

John Adams Tower

Volume IX, No. 20

JOHN ADAMS HIGH SCHOOL, SOUTH BEND, INDIANA

March 2, 1949

SEVEN SOLOISTS RECEIVE SUPERIOR RATINGS AT FT. WAYNE

It was 7:00 o'clock Saturday morning, February 19, that 46 long-haired musicians boarded a fine bus for Fort Wayne. John Adams was sending students to participate in the band and orchestra solo and ensemble contest.

The trip was very much worthwhile as evidenced by the superior, excellent and good ratings that our students won.

Carol Jones and Jane Gindlberger, sophomores, received superior ratings on their French horn and flute solos respectively. Bill Cox and Jerry Ollman both played difficult trombone solos, and both came out on top. Another flute finalist was Evelyn Troub. Art Jones, baritonist, obtained a superior rating. Don Carson received the same rating for a cornet solo.

A clarinet quartet composed of Catherine Cawthorne, Jerry Coker, Ken Tennyson and Marian Lory received superior ratings as did a saxophone quartet composed of Jerry Coker, Ken Tennyson, Carol Dickinson and Andy Smithberger. Don Carson, Doris Holderman, and Edwin Dean combined their talents in a cornet trio to secure a superior rating.

Those who received the rating, excellent were: Edwin Dean, Jerry Ollman, Nancy Williams, Dick Brueske, Bill Cox, Norma Lebo, Dick Bolesky, Donna Miller, Charles Grundy, Roger Ward, Delores Mahler, Catherine Cawthorne, Shirley Robinson, Diane Stubbins and Marian Lory.

Jim Considine, Terry Duncan, and Bob Sells formed a cornet trio and received a good rating. Also a woodwind quintet of Evelyn Troub, Andy Smithberger, Bob Ross, Georgia Lackman and Ken Tennyson scored a good.

ENROLLMENT INCREASES BY SIXTEEN THIS SEMESTER

Last semester there were 656 students at Adams. The school is growing larger each semester. There are 672 enrolled this term.

Among all of these faces we have some new ones. The four new 10A's are Maxine Baime from Muskegon, Michigan, and Hugh Baldus from Fort Wayne, South Side. They are new members of 105 this semester. Phyllis Thornburg was just imported from Mishawaka to the Drafting Room and Phyllis McFarland from Riley is a new member of the 205 family.

In the 11A class we have Shirley Putman, room 107 who hailed from Berkley, Michigan and Adrienne Miller who came to us from Central.

STUDENTS FEEL THE EXTRA HOURS IN GLEE CLUB ARE WORTH THE TIME

There are very few times that sophomores or new members in a club are really allowed to publicly express their opinions. The Glee Club felt that it would like to hear from some of its sophomores and new members so they asked them the question "Do you think that the Glee Club is worth the extra hours practice?" This question was asked because it was of interest to all the club.

Dick Brueske, a junior and a new member in the Glee Club, answered the question thus: When asked this question I would immediately answer, yes! While I know I'm not going to be a "great singer or anything like that, I feel that through the Glee Club and Chorus classes I'm getting a better understanding of music and everything that goes with it. I think that I've shown progress already, since I have become "some sort of a singer," instead of the bellow that I was. The few extra hours that we put in a week really don't amount to anything when one considers the benefits we are getting.

Jean Gooley and Bob Bartol, two sophomores, answered: Jean's: "My answer to your question is that I definitely do think it is worth it. I think the Glee Club is a great organization and it is an honor to belong to it. All the extra hours that are put in to it are definitely worth it. When the Glee Club starts to prepare for a program, I know it is going to take a lot of work, however, in the end it is worth all of it. At first I thought I'd never be able to get there on time, but now if I don't I realize how much I would miss."

Bob's comments were: During my first semester at John Adams I was one of the fortunate new students who was invited to join the Glee Club. In previous years I have been an ardent admirer of the Glee Club in their presentations of operettas and other programs, so that when I was asked to join the club I was very happy to become a part of it. It is true that the extra hours are tiring and that they require giving up other desirable activities, but actually it is an enjoyable and character building activity. It not only provides a new field of musical education, but prepares a member to take the responsibilities of later life.

Inspiration is the thing that makes it possible for the members of the Glee Club to practice long hours without discouragement. The inspiration is the many supporters of the Glee Club. I have been disgusted many times with the extra hours of practice, but I wholeheartedly believe that every minute of it has been valuable to my education, and that the club's activities are actually a shining example of democracy at work.

PARENTS AND STUDENTS DISCUSS "STUDENT PROBLEMS"

On Wednesday, February 16, a P. T. A. study group held a discussion between students and parents on "Student Problems." Several students gave their opinions on the topic "As We See It." Miss Burns acted as moderator and Mrs. McClure aided the students who were from her last year's public speaking classes.

Laurette Canter and Charles Hoffman gave information to the parents on the students' attitude toward their home problems. Mary Louise Schwiier and Mac Bussert dealt with the students' ideas toward school problems. Joan Screes and Ben Jurcik spoke on the personal problems of students. Phyllis Schragar and Robert Eveld talked about the social problems of teenagers.

Following the brief constructive speeches the parents asked questions for the students to answer. The parents enjoyed and benefited greatly from the discussion period for it helped them to understand, even more, the problems of their children.

FIVE NEW STUDENT TEACHERS STUDY METHODS HERE

With the new semester five new student teachers have appeared at John Adams. These student teachers are under the supervision of Miss Roell, Mr. Davis, Mrs. McClure and Mr. Goldsberry.

Miss Roell's young teacher is Miss Dagny Lenon; a former graduate and valedictorian of John Adams who is now a senior A at St. Mary's College. She is majoring in Business Education and doing her practice teaching work in Business Relations. She will also observe in Shorthand and Office Practice.

The young lady Mrs. CcClure is guiding is Miss Carolyn Fuchtmann, also a senior at St. Mary's College and a candidate for license in English and French.

Mr. Davis is going to take life easy in gym class from now on. He will have the aid of two gentlemen, Messrs. Richard Friend and George Strohmeier seniors from Notre Dame. These young men are majoring in Physical Education and Health.

HI-Y SPONSORED ADAMS EVE TO BE HELD THIS FRIDAY

This year the Adams Eve, to be held March 4, will be a greater affair than ever before. First there will be a preliminary game of the two leading intramural basketball teams. This game will begin at 6:40 sharp. Then the main event of the evening will be the Adams faculty playing the senior Hi-Y members. Those expected to play on the faculty team are:

Mr. Crowe, Mr. Davis, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Powell, Mr. Dickey, Mr. Rothermla and Mr. Neff. Mr. Kridler and Mr. Koss will be the officials.

The Senior Hi-Y boys planning to play are John Horvath, Bob Eveld, Devon Frash, Bill Clark, Dick Carlson, Sam Jennings, John Bowman, Bill Tait, Bob Wegner, Bob Gross and Gene Wright.

Gene Wright, general chairman of the event, announces that a record dance will be held immediately after the game.

Tickets will be 30c for the game and the dance.

Glee Club, Band and Debate Entertain at Founders Day Meeting

Tuesday, February 15, the P.T.A. had their Founders' Day meeting in the Little Theatre. A very interesting and enjoyable program accompanied the meeting.

First on the program was a number of selections by the John Adams band. Included was the old favorite, "The Little Brown Jug." Don Carson played a very fine coronet solo.

Next the group was entertained by the Triple-Trio and the Boys' Quartet. David Gibson and Beverly Brooks both sang solos.

Last of all the Debate Club of John Adams gave a demonstration debate for those present. The affirmative speakers were Janet Shulmier and LaMar Worley. On the negative team were Joan Partritz and Bob Gross.

Mrs. Neiter concluded the program with a prayer.

Delicious refreshments were then served in the cafeteria.

Miss Mary Jo Mack from Niles, Michigan and a senior at St. Mary's is the young lady Mr. Goldsberry will guide in the proper methods of teaching. Miss Mack is assisting in Sociology.

These student teachers must acquire a specified number of hours of actual teaching experience in addition to observing lessons that are taught by others in order to meet the state requirements to qualify for a license to teach.

John Adams Tower



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TOWER

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EMPTY WAGONS MAKE THE MOST NOISE

No doubt you have heard this phrase many times, but what does it mean? If you take the sentence literally, which is almost never done, you might remember a time you have heard an empty wagon bumping down a rough road. It certainly makes more noise than a heavily loaded one.

But let's take the phrase in the sense it is usually taken. Those of us who have had a chance to visit the varsity dressing room have seen the phrase framed and hung on the wall. This would seem the ideal place for these words for it reminds the boys that a person who is well developed emotionally and intellectually and along the lines of sportsmanship accepts both victory and defeat humbly. He doesn't shout protest in accepting defeat nor does he brag unduly on winning.

Not only in sports but also in life does the phrase apply. "Brevity is the soul of wit," goes an old saying No one admires the person who is always boisterous and loud and who as a consequence often times shows his ignorance rather than good judgement. A week or so ago we celebrated the birthday of a man who, out of a full life which he lived in moderation and good judgement brought us a speech—a speech which took but a very few minutes to deliver but one which expressed thoughts that it would have taken another man with less sense hours to express.

—Bob Wegner

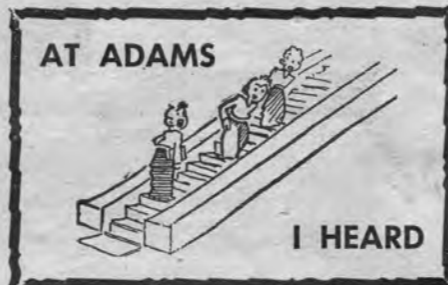
A SOPHS VERSION OF ADAMS

A sophomore "B" feels like the humblest thing this side of a worm. On our first day here at Adams we felt strange and out of place. Sophomore "B's" are usually the target at which most of the jokes and pranks are aimed. We are stared up and down by everybody. Upperclassmen say that they can always tell us by the way we walk down the halls with our faces upturned—looking for room numbers. At first we are angry or insulted at these comments but then we begin to realize that when we get to be upperclassmen, we too, can play the same jokes on the new sophomores.

Going from a junior high school to a senior high school is a big step and we aren't sure if we are going to like it. We have heard many tales about how hard the subjects are, how easy you can get lost in the building, and how different the teachers and upperclassmen are to you. Really we are scared to death.

Finally we get through the first day and we realize that Adams isn't so bad after all. In fact, we like it so much that we are planning to stay three or even more years here.

—Jane Gindlberger



Just to prove that some people know where just reverence is due, Layman is still worshipping his Bishop.

Dot DePree and Denny Kunce walk around an awful lot together.

Don't let Marg Boldon fool you folks, she's still singing to the tune of "While you're gone I miss you, But, Oh Boy! What fun!"

Old stuff — but the Green twins are still going it steady with Carlisle Parker and Bill Clark.

I wonder what Artie thinks of Mac's butch haircut.

Another handshaking couple of three months is Donna Miller and her good friend, Marlin.

Jack Allen seems to have been going steady for two years — a Janie from Riley.

Bruce Million and Barbara Taylor have been in the steady ranks for some time, now; Ditto for Marva Tanner and Dick Carlson.

Punky and Dee Allison are having fun too — Bob Bella and Bob Bay, respectively — Riley, that is.

With their fellows away, I wonder what keeps Norma, Ona, Betty, Dorothy and Virginia Caron still going to the Palais every Wednesday night.

Does Pat Ferraro know he has a secret admirer in one of his morning classes.

Bob Zimmerman thinks it would be a good idea if we started a love-lorn column just for him.

Nancy Carlson — will it be Wabash or Purdue? Better make up your mind. Did attending the fraternity dance help any?

Girls a handsome, eligible bachelor in our midst is Jim Carlson.

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LATIN STUDENTS ARE CONSIDERED FORTUNATE (?)

We who study Latin should count ourselves lucky. If we hadn't chosen our cultured course how else would we ever know that "Gaul was divided into three parts?" One just isn't educated unless he knows of that important fact. It is through gathering such crumbs of culture that refrigerators are won in the quiz shows. We should work diligently so as to be ready when our chance comes, if it ever does.

All joking aside, true education does come from such subjects as Latin. It is a great discipline for the mind. The English language is based on it, and a much better understanding of phrases and words is gained. The social graces are also taught indirectly in Miss Kaczmarek's class. She has practically succeeded in breaking us of the gum-chewing habit.

I have learned several facts since studying about Caesar — he was one of the world's great generals and a big factor in changing the course of history in his time.

Latin is no longer a spoken language and is sometimes referred to as a "dead language. A very apt poem has been composed about this as follows:

Latin is a language from far
 across the sea,
 First it killed the Roman's,
 and now it's killing me!

—Betty Solbrig

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Faculty Express Ideas On School Spirit

WAITER,
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Some believe that the spirit of a man is the part of him that remains after his body is gone. It is the contagious part of him, the part that "rubs off" onto those who know him. It is his essence, the part for which all his other parts exist.

A man's spirit may show itself in the form of his courage or his fear, his joy or his gloom, his sympathy or his indifference, his hope or his despair; the spirit takes many forms; it is the man's flavor.

John Adams High School is a community of the spirits of its alumni, its students and their parents, its faculty, and its principal. The contagious parts of all the lives that are John Adams compound themselves to make the spirit of the school, the one flavor of all the lives that work and play together for three years, and then another three, and another . . . Therefore, when we speak of the spirit of John Adams, we are speaking quite personally, quite directly of ourselves, speaking about you and me.

If you must ask what I think of the spirit of John Adams, you must find your answer in what we are as individual persons with a lot of plus signs grouping us into an algebraic sum. What do you think? Not at all bad, not at all all good; but much more of the good than the bad? You see, this is our school; it is our own flavor that we taste. Will you please pass the mayonnaise?

— A. T. Krider

SCHOOL SPIRIT

Better spirit will prevail at John Adams when every student and teacher realizes that true school spirit stems from an attitude of service. The love and respect for our homes, churches, and school magnify when we sense that we are doing a small part in helping them to be successful. We all differ from one another in a variety of ways but we all must be united in our loyalty to John Adams if we are to have "school spirit."

The student who participates in any school activity solely for the sweater or pin which he will receive does not reap any joy from the experience and contributes very little to the betterment of the school. The opposite student participates with the attitude of doing his part in making a better school, and in turn he creates in his own mind an attitude of good "school spirit."

This attitude may be carried beyond the extra-curricular into every phase of the school program. If we would stop and realize we are contributing our part if we but stoop to pick up a piece of waste paper, show respect for the books provided, observe regulations, or consider the rights and feelings of others whether they be a fellow student or teacher.

When we enter the building each morning let's think of what we can do for our school rather than what the school can do for us, and in turn I believe we create within ourselves "school spirit."

Kermit Thompson—

HERE'S WHAT WE HAVE TO SAY

One of the main topics for discussion during the past few weeks has been the decline of real school spirit in the schools of today. John Adams has of late come in for more than a small per cent of the criticism on this account leveled at the high schools of South Bend. Until today we of the Tower have stood up for the dependability and loyalty of students at Adams; we have blamed practically everything from the faculty and large assignments to atmospheric conditions for the sloppy way in which we back up our school.

To bring the whole situation to the attention of the school and give us kids a chance to defend our somewhat battered honor, we decided to run a group of editorials by the faculty and by the students on school spirit at Adams. Well, it brought the situation into the open all right! The faculty had enough interest in us kids to take time to set down some inspiring and painstakingly written ideas for us. Apparently the students of Adams are much busier, because they either outright refused to write their opinions, or what is worse, came forth with some kind of an excuse after they had promised to do so. Well, from now on it cannot be said that we students had no opportunity to prove what we're made of and to show what John Adams means to us; instead, let it be known that we were too lazy to express an opinion and too wishy-washy to have one in the first place.

— BETTY and LOIS

JOHN ADAMS SCHOOL SPIRIT CAN BE IMPROVED: MRS. McCLURE

The topic of "school spirit" seems to be one under discussion much of the time by our John Adams family. The questions raised seem to center around whether or not we have any school spirit, whether or not it is worthy of us, and what we can do to improve it, if anything.

Each individual creates a mystical quality which is the expression of all the things the individual is, and this quality is felt by those who come in contact with him as his attitudes of feeling and doing. This quality is called his spirit. He may have a fine spirit, a high spirit, a buoyant spirit, a courageous spirit, a generous spirit or an understanding spirit; on the other hand, he may have a mean spirit, a depressing spirit, a selfish spirit, an envious spirit, a whining spirit, a cowardly spirit or a ruthless spirit. These attitudes of spirit color his reactions to everyday living and affect those around him.

An institution like John Adams High School creates a "school spirit" which is the composite of the spirit each individual within it, including the faculty, the student body, and the community connected with the school. This spirit can be no more or no less, no better or no worse than the individuals who create it. It is possible to create a spirit founded on deep understanding, a desire for all persons to be as happy and successful as possible, a desire to be unselfish with the helpful to each other, a desire to have patience with each other's weaknesses and mistakes, and a desire to contribute a rightful share of effort for the whole good; or a spirit can be created based on the opposite desires. Thus a school spirit will express what the group is as a whole.

Yes, — we will have a school spirit expressed at John Adams because we are human beings. That spirit will be the sum total of what we as individuals are. I do not feel that to date this spirit is as worthy of us as it should be. I do feel that it can be improved and that done by each one of us searching his own soul to see if he is expressing those qualities of spirit which a school family like ours should possess.

— Hazel McClure

A nickel isn't supposed to be as good as a dollar, but it goes to church more often.

Anonymous

Is Indifference An Example Of Our School Spirit?

The cooperative spirit of the Drama Club members at the time of the fall production of Captain Jinks was a most gratifying and refreshing experience. The same cooperative was evident in their willingness to help with ushering and with sets for the March of Dimes Disc Jockey Show. But alas! too often the spirit of our student body is one of indifference. This indifference is evident in all phases of the student's school life. With too many individuals the well-prepared assignment is a rare occurrence. For a teacher to leave her classroom during the five minute intermission period often requires a skillful bit of out-maneuvering the students; she usually has to "buck the line." It is perhaps in this lack of observance of good manners that we have the most glaring example of indifference on the part of the students who know better but can't be bothered.

—Gwendolyn Kaczmarek

ALL FOR ONE — ONE FOR ALL

Every worthy organization is built upon an ideal and the perpetuity of that organization is largely determined by the sincerity with which the ideal is fostered. Likewise, great schools and teams are built around both discipline and tradition.

It is altogether fitting that Adams should keep alive the stories of her greatest games and exceptional feats of skill and sacrifice of her own heroes. The spoken word and printed page, the photographic halls of fame and the trophy room, all should be employed to preserve to posterity the valorous deeds of their passing Supermen.

Morale is an intangible mental virtue. It is a state of mind that makes evasiveness, slacking, and cowardice impossible. It is a kind of bodily and mental attitude which makes an individual fit for any task. Morale is a mental condition, marked by the ability to "come back".

There are a good many things to worship in athletics — some choose heroes, some choose championship, some choose a letter, and some the plaudits of the grandstand, but there is only one thing worth being worshipped and that is spirit. In a few years the letter will be faded and moth-eaten, championship forgotten, and the echoes of the stands gone forever, but the spirit lives on. It alone is worthy of regard. The spirited mind is a fighting mind at its very best.

"God will not look at you for medals, degrees, or diplomas, but for scars."

James Crowe

Neighboring News

WASHINGTON: Most class parties are practically formal affairs at Washington High. Sophomore A's and Junior B's have tried something new, however. Their party on February 11 was a barn dance with real barn dance music. The costumes were in keeping with the barn atmosphere, boys and girls wore blue jeans and loud plaid shirts.

CENTRAL: For Central, the 1948-49 basketball season is over as far as conference play is concerned. Central should be proud this week of its Debate team. LaPorte invited the Central team and the debate teams of Jefferson of Lafayette and Crown Point High School to meet them. Central won.

On hand to greet the Thank You train on Lincoln's birthday was the Central band who played French and American anthems. The Thank You train had on display among other things the bugle which ended the first world war. There were also some small novelty gifts from France.

EAGLES "B" TEAM LOSES YEAR'S FINAL GAME TO ELKHART

February 18, 1949.

The John Adams Eagles journeyed to Elkhart only to be defeated by a fast third and fourth quarter rally. The two teams scored evenly in the first quarter, while the Eagles took a three point edge in the second quarter. Then came the deadly third quarter in which the Blue Blazers scored 10 points to a slim Adams 2 points. The Elkhart squad also outscored the Eagles in the fourth and final period with a smothering 14 points to the Eagles 8, to make it 34-25 in all. This was not only the last conference battle of the year, but also the last game. This loss makes their conference average 5 wins and 4 losses. The "B" squad has done a fine job this year and is worthy of much credit. Bob Pfaff was the hot shot of the evening for the Eagles with 11 points, while Ken Dillion sneaked in 5.

John Adams	B	FP	F
Acten	0	0	1
Pfaff	4	3	2
Helmer	0	1	4
Dillion	2	1	3
Reinke	0	0	2
Troeger	0	0	0
Rowe	0	0	0
Smith	1	0	0
Soellinger	2	0	3
Whitmer	1	0	1
Elkhart	B	FP	F
Kauffna	3	3	1
Personette	0	0	1
Troupe	4	1	1
Cripe	0	0	1
Likens	1	2	1
Everts	3	2	2
Grant	2	0	2

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Eagles Drop Elkhart, 54 - 52, In Last Game Of Conference

The last game of an eighteen game card came to a close in Elkhart last week as the Eagles came through victorious. This was a conference win and it also was the last regularly scheduled game on the 1948-49 schedule. Adams went into the lead early in the game and the closest Elkhart came was two points at the end of the third quarter and at the end of the game. In the first half, the score read 12-11 in favor of the Eagles at the end of the first period. The score was 28-25 at the intermission and 38-36 at the beginning of the final stanza. Adams led 54-46 with one minute remaining in the ball game when the Blazers caught on fire and dropped in three baskets before the clock stopped them with a two point margin between the teams. Leading the scoring was the Truex brothers, Don and Dick. Don netted some 17 points while Dick came through with 14. The victory gave Adams a final conference record of three victories against six defeats.

Adams	B	FT	F
Dick Truex	6	2	3
Bennett	3	2	1
Don Truex	7	3	2
Miller	0	1	2
Howell	3	0	4
Hukill	1	0	2
Oakes	2	2	2

Adams	12	28	38	54
Elkhart	11	25	36	52

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Four Intramural Teams Contend For Winning Place

The Adams intramural basketball teams played their last games on Monday, February 21. These teams were organized on the first Monday after Christmas vacation and have been playing every Monday night from 7 to 9. The boys have been under the supervision of Mr. Davis and Mr. Powell.

The February 21 games have yet to be calculated on a percentage of points and wins before we can announce the winning team but according to Mr. Davis the four leading contenders are the teams lead by Smeltzer, Jurcik, Frash and Mitchell.

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EAGLES "B" SQUAD WHIPS EAGLES "C" SQUAD

February 17, 1949.

A very much improved "C" squad nearly toppled the "B" in a close battle up until the fourth quarter when the "B" squad began showing its strength. The lead changed hands many times during the game with the "C" squad being ahead much of the time. The "B" squad jumped to an early lead only to have the "C" squad come back quickly and challenge till the fourth quarter. The game was fast all the way and proved to be a thriller. John Helvey shot the way for the "C" squaders, while Fred Helmer was tally man for the "B" squad. The final score was 35-22.

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