



2



ADAMS

Adams receives an "A" rating

4



One Million Cups: an opportunity for local entrepreneurs

NEWS

5



American Leadership in Puerto Rico

NEWS

7



Senior Spotlights: Regan Yoder and Edward Nagy

SPORTS

REFUGEES 101

SAMI MIRZA - REPORTER

On Sunday, October 1, almost two dozen men, women, and children gathered on the windswept John Adams track in support of refugees. The program was simple: each attendee received a card, with spaces for a hole punch on the front. After each lap, which is equivalent to a quartermile, a volunteer would punch a hole in the card. That distance could then be measured with the map on the back to see how far one could walk from Adams. In addition to this, the front told the stories of particular refugees. The refugees shown were not all Syrian, Iraqi, or Middle Eastern, like the public may believe, but from all around the world. One card that stood out told the tale of what many experts consider to be the one millionth refugee displaced from South Sudan, a little-mentioned country inundated with war since 2013.

All proceeds made from this event are going to be donated to the Welcome to Michiana project, a local offshoot of the Phoenix-based Welcome to America Project, that has been operating for around a month. The purpose of this organization is to help settle refugees who have entered the country with little to no support and to acclimate them to life in the United States by providing education, furniture, and other basic necessities. Though the event was free to attend, and open to the public, it was recommended to donate ten dollars per person, or \$50 for a family of five.

The idea for this event was first thought

up in April this year during separate discussions in Mrs. Hernandez's SL Spanish classes. "We were talking about [a video], and then we started talking about [creating] an event," said Danny Shemesh, a senior and the lead organizer of the event. Entirely student-led and sponsored by Mrs. Hernandez, the group, a spiritual successor to John Adams' Amnesty International Club, began meeting after school. The



event then began to fall into place. The group advertised the event by hanging posters around school, making announcements that were submitted to the afternoon bulletin, and by setting up a sign-up table at lunch for students who might be interested in attending.

The focus of the event, supporting refugees who come to the United States, has been the subject of a contentious debate since the early days of American foreign policy. Supporters of an open-door policy point to the rich culture and history sparked by immigrants, whose ranks include figures from Albert Einstein to Cesar Chavez. Opponents counter with the competition and strain foreign workers place

on the economy, claiming that jobs are stolen from the more deserving American unemployed, and that they are the perpetrators of extraordinary acts of terror and violence. The latter viewpoints have been growing in popularity since the presidential campaign of Donald Trump. He, and others like him, point to attacks in France, the United Kingdom, and Belgium as the reason why we, as a nation, should put America First. A common response questions the prominence of these cases as being the few who seek violence caught in the vast wave of the many who seek peace. The arguments go on, and the debate is endless.

Shemesh mentioned that such fervor didn't reach the event. "We've received no backlash," he said, adding, however, that the group has received little support. The organizing group is entirely comprised of seniors, a worrisome demographic for a cause that would only grow given the the political atmosphere of today.

"[We] would like to encourage next year's class to take the torch and make [this event] part of Adams' legacy," explained Benjamin Fecher, a senior and one of the coordinators of the fundraiser. Considering the public backlash to President Trump's policies and travel bans, it is quite reasonable to expect that those opposed to his ideology, and who support those displaced by strife will take the mantle offered by these upperclassmen.

Even though the event was not attended by many, Shemesh and his team still considered it a success. "We weren't looking for masses of people. It was more about the donations, and spreading awareness."

THE JOHN ADAMS

TOWER

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The Tower is a student-run newspaper publication and a voice for the Adams student body and staff. Letters to the Editor must pertain to Adams lifestyle, student/staff opinions, or local issues. Letters to the Editor must be sent to jnowicki2@sbcsc.k12.in.us, or submitted physically to room 1831 or mailed to John Adams High School, 808 S. Twyckenham Dr. Letters to the Editor for Issue Four must be submitted by October 20.

Editorials are written by the Editorial Board of *The Tower* (comprised of Kaity Radde, Casey Carroll, and Alicia Koszyk) and are designated as such.

The Tower thanks the *Herald-Palladium* 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.

ADAMS EARNS
“A” RATING

CLAIRE STOWE - REPORTER

On October 4, Adams made history when, for the first time since the school grade system was implemented, we became the first high school in the South Bend Community School Corporation (SBCSC) to receive an A. The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) began distributing Accountability grades to schools in 2005 as a way to measure academic achievement. The Accountability grade incorporates four distinct categories: 30% of the grade is determined by graduation rate, 30% by career and college readiness, 20% by ISTEP scores, and the remaining 20% by ISTEP improvement.

In the 2016-2017 school year, the Adams graduation rate was 92%, a stark three percent above the state average. The career and college readiness rate was 61.5%, meaning this percent of students passed an academically advanced course or exam or received an industry certification. 66% of students passed the English ISTEP and 41% passed the math, both percents approximately 3.5% above the state average. Significant improvement in ISTEP scores was also demonstrated due to the fact that Adams is in the top 35% for the most growth shown in high schools. All of these percentiles are added together to determine a point value for each category and for the overall school. The added total of Adams points was 92.21, rewarding it a well-earned A.

The IDOE's Accountability grades attempt to measure both student and teacher performance. The ISTEP scores and graduation rates clearly reflect on student accomplishment. The performance of the teachers is evaluated more through the growth rate and the career and college readiness rate. The growth rate displays the teacher's ability to improve the scores of the student and provides a glance into the effectiveness of each school and teacher. The career and college readiness rate communicate the teacher's aptness at preparing students for challenges they will both face in both the

classroom and the real world.

From 2005-2014, Adams obtained only F's, D's and C's. However, in both 2015 and 2016, Adams received a B, showing clear improvement from past years. Adams finally reached the peak in the 2016-17 school year, earning its first A. When asked how this sudden improvement came about, Principal James Seitz believes the secret lies in the connections made between the staff and the students. "As cliché as it sounds, we have built positive relationships with our students.[...]Increased positive behavior leads to more time on task. Teachers can teach and students can learn."

In Seitz's opinion, every aspect of the school grade has been influenced by these strong bonds between students, staff, and parents. "These positive relationships have allowed for us to decrease the number of suspensions at Adams by over 50% over the past four years. [...] We have also worked diligently to increase our ISTEP scores by implementing quick checks for students and working in our Math and English teams. Our teachers, parents, and students are dedicated to improving our education. We have also been able to increase graduation rates by implementing graduation coaches for senior students who might be at risk of not graduating. We have seen an increase of 9% in the past three years. We have done a much better job of having our students own their data. The goal is graduation for each student."

As the first SBCSC high school to be awarded with an A, one of only four in the northern Indiana region and one of the mere 30% of schools in the state that received this prestigious grade, Seitz believes there are several benefits for Adams. Among these are enhanced opportunities for recruiting. "Earning an A [...] helps attract more students to Adams," he said. More generally, however, he points out that "We are a top notch school, with hard-working, dedicated students, teachers and parents. Having an A shows the rest of the state of Indiana what all of us at Adams already knew."

INDIANA SCIENCE TALENT SEARCH

KAITY RADDE - EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

On September 22 and 23, science research students presented their findings at the finals of the Indiana Science Talent Search. Only twelve high school student researchers across the state made this year's final competition—and seven of these students were from John Adams High School. The top Indiana State winner was Caroline Pitts. Patrik Bauer placed fourth. The top two winners will present their findings in Austin, TX, at the American Association for the Advancement of Science Convention in mid-February 2018.

To enter, students wrote 25-page research reports compiled after completing investigations during the past school year. These research reports also serve as the students' IB Extended Essays. Their reports, along with approximately 75 others, were evaluated over the summer in a "blind study" by a team of specialists in the Indiana Academy of Science from different science and engineering fields. Selection of the top students was based on the research report, a discussion of their poster, and an intensive interview. The Indiana Science Talent Search Competition was originated by Indiana University Medical School to encourage more high school students to enter the fields of

science, mathematics, and engineering as careers.

The students and their projects are as follows:

Caroline Pitts:

"A Comparison between the Effectiveness of Operant and Pavlovian Conditioning in Planarian Flatworms"

Patrik Bauer:

"Modifying the Anode of a Direct Methanol Fuel Cell Using Graphene Nano Powder to Increase Power Output."

Amanda Abner:

"Investigating the possible Effects of Titanium Dioxide on Hatchability and Longevity on Brine Shrimp *Artemia Salina*"

Naomi Freel:

"A Study of the Effects of Ellagic Acid on the Regeneration and Behavior of Planarian Flatworms"

Allison Doctor:

"The Effects of Titanium Dioxide on the Rate of Regeneration in Planarian Flatworms"

Stanley Rozenblit:

"Possible Effects of Prosera AVH on Blood Circulation in the brains of Humans and Lab Mice and its Relationship to Cognitive Function"

Max Thompson:

"Measuring the Effectiveness of a Conventional Water Filter on the Removal of Titanium Dioxide Nanoparticles by Examining Life Processes in Brine Shrimp"

ADAMS HOMECOMING

JULIANNE GROHOWSKI - REPORTER

One of the most exciting times during the fall season for any high school is homecoming. Compared to other South Bend schools, Adams has a relatively late homecoming this year, with the homecoming game against St. Joe falling on Friday, October 13. The week leading up to the game is a fun and spirited week for the Eagles, including Spirit Week and a pep rally during the school day on Friday. Spirit Week allows students to dress up according to different themes each day for the whole week, and this year's themes are Decade Day, Twin Day, Formal Day, Nerds v. Jocks Day, and JA Spirit Day.

Every year Adams designs and sells a "Homecoming Spirit Shirt" that comes in short sleeve and long sleeve options. The shirts are sold anywhere between \$10-\$18 depending on the style and size of shirt you choose. Typically, the theme for the homecoming game is Adams spirit, and students wear their spirit shirts.

Although Adams does not have a typical homecoming dance, there is a homecoming court of qualified seniors who are recognized during half-time of the homecoming game. Out of the court made up of six couples, one couple is voted Homecoming King and Queen. This year's Homecoming Queen candidates are Eusebia Balderas, Portia Davis, Devanna Hardin, Catherine Ott, Gabs Wiarda, and Regan Yoder. The Homecoming King candidates are Patrik Bauer, Anthony Orozco, Bryson Sareen, Donnell Williams, Chris Vreugdenhil, and Joey Zahl.

Another fun and student-oriented tradition that Adams does every year are the class hallway decorations. The student government officers for each class choose a theme and volunteers from that class decorate specific hallways accordingly. Going in order from seniors to freshman, this year, the class hallway themes for each grade will be movies through the decades, Nintendo, Nickelodeon, and Candy Land.

The homecoming game at School Field will be a great match-up and all students should come and support the Eagles as they take on the St. Joe Indians! For seniors, this is their last homecoming as an Eagle so it needs to be their best yet. Again, the game is on October 13 at School Field at 7:00. Make sure to come out and show your school spirit!



FLATLINERS

SIERRA WEAVER - REPORTER

In 1990, the original Flatliners was released as a science fiction horror film. The movie has become well-known over the years, and in 2015, a remake of the film was announced. The remake has the same name as the original and stars Ellen Page, Diego Luna, Nina Dobrev, James Norton, and Kiersey Clemons. Kiefer Sutherland also reprises his role as Nelson Wright, the main character of the original film. The remake was an enjoyable adaptation of the original, with great acting, and a premise reminiscent of the 90s and early 2000s horror movies, such as the original and the Final Destination movie.

The film follows a group of medical students that become obsessed with the idea of life after death. The obsession begins after one of the students, Courtney Holmes (Ellen Page), recruits them as part of a personal project. It all starts when Courtney tells two of her friends, Jamie (James Norton) and Sophia (Kiersey Clemons), to meet her in the basement of the hospital. Courtney explains the idea of the project to them, which involves the two friends stopping her heart and then bringing her back. During the project, Jamie and Sophia run into problems, which causes Sophia to call Ray (Diego Luna) and Marlo (Nina Dobrev) to help bring Courtney back. The group begins to notice changes in Courtney once she comes back and they decide, like Courtney, to die and come back. After flatlining, the students begin to see things related to mistakes in their past and realize they may have started something that could lead to each of their deaths.

In the film, the acting was strong and the characters were excellent. Everyone in the cast gave a great performance with convincing emotions that made the characters seem more realistic. The backstories of the characters were revealed at perfect times to fit the overall story. Kiefer Sutherland's appearance as Nelson Wright, an important character of the original film, was small, but still nice to see as a nod to the original.

The film was both entertaining and scary. Many of the scenes where the characters hallucinate people relating to their past were disturbing and frightening. The remake relied more on visual scares rather than the original's psychological aspects. Though the psychological horror was more present in the original, the remake had a few scenes that would definitely be considered psychological horror, such as when Courtney (Ellen Page) sees her dead sister at many points in the film.

Even with the psychological aspects and disturbing scenes, the film was not an accurate remake of the original. The characters were completely different aside from a few minor similarities in their mistakes, such as Sophia's, where she was mean to a classmate and eventually apologizes for her actions, which is a similar story to David, a character in the original. Jamie's backstory was similar to Joe's in the original, as both of their mistakes have to do with past relationships. The solution to what the characters are experiencing after they flatline, which is to forgive themselves for the mistakes that are haunting them, is also the same as the 1990 movie.

Aside from these, almost everything that happened in the remake did not happen in the original. The differences include a scene where the students are celebrating their discovery, the amount of hallucinations from the characters, and many others. The remake's overall premise was the same. This being said, the remake was still great even without being a completely accurate to the original film.

Flatliners was a fun adaptation of a 1990s horror movie. It had a great cast that was believable and realistic. The film was scary at times and intriguing at others. The movie is an enjoyable watch that's worth seeing, especially for fans of the original.



ONE MILLION CUPS

CASEY CARROLL - ASSISTANT EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

101Co3, a local, non-profit building and service for entrepreneurs, independent workers, start-ups, and freelancers, has recently become home to One Million Cups. One Million Cups is a free program designed to educate, engage, and connect entrepreneurs with their communities. This program has proved to be very successful due to the fact that 700 volunteers across over 40 states, one U.S. territory, and six time zones have participated. It also attracts more than 2,500 people weekly.

Every Wednesday at 101Co3 from eight to nine in the morning, two businesses present their companies to their communities. These free events include coffee and the chance to collaborate with like-minded people in the community. Following the six minute presentation, there is a 20 minute question-and-answer session with the audience. The first event, taking place on September 13, exceeded turnout expectations with more than 40 people. The inaugural One Million Cups in Mishawaka featured presentations by Ketch Technologies which provides same day, local delivery for businesses to get their products directly to their customer, and Listing Mirror, which is a cloud-based software company that provides ecommerce business owners easy-to-use tools for multi-channel product management.

Aimee Carroll, the business developer of 101Co3, commented on the first event: "We had a great audience turnout which is really important to the success of this program. It's encouraging for the presenters to see a packed house. It shows the community cares and is interested in their story. We want to encourage everyone to come out, fill a seat and enjoy some free coffee!" More members of the community will hopefully come to future events at 101Co3 and help make this program thrive.

The atmosphere of this programs allows an open and honest discussion about people's businesses and possible solutions for the challenges they face. One Million Cups joining our community creates opportunities for rising entrepreneurs and other interested people. If you're interested in going to one of these events, be sure to go see these amazing presentations and join in caffeinating your community over One Million Cups of coffee!

AMERICAN LEADERSHIP IN THE PUERTO RICAN DISASTER

KAITY RADDE - EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

How do you solve a problem like Maria? San Juan Mayor Carmen Yulín Cruz seems to have a better idea than President Trump, who has been tweeting about her and her lack of leadership from the golf course while she wades through sewage up to her waist trying to find people trapped in San Juan homes. He went on to reprise his “nasty woman” moment from the presidential debates, calling Cruz’s criticisms and pleas for help “nasty to Trump,” referring to himself in the third person.

“We are dying here,” she said on September 29 during the pleas that Trump called nasty, after he had been more concerned with football players kneeling for the anthem than with American citizens in peril. The worst part of Trump’s response? “I was asking for help,” Cruz said. “I wasn’t saying anything nasty about the president.” Anyone who has seen the video of her pleas would likely agree that she was more concerned about getting help to the island than attacking the president.

Cruz’s plea for help also came a day after the Trump administration waived the Jones Act, which prohibits foreign ships from transporting cargo between United States ports, for ten days. There is controversy over how effective this will be, but the major problem with his reluctance to waive the Act seems to be more about the image it presents than how much it would help the island. His Twitter page - the seemingly most reliable metric for what he considers to be important - showed very little concern about Puerto Rico until Cruz’s now-famous remarks, and then they were largely di-

rected toward her leadership rather than how the mainland was going to help Puerto Rico. There was no urgency in his assurances that help would reach the island in spite of the fact that Puerto Rico is without power and limited in food and water supplies.

His reasoning was that the challenges presented by Maria are different because Puerto Rico is “an island surrounded by water - big water,” showing exactly how much thought he had put into that announcement.

While the empirical effects on Puerto Rico is the major concern here, Trump’s actions also demonstrate that politically, the way he reacts to crisis will not change anytime soon. He assailed the mayor of London after a terrorist attack there; he assails Cruz now. He refuses to leave the criticism that comes with the White House unanswered, turning to Twitter immediately and making himself look worse than his detractors.

In the wake of Maria, Puerto Rico holds lessons for all of us. Cruz exemplifies hands-on leadership, and those turning to Puerto Rico to help with donations, supplies, or abilities exemplify unity and the American spirit.

And President Trump has reminded us, yet again, exactly how much we as citizens must compensate for our current executive leadership with our own determination and resources.

NORTH KOREA

RYAN DOWNEY - REPORTER

United States President Donald J. Trump has made excessive use of the social media platform, Twitter, throughout the past month. On the surface, his use of the website may seem playful or even charitable, but then the content of his tweets creates discomfort even in his supporters. On September 23, Trump tweeted a statement about North Korea which said, “Just heard Foreign Minister of North Korea speak at U.N. If he echoes thoughts of Little Rocket

Man, they won’t be around much longer!” The nickname “Little Rocket Man,” of course, refers to North Korean dictator Kim Jong Un, whose family has had a reign over the country since 1948. Multiple press companies, immediately after the tweet, were posting headlines that Trump and the United States had declared war on North Korea but such allegations were immediately denied by the administration.

This is not the first time that Trump has made questionable tweets towards North Korea. On March 17, he claimed, “North Korea is behaving very badly. They have been “playing” the United States for years. China has done little to help!” This idea was reinstated during a presidential address which was covered by CNN. In the speech, Trump claimed that there is an option that is not preferred by him, but if he went through with it, it would be “devastating on North Korea.”

He then clarified that what he referred to is the military option. Trump then began to explain his reasoning; the North Korean government has done “very bad things” and that “they have said things that should never, ever be said.” Further explanation was not disclosed. The administration has stated that the military option will not be used unless it is well deserved.. If this happens, Trump declared, “They will be met with fire and fury like the world has never seen.”

Adams teacher Mr. Weaver claimed, “I don’t think that the President of the United States should be calling people names like ‘Little Rocket Man,’ especially in front of the UN. It doesn’t sound professional, it’s childish. It hurts our reputation on the world stage. I certainly don’t think it caused Kim Jong Un to be fearful. It’s ineffective.” He continued to say that the best option for the United States would be to try and create dialogue with the North Korean dictator, to try and settle these allegations civilly. He said, “If you call the leader of the North Korea demeaning names, then he’s probably less likely to want to create dialogue with [Trump].”

LGBTQ PROTECTIONS AFFECTING FREEDOM OF SPEECH?

SETH KIRKPATRICK - REPORTER

Earlier this year, the SB-219 bill was passed in California. This bill's purpose is to protect the senior LGBTQ community living in health care facilities. The bill "would make it unlawful, except as specified, for any long-term care facility to take specified actions wholly or partially on the basis of a person's actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) status; including, among others, willfully and repeatedly failing to use a resident's preferred name or pronouns after being clearly informed of the preferred name or pronouns." In other words, as a faculty member at any health care facility, if you purposely misuse a resident's preferred pronoun you can be prosecuted; the punishments for this being either a \$1,000 fine or a year in jail.

To gain more insight about this situation and its implications, I interviewed two different individuals. The manager of the LGBT center, Derek McDowell, and a student, who I will refer to as Jeffery to protect their identity.

Jeffery is a junior enrolled in the IB program as well as a trans boy. He started off by stating why he thinks the bill is a necessity. "People living in assisted care are still people, so they should be treated with the same rights as younger citizens [...] The fact that they are making an effort to support those we may not think of on a day-to-day basis while fighting for equality is amazing."

I then asked him whether or not he thought it could have a positive or negative impact. He responded by explaining how it will have both a positive and negative impact. He then added, "It will show those

in assisted living that we have not forgotten about them, and that we won't stop fighting for them as well as ourselves."

He also elaborated on the possibly negative implications of the issue. "There are people working with these citizens who believe that they should not have to use the other's preferred names and/or pronouns. They think they are being forced to do something against their beliefs, but in reality, what they are doing is just the courtesy of using someone's correct name."

Moreover, I asked whether or not the bill would actually be able to protect the people it is intended to protect. He stated, "Yes, I believe it can help those it is trying to protect. But I think it will be a challenge, to say the least, to enforce and regulate. [...] It is very possible that many people who don't

"People are not being forced to support those who identify as something other than cisgender, they are being asked to use someone's correct name."

follow the bill will not be prosecuted, either out of fear of the person who would accuse them, or the denial of the one accused with little evidence to support the accusation. It will take some hard work, but I think it can be done."

Finally I asked whether or not he thought this bill was attacking free speech. He responded powerfully with, "No, I don't believe this is attacking free speech. [...] People are not being forced to support those who identify as something other than cisgender, they are being asked to use someone's correct name. Now, there may be the legalities of whether or not the name has been changed on one's birth certificate, which could enforce the argument that it 'isn't their name'. In my opinion, it shouldn't even be a problem. [...] It's none of your business. People just don't like to feel like

they are being forced to do things, so that is most likely where the conflicts would lie. [...] This bill is merely making people be polite."

I then interviewed Derek McDowell, the manager at the LGBT Center across from Adams, asking him the same four questions. He began with his thoughts on the bill by stating, "I think it's a great bill that will benefit a lot of senior citizens in the state of California, and I'm glad it was passed."

He then moved on to the impact it will have on the community, explaining, "I think it will have a positive impact on the community as a whole. The bill is trying to provide comprehensive care for the LGBT senior community that are in public facilities. It's not going to only affect what the media's been focusing on, the pronouns, but the housing situation, deciding whether or not they should have their HIV information disclosed, allowing them to use the restrooms they prefer, and receiving the medical care they want."

Derek then points out why he believes it is a beneficial bill. "Any legislation that is passed, that provides a bill of rights to these elder people, will be beneficial as they can go somewhere and talk to someone if their rights are being violated. [...] This bill is not meant to demonize health care employees, it's meant to help establish a good relationship between the elderly and the housing facilities."

Finally, he shared his two-cents when it came to the bill and free speech. "I don't really see how it attacks free speech. [...] I think it's simply asking faculty to use the proper names and pronouns of residents that are put in their personal files."

Both people had very understandable responses, even though the main reaction to this bill seems to be hateful, as many people saw it as an attack on the freedom of speech. It will be very interesting to see how well this bill can be enforced and if other bills like it will be passed in the future. Most importantly, it will be very exciting to see what other, new ideals will become accepted by society and how they may be implemented in many places and establishments.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT REGAN YODER

CASEY CARROLL - ASSISTANT-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Regan Yoder, a senior on the John Adams' Girls Golf team, has always had golf in her life. Yoder has been on Varsity both her junior and senior year. She typically played the number two or three spot and was on the first spot her senior year. During her first two years at Adams, she was on the freshman and JV volleyball team. Yoder wished she could have played golf her freshman and sophomore year but the seasons went on at the same time. She states, "I decided to stop playing volleyball because, for me, it became very negative and

I was not having fun anymore. Coach Kern also kept persisting that I join the golf team so I was like 'Why not?'" Yoder believed that she made a great decision because she has so much fun golfing and claimed that, "Coach Kern is literally the BEST HUMAN EVER."

Throughout the season, Yoder really enjoyed getting to know her teammates and helping them with their game. As a senior, she enjoyed being looked up to and being able to make a positive influence on the younger team members. Overall, her favorite part about playing golf is that you're trying to beat your own score. "You still want to beat your opponents, but it's more about trying to beat your personal score," Yoder stated, "I also like how it's typically a

pretty positive environment. Even your opponents cheer you along with your teammates and you really get to know the people you're playing against." One of her most memorable moments was when she accidentally hit a house while playing. She then responded, "Oops." Yoder also enjoyed all of the fun times with her teammates and growing closer to her fellow seniors, Caroline Pitts and Morgan Gyunn.

Yoder also faced struggles throughout her seasons. Her biggest struggle was getting down on herself when she didn't live up to her own standards.

"Always keep a positive attitude because if you don't, you get really down on yourself and play worse. It's a lot more fun if you just go in with a positive attitude and it will also help lift up yourself and your other teammates."

Although she struggled at times, she mentions that she would just try to stay positive and to remind herself that everyone has off days so she should keep going and have a good time! Going off of this, her advice for underclassmen and future players is, "Always keep a positive attitude because if you don't, you get really down on yourself and play worse. It's a lot more fun if you just go in with a positive attitude and it will also help lift up yourself and your other teammates. When you're negative, that energy affects everyone on the team."

Although this is only the second year that she has played golf competitively, she would go out during the summers and play with her dad. She does not plan on playing golf competitively from here on out but she "will always play golf since it's a sport you can play your whole life."

Yoder concluded her interview with: "Coach Kern is such a wonderful man and he is so dedicated to his team even with his busy life. He puts in so much work for his golfers and his spirit and attitude is amazing. He is so positive, uplifting, and overall great coach. And my teammates have been so amazing too! I loved growing closer with Caroline Pitts and Morgan Gyunn. They are great people and so fun. They really made this golf season great for me."



SENIOR SPOTLIGHT EDWARD NAGY

CLAIRE HARGIS - REPORTER

Edward Nagy is a senior this year at John Adams High School and is a four-year member of the John Adams tennis team. Nagy began playing tennis at age nine during the summer at Leeper Park and hasn't stopped playing since. He began playing tennis because it was something fun to do on summer mornings.

Edward Nagy is a captain on varsity this year, this is his third year making the varsity tennis team. He started off by playing primarily singles freshman year, then switched to playing primarily doubles his sophomore year. "Junior year I made Varsity Two playing doubles with Elliot Zyniewicz and this year, me and my partner Matthew Peterson played at Varsity One," he explained, showing both personal improvement and the growth of the players as a team. A couple of the highlights from his season this year were winning the John Glenn invitational and winning his last regular season match against New Prairie with Elliot Zyniewicz.

"There have been a lot of really good guys on the team since my freshman year, and many of them are my close friends."

One of the reasons for this success is due to the team dynamic: "there have been a lot of really good guys on the team since my freshman year, and many of them are my close friends," said Nagy. He also said that the team dynamic created by Coach Strafford is a huge part of their success and that everyone is very comfortable with each other. He also said that some of his favorite memories are from their "team nights" when the boys and the girls tennis teams get together and play under the lights.

When asked about his future in tennis Edward said that as of now he does not know if he will play competitively in college, but he hopes to continue playing recreational tennis for the rest of his life.

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARS AT ADAMS

ALICIA KOSZYK - MANAGING EDITOR

Congratulations to the John Adams National Merit semifinalists:

Ben Kolda

Renee Nerenberg

and

Logan Reimbold-Thomas

The National Merit Commended Scholars, who were recognized for their scores but did not advance toward the National Merit Scholarship, were

Zoe Gezelter,

Alec Breiler,

Payton Lewandowski,

and Kaity Radde.

