

# THE TOWER

John Adams High School 808 S. Twyckenham Drive  
South Bend, IN 46615

## Longenecker earns Adams Teacher of the Year Award

by Lisa Primus

Mr. Longenecker has been bringing a steady flow of awards back to John Adams for twenty years. Now, Adams is giving one to him. On March 20, Mr. Longenecker became the school's Teacher of the Year.

The winner of the award is chosen on the basis of several criteria including ability to inspire students, willingness to devote time to improving instruction of students, and desire to implement new methods of teaching.

"Some teachers work over and beyond the norm," said Mr. Przybysz. "I think he is one."

Mr. Longenecker's record definitely agrees. He teaches regular and honors biology, both classes primarily for freshmen and sophomores, and a research class for advanced juniors and seniors. Though he earned his M.S.'s in natural science and biology teaching many years ago, he continues to read new reports and to attend biology conferences to keep up with his ever-changing field. Then he takes his new information and implements it in innovative, interesting ways.

"He really knows what he's talking about," says freshman Susan Smith. "Yet he makes it at a level you can understand."

As the teacher of the research biology course, he helps several students every year to research their topics of interest, perform well-prepared experiments, and present their work to various organizations. This involves keeping up to date with everything from new advances in cholesterol-reducing drugs to the effects of sleeplessness.

"I just don't know how he does it," says one former science research student.

Mr. Longenecker's merits as an instructor extend beyond what the average Adams student sees. He has co-authored ten research articles and acted as an educational consultant for a high school biology textbook. He has also made many presentations for the National Association of Biology Teachers and the Hoosier Association of Science Teachers, Inc.

To fulfill this role, Mr. Longenecker tries hard to find new teaching ideas and to make the ones he has available to other teachers. He has published several articles on teaching techniques and interesting labs and even co-authored a lab manual for high school biology. His booklet "A Guide to High School Research," which outlines Adams' research program and gives suggestions to other teachers who want to run research programs, has been requested by teachers all over the United States, as has his honor's biology course study.

"It never ceases to amaze me," says Mr. Przybysz. "It's phenomenal."



Mr. Longenecker reads new reports to keep up with his ever-changing field. File Photo/Tower

With a record like his, it is no surprise that Mr. Longenecker is no stranger to awards. In 1980 he was the A.B.T.A. Outstanding Biology Teacher of Indiana. Notre Dame and Indiana University have both recognized him for his research, and Indiana Science Education Fund, Inc. named him an Outstanding Science Teacher in 1981, 1982, and 1983. In 1984 he won the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science for Indiana. Two years ago, Mr. Longenecker won a Presidential Award for Excellence in Science Teaching and the \$5,000 associated grant. The list goes on and on.

Regardless of how well Mr. Longenecker does in these competitions, he has already proven himself an outstanding teacher.

According to his Presidential Award application, Mr. Longenecker believes that, "What the science student of the 1980s desires, and demands, is for a science program to be exciting, personally involving, and relative to the times." Mr. Longenecker is giving his students exactly that.

## Stante goes international

by Holly Lindberg

Once again, Adams High School's student researchers mastered the science department and swept the majority of the top honors at the Northern Indiana Regional Science Fair held at Notre Dame. In fact, three of the four top awards were presented to students from Adams.

Julie Stante was one of the two winners of the Bendix Award which is a trip to the International Science and Engineering Fair in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Julie's research project is titled "The Effects of Imposed Stress Due to Sleeplessness on the Immune Response of Lab Mice." Julie was also awarded special honors from the U.S. Air Force, U.S. Army, U.S. Marine Corps, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Ted Scheel and Betsy Furlong were the two runners-up to the Bendix Award. They will participate in the State Science Fair as well as Julie on April 23rd-25th. Ted's project is titled "The Possible Prolonged Enhancement of Physiological Processes with Vitamin-Mineral Supplementation Following Strenuous Exercise." Ted was also a recipient of a special award from the U.S. Navy and will attend the American Lung Association Convention on April 10th in Indianapolis. Betsy's research, "An Investigation of the Effects on Aging on Active Transport" also brought her recognition from the U.S. Air Force.

At the State Science Fair seventy-two projects will be competing for awards, and two out of the twenty-four students who qualify for the trip to San Juan will be chosen to travel to the International Science Fair May 11th-15th. In San Juan over 600 projects will be displayed from at least ten different countries including Communist China!

Guy Hamilton, Matt Beem, Melanie Masin, and Todd Fader were also recipients of several top awards at the Regional Science Fair. Guy Hamilton, in his third year of research, was presented with awards from the American Society of Microbiology, the U.S. Air Force, the U.S. Army, and the U.S. Navy. His project this year was entitled "The Roles of Diet and Antibiotic Therapy on the Reproduction and Dissemination of *Candida albicans*." He will also travel to Indianapolis for the American Lung Association with Ted. Matt Beem with his project, "An Evaluation of the Effectiveness of Different Types of Passive Air Filters; Implications for Respiratory Health" was recognized with a special award from Notre Dame's College of Engineering. Melanie Masin received honors from Saint Mary's College and was presented with the Dineen Award; from the U.S. Air Force; and from the U.S. Marine Corps. Todd Fader also received an award from the Indiana Aerospace Education Council with his project.

Congratulations to these students and good luck in your continuing research!

Volunteers are still  
needed for the Special  
Olympics. Turn to page 2  
to find out how to help!

## What's News

### Governor's Award

Richard Primus has been selected as a 1987 Indiana Academic All-Star. He will be recognized, along with 40 other All-Stars from around the state on April 25 at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Indianapolis.

### Health Students Win Awards

Health Occupations Students of America, held their Annual state competitive events in Indianapolis on Friday 3/20 and Sat. 3/21. Students from Adams competing in the events were:

Dawne Stainer  
Martha Sternitzke  
Rebecca Wood  
Brad Becker

Students placing in the top ten in events entered were:

Brad Becker  
-1st in Poster Competition (art) from 73 entries.  
-Bead was a member of the HOSA-Bowl team that finished 6th from a field of 21 state teams entered.  
-Brad was also 4th in the medical terminology contest.

Dawn Stainer placed 4th in the Poster event. Rebecca Wood finished in the top ten in CPR and First-Aid.

### New Staff

Cathy Fedder - I.S.S.  
Karen Tomak - Pom Pon Sponsor  
Phil Loranger - Frosh Baseball Coach  
William Alyea - Social Studies Department Chairman

### Adam's Eve

Throughout the 1986-1987 school year the John Adams Drama Club has been especially active. This year, Drama Club, Choir, and Orchestra decided to do something different; henceforth, the birth of "Adam's Eve." "Adam's Eve" is a collection of acts by students, varying from a violin solo to string quartet, vocal solos to novelties, a poem reading to duets, and a dance to an ensemble. In all, the students have created sixteen acts.

For those people interested in seeing history in the making, the first production of "Adam's Eve" will take place in the auditorium at 7:30 P.M. on April 24th and the 25th. Let's support John Adams' newest creation.

### Album Staff Chosen

The 87-88 Album staff has been chosen and positions have been assigned. The editors-in-chief will be Rita Deranek and Becky Wolfe. Marta Roemer and Heather Hedman will be the Student Life Editors.

The Fac-N-Ac section will be covered by John Anella and Sue Naffziger, the Club section by Stace Burnside, Charlotte Austgen and Rod Anadon. The Sports Editors will be Mary Loranger and Pete Tulchinsky, and the assistants will be Jim Cowen, Mike Komalinski, and Trisha Davis.

The Senior section will be given to MC Patton and Keri Cook, the Juniors to Shelley Biggs and Andrea Wong, the Sophomores to Amy Eslinger and Ellen McDonald, and the Freshmen to Ann Buzalski and Kathy Staton.

Rivka Medow will be in charge of the Ads, with Amy Golden, Sarah Szumski, and Rob DeCleene as assistants.

# Special Olympics is a time for heroes

by Jim Cowen

South Bend is generally not a town that attracts a large number of visitors in the summer. But when every hotel within fifty miles is booked solid in February for a week that is months away, the event must be big.

The "big event" is the Special Olympics. South Bend has been chosen as the site for the 1987 International Summer Special Olympic Games.

With all 50 states, 65 countries, and 4 territories being represented, the games have been predicted as the biggest single event in South Bend's history. Visiting countries will include France, Brazil, Canada, England, Spain, and Japan. More than 4,000 athletes are expected to show.

The athletes will be competing in events such as basketball, softball, soccer, volleyball, and aquatics. Demonstration sports including cycling, equestrian, roller skating, tennis, and weight-lifting will also be offered.

With the large number of people involved, the games will require an enormous number of volunteers. Going by the slogan "A Time for Heroes," the Special Olympics is hoping to receive over 15,000 volunteer applications for areas including all of the sporting events,

souvenir sales, publications, and photography. Other needed positions are ushers, drivers, physicians, errand runners, clean-up crews, and food servers.

Many local companies, organizations, churches, and schools have volunteered time, money, and services.

Washington High School's DECA program has already raised some \$2,000 for the Olympics. The high school is now considered a "bronze patron" of the program.

Here at John Adams, the Student Government has formed a committee to encourage participation in the Olympics and collect applications. Headed by junior Ursula Emery, the committee has collected over 125 applications from JAHS students.

Two committee members who request anonymity commented, "Serving under Ursula has been a breathtaking experience. The fire in her eyes when she called us out at that meeting sent chills down our spines!"

(Any student who has not yet filled out an application and still wishes to so should contact Ursula Emery and turn it in at the office in Mrs. Flowers' mailbox.)

It's been said that the purpose of Special Olympics is to educate the general public as to what can be done

## 1987 SUMMER GAMES



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SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE

through the Special Olympics movement plus other programs for these "special" people so as to provide them with dignity, self-confidence, and the ability to succeed at something, hoping to dispell the many myths about the mentally and physically

handicapped people. Through the drawing power of the University of Notre Dame, the outstanding public support, and the determination of the athletes, the Special Olympics hopes to achieve this goal.



Ida and Lisa Primus, Molly Duman, and Liz Panzica, members of the Adams Future Problem Solving Team, brainstorm for solutions to the world's water problems. They compete with other Problem Solving Teams in the state to find the best solutions to problems of today's and tomorrow's world.

Steve Hartman/Tower

## Peer Ministry Works

by Joe Roman

Peer Ministry is a "youth outreach" program for teens. Students from different high schools, such as Adams, Clay, St. Joseph, Mishawaka and Penn, participate. It involves opportunities for growth in faith, community building, and for leadership training.

The group meets every Sunday evening for two and a half hours from 4:30 P.M. to 7 P.M. It is conducted by three adult youth ministers, and nine students participate. We use a manual entitled "A Chance to Serve" by Brian Reynolds. The program consists of eighteen mods covering subjects such as values, identity, moral decision making,

ministry, and group dynamics. The group also goes on retreats to get to know each other better and to devote more time to the program topics. It is a fun way to meet people from other schools, to form new friendships, and to learn more about oneself.

When I went in January, I was very nervous and shy because I didn't know what Peer Ministry was all about. After a while I became more involved with the peer ministers and the subject matter. After the first retreat, I realized I had learned some very important lessons; how to relate to others' problems and to understand myself better.

If you're interested in becoming peer ministers, contact me and I can tell you more about the program. GO FOR IT!

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# Guys basketball goes to state...sort of

by Peter Tulchinsky

On Saturday, March 28 our Adams basketball team went to the Indiana state basketball finals. It was the first time that I had seen the finals and it was a great experience. This is how I spent that Saturday.

6:00 A.M.- Today will be a long day, longer than the most boring school days. I'm waking up earlier than usual so we can get to school and pick everyone up in time. I didn't know it was so dark at this time. I'm not a morning person.

7:00 A.M.- Four other teammates are riding with my father and me to Indianapolis. The drive down south is always boring, but the anticipation of seeing four of the best teams in Indiana seem to add a little excitement.

8:30 A.M.- We stopped in Kokomo for breakfast. As soon as we walked in, the rest of the team joined us. Standing in line, the lady behind the counter asked a teammate where we were going. He replied that we were going to the state finals. She wished us good luck. "I wish."

10:00 A.M.- Finally, we arrived at Market Square Arena, where the games are played. The first game pitted the #1 team in the state, the Marion Giants against the Bedford Stars. Marion was seeking its third straight title.

The second game had the Richmond Red Devils versus the Gary Roosevelt Panthers. Fans from the schools were outside trying to find extra tickets, but the prices were over \$50 for the afternoon and evening sessions. A state championship has its price.

11:00 A.M.- The first game started. Marion won but not without a fight from Bedford. The Marion fans are incredible. There were at least five thousand of them, all wearing the school colors of purple and gold. They cheer if anything goes right for their team, and cause quite a stir if something goes against them. Across the arena was a mass of red. The Bedford and Richmond fans sat there. They weren't quite as boisterous, but they could put any South Bend team to shame. In the east corner of the complex sat the Roosevelt followers. They were a mass of black and gold, rocking back and forth to the beat supplied by their cheerleaders. One thing about a game involving Gary, it's never sleep-inducing. The rhythm supplied by the cheering section could put the best gospel choir to shame.

12:45 P.M.- Richmond was the victor in the second game, but a few moments from the Gary section will not be forgotten, like the time a Gary cheerleader

jumped so high to do a flip she scared the official by almost rising over his head. One cheer has the girls sing one part and the boys sing another.

3:00 P.M.- With the games ended for the afternoon and five hours until the final, my dad and I walked through downtown Indianapolis. It isn't your everyday metropolis. The streets aren't very busy and there aren't a lot of bums sitting on benches. We saw the Hoosier Dome, went to a new mall, and ate at a nice little deli. The cheesecake was great.

6:10 P.M.- My legs were exhausted, so I began walking back to our van. I asked a woman in a Marion shirt, the time. In her southern Indiana accent she drawled, "It's teen affder seex," meaning ten after six (I guess).

9:45 P.M.- Marion won their third consecutive title and the Adams' basketball team sat in awe. One day... The drive for our title began with our drive home. It would be a trip that centered on the games. I missed most of the discussion; I was asleep fifteen minutes outside Indianapolis.

12:30 A.M.- My dad woke me up in time to carry the cooler in the house. My day had ended the same way it began 18 and one-half hours ago, half asleep. It had been a long day, but one I won't soon forget.



Seniors Ricardo Fallon and Joe Loux attempt to rob their Munster opponent of the ball in last Friday's game at Clay field. The Eagles defeated the Mustangs 3-1 and went on to put away Plymouth by the same score Tuesday. Tonight the 2-0 Eagles travel to Elkhart Memorial.

Tristine Perkins/Tower

# Track teams prepare for a promising season

by Gabrielle Mickels

If talent and determination are the name of the game, the boys and girls track teams should clean up in this year's competition.

Under the guidance of Coach Randy Issacson, the girls' team has been growing in number and ability since last year's season. With last year's freshmen Kasi Bolden, Jenny Wolosin and Cathy Cane, plus runners Terrie Forest, Shanda McDonald, and Shelly Biggs. The team finished well in important meets and set a strong base for this year's team. Sophomore Tammy Stroh commented, "The team was pretty good last year. Hopefully we will be even better this season."

Alongside this base set last year, new members were added to make the team even tougher. New freshmen include Jenny Wilegas, Sue Austgen, and Wendy Biggs, to name a few. In addition to these freshmen, new girls came out for the team, including junior Charlotte Austgen, sophomores Christine Yarger, Angela Davis and Gina Kelly.

Outside of practice speculations are made concerning how well the team will do this year. Sophomore Christine Yarger stopped to mention, "I think we will have to work extra hard in the meets if we want to succeed, but all in all, we're going to be really successful."

Coach Hamilton and Newhouse have a good season to look forward to in their

1987 boys' track team. With senior achiever Jevon Williams, who was chosen All-American Athlete last year, and rookie Bernard Williams, the team should display its talent in the season to come.

Despite the loss of valuable seniors and their disappointing place in the South Bend City Classic at Notre Dame, the team has even more to look forward to than before. The 4x3 lap relay team, featuring Adam Bauer, Prescott Woodard, Lance Harris, and Jevon Williams finished 1st in their heat and helped add up the well-needed points in the Classic.

Alongside the performance by the relay team, recognition of new member Bernard Williams was established. In the

2-mile, Bernard finished 3rd in his heat and 8th in the finals proving he has the basics necessary for an excellent runner.

The Distance team shows promise for this season's meets with runners Scott Scheel, John Shear, Brad Helmkamp, Shawn Peters and David Colby all putting their best effort forward. Sophomore Scott Scheel commented on the distance team by saying, "We should be tough in the Mile and 1/2 Mile if we continue to work hard."

Outside of running, field event members should prove their talent this season with junior Brian Max, and sophomores Darren Stante and Steve Frye doing their best to add up the points.

# Adams golf aims at conference championship



Kevin Kaeppler practices his stroke keeping his eyes on the ball and his hopes on winning the Kaeppler Invitational.

by Martin McNarney

As April rolls around, so do the sounds of spring. Birds chirping, children playing, bees buzzing, and curses heard miles away. Those curses belong to the Adams' Golf team as the team prepares to meet the competition.

The outlook is promising. The team is headed by second year coach Jerry Flanagon. Although only in his second year at Adams, Flanagon is a seasoned veteran. Many students may know Mr. Flanagon as the middle-aged substitute teacher who gives his "life" lectures. He has had sectional, regional, and state champs. "The only goal that has evaded me is a conference championship," Flanagon says. "I hope to accomplish that here at Adams."

The Eagles are led by junior captain Steve Ziolkowski. It is rumored that Ziolkowski holds the record for the farthest ball hit

with a putter. He is followed by Joe Dennen and Kevin Kaeppler, Matt Brookshine, known as the "King of Cool," because he never loses his temper, follows them. Then come the typical seniors, Jim Hirsh and Scott Lanier. Well...they're seniors (enough said!) They are followed by John Fetter, Martin Mc Narney, and the long-ball hitter Jim Richey.

The team's biggest problems might occur in the first match with M.C. Elston and Clay. "If we can beat Elston and Clay, we'll be in the driver's seat," said Flanagon. "Our first three guys will be okay. If some comes around at the 4th and 5th slot, our lineup will be solidified," he continues.

"I think Steve, Kevin, and I can play with anyone," claimed Dennen, an all-conference performer as a freshman. "If we worry about ourselves, look only at the

next match, and play well, winning will take care of itself," added Steve Ziolkowski.

The team's main goals are to win the conference, the Kaeppler Invitational, and the sectional. "More than anything, I want to win the Kaeppler," said Kevin Kaeppler. The tournament is named after his grandfather.

"If our fourth and fifth men come through, there's no reason we can't kick some %#\$," said Dennen.

"I think that it will help us that we play a lot of home," explains Flanagon. "We have good people behind the varsity and if the varsity doesn't perform, someone else will take their spot," added Flanagon. The ultimate goal; "STATE!" said Joe Dennen.

If Dennen, Kaeppler, and Ziolkowski all play well, then the key will be 4th and 5th men. If they come through then nothing will stand in the way of the J.A. golf team.

# Merit scholarships promote wrong ideals

by Tess Harrington

When filling out college applications, some students find that they are eligible for merit scholarships--grants to students based not on need, but on previous academic records. Many of these scholarships are based on the Scholastic Aptitude Test, class rank, or grade point average, and all are given regardless of the economic capabilities of the student and his family. Such competition for top students, engaged in by virtually all institutions except the Ivy League and a tiny handful of highly selective colleges, amounts to little more than bribery. Colleges and universities should not offer these merit scholarships.

Although these scholarships seem to offer welcome recognition for outstanding students, they are actually used by colleges to bribe good students to choose their

institution. Jack may choose Carleton over Dartmouth if Carleton offers him \$1,000.00 flat, without reference to his family's financial standing, just because he scored well on his PSATs. The awarding of these scholarships is then used to promote the college. The college claims that since merit scholars attend, the college is made up of good, strong, students.

Such competition for top students takes money, and the money for merit scholarships must come from resources within the college. Merit scholarships deplete funds that could be used to enhance the college's academic programs and benefit all students. Buildings could be built, equipment purchased, books supplied, lectures funded, and faculty salaries raised. With the hundreds of thousands of dollars given away as merit scholarships at some colleges, every student on campus, and future students who will attend, could benefit from new programs and equipment.

In addition, merit scholarships take away money from the total pool of funds colleges can give for financial aid. With government financial aid programs low on funds, many students turn to the individual college or university for financial help. Without this aid, students may have huge debts to pay off, and they may not be able to attend the colleges of their choice, or any college at all. Merit scholarships are not need-based, and therefore money is often granted to those who do not need it, and taken away from those who do.

Merit scholarships are unfair and steal from other students. Colleges use them to bribe top-scoring students to enroll, and then use the students to promote the college. Merit scholarships use money that could be used for programs to benefit other students. And most importantly, merit scholarships grant money even to wealthy students who do not need financial assistance, and steal from the poor students who do.

# Newest album from U2 shows band's progress

by Jeremy Manier

For the sixties, it was the Beatles. For the seventies, some say it was the Rolling Stones, some say the Eagles. But, according to magazines like **Musician** and **Rolling Stone**, U2 is the single most outstanding and dominant band of the eighties. Since they first gained widespread notice and acceptance with previous songs such as "I Will Follow," "New Years Day," and "Sunday Bloody Sunday," U2 has kept putting out more great material, characterized by their latest album before 1987, "The Unforgettable Fire." On March 23, U2 further secured their place in the annals of music with the release of their new album, "The Joshua Tree." In the album's first week in stores, it has jumped directly to number seven on the Billboard album chart, a showing unparalleled by any other album now on the chart, nor many others in the chart's history.

The members of the Irish rock band are: Bono on voice, The Edge on guitar, Adam Clayton on bass, and Larry Mullen Jr. on drums. The album was produced by Daniel Lanois and Brian Eno. Eno, who produced U2's previous album, has worked in the past with such performers as Roxy

Music, Robert Fripp, and Talking Heads. In addition to his producing role, Eno characteristically involved himself even more deeply in the making of the album, singing backing vocals along with the Edge and playing keyboards. Much, if not most of Eno's past work can only be described as weird, and I honestly can't fully approve of his involvement with a band whose sound in the past has been relatively straightforward and simple, with a few keyboards thrown in for more depth. The problem with Eno is that, at times, it didn't seem as though the group I was listening to was really U2. For example, the beginning of the album's first song, "Where The Streets Have No Name," is a wash of subtly changing chords on synthesizer before The Edge and the rest of the band infiltrate themselves into the sound. The overall effect is not disagreeable, but on the whole I would rather see Eno infiltrate himself more into U2's sound and not vice versa.

Even the mildly distracting tinkering of Brian Eno, however, can't draw attention away from U2's unique style. Throughout the album, Bono shows some of the best singing I've heard from U2 or any other band. The range and individuality of his voice have reached a new high on "The



U2 is, from left to right, Larry Mullen Jr, drums, Bono, vocals, Adam Clayton, bass, and The Edge, guitar. Tristine Perkins/Tower

Joshua Tree," and his growth from earlier days is perhaps one of the most striking things about the album.

Though it may be simple, The Edge's guitar style is consistently alluring. He, Clayton, and Mullen still play very simple riffs and rhythms, but ultimately that leads to a greater freedom to build on the structure of songs and gives them more effect when things do change, such as on the first song to be released from the album, "With Or Without You."

Something important about the album, almost as vital to note as Bono's achievements on voice, is

the subject matter of the songs. In the past, U2 has sung of relatively lofty themes and sent a message of protest, most notably on songs such as "Sunday Bloody Sunday." Though it would be difficult for any album which sports addresses for Amnesty International on the inner sleeve, as this album does, not to be just a little rebellious, on "The Joshua Tree," U2 approaches the problem somewhat uniquely. There is not a lyric on the album which is as obviously restless as those in earlier efforts from the band, yet one gets the distinct message of dissatisfaction in

listening to the words. The reason for this subtle difference is that Bono is singing about themes more close to home now; personal songs, songs about society and working class people in "Red Hill Mining Town." The effect is an album that should be more accessible to the public than some things U2 has done before, without losing any of the integrity the band has developed up to this point. Bearing this in mind, it should be easy to forecast where "The Joshua Tree" will go from number seven on the charts, and it couldn't happen to a nicer album.

# Mixed relationships are source for racism

by Julia Mudis

Recently, I have become aware of a destructive force alive and strong in today's society. I thought racial prejudice was nearly dead in this day and age; something only a few narrow-minded people kept alive. I guess I simply haven't paid much attention to the issue in the past. This year, however, my eyes have been opened to the problem.

I found it very disheartening to learn that the Ku Klux Klan is still active in parts of the U.S. This great country, which is noted for its many advances, is being disgraced by a high number of

people who are adhering to a backward idea that has no place in modern times. I realize a great deal has already been written on the subject of prejudice, but I don't think there can ever be too much as long as stubborn minds have not accepted the truth; all men are equal whether they are black, white, yellow, green, pink, or purple.

I find it difficult to understand the problem many people have accepting mixed relationships. Certainly not all, but many parents and teen-agers consider these relationships "wrong." I would be amazed if any one of these racist people could provide

an intelligible explanation of what exactly is "wrong" with mixed relationships. I have no problem accepting such relationships. The problem I have is with the detrimental prejudice existing within American society.

Human beings are all composed alike regardless of race, color, or creed. Their blood, bones, and organs are interchangeable. A baby with one black parent and one white is no more likely to have genetic problems than a baby with two parents of the same color. Skin color does not rub off if that is what people fear. Why, then, do many teen-agers scorn and reject

those who date someone of another color? Why do many parents refuse to allow their children to date someone of a different color? Two people who like each other should not have to struggle with a racist society as well as the within any type of relationship. Some parents said that they didn't want their children to get bad reputations for dating someone of another color. It takes a weak person to allow narrow-minded people to have control of his feelings toward others. Who can argue the point that what a person really is, is what he has on the inside--thoughts, feelings, attitudes;

these are the things that make a person what he is. How can people continue to judge by color. The leaders of the United States discovered long ago that people are equal no matter what their color.

## PROM DRESSES

### Budget Corner

2312 Mishawaka Ave.

## The Tower

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