



n struggle with clay sculpture.



Swimming and diving, above, are a large part of the program. At left, Joseph Bellave and Mark Mosetti pet a burro at Lollypop Farm.



BOB HAUGHWOUT

Text and photos by Laurence E. Keefe

CYO day camp can be a lot of things to a kid.

It can be swimming, it can be learning not to be afraid of the high diving board, it can be a game of kickball, it can be wrestling with a piece of clay until it becomes the shape you want, or it can be learning about new animals and fish.

And after it's all over and you're waiting to get on the bus and go home, it can be waiting in line with your towel bag and sucking on an ice cream stick, secure in the knowledge that tomorrow is more of the same.

More than 2,000 children ages 6 through 13 attend CYO day camp, according to CYO director Paul Schmidt, and the seven camps constitute the largest program of its sort in the city.

This year has gone quite successfully with few snags, says Bob Haughwout,

except that an unusually large number of mosquitoes has driven his camp away from some parks they planned to use. Haughwout directs the St. Ambrose camp, which serves children from that and four additional parishes.

All the instructors, Schmidt is quick to point out, are either college students or teachers and are professionally qualified to handle small children.

The camps, most of which operate for eight weeks during the summer, take children either weekly or for the entire summer. Community Chest support makes possible reduced fees for some economically disadvantaged children.

During the hot summer months many a mother has been glad of the chance to get some of her other work done while the children are at camp. As for the children, how do they feel? Well, look at the photographs.



Brian Flowerday waits pick for kickball team.



Food galore: kids at left get a taste of fresh fish after their field trip; later while waiting for the bus home, ice cream fights the heat.