

The defending champion Adams quiz bowlers have begun the new season, and they are once again in first place. Can they repeat as national contenders? See Page 2.

Arena scheduling, long a semi-annual ritual at Adams, appears to have gone the way of the dinosaur in the computer age, and many are up in arms. Read the next issue of the Tower for elaboration.

John Adams and the entire Midwest celebrate the championship of the Chicago Bears after twenty-three long years of suffering. See the next issue for more.

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The Tower

John Adams High School

308 S. Twyckenham Drive

South Bend, IN 46615

Activities earn letter

By Julie Herr

Months and even years of hard work are finally paying off for students involved in activities such as the usher's club, band and quiz bowl. For the first time in the history of Adams High School, beginning with the 1985-86 school year, monograms and/or chevrons will be awarded in the areas of performance, service and scholarship. Athletic monograms have been awarded for many years, and although letters for service and academics had been discussed before, only for the first time this year were they seriously considered.

Many students were pleased when they heard about the new program. Commented one junior, "I've always kind of wanted a monogram sweater, but I wasn't really into any sports." "I think its a good idea and I hope other schools will try it out too," said another. Some students, however, weren't quite as enthusias-

tic. "I guess its an OK idea, but I don't think it will ever catch on the way athletic sweaters have," responded one senior who wishes to remain anonymous.

The program, which is similar to that established by Clay High School several years ago, will be based largely on the student's performance, but will also be affected by his or her responsibility and commitment, to that activity. In order to receive a monogram or a chevron in one or more of these areas, the student must be a junior or senior with a GPA of at least 2.00, and meet the criteria of each organization. Students who may be eligible include members of band, orchestra, choir, quiz bowl, flag corp, pom poms, publications staff, drama club and usher club. Although exact requirements have not yet been established, good attendance, consistent skill improvement, and few tardies are all important factors in determining a student's eligibility.

Monograms and chevrons will also be awarded in the area of scholarship. Juniors with a GPA of 3.7 or above and seniors with a GPA of 3.6 or above, will be eligible. If a student has already received an athletic monogram sweater, he will receive a chevron for each service or scholarship award earned.

Students must purchase their own sweaters, which will be available from the athletic department at a price of twenty-two dollars. In contrast to the blue monograms awarded for sports, these monograms will be white. The sweaters, however, will remain red.

All eligible students and their parents will be invited to a special awards program, similar to the sports banquets, which will probably take place during the month of April. Any further questions should be addressed to Mrs. Ellison in the guidance office.

New rules cause problem

By Tim Devetski

The curriculum and graduation requirements for John Adams' students has put the student body and certain educators up in arms many times. Last year, when pep assemblies were banned, the school lost a great amount of the spirit it had. It seems that the spirit of a school dwindles the more the administration puts restraints on the students. The freshmen of this year did not have to put up with the problem of no pep assemblies, but have had to put up with the longer school day and the new graduation requirements.

The trend for a more structured school and school system was started by our new superintendent of public instruction. The subtleties surrounding this, however, were affected by our school alone. The idea that "school is a business, and

therefore the students should dress accordingly" was put forth by Mr. Przybysz in an attempt to do away with shorts and sweats—two definite contributors to school spirit. When students dress like they are in a place of business, they usually don't have an incredible amount of school spirit.

The longer school day, although put in place by the state legislature, is now under fire by many school administrations and teachers. It seems that this would probably be the first rule to be banned now that the legislature has given school administrations the okay to authorize changes in the rules. But the fact is this will probably be the most lasting of the rules, because of our teacher's new contracts.

The new contract gives the teachers a 4% raise, but they must work a 7.5% longer day. Therefore, the school system is

actually paying them less money for a greater amount of hours. Now, when we could go back to the old schedule, the school system would not let us. They would probably give the teachers a choice between the 4% raise and the extra hours or the old pay with the old hours. The teachers would never accept less money.

The purpose of the new curriculum and graduation requirements is to increase the graduation ratio and Scholastic Aptitude Test (S.A.T.) scores of Indiana's high school students.

The popular view of the whole situation is that everyone complained before the changes and will continue to complain about any system. If this were true then Penn and Mishawaka public schools would not have gone back to the old time schedule, which they did at the beginning of this semester.

What's News

Financial Aid Forms

Financial Aid Forms (FAF) have arrived and may be picked up in Room 101. This form is a must for anyone applying to a college and requesting financial aid.

Junior Rotarian

Senior Chris Balint has been chosen to represent John Adams at the Rotarian meetings from January 22 to February 26. Chris has been active in the Adams band.

Junior Kiwanian

Ruth Hanlon, a senior, has been selected as Junior Kiwanian from John Adams from January 16 to February 20. Ruth's distinctions at Adams include being captain of the girls' swim team, vice-president of student government, and vice-president of national Honor Society.

SAT Deadline

The deadline for the March SAT is February 15. Check college information to see if achievement tests are required.

4-H program

Enrollment is being taken for the 1986 St. Joseph County 4-H Veterinary Science Program. A series of 8 meetings will be held beginning February 10. The meetings are held at 7:30 every Monday night in the Esther Singer Building at the 4-H Fairgrounds. To register call the St. Joseph County Extension Office at 284-9604.



We've got some difficult days ahead, but it doesn't matter with me now. Because I've been to the mountain top...like anybody, I would like to live a long life; longevity has its advantages. But I'm not concerned about that now. I just want to do God's will. And he's allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I've seen the promised land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know...that we as a people will get to the promised land.

—Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.,

Memphis, Tennessee, April 3, 1968 Dan Carter/Tower

Infamous yellow books are keys to classics

By Holly Lindberg

What is one quick and easy way to review for a colossal test on a great work of art? They are not allowed in English classes, yet they can limit the necessity of distracting note-taking. They are, to most students, the infamous yellow books with the black stripes - Cliff Notes!

Cliff Notes are available for hundreds of famous works. A few include *The Odyssey*, *MacBeth*, *Scarlet Letter*, *Diving Comedy*, and *Wuthering Heights*. "This is impossible! I'll never be able to get through this book!" some students may desperately claim, but Cliff Notes are here to help. "They are intended as a supplementary aid to serious students..." and they "present a clear discussion of the action and thought of the work..." When students use these Notes, however, many use them as a substitute for the text. Not only does this upset other, more serious students, but it also does not allow the individual to make his or her own interpretation of the literary work. The students often miss out on the importance of a renowned author's style, prose, and underlying idea that the Notes can not always point out or interpret. Also, if Cliffs Notes are not used properly, or if they are used merely as a substitute, it could show

up when it comes to test scores and guilty feelings. A few lucky students may not get caught, but, hopefully, it will catch up with them in the future.

Cliff Notes offer a great deal more to students who are serious about their education and learning of great literary works. Besides aiding in reviewing for tests, these Notes contribute deeper understandings and logical explanations of such works as *Frankenstein*, *Tale of Two Cities*, and *Tom Sawyer*.

But what kind of review material do they provide for tests? To begin with, the Cliffs Notes for novels and books, contain a biography of the author and an introduction to the work. This includes the thesis and the author's purpose for writing his or her material. This is followed by an introduction to the characters and a brief description of the role they play. Next, usually a brief synopsis is included to set the scene and capture the theme. Then, chapter by chapter, or book by book, a summary and commentary explain the details, interpret quotations and settings, and tell the story. Near the end, brief analyses summarize the characters' emotions and overall actions throughout the work. Lastly, a time line may also be included to set the dates and point out "Several things about the novel that deserve attention."

Cliffs also has published test preparation guides for the ACT, SAT, PSAT, etc. Guidance counselors and

teachers recommend these Notes for complete information "that is not overwhelming."

Cliffs Bilingual Book Series is available for those interested in learning foreign languages. Chinese, Spanish, French, Italian, Norwegian, and even "ingles en 10 minutos al dia" are being offered in Hallmark's campus bookstores. Two other series that Cliffs has provided are the Complete Study Editions and the Speech and Hearing Series.

The price varies on the Cliff Notes, but the range usually begins at \$1.50 and gradually builds up to the more expensive editions, such as the test preparation guides.

The "key to the classics," the infamous yellow books with the black stripes, are available for teacher and students use. Cliffs Notes can cut down on taking class notes, offer deeper and better understanding to the classic literary works, and help review for the tests and quizzes. With all of the valuable information they include, students can improve their grades if they apply themselves and then use the Notes properly. Just remember, these Notes are not to be used as a substitute for the text, and they are prohibited in English class to prevent this from happening. But, when it is time for *Don Quixote*, *Little Women*, or *The Illiad*, it is time for assistance from Cliffs Notes.

Quiz Bowlers aim for Miami Nationals

By Jerry Manier

School spirit, for the most part, is directed toward athletic endeavour. And with good reason; pride for our school is seldom more aroused than when an underdog Adams football team toughs out its best season in years. Yet Adams students will doubtless soon have another reason to be proud of their school, for the Quiz Bowl season is once more upon us. The prospects appear to be good for an Adams team that enters this season as defending champions of the local High School Quiz Bowl tournament and after a respectable showing last year in the national championship tournament in Dallas, Texas, where the Eagle team went up against fifty of the nation's finest teams from thirty-eight states.

High School Quiz Bowl is patterned after College Quiz Bowl, and each match places teams of outstanding students from two high schools in a head-to-head contest with questions that challenge students' knowledge, wit, and skill in the game. The questions are divided into eight fields which represent a wide spectrum of areas of interest. This year, the questions have been compiled into a base of five thousand by more than one hundred teachers.

The teachers who were in charge of Adams' outstanding performance last year remain involved

with the program in 1986; Mr. Lantz is the team's director, and Mr. Niemier and Miss Schymanski do the part of coaching the players. Judging from the extremely exceptional team that emerged last year for Adams, all of our encouragements go out to these teachers in hopes of another excellent year.

As last year, Channel 3 on Heritage Cablevision will carry one Quiz Bowl match a week throughout the season. WNDU will also again broadcast some tournament meets and the championship event this year. The Quiz Bowl represents a rare opportunity for academically talented students to gain both personal recognition and prestige for their schools.

Though the basic rules of the game remain the same from 1985, there have been some important changes in the format of area play for 1986. To start with, the number of participating teams has increased by four from last year. In addition to LaSalle, Clay, Riley, Washington, and Adams high schools, New Prairie, Mishawaka, Marion, and St. Joseph high schools have been added to the roster of local competitors. Last year, a total of twenty regular season matches were played, along with three tournament meets and a championship event. This year, in accordance with the greater number of teams, each of the nine schools will play eight games, one against each of the other teams.



Quiz Bowl members [Steven Chen, Jeff North, Don Marti, Richard Primus, and Ann Belts] can't help laughing while rehearsing their new rap song "The Quiz Bowl Shuffle." Michele Ault/Tower

Dr. Martin Luther King deserving of holiday

Three hundred and sixty-six years after 20 Blacks landed at Jamestown, 122 years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation, and 31 years after the Supreme Court banned segregation, the United States of America - North and South, Black, Brown and White - will stop for 24 hours to honor the memory and the light of a Black American.

... This astonishing recognition of Black initiative and leadership would have been inconceivable a few years ago, and it marks a great divide in the relationship between Black and White Americans. For on King Day, Americans of all races, backgrounds and political persuasions, segregationists as well as integrationists, will be forced to take official notice not

only of Martin Luther King, Jr. but also of the maids, the sharecroppers, the students and the Rosa Parks who made him what he was.

There is irony - and truth - in this. For King and his nonviolent army gave America a new birth of freedom. They banished the Jim Crow signs, browned American politics, and transformed the student movement, the women's movement and the church. And all Americans are indebted to King and the nonviolent liberators who broke into American history like beneficent burglars, bringing with them the gifts of vision, passion, and truth. It can be argued, in fact, that King freed more White people than Black people.

This, then, is a national holiday

with national implications. And we are called, in and through the holiday, to the national task of continuing the struggle for the fulfillment of King's hope.

... It is on this deep level, and in the context of personal responsibilities, that the King holiday assumes its true meaning. For it is not enough to celebrate King; it is necessary also to vindicate him by letting his light shine in our own lives. ... The question before us in this holiday season is what are we doing and what are we prepared to do to ensure that King did not dream and die in vain. ... We are challenged to remember one of his greatest legacies, hope. For he never gave up hope. He never ceased to believe that the Dream and the dreamers would prevail.

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An old tradition moves indoors

By Matt Kelly

Are you too small to play Varsity basketball or tired of the swim team's early morning practices? Are you unable to skate and thus incapable of playing ice hockey? Are the chilling winds and expensive lift-tickets at Swiss Valley beginning to get to you? Your answer to these questions might be "Yes", but how else can one let off all the tension and stress of school? Why not try blasting an oversized tennis ball into the net and watching it ripple. No, I'm not talking about the miss-hit overhand smash in tennis. I'm

talking about a powerful instep drive resulting in a goal for your indoor soccer team.

Indoor soccer: the new, exciting fast-paced, game is played in gymnasiums with five players to a team including goal keepers. There are no practices and games are on the weekends at South Bend Turners, the Mishawaka and South Bend YMCA. (And yes, there are girls leagues.)

"It (indoor soccer) is like the outdoor game of soccer accelerated two times," says Karl Roemer. "It is fast-paced and exciting - that's why many Americans like it more and more."

And for you unskilled players

out there, have no fear. With a little hustle and determination, everyone does well. "Indoor soccer, relatively unskilled players can look good. They can use the walls as something to pass of to and they get three and four chances to do the right thing whereas in outdoor soccer they might only get one."

Indoor soccer also helps the individual skills of all players. "The game is so much faster than outdoor that you have to react twice as fast. It helps players anticipation and skills," says Joey Loux, indoor soccer superstar.

"I'm having a blast," says Michael Trott, "indoor soccer

is fun, fast and so exciting. The team I'm on is undefeated so that makes it a lot more fun. "The Turner's High School league consists of fourteen teams with no more than two varsity players of the same high school per team."

"This rule is useful," says Kevin Max, "That way all the skill isn't on one team." He continues, "indoor soccer is outdoor soccer concentrated in a small gym; that makes it more of a spectator sport."

Jenny White also likes indoor soccer: "I like soccer because you can keep your skills all year around."

Spectators find indoor soccer exciting. "I watched my

first game Saturday," remarks junior Guy Hamilton. "I was surprised at how fast paced the game was."

Fast-paced, indeed, and high scoring as well. "Almost everybody scores," explains Joey Loux, "that's what makes the game highscoring and a benefit to everyone."

"Indoor soccer gives me a chance to meet people from other schools," says Lee Traugher, a junior.

Indoor soccer helps many people during the off season. "I can stay in shape during the off season because indoors I am to go 100% at all times."

Indoor Soccer: Experience it.

On "Bearing" down and basketball

By P.H. Mullen

The week before Superbowl XX, the hype was incredible. Bears paraphernalia swept the Midwest, and everyone from kindergarten on up was suddenly a true-blue Bears fan. Little kids can list the number of tackles each player has made, and I've seen grown men wearing Bear snow hats (you know, the kind with the tassles and Bear insignia) while they shovel snow. One such character swore that he'd been "a Bear fan all his life". Sure buddy. Before this season he probably thought that the name Ditka was some kind of profanity.

I have a seven year old brother who is caught up in the Bear craze along with all his classmates. He goes to a strict religious school and recently when he gets in trouble, he comes home and tells my

mother to relax because, in his words, "Jim McMahon was the same way when he went to a religious school (BYU) and look how famous he is now." Perfect role model.

A few days before the Superbowl, I took a survey on who Adams students thought would win the game. The results were pretty much as I expected. 89% thought the Bears would win, and 9% thought the Patriots would win. But what about the one percent? Well, there always has to be a comedian. Mike Trott claimed that somehow the Miami Dolphins would win the Superbowl. Or at least they **should** have. Tell you what Mike, you get on the cover, and I promise to bet on the Dolphins all next year.

But stop and think for a second. The game is now over, the pretzels are gone, the beer is stale, and everyone is rational

again. Just what exactly comes to mind when you compare the two teams? Their names can conjure up some interesting visions. Chicago: "Hog Butcher Capital of the World". Fine if they were playing the Redskins. New England: The birth place of Independence and of America. Patriots: "America, home of the free and the brave." Strong men ready to die for others' liberty. Bears: Let's face it, the bear is the national symbol for one of the two superpower countries—and it's not America. Hmmm.

But then again, everyone knows where the Fridge lives; Foxboro is a little hick town wedged somewhere between Rhode Island and Boston.

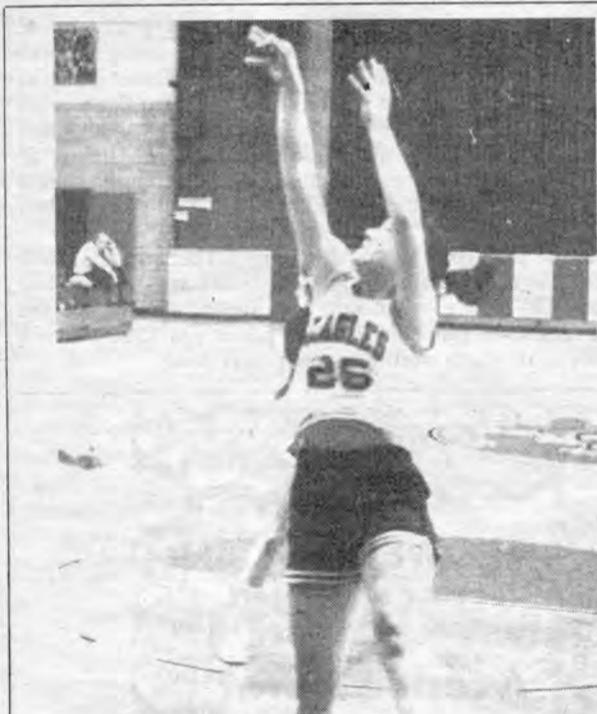
There has been a noticeable drop in attendance at home basketball games this season. Apparently, it is because the

student body believes it has to sit quietly in bleachers instead of standing up and cheering. Actually, this isn't true. We're able to stand up and cheer...just as long as we sit right back down and behave ourselves.

Well that sounds fun.

The reason behind this (so to speak) is because the boosters sitting in back of us are unable to see the game when we stand. The simple solution is to have the boosters move up higher so they can see and we can enjoy the game. That's the whole reason we go to the games—to enjoy ourselves.

But whoever restricted the student body to the bleachers? I can see no problem in standing in the seats above the mezzanine. That way our boosters could see and the student body could be much wilder and more supportive. It would be interesting to see if the attendance would pick up.



Senior Terri Landen executes a layup. Score!

Michele Ault/Tower

Athletic Shorts

Seagles

The boys swim team is finishing up its most disappointing season in three years. Under first year coach Mary Cooper, the team has only managed a 2-10 record with one meet remaining. The poor season is due mainly to lack of a large team, and individual performances have been good. P.H. Mullen has a 20-0 record, Pat Brothers, Jeff Terlep and Larry Piser have a chance at qualifying for state, and great improvements were made by Paul Ford, Tom Olson, and Rusty Cobb. The Seagles face Clay here next Thursday.

Boys' Basketball

The boys varsity basketball team fell to 6-5 overall after last week's loss to ninth ranked Michigan City Elston. Seniors Ron Chrobot and Jeff Mitchell have consistently led the team in scoring most of the games. They will be counted on heavily in tonight's NIC battle with Elkhart Central. The game is at Adams and will begin around 7:30.



Showing his enthusiasm for upcoming Sectionals, P.H. Mullen glued his goggles to his face!

Guy Hamilton/Tower

The Tower

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