day when Iran fulfills the nuclear deal and the U.S. lifts about \$100 billion dollars in sanctions. The President's timing was spot on; this victorious hostage release comes right in time to take the bite out of another unpopular Iran deal.

Blatant politics aside, this exchange has shown Iran the same things that it has shown me: not only is our president desperate to make Iran an example of potential diplomacy in the Middle East, he is failing miserably. Despite the fact that Iran's behavior has not changed, he called the situation "progress through diplomacy." Progress through diplomacy? If anything, it is minimal development through complacency. Diplomacy implies mutual respect, which has been distinctly lacking during America's dealings with Iran. Calling this diplomacy is like calling DJ Khaled a motivational speaker: everyone knows that's a joke, and America should have higher standards than that.

What this boils down to is that the Obama administration knowingly freed seven rightfully convicted or charged criminals for four innocent Americans and then touted it as a victory. Enough with speaking softly, Mr. President - it's time to start carrying a big stick.

Getty Images



## NEW YEAR, SAME OSCARS

SYDNEY GRANLUND • REPORTER

Last year, the Academy Awards came under fire due to the fact that no minorities were nominated in the acting categories. Many hoped that a new year would bring a new sense of diversity among Oscar nominees. However, the night will once again be “lily white,” in the words of director Spike Lee. The list of nominees spurred a resurgence of the #OscarsSoWhite hashtag from last year - but this year, stars are taking it to the next level to show their displeasure.

Lee and actress Jada Pinkett Smith announced, perhaps purposefully, on Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday that they will be boycotting the ceremony in February. “Begging for acknowledgment, or even asking, diminishes dignity and diminishes power,” Pinkett Smith stated in a video posted on Facebook. “We are a dignified people, and we are powerful,” she continued. Lee claimed in an essay on Instagram that he and his wife “cannot support it and mean no disrespect,” but he recognizes that the lack of diversity at the Academy Awards only stems from a lack of diversity “in the executive office of the hollywood studios and television and cable networks.” In other words, the “real battle” begins with the Oscars, but the problem is much bigger and very

deeply rooted.

Academy President Cheryl Boone Isaacs resorted to Twitter the evening of Lee and Pinkett Smith's posts. Isaacs, an African American herself, claimed to be “heartbroken and frustrated about the lack of inclusion.” Isaacs also admitted that despite making changes in recent years to “diversify [the Academy's] membership,” which is almost entirely composed of white males, the change is not happening fast enough. “We need to do more, and better and more quickly,” Isaacs said.

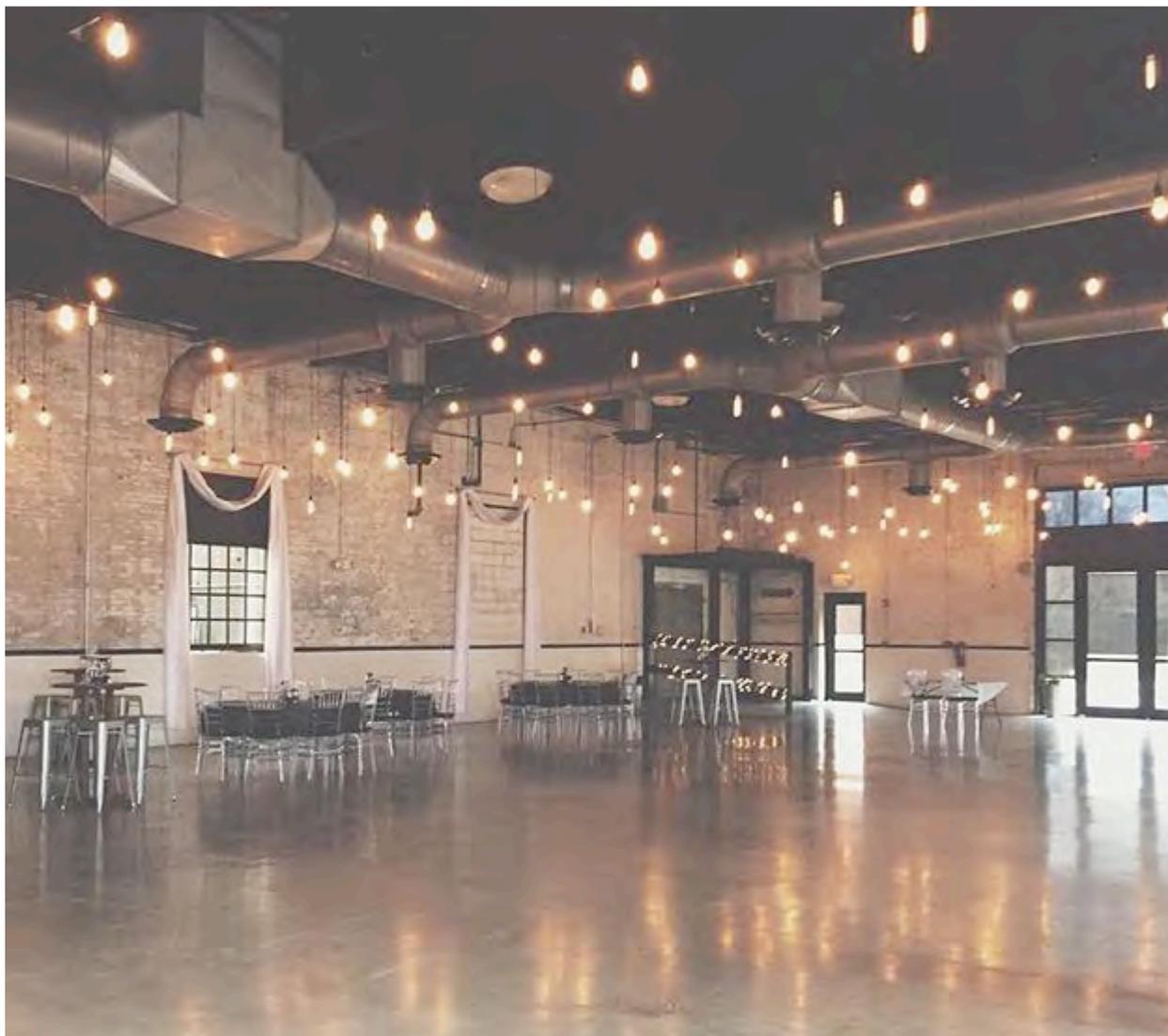
However, not everyone believes the lack of representation is intentional, such as director John Singleton, the first African American nominated for an Oscar. “There are only so many spots,” Singleton said. “It's the luck of the draw for you. To me, I'm not surprised. I'm not disappointed either,” he continued. Actress Jane Hubert commented on Pinkett Smith's video specifically: “People are starving...And you're talking about some actors and Oscars.”

The issue of an all-white affair is sadly not a new one. Since 1929, only 15 African Americans have won Oscars. In 2002 Halle Berry became the first and only black woman to win the Best Actress award. While African Americans have been widely underrepresented, other minorities being represented at the Oscars is almost unheard of. Only

one Latino actor, Jose Ferrer, has received the Best Actor award, and only one Asian actress has ever been nominated for a Best Actress award. In 1996, Jesse Jackson made the same claims for the same reasons. Jackson brought light to the issue that Hollywood portrays minorities as “less intelligent than we are, less hard-working, less universal, less patriotic and more violent than we are.” The parallels between Jackson's and Lee's claims are numerous, which is beyond disappointing as it proves that our society has made little to no progress over the past twenty years in embracing different cultures. Boycotting the Oscars won't solve the problem, but the idea is definitely a step in the right direction.

In fact, the Academy has already taken action to diversify its membership. Its goal is to double “the number of women and diverse members of the Academy by 2020.” The Academy is also introducing term limits; a member's term will be ten years and will only be renewed if he or she has been active in motion pictures during that decade. President Isaacs will also nominate three new presumably diverse governor's seats, so once the Academy is diversified, the diverse members will have people representing them in more powerful sectors.





## MIDWINTER REVIEW

SYDNEY GRANLUND • REPORTER

After a hard-working week of finals, JA was able to get loose at the 2016 Midwinter dance. This year Midwinter was held at The Brick, unlike years past. This new venue was definitely a hit with the attendees, especially the first-timers. Freshman Adiyah Williams said, "I liked how there was enough space for everyone to dance and how they had pretty tables to sit at. The cutest part was the bathrooms, they were very sparkly and tons of girls were in there taking pictures." Fellow freshman Shaylee Saddler agrees, saying that the venue was "perfect."

Although the dance is often regarded as a sort of "underclassmen prom", some upperclassmen did attend. Senior Aaliyah Darling said, "As a senior

I can't really go again, but if I wasn't, I probably would go again because it's better than sitting at home."

The music selection at the dance seemed to be a hit with the underclassmen. Saddler said, "The music selection was really good", and Williams agreed. Sophomore Alaina Strafford said, "The song selection was good, I wouldn't have changed it." However, a few guests did have suggestions. A sophomore that would prefer to remain anonymous said, "The music was okay. I liked some of the music but I would play some oldies and better songs to dance to." Darling also said the song selection was questionable at first, but "got better towards the end." Junior Tori Canarecci said, "I didn't like the music... maybe they could have played more recent music that we could dance to."

One activity that the students longed for this year was the classic photo booth that students have loved in previous years. Canarecci said, "I was disappointed to see no photo booth. I was looking forward to it"

Overall, it seems like the midwinter dance had different reactions throughout. However, there were some suggestions for next year's dance. Darling said, "It was really empty...I would advertise better to encourage more people to go." There were also some that truly enjoyed their time at the dance. On the other side of the spectrum, Strafford said, "I wouldn't have changed anything, I loved the venue and I had fun with my friends."

Regardless, if you are a part of JA's student body, the midwinter dance is definitely one you should visit at some point in your four years here at Adams.

## DJ KHALED'S KEY TO SUCCESS

HALLE GREEN • REPORTER

If you don't follow DJ Khaled on Snapchat you're definitely missing out. Khaled has recently taken over the social media platform with his "keys to success". Khaled has managed to receive over three million views daily, taking everyone on his journey to success.

Khaled's advice, or keys to success, are comical yet inspiring. In one of the many snaps, Khaled said "Watch your back! But more importantly when you get out the shower, dry your back. It's a cold world out there," quite an inspirational thing to say, according to the DJ and music producer. His stories feature his everyday adventures from sunrise to sunset.

DJ Khaled once found himself lost at sea on jet ski after leaving rapper Rick Ross's home one evening, which led Khaled to give his most important key which would be, "The key is not to drive your jet ski in the dark...this ain't right." The situation pushed DJ Khaled into Snapchat fame.

According to Khaled there are people somewhere out there in this cold, cruel world, who do not want us to eat, succeed, or reach our goals. The people who compose "they" is still undetermined. Khaled's stories also feature a young boy named Ben. At least once and sometimes even several times a day, Khaled's followers can see him asking Ben the same question, "Ben... How's the business?" and Ben's response will be "Boomin", every single time. For a good laugh or just to check Khaled out, follow him on Snapchat at "DJKhaled305." That is the biggest key on this journey to more success.

# ALAN RICKMAN

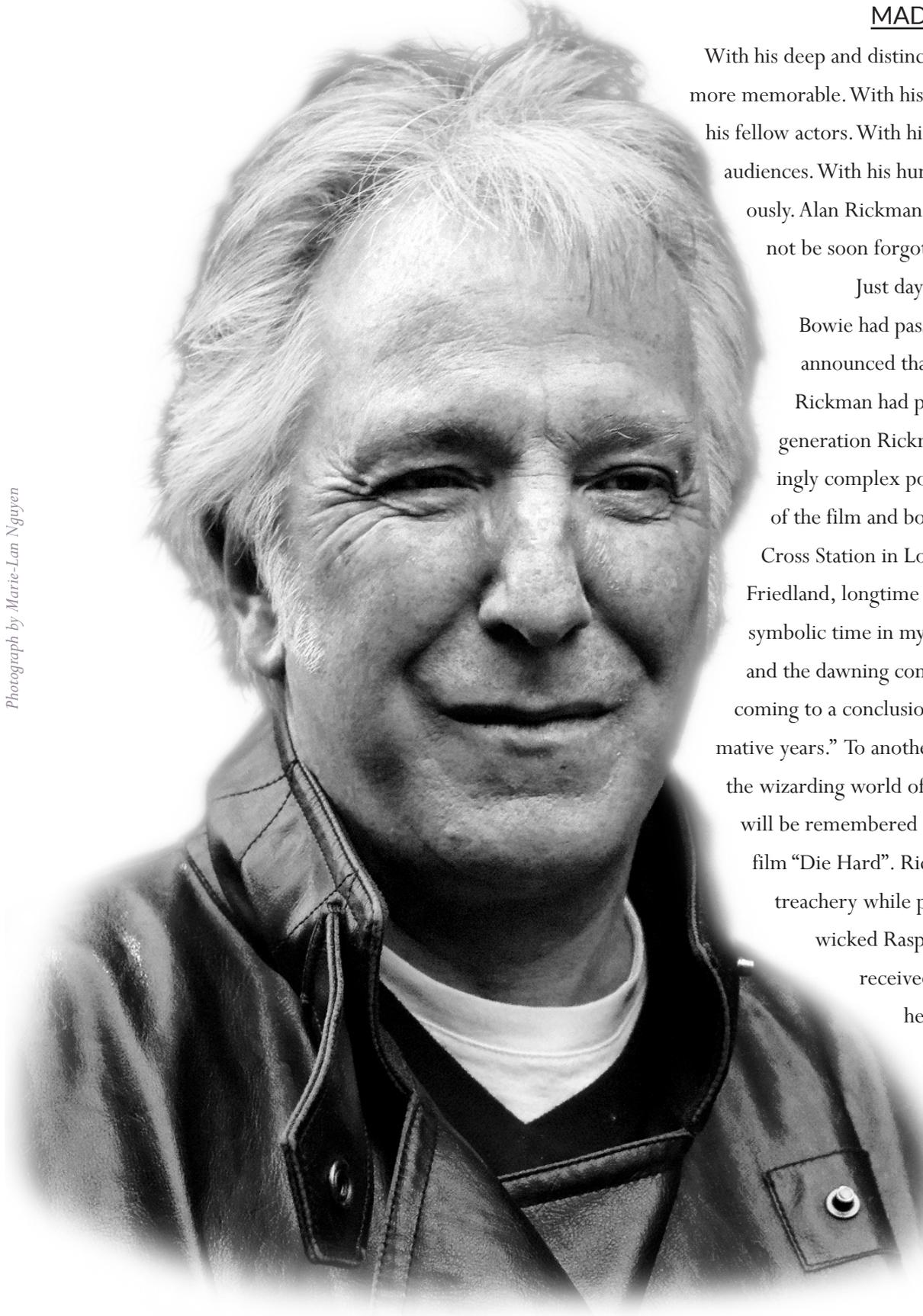
MADDY KIMMELL • REPORTER

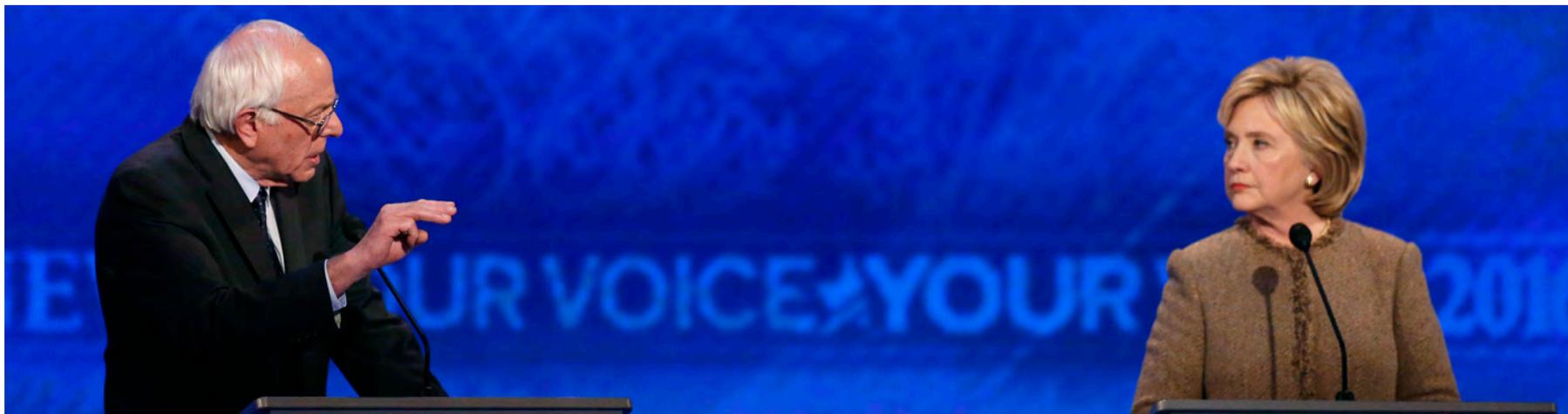
With his deep and distinctive voice he gave each character he played he made even more memorable. With his undeniably magnetic presence he stole every scene from his fellow actors. With his impressive versatility he was able to reach a wide range of audiences. With his humility he reminded all of us to never take ourselves too seriously. Alan Rickman leaves behind an indelible mark on the film industry that will not be soon forgotten.

Just days after hearing the news that the great rock legend David Bowie had passed the world received more devastating news when it was announced that the classically trained British stage and film actor Alan Rickman had passed away at age 69 from pancreatic cancer. To a younger generation Rickman will be remembered as Severus Snape, the maddeningly complex potions teacher at Hogwarts in the “Harry Potter” series. Fans of the film and book series left a touching memorial to the actor at King’s Cross Station in London in front of the famous platform 9<sup>¾</sup>. Adams Senior Ilan Friedland, longtime Harry Potter fan, said, “Alan Rickman’s death comes at a very symbolic time in my life. With his passing, David Bowie’s just a few days earlier, and the dawning completion of my high school career I feel like my childhood is coming to a conclusion. I will never forget the impact they have had on my formative years.” To another portion of the population that may be out of touch with the wizarding world of Harry Potter, or simply too old for the franchise, Rickman will be remembered as the suave and compelling villain, Hans Gruber from the film “Die Hard”. Rickman was able to redefined villainy and perfect the art of treachery while playing characters like the despicable Sheriff Nottingham, the wicked Rasputin, and, of course, Hans Gruber. For his work Rickman received a BAFTA award, an Emmy and a Golden Globe, however he was never nominated for an Oscar, further proving how subjective Oscar nominations can be.

Few actors demand the same respect as Alan Rickman, a man who acquired so much adoration through the characters he was able to immortalize with such a commanding presence. Rickman leaves behind an impressive body of work that will continue to make audiences love, hate, laugh and cry.

Photograph by Marie-Lan Nguyen





## DEMOCRATIC PRIMARIES

ALICE GOULDING • REPORTER

The primary polls will open for voting on February 1st in Iowa and on February 9th in New Hampshire. Yes, you read that correctly. In less than a week, voters will begin casting their ballots for the candidate they'd like to represent their party in the 2016 general elections. Even though these are only two states and their results are not necessarily indicative of the national political climate, Iowa and New Hampshire do set a uniform tone for the rest of the campaign season.

Unlike the Republicans, who have put up more nominees than there are seats in the Cabinet, each one polarizing the party, the Democrats really only have two viable candidates: Hillary Clinton, the establishment front runner who has been preparing for these primaries since the day her husband left office, and Bernie Sanders, the eccentric yet appealing self-proclaimed socialist who's been gaining massive amounts of support, particularly amongst millennials. Oh, and of course there's Martin O'Malley, who, with his pleasant demeanor and charming smile, will make an excellent vice presidential candidate.

Because of the small pool of candidates the Democrats have to offer, the banter between Clinton and Sanders has remained cordial, and, at some points even, boring. During the first debate, Sanders even spoke out in defense of Clinton, exclaiming that "The American people are sick and tired of hearing about [Clinton's] damn emails," emphasizing that the Democrats hoped to lead campaigns based on actual policy decisions and political theory, rather than on negative rhetoric and offensive low

blows. But that was the first debate. Now, when there are less than six days before the first ballots are cast, this resounding agreement is beginning to falter.

Just this week, the Clinton campaign released their first attack ad against Sanders, criticizing his consistency on issues like gun control and foreign policy. While the ad was still focused on genuine political issues, the timing and overall tone suggest that Clinton is beginning to acknowledge the legitimate threat that Sanders poses on her presidential bid. Sanders, whose national poll numbers have not been mirroring the turnout success he has had on the campaign trail, is nevertheless currently leading in New Hampshire. "Leading" perhaps doesn't convey how impressive this feat is: Sanders has overtaken Clinton 52.7 percent to 39.6 percent, according to a Huffington Post poll that combined the results of 66 New Hampshire opinion polls.

Unfortunately for Sanders, this surge in the polls most likely will not be enough to ensure a presidential bid come fall 2016. Clinton still leads nationally by a good 10 percent, and while polls can be both unpredictable and inaccurate, it is highly unlikely that she will lose a large enough chunk of her voter base for Sanders to have a realistic shot. The primaries will – barring any unforeseen crises – end with a result that was determined the moment Clinton retired her position as Secretary of State: a win for the establishment that they hope to repeat in the generals.

So why, if everything already seems so set in stone, should anyone care at all about the Democratic Primaries? They have not been riveting like the Republican's, the winner of which will not confidently be decided until the actual RNC. They have not been as dramatic; we haven't seen Clinton nor Sanders strut about the stage with the same inflated egos that the Republican debates seem to be mired in. They certainly have not been as polarizing; the

Democrats have been successful in maintaining essentially the same image they put forth in 2008, whereas the Republicans have had enough internal schisms in the span of an election cycle to last them the next two centuries.

Despite the fact that the Democratic primaries have been fairly banal, the effect they've had on American politics is massive. They were not, despite original beliefs, merely a practice round for Hillary. "Practices" don't normally dismantle each and every one of your policy decisions, pointing out precisely why your version of liberalism is not what the country is looking for, which is exactly what Sanders accomplished. Beyond that, Sanders was successful at bringing issues like big banking, race relations, and national healthcare to the foreground, issues that Clinton's team had not prepped eloquent and poised rebuttals for. Sanders was able to push Clinton more left, not to the same extreme that the Republicans have gone, but enough that she really had to reevaluate some of the major points of her message.

Based on current polls, it appears that Sanders will lose the primary. But part of the appeal of Sanders is that he doesn't seem to be absolutely set on winning. To quote the man himself, he hopes to ignite a "political revolution", which, by all accounts, he has been more than successful in doing. Yes, Hillary may be the one standing on stage debating the Republican nominee this fall. But if you listen closely to what she will actually have to say, you'll hear echoes of Sanders in every one of her critiques of Republican ideals and her renunciations of conservative law making and strategy. The effects of both Sanders and the entire primary process will be lasting and without them, Clinton's chances at winning the White House would grow immensely smaller.

# IRAN NUCLEAR DEAL

AIDAN REILLY • EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In late January, the monumental nuclear deal between Iran and the United States officially went into effect. The deal was constructed last June after months of negotiation, spearheaded by U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and Iranian Foreign Minister Javad Zarif.

For years, tensions have been rising between Iran, recognized as an official state sponsor of terrorism and the leading Shiite force in the Middle East, and the United States over the potential development of a nuclear weapon. Ever since the infamous 1979 Iran Hostage Crisis, in which anti-

American revolutionaries stormed the U.S. Embassy and held 52 hostages for almost two years, relations between the United States and Iran have been bitter to say the least. Iranian Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei has widened the gap between the nations in recent years with alarming comments such as "Death to America!" Thus, as it became apparent Iran sought the development of a nuclear weapon in the early 2000s, diplomacy hit a low point.

But in 2013, Hassan Rouhani, recently ranked as TIME magazine's 5th most influential person of the year, was elected president, marking a change within the country to a more moderate administration. While Rouhani undoubtedly possesses less power than Iranian Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei, he has opened an avenue for the Obama administration to negotiate a deal.

Last summer, the monumental deal was announced, signaling a distinct change of tide in

U.S.-Iranian diplomacy. Over the last few months the Iranians transferred 25,000 lbs. of nuclear supplies (98% of their total supply) overseas, dismantled 12,000 centrifuges with the capability to enrich uranium, and poured concrete into their central plutonium reactor. As a result, Iran immediately received access to \$100 billion in frozen offshore accounts, freedom in global ports and markets, and was freed from most of the debilitating U.S. economic sanctions that have stagnated the Iranian economy. Iran will now be subject to 24/7 supervision by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), is barred from enriching any uranium at the Fordow site for 15 years, even for environmental purposes, and cannot enrich uranium anywhere over the 3.67% threshold, making the development of a nuclear weapon essentially impossible. While Iran sought economic freedom, they are subject to an intense revamping if any of the agreements are broken.

While the neo-diplomatic endeavors between Kerry and Rouhani cannot be understated, we ask, 'What does this deal mean for South Bend?' The question is audacious, to say the least. While yes, Iranian markets have been opened and potential for business with South Bend companies exists, it is impossible to predict how our local economy may be affected. Further, seeing as America sees Iranian economic liberation as nebulous, the effect on South Bend is equally opaque.

Nevertheless, Rep. Jackie Walorski (R - IN) remains an ardent opponent of the deal. She said, "Despite the administration's best efforts to portray this deal in positive light, the facts on the ground and in recent headlines continue telling a different story." Walorski continued, "This regime has never proven themselves trustworthy and I do not expect anything to change once they are \$100 billion richer."



## EAGLES BEAT PENN

MADDIE MCCONNELL • REPORTER

Although the John Adams boys basketball team started out the season a little rough, it appears the tide has turned. The boys have bounced back, winning 4 out of their 5 last games. Most prominent was an eight point win over the Penn Kingsmen, 64-56. This was particularly exciting for the boys – as well as JA as a whole – seeing as it was the first time the Eagles beat the Kingsmen in the regular season since 2009. Penn, the largest school in the area with a student body of over 4000, is notorious for dominating the high school sports scene. Every game against Penn proves itself to be a riveting show to watch.

Junior guard Michael Green led the team with 21 points, with sophomore guard Walter Ellis close behind with 15. “This was a good win for the guys and me. It gives us the boost we need to continue our season strong,” Green said. The Penn game was third in a string of four wins in a row, pushing the Eagles to 2-4 in the NIC.

In addition to this, the JV boys also put up a good show, beating the Kingsmen with a score of 61-51.

## BOYS WRESTLING REVIEW

AMANDA ELLISON • REPORTER

The boys wrestling team wraps up their season with a record of 7-6. Although the boys’ season started out well, they ended their season only 1 match above 500, an unfortunate conclusion to a promising beginning.

Captain Tavonte Malone, junior at Adams, expected his team to perform better this year. But Malone still has a lot of confidence in his team for sectionals, believing that “even though our season might not have went that well, for having such a young team, we are doing pretty well”. Last year, Malone was successful in leading his team with the best personal record, defeating opponents as he advanced through sectionals and regionals, ultimately falling at State. Undefeated in the NIC, Malone expects nothing less this year, believing, “I can win the state championship if I practice hard enough and wrestle smart[sic]”. Malone seems to exude confidence, hoping to finish what he has started last year and make it to state. The sectional draw will be on January 30th at Mishawaka High School.

## SABRINA MALONE

SAM JANKOWSKI • REPORTER

The Lady Eagles basketball team are doing quite well this year, exceeding expectations. The Eagles have fought tooth and nail every game, earning a record of 13-8 with just two regular season games left. Their ability to press the ball and keep consistent pressure will help them go far in the sectional tournament. But this success has a root, a distinct starting point. While myriad factors have contributed to the Eagles rise this year, it all starts with senior captain Sabrina Malone.

Malone transferred to Adams from Washington before her junior year. All summer long, Malone pushed and pushed, preparing her Eagles for the season. With hard work, determination, and resiliency, the Eagles have succeeded. By the luck of the draw, the Eagles played the Panthers on Senior Night.

The night was dramatic, to say the least. Malone knew she had to stay calm and collected to play to the best of her ability. She played a big role in the Lady Eagle’s offense. Her court awareness and ability to push the ball up the floor helped the team get fast breaks, which lead to easy buckets. With the team behind her, Sabrina knew this would be a bittersweet

victory.

“I couldn’t have done this without my team. [Washington] is family and they will always hold a place in my heart”, said Malone. Led by Malone and her hard work, the girls are expected to go far in sectionals.

The Eagles don’t have just talent - their relationship with each other is a bond that can’t be broken, propelling them to more victories.

don't  
text  
and  
drive  
JOINTHESHIFT.ORG



  
Aldridge Insurance



Erie  
Insurance®