

# The Tower

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JOHN ADAMS HIGH SCHOOL • SOUTH BEND, INDIANA 46615

## McNeill on mosquito research

by Grant McDougal

While most students loafed or labored in fast food restaurants or local supermarkets, André McNeill spent his summer with man's least favorite insect, the mosquito.

This past summer André worked with Dr. William Halwey and Dr. George Craig, Notre Dame researchers, on their project en-

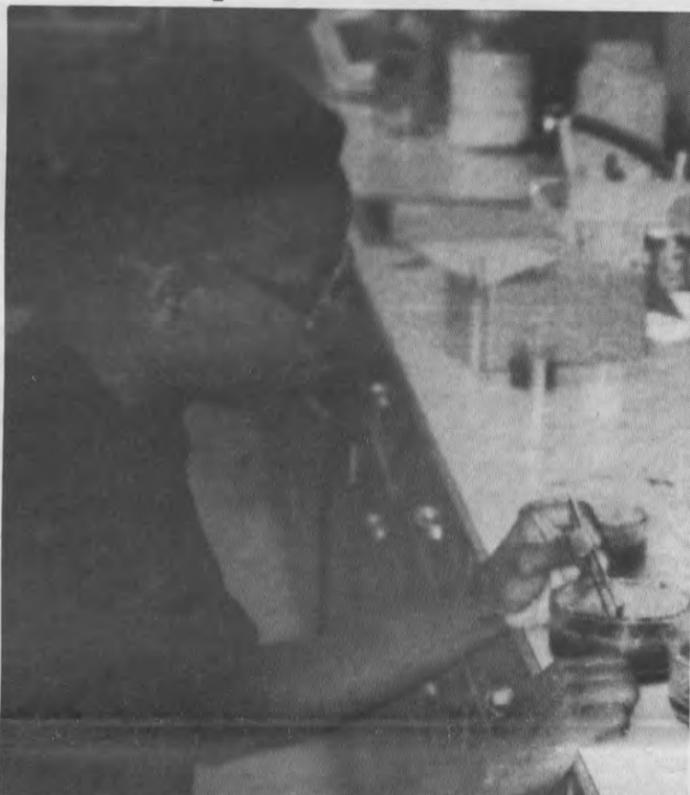
*"I learned a great deal about insects, specifically mosquitoes. This experience has increased my interest in the field of entomology."*

—André McNeill

titled, "The Effects of the Parasite *Ascogregina tiawanensis* on the Mortality Rate of *Aedes albopictus* Adults." Their research was designed to determine the effect that certain worm-like parasites have on the mosquitoes that ingest them. This parasite continues to reproduce inside the mosquitoes.

The study also investigated the effects of altered larvae nutrition on the mosquito population and mortality rate. The larvae were fed a combination of liver powder, dead microorganisms, and honey-soaked cellulose.

André's duties included sorting and identifying the mosquitoes captured in the fifteen traps set by the researchers in various parts of the county. Another aspect of his



MARC WILSON

André McNeill works on his science project, in research class.

job was collecting ticks at Potato Creek state Park for a researcher investigating Lyme disease at Ball State University.

André's summer experience provided him with ideas for his senior year biological research project entitled, "The Physiological Effects of Ultraviolet Radiation on Fruit Flies." André admitted, "I learned a great deal about insects, specifically mosquitoes. This experience has increased my interest in the field of entomology." This year's research

will examine the life span, anatomical changes, and mutagenic effects of ultraviolet light on fruit flies. Fruit flies are commonly used in research due to their versatility. A primary mutation André will be examining is their different eye pigmentations.

McNeill is applying for grants from the American Lung Association and the American Heart Association to fund his current project. He also plans to work next summer on another entomological study with doctors Hawley and Craig.

## Locker rooms receive a much needed renovation

by Ike Trinh

As students attend the 1989-90 school year, they will notice many new changes. There are new combination lockers, different time schedules, and new programs being introduced to the students. But one of the major changes is the renovation of the boys' basketball locker room.

The newly refurbished locker room was a plan that was long in coming. "I decided that the locker room needed the renovation," said Principal William Pryzbysz. "The room was getting old and work on it was badly needed."

The locker room hasn't been redone since it was first built in 1941.

"It's about time," said head bas-

ketball coach David Hadaway. "The other locker room was redone ten years ago and it has been a long time since anything was done to this one."

The work on the locker room was done by Ziolkowski Construction Incorporated. It began a week after the 1988-89 school year ended, and was finally finished on the third week of August with the exception of the lockers. There are no lockers at the present time, but new ones are to be installed in the near future.

"The entire room was redone," commented Mike Devault, John Adams athletic director. "The planning of the renovation was an input of all the coaches, myself, and Mr. Pryzbysz."

The walls of the locker room were taken down to put up new ones and the floors were resurfaced. A new shower room and lavatory facility were put in. Also, there was a physical education room and a newly carpeted coach's office built.

The whole project cost the school about four hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars. The money for the project came from a fund for the remodeling and rebuilding of the school.

Overall, the changes have been well received by athletes, not to mention the faculty. "The locker room looks really good," said Coach Hadaway. "The new change and addition is great for the school and it gives us a good self image."

## In Brief

### Attendance Policy

By the School Board Policy #6133, the following reasons are excused with work missed to be made up in full credit:

- 1.) Personal illness
- 2.) Death in the family
- 3.) Medical or Dental Appointment
- 4.) Religious observance
- 5.) Court appointment
- 6.) Authorized school activity
- 7.) College visits/military test
- 8.) Any other absences authorized by state law and /or administrator

### Vocational Electronics

Students enrolled in vocational electronics will soon be in a position to accept VCRs and televisions for repair service. If you are interested in this service, call Robert Saunders, instructor at 288-4655 ext. 22.

### School Pictures

Underclass pictures will be taken during the month of October, for the 1989-90 school year. Freshmen and junior photographs will be taken on the 27th; sophomore photos and senior IDs will be taken on the 28th. On October 30th, and for five days after, Root Photographers will be holding senior retakes, by appointment.

### SAT Dates

The Scholastic Aptitude Test will be administered on the following dates for the 1989-90 school year:

- October 14, 1989
- November 4, 1989
- December 2, 1989
- January 27, 1990
- March 31, 1990
- May 5, 1990
- June 2, 1990

Registration materials are available at the counselor's office.

### Fall Play

The John Adams Drama Club has chosen "You Can't Take it With You" as their fall play. Auditions for parts in the Pulitzer Prize-winning play will be held in the month of October. An announcement will be made with specific information at a later date.

### Yearbook Subscriptions

Homeroom representatives will be selling subscriptions to the Album and Tower during the month of September. Yearbook and Tower subscriptions will be offered for \$26.00, during the first collection date. Video Yearbooks will also be sold, at \$10.00 per video.

### Rotary Youth Exchange

Students between the ages of 16 and 18 are now eligible to sign up for the Rotary Youth Exchange, sponsored by the Rotary Club. Under this program, a student lives and attends high school in another country for one year. Those interested should sign up in the Principal's Office by October 4, 1989. Presentation to students who signed up, and their parents, will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the John Adams Library.

# New faculty add to Adams' staff

## Special education expanded

by Julie Auten

Adam's special education department is going to be expanded this year with the addition of five new teachers. They are as follows: Dena Cushenberry, Norma Kronewitter, Lonnie Micinski, Victoria Thomas and Marie Bliha.

Mrs. Dena Cushenberry is involved with the special education of the mentally handicapped. Cushenberry said, "The goal for this program is to have the students in a minimally restricted environment. Thus, the students will be in an atmosphere of physical and social contact with other students in normal surroundings." The students will be involved in personal management skills like grocery shopping and money handling. Her students will practice vocational skills at Riley High School and Saint Joseph Hospital.

Mrs. Norma Kronewitter is the new at risk teacher. She and her students will be doing computer work and library research. She will move her students gradually into an independent role that will lead eventually to total independence. "I'm interested in helping to make the students more successful," said Kronewitter. Locally, her first teaching job was at Nuner Grade School for two years. Then, after two years at Riley High School, she proceeded to teach at Clay Middle School for nine years and most recently at Washington High School for four years.

Pre-Vocational Education (P.V.E.) teacher, Victoria Thomas conducts a class to help students, with learning disabilities, better

understand what a job entails. PVE is structured to knowledge students in the skills of finding a job, getting hired, and being able to keep it. After high school at South Bend Central, Thomas attended Goshen College and Indiana University of South Bend. She started her career by teaching middle school. She Taught at Dickinson for a year, Navarre for two years and five years at Edison.

The new speech therapist will be Marie Bliha. Bliha received her undergraduate degree at Indiana University of Bloomington, in the field of Speech and Hearing Sciences, and her post-graduate degree, at Ball State University, in the same field. When asked for a statement, she said amiably, "I know it is going to be a good year,"

Mr. Lonnie Micinski is Adams' new teacher for the emotionally handicapped. He will be doing a variety of activities with his students. Micinski graduated from Mishawaka High School and went on to Ball State University. He then completed his education at I.U.S.B. Mr. Micinski has a lot of practice at helping others (he worked for six years in an Outreach program and one year at the St. Joe Police Dept.), and he's here now to do the same at Adams.

Karolyn James joins the circle of new faculty as well this year, as she will be directly involved with the teachers as their newest aide. Ms. James will take it upon herself to perform all of the duties needed of her to make things a little easier for the rest of the staff.



New staff this year at John Adams include (from left to right) Hideo Suzumura, Elizabeth Pullapilly, Pamela Decker, Pat Sult, and Lonnie Micinski. Not pictured are Marie Bliha, Norma Kronewitter, Dena Cushenberry, and Victoria Thomas. John Adams' special education, language, and various other academic departments welcome them warmly.

## Incoming teachers will be enriching the academic curriculum

By Brian Blanford

Although Mrs. Pamela Decker's early ambitions were to pursue a career in the business field, she decided to teach business instead. Mrs. Decker, Adams new business-C.O.E. teacher said, "I was basically interested in business, but in college I was sort of lured into teaching."

Mrs. Decker, originally from

the small town Spencer, Indiana, has taught previously at John Adams and Riley high schools (for a year) and most recently she taught for 11 years at Clay High School. "I like the traditional style of Adams," she said in comparison to the other schools.

Another new staff member this year at Adams is secretary Mrs. Pat Sult. After several years of being a secretary at the elementary school level, Mrs. Sult feels that she has reached a new peak in her career by getting the chance to be a secretary here at Adams. Of her job she said, "Being a secretary is great fun, especially in high school." Mrs. Sult comes from Gary, Indiana, and has been a secretary for 23 years. She is currently married and has four children.

Hideo Suzumura is Adams new Japanese teacher. With him comes the debut of the Japanese language at Adams. His home town, Ena City, in Gifu, is a long way from

South Bend but he intends to make his stay in America worthwhile. "I want American students to learn about Japan's culture and language," he said.

Mr. Suzumura and his family moved here just three weeks ago. In addition to bringing his culture and language to Adams, he is teaching at Clay and LaSalle as well. Mr. Suzumura is not just here to teach though, "I also want to learn to speak the English language better and learn more about the traditional American customs."

This year, the Math Department has a new faculty member, Mrs. Elizabeth Pullapilly. Mrs. Pullapilly is a native of Belguam, India where she attended St. Joseph's high school. She attended college at St. Mary's College (South Bend) and I.U.S.B.

Mrs. Pullapilly brings 14 years of teaching experience with her to Adams including a seven year stint at Clay.

## National Merit Semifinalists



MARC WILSON

On September 13, the National Merit Semifinalists were announced across the country by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC). An unusually high number of Semifinalists came from John Adams, seven. This year's Semifinalists are, in the front row: George Pilkinton, Susan Smith, See-Ming Phan, and Mark Bartholomew. In the back row are: Andrew Rassi, Kurt Leege, and Malay Kundu. NMSC selected these students based on the strength of their PSAT scores. To reach finalist standing, each student must complete an application for National Merit, and return it to their counselor. Acceptance to finalist standing makes the students eligible for college scholarships.

### Tower/Album Subscriptions

Tower representatives will be going to each homeroom starting in September to collect money for subscriptions.

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# Life Skills comes to Adams

by Stefanie Komaski

This year at Adams like years in the past, there will be many new faces in the halls as school begins. But what makes some of these faces so special? It's a new class called the Life Skills Program. These 16 students who are moderately handicapped are being integrated into John Adams to give them the same opportunities as other high school students. According to Madeleine Will, who

learn personal management which ranges from basic hygiene to how to use the bank independently. The second part of their day is spent learning appropriate uses of their leisure and recreation time. The class emphasizes the use of the library and video stores. They also spend a portion of their day in physical education classes. The third domain which in some aspects is the most important is vocational skills.

*"I feel really good about this program. It gives these students a chance to socialize with other students their age."*

Principal William Przybysz

was a speaker at The National Leadership Conference, by integrating disabled students with non-disabled students, they have a better chance of achieving maximum involvement in the educational, vocational, and social parts of their lives.

"I feel really good about this program," said Mr. Przybysz. "It gives these students chance to socialize with other students their age. I think it also does a lot for their self esteem to be a part of John Adams."

The Life Skills Program which is taught by Mr. Court and Mrs. Cushenberry is located above the cafeteria. The students only spend a portion of their day in the classroom though. Their curriculum is divided into 3 domains. They

"We are a community based instructional program. We teach vocational skills to our students so they can obtain jobs throughout the community," said Mr. Court. "What an important role the vocational classes play in these students lives.

One of the primary factors that the program is built upon the major role that parents play. What the students learn in the classroom must also be upheld and maintained at home. Therefore conferences occur very often, keeping direct contact between the parents and teachers. "I am really excited about this program. Being so involved with the students and their parents is a great challenge, but one that I am looking forward to fulfilling," said Mrs. Cushenberry.

# College crunch examined thoroughly

by Jeff Thompson

High School students can make the "college crunch" significantly easier to get around by knowing what the colleges want.

Thinking about colleges can get students confused about picking the ideal college for them. Jennifer Leonard, a past student of I.U. and currently an admissions director, shed some light on this subject to students at the I.U. Journalism Institute. "It's important to think ahead," she said. The first step to alleviate this problem is start the college selection process early. More and more colleges across the U.S. are finding that the students are becoming better each year.

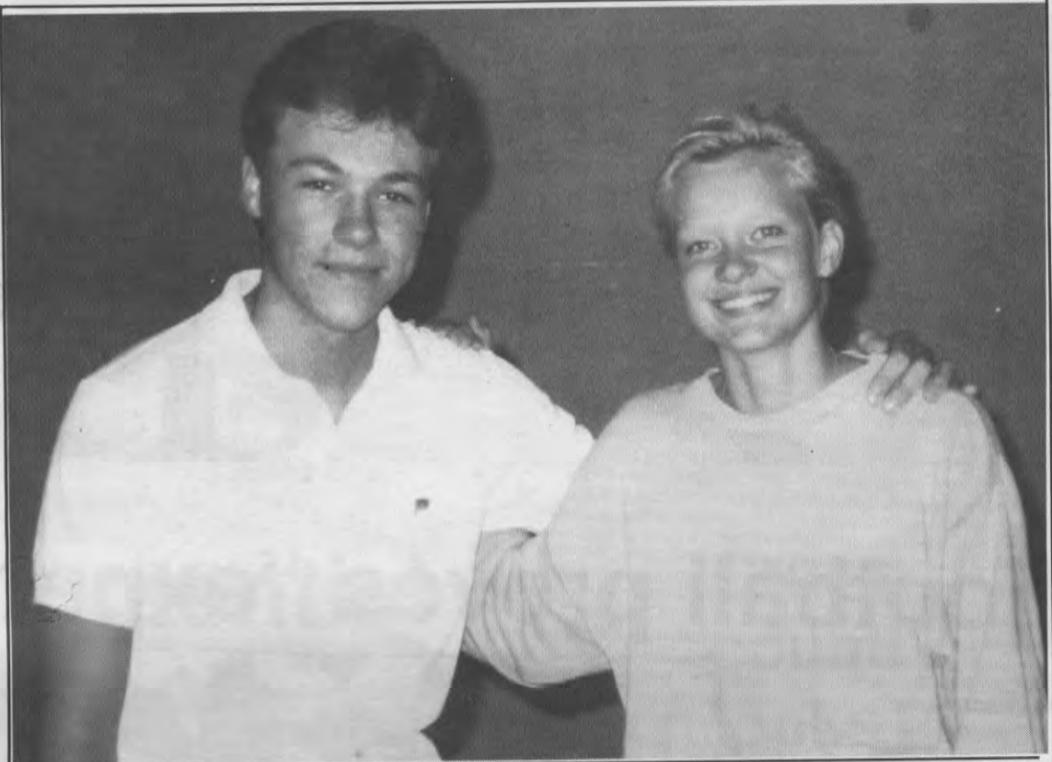
Students should start by looking at a wide variety of colleges. Then, the student should find specific information about a college to see that it fits his interests. He should realistically look at the colleges, making sure he has a some chance of admission.

"Colleges are looking for the well prepared students who have a strong academic curriculum," stated Leonard. Strong curriculum is important in junior and senior years. Stay with the hard core subjects. The next item colleges look for is the performance the student has exhibited and grade trends. They do consider the "late bloomers." S.A.T. scores are what I.U. thinks the least about, but all colleges have different policies.

They also consider all the extra curricular activities such as leadership positions, citizenship, and sports. Jennifer states that the extra curricular activities won't determine if someone is accepted and that student curriculum counts the most.

Accuracy is a key to preparing applications. "If I was given a quarter each time I found a misspelled word, I would be rich woman," stated Ms. Leonard. The student should be thorough with the application so the colleges will be impressed. When listing activities, it's better to give a couple activities and elaborate on them, instead of just listing them one by one. The colleges want a little insight on the student's character, and they want to see detail. Ms. Leonard said, "Count on counselors to relay information" to the colleges to explain a special situation or why a student might have a downfall at some point in the year. Knowing these special circumstances helps the colleges in the selection process.

Once the applications are in, the students should talk to their parents and discuss the best choices in their situation, because financial condition of the family may have an affect on the decision. All in all, Ms. Leonard believes the student should find out what each particular college is looking for in the application.



Foreign exchange students Morton Petersen and Lenna Poranen show that the language of friendship is universal.

MARC WILSON

# NHS plans a busy year

by Matt Radecki

The National Honor Society has another busy schedule for the 1989-1990 school year. In September, NHS will be introducing new senior members. To be eligible, a student must be a Senior and have a G.P.A. of 3.0. A list will be posted and those eligible will need to pick up and fill out a Student Survey Form. To be accepted, the student will need the signatures of two teachers, two sponsors of school organizations the student is a member of, and the signature from the head of a local community service project that the

student participated in. The Survey Form will be reviewed by a group of teachers, and those accepted will be inducted in March with the Junior inductees. All Senior Inductees will be able to take part in all NHS activities before they are inducted in March.

During November, NHS Volunteers will serve as "tour guides" for the National Studebaker Museum's Dinosaurs exhibit. During the holidays, NHS members will work at Potawatomi's annual zoological celebration as well as carol at St. Joe Hospital.

In February, a list of eligible for NHS will be posted. These candidates will follow the same application process described for Seniors. All the inductees will be inducted at the March 26 induction ceremony. The following week an Honors breakfast will be held for Freshmen and Sophomores. At this breakfast, the Juniors and Seniors will act out NHS skits.

Other NHS events this year include working at the Carnival for the Arts and a trip. If you are eligible for NHS, please fill out an application and get inducted into this fun and unique organization.

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# Kicking off the year with Fall S

## Football proves "experts" wrong

By Jason Kelly

Year after year the John Adams football team gets no respect from area football "experts." This year was no exception. After losing all-state linebacker Terry Burton to graduation, the Eagles were picked to finish no higher than eighth in the Northern Indiana Conference. On the strength of the performance of experienced returnees and talented newcomers, the squad turned in the most impressive performance in the season-opening jamboree before falling in a heart-breaker to crosstown rival St. Joe.

Throughout the preseason veteran head coach Bill Farrell emphasized that speed would be the team's most valuable attribute. Senior running backs Kirk Riffel and Chris Green, along with junior quarterback Justin Chapman and split-end Tony Day, provide the bulk of that quickness. Defensively the Eagles have already proven their strength against the tough competition of Clay, Riley, St. Joe and LaSalle. Seniors Robby Brennan and Judd McNally join Riffel and Green to anchor the defense.

Opening the jamboree against conference rival Clay, Chapman hooked up with Day for a 43-yard



Senior Kirk Riffel pushes forward during an Eagle drive against St. Joe.

scoring strike on the first play from scrimmage. The defense was dominant throughout as the Eagles won the quarter 6-0. Against Riley in their second quarter of action, steady offense and dominating defense helped the squad soundly defeat the highly touted Wildcats. Chapman orchestrated the first scoring drive putting the team up 7-0. Following a Riffel interception, McNally took over at quarter-

back and hit Green on a long touchdown pass for a 14-0 Eagle lead. After a touchdown saving tackle sophomore Chris "Bruiser" Blandford, Riley was able to punch it in late in the quarter to make the final a respectable 14-8. "We had a tough preseason, but our work paid off and I think we can compete with the best teams in the area," said linebacker McNally.

With St. Joe in a period of tran-

sition and the Eagles on a high after a strong jamboree performance, the season-opener was highly anticipated in the area. The teams treated the capacity crowd to a classic battle. Both defenses dominated throughout as they went into the locker room at halftime tied at 0-0. The Eagle offense had the ball for only two possessions in the second half which, along with a couple of questionable calls, gave

the Indians a chance to put two field goals through the uprights for the game's only points. Despite the tough 6-0 loss, the Eagles were pleased with the overall effort. "It was a tough loss to take, but we did a lot of things well," commented McNally. "This game showed us that we can compete with anybody."

Expectations were high for the conference opener against LaSalle. The Lions haven't beaten Adams in the '80s and this didn't look to be the first. Neither team played particularly well as the South Bend Tribune dubbed the game a "battle of miscues." Dominating defense once again led the way for the Eagles. They allowed LaSalle only seven points on a first half touchdown, after which the Lions rarely threatened to score. Riffel and Green both scored first half touchdowns providing the 14-7 margin of victory, but the Eagles weren't completely satisfied. "We made some mistakes that could be critical in a tight game," said McNally. "As the season progresses we should cut down on those mistakes with practice." As the team gains more game experience watch for them to become one of the area's dominant teams.

## Talent to overcome inexperience New coach gives edge

By Brendan Addis

The Eagles' tennis team is looking to improve over the course of this year. The team must overcome the loss of last year's seniors as well as the loss of head coach Cleo Kilgore. Seniors lost were First Team All-N.I.C. doubles player Jay Miller, #1 singles Coley Cook, #2 singles Joe Dennen, and #2 doubles Joe Rubleske.

Filling these shoes were #1 singles senior Matt Foley, #2 singles junior David Klotz, #3 singles sophomore Mike Golden, and as for the doubles positions are still being contended by senior Kurt Leege, juniors Matt Jones, Ike Trinh, and Sean Krueger, and freshman David Friend. Entering into the scene as head coach Edgar Powers who has several years playing experience.

Having an 0-3 record thus far into the season, some improvement can be seen by the match

with Elkhart Central which ended with two tiebreakers to determine the overall victor. Junior David Klotz explained, "Our first three matches were most likely the most difficult teams we will face all year." In this match, Foley fought back to win in straight sets. Also winning was the #2 doubles team of Jones and Krueger in a three hour match which ended in a tiebreaker. Losing 8-6 in a tiebreaker, was #2 singles David Klotz.

Even though this year's team is off to a slow start, they should still be a power to contend with in the N.I.C. Having a relatively young team, experience is lacking, but talent is abundant and should overcome this obstacle. "Since our team is so young, we will be depending on the leadership of returning players to pull us through the season," stated Matt Foley.



Senior Matt Foley eyes the ball in preparation for his next shot.

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# Sports

## Youth provides potential and depth for JAGS

By Brendan Addis

The Eagles girls' soccer team began their season not knowing quite what to expect this year. Having a relatively young team, inexperience appeared to be the greatest problem to overcome. Trying to match their past season record of 15-4-2 seemed at first a far-fetched idea. Having lost ten seniors to graduation, the most prominent of which were All-State forward Sarah Friend, All-State midfielder Marta Roemer, forward Kelli Leader, defender Vera Marcello, and goalkeeper Colleen Harding, it appeared as though '89 would be a rebuilding year.

Leadership is going to be the key for JAGS. Returning starters from last year are seniors Andrea Kurek, Mary Kate Kelly, and Julie Short; juniors Meredith Knepp and Rachel Friend, and sophomores Kristi Miller and Sarah Tulchinsky. Newcomers to varsity are seniors Jenny Hartman and Sonia Johansen, juniors Holly Rosencrantz and Jessica Kapsa, sophomores Ali Bonham and Tisha McDonald, and freshmen Amy Van Laeke, Zoe Chambers, and Megan Lammers. Providing yet another obstacle at the start of the season were the injuries of Jessica



Senior Mary Kate Kelly accelerates past a defender for a shot on goal.

Kapsa and Holly Rosencrantz.

However, the Eagles still managed a 5-0 win in their season opener against Fort Wayne Snyder. The game was controlled entirely by Adams. Leading the attack was Mary Kate Kelly, Andrea Kurek, Amy Van Laeke, and Zoe Chambers. The defense was locked up by sweeper Rachel Friend and stopper Julie Short. Fort Wayne had several talented players, but they just couldn't put the ball in the net, and the Eagles capitalized on that problem. Rachel Friend stated, "Our team is composed of many

players with little experience, but it is obvious that we will be able to come together as a team and possibly present a threat this season."

The momentum from the Snyder game carried the girls to a 3-2 win over Penn in their first conference game of the season. In the first half, the Eagles displayed an excellent sense of control with several well executed passes which led to the eventuality of a 1-0 lead at halftime. The goal was scored by Andrea Kurek on a breakaway which originated in the backfield. As well, the strength of Adams

was apparent in the second half in which freshman Amy Van Laeke scored two goals. The 3-0 cushion was enough to hold on to the lead for the rest of the game even though Penn fought back and got two goals.

Although Adams has a young team, talent is abundant and spirits are high, with hopes of great success in '89. Mary Kate Kelly explained, "We are a small team in numbers, but the young players on the team are strong. And with the experience of last year's players, the combination could prove to form a forceful team."

## Teamwork essential for future success

By Randy Whiteford

This year's volleyball team looks promising despite having lost five seniors, Jackie May first team all N.I.C. hitter, Cathie Cane who is currently playing at Oral Roberts University, Megan Maloney second team all N.I.C. setter, Kristin Mitchell, and Angela McCarthy. With the absence of these key players, the Eagles will have some big holes to fill this year.

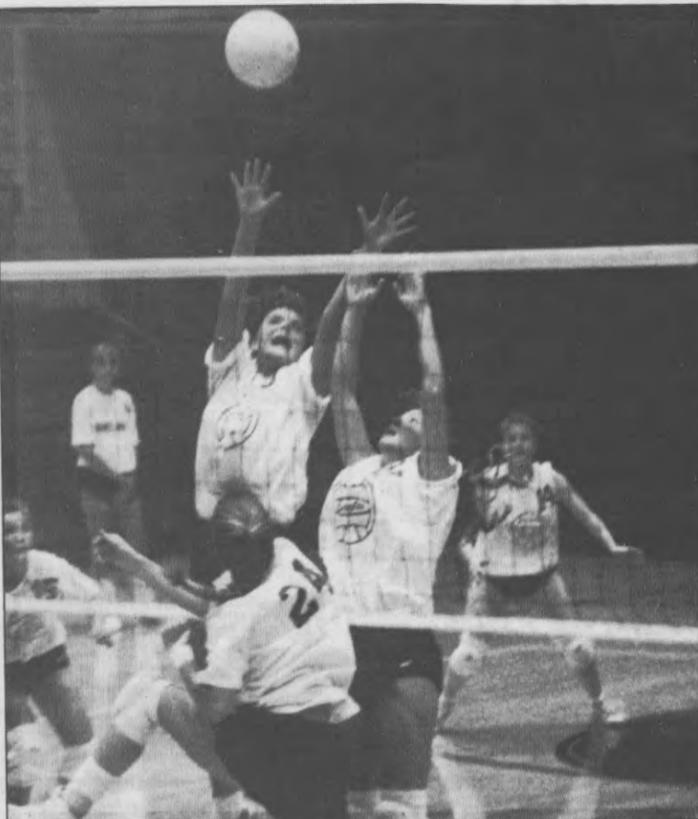
The players and the coach think that the team will be playing despite not having any returning starters. Head coach Sue Ganser stated, "We don't have a lot of height so we might not be playing to our potential in the beginning, but by the end of the season we will be playing some smart ball."

The team is led by senior captains, Kaye Farmer and Anne Butler who show the experience to

build a strong team. As well, the other starters for this year's team are senior Michelle Sharpe, junior Anne McNarney, junior Carrie Foster, and junior Stefanie Kominski. Having a great deal of depth the team also possesses senior Andrea Fernandez, juniors Amy Deranek and April Rhodes, and sophomore Patty Hardman.

The Eagles played in the St. Joe Invitational and lost a vigorous match to a good St. Joe team. The Eagles lost the first match 15-6, and lost the second match, which lasted about forty five minutes. The team lost a tough point at 12-11, but the Eagles came up just short of a win at 18-16.

Although their preseason record doesn't show it, the Eagles feel confident that their talent will overcome their inexperience and they will be a tough contender.



Seniors Ann Butler and Kaye Farmer go up for the block, and #24 for the opponent rears up to meet it.

## Cross country looks to rebuild with youth

By Ann Naffziger

This year's cross country team looks to build upon the returning upper classman, a strong sophomore class, and a highly touted freshmen class, in their quest for a berth in the Sectionals. After last year's disappointing season, the boy's team hopes to improve its numbers in the won-loss column. At the same time, the girl's team looks to continue the steady progress made since the start of the practice in early August. Still, the heavy losses suffered to graduation will make their season on Saturday, September 26, at the South Bend Stampede with both the boys, and girls, taking third place. Top finishers for the girls team included senior Sue Austgen, sophomore Jenny Horan, and sophomore Andrea Davis. In the boys individual race, junior Brian Collier, freshmen Josh Chambers and Jason Fox, among others, contributed to the team effort.

An integral part of this team centers around the incoming freshman class. Most of the team concurs that this class is the most talented to enter Adams in recent years. Says senior, Paul Laherty, "I'm looking forward to seeing the freshman improve; when they do, it will be the most incredible class of freshman runners we've ever had." As one of those talented freshmen, Stash Nowak, points out, "We (the class of '93) have the strength and stamina, we just don't have any experience yet." Another big plus for this team is the ever-increasing numbers, due to several runners who have joined the team recently.

All in all, the team has a positive outlook for the season. Andrea Davis states that, "We get along very well and we don't get too down after a loss." Sue Austgen sums up the team's sentiments. "We have a young team, but everyone works extremely hard. We should be able to pull together for a good season." After all, effort and hard work seem to be a common theme for the Adams runners. For, as coach Randy Isaacson states, "Our efforts will result in our reaching the goals we set for ourselves and our team

# Adams student becomes cosmic flyboy

By Mike Schlemma

I wasn't sure what to expect at first, but my experience at the U.S. Space Academy last April was one that I'll never forget. The U.S. Space Academy in Huntsville, Alabama is a ten day camp-like learning experience for students in grades ten through twelve. We were divided into three areas of study based on our application preferences: Aerospace, Engineering, and Technology. I chose Aerospace because the Pilots and Commanders would come out of this group. Our first day consisted of orientation, rules, a couple of presentations, and the first meal. Believe it or not, the cafeteria which fed over 20,000 people over the entire year, had reasonably good food. Over the next few days we had a lot of lectures and presentations dealing with everything from Space Piloting to Propulsion to Orbital Mechanics. We used simulators like the real astronauts do,

such as the 5DF, which simulates the freedom of movement under zero gravity, and the Multi-axis Trainer, which recreates a shuttle out of control in a flat spin. The Aerospace group had actual aviation ground school instruction, and twin engine and jet simulator time.

**Two days before graduation, we had four, two hour missions. On the first mission, Alpha, I was commander of the space station.**

The Engineering group simulated working outside the shuttle in space by scuba diving in the 122,000 gallon Underwater Astronaut Trainer. The "Techs," as we called them, worked on experiments which would be performed during our 24-hour mission. All this school-

ing and instruction seems like a lot of work, and it was, but making new friends and joking around with the counselors had its place also. Two days before graduation, we had four two-hour missions. On the first mission, Alpha, I was Commander of the space station. I had to oversee smaller experiments being done in an actual space station mockup. On the next mission, Bravo, I was Mission Control Flight Director, who is responsible for everything that happens during the mission. On the third mission, Charlie, I had off, and played Frisbee with some friends. On the final Delta Mission, I was Commander of the Space Shuttle *Atlantis*. This simulator was incredible — every single switch, button, light and sensor the real shuttle had, this one had also. The realism of the ten days really intensified the excitement. Our performance during the two-hour missions determined what our roles would be on the 24-

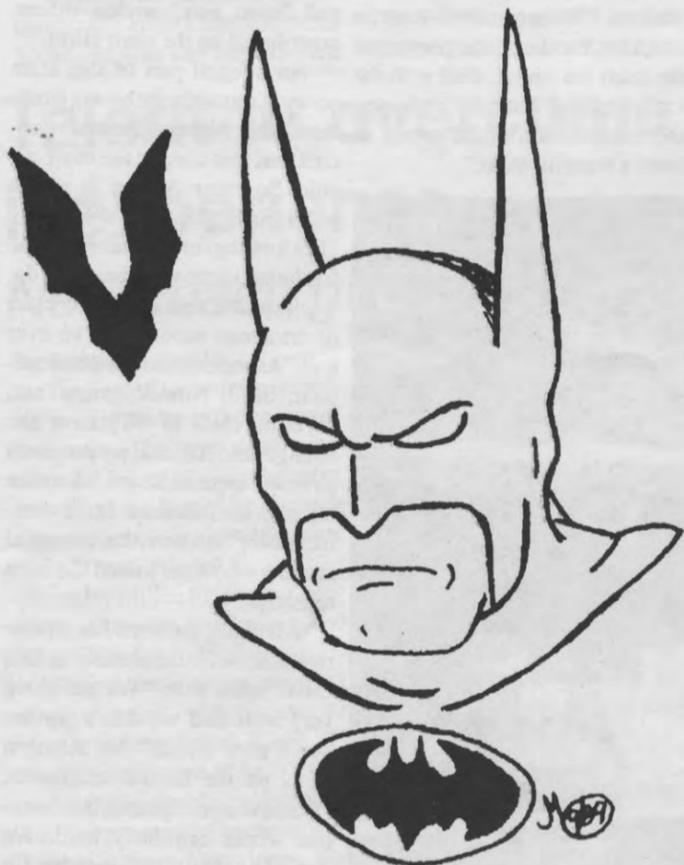
hour mission. Starting at 11:00 a.m. on the ninth day I was Space Station Commander for the first six hours. We had a zealous Simulations Director who threw out everything from a pre-launch abort to a deadly meteor shower to a source of harmfully high radiation somewhere in the space station. The next six hours was my sleep break which I didn't (unfortunately) take advantage of because, for the next twelve hours (11:00 p.m. - 11:00 a.m.) I was Commander of *Atlantis*. Surviving on Coke and M&M's we completed our mission. On graduation day we all received our wings and cer-

tificates and said goodbye to our favorite simulators. In all, the experience was unbelievably fun and exciting. I'm still writing to the friends I made there. If you like space, engineering, flying, or just science in general, this program is for you. It's not cheap — it cost \$800, which was up about \$100 from the previous year, but I feel it was worth every penny. If you want a booklet and application, just write to:

Director, U.S. Space Academy  
The Space and Rocket Center  
One Tranquility Base  
Huntsville, AL 35807-0680  
and have the "blast" of a lifetime!

## '89 Summer Movie Season a Smash

The 1989 summer movie season has turned out to be one of the best ever, even with distributors fears of falling sales. These fears were brought on by increased prices and a sluggish start in the beginning of the summer. Any doubts were immediately laid to rest by the release of by far the summer's most successful movie, *Batman*. The Warner Brothers release set the pace for the summer industry by outgaining its nearest competitor by nearly \$50 million dollars. That, in addition to the extremely successful *Lethal Weapon II*, helped Warner Brothers secure the top spot in gross revenues for the summer. Although their were winners and losers, the summer movie season was enjoyed by all.



Batman, and almost everything associated with the comic book hero became ubiquitous, thanks to the success of the movie.

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| TOP 10 MOVIES  |              |  |
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| This list of the top ten summer movies was compiled by Exhibitor Relations Company, and is courtesy of the South Bend Tribune. |              |  |
| NAME   | COMPANY      | Gross Revenues (Memorial to Labor Day-In Millions) |
| 1. <i>Batman</i>   | Warner Bros. | \$238.6  |
| 2. <i>Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade</i>   | Paramount    | \$189.5  |
| 3. <i>Lethal Weapon II</i>   | Warner Bros. | \$131.3  |
| 4. <i>Honey I Shrunk the Kids</i>  | Disney       | \$119.1  |
| 5. <i>Ghostbusters II</i>  | Columbia     | \$109.9  |
| 6. <i>Dead Poets Society</i>   | Disney       | \$86.4   |
| 7. <i>When Harry Met Sally</i>   | Columbia     | \$66.6   |
| 8. <i> Parenthood</i>  | Universal    | \$64.1   |
| 9. <i>Turner and Hooch</i>   | Disney       | \$57.1   |
| 10. <i>Star Trek V</i>   | Paramount    | \$50.5   |

# Colombian situation demands action

By Mark Bartholomew

In the late Middle Ages, one event killed over one-third of the population of Europe. This was the bubonic plague or Black Death which may have been the worst natural disaster in history. But a similar disease runs rampant in the inner cities of modern-day America. The Black Death was imported from Asia while this new plague has come from the jungles of South America. It is not spread by rats but rather by dealers and junkies. This plague of the 80's and 90's is the drug crisis and it must be dealt with now before it reaches epidemic proportions.

The last few weeks have allowed many Americans, normally untouched by the drug crisis, to see the ugly face of the usually secretive drug cartels. The cocaine kingpins of Colombia issued a communique where they declared war on the journalists and politicians who have tried to stop their trafficking. Banks and political party offices were bombed clearly showing the terrorist mentality of the drug leaders.

In fact, Columbia has become the Lebanon of South America. 220 Colombian judges and court employees have been assassinated by the drug lords and the numbers are increasing. Colombia is an ally of ours and something should be done to end the violence in this country.

These blatant acts of defiance should not be tolerated by either the Colombian government or the United States. As senior Ben Banik says, "If the United States, one of the most powerful and influential nations in the world, does not take definitive action against the drug cartels, no one will be able to stop them." But there are no signs of an end to the

drug war in the U.S. and drug-related violence in our cities is soaring. One look at Washington, D.C., our nation's capital, is evidence of the firm grip drugs hold over the country. The political symbol of our nation has become its murder capital as well. Politicians have even considered military occupation of the city in order to rid it of gangs and

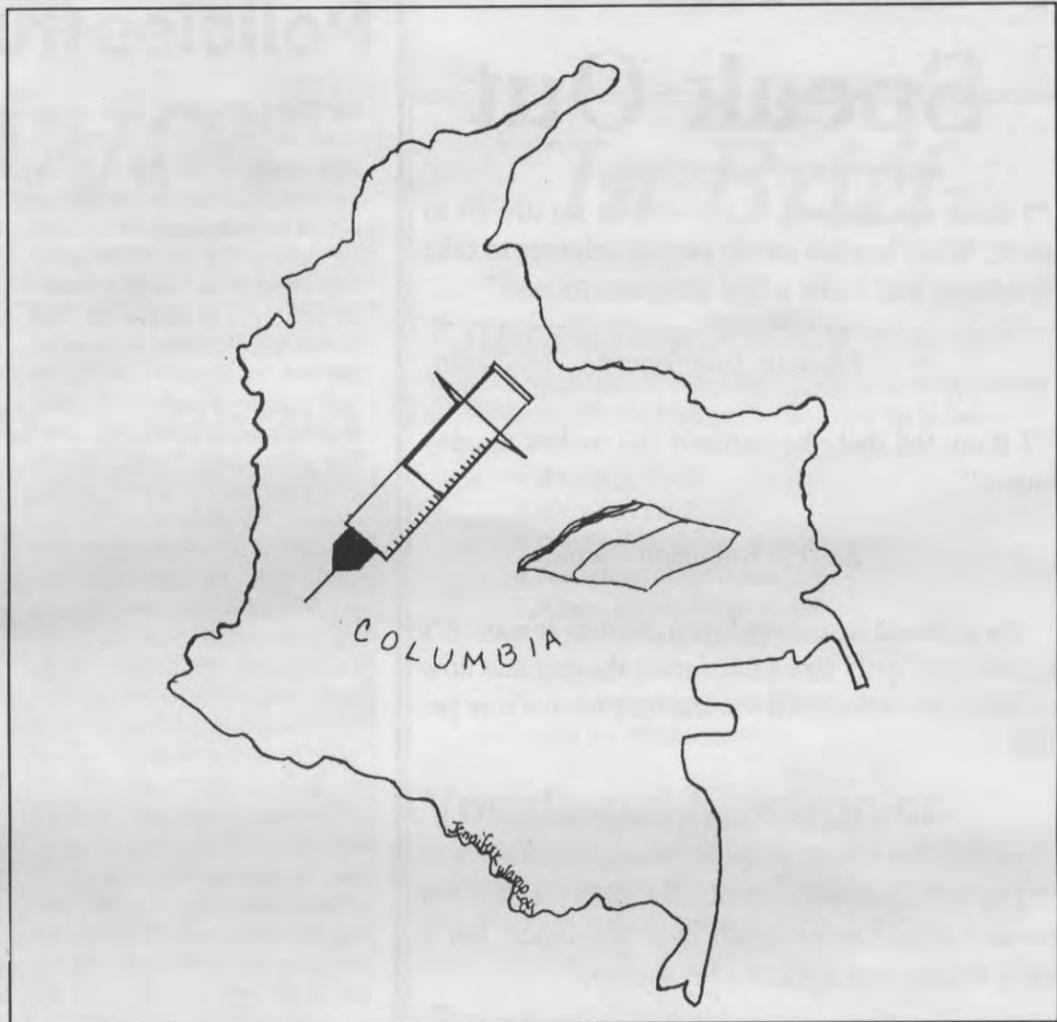
*"If the United States, one of the most powerful and influential nations in the world, does not take definitive action against the drug cartels, no one will be able to stop them."*

—Ben Banik

drugs.

One government has a responsibility to protect its citizens from the scourge of drugs and needs to take some action before it gets too late. President Bush has taken a step in the right direction with his new drug program and military aid package to Columbia but more needs to be done. Most Americans agree that further action is needed and most would be willing to suffer a tax-increase to pay for the war on drugs.

Clearly, we should show our support for the Colombian government. Right now, Colombia is a nation under siege with its newspapers and political offices serving as the favorite targets of the drug cartels. It is the addiction of U.S. citizens that allows Colombia's drug-runners to thrive, so we should feel some responsibility to help Colombians in their quest to oust these criminals. Since the days of the Monroe Doctrine, the United States has promised to help support the countries of the Western Hemisphere and now is no different.



On the home front, police enforcement and drug education programs should be increased. But an effort must also be made to stop the flow of drugs out of South America. Many politicians seem to be afraid to send troops to Colombia fearing another political disaster like Vietnam. But a recent Newsweek poll shows that 53% of the American public support the use of U.S. troops to help fight drug traffickers in Colombia.

Critics of armed involvement in South America say that American troops will have only limited success in a long and costly war. Also only ten percent of all the cocaine that is produced is grown

in Colombia. Bolivia and Peru are the main sources of coca production. Parallels have also been made to Vietnam. Some say the same tactics used by the Vietnamese will bog down U.S. troops in Colombia's jungles.

But some important distinctions need to be made. The Vietnamese were fighting for a political cause while the drug armies are only fighting for money. Money may not be enough of an incentive to face skilled U.S. troops. In addition, Columbia contains the main headquarters and distribution centers of the drug cartels. Destroying these areas of operation would do serious damage to the system of

drug distribution into the United States.

Now is the time to make a commitment to stopping the flow of drugs. While full military involvement may not be the answer, strong action must be taken. Support for the besieged government of Colombia is clearly needed. The drug crisis is only in its infancy now, but it should not be allowed to grow and spread further into society; drugs should not be an accepted fact of life. Without education and prevention, the disease of drugs could cause the noble advances and achievements of man to erode under the forces of violence and addiction.

## Reevaluating a national symbol

### Flag frenzy skirts the real issues

By Kurt Leege

*"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."*

This pledge is very familiar one to all of us. From the time when we were all small children, it has been taught and retaught to us by our parents and teachers. In elementary school, we all had to stand up each morning, place our right hand to our chest, and face the small piece of red, white, and blue cloth hanging over our teacher's desk while reciting these same words. We've been told over and over that we must

be patriotic and reverent to our flag no matter what happens. But what is so special about that small colored piece of cloth? What distinguishes it from the pair of jeans that cover my legs at this moment?

Most agree that the flag is a symbol of the idealism on which this country was founded. It represents Jefferson's immortal words in the Declaration of Independence affirming that all men are created equal and that each has the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. It also symbolizes the American democracy and the unique form of government of which we are so proud.

However, many citizens and government officials in America no longer represent the flag. In modern times, the flag has been grabbed upon by a large group of Americans who, instead of acting in ways which would define them as true followers of the flag, simply wave it like a magic wand and expect it to do everything for them. These people cling to the flag as a security blanket but

they don't really understand or act on the concepts it represents.

These people are same ones in the Reagan and Bush governments; governments which have done very little to revere the noble ideals represented in the flag. These are the men who have brought upon us the times in which many of our rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness are in danger: where a woman's right to control her destiny is once again in the hands of the state governments, where a cocaine or heroin addict has to wait in line for twelve months before he can get rehabilitation, where racial tensions and injustices are once again being manifested in violence, where scores of homeless impoverished people wander the streets with little hope for the future, where controversial art can no longer gain government support, where more of the environment is destroyed each day by our wanton abuses, and where the "god" is now little green slips of paper. Their policies in no way represent freedom but

instead foreclosed opportunity.

It is clear that our ideals of freedom and equality have deteriorated in the past few years. The optimism of the Kennedy years and the movements for social change of the 60's have slowly drifted away. There is very little talk today of great programs of reform such as L.B.J.'s "Great Society." The optimistic hope for a better future has been replaced by a cynical search for satisfaction in the present. The Reagan and Bush administrations and the other people of America who have forgotten about the search for true freedom are the real cause of the flag's decay.

And so these people wrap themselves in the flag and tell us that to burn it would be a mortal sin, but what they don't understand is that their distorted concept of liberty has already burned many holes in the through which many of us now unwittingly fall. Yes, I'm crazy for the red, white, and blue, but I'm not crazy for passive patriotism.

By denying the right to burn the flag, we do not protect our values but rather extinguish the noble ideals of justice and free expression.

The American government has criticized for many years the eastern bloc countries for their lack of human rights and freedom of expression. Yet our government is now doing the same thing with its petty rules and regulations. To take away the right to burn the flag would be contradicting the values of freedom and democracy that founded the country and would detract much more from our national symbol than any political demonstration.

❖  
The next Tower  
will be distributed  
on October 6,  
1989  
❖

# Students Speak Out

"I think ten minutes of homeroom should go to lunch. What teacher needs twenty minutes to take attendance and make a few announcements?"

Danielle Boguslawski - freshman

"I think the daily homeroom just makes the day longer."

Regina Robinson - senior

"They should have kept lunch the way it was. It's the students' only free time during the day and now it's been shortened. All the teachers have a free period.

Rachel Dowty - sophomore

"The administration probably didn't think ten minutes would make much of a difference, but it really makes lunch seem a lot shorter."

Isaac Nelson - junior

"When I've forgotten to do an assignment or need a few extra minutes to look over notes, there is always homeroom to look forward to."

Larissa Chism - freshman

"I don't feel that the lengthening of the school year will have any effect on the quality of education."

Meredith Knepp - junior

"Combination locks being installed is alright because you don't have to worry about buying a combination lock."

Deneen Lewis - senior

"With the new policy, they should assign lockers according to schedules rather than grades."

Ryan Bradley - sophomore

"Taking ten minutes away from lunch was not a good idea. If you stay here, those ten minutes go to standing in lunch lines. Those ten minutes are also needed to make it out to lunch and back."

Colleen Moore - freshman

"Some of the lockers are so far out of the way, there's no point in even having a locker because you have to carry a bag full of books anyways."

Sarah Tulchinsky - sophomore

"Lunch should not be a time to worry about how fast you can eat, but rather a time to relax."

Colleen Horan - sophomore

## 89-90 school year brings changes: Policies frustrate student body

By Guy Loranger

I am no longer able to control the rage inside of me as I sit in the sweltering heat of my fourth hour class. I have already been in school for close to five hours and nearly two weeks, even though it is only the first week of September. I am unable to concentrate because my stomach sounds like a pit bull in heat from hunger; and yet it is hard to get enthusiastic about my thirty-five minute lunch "hour." The 89-90 school year has begun.

The ability to control my rage becomes increasingly difficult as I think of Mr. South Bend Community School Corporation sitting in his luxurious air conditioned office thinking up what new, seemingly useless policies he can inflict on the students this year.

These policies, acquired in order to try to improve the schools' educational standings, are well intended, but fall short of effective. He has chosen the wrong path of achieving his goal by lengthening the school year. It is hard for me to see the correlation between the time spent in school and the

quality of education. The direct result of this will most likely be that the people who are misbehaving in school already will simply have more time to misbehave. Perhaps concentrating on lowering the faculty-student ratio or improving the materials used in class would be a more plausible approach. In reality, nothing is to be gained from teaching materials to students for a prolonged period of time if the student is not willing to learn.

Another new stipulation the student body of John Adams will have to face this year is the new shortened lunch hour. However, the term "hour" is deceptive, for in actuality this period lasts for a meager thirty-five minutes. This step was activated to cut down on the number of people mismanaging their time during lunch. It seems apparent, however, that this step was unfair because it affects so many and was caused by so few. Simply because students have less time doesn't mean that they won't still loiter in the alleys across from

John Adams or get into fights. In addition, people eating are finding lunch lines in the cafeteria and the time needed to go out to lunch seriously cutting down on their time to eat. Thus, the people who want to eat lunch during lunch will have far from a reasonable amount of time; while the people who are being disruptive during lunch will still have ample time to do so.

In conclusion, I will no longer be able to control this rage as I sit in this steamy, Sahara-hot classroom thinking of the futility of my presence in school so early in the fall. As the day wears on drearily, the main point of debate becomes more apparent. In essence, it makes no sense to try to solve both the problems of the lunch hour and the status of education simply by taking off or adding on time. Maybe if the Mr. South Bend Community School Corporation would take a little time to think himself, he might find that the root of the problem is something that will require much more attention to solve. For, as the way things are right now, these problems will not go away in time.

## Administration gives answers

by Rachel Friend

Throughout my three years at John Adams, I've heard people tell me time and again that "high school is a time of change". In my case, however, when I consider the changes at school, my personal changes take a back seat to all the changes the school itself has undergone. Each year the policies at Adams are different in some way, and each year I am perplexed at why last year's system was changed yet again. Seeking answers, and unable to obtain any from classmates, I went to Mr. Przybysz.

The biggest change this year is probably the addition of homeroom to our daily schedule. I've heard many rumors why this class has been added, but up till now it's never made sense to me. The reason is actually quite simple; homeroom is to act as a home-base from which students can start their day. This period makes fee money, yearbook, and Tower collection much easier, along with clearing attendance. On days of assemblies or activity periods, less class will be missed, and locating a student for administrative purposes can be quickly done, without interrupting a student's class. A final purpose for daily homeroom, which will remain the same throughout a student's high school career, is to form bonds with friends and teachers during the years at Adams.

Another change at Adams this year has been the lunch hour. The 45 minutes we enjoyed last year was cut to 35 minutes, which can seem like a lot of time if taken for granted. Many students are upset by this cut back, but the intentions were not to enrage us. When the downtown offices came up with this time frame, they took into con-

sideration surveys which stated that on the average, a student ate in 25 minutes. By giving us 20 extra minutes, it seemed to them that much time was being wasted, and that a lot of misbehaving was the result.

The last major change this year has been the enforcement of taking assigned lockers. In previous years, students could pick a locker convenient for them and place their own lock on it. This year, however, the school will be putting locks on for us and giving us that combination, which is to be ours for the entire four years at Adams. The benefits of these locks will be much better security from theft, as only the student, attendance office and homeroom teacher will know

the combination, and also in the case of an emergency a student's locker can be found. For example, if a student becomes seriously ill, the attendance office can help the parent locate the locker. There will also be a master key for all the lockers, should one need to be opened by Mr. Przybysz.

After the changes which occurred this year, hopefully the school's policies and schedule can finally become steady. It's difficult for students to adapt to something new every year, and I think the administration realizes that. Commented Mr. Przybysz on that idea, "For the past few years we've been experimenting with new ideas and policies... This [policy] will work if we make it work."

## The Tower

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