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VOLUME LXXX • ISSUE TWO

The John Adams Tower

THE
TRUMP
SURGEBLACK
LIVES
MATTERHERITAGE
OR
HATESTEPHEN
COLBERT
IS BACK

75 YEARS of EXCELLENCE

TREVION M. MCFARLAND • Associate Editor

Since 1940 John Adams High School has provided South Bend's marquee education to the East Side; this September marks the school's 75th anniversary. A school built on hard work and dedication, the building stands as one of South Bend's most venerable: the same can be said for two renowned Adams teachers. Nevin Longenecker, biology teacher, came to Adams 46 years ago in 1969. Michael Szucs, the school's government teacher, came to Adams 45 years ago in 1970.

The Adams of today, as compared to the Adams of yesterday "is not big at all," stated Longenecker. In the '70s and '80s, Adams had anywhere from 2000-2200 students; note, this was before the remodeling of the school occurred in 2005. Classes started as early as 6:45 a.m. with the last class starting at 4:30 p.m. You only needed the classes to graduate, so you could come in at 6:45 and stay until noon, or come in at noon and leave after your 4:30 p.m. class.

Back then, lunch was also very different. The students and teachers got a full hour for an open lunch. You could go to McDonald's or any other burger joint on Lincolnway East if so desired. "Everyone had a noisy car back in the day," said Longenecker, "and it wasn't safe to cross Twyckenham between 11 and 12 p.m. as that street was like the Indy 500 when 500 cars would leave to go get lunch."

In the lower tunnel, which is snaked around below most of the Adams building, there were storage areas where drums of water and crackers were stored just in case a bomb was dropped on Adams during World War II. The crackers sat from 1940 until the building was remodeled in 2005. The staff was offered the opportunity to taste the 65 year old stored crackers. "They tasted just like 65 year old crackers should taste; terrible," Longenecker said. "Boy, the students are lucky no bombs were dropped on us during World War II."

There were also many more pep assemblies then as compared to now. There were gigantic bonfires the night before a big football game, just like many colleges. "Everyone went to the football games," Longenecker said. "There would be about 5000 persons at school field and about 3000 in the gym for basketball games."

Dress code back then was significantly different as well: female students were required to wear dresses or skirts; male students could not have any facial hair and

their sideburns could not be below their ear lobes. Additionally, male students had to wear collared shirts. Students could not wear jeans or tennis shoes and shorts were strictly prohibited. Summer was a full three months, the school lunch was homemade food, prepared by the lunch ladies, and the seniors finished two weeks before the underclassmen finished. Who else wants to go back to the old days?

"Snow days were considered an 'Act of God'," said Szucs. He continued, "[Snow days] did not have to be made up; a snow day back then was truly a holiday. But, there were a lot of things going on during that time period; students protesting Vietnam," Szucs recalls. He said, "and a lot of racial disturbances in the 1970's."

"It wasn't that long ago I was a student here," said James Seitz, Adams' Principal. Seitz said, "My experience now is that the academic rigor is much higher than it was when I was student. Just the overall competition for students to get into college is extremely more difficult. Student population has increased by about 400 students while the ethnicities have stayed about the same. Our athletic programs have a very high set standard; we are continuing to exceed. Our administration is much more approachable today, than it was when I was a student. The biggest difference is social media, and technology. Nowadays, social media can be a negative.

With all that being said, the student today has a much more stressful school life; but a lot more opportunities."

While Adams rapidly approaches Year 75, myriad things have changed. However, Adams' core principles remain: hard work, dedication, and an exemplary education.

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THE TOWER serves to supplement the educational environment of John Adams High School by providing an informative and entertaining source of news and communication to the students, faculty, staff, parents and the community. In addition, the publication is committed to the conversation of fine journalistic standards. All unsigned editorials represent a majority vote of the Editorial Board which consists of Tower members and the advisor. Signed editorials, cartoons, and illustrations represent the viewpoint of the individual author or artist. The Tower reserves the right to refuse any advertising copy or ad which does not meet our standards. Advertising and letters may be delivered to room 1831, Ms. Lewis' mail box, or mailed to John Adams High School 808 S Twyckenham Dr, South Bend, IN 46615.



LEBANON PROTESTS

ALICE GOULDING • Reporter

An estimated 10,000 protesters gathered in Beirut, the largest city and capital of Lebanon, in August to continue a month long stand against the Lebanese government's sanitation problems. Tensions have been high all year, but they reached their tipping point in July, when the capital's landfills shut down due to mismanagement. Since then, thousands of tons of rotting garbage have been piling up in the city streets, highlighting the inefficiency of Lebanon's government.

What started out as a peaceful protest lead by a group known as "You Stink" quickly turned to violence when law enforcement began attacking protesters with fire hoses, tear gas, and rubber bullets. Subsequently, the protesters began throwing rocks at the police. Chaos ensued, injuring dozens on both sides. Prime Minister Tammam Salam said, "What happened [during the protests was] the result of accumulating matters that have been building up and increasing the people's suffering as the result of the vacuum we are living [in]."

Protesters, however, were not happy with Salam's response. Many are calling for him to resign, in part because they never wanted him in the first place. Lebanon has been without a president for 15 months, and parliament voted itself back into power this past election, due to disagreements about new election laws.

Lebanon, situated between Syria and Israel, has admitted over 1.2 million Syrian refugees this past year, which initially caused public outcry and reignited many ethnic tensions. Despite this, protesters have not been divided by racial or partisan lines. According to Assaad Thebian, a "You Stink" leader, "Everybody means everybody."

Although protest leaders are excited by the awareness they've raised, some are afraid of potential government retaliation, especially the identification as 'radicals': "We are not for toppling the regime, we are for reforms", said one protester.

"It's a very complex situation, and I don't know if it will ever be solved," said Mr. Weaver, a history teacher at JA. "[These issues have] been going on for hundreds of years...I don't know what this will all solve."

While long term goals include a complete overhaul of the Lebanese government, most agree that the restoration of clean streets and Lebanon's dignity are far more feasible, and necessary, if political change is to continue.

THE TRUMP SURGE

AIDAN REILLY • Editor-In-Chief

In an unexpected turn, business mogul and television celebrity Donald Trump has surged to the top of a heavily crowded GOP field vying for the Republican nomination in the 2016 presidential race. According to an Aug. 11 CNN Poll – markedly, five days after the first GOP debate on Fox News – 24% of voters identifying as Republican would vote for Trump if the primaries were conducted that day. Even more telling, 45% of voters recognize Trump as the most trustworthy GOP candidate. The GOP candidate will be announced at the Republican National Convention next July in Cleveland.

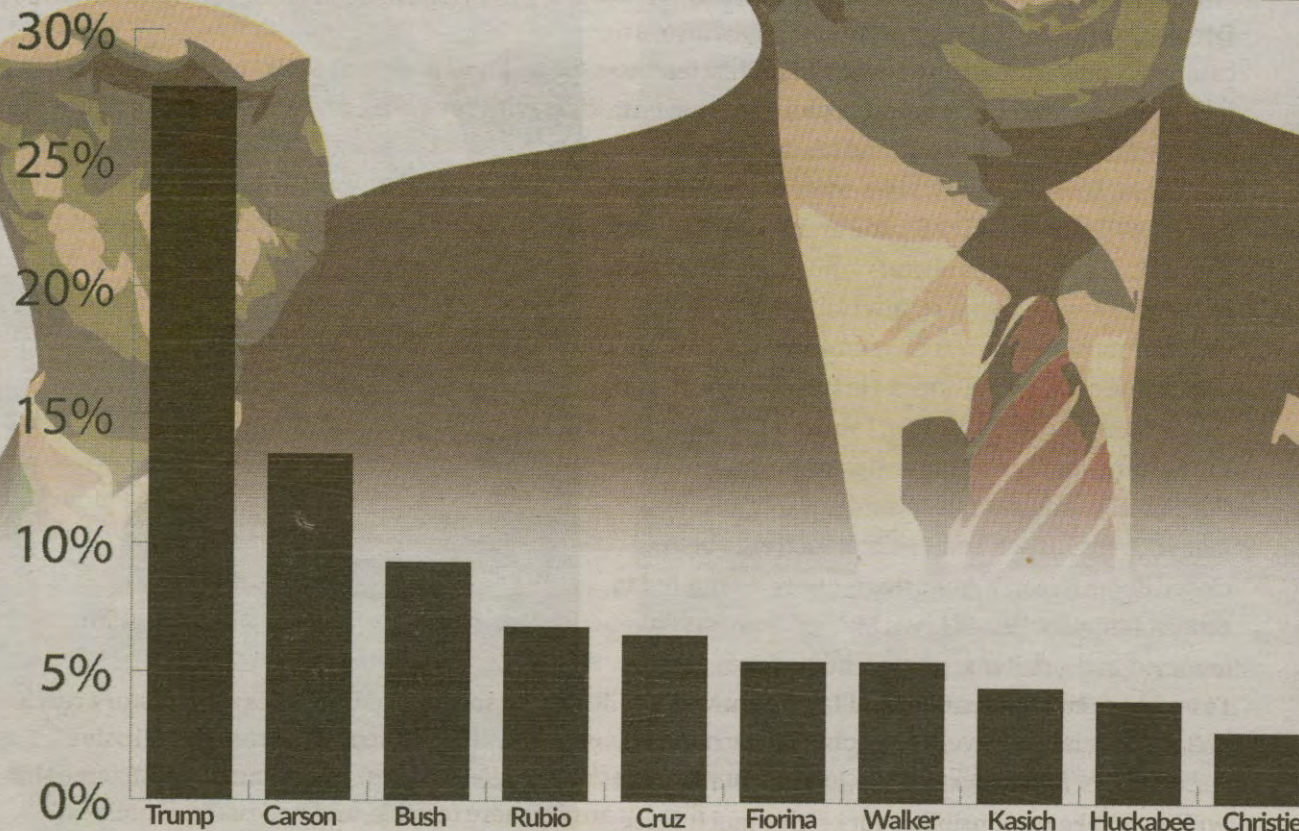
Though the Iowa Caucus – essentially the 1st primary in the 2016 presidential race – won't take place until next February, Trump has done nothing short of flip the Republican Party upside down since entering the presidential race three months ago. For months, former Florida Gov. Jeb

Bush has been considered a lock to win the GOP Nominee. This is evidenced by Bush's immense financial stability. As reported by the New York-Times, Bush has wooed the mega-donors, garnering over \$120 million in campaign assets. For comparison, Hillary Clinton, former Secretary of State and Democratic nominee frontrunner, has raised just about \$67 million. The next closest GOP fundraiser, Sen. Ted Cruz (R – Texas), has raised approximately \$53 million. Trump? \$0.

Baffling experts and his fellow competition, Trump has risen to the top of the polls despite three distinct obstacles: 1. Zero political experience 2. An entirely self-funded campaign 3. A notoriety for abrasive comments concerning women and immigrants. In fact, many still consider 'Trump' to be a dirty word in politics.

Trump has commanded headlines recently for his attack on Fox News Debate Host Megyn Kelly, calling Mexican immigrants "rapists", and refusing to recognize the venerable John McCain as a war hero; McCain was a prisoner of war in North Vietnam from Oct. 1967 until May 1973. Additionally, a Trump comment was recently featured on John Oliver's "Last Week Tonight": Trump told a female reporter, "I mean, we could say politically correct that look doesn't matter, but the look obviously matters. Like you wouldn't have your job if you weren't beautiful."

Nevertheless, Trump's misogynistic notoriety and blunt demeanor have had little to no impact on his standing in the polls. Following the GOP Debates on August 6, he held a commanding lead over his competition. The CNN poll states Bush remains 2nd at 13% and Sen. Marco Rubio (R- FL) and Sen. Rand Paul (R – KY) are tied for 3rd at 8%.



"In fact, many still consider 'Trump' to be a dirty word in politics."



BLACK LIVES MATTER

& ITS IMPACTS ON POLITICS

MARIAH RUSH • News Editor

The "Black Lives Matter" movement has reached universal awareness since its start in the wake of the Trayvon Martin shooting by George Zimmerman in 2013. It aims to address the importance of the lives of black women and men, and more recently, has begun to highlight transgender black women. Although it started in 2013, it peaked with universal knowability in 2014 after the killings of African Americans Michael Brown and Eric Garner (Garner also sparked the "I Can't Breathe" movement).

Recently, Sandra Bland, a woman who was found dead after an apparent suicide in her jail cell after being pulled over for a minor traffic violation, has been the face of the movement. Countless rallies and protests have propelled the "Black Lives Matter" movement to the forefront of today's news. It has dominated Twitter through the #BlackLivesMatter hashtag. Popular television shows like "Law & Order: SVU" and "Scandal" have included the movement in their episodes' stories. While it is safe to say "Black

Lives Matter" is a movement for the history books, the question 'what real changes will be made' ensues.

With any movement, all of the attention is for a purpose: change. The "Black Lives Matter" movement has sparked political debate and discussion with the upcoming 2016 presidential election. In early August, Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Bernie Sanders (I - VT) gave up his microphone at a campaign rally in Seattle to "Black Lives Matter" activists. Sanders did not speak at all during the event; he only told supporters to attend his larger rally that night. Seattle's "Black Lives Matter" chapter told CNN, "White progressive Seattle and Bernie Sanders cannot call themselves liberals while they participate in the racist system that claims black lives." This is not the first time Sanders has come in contact with "Black Lives Matter" protests. He has previously said, "Black lives, of course, matter. I spent 50 years of my life fighting for civil rights and for dignity." Hillary Clinton, also a democratic presidential candidate, met with five "Black Lives Matter" activists behind closed doors in early August after they attempted to protest her rally. "Black Lives Matter" activists have declined to share her response. Julius Jones of the Massachusetts chapter said, "What we got was a Hillary Clinton who was willing to delve into the issues given her platform constraints, but she was not willing to take responsibility for or give much voice to the anti-blackness current."



While "Black Lives Matter" has mostly (CONT. FROM PAGE 4) targeted Democrats because of their need for the African American vote, Republican presidential candidates have also been approached by "Black Lives Matter". Retired neurosurgeon Ben Carson, (the only African American candidate) said that the protesters were "creating strife". "Of course black lives matter," Carson continued. "But what I feel, instead of people pointing fingers at each other and just creating strife, what we need to be talking about is how do we solve problems in the black community. Of murder, essentially." Business mogul and Republican candidate Donald Trump criticized Sanders for giving up his rally to protesters. "That will never happen with me...I don't know if I'll do the fighting myself or if other people will, but that was a disgrace." Although most African Americans tend to vote Democratic in elections, some Republican candidates are still striving to appeal to African Americans. Sen. Rand Paul (R - KY) is said to have an unofficial African American advisory board to help him communicate how his conservative policies will help stop police brutality and protect civil liberties.

The Republican debate on Fox News in early August has sparked criticism for only devoting two minutes in a two hour debate to police violence and racism. The question has been raised: is there truly a place in politics for the "Black Lives Matter" movement? Stephanie Portolese, a junior at Adams, thinks there is. "I think that this time and place in America constitutes a need for change and actual acceptance...I think that politicians still need to address that there are still issues and I think they need to start coming up with solutions. America won't heal itself." Isel Otero, also a junior at Adams, agrees: "It's remarkable to see how many people come together to help this movement grow; yet many politicians say little to nothing on the matter...in fact it's rather frustrating."

In the "Black Lives Matter" movement, neither political party has been spared. Protesters have challenged Democrats and Republicans alike to come up with a real plan instead of vague promises. The upcoming 2016 election will tell what this movement is capable of.



RACHEL DOLEZAL CONTROVERSY

TAMERA BRUCE • Reporter

Spokane, Washington- Rachel Dolezal, a thirty-seven year old civil rights activist and former leader of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) claimed that she was African American; however, in June it was revealed that she was born Caucasian. "I identify as black," Dolezal said after being interviewed by NBC's "Today Show".

She has been interviewed numerous times to find out if she considers herself to be white or African American. Many people feel strongly about this because they believe it is best to have an African American leader for the NAACP and that lying about her race makes it even worse. "I would draw self-portraits with the brown crayon instead of the peach crayon," Dolezal told the "Today Show".

Dolezal's parents, Larry and Ruthanne Dolezal, were shocked by their daughter's choice. They have shown the media childhood pictures of her and disagree with her claim that she would draw her self as an African American instead of white. Both parents are not in contact with their daughter. "That didn't happen," said Ruthanne Dolezal in an interview with NBC. "It's disappointing to see that Rachel is still making false statements... I was hoping to see a change."

Dolezal's brother, Ezra, claims that this began when he came to visit her three years ago. She allegedly admitted to him that she was going to change her identity and made him promise to keep her secret. In an interview with CNN, Ezra Dolezal said, "She told me not to blow her cover about the fact that she had this secret life or alternate identity... She said she was starting a new life." The situation went viral after Dolezal left a now infamous interview in June when a reporter asked her what her racial ethnicity is.

Bryan Hall, a sociology/psychology teacher at Adams said, "It's hard for me to understand as a white person why she is trying to be black. I believe that there are more issues behind it other than race, I believe it's to get attention, or maybe she has a mental problem. It's the lying that disturbs me... I don't know, it's a new concept."

Dolezal has stood by her decision to be known as an African American woman. Dolezal said on the "Today Show" that when she was working in Idaho, she was identified "as first transracial, and then .. the next newspaper article identified me as being a biracial woman. And then the next article ... was, 'This is happening to a black woman.' And I never corrected that."

Following the intense media attention, Dolezal resigned as head of the NAACP in Spokane. Her actions have sparked a debate about a person's right to choose his or her race.

HERITAGE OR HATE

The confederate flag remains under highly controversial standing nationwide.



KAITY RADDE • Reporter

IN THE MIDST OF CONTROVERSY - specifically in South Carolina and its recent decision to remove the flag from the state courthouse - the Confederate flag continues to fly prominently and distinctly in parts of the South. Despite the fact that the Civil War ended over 150 years ago, many people still identify with the rebels. For many southerners, the Confederate flag is a symbol of heritage and regional pride.

"It's about tradition and pride in the fact that their state had been strong enough to walk out [of the Union]," Mr. Kern, a social studies teacher, points out.

The flag also represents the importance of states' rights, and its supporters generally favor a limited federal government. They believe that the flag represents the right, both on a personal level and on a state level, to do what you want to do. Most people in the South at the time of the Civil War didn't want a war; they wanted to be left alone.

Another problem that supporters of the flag now face is the struggle to buy one. Large companies, including Walmart, Amazon, Etsy, Sears, and eBay, have discontinued the sale of all Confederate flag paraphernalia. Smaller companies that still want to sell the flag are largely unable to find suppliers.

These decisions have angered people not necessarily because they want to buy a Confederate flag themselves, but because they feel that if someone wants to buy one, they should have the right to do so. Amazon, for example, stopped selling the Confederate flag before they stopped selling ISIS flags, raising the question of why the Confederate flag has more offensive connotations than the present day terrorist threat of ISIS.

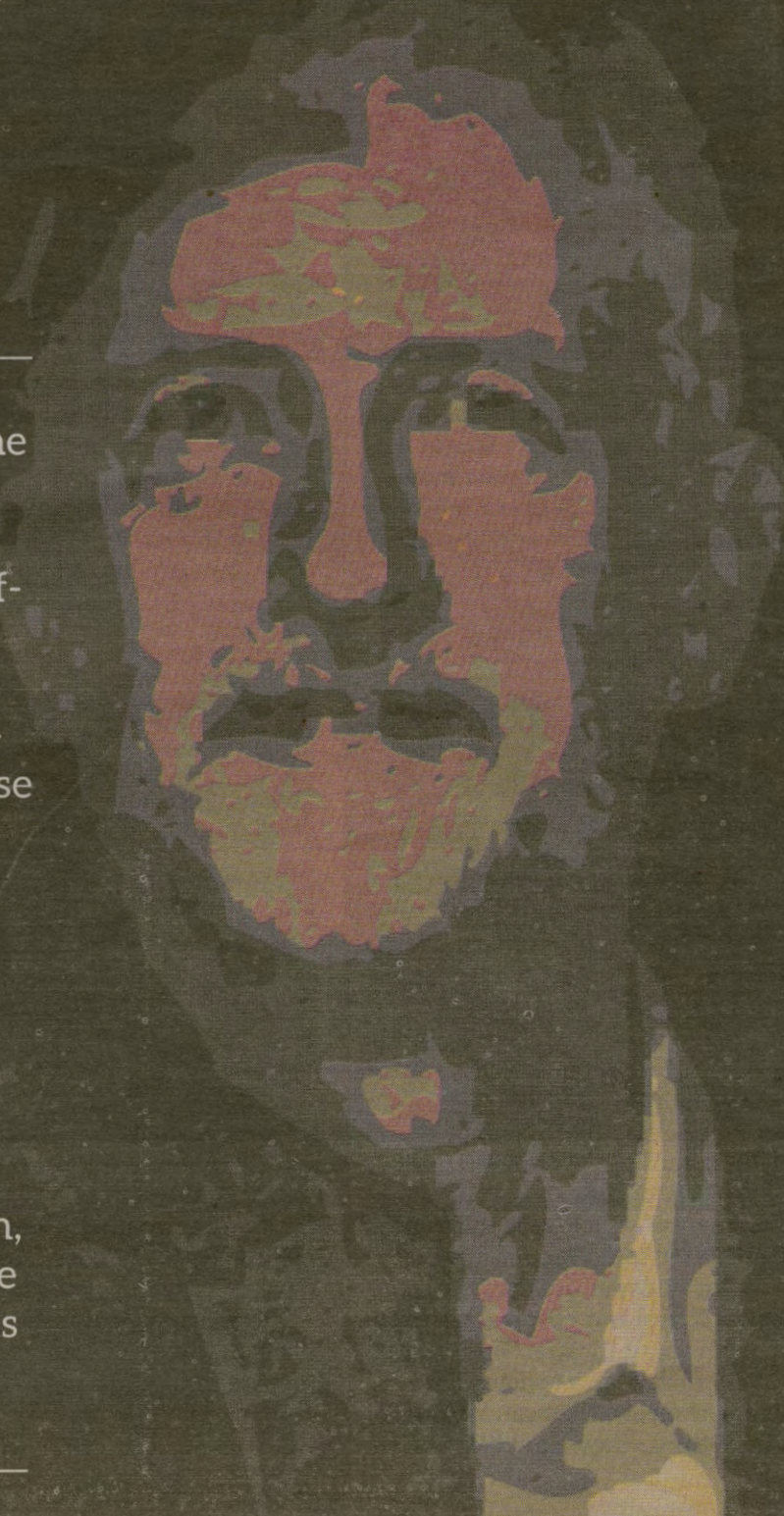
Those who support the flag believe that someone else's dislike of the flag shouldn't affect their ability to have or fly one. It all comes back to pride and the right to do what you want, regardless of the popularity of that decision.

JEREMY CORBYN WINS LABOUR LEADERSHIP ELECTION

DANIEL ERNSBERGER • Layout Designer

Saturday, September 12th, an election for the leader of the left-wing Labour Party in Britain came to a close and found that the winner, ahead by 40 percentage points, was Jeremy Corbyn. Corbyn is an unusual winner in that he is not simply a left-of-center politician, and is the other four in the race. An introduction to him would simply be that he is farther left than a majority of his party representatives, however, 60% of the Labour electorate chose Corbyn as their first choice.

Many in the press likened him to his first-glance image of the bearded socialist, which is absolutely true, but then chose to pass him off as unelectable. His supposed unelectability, however, seemed to not be important to Labour voters, who instead seemed to focus on his policies. This is a chance for the political mainstream in Britain to shift to the left, even after the last national election, which re-elected the Conservative Party and Prime Minister David Cameron. Corbyn will now serve as the head of the Labour Party and lead the opposition against Cameron's conservative majority.



NEW TEACHERS AT JOHN ADAMS

Abigail Myers • Reporter

At 7:45 a.m. on August 18, the students here at John Adams (JA) started another school year. Yet things were different; the bell rang, signaling a new chapter and a new career for Adams' first year teachers.

Like most students, the new teachers had to adjust to the new year and atmosphere at John Adams High School.



A graduate of Clay High School, Lindsay Gresham is a new family and consumer sciences (FACS) teacher at Adams. She formerly taught at Purdue University, which is also her alma-mater. Gresham teaches nutrition and wellness, interior design, interpersonal relationships, and human development this year. "There is a good relationship between teachers and students," said Gresham. "I like being part of the change for the better."



"I really like teaching here," Katie Buchs, another new teacher at Adams, stated. "I am excited about being here and want to help students go beyond high school," said Buchs. Like Gresham, Buchs is also a graduate of Clay High School and Purdue University. Currently, she works in the FACS department and teaches the human and social services CTE program.



"It is a very big school," Cassandra Castor said, when asked about her first impressions of Adams. Castor, the new guidance counselor, is a former sign-language interpreter at Marquette Montessori Academy. Castor is from Marion, Indiana, and is the oldest of 8 children. Castor is very excited to join the Adams team as the guidance counselor (D-Ha). "Students can come in any time, I am here to help," said Castor.



Joshua Olsen is also a new English teacher at John Adams High School. Interestingly, he is also a graduate of Adams. "I still love it, the overall school, the culture," Olsen said. He continued, "It's nice to see how far we've come." He previously taught at Penn High School and now teaches English 9, theatre, and advanced theatre. Olsen wants his students to know that, "I am a teacher, but I want to be a mentor, someone they can look up to and push them to do things they want but won't do."



A new addition to the English Department, Victor Lovisa states that JA has a, "very friendly and positive environment." Before coming to Adams, Lovisa taught at Elkhart Central High School in the Career Center for 12 years. This year, Lovisa teaches English 11 and Read 180, the computer course. "I like working with young people and helping them prepare for their futures," said Lovisa.

John Adams also welcomes Mitchell Freeman, Juan Padilla, Matthew McQueen, Henry Borjas, Rhonda Vandall, and Graham Nelson. JA also welcomes Samantha Lewis, the new John Adams Tower sponsor. Also, Zach Myers has been promoted from Assistant Band Director to Head Band Director and Tammy Berebitsky has been appointed as the new Guidance Director, replacing Jennifer Reed.

PARTY IN THE U.S.A.



HALLE GREEN • Reporter

From risque performances to Wrecking Ball being named Video of the Year, Miley Cyrus has continuously made MTV's Video Music Awards memorable. As this years awards show began to approach, Miley revealed that she was hosting.

Miley intended on making this year's MTV Video Music Awards, the "best one yet." Her goal was to make the show "psychedelic and raw," as it has not been in years, she feels. "I didn't want this years VMA's to be like they've been in the past. Last year there wasn't even a host, so there was no energy," said Miley.

This year's line-up consisted of Pharrell Williams, Justin Bieber, The Weeknd, and many more. This years show was going to be a special one for Kanye West as he was a nominee to receive the Michael Jackson Video Vanguard Award.

Taylor Swift presented Kanye West with his Vanguard Award, talking about how the time Kanye

came upon the stage while she was receiving her award at the 2009 VMAs. She introduced him as her friend and gave him a hug and presented him with the award. Kanye delivered a 12 minute speech and in his conclusion he declared that he would be running for president in 2020, as he dropped the mic and walked off the stage.

As well as the Video Vanguard Award, there are also many other awards that were given out that evening. The next award falling in line was the "Video of the Year" award, and the nominees were Beyonce, Kendrick Lamar, Ed Sheeran, Mark Ronson Featuring Bruno Mars, and Taylor Swift Featuring Kendrick Lamar.

Nicki Minaj received the award for Best Hip-Hop Video. While giving her speech she began to thank her pastor and express her love and gratitude for him, but in a matter of seconds she began to curse Miley Cyrus out. She explained that she did this because of an interview that Miley had done, in which

she discussed Nicki and felt Miley had disrespected her. Miley congratulated Nicki and instead of making a big deal out of the situation, she continued to host the show.

The show had a nice, chill vibe. It was fun and entertaining without being over the top, as most awards shows are. MTV did a good job with the planning and the performances were absolutely amazing. This year's "Video of the Year" award went to Taylor Swift and Kendrick Lamar, for their smash hit, 'Bad Blood'.

The final performance was given by Miley featuring lots of back-up dancers in outfits that resembled the 90's Nick cartoon "Aaahh!!! Real Monsters". It was an all around fun performance, quite extravagant, very fitting and typical for Miley Cyrus. This year's MTV Video Music Awards ended with a bang!

THE LATE NIGHT SHOW WITH STEPHEN COLBERT

MADDIE KIMMEL • Reporter

Many of us were saddened when Stephen Colbert announced he would be stepping down as the host of the hilarious news satire "The Colbert Report", but Colbert comforted us by making it clear that he wouldn't be away for too long. Starting Tuesday, September 8, Stephen Colbert will be the new face of late night on CBS. Taking over for longtime host David Letterman, Colbert will bring his unique wit to American audiences everywhere. Viewers can expect to see a starstudded lineup for the show's debut week. Actors, politicians, performers, authors, comedians, and former crushes have been announced as some of Colbert's first guests. Celebrities like George Clooney, Kendrick Lamar, Jeb Bush, Scarlett Johansson, Amy Schumer, and Stephen King will appear on the show. In addition, Colbert's crush from elementary school, who also happened to be his teacher, will be one of his first guests.

Colbert has made it clear that the "The Late Night Show" will be different than "The Colbert Report". The biggest difference is that audiences should expect to see a different version of Colbert on "Late Night" than they did on "The Colbert Report". On "The Colbert Report", Colbert played a fictionalized conservative version of himself that he developed while working as a correspondent on "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart". Colbert has decided to ditch the character for "Late Night" and instead act as himself. Colbert said, "One of the reasons why I most wanted to drop the character is that I felt I had done everything I could do with him other than have my honest interest in my guest... Now I feel actually more freed up."



A SEASON WORTH WAITING FOR

MADDIE McCONNELL • Reporter

The upcoming girls basketball season is said to be an exciting one. For the past few seasons, the Lady Eagles have been the so called "mediocre team" entering the season. Losses suffered in the first round of sectionals for the past two seasons to first the Penn Kingsmen and then the Washington Panthers left a bad taste in the mouth of the team, so the matchups this year are what they called "unfinished business" for the Lady Eagles.

After transitioning from leadership of the three previous senior captains from last year, the ladies are determined to come together and make something of this season. Current senior captain Sabrina Malone comments on their game plan for the season, "We plan to work hard and take no plays off. Defense is also key."

The season kicks off in a little under two months, and the majority of the games played in the coming up year are even more of a reason to drive the ladies through a successful season with the students, faculty, and the staff's support. Varsity cheerleader Alisha Perry, a junior at JA, spoke on what she expects this year of the cheerleaders and the student section, "I think it's going to be so much fun, and it's even better when the crowd participates and is intense with us."

Tryouts begin early October while open gyms are on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school from 3:15-5:00pm. The team encourages anyone interested to come out and bring your gear if you would like to be apart of the excitement in this upcoming season.

WASHINGTON FOOTBALL FIGHT

AMANDA ELLISON • Reporter

What started as a standard IHSA football game soon led to an unsuspected brawl between the Washington Panthers and Michigan City Wolves. "I felt like the brawl had many people shocked and was uncalled for," said Lyric Cornell, one of Washington's cheerleaders. Cornell continued, "The players really must of took it there [sic], which resulted in the refs spazzing and and Michigan city stands to show bad sportsmanship and booed our team as they were walking back to the locker room." Cheerleader Ardisha Hogan also added that, "Tony and John Michael were the two players from Washington high school to participate in the fight."

The untolerated behavior of Tony and John along with Michigan City's players and coach resulted in suspension from the next game and probation for the rest of the season. A video surfaced online of the feud that went down that evening, and the video shows that both players from both teams were involved.

The only information that has been officially released is that two students and one coach from Washington have been suspended, along with two to four student athletes from Michigan City. The suspended players and coach are also required to take an online course in sportsmanship and working on modeling behavior. Because the game was unfinished due to the brawl, the IHSA ruled it for both teams as a double forfeit.

FALL SPORTS PREVIEW

ADAMS BOYS

NIKI HAKIMZADEH & SYDNEY GRANLUND • Reporters

CROSS COUNTRY PREVIEW

Coming back from a summer filled with 6 a.m. practices and long Saturday morning runs, John Adams cross country is ready to hit the ground running. The boys team has high hopes for the upcoming season. Senior captain Brock Easley said, "This season is going to be awesome! We have a lot of strength and speed and if we take action, I believe we can be the first Adams team to make it to semi state since 2005." The other senior captains, Santiago David and Carsten Stolz, agree. "My goal this year is to make it to semi state. We haven't made it in a while and it's something I would really like to achieve," says David. While sitting with the boys and their coaches, the bond between them is immediately evident. "Joining the team I thought it was going to be just like any other year of cross country," says freshman and varsity runner Will McCarthy, "But I quickly realized that it is a lot more than just a team, it's a family." Stolz adds, "My favorite part about being on the team is the people; we are like a family." Assistant coach Matthew Byers said, "There's nothing else I'd rather do than coaching, I love it." Semi state better watch out, because John Adams cross country is a family to not be messed with.

TENNIS PREVIEW

John Adams boys Tennis is off to a great start with a win at the John Glenn Invitational on August 22. Senior Dmitri Steele said, "My goal for the season is for the team to have a positive record and to improve from last year." Seniors Eric Streeter and Matthew Stoner also have high expectations for the season. "I want to win our first round at sectionals," said Streeter. Head coach Maria Strafford also said, "We want to be a challenge to all the teams in the NIC this year." Varsity player and freshman Tommy Han said, "Everyone is so friendly and loving, they are like my brothers." Strafford continued, "The chemistry and the way the guys get along and really support each other is something every coach wishes for." While devouring an ice cream bar, Stoner said, "Tennis combines both intense mental and physi-

cal strategy, but I look forward to it everyday." This image truly captures the essence of the boys tennis team.

FOOTBALL PREVIEW

After working steadily throughout the summer, the boys of the JA football team have their eyes on the prize. "Our goal is to win a sectional championship for the first time in school history," said captain and senior James Schell. Despite losing against Northridge and Reavis, the group remains confident in their abilities and continues to develop a brotherhood. "We can have fun on the field and also go out on Friday nights and dominate," said senior captain, Brandon Wadley. "Everybody has love for each other," he continued. Craig Redman, returning head coach, said that his goal for the team is to get better from week to week so they can "fire on all cylinders" and make the dream of winning a sectional title a reality. According to captain and senior Fred Barry, Wadley and Gabe Brooks have the best touchdown celebrations, which starting quarterback, junior Andrew Burgess, intends on "seeing a lot more of this season."

SOCCER PREVIEW

The spirits of the boys soccer team remain high regardless of a slow beginning to their season. Gregory Williams, one of the three senior captains, said, "We want to be better than the year before and produce a winning record." The team has several returning players, creating an experienced team who knows the ropes and what it takes to meet all of their goals. Cruz Gallegos, head coach and JA teacher, stated, "The goal is to win sectionals." Bringing Adams a sectional trophy won't be easy, but the players are ready to put in work and have a lively season. Denilson Vega and Matt Rush, also two senior captains, agree that the team likes to joke around, but everyone realizes the balance between being "silly" and serious. Rush added, "We like to have fun on the field and win."

ADAMS GIRLS

SAMANTHA JANKOWSKI • Reporter

Girls volleyball head coach Pat Gring is determined to be a big threat in the NIC. The girls played in a pre-season tournament and had a good showing by placing 3rd in the city, which includes victories over South Bend's Riley, Washington, and Clay. Coach Gring said, "One of my goals is to have a winning record, something we haven't had here at John Adams in a long time," an idea which seems more than achievable after looking at the team's strong defensive line in the back.

The Lady Eagles soccer team had an exciting win for their first NIC game against Elkhart Central. The girls took the game into overtime and were able to defeat the Blue Blazers with the help of Mary Claire Burnett's winning goal off of a free kick outside the box. Burnett, one of the captains for the team, said that the team's goal for the season is to "win the games we should win. We want to be consistent; we don't want to play at the level of other teams but play at the level that we are capable of." Through focusing at practices and bringing their best every game, they should be able to achieve their goal.

Girls golf continued the streak of city tournament wins, securing the city tournament for the sixth year in a row with Aine O'Connor finishing medalist. The team members now hope to make it to the regional championship. Coach Andy Kern stated, "My goal every year is to go as far in the tournament as we possibly can, this year I think we can make it to the regional." With the team's great chemistry behind them, regionals is well within their grasp.

Girls Cross Country captain Jenny Firehaver announces, "The team goal for the season is to make it to semi state." With everyone putting in time and effort they should have a great chance at reaching their goal. To the girls, cross country is more than a sport; it's a family. They always manage to stay positive, an essential aspect of a winning team.