

IN THIS CORNER George Beahon

Wottle is tall, almost skinny, 22 years old, and not as famous as Mark Spitz. Dave Wottle is enroute to becoming one of the greatest distance runners in history. He is a Bowling Creen senior, still breaking records in college, an Olympic champion, married less than a year, and headed for the Air Force next month.

Between his team schedule of special relays and his public appearances, Wottle is lucky to keep up in the classroom. But lest he be mistaken as a campus jock, let it be noted here that he is maintaining a 3.3 gradepoint (on a 40 scale) as a history major, and already has done some teaching in high school.

Wottle was in Rochester the other day, honored by Kodak and by a BG Alumni group, before trucking to Pittsburgh to anchor his relay team.

When he met the press and alumni at separate functions, it was easy to see why so many people had fallen in love with the lanky toothy guy who came out of Canton, Ohio, to rewrite track records.

"Dave Wottle," said his Bowling Green Sports In-formation Director, "is like a breath of fresh air. Someone famous once said he never met an honest man. I wish I could introduce him to Dave Wottle. Besides being candid and refreshingly honest in his workings with the mass media, the slender man-with-the-whitegolf-cap is an outstanding male athlete with one of the most lethal finishing kicks in the history of middle distance running. He also is one of the few persons I have met who can combine confidence and humility into one quality of graciousness."

Wottle talked about his relations with the press, about how he turned down a lucrative pro offer, about writers and Howard Cosell and Sports Illustrated, about how he felt at the Olympics, even before he won the Gold Medal by nipping the favored Russian at the wire-inthe 800 meters and about his own

"Most writers stay too long and they all ask the same questions.

Recruits Added To Swiss Guard

Vatican City (RNS) — Fourteen young men and a commander took a solemn oath to protect the Pope with their lives, as they "were sworn into the famed Swiss" Guards.

The new recruits raised the corps' strength to 70 men. Guards are recruited generally from the German-speaking cantons of Switzerland and must be 25 years old, Catholics, and unmarried. They were first employed by Pope Julius II in 1510.

The new Guards were attired in the blue, red and yellow parade uniforms designed centuries ago by Michelangelo.

Their protection of the Pope includes day and night custody of the papal apartments, the entrances of the apostolic palaces, and appearances of the pontiff at special ceremonies

But I know they are trying to do their job. The best interviews seem to be short and filled with important questions."

"After I won the 800, Sports Illustrated printed a story that made out I talked like a hillbilly and that I was always, going 'shucks' and "golly-gee' and 'gee-

"I don't say those words. Oh, once in a, while. But they made it sound like that's all I talked about. The writer wasn't even at the track meet. It was a bad article, and I'll never believe another Sports Illustrated article

"Howard Cosell is hard to describe. He is in control. When he came to interview me, he came into the room and everything stopped. He then said, 'I guess you know you are going to have an opportunity to speak to the gifted one.

"Jim McKay is the best TV announcer I've had the pleasure of knowing. He really takes the time to make you feel he wants to know you. He's my favorite.'

Wottle sat out his junior year of eligibility, red-shirting because of injuries. When he returned to track, he had a chance to sign for the new pro tour, with a big dollar guaranteed the very first year

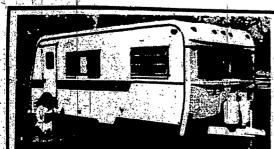
They (Bowling Green) kept me on scholarship the whole time I've been there, even when I was injured. I'm sure it would have been to my best interest that I go professional because of the money involved. My wife Jan makes \$7,000 or so teaching, and that hardly is enough to live on, but she's going to teach for about three years and by that time we should have a good down payment on a house, and if I'm in the Air Force, we can live off my wages and save her wages. "Besides, I owed it to Bowling

That Olympic flame . . . "I was awestruck. That may not be the right word. The flame was a dream come true. I was finally there — really at the Olympics. The flame always symbolizes the Olympics. It scares you a little and sends chills running up and

Praying ... "I have prayed before every race since my junior year in high school. Praying just gives me more confidence. It's my way of getting psyched up for the race, to get away from preanc Although I never felt His presence in a race, I know He's helping me along. I have always asked the Lord to help me in the race. And, I always pray that if anyone else is praying, then let him win because he probably has more faith than I do.

"When I got injured my faith was tested. I accepted the first injury, but the others were too much to take. If I was being tested to see if I passed or failed. I would have to say 1 failed. In the last two years I've lost some of my faith. I still go to church as often as I can. (He is Methodist.) But at the same time I often find myself cussing while I'm running or when I'm with other persons. It bothers me. I was even quoted as using a cuss word, by the school

'Dave Wottle said "damn."



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Uriah Leaves Aguinas Post

John P. Uriah submitted his resignation last week as athletic director and varsity basketball coach of Aquinas Institute effective June 30, 1973.

Uriah joined Aquinas in 1969 as varsity basketball coach, assistant varsity football coach and teacher of physical education and health. After the resignation of Father Cyril Carter CSB, for reasons of health, Uriah was named athletic director by Father Albert Gaelens, principal of the Dewey Ave. school.

Father Gaelens, expressing his regret in Uriah's decision to return to Pennsylvania, said, "The appointment of Uriah was my first official act. He has lived up to everything I ever expected of him. As a coach, and as an athletic director he commanded the respect of every student, faculty member, coach, official parent and spectator. He was mild-mannered and accepted his responsibilities with complete dedication until the job was done. He will be a great loss to our faculty and coaching staff."

Uriah has accepted a coaching and teaching position at Deerlake Senior High School in North Pittsburgh. No replacement has been named.

French Students Seeking Homes

About 50 young French people ages 14-20 are looking to spend the summer with local families as a part of a non-profit student placement organization, AVEL (Association de Vacances Educatives et Linguistiques).

The students have all had at least four years of study in English and those who visit a family here will stay during the weeks of July 10 and August 7.

Students will be completely insured by AVEL, and all their expenses, transportation, medical coverage and pocket money will be paid for by their families.

Any families interested or who would like further information are asked to contact Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Murphy, 1445 Ridge Rd., Webster, 14580, at 872-2954

Business In The Diocese



Roger D'Aprix has been named manager of public and employe information for the information groups of Xerox Corporation. He was manager of employe communications. D'Aprix is the author of two books on business management as well, as several magazine articles. He and his wife and four children are members of St. John the Evangelist Parish.



SCHOLASTIC NOTEBOOK! John Doser

That letter to the Upstate Magazine editor a few weeks ago from Merrill J. Melnick, assistant professor, department of men's physical education. Brockport State, motivated Pittsford athletic director Charlie Miller to write a letter himself.

Melnick's epistle attacked the coaching philosophy of Pittsford swim coach Fred Rockow, the subject of an Upstate feature a few weeks prior.

Miller described Rockow as a fine teacher and coach who needs nothing other than his own record to substantiate it.

"I am not referring to his win-loss record," Miller said, "I know Mr. Rockow personally, as a coworker and a friend."

Rockow's contributions to his school and his community are not limited to his varsity swim team and its successes, Miller said, but include also hours of volunteer work for Cancer Swim-A-Thons and other "helpful, generous things too numerous to mention.

Miller asks if there is room in Melnick's coming "cultural revolution in American sports" for fair play, ethics and "maybe good old common sense and manners."

"There may not be an 'I' in team, but there are 'i's in the. words fair, unbiased, impartial, informed, and responsible," Miller wrote.

Melnick took exception, among other things, to one of Rockow's famous team slogans, There is no 'l' in team.'

SECTION 5 President Carl Palumbo told an audience at a sports dinner at South Seneca Central School that he is opposed to a state basketball tournament.

"We don't need a state tournament to sell basketball in Section 5," Pallumbo said.

If the state ever does get around to holding state tournaments, a uniform system of school classification for the 11 sections will have to be created.

Presently each section has its own method of determining classifications based on enrollment. Some sections use figures for boys in grades 9-12, others for boys in grades 7-12. Some also use numbers for boys and girls in grades 10-12.

It all means that a Class A school one thing in Section 10 and guite another in Section 5.

Of the 11 sections, three (1, 8 and 11) average more than 1,000 students in grades 10-12.

In the recent intersectional cross country meet, schools which competed in Class A had enrollments which ranged from more than 3,000 to under 600 in grades 10-12.

Another interesting fact — Section 1 has 91,686 students compared with Section 7 which has only 5,330.

Section 6, Buffalo, is not in favor of state basketball tournaments. Ironically, Section 5, Rochester, is not violently opposed to the idea, according to basketball chairman Bill Farrell.

Of course, there isn't a section in the state that operates a tournament as successful and as financially rewarding as does Section 5.

FOOTNOTES — DeSales of Geneva nipped defending Section 5, Class A Waterloo, 2-1, in its season's baseball opener . . . Waterloo finished 18-0 last year . . . Dave Bither singled home the big winning run for the

Aguinas' Tom Cronmiller won his first three singles' matches for Irish netmen this season . . .

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