

JOHN DOSER
Scholastic
Notebook



"There's nothing new as far as we're concerned; it's the same old story; we're back where we started from two years ago, almost to the day."

The words belong to Rev. Albert Gaelens, principal at Aquinas Institute.

He was referring somewhat dejectedly, to the death of proposed Stadium City by a no-action taking, Rochester city council last week.

The council sent the proposed 2,000-unit high-rise project to limbo by not voting on it.

A Cleveland firm planned to build the project if the council approved the necessary legislation to get it started. The firm said it would not tear down Aquinas Stadium in order to complete its plans.

Father Gaelens doesn't care whether the stadium remains or not. Aquinas needs the \$800,000 it has been led to believe it can get for it, to pay for renovations to the school completed more than a year ago.

Sources close to Aquinas say the school owes banks some \$900,000 and unless it is paid soon, there will be only a single alternative left — close the doors.

But Father Gaelens disagrees, at least as of today.

"It is not inevitable the school will close, but there is a question of how much it will take to keep it open," Father Gaelens said. The school must get its bearings again in the next few weeks and indicated school officials would meet with Monroe County Manager Lou Morin to further discuss a proposal he made.

Morin would like to add the Mt. Read ball park to county ownership, but only if the city throws in the War Memorial, too.

Morin believes both would make a great package for county sponsored promotions throughout the year.

The county manager however is prepared to offer only \$700,000 for the stadium which doesn't meet with Aquinas approval.

"I DO SEE our opening in September," Father Gaelens said, because our alumni and parents, especially the latter, seem willing to come through to help see some financial profit to the school. We might not be able to go on too long, but we'd be buying more time."

Father Gaelens said it was "ridiculous rumor that the school is closing next month if the stadium isn't sold. The kids have confused the deadlines we gave city council for selling the stadium. It's a false rumor," Father Gaelens said.

Aquinas will continue to talk with the city council and the

PENTECOSTAL MASS

A special Mass for those interested in the Pentecostal experience will be celebrated on Thursday, Dec. 21, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Charles Borromeo Church, 3003 Dewey Ave., corner of Maiden Lane.

PARTY IN GATES

A New Year's Eve party at St. Jude's in Gates will start immediately after the 7:30 p.m. Mass Dec. 31 and continue through breakfast at 3 a.m. Dinner is scheduled for 9 p.m., with dancing to begin at 10. For reservations: Sue Hughes, 426-2801; Marty Kucak, 426-2832.

school's board of trustees will meet again next month to determine the next move.

"I'd be personally opposed to a recommendation that we close the school in 1973; I'd prefer to talk it out with the parents. I can't see dumping a thousand students out of school," Father Gaelens added.

While the Basilian Fathers are experiencing difficulties with their Rochester Aquinas operation, their other far-flung educational interests in Detroit, Gary, Ind., and Houston seem to be operating with much more ease.

"And of course in Ontario there are few problems," the Aquinas principal said. Catholic students are subsidized by the Canadian government, Father Gaelens said.

The heart of the problem at Aquinas, Father Gaelens explained, is repaying the debt created by the renovation — loans granted to the school with the stadium and its land as collateral.

"Our expenses are based on tuition and that is not too bad," he explained. "But we have to get rid of the debt. And one more thing — the stadium is not dilapidated as some reporters say. The only old things are the concession stands which are quite old, but they are not used anymore. We fix the sod up for each fall season, although the Lancers would like to see it done in the spring."

Advent Programs in Ithaca

Ithaca — All area Churches are involved in their Advent undertakings, preparing for Christmas.

St. Michael's Church, Penn Yan, reminds in their weekly bulletin, "there is another Coming of Our Lord that we Christians must constantly be mindful of — He comes to us in those around us. . . . 'Whatever you do to the least of my brothers that you do unto me.'"

On the Fourth Sunday of Advent, Immaculate Conception, Ithaca, each parish family will bring to the altar and hang on the 'parish tree' a handmade ornament. Midnight Mass will be celebrated with a choir of 30 adults and 25 children with accompaniment by organ, guitars, trumpets and other instruments.

Also at Immaculate Conception paperback Bibles were ordered and distributed to all parochial school children, grades 4-8, and also to all in religious education, children and adults.

McGRATH, POTTER

Bat McGrath and Don Potter will appear in concert in Rochester Institute of Technology's Ingle Auditorium on the Henrietta campus, Wednesday, Jan. 3 at 8 p.m.

SISTERS SING

The Concert Chorale of the Sisters of St. Joseph sang in Washington, D.C., at the Pageant of Peace, during which the White House Christmas tree was lighted, last week.

Problem Pregnancy?
For free confidential help call Birthright: 716-328-8700.
Office Hours: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., weekdays; 24 Hour record-a-phone to receive messages.



Father Thomas Cleary, pastor at Holy Cross Church, tells they will be having a Family Christmas Mass at 5 p.m. Christmas Eve. This Mass will be especially for the children. They will have a children's choir and a procession of the children to the Manger Scene. Midnight Mass will also be celebrated.

in white paper to be distributed to the needy.

St. Mary's of the Lake Parish in Watkins Glen recently held a "blood bank" at their parish center. Many parishioners lent a helping hand.

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For eight years, Msgr. Nolan has journeyed to Bethlehem to participate in midnight Mass on Christmas. He has also taken gifts to our Lord each year, just as the Magi did so long ago. These gifts are gifts of love—thousands of them from good people like yourself who want to help the hungry, the sick and the helpless in the Holy Land, the Near East and India. These are just as much gifts to Christ as those of the Magi. And they occasion no less rejoicing in Heaven. Will you put your gift in Monsignor Nolan's hand before he starts his Christmas journey? Simply fill out the coupon below and enclose it with your gift. We thank you, confident that through sharing, your Christmas will be spiritually enriched.

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- \$ Provides love. . . . HE IS LOVE

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Our missionary priests in the Holy Land will be pleased to offer promptly the Masses you request at Christmas. Simply send us, with your offering, the names of your friends and loved ones, living and deceased.

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Health Hints

FROM ROCHESTER BLUE CROSS & BLUE SHIELD

Snowmobiling

Keep the increasingly popular sport of snowmobiling alive and safe this winter by following specific precautions. Be sure that your snowmobile is in top-notch condition, both at the beginning of the season and each time it's used. Wear a protective snowmobile suit since, traveling at snowmobile speeds, the chill factor can reach 30 degrees below zero and cause severe frostbite. Also wear goggles and a helmet to protect yourself against stones, hail, ice and flying debris. Know the terrain over which you are traveling and always use the buddy system. Also, check the weather forecast and know the snow conditions in the area. With over 1.7 million snowmobiles expected to be put into use this winter, help do your part to establish snowmobiling as a safe sport.

Poisoning Prevention

Child poisonings know no particular season. In using and storing hazardous substances, follow these safety tips. Always keep medicines in a locked cupboard, out of the reach of children. Never tell children that medicine, even if it tastes good, is candy. Never transfer hazardous substances to soda bottles or jars where they might be identified improperly. Never leave hazardous substances unattended when they are within the reach of children and never store substances such as polishes and bleach in a place accessible to children.

And here's another healthy hint.

If you're not covered by Blue Cross & Blue Shield, write or call for information: Rochester Blue Cross & Blue Shield, 41 Chestnut St., Rochester, N.Y., 14647, phone (716) 325-3630.