



K. of C. Winners

Photo by Dave Witbeck

The Webster Council of the Knights of Columbus sponsored the district elimination of the annual K. of C. oratorical contest. The topic this year is Ecology in the Environment of the 70s. The top two winners go on to the area finals March 24 at Newark. The state finals will be held at the Concord Hotel in May. Rosina Furlong, left, a senior at R.L. Thomas, finished third; Kenneth Streb, an Aquinas senior finished second; Wallace Goodsell organized the event, and Marcia Voellinger, of Bishop Kearney, was first.

ON THE RIGHT SIDE

What's happened to conversions?

For 120 years the English speaking world had a constant flow of converts, especially intellectuals, into the Church. It was prepared for by the Oxford Movement. It went into high gear with John Henry Newman's reception into the Catholic Church in 1845. From then on, converts came in a steady flow. A decade ago, the flow became a dribble, and worse.

Worse!

Yes. Some baptized and practicing Catholics, including theologues, have begun to vaporize their religious identity. Some have become persuaded there is no practical difference between the historic Catholic Church and the many Christian bodies, or even pagan religions. Brian Moore's book and film, Catholics, depicts some of the mod thinking.

Well, is there a difference?

Are you kidding! Just before the priest receives Christ's Holy Body at Mass he prays: "Keep me faithful to your teaching, and never let me be separated from you." Recently I read out to a nice Junior in a Catholic high school, the names of literary giants who entered the Church during the past century: Cardinals John Henry Newman and Henry E. Manning, Fathers Cyril C. Martindale, SJ, William Faber and Robert Hugh Benson, Wilfrid Ward, G. K. Chesterton, Rosalind Murray, Msgr. Ronald Knox, Graham Greene, Anne Freeman, Evelyn Waugh and teetering on the brink, Malcolm Muggeridge. He nearly came in through Mother Teresa of Calcutta. He drew back, deterred by mod nuns, mod priests, mod brothers, mod theologues. The only name the Junior recognized was Muggeridge's. And his, because she saw the film, Mother Teresa of Calcutta, which he made for the British Broadcasting Company.

SIDS MEETING

Genesee Valley Chapter, National Foundation for Sudden Infant Death, will meet at 8 p.m. Monday, March 11, in the ninth floor conference room of the Lincoln First Bank in Lincoln Square. Alfred Steinschneider of the Upstate Medical Center in Syracuse will report on research into the relation of sleep patterns to the sudden infant death syndrome. He is a member of the national foundation's medical board.

But didn't Vatican II change Catholic intransigency?

I reject the term "intransigency." Vatican II clearly confirmed Catholic certainty about its origin and mission. If avant-garde Catholics use the documents to weasel within the Church, it is the fault of the weasels, not of the documents. Read Dr. James Hitchcock's clear exposition, Decline and Fall of Radical Catholicism. "Advanced Catholics encounter with Protestants in ecumenical dialogue and with humanists on the secular campus has indeed led to a wholesale abandonment of vast amounts of Catholic belief and tradition." (p. 19)

You aren't much of an Ecumenist.

Fake ecumenists in the diocese think that. But they are frauds who defy both the letter and the spirit of genuine ecumenism. Have you read Cardinal Augustin Bea's Unity of Christians? I get along well with sincere Protestants, Jews and agnostics, both clergy and laity. They have me pegged properly: a priest who is convinced of his Catholic identity, who despises party-waist compromising. They know I like them as persons and that I respect their own convictions and sincerity. The Decree on Ecumenism is honest and candid. "Nothing is so foreign to the spirit of ecumenism as the false conciliatory irenicism which harms the purity of Catholic doctrine and obscures assured genuine meanings." (#11)

What of high schoolers?

They are at a difficult and wonderful age, the age of interior conflict between rebellion and idealism. Properly inspired they can become apostolic. Mother Teresa has over 5,000 Religious Sisters in her Community. But my observation is that few of the youngsters know anything about the Saints, about the martyrs to the Faith, and about the converts to the Church, and the reasons why they embraced the Catholic Faith. For a starter I would recommend a study of the Oxford Movement, Newman's Apologia, Chesterton's Orthodoxy and his Heretics. If it were in print I should recommend Martindale's What Are Saints? Did you know that Arnold Lunn got the grace of conversion reading that book? And to know the real Pope John XXIII they might read his Journal of a Soul, which is an embarrassment to the avant-garde; but a revelation of the inspirations of that holy pope.

HOSPITAL NEWS

Homell - Mrs. Vedo Candiello, co-president of the St. James Mercy Hospital Women's Board, recently announced Miss

Marguerite Mattie has been named chairman of the legislative committee and that the Student Nurses Training

School Library Fund, a new program to provide books for the School of Nursing Library, will be headed by Mrs. C.E. Patti and Mrs. Earl Logan.

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HOLY Apostle's unfurnished, 3 rooms, redecorated, stove. Adult. Refrigerator. 544-5605.

FOUR room heated, garage, busline. 2 gentlemen or working couple. 663-7453.

WEST Ave. Three clean upper rooms. 225-1974.

FOR SALE

GREECE - 2 acres, 6 rooms, 3 bedrooms, large living room, beautiful shade trees, Gravelly tractor for cutting large lawn, Troy built tote-filler for gardening. Small sharpening business will pay taxes. Opportunity for right party. 225-5247.

1974 CONSOLE Stereo. Damaged in Ship-ment. AM-FM-Radio, 4 speed turntable, built-in 8 Track. Will sell for \$139 or terms arranged. Call Mr. Needle, 288-2100.

1973 GOLDEN Stitch & Sew sewing machine. Brand new, never been used. Full size, heavy duty. Makes button-holes, darts, monograms, automatic bobbin winder. 25 year guarantee. 1 year free sewing instructions. Full price, \$31 or 3 monthly payments of \$13. Call Mr. Needle, 288-2100.

1973 HOOVER Vacuum: Brand New with attachments. Will sell for \$29 or terms arranged. Call Mr. Needle, 288-2100.

BILLIARD Tables. Custom built to your specifications. Call or stop in. 500 Lyell Ave. 458-5220.

1973 CHEROKEE: 180 Auto pilot, omni tracker transponder, boom mike, 190 flight hours. Box 20 in care of this paper.

FORD Mustang, 1967 Automatic. Very little rust. Good body, transmission, motor. Very good snow tires. 108 Vayo St. off Empire Blvd. 482-7933, After 3 p.m.

HOLY Family St. Augustine - 6 rooms, garage. Excellent condition. Traffic free park like street. 328-2279.

BRAND new 1974 Zig-Zag sewing machine. Makes button holes, stretch stitch, blind hems. Fully guaranteed. From \$48 or 3 payments of \$16 monthly. Necci-Elna Sewing Center. 244-0830.

WEDDING Dress: Never worn, reasonable price. 544-2330.

BABY Items: Crib, Mediterranean - Mattress, Serts - Car Seat, blue. Next to New. 225-4029.

WOODEN barn beam tables with glass design. Done with wooden pegs. Must See. Call 467-7500.

DRYER: Norge, like new. Gas, avacado. Will deliver. \$100. 235-5985.

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SPECIAL MISCELLANEOUS

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AFGHAN CROCHET: Many patterns. Labor \$18. 889-9184.

INSTRUCTIONS

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