

# Sayonara and Best Wishes

## Peter Cooper (Headmaster)

Years at ASIJ: 12 Off to: Rio de Janeiro

Along with Japanese Onsen, he will miss the "order and organization of the Japanese work ethic and the way it has seeped into the culture of this school." He believes that ASIJ is special because of its professional and enthusiastic staff and the best behaved student body that he's ever worked with. "Contrary to what students think, there is a strong school spirit here." He encourages students to be proud of ASIJ and the duality of the programs offered here.



## Mark Miner (Guidance Counselor)

Years: 8 Off to: Plans to be an administrator.

He's watched the senior class all the way through their high school careers, and the junior class through most of theirs. "It's hard to leave the students behind." This is his third time at ASIJ, and he will soon face his third goodbye. Who Could You Take in a Fight? "I would never resort to fighting; I am a guidance counselor...But I think I could take my son..."



## Charles Newman (English Dept)

Years: 2 Off to: Boston, Massachusetts

He leaves us to teach Humanities in his new school. He will miss the "respectfulness characteristic of ASIJ" and the dignity with which the Japanese people carry themselves. "It is an American school yet it has a heavy Asian influence...there is a sense of Asian courtesy and deference." Teaching here at ASIJ, he has learned that those "who are not altogether vocal in class have a certain depth I can reach only through their writing; still waters run deep." After 25 years of teaching, he is not at all disappointed with the caliber of students found in ASIJ and "I love the English department...it is one real joy."



## June Kushida (English Dept.)

Years: 24 Off to: Hong Kong

She leaves us to join her husband in Hong Kong, where she will continue to work on her "sabbatical thesis" and earn an MA in comparative Literature. She loves the variety of students she has met over the years at ASIJ. When asked, "Who Could You Take in a Fight?" she relied: "You mean a verbal fight? Let me



slide out of that one by saying that living in Japan has made me value the ways of avoiding direct con-frontation."

## Michael Stone (Social Studies Dept.)

Years: 8 Off to: Philippines (probably)

He leaves us to do humanitarian work, possibly for the UN. He will miss "coaching football with Hohenthauer, and the JUMP trip where Mr. Gotterson and I had students dangling by a rope 1300 meters up; oh, and making editorial comments about the Daily Bulletin." He will also miss "the first day of classes in August, the high educational standard, and even higher student expectations." When asked what ASIJ has taught him over the years, he professes to have "learned humility" and that you can't, in fact, argue with stupidity. Finally: "That there is only one thing in life that matters, and that's whether or not you are happy." Who Could You Take in a Fight? "Kid Rock and Eminem, at the same time. Or Rush Limbaugh, easily. Or Donald Rumsfeld and his ego."



## Ellen Levenhagan (Art Dept.)

Years: 5 Off to: Door County, Wisconsin

She leaves us for a farm, in which she will set up a clay studio with her husband and teach pottery. She will miss her students and her friends and living in Japan. Who Could You Take in a Fight? "If I had to pick a fight, and win, I'd pick Andy Warhol. He's done good stuff, but he reduced art to a theme, to a pop culture."



## Peter Kennedy (Math Dept.)

Years: 10 Off to: Charleston, South Carolina

He leaves us to become a high school principal. "I'll miss the personal contact that you have in Japan; for example, in a restaurant or a little shop everyone knows who you are; you don't get that everywhere." He'll miss all his faculty friends, the students he's come to know after 10 years "...oh and of course, Tuesday Ramen." Who Could You Take in a Fight? "I could take Konishiki, I could kick his butt, no problem! He'd never catch me!"



## Michelle Tabor (Social Studies Dept.)

Years: 4 Off to: Santa Barbara, California

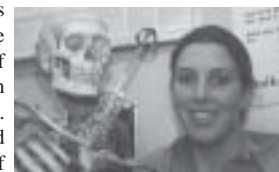
She leaves us to "wait around for my significant other to graduate." And she will no doubt continue teaching. She will miss her students and her colleagues, the Social Studies department, and the international atmosphere. She can honestly say that she has learned a lot of "computer stuff" here at ASIJ. Who Could You Take in a Fight? "I could take Nikhil Gutha."



## Susan Fulmer (Science Resource Center)

Years: 1 Off to: Syracuse, New York

She leaves us to enjoy the glories of cramming in Med School. "I've enjoyed the contrast of working in such an American school with great students of international flavor." Who Could You Take in a Fight? "I could take Chaiken of Bio."



## Gaël Crépieux (Mod. Lang. Dept.)

Years in ASIJ: 2 Off to: another school in Tokyo.

He believes that teaching in ASIJ has been a good experience for him because of the school's international overtones, and he will miss Madame Blanchon.

