

**Mercy Publication Wins Press Award**  
 Mercedes, a magazine published semi-annually by students of Our Lady of Mercy High School, was awarded the highest rating for school publications of the Columbia Scholastic Press Association.

**Where There's Coke There's Hospitality**



The Mercy High magazine of poetry and stories was selected at the annual convention of the association at Columbia University.

The Medalist award is the fifth won by the Mercy High publication and the second in two years in the literary publication division. Mary Kay Hally, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John E. Hally of 38 East Park Rd., Pittsford, is the editor.

OTHER AWARDS included a first place rating to Mercy High's biweekly newspaper, the Quill, and a first place rating to Nazareth Academy's newspaper, the Gabriel.

**History Workshop**  
 Notre Dame, Ind.—(NC)—Problems involved in the teaching of history in high schools will be treated during the third Workshop in the Teaching of History to be held from June 20 to July 14 at the University of Notre Dame.

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**Benedictines To Mark Feast Of Founder**

The Benedictines in the Diocese of Rochester, Mount Saviour Monastery, Elmira, will celebrate for the first time the feast of their holy founder, St. Benedict, the Patriarch of the Monks of the West, on Friday, March 21.

The Monks keep the feast as one of the highest rank. From noon of March 20 to midnight of Mar. 21 a Plenary Indulgence can be gained by all the faithful, on the usual conditions, for every visit made to the chapel at Mount Saviour.

TO EMPHASIZE the importance of the Feast, the Monks released the following information, this week.

St. Benedict was born in Nursia, Italy in 480. He was sent to Rome for part of his education, but disgusted with the moral corruption he found, retired to live the life of a hermit for some years at Subiaco, where he founded twelve monasteries.

About 529, he left Subiaco and founded the monastery at Monte Cassino above the ancient highway from Rome to Naples. Here he wrote his famous Rule, and here he died in 547.

One of the classics of Christian antiquity and as applicable today as when St. Benedict wrote it, the Holy Rule, as it was called, supplanted the other monastic rules in the West.

In some measure, all religious rules written since owe something to St. Benedict's Rule. The holy legislator with his Roman genius for organization made practicable for the West the spiritual teaching of the ascetics and monks of the East.

THE BENEDICTINES became so widespread that the early Middle Ages are known as "The Benedictine Centuries". The monks spread everywhere—the light of the true Faith and also had a tremendous influence in civilizing Europe.

They preserved and handed on the classics of Greece and Rome. In addition to their intellectual influence, they made an enormous contribution to the agricultural development of Europe and to the arts and architecture.

The Protestant Reformation led to the closing of hundreds of monasteries. Revolution and the Napoleonic wars forced most of those remaining to close. Benedictinism was almost wiped out.

In 1837, Abbot Guertner restored the Benedictines in France at Solemnes. The founders of the Buerenese Congregation of the Benedictines in Germany were trained by him.

IN THE PAST 115 years, there has been a great revival of Benedictine monasticism both in the older and newer groups or "Con-



AT MOUNT SAVIOR Monastery, top photo shows Benedictine monks at Solemnes Vespers. Below, the Very Rev. Damasus Winzen, prior, is conducting a reception ceremony. The two postulants are: (from left) Brother Paul and Brother Michael. The Feast of St. Benedict will be marked today, Friday, March 21, at the Elmira Monastery.

gregations" of monasteries. This may be due, at least in part, to the marked similarity of modern times to the chaotic period in which St. Benedict lived, when the barbarian invasions were destroying the culture of the time.

Modern Benedictines, like the first monks, have the challenge of making their monasteries great spiritual powerhouses of prayer, and centers where their manual work and studies will benefit the Church and the communities in which they live and give an example of complete Christian life.

THE traditions of Solesmes and Beuron are carried on in the United States by the community of Mount Saviour, the Prior of the monastery of St. Benedictus-Lac in Canada, a monastery of the Solesmes Congregation, has been delegated by the Abbot Primate in Rome to supervise the new community, and the Prior of Mount Saviour, Very Rev. Father Damasus Winzen, is from one of the most famous abbeys in Europe, Maria Laach, in the Rhineland, a monastery which belongs to the Buerenese Congregation.

The chief work of the monks is the solemn celebration of the Church's liturgy to which they devote between four and five hours daily, beginning at 4:15, 4:30 or 4:45 a.m., depending on the ecclesiastical rank of the day. The rest of the day is spent in manual work, study and private prayer.

IN LITTLE LESS than a year, the Mt. Saviour community, which started with a nucleus of four monks, has received 22 candidates, four of whom are now novices, the remainder being postulants who will enter the novitiate in a few months. Other applicants are waiting to enter.

At present there are no accommodations for them. The community had a plentiful supply of volunteer workers last summer and expects more to come this year.

Applicants, volunteer workers, retreatants and visitors have come from all over the country, California, Minnesota, Virginia and Massachusetts as well as New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey are represented.

The community has a guest-house where men may go for retreats or simply to spend some time in sharing the life of the monastery. The monks are developing the farm and plan to become self-supporting.

IN ORDER to increase the size of the community and provide room for the growing number of visitors and retreatants, building is urgently needed. Groups of friends are forming to help a building program and to contribute to subsistence until the community is able in a large measure to support itself.

The monks of Mount Saviour

have an added reason to rejoice on this first feast of St. Benedict in the new monastery: they have recently received from Rome a relic of St. Benedict.

This relic will in future be accessible for veneration by visitors to the monastery chapel. Vespers on March 20 and 21 will, as on all great feasts, be at four o'clock. The High Mass will be as usual at 8 a.m.

**Chapel Collapse**  
 Newport, N. H.—(NC)—An accumulation of snow on the roof of Sacred Heart Chapel, landmark at suburban George Mills and widely known to summer-time vacationists,

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