



Youth

2 Boxers Keep Mission Crowns

By WHIT JOHNSON

Bantamweight Jim Cronmiller and heavyweight Byrnes successfully defended their titles in the Aquinas Mission Bout finals before a capacity crowd last Friday night in the Aquinas gymnasium.

Byrnes won by a decision over Dave Dinolfo as both boys shared the trophy for "best fight of the night."

Cronmiller scored a decision over John Saxe to win his second "Fighter of the Night" trophy in as many years. Cronmiller climaxed four years of Mission Bout fighting without losing a single round.

Tom Heil won a decision over Bernie Walik to capture the Best Freshman Fighter award.

Carmen Basilio, former world welterweight and middleweight champion was guest referee. Other referees included Judge John Mastrella, Abe Raff and Sam Cappa.

Over \$1000 was realized from the Mission Bouts. According to William McCarthy, faculty mission moderator, the money will be sent to foreign and home missions, with a generous portion going to Aquinas graduates working in mission fields throughout the world. Students have contributed nearly \$6000

through free will offerings in their homerooms.

Results of bouts:

Orbit — Leo Carroll dec. Phil Carroll.

Hydrogen — Mike Uttaro dec. Dave Fagin.

Atomic — Tom Heil dec. Bernie Walik.

Paper — Alex Brocutto dec. John Grossi.

Jr. Middle — Bill Cinelli dec. Mark Schmidt.

Fly — Dennis Prevost dec. Doug Morganti.

Jr. Bantam — Bob O'Connell dec. Mike Fichtner.

Feather — Paul Fakar dec. Mario Lenoardo.

Jr. Welter — Dave Reisinger dec. Joe Foley.

Middle — Rich Russo dec. Ray Schaller.

Heavy — John Byrnes dec. Dave Dinolfo.

Concert Benefits Scholarship Fund

The popular "Butterfield Blues Band" will perform at a concert April 18 at McQuaid to raise money for scholarships for inner city students. The program is sponsored by McQuaid and Mercy High Schools. Also billed for that date is one of the area's top rock groups "The Rustix". Tickets for the concert may be obtained at either of the schools or at Jay's Record Ranch.

Aquinas to Be Center for Study Experiment

By WHIT JOHNSON

Aquinas Institute has been chosen as a demonstration center by the Genesee Valley School Development Association, according to Father Leon G. Hart, C.S.B., principal.

Aquinas is one of 50 secondary schools throughout the nation experimenting with an innovative program called independent study.

Instead of compulsory attendance at daily classes, some groups meet only one or two times a week. Classes may meet in small groups or in groups of perhaps 30 students.

Demonstrations, lectures and film presentations are usually given to the larger groups while seminars and discussions are carried on in the smaller groups. While not in class students study in the library or in one of several study centers throughout the school. These centers are equipped with audiovisual hardware and materials, designed for individual use.

Independent study is intended to facilitate learning by providing flexible, individualized programs for students, and it places much of the responsibility for their education squarely on the students themselves. About 200 students out of a school population of 1240 have qualified for the program. One quarter of the student's day is unscheduled time, during which he is free to confer with teachers, to study, to complete laboratory work, to do in-depth research or to take part in seminars.

What do the students think of this innovation? A survey recently gave the experiment 10 to 1 approval. But even the most enthusiastic recognize some disadvantages in it, and some are completely opposed to the experiment. Students must freely choose to enter the program.

Two students with conflicting views are Ken Weil who likes independent study and Jim Georger who doesn't. As seniors they have been at Aquinas long enough to have experienced both the old and the new systems.

Ken credits the freedom of scheduling with helping to integrate his high school courses with prospective college courses. He likes working in independent projects, having frequent private conferences with teachers, and being free to choose subjects and determine his own schedule.

"It's great," says Ken. "I feel I've faced doubts and solved problems that I wouldn't otherwise have had until I went to college. It's hard, sure," he adds, "but you can literally get as much education as you want."

He cites as typical of the new freedom his recent research

into drugs. He contacted city, county and state health officials and received considerable help and information from the Department of Health in Washington. Last Friday he presented an illustrated lecture on drug addiction in a voluntary assembly of juniors and seniors. Almost all elected to attend.

Jim Georger disagrees with Ken's view, however. "Most students learn more under the conventional system," he says. "Jim doesn't favor the voluntary attendance theory, either. He says that attendance should be compulsory, and points out, 'This is a failure, it's a high school.' Jim hastens to point out that for some students independent study is undoubtedly helpful but many are not mature enough to use the free time wisely.

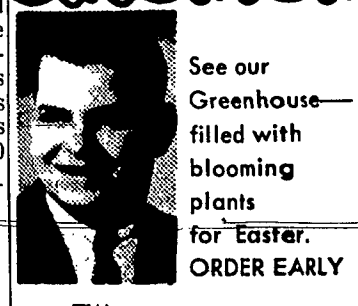
Father Cyril F. Carter, C.S.B., coordinator of independent study is convinced that this technique is the most valuable innovation the school has instituted in recent years. He points out that the program is a privilege for the students and

any who fail to meet the standards set by the respective teachers may not continue.

Aquinas administrators believe that their program is working "superlatively well." Their confidence is based on all their home work done do the ease with which Aquinas students adapted to the system and the few who have found

it necessary to return to the conventional classroom situation.

It's also confirmed by the students who enjoy being their own bosses and manage to get their confidence in all their home work done do the ease with which Aquinas students adapted to the system and the few who have found



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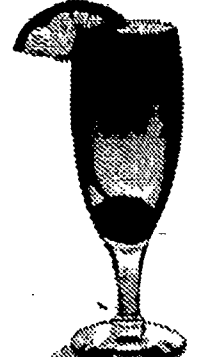
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