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In honor of
Mr. Jeff Hull.
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Spirit Week Recap

ELLIE GRAFF - REPORTER

John Adams High School held its annual homecoming festivities last week, and eagle pride could be found in every student. Students worked hard to make sure the hallways were decorated with streamers and posters, all corresponding to different themes for each class.

Dressing up for spirit week is also a beloved Adams tradition to gear up for the homecoming game, and some students go above and beyond to commit to the daily themes. The themes this year included: Twin or Squad Day, Senior Citizen Day, Comfy Day, Dress Like a Character Day, and Spirit Wear Day.

Adams also hosted two pep-rallies this year in preparation for Friday night, one being broadcasted on the local news. Eagles arrived at school bright and early at 5:30

am on Thursday to show their support for the team, as well as receive a free donut and ticket to the game. Although half-asleep, the JA student body filled the gym with energy, and showed



the city of South Bend how much they love their school.

“Everyone was just going crazy, you could tell everyone was really excited to be there,” commented JA senior, Kaityln Henderson. On Friday, students headed to the gym once again to take part in school spirited activities. The homecoming court threw candy into the crowd, and repre-

sentatives from each fall sport even participated in a very competitive game of musical chairs. Daniel Petersen’s favorite part, however, was “supporting my friends on the Homecoming Court”.

On Friday, the big game was finally here. However, due to extreme weather conditions, Friday night lights, as well as the crowning ceremony, were rescheduled to Saturday. Despite this change in plans, John Adams students still came out to support their beloved football team as they took on the New Prairie cougars.

At halftime, the homecoming court took to the field, awaiting the announcement of King and Queen. The student section, as well as some proud parents, excitedly cheered as Italia Ramos and Xavier Winston were crowned 2019’s royal couple. Ramos reflected on the experience, expressing, “Honestly I was surprised, but it was a great feeling to get more involved and put myself out there”.

Although the Eagle’s suffered a loss to a tough competitor, the energy of the crowd and the support of the student section was a win for JA. As Petersen put it, “We got the best fans in the city, and the fact that they’ll come out through rain or shine shows we have the best school spirit.”

The Tower would like to congratulate Italia Ramos and Xavier Winston on being crowned the Homecoming Queen and King for 2019.

THE JOHN ADAMS

TOWER

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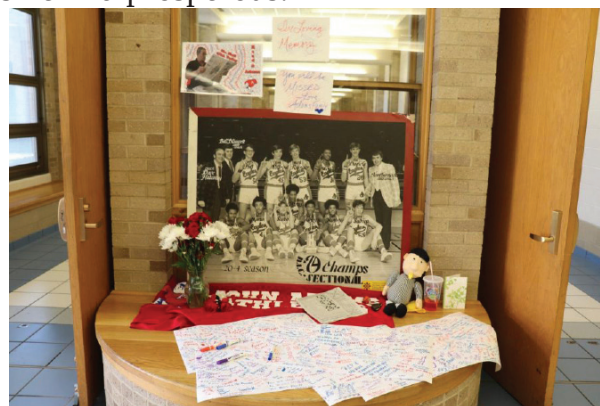
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Forever an Eagle

CLAIRE STOWE - REPORTER

In the front hallway of Adams a bench is covered with a large sheet of paper: signatures, big and small and leaving no blank space, catch the eye. Students stop, either to sign their own name next to the many others or to simply reminisce and absorb the touching memorial. Propped up against the wall behind it are memorabilia and photos, including a photo of the Adams 1974 Boys' Basketball Sectional Championship Team. Last week, however, this bench held a different story. Instead of flowers and memories Mr. Jeff Hull sat on that bench, answering the questions of lost freshmen or helping students with their lockers or schedules or whatever else they needed, all while doing his part in keeping our school safe and prosperous.



On Saturday, September 14th Mr. Hull, passed away after being involved in a car accident.

According to Adams principal Mr. Seitz, "Mr. Hull worked at John Adams High School and the South Bend Community School Corporation for over 30 years in many different capacities. Mr. Hull spent time as a security guard, coach, IHSAA referee, mentor, scorekeeper, ticket taker, announcer, chaperone and anything that was asked of him. Jeff Hull loved John Adams High School. Mr. Hull's entire family graduated from Adams, including Jeff, who was a proud member of the Class of 1975. Jeff was extremely proud to be a member of the 1974 Boys' Basketball Sectional Cham-

ampionship Team coached by legendary coach Dave Hadaway. Most recently Jeff spent the fall seasons keeping score and announcing at our volleyball games and taking tickets at football games. In the winter, Jeff kept the scorebook for the girls' basketball games and worked during the boys' basketball games. In the spring, Jeff umpired IHSAA softball games and made it a point to attend as many Adams' events as possible. Jeff would always chaperone Prom, Midwinter and his favorite dance, MORP. Jeff Hull always displayed great character and work ethic. He never missed a day of work and always put the students of John Adams High School first."

Mr. Hull dedicated his life to Adams and to making the school a better place. "He truly loved Adams and the people of Adams," Principal James Seitz stated. "Many times Mr. Hull would tell a kid to pull their pants up or to get to class; students only saw this side of him. What they did not see was Mr. Hull ask an administrator later in the day if that student was doing well. He truly cared about the students." Being so involved with the Adams community, Mr. Hull touched the lives of many students, teachers, and administrators. "A few of us were able to build a relationship with Mr. Hull as students and then as educators," Seitz comments, who attended Adams as a student while Mr. Hull acted as a coach and a security guard.

Constantly dedicated to improving the atmosphere of Adams, Mr. Hull worked tirelessly in many capacities to help and support students and faculty alike. He made countless connections with any and all of those affiliated with Adams, acting simultaneously as a mentor, companion, and motivator, constantly encouraging success with his dedicated presence.

"Jeff was more than an employee. Jeff was a family member of John Adams High School," Seitz added, "he will be missed in more ways than I think we even know at this time."

Senior Spotlight: Ira Armstead

RYAN DOWNEY- MANGING EDITOR

Hailing from Aurora, Colorado, the most decorated football player in the area, Irak- en Armstead has been a 3-year starter at quarterback for the Eagles varsity squad.



Since his sophomore year, colleges from all around the Midwest have been eyeing down the future all-american, including: West- ern Michigan University, Central Michigan University, Eastern Michigan University, The University of Toledo, and the University of Cincinnati. According to Semper Fidelis/ Max Preps, he has won 10 “Player of the Game” awards and last year he accumu- lated a total of 2,202 passing yards, 1,104 rushing yards, 12 passing touchdowns, and 17 rushing touchdowns. The statistics that he has brought to the position so far have made him the definition of a dual- threat quarterback. His achievements are the aspiration of any high school football player. Additionally, his future is already set in front of him. Armstead has been invited to campuses all around the Midwest and he has spoken with many Division I coaches,

but residing 700 miles away is his college of choice. After receiving an invite to the Uni- versity of Virginia, a Top 25 team and elite Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) competi- tor, Armstead said that his choice for col- lege became very easy. When asked how he made his decision Ira said, “It was honestly my gut feeling and the culture of the school as well as the intensity of the football team”. Additionally, he commented that it

feels relieving to be out of the recruiting process and committed to a Division I team.

“It feels good to be committed but I expected it”. In the cur- rent football season, the Adams team has felt some tough losses with two games being

decided by two points or less. Rallying the troops during practice and in the locker room, Ira typically reminds his teammates to constantly keep their heads in a positive direction and not crack under the pressure. One of the most important aspects of these games, he claims, is to have fun and just play the game.

Outside of football Ira spends his time do- ing multiple activities that add to his overall picture. Just as he picks apart defenses on the field, Armstead likes to do the same in games of chess in between his friends and family. In the hallway and in the classroom one may spot him with a Rubix cube or other physical, brain-teasing puzzles. Other sports he likes to compete in include fishing and bowling. In the future the Adams QB would like to study the inner workings of the human mind and the businesses of mod-

ern corporate America through the psychol- ogy and business programs at the University of Virginia. His advice to underclassmen would be “Stay focused and work hard and good things will happen”.

Senior Spotlight: Manas Khadka

ANNA TARNER - REPORTER

Manas Khadka was born in Kathmandu, Nepal, and has traveled far before becom- ing an Adams Eagle. Since being here at JA, Manas has participated in various clubs and extracurriculars, and excelled in the challenging International Baccalareate Program.

Khadka has been a part of JAVA, NHS as the treasurer, and Science Olympiad, which is by far his favorite club. “I’ve been do- ing it since 7th grade and especially since joining the Adams team, it’s gotten a lot more fun. It can be very difficult at times but looking back, I can only remember the good times.” His interest was originally sparked due to his interest in the various science research options, and, more simply, the people. “I got to meet so many smart, creative, genuinely good people through this club and sharing experiences with them as well as working together on vari- ous projects is what makes science olym- piad so special.”

“I was born in Kathmandu, Nepal and have spent years living in New Mexico, Georgia, and Indiana. I often hear other people say that they want to go out of state for college just because “Indiana is bor- ing” or “Other places will help me broaden my mindset”. Living in all these places, what stuck with me the most are the ex- periences I had with the people who lived there. Even in a small community, people can be so different. Learning about others is always fun and can be a humbling ex- perience... if the reason to move is due to boredom or something along those lines, I would ask you to think of a better one.”

The 2019 Fall Guide

BRIGID REILLY - REPORTER

As the temperatures begin to cool, the days are getting shorter and our nights become consumed with homework. I often grow pessimistic with the changing of the seasons, as summer's joyful ambiance begins to fade. Only, I tend to forget about the excitement that autumn brings. With fall right around the corner, there's so much to see and do. From Pumpkin Spice Lattes to oversized sweaters, fall really does have it all. If you're looking for fun fall activities, fall fashion tips, or even wondering which seasonal Starbucks drink to try, you've come to the right place.

Fall In South Bend

If you're searching for fun things to do in South Bend this fall, look no further. While many fall activities such as picking apples or taking haunted hayrides, require quite a drive, you can find many fun things to do this season without even leaving South Bend.

Rum Village Aerial Park

Fall is a great time to stay active, spend time with family, and enjoy nature. Rum Village provides the perfect outdoor activity for fall, with their Aerial Adventure Park. Bring your family along and experience ziplines and obstacle courses amid the trees. With customizable courses ranging from sixteen to sixty feet above the ground, the park is suitable for anyone eight years old and up. It's a perfect way to stay active this fall while enjoying family fun.

Downtown South Bend First Fridays:

Oktoberfest

On the fourth of October, the first Friday of the month, Downtown South Bend will be holding their Downtown Oktoberfest. Stop by to enjoy fall-themed food, fun activities, and local art and music. Many restaurants provide deals, there is plenty of live music, and free tours of the historical Hoffman Hotel will even be offered.

Thistleberry Farm

No fall guide would be complete without mentioning the classic pumpkin patch, corn maze, or hayride. What if I told you that you

could experience the perfect fall day, without even leaving South Bend? Well, at Thistleberry Farm, they've got everything fall. Pick a pumpkin, visit farm animals, get lost in a corn maze, or take a ride on their "Cow Train".

Fall Fashion

One of my favorite things about fall is the new fashion trends it brings. After a hot summer spent in shorts and tank tops, the fall jeans and sweaters bring make for a nice change. Below I've highlighted some of my favorite pieces to wear in the fall.

Oversized Sweaters

On a chilly fall day, you can never go wrong with an oversized sweater and some leggings. Pair the outfit with some boots, and it makes for a perfect fall look.

Mom Jeans

My favorite pants for the fall would have to be mom jeans. I typically wear them with a fitted sweater or sometimes tuck in a cute graphic T.

Denim Jackets

When it comes to fall, I think that denim jackets are absolutely perfect. Not too heavy, and not too light, they provide just enough warmth for fall breezes. I think they look particularly cute with black jeans, but in my opinion, you really can't go wrong when it comes to denim jackets. On fall mornings, I love to throw an oversized denim jacket on top of any outfit.

Starbucks Fall Favorites

Starbucks, known for their seasonal drinks, gains lots of publicity as fall rolls around each year. Their fans go crazy over the Pumpkin Spice Latte and other fall treats. As the menu can sometimes be overwhelming, I've highlighted some Starbucks fall favorites.

Pumpkin Spice Latte

Perfect for a cold and rainy day, the flavor is a combination of pumpkin, nutmeg, and cinnamon. Made to mimic the flavor of pumpkin pie and topped with whipped cream, it's very sweet. The Pumpkin Spice Latte is my go to warm drink in the fall.

Pumpkin Cream Cold Brew

New to Starbucks' menu this year, the Pumpkin Cream Cold Brew has quickly become a hit. The original Starbucks Cold Brew is sweetened and topped with a Pumpkin foam, adding a twist to an otherwise simple drink. I think that it's a perfect fall drink for those who favor iced coffee over hot coffee.

Pumpkin Scone

My personal favorite Starbucks snack, the pumpkin scone, is perfect fall treat. It is simply a pumpkin scone topped with vanilla icing, but delicious nonetheless.

Niles Scream Park Preview

HANNAH MILLS - REPORTER

The Niles Scream Park has been in operation since 1974, so this marks the 46th consecutive year. The gates for this season opened on Friday, September 13th. Through the month of September the park will be open on Fridays and Saturdays, then starting in October, the park will be open Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. Of course, October 31st, Halloween, will be a night of operation. The last chance events for the scare fest, also known as the Black Out event, will be the first weekend of November, November 1st and 2nd.

The Scream Park has been nationally recognized as one of the top haunted attractions in the country. For the past six years the Haunted Attraction Magazine said the Niles Scream Park in one of the "Top 31 Must-See Haunted Attractions". Also the park is known for its donations to various organizations. Niles Scream Park is a non-profit community project, which means that all of the workers are volunteers, about 200 volunteers are needed per night to keep the show going. Since 1996 more than \$1.9 million have been donated, that includes donations to the Niles Scream Park funded college scholarships for students at Niles, Brandywine, Dowagiac, Cassopolis, and Edwardsburg High School.



Terror-tory Haunted Hayride is a break from the rest of the attractions, which includes a mile long trail filled with more than 30 sets that combines horror and comedy. In addition to the above mentioned attractions there are two others, Hooded which requires patrons to be 18 years of age and sign a waiver before entering, and Mini Escape Rooms

on the midway where patrons have only 5 minutes to solve the puzzle to escape. The midway also offers many food options and games for the patrons. The attractions range in price from \$9 to \$14, but there are also combination tickets: the Frightful Nightful includes all the 5 main attractions for \$35 (\$40 starting in October), the Adrenaline Package is a \$5 upgrade to the Frightful Nightful that includes a ticket to Hooded, and the Triple Dog Dare includes the three indoor attractions (Niles Haunted House, N'awlins Nightmare, and Deadwood) for \$28. I was given the opportunity to have a run through the attractions before the park officially opened on September 13th. All of the lights were on in the park, but that does not discount the scare factor. Lights or no lights and motion sensors or not, the props in the attractions come to life and send chills down your spine. The park tries to use pop culture in their attractions, but that just adds to the scare. Some pop culture that appears in the Haunted House includes Treasure Ship,



Stephen King's IT, Stranger Things, Jack the Ripper, Silent Hill, and many more. The purpose of this is somewhat ease the fright but showing the patron something they will recognize and consider it safe, but then to pop out and put a twist on it. Walking through the attractions on a normal night, you may not notice the same details that go into everything, but with a closer look there is an outstanding amount of details in every inch of the 44 acre park.



This year there are five main attractions, the Niles Haunted House, N'awlins Nightmare, Deadwood, The Field of Screams, and the Dark Terror-tory Haunted Hayride. The haunted house is the main attraction, there are over 100 different paths through it, each one just as scary as the last. Each year the room, theme, and sound effects are changed to provide a new and unique experience. N'awlins Nightmare is a New Orleans experience, where the patron journeys through the dark streets with the Queen of Voodoo. Deadwood is an experience with the Gold Rush with unsavory visitors who brought murder to the town of Deadwood.

The Field of Screams is one of the parks most popular attractions with mazes in the Bayou and a brand new cemetery. The Dark



Just make sure you are ready to say "Ah-hhh".

Movie Review: IT Chapter Two

SIERRA WEAVER - REPORTER

In 2017, It was released and had major box office success. This year, on September 9, It Chapter Two was released. The film stars Jessica Chastain, James McAvoy, Bill Hader, Isaiah Mustafa, Jay Ryan, James Ransone, Andy Bean, and Bill Skarsgård, and is directed by Muschietti.

The film is set 27 years after its predecessor. The “losers” are all grown up and pursuing various careers all around the country. After a series of recent murders catch Mike’s (Mustafa) attention, as he is the only member of the group still living in Derry, he decides to contact his old friends and bring them back to Derry to fulfill their promise at the end of the first chapter. There is only a small issue with Mike’s plan: the people who left Derry hardly remember what happened when they were children, and, when they discover the real reason Mike decided to call them, they are hesitant to stay and help fight. After realizing someone has to put a stop to Pennywise for good, or the town will continue to face brutal murder sprees every 27 years, the “losers” band together once again to take on the monster.

While there is a lot of great things the film has to offer, there are also a lot of issues with it. A large portion of the film was used to watch each of the losers reflect on their time in Derry in order to gather a “personal token” for battling Pennywise. It is hard not to accept this portion of the plot with open arms because it allows the audience to return to the child actors’ storyline again, but it also feels like a “lazy” way to do this. Instead of being funny moments that allow viewers to revisit a beloved set of characters, the scenes end up distracting from the actual storyline of the film, making it hard to appreciate the flashbacks. Additionally, It Chapter Two leaves its original movie’s use of creepy props and tension

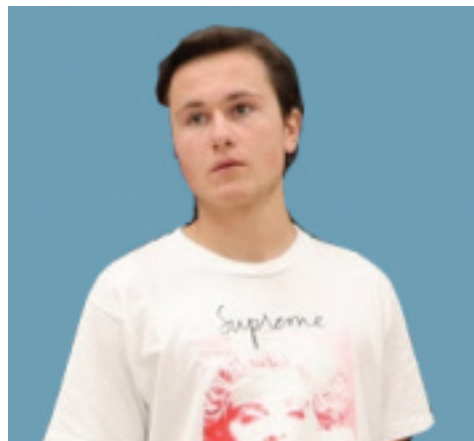
to build fear behind, and returns to the stereotypical modern horror use of “jump scares.” Because of this, a lot of the fear within the film feels extremely short lived and does not have as large of an impact on the audience. There were a few other issues with the movie as well, such as how flat Mike’s character seemed, and the slow start to the film.

It Chapter Two is not as good as its predecessor, but it is still a fun watch. There is a lot to love about this sequel, and, while it had its issues, it was not too disappointing. Overall, It Chapter Two is definitely worth the watch regardless, especially to those who loved the first part.

Fashion Icon: Filippo Paoletti

ELLIE GRAFF - REPORTER

Italy is known for being a center for art and culture, and more specifically, one of the most successful and influential fashion industries in the world. The world has become enamored with luxury brands like Gucci and Versace, both born out of Italy, and even some students at John Adams High School can be seen going out of their way to show off their Gucci belts. Needless to say, the world would be a much more drab and uninspired place without the contributions of Italy to the fashion world. These style icons bring creativity and individuality to Adams, making every day a source of inspiration for those around them.



Filippo Paoletti is an Italian foreign exchange student at John Adams High School who is constantly being complimented on his style by those around him.

How would you describe your style?

I would describe my style as something I am constantly changing and renewing, I usually wear streetwear clothes, but for important occasions I like to dress elegantly. I really enjoy opening my closet every morning and creating new outfits matching the clothes I find.

Why is what you wear important to you?

For me it is important because I have always thought that you can understand a lot about a person’s personality from his style and how he stands towards others, indeed I think that every person’s outfit conveys something unique and particular.

Who and where do you get your inspiration from?

I get a big part of my inspiration from music because I think that’s the biggest form of art of the twenty-first century. I admire and try to imitate in my style Kanye West, Ian Connor, Luka Sabbat and A\$AP Rocky as I consider them brilliant and revolutionary minds in the world of fashion.

Where do you buy most of your clothes?

Honestly there is no place where I often buy my clothes, but I like to look for inspiration on the Internet randomly until I find something that attracts me. Moreover, I find thrift shops a really good place to create yourself an innovative outfit.

Finally, what are the similarities and differences between American and Italian Fashion?

In my opinion, American and Italian fashion differ a lot from each other. American fashion is very influenced by the hip-hop culture which spread out all over the world since the 80/90’s. Italy on the other hand is the flagship of luxury fashion with brands like Gucci, Prada, Versace and Valentino which are known and appreciated worldwide. So our fashion culture is much more focused in the search of elegance and refinement.

Passion Project

ANNA SCHRADER - REPORTER

Isabella Ernsberger, a junior at John Adams, is the mind behind the Passion Project, a new club starting up this school year. “Passion Project is designed to be a safe space for students of all backgrounds, beliefs, and interests, to come together to discuss and shed light on topics they feel passionately about,” Ernsberger says. Passion Project will allow students to meet and talk about issues they care about such as mental health awareness, politics, self love, or anything else they feel passionately about. An amazing part of this new group is that it is a safe space for students of all demographics. “You don’t have to be this brainiac, straight A student, or this strong, athletic person to join Passion. It’s purely ‘come as you are,’ and we will accept you, your ideas, and your perspective with open arms.” Passion Project is going to help teens share what they may not be able to talk about elsewhere, and give them an outlet to let their thoughts flow. When asked how she thought of the idea for the club, Isabella said, “I’ve been wanting to start a new group for a couple years now, but I just had no clue what I wanted it to be. I started thinking about my love of public speaking, performing, and just having discussions on topics I feel passionate about. My only outlet for me to talk about these passions was at my church, but I didn’t have an outlet anywhere else. I knew I couldn’t be the only one feeling this way. Before I knew it, the name “Passion Project” came to me and I spent the afternoon creating the outline of the group, along with reaching out to people who may be interested.”

“I just want to provide a platform for students to come together, meet new people, learn from each other, and share themselves and their passions with others. The big event I’m hoping to work up to is an end-of-the-year conference, led by the students, and allowing them to present on a topic they choose. The group has no set

plan to it; The students who participate will choose what we talk about and what we do- it’s a completely blank canvas that I can not wait to fill.”

The first meeting is October 23rd from 4:10-4:45 in room 1313.

Mildly Amusing: Joel Kim Booster

JONATHON ZAPF - REPORTER

Joel Kim Booster is a Los Angeles based comedian and writer whose electrifying stand up sets glue your eyes to the stage no matter what he is talking about. He has been featured on The Late Late Show with James Corden, Conan, Comedy Central, and was recently cast on a new show by Mike Schur, who helped bring us The Office, Parks and Recreation and The Good Place, called Sunnyside. He has also written for the wildly popular Big Mouth on Netflix, Billy On The Street, and others. Although with his busy schedule I was not able to talk on the phone with Joel, it was fantastic to chat with him over email and I am so glad that he could be the first comic for the Mildly Amusing “Email Edition.” This will be a separate article style for comics that answered my questions via email here and there when they were able, and then published all together as one questionnaire.

If your life was a sandwich, what would it be made out of, and would you eat it?

It would be bao on the outside and the inside would be a hot dog and no I absolutely would not eat it.

Assuming that sometime during our lifetimes we are visited by aliens, what would be the first joke you would tell them?

There’s an LA comedian I recently met who will blow up any day now named Katrina Davis, and she has a joke about the Vlasic Stork that I consider the perfect joke. I won’t try to retell it here, but someday

when you see her Netflix special and you hear the joke, remember I told you.

Is there a project you have done that you’re proud of and wished more people knew about, but for one reason or the other has flown under the radar?

I sold and developed a pilot to Comedy Central a few years ago that didn’t end up getting picked up. It was sort of an unorthodox development deal (they had me write five additional episodes on top of the pilot). It was my first foray into that process and I’m obviously very bummed that no one will get to see the pilot or the show. I did do a live reading of the script for a podcast called The Dead Pilot Society.

Where do you think comedians will fall in a more technologically advanced future? Will they become obsolete, or is comedy one of the few untouchable abilities that even the smartest computer system will never be able to truly gain.

Wild Question. I think until AI becomes fully sentient I’m not sure the machines could ever fully replace human comedians because, for me at least, a big part of comedy and what makes it work is the surprise element. Part of what makes a joke work is that the set up is familiar enough that the audience understands the context of the joke, but the punchline is surprising enough that they’re caught off guard. It’s why hacky jokes that rely on very old ideas or stereotypes about, let’s say women, don’t seem to be working as much. I think a lot of comedians like to blame that on “PC Culture” and I’m sure that’s a part of it, but for me when I’m watching a comedian do the same “women be shopping” bit that’s been done for decades and decades, I don’t laugh because I know where the joke is going! All this to say: Robots will only ever be able to write jokes that rely on novelty— isn’t it funny that this robot wrote a knock knock joke? But the surprise of the joke won’t be there. Read the full interview at: sbadamsthetower.com

Senior Spotlight: Cameron Dobbins

MAG BLANCHARD - REPORTER

Cameron Dobbins is the head drum major for the John Adams marching band. This is his eighth year of being involved in band, however he's been interested in music from a young age. "I started playing piano in third grade. I found out that I had musical talent, and that made me want to perform more," he says in an interview. "Soon, I realized that I would be happy performing music for the rest of my life."

Dobbins' position as drum major takes him off of the field and away from his instrument, but that doesn't stop him from performing in other settings.

"I do miss marching," Cameron explains with a wistful smile. "Performing out on the field as a marcher would always make me feel more confident, and sure of myself. I still play in the South Bend Youth Symphony Orchestra, though, and I fiddle around with my guitar." Desire for more confidence seems to be a running theme with him, as when he was next asked what kept him motivated he responds, "I like the feeling of having an impact on people's lives. It makes me feel better to know I influence people in the band."

After high school, Dobbins wants to study at the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University Bloomington and participate in some of the many orchestras they have there. "I'm not sure exactly what I want to do as a career yet- but I know it will involve music." He's considering either performance in symphonies for a living, or even becoming a high school band director.



"High school band requires you to have a certain level of confidence," he says. "You have to want to exceed everyone's expectations. I've met a lot of my friends and peers through music, and because of those things band is just really important to me." Dobbins not only plays music, however, but he listens to quite a bit as well. His tastes cover a wide range, but he does say, "My favorite genres are indy hip-hop and rap. I like the uniqueness of it, and it's really influenced me."

Oddly enough, Dobbins bristles a little when I ask him how it feels to be the shortest drum major. He responds, "I get the tallest podium, so technically I'm the tallest."

Senior Spotlight: Maddie Mischak

CLAIRE STOWE - EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Maddie Mischak: Full-IB candidate, Varsity Cross Country and Track runner, award-winning mock trial participant, and one of Adams' most successful and inspiring students. She has been heavily involved with some of Adams' most prestigious teams and groups, and now, as a senior, deserves recognition for her many accomplishments.

For all four of her high school years, Maddie has been running Varsity on both the Cross Country and Track team. She joined a strong group of runners her freshman year, helping the team win the City Championship and advance to Semi-State, a feat that had not been accomplished since 2004. Returning Sophomore year she helped retain the winning streak along with the other top runners. In her junior year Maddie was named a captain and immediately took a strong leadership position on the team, acting as an example both in her capacity as a runner and as a positive and inspiring teammate. Maddie began her season being named the Girls Varsity City Champion by placing first in the city meet and later advanced to Semi-state as an individual qualifier with her teammate Ivie Skube. "Running has been a really impor-

tant aspect [to high school]. Even when we're not in season I'm still out there at winter running and everyday in the summer running just because it's something I really love doing and the community is just something I love to be around."

But Cross Country isn't Maddie's only activity. She's also been heavily involved in the Adams Mock Trial program since her freshman year, advancing to the state competition as both a sophomore and a junior. She described one of her most memorable moments from high school to be the trip to state her junior year. "It was a really good bonding experience because we had worked so hard for it up to that point," she comments. "You could just tell that all of our hard work had paid off." Her team, Snake-a-Lap, placed fourth overall, the highest placing Adams team.



When asked about her methods to staying organized and successful, Maddie laughed. "I just try to get stuff done," she says. "It's kind of chaotic sometimes, but I just do what I have to do." Despite this, she still offered up some valuable advice to underclassmen hoping to build successful high school careers: "Don't be afraid to try new things and get out there and do clubs and activities, because that really is what makes high school experience so much better, meeting people and being able to have fun outside of school."