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Our Serving Youth



Mary Welch is delighted with gift from her young volunteers.



Tom Rosica receives award from Sister Marie Michelle.

By JOAN M. SMITH

"I have come to serve" was the motto emblazoned on the program which announced the first Annual Awards Night for the youth volunteer workers at St. Ann's Home on Portland Avenue.

In an age when people's needs are being ignored by their fellow man, this youth group has quietly committed itself to serving the needs of the elderly. Their generous giving of time and energy has not gone unrecognized. On Wednesday, Feb. 19, the administration and staff of St. Ann's honored them with a gala banquet.

Chairman of the committee which planned the event was Tom Rosica, sophomore at Aquinas Institute, and co-hostess was Laurie Lovejoy from Eastridge High School, and member of the Laurelton Presbyterian Church — that is what the Youth Volunteer program is at St. Ann's, an ecumenical representation of the community's faiths, parishes and high schools. Elementary school participants are from St. Cecilia's, St. Ambrose, St. Thomas the Apostle and Christ the King parishes. The high school volunteers attend East, Irondequoit, Eastridge, Bishop Kearney, St. Agnes, Aquinas, and Nazareth.

The volunteers don't discuss their contributions while talking about their affiliation with St. Ann's. Instead they en-

thusiastically describe the benefits they receive.

"It's really good for you," exclaimed Bishop Kearney freshman Joy Riley, "you get to know the older people and see how things really are."

Fellow student, sophomore Mark Malarz agreed, "I've met a lot of interesting people. It's fun. Old people are not boring, they have a good sense of humor."

The awards were given for the number of hours contributed by each volunteer. One fact was certain, the kids are not stingy with their time. Many of them have given more than 1,000 hours in addition to school responsibilities, and other teen-age activities.

"They work hard," declared Mary Welch, volunteer coordinator, as she explained their duties which include serving food trays, feeding those unable to feed themselves, helping with crafts, bingo, picnics, and visiting with the residents. "There is not a generation gap," she stated, and proudly added, "the spirit is good we have the cream of the crop."

Sister Marie Michelle, administrator of St. Ann's, praised their active enthusiasm as she told them "you have a unique gift."

Many tributes were bestowed on the volunteers, but the very special one was the hand crafted card made by resident Helen Skamron which expressed the



Photo by Bruce Genut

Carol Coffas, Bishop Kearney High School, is happy about the award she received for volunteer hours with elderly.

sentiments of those the young people help.

Life is what you make it and you sure make it lovely

with all the courtesies and kindness you have shown to the residents of St. Ann's . . .

May God Bless You!

History Repeats Itself in Mooney Loss

By JOHN DOSER

Cardinal Mooney led East High by 18 points, 51-33, with 4:17 left to play in the third period Saturday in a City-Catholic League basketball game at East.

In a previous meeting between the two teams at Mooney, the Cardinals also owned an 18-point lead, and saw it disappear with a last period Oriental rally. East won that game, 55-54.

Would it happen again? Could it?

It did! East won, 63-61, in overtime.

What happened?

"I don't know. Everybody keeps asking me the same question," Mooney coach, Ed Nietopski answers.

"We had a real good shooting first half, about 60 per cent, and we were patient, worked for the shot, our (defensive) press was working, we forced East to play our game and then in the second-half things changed.

"They stopped their press, they took away our running game, we got anxious, and we were getting only one shot off when we had the ball in the second half.

"But, we are young, we made some mistakes, and their rebounding killed us in the second half," Nietopski recalls.

The East victory kept the Orientals in first place with a 13-1 record while Mooney dropped into a fourth place tie with Monroe at 8-6.

The specific difference in the game was the second half performance of East's 5-10 1/2 guard Jerry Hunter, both Nietopski and East coach Sal Rizzo said.

Hunter made 11 of 20 shots from the field and all four of his free throw attempts, for 26 points, and shot best when the Orientals were trailing. He scored 10 of East's 17 consecutive points to help erase Mooney's third period, 18-point lead.

The game ended tied at 61-61. In the overtime Mike Bridges of East scored the only points with a 15-foot heave with 2:05 left on the clock. "you know," Nietopski says, "an 18 point lead is only nine baskets. And because of their rebound strength (they must have out-rebounded us two-to-one) they often went right over the top of us.

"Virgil Cotton and Ken Boddie had 12 rebounds each for us, but most of them came on defense. Our shooting cooled off in the second half; we only scored five points in the last period. We missed four good inside shots and took some bad shots as well. We attribute the loss to youth and impatience," Nietopski explains.

Mooney has given the front-running Orientals ranked 14th in the state, two real scares this season with its "four-guard" lineup before losing.

The Cards start a quintet with only senior Ken Boddie breaking six-feet; the others are sophomores Jim Panaggio (5-10) and Don Drum (5-11); junior Jim Eichas (5-10) and senior Virgil Cotton (6-0).

The Cardinals handled the ball well for the most part and

handled East's zone press equally well. . . in the first half, Mooney led at half-time, 39-29.

"We didn't give their defense a chance to get organized in the first half, but in the second half they went to Hunter and he was the whole show," Nietopski adds.

"We always kept the pressure on him, but he was scoring with a hand in his face. We double-teamed him when he got the ball, but he still got off his shot.

"I really don't know how to stop him; I think he and Cotton are the best around. I can't think of a better all around ballplayer than Hunter whom we've faced in recent years. He constantly broke our press - he just threaded the needle through it - all we did was slow him down."

Rizzo said Hunter has a great attitude, "He's no nonsense or noise. I can't say enough about him. Sometimes you take him for granted because he does so many things so well. There's just no other player around like him. I wouldn't trade him for anyone."

Hunter's stats tell the story. He's shooting 49.7 per cent from the field and close to 80 per cent from the foul line for the Orientals this season . . . besides averaging better than six assists and steals per game.

Cotton, the Cardinal gleam in Nietopski's eye, finished with 16 points after scoring 32 earlier in the week in Mooney's 89-80 win-over Aquinas.

Drum led the Cards with 19 points and Boddie finished with 12. Panaggio, Eichas, and Mike Shoniker scored eight, four, and two points, respectively.

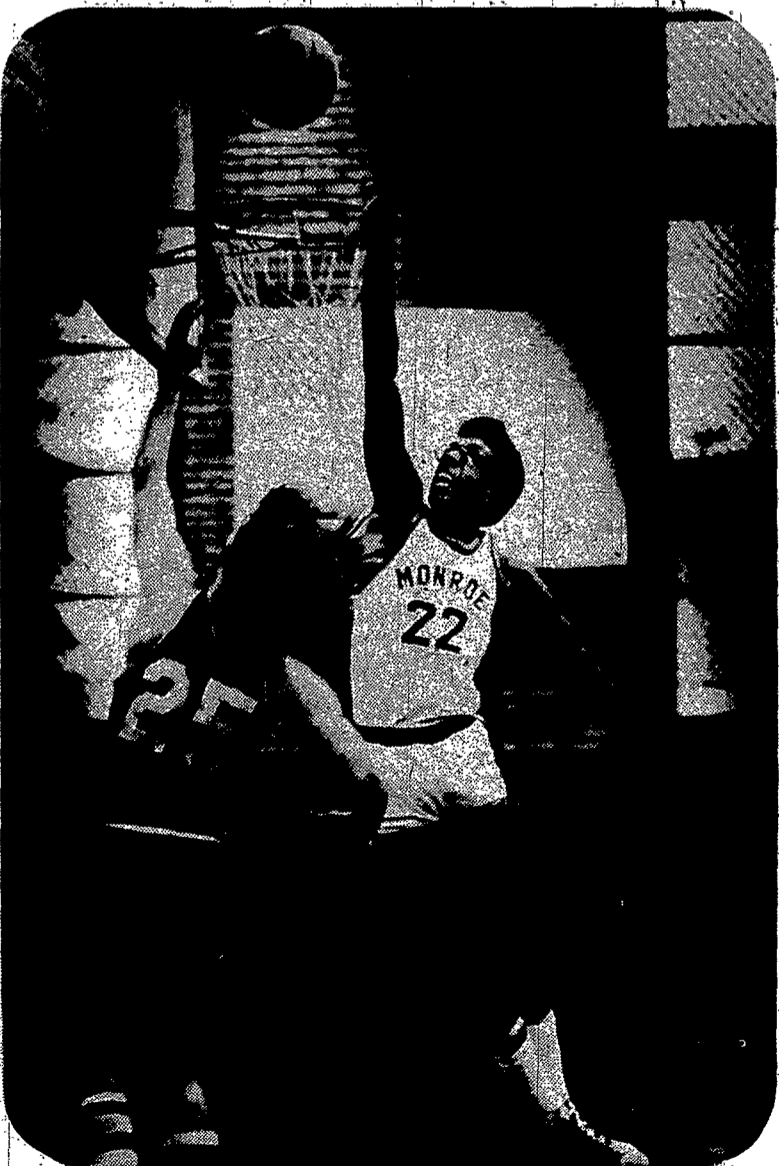


Photo by Susan McKinney

Mike Baker, Monroe High School's number 22, displays the skill which earned him 23 points and contributed to Monroe's 82-65 defeat of McQuaid's basketball team. Peter Stone, number 25 for McQuaid, tries to block one of Baker's shots.