



Going Up!

The three Apollo 14 astronauts (L.R.) Alan B. Shepard Jr., Edgar Dean Mitchell and Stuart Allen Roosa look over models of the lunar lander and the command module. Their trip to the moon is slated Jan. 31. Shepard and Mitchell will land on moon's face. (RNS)

Newspaper Drops Ads For Pornographic Films

Catholic Press Features

San Francisco — "We should have thrown this ugliness out of our advertising columns long ago. We are sorry we delayed. It is out now. And it will stay out."

Thus did The San Francisco Examiner announce — in an editorial that it also ran as a full-page ad in the newspaper trade journal, Editor & Publisher — its decision to turn down all ads for "porno" movies.

"There comes a time when even the most open-minded editor must draw the line," began the editorial, referring to ads from more than 40 porno movie theaters that have helped earn for San Francisco the title of "Porn Capital of the U.S.," according to Time magazine.

Until now, the Examiner editorial explained, "we sought to base our (advertising acceptance) on the laws of the land and looked for guidance to the Supreme Court's decision in the Eros case, which found a production obscene because adver-

tising for it appealed to the prurient.

"This approach, though, merely laundered the advertising appearing in our columns and thus tended to hide the slime of the shows being represented.

"We grudgingly accepted the decision of the Supreme Court that 'community standards' should determine what is obscene and what is not.

"After witnessing the results of this decision, we are now convinced that community standards do not determine what is pornography. Quite the contrary. We believe the results in San Francisco are proof positive that proliferating pornography creates debased community standards."

The Examiner concluded its editorial by stating that if the paper's decision to bar all advertising for porno movies invites lawsuits, "we will welcome carrying our case to the highest courts in the land. Not only the Supreme Court — but also the higher court of public opinion."

Pollution No. 1 Issue, High Schoolers Say

New York — (RNS) — Air and water pollution was selected as the most pressing problem facing the U.S. today by 58.5 per cent of American high school students participating in the latest National Institute of Student Opinion poll.

Other pressing problems selected by students in order of importance were drug abuse, Vietnam, crime, inflation, hunger and poverty, and communism. The poll — conducted by Scholastic Magazines, Inc., in four of its student publications — also revealed that 76 per cent of high school students felt persons who burn the American flag should be arrested.

Participating in the survey were almost 22,000 senior high students in 500 U.S. schools and

35,000 junior high students in 1,500 schools.

On the question of drugs, 68 per cent of the 57,000 students said drug use is increasing. Only 11 per cent said they experienced no drug problem at all within their circle.

Although more than half of the senior high students said they would like the movie rating system which bars minors eliminated, only 44 per cent of junior high students expressed the desire to have the rating system dropped.

Over 71 per cent of high school students polled said they wanted to by-pass the electoral college and have direct elections for the Presidential candidate.

Pope's Assailant Found 'Normal'

Manila — (RNS) — The Bolivian painter accused of the attempted assassination of Pope Paul VI at Manila Airport on Nov. 27 appears to be "normal enough," although he has "delusions of grandeur," a Filipino judge announced here.

Judge Pedro Bautista of the suburban Pasay city court, who is presiding over the trial of Benjamin Mendoza y Amor Flores, disclosed the findings of a court-appointed team of psychiatrists.

Mendoza, a 35-year-old Bolivian expatriate, is being tried on charges that he tried to kill the Pope with a dagger at the airport when the pontiff arrived on the first leg of his 10-day Asian-Pacific journey.

Courier Journal

Mother of 6 Wants To Become Deacon

Chicago — (RNS) — A mother of six children from Des Plaines, Ill., applied for admission to the Roman Catholic archdiocesan training program for the permanent diaconate here, making her the first woman to seek entry into the religious life now restricted to males.

Mrs. Polly O'Grady, 52, informed the Daily News here that she intends to become a "test case" of Catholic Church law. Present guidelines for the diaconate exclude women.

At present, a group of American theologians, working under the auspices of the Catholic Theological Society of America, are studying possible change in Catholic Church law that would allow the ordination of women to the diaconate and of creating deaconess programs for nuns.

Mrs. O'Grady, a divorcee whose marriage was nullified by Catholic Church authorities, works as a secretary and is active in her parish, St. Stephen Pro-Martyr, in the Chicago suburb. Her children range in age from 15 to 26.

She sent her application for the diaconate training program to Father John Ring, its director. The program of theological studies and ministerial skills will begin Feb. 2.

The program was launched in December with the announcement that more than 35 candidates, over 33 years old, would

make it the largest undertaking of its kind in the nation.

Mrs. O'Grady, who has taught religious education classes in her parish and been active in a parish discussion-action group known as the "mini-parish," said of her application for the diaconate:

"This is something I can do, and I think I ought to do it."

Later this month in Miami, Fla., Sister Agnes Cunningham, who teaches at St. Mary of the Lake Seminary, Mundelein, Ill., will present a paper on the ordination of nuns as deacons.

She indicated her hope that the committee of theologians would urge the American Catholic bishops to authorize the admission of women to the diaconate.

Look at Christ Personally, Pope Urges

Vatican City — (RNS) — Pope Paul VI called on all Christians to develop and foster a deep personal relationship of faith and love with Christ, "the real and living Christ, the Christ of the Gospels."

This relationship, he said at a general Wednesday audience in the Vatican Hall of Benediction, is one of the fundamental and indispensable realities of "authentic" Christianity.

For "the destiny of every single man and of humanity" is utterly dependent on the "living, present, and invisible Christ," the pontiff added.

"Would you look for the model of the perfect Man?" the Pope asked. Then, look to Christ, "the type, the archetype, the prototype" of humanity, he replied.

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