

Scholastic Notebook

No Lindsays In Rochester

By John Doser



Perhaps in death Father Cyril Carter, CSB, former Aquinas Institute athletic director, has in effect given doomed Aquinas Stadium indeed a reprieve.

While ex-sports columnist George Beahon prays for the miracle which would retain and rename the Ridgeway Avenue facility "Father Carter Stadium" the only patrons of such a move must be Aquinas alumni themselves.

Nobody else seems to care.

There certainly are enough AQ grads around Rochester who knew and loved Father Cy enough to dig into their pockets and fork over some green to keep the stadium for football.

REPORTERS who in the past tried to reach Father Carter at Aquinas or at the residence behind the school usually were informed that Father Carter was at the stadium.

It made little difference what time of year it was; Father Carter always found time and things to do at his private park. He was no stranger to the lawn mower, tractor, broom, paint brush or the chalker (white or yellow).

One Sunday when two pro NFL teams were about to take the field for an exhibition a member of the visiting press told Father Carter he had never seen a high school turf in such "professional" condition.

Father Carter beamed from ear to ear because he knew only too well how many hours he and his volunteer army of Aquinas students and neighborhood kids put in to get the field into such top shape.

His secret? He saw a color photo of a big league stadium's turf and he simply copied it.

While George B. writes of promoting rivalries between Aquinas students and peer groups at McQuaid, Father Carter wasn't always so compatible with Mr. B.'s sportswriting brothers.

We know of one instance

where a reporter broke a story about a coach who would very probably take over the Irish basketball squad the following year. The reporter received his information from the "hot prospect" after calling him about another matter.

The prospect had asked what the reporter knew about Father Carter and Aquinas because he was considering taking the job.

When Father Carter was confronted with the story he didn't deny it but insisted there was nothing to it.

When the story was printed Father Carter got on the phone and accused the reporter of breaking faith and told him never to call again.

The cold war between the two went on for some time but little by little Father Carter warmed up and eventually made it known that he had officially forgotten the incident.

PROBABLY the biggest kick Father Cy enjoyed in recent years was the huge crowd the Fairport-Aquinas game collected last fall. Nearly 15,000 fans filled the stands and it reminded many of the big and glorious days of Aquinas football in the late 1940s and early 50s.

Father Cy, who knew every nook and cranny of his park, nearly guessed the crowd right on the button. There would have been a much larger crowd if it hadn't rained, he lamented.

That rainy night last November was the last time I saw Father Carter. I stopped in at Aquinas to say goodbye last Sunday but I had the feeling I was in the wrong place. I didn't know him at all.

George B. wrote that Father Carter wasn't reading newspapers in his last weeks. That was good or he would have canceled out sooner.

That's why only Aquinas alumni can save Father Carter's park. There are no Mayor Lindsays in Rochester.



David Hayes, an Aquinas senior, has qualified for a national original oratory competition in San Francisco in June, through his victory over speakers from upstate schools March 19 and 20 at Schroeder School in Webster. He also has won the Knights of Columbus diocesan oratorical contest, and will compete on a statewide basis in May. David is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John E. Hayes of Portsmouth Terrace.

CYO SWIM MEET

The CYO will hold its annual swim meet for parochial elementary schools on Saturday, April 10. Boys begin at 10:00 a.m.; the girls, at 1:30 p.m. Awards will be given for the first three places in each race and to the school with the greatest number of points.

FIRST FRIDAY

A night-long Eucharistic vigil will be kept by eight priests at Holy Rosary church April 2. This observance will last from 9 p.m. until 6 a.m.

Wurzburg Gymnasts To Perform Tonight

Section V gymnasts will perform tonight at R. L. Thomas High School, Webster, in competition with a group of teenage champions from Germany.

The six visitors from Wurzburg also will give exhibitions at Frederick Douglas High School, tomorrow April 1, and at Monroe Community College Friday night. All programs are scheduled for 8 p.m.

The tour was worked out through the Rochester-Wurzburg Sister Cities program committee and the Section V gym-

nastic judges and coaches association. Next year, Rochester gymnasts are expected to go to Wurzburg.

The idea-man for this cultural exchange is Wolfgang Metzger, an exchange teacher and gymnastic coach at West Irondequoit High School. His students are hosts to the guests, who range in age from 14 to 18.

The Sister Cities program is in the hands of Councilman Frank Lamb and Father Robert J. Klem, CSB., head of the German department at Aquinas.

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