



SPECIAL NIGHT

Al Weber of the Times-Union, who has been covering Rochester Red Wing baseball games for more than 40 years will be honored at a "special night," Monday, Aug. 3, at Silver Stadium. Among former local favorites who will be there to honor Weber are Stan Musial, Steve Bilko and Russ Derry. Weber is a parishioner at St. Mark's in Hilton. Ceremonies will precede the Rochester - Winnipeg game.

Keeping Tabs

Parishioners of Holy Name, Greece, will have their fifth annual family picnic Sunday, Aug. 16, at the Barnard Exempt Firemens Association grounds. Phil Burnham and Joseph Worth are chairmen.

The St. Christopher Social Club will hold a picnic Aug. 1 at Bill Rosenberg's cottage. For reservations: Dorothy Seru, 288-3831; Arlene Snell, 458-1184. Club members will take a group of children to a ball game at Silver Stadium Saturday night, Aug. 8.

A breakfast for the benefit of St. William's Church, Conesus, will be served in the Conesus Legion Hall Sunday morning, Aug. 2, from 8 until 11:30.

Mrs. Louis A. Whalen, Jr. of Oakridge Drive will entertain the 12th Seton Branch at luncheon Tuesday, August 11.

Two Nuns Mark 70 Years in Order

Two Sisters of St. Joseph will mark their 70th year in the Order on Tuesday, Aug. 4. Both are retired and reside at the Sisters' Convent and Infirmary at the East Avenue Motherhouse.

Sister Britta Hanley taught in Canandaigua and Rochester for 25 years, and in Elmira for 20 years. Her last mission was at St. Pius X School in Chili.

Sister Benigna McGrain taught in Rochester, was at the former St. Patrick's Orphan Asylum from 1915 to 1936, and served as superior of St. Ann's Home from 1936 to 1942.

Retreat Planned

St. Bonaventure University's Annual Layman's Retreat for alumni and guests is scheduled for the weekend of July 31, Aug. 1-2.

Reservations may be made by calling the Alumni Office (716-372-0300) or by writing Alumni Office, St. Bonaventure University, St. Bonaventure, N.Y. 14778.

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Finance Changes Urged for Schools

This is the third in a series disclosing the recommendations for diocesan action based on the School and Society Survey recently completed in the diocese.

The following is a review of the conclusions regarding "Financial Support for Parochial Schools" as suggested by Sister Patricia Donovan, RSM, director of planning for the Diocesan Schools' Office on the basis of the survey statistics and other interviews.

By ALEX McDONALD

The increasing operational deficit in our parochial school system shows the need for realistic tuition charges, centralized purchasing, continued pressure for public support and fund-raising by an incorporated diocesan school board.

These are the principal recommendations in the latest chapter of a report released this week by the Diocesan Schools' Office based upon figures and opinions compiled in the School and Society Survey of last March.

Stating that the combined operating deficit of Monroe County parochial schools for '70-'71 school year will be "a minimum of \$483,625", the report warns: "The diocesan-wide school deficit will obviously be a substantially higher figure."

Public subsidies for the parochial schools may come, Sister Patricia Donovan's report says, only when the parishes install uniform accounting procedures, public statements of expenditures, a true cost picture of educational costs and the separation of school costs from other church and parish expenditures.

The state rightfully expects

better bookkeeping, reliable data about registration, standardized testing and a more professional personnel before accepting the private schools for public monies.

Specific recommendations for diocesan action included that parish schools have uniform accounting systems, issue annual budget and financial statements and accept "uniform regional tuition rates".

The budgets should include allowances for scholarships for needy pupils and minority culture children and for increased in-service training of religious and lay staff, the report urged.

About 75 parish schools charge some tuition in the diocese but the fees "have no validity when compared to the actual per-pupil cost of education", it is charged.

Regional school boards should be responsible to set tuition rates which would be uniform in their area and would issue a schedule of additional fees

covering physical education, library, music, cafeteria and other expenses for the pupils.

There should be "no separate schedule of tuition charges for non-parishioners" because "if Catholic schools are seeking public assistance all applicants to schools must be treated equally regardless of race, sex or religion."

The report implied strongly that many Sisters of the diocese believe that "donated services from religious personnel" should go to the parish schools having a hard struggle to survive rather than to upper middle class and wealthier parishes.

The more substantial parishes could afford more lay teachers within their present budgets. They could also introduce tuition in order to pay the costs of replacing the Sisters, if they were allocated to poorer parishes.

An annual education fund appeal, conducted diocesan-wide, by the future diocesan school board, was suggested as a source of funds to be administered as subsidies where most needed. This incorporated agency could also receive legacies, donations or corporations funds which were offered for the Church's educational work.

The report emphasized the importance of budgeting funds to allow school staff members, both religious and lay, to attend workshops and pursue advanced degree studies, improving their professional skills.

It declared that "loss of academic standards and educational credibility" will come if continuous professional updating of parish school faculties is neglected. The responsibility for this expense is not the individual's but rests on the "parochial school system."

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Page 11-A