



## Dunham Travels to Africa

by Ashley Kramer

This summer, while many students were working, relaxing, or having fun in Delaware County, Aaron Dunham was nowhere nearby. Aaron and his family (Art, Colette, Leah and Lindsay) traveled to Africa for a month to see his brother Andy (MV class of 1997), who is in the Peace Corps in Tanzania.

During the month that Aaron was in Africa, he saw and did many interesting things. In fact, several of the things Aaron saw were just plain weird! On the backs of buses were pictures of Saddam Hussein, Fidel Castro and the Pope. Anyone who had a white car drove a taxi. In addition, "Many of the cab drivers were under the influence of weed or acid," says Aaron.

When asked if anything exciting happened on his trip, Aaron responded that a bus ride which normally takes nine hours



Aaron Dunham poses by Andy's house in Africa.

a close encounter for Aaron's sisters.

The worst part about Aaron's trip to Africa was when he got food poisoning.

He says, "Spending nine hours on a plane, followed by another seven hours, while barfing every five minutes and running to the bathroom is not fun."

A couple of differences between Africa and the United States are that in Africa there are no toilets. Try living with a hole for a few days! Also, in Africa monkeys are like squirrels here in the U.S. When they get hit with a car they just keep on going.

Andy has been in the Peace Corps for almost two years and will return to the US in December.

It sounds like Aaron had a fun-filled, adventuresome trip to Africa. He says he might consider going back, but if his brother wasn't there, he would need a translator!

## Homecoming Changes to Hit in 2004!

by Jessica Krogmann

Although homecoming is still another year away, changes and plans have been set and made.

This year's festivities were surrounded by some negative happenings including issues with vandalism and injuries and inappropriate behavior at the Powderpuff and Iron man volleyball game, Student Council President, Shawn Roling commented, "Next year's homecoming can be positive if you make it positive."

However, next year may run a little smoother with more organization and thinking by both the student body and the staff. One change to be made is that Powderpuff can no longer be held on the school grounds or have any relation to the homecoming festivities. This will hopefully keep everyone a little safer as well as keep the field from any damage. Since this change is happening, the student council and Mr. Kuehl are open to any ideas if you have any about what can be done instead. Iron man on the flip side is close to being thrown out, but at this time is still considered ok. The concern there was for the players who might get hurt and not be able to participate in their regular sports and activities.

Along with the fun festivities, the homecoming dance will continue to take place on Friday night after the game. Many parents have called the school worried that homecoming may have gotten a bit out of hand and is becoming more like a Prom and too much money is spent.

Another tradition threatened is the outhouses. Mr. Kuehl said this will keep the school looking better on the outside and also give us a better reputation.

One other major change to be made is that the crowning will be moved back to half-time, instead of between the games, to get the same feeling of intensity and excitement.

Despite the many mixed feelings about all these changes, the student council was informed at their meeting last Friday that these changes are definite.



Andy Dunham prepares to leave on safari with people from his village.

"actually took a little under eight hours. The driver was going 70 mph, uphill, and passing people, all while driving through road construction."

Aaron's favorite part of his trip was a safari at Ruaha National Park. His family, joined by 30 villagers, saw many elephants, hippos and giraffes. A giraffe almost ran over Aaron and an elephant was