

GEORGE BEAHON
"In This Corner"



After 23 years, the "Dinner" has it made. I refer to Rochester's Professional Athlete of the Year Dinner, a deal sponsored by the Press-Radio Club, the winners being kids' charities. Until late last week, this was a virtual secret to readers of our favorite p.m. newspaper. Now the word is out: The "Dinner" is on: Feb. 5 at the Holiday/Down-town, at \$35 per plate.

The "Dinner" is "made" for two reasons. Being recognized by your favorite p.m. daily is one; being co-sponsored by a quality national outfit like Lincoln-Mercury is another. There is no greater award for individual sports excellence than this silver Continental Mark IV. Nationally, it is still a virtual secret. But once the wire services announce the

Monday night winner, athletes in clubhouses, locker rooms, dugouts and showers will be discussing this 12-G prize from month to month. So long, Hickok Belt. Hello, Mark IV.

Back to our favorite p.m. daily (initials, The Times-Union.) Its loudest and boldest and most fearless voice; Bruno Sniders, helped to put the "Dinner" center stage last week. This was a real public relations score for the dinner promoters, because Bruno is the same lively critic who buried the dinner ("it is dead") in print last summer and fall. The dinner now is live, live, live, and if you doubt it, go back to Bruno's copy of last weekend.

That Bruno was stand-up enough to do his about face is gratifying. Unfortunately, however, the entire p.m. sports staff is overmatched in the department of dinner coverage. (Possibly because not one of these dedicated, ink-stained writers has yet been willing to separate himself from the \$25 annual dues required for membership in the Press-Radio Club. Sports-news gatherers are automatically eligible, otherwise. On the other hand, editorial policy deprives these people of the official scoring money available to some writers. They are not permitted to be exposed to corruption for a fee of \$15 for only three or four hours of attention and paper work.)

Thus frustrated from direct involvement with the workings of this P-R Club, the p.m. staffers content themselves with trying to "scoop" the opposition, which is 60, 80 feet westward on the same editorial floor. Latest achievement was announce-

ment that Cleveland Cooper of the Naval Academy would receive the Local Athlete of the Year Award. No byline. This "scoop" was comparable in value to breaking a release date, which has been a specialty of both sides of the sports floors. This is no small accomplishment. In a city of two daily papers, the score is 2-2, and this is batting .500, which is like holding your own in a two-team league, or in flipping coins. Don't knock it.

Despite these "scoops," the dinners have been playing to sellout crowds and making lots of bread for nice charities. And the dinner coverage, after the fact, has been super. Anything like last week, when Bruno gave the Club the full supershot, is gravy — free publicity, probably rated undeserved and horrifying by editorial policy-makers. (Would you believe that just typing Lincoln-Mercury in this space would send dozens of humans rushing out trying to buy the first available silver Continental Mark IV?)

The balloting for Rochester's new professional athlete of the year award is coming from 165 national press, radio and TV people; 11 members of the L-M sports panel (there's another dozen cars sold!), and the 102 members of the Rochester P-R Club.

The only ballot I have seen at this writing is my own, and I am prepared to back my choice with a prediction. First, I ask you, where would the Washington Redskins have been last season without Larry Brown? Then I ask you, who else will be sitting behind the wheel of that you-know-what 12-G car when it leaves Rochester next Tuesday morning?

JOHN DOSER
Scholastic Notebook



"Sectionals Anticlimactic" the headline said last week on Jim Rickey's sports column in the D&C.

Rickey is so right, it's painful.

Mooney's win over East High two weeks ago before 6,500 at the War Memorial WAS the Section 5 championship game.

There are no better teams than this pair in the Greater Rochester Area.

While other sections in New York State are allowing their member Catholic schools to compete in sectional tournaments, Section 5 continues to lag behind.

Last year the Section overwhelmingly voted to keep the Catholic schools out of the post-season playoffs.

At least the Catholic schools know where they stand — out in the foyers buying tickets for sectional ballgames.

Usually at this time of the year Mooney athletic director and basketball coach Ed Nietopski is thumping the drums about the Catholics-in-the-sectionals business.

Justice Forum To Be Resumed

Forum on Justice, a weekly luncheon series sponsored by the Judicial Process Commission of the Genesee Ecumenical Ministries, will resume Wednesday, Feb. 7, with a four-week series on pending state judicial legislation.

The series, prepared in cooperation with the law committee of the Women's Political Caucus, will begin with a talk by Prof. W. David Curtiss of the Cornell Law School, a member of the Temporary Commission on the State Court System that prepared the Dominick Report. The commission, appointed by Governor Rockefeller, held statewide hearings and has made recommendations for court reforms that are the basis for pending legislation.

The series will continue Wednesdays at 12:15, at First Presbyterian Church, 101 S. Plymouth.

HOOP BROADCAST

The Pittsford at Brighton High School basketball game will be broadcast over WROC-AM at 8:40 p.m. Friday, Feb. 2. Joe Cullinane will do the play-by-play.

He's very quiet this year and why not? His Cards beat Section 5's best, they beat 'em before the largest high school crowd of the season in the area's biggest house, and the state poll recognized the feat by proclaiming Mooney No. 6 in the state while East dropped to 8th.

Who needs the sectionals anyway? We all do. It's the best thing to do — the noble thing to do — let the Catholics compete.

Ed Nietopski's wife, who works somewhat independently of her husband, also gets fired up about this time of the year. She writes letters, but until now, never has mailed one.

Mrs. N shares her husband's anxieties and frustrations and this week dashed off a note to Section 5 President Carl Palumbo and a carbon to the Courier-Journal.

In her note she pointed out that the 6,500 fans who gathered at the War Memorial were well behaved, and asked if the Mooney fans, i.e., the Catholics, must continue to make all their own "big game" arrangements.

In fairness to Palumbo, we believe he is diligently trying to move the Section into permitting the Catholic schools to compete in future competition.

But the same roadblocks which existed 25 years ago are still there. Father Cyril F. Carter, the late athletic director at Aquinas Institute, never flinched when he softly said, eyeball to eyeball, "The reason we're not in, John, is because the bigots keep us out."

The school administrators to whom Father Carter alluded, need to be spanked into the realization that Catholic kids are no different than public school kids and deserve the same kind of athletic treatment.

In these days of pronounced equal opportunity for all, have a good day, help your neighbor etc., etc., it's ludicrous to keep the Catholic schools out of these sectional tournaments.

Bill Farrell, Section 5 basketball chairman from Rush-Henrietta, has said if it were up to him the Catholic schools would be in the sectionals.

Many administrators and coaches echo similar statements.

Who then, will publicly step forward and say no? Who are the administrators who voted by a 2-1 margin a year ago to keep the Catholic schools out? We'll try to find out.

Keeping Tabs

The women of the Archconfraternity of the Holy Family of St. Joseph Church will attend Mass at 9 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 4. Breakfast and Conference will follow.

St. Lawrence Church will hold a Pentecostal Mass on Friday, Feb. 2, at 7:30 p.m. The celebrant will be Father Neil Miller. Everyone is welcome. The Mass will continue to be held every First Friday.

Members and friends of the International Federation of Catholic Alumnae are invited to First Saturday Mass at 12:05 p.m. Feb. 3 in Corpus Christi Church. Bishop James E. Kearney will deliver the homily.

The Mercy High School glee club, chorus and orchestra will perform at 8 tonight for relatives and friends of Mercy students.

St. Pius X Rosary Guild and Holy Name Society will sponsor an evening of recollection for couples at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 6. Father Albert Shamon will celebrate Mass and lead a discussion of the Mass. Refreshments will be served by Mrs. Thomas Frantz and her committee.

A German supper will be served at the Holy Rosary Guild's Evening of Recognition for teachers Feb. 6. All women of the parish are invited. Tickets, at \$5, are available through band leaders or 458-7026. Nancy Donafrio and Chris Sawyer are chairmen.

Luke Easter, baseball personality, will speak at the Mother of Sorrows family sports night Thursday, Feb. 8. Cocktails will be served at 6: dinner, at 7. Tickets, \$4 for adults, \$2.50 for children, may be reserved through 663-5432 and must be picked up by Feb. 4.

St. Margaret Mary parishioners are invited to a regular parish council meeting at 7:30 tomorrow night in the school library. The council has elected the following officers: Eugene Fuerst, chairman; Stanley Stahura, vice chairman; Joann Douty, recording secretary, and Eileen Meisenzahl, corresponding secretary.

The Southwest Golden Age Group will meet at 1:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 2, in the Panel Room at 34 Monica St. for a talent show and refreshments.

St. John the Evangelist parish on Humboldt Street will give a reception from 4 until 6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 4, for Msgr. Charles V. Boyle, pastor for 14 years, who recently moved to St. Anne's.

A jazz Mass will be celebrated at St. Stanislaus Church on Sunday, Feb. 11, at 12:15 p.m.

A mother-daughter dinner is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 6, at Mother of Sorrows, following the 5:35 Mass.

Club Alouette will sponsor a dance Saturday night, Feb. 3.

at Doud Post, 98 Buffalo Rd. Further information about this French group may be obtained from Mrs. Patrick Faucher, 100 Linnet.

The Rosary Society of St. Bernard's, Scipio Center, will hold its annual George Washington card party Saturday, Feb. 17, in Southern Cayuga Central School, Poplar Ridge. Five Hundred will be the big game, but there will be tables for other card games, Mrs. Jack Powers reported.

St. Theodore's Rosary and Altar Society will meet at 7:30 tonight. A representative from R. G. & E. Consumer Products Department will speak.

Our Lady of Mercy Home School Association will sponsor a Monte Carlo Nite on Feb. 16, at 8 p.m. in the school hall, 600 Denise Road.

Court Our Lady of the Cenacle Catholic Daughters of America, will hold a Valentine's party for 40 children at the State Hospital on Feb. 21. Mrs. Richard Vollmer and Mrs. Samuel Attardo are chairmen.

The Monroe County Dental Society will sponsor a smile contest for children aged 3-10 next week in Midtown Plaza.

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