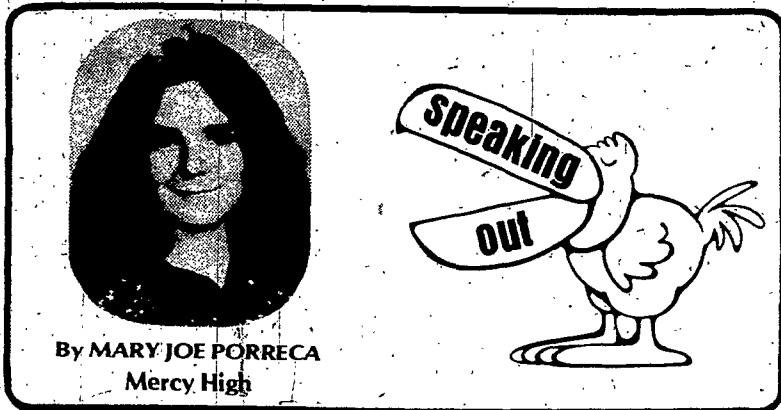


nd Rap Around Rap Around Rap Around Rap



By MARY JOE PORRECA
Mercy High

The years of adolescence or teenage have long been noted as times of fun, excitement, anxiety, and varied emotions. But in the adolescent stage realize that it is an hour of keen sensitivity.

For many teenagers social problems loom as the most difficult they encounter. Acceptance by peers is craved and deemed of utmost importance. Rejection can overwhelm with pain.

Those who fail to measure up to the prevailing social standards are instantly categorized as odd. Instead of being accepted with their individual traits they are cruelly ostracized.

Cast aside that which seems alien, that which we cannot readily comprehend, comes all too easily to us. Who has not been guilty of this intolerance at one time or another?

Since this rejection is usually

not intentional it reveals a harsh lack of compassion for our fellow human beings. Some can withstand this treatment and grow from it; others wilt.

Often the accepted majority form closed circles, cliques, they refuse to reach out to those in desperate need of companionship. They could give support to others but they won't.

Occasionally one of the clique dares to reach out. Instead of being joined by others he also is cut off.

Why is it so? Does it have to be so? Is this being Christian? No! We must pause to recall what being a Christian is. Loving one another is vital, it must not be cast aside.

Now we must strive to love, to understand, and to reach out. So many can be saved; so many must be saved!

Pope Paul's Message To American Youth

Pope Paul, in his annual Ash Wednesday radio message to Catholic youth in the U.S., urged young people to pray to those in need throughout the world and "to share . . . and sacrifice" by participating in the American bishops' overseas aid program, Catholic Relief Services reported here.

The Feb. 12 message to students in Catholic elementary and secondary schools keyed on the 1975 Lenten Call to Youth, which is an integral part of the annual appeal which provides basic funding for the global activities of CRS, helps finance refugee and migration work, the Apostleship of the Sea and provides a special grant for charities of Pope Paul.

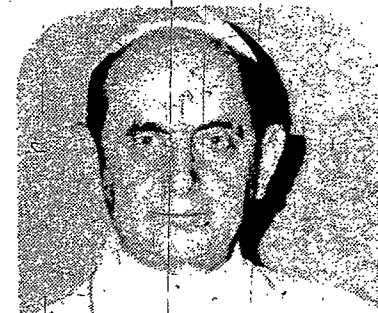
The pontiff spoke mainly of the "children in other parts of the world who are homeless and hungry . . . poor children who have no one to care for them . . . millions of other boys and girls (who) have only a damp, cold shelter to call a home."

"In America," he said, "you have been greatly blessed. God has given you many things. And so, in this Holy Year, we are asking you to share and to sacrifice in order to help once again your needy brothers and sisters in the lands across the sea."

Speaking of CRS, through which "Catholics of your country have helped to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked and to minister to the sick of other lands," Pope Paul said there is still much misery and despair to overcome in the world.

"And so, dear children, remember to pray for those in need. We also ask you to be generous in giving to Catholic Relief Services all during the Lenten season," he said, adding "And ask your family to do the same."

The theme of the 1975 overseas aid appeal, according to Bishop Edward E. Swannstrom, CRS executive director, is "Let there



POPE PAUL

be bread . . . and peace." He said materials sent to Catholic schools are intended to make the youth of America "more aware of the plight of the masses in the developing world and to show them how their support . . . can help not only to ameliorate suffering, but to contribute substantively to longer range programs aimed at eliminating causes of poverty."

The bishop said students also are being asked to help make the community at large more aware of the world food crisis by preparing posters, banners, slogans and other visual aids to be displayed publicly during the appeal period.



BISHOP KEARNEY

Friday, Feb. 21—Mother's Club "Fashion and Sport Show", 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, Feb. 23—Marching Kings Split Club Cocktail Party.

CARDINAL MOONEY

Saturday, Feb. 22—Dance, sponsored by senior class.
Monday, Feb. 24—Women's Guild Monthly Meeting, 8 p.m.

McQUAID

Saturday, Feb. 22—Parent's Club — Day of Renewal.

NAZARETH

Friday, Feb. 21—Comedy movies, "Last Resort," 7-10 p.m. — 50 cents admission.
Wednesday, Feb. 26—PTA Board Meeting, 8 p.m.

OUR LADY OF MERCY

Tuesday, Feb. 25—Catholic High School Administrators' meeting, 1-4 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 26—Assembly, Candy Sale begins.

ST. AGNES

Friday, Feb. 21—College Bowl Assembly.
Tuesday, Feb. 25—Catholic School Administrators' meeting, Our Lady of Mercy, 1-4 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 26—Faculty Advisory Board meeting.

AQUINAS

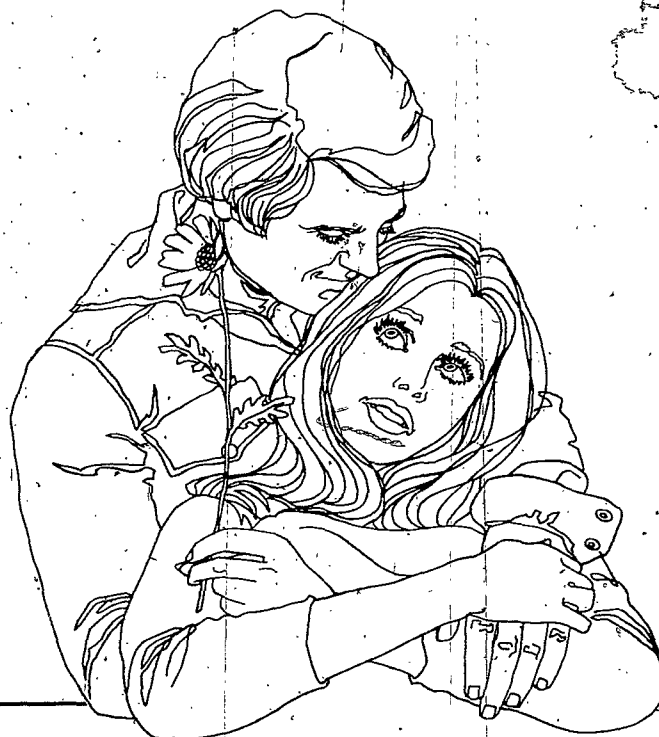
Wednesday, Feb. 19—Lenten Student Mass — 8:30 a.m.
Saturday, Feb. 22—ACT tests — 8:15 a.m.
Monday, Feb. 24—General Faculty meeting.



It is the aim of RapAround to touch all of the bases. If we are missing any, please let Mrs. Joan M. Smith know your ideas. Drop her a line.

For instance, are the questions in Equal Time interesting enough? Are we truly reflecting life in our high schools? Do you have ideas for stories at your school that we may follow up?

We need suggestions and invite criticism. From all indications, RapAround has gotten off to a successful start. We are pleased but need your help to keep it improving.



**Tomorrow's
Bride . . .**

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COURIER-JOURNAL

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26

A special pull-out supplement filled with helpful hints on making your wedding day the most memorable of your life.