

They Make Vocal Music at Sing Sing

The Ossining Correctional Facility is the first stop on the St. John Fisher College Glee Club's second major concert tour.

The 25-member group leaves the Rochester campus April 14 for appearances in Connecticut and the New York City area.

A "first" for the club will be singing the 11:45 a.m. Mass April 18 in St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York City. St. John Fisher College will follow the West Point Glee Club in the Mass, West Point singing at 10 a.m.

H. Wendell Howard, chairman of the Department of English at Fisher is the group's director. He holds a diploma in voice from the Julliard School of Music and is completing his Ph.D. in English and music from the University of Minnesota.

Howard took the group on its first out-of-state appearance in 1967. They participated and won first place in the Inter-collegiate Glee Club Festival held in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. The club returned to the same festival the following year



(Left to right; first row) Robert G. Ragosta, James H. Mulvey III, Timothy Keegan, James Kane, Gary LaPorta, Carmen Paris, Daniel Cappon; (second row) Carl Kukielka, Terry J. Ging, Joseph M. Achtyl, Stephen D. Sindely, Thomas W. Askin Jr., Joseph P. McCaffrey, Gregory L. Friedman, Michael J. Schramel, Wendell Howard, director; (third row) Michael Caramia, Robert Doell, Robert P. Chapman, Kevin E. McKenna, Matthew Kawiak, John P. Sherkus, Michael D. Roche, Todd E. Eggert, John B. Yockel, Robert Schrader.



Passover Seder

An old-world Passover Seder is depicted in this painting by Arthur Szyk. During the traditional Jewish festival, the Exodus is recalled. Ceremonial meals, called Seders, are served on the first and second nights of the festival with various special dishes symbolizing the hardships the Israelites went through during their bondage in Egypt. The narrative of the Exodus is recalled and praise is given for the deliverance. Only unleavened bread (matzoh) may be eaten throughout the seven days of Passover in memory of the fact that the Jews, hastening from Egypt, had no time to leaven their bread. (RNS)

Fast Points Up Sympathy With Asia Third World

A Holy Week of voluntary fasting "in sympathy with the suffering peoples of Asia, the Third World and all who are prisoners of war" will climax with a "repentance rite" in front of the Federal Building, Church Street, Rochester at 10:30 a.m. Good Friday.

The general public is invited to attend the public services of shared prayer, readings and reflection on the Scriptures.

Participants agreed to fast to show awareness of "our sinfulness as citizens and as a nation in the responsibility we share for the sufferings of mankind." They have given up solids for the week or taken

only one meal each day, according to Father Anthony J. Valente, Mercy High School chaplain, one of the organizers of the project.

"Our fast is just one way of expressing our concern and our hope," he said. "We admit to the implication of our guilt and our desire for reconciliation. We have tried to make the sacrifice substantial enough to widen our hearts to love."

Leaders of the project who have solicited participants for the week's fast and will direct the Good Friday repentance service include Bill Droell, Mark Hare, Tom Valenti and Sisters Margaret Hall, Mary Jo Fink and Mary Jo Brach.

Abortion Protection Urged

The Executive Committee of the Rochester Right to Life Committee is urging support of two bills on abortion under consideration by the State Legislature.

The bills are Senate 20, sponsored by Sen. J. H. Donovan, and Assembly 2774, sponsored by Assemblyman E. F. Crawford. These bills would result in restoration of the protection of the abortion law to both mother and child.

The committee advises letters to the following, urging Senate 20 and Assembly 2774 be brought out of committee for a vote:

COURIER, 2

Sen. Thomas Laverne, Senate Codes Committee; Sen. Tarky Lombardi, Senate Health Committee; Assemblyman Dominick DiCarlo, Assembly Codes Committee; Assemblyman Martin Ginsberg, Assembly Health Committee.

Address: State Capitol, Albany, N.Y. 12224

BEWARE THE QUACK

Beware of unfounded claims and unproven methods of cancer treatment, says the American Cancer Society. Sure "cures" and "remedies" for cancer may prevent or delay proper life-saving treatment.

and captured second place honors.

A highlight in the club's career came in April 1969 after the release of their first record album. Recorded in stereo by Century Records, the album, titled Saint John Fisher College

Glee Club, has been played on three occasions over CBL radio, Toronto.

The club features, among its various arrangements, a barber-shop quartet including Daniel Cappon, bass; Joseph McCaffrey, baritone; Terry Ging, sec-

ond tenor; and Raymond Ragosta, first tenor.

In addition, Gregory Friedman and Timothy Keegan as vocalists, Stephen Sindley on bass, and Joseph McCaffrey on guitar, team up in a popular-folk combo.

The Music Bag

Steppenwolf in a Snow Storm

BY THE MISSION SINGERS

Snow-Blind Friend deserves to be Steppenwolf's biggest hit. A song about drugs ("snow" is slang for cocaine), it says a lot about the seriousness of the group, itself, and even more about the seriousness of pop music as a whole.

It might seem to some people that this column generally goes out of its way to praise the music and the people involved in the pop field. We do, and deliberately so because we believe there are more than enough good, serious artists and songs to keep everyone busy with positive, constructive comments.

Snow-Blind Friend deals with what some people have known for a long time—that the real danger of drugs lies not in chromosome damage or in physical addiction (as real as these dangers are), but in the destruction of a person's spirit, his personality.

The song is no tirade against drug use. And that makes it the most telling kind of indictment.

The song is simply a description of two friends; one who dies and one who watches. The one who dies is the snow-blind one; a pathetic person. While it's true he is a helpless, useless human being (Isn't that a description of Hell: to be useless?), still we do neither him nor ourselves any good by condemning him. He has sealed his fate. That's sad, but there's nothing we can do about it.

The second friend, the one who watches, deserves a little more comment. Perhaps the best comment is the short remark of a poet: "Two boys born, one boy lives/What does he long for?/Look around you: who's the sad one?/Who should we mourn for?"

"Did you say you saw your good friend . . . dyin' slow?" There are a lot of young drug users in America today — too many. But there are a lot more of us who don't use drugs. How many friends do we know who take drugs? Do we just watch them, do we just let them?

In a New York high school a junior recently died of an



SNOW-BLIND FRIEND

You say it was this morning when you last saw your good friend flyin' on the sidewalk with the misery on his brain. Stoned on some new potion he found upon the wall of some Unholy bathroom in some ungodly hall.

He only had a dollar to live on 'til next Monday, but he spent it all on comfort for his mind. Did you say you think he's blind? Some one should call his parents or a sister or a brother. And They'll come and take him back home on a bus. But he'll always Be a problem to his poor and puzzled mother, and he'll always Be another one of us.

He said he wanted Heaven but praying was too slow. So he Bought a one-way ticket on an airline made of snow. Did you say you saw your good friend flyin' low? Some ungodly hall.

Did you say you saw your good friend flyin' low? Dyin' slow, Blinded By Snow.

(Copyright 1968 by Lady Jane Music)

overdose. A teacher there was pretty disturbed. He asked some of his students what they thought of the tragedy. Most of them replied with something like, "Well, he played the game and he lost. He should have been more careful."

Is that what friends are for: to say he should have been more careful? Another poet shouts the condemnation: "A friend should bear a friend's infirmities, but (you) make mine greater than they are." If the friend who dies of drugs is pathetic, how much more pathetic is the friend who watches!

For some young people, drugs are the only heaven they know. For them, Heaven is anything or any place that gets them out

of the Hell they're living in.

But even drug users know that this kind of Heaven is just another version of Hell. Peter Townshend, the leader of The Who, and the author of the rock opera, Tommy, says: "Drugs stopped my life, destroyed my adolescence! They're the worst thing on the planet! Their real effect is to neutralize life."

Any snow blind friend would accept a positive alternative to the "Heaven" of drugs. But how few positive alternative are offered to him! When the judgment comes, a snow-blind friend will be judged on what he did; the rest of us will be judged on what we failed to do. "Did you say you think he's blind?" What about you?