

Catholic Schools on Trial in Section Five

By JOHN DOSER

The trial is nearly over and the jury will soon be out — or will it?

Section 5, the area of the New York State Public High School Athletic Association which includes greater Rochester, has conducted an experiment with parochial and private schools as probationary members for the past two years.

A vote is scheduled to take place next month which will either admit the parochial and private schools into Section 5 once and for all — or keep them out.

At least that's what the original proposal, which resulted in the two year trial period, was supposed to call for — but there are, apparently, some loose ends.

"There are no procedures set up (for the mechanics of settling the issue)," says John Carbaugh, Section 5 president and athletic director at Brighton High.

"We're going to discuss this at our next executive committee meeting (March 20 or 25) at the Holiday Inn. The motion that was made and passed at the time of the referendum didn't give any specific instructions as to what would be done at the end of the two years," Carbaugh says.

"The trial period is almost up and that's what we're going to try to determine now — how to handle it."

Carbaugh says there are possible ways of voting: a referendum among the 122 member schools, probably by

mail, the same way the original trial period referendums were held; having league presidents poll their members and submit their vote at a (Section 5) council meeting; or have the Section 5 executive committee alone vote on the question.

The executive committee includes Section 5 officers Carbaugh, vice president Paul Fauth (Greece), secretary Paul Vienna (Belfast), and treasurer David Doyle (Kendall); plus past president Carl Palumbo (Victor), Ted Bondi (Geneseo), William Van Lare (Marcus Whitman) and Linda Martin (Brockport).

A simple majority will decide the issue, no matter which method of voting is decided upon, Carbaugh says.

"How we would vote will be

resolved in discussion; based upon which way we would think would be the fairest." The executive committee is going to have to make the decision," Carbaugh believes.

The Section 5 president says he also believes the outcome of the voting will be a final decision, unless

"Unless it's decided to extend the trial period, which may be another alternative," Carbaugh says.

He agreed there aren't any cut and dried guidelines for settling the question. "It's the first time around for the question. It wasn't spelled out because it's a new thing and we're just feeling our way. We didn't know what the reaction would be and what the

situation would be like two years later," he explains.

"There have been grumblings of dissent among coaches both inside and outside the Rochester area.

"I've heard the grumblings, but I have not, to my knowledge, have heard of anything being put in writing and sent to a member of the executive committee," Carbaugh says.

"I don't want to say anything on either side. My job is to see that every thing is run fair, and square and that everyone is treated fairly, and that's what I intend to do."

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The Chrism Mass: Blessing of Oils

Representatives from all over the diocese will gather with Bishop Joseph L. Hogan on March 25 at St. Rose Church in Lima to bless the oils intended for use in the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Orders. The rite, known as the Chrism Mass will also provide an opportunity for all to renew their commitment to the Church's mission and to remember, as a body, the meaning of baptismal anointing.

The oil to be blessed is ordinary olive oil purchased at a neighborhood grocery store. Father Robert McNamara, professor of History at St. Bernard's Seminary and a member of the Diocesan Liturgical Commission, here explains why this oil is such a significant sign in the life of the Church.

By Father Robert F. McNamara

Olive oil has always been a common and cherished element in the lives of the Mediterranean peoples to whom the Good News was first preached, from the bible lands west to the Iberian Peninsula.

St. Bernard of Clairvaux once praised its multiple merit. "Oil," he said, "gives light, nourishment and ointment. It feeds flame, nourishes flesh, eases pain; it is light and food and medicine."

It was indeed the principal fuel for ancient lamps. It is still used as a preservative, a condiment, a shortening, and a deep fat. As a medicine it has both internal and external uses. Internally it serves as a purgative. Its penetrating quality also recommends it to athletes as an external liniment, and to physicians as an unguent, whether alone or with other medicaments. (Remember how the good Samaritan, bandaging the wounds of the highway victim, "poured oil and wine on them?") Oil furthermore served as a base to fix scents, thus creating a perfume or ointment for cosmetic or embalming purposes.

Indeed, the very tree that produced olives was held in high respect as a tree of hope. Its evergreen leaves were a sign of stability in an unstable world. The Israelites in particular recalled how the dove sent forth by Noah from the Ark came back bearing

an olive branch as a pledge that the calamity of the Deluge had yielded to peace and calm. But even the pagan world believed, with Christ's contemporary Pliny the Greater, that you could still a tempest at sea by pouring olive oil on the churning waters.

It is not surprising that the Israelites should have seen in this rich and versatile natural product a spiritual symbol.

They compared gentle words, abundance, and a brotherly spirit, to olive oil. They used it to anoint objects they wished to sanctify: the shield of a warrior; the stone altar of Jacob at Bethel; the furnishings of the Temple at Jerusalem. More importantly, oil was used in the act of setting apart kings, priests and prophets for God. Here it seems that the sense of the symbolism was the penetration of the candidate by the divine Spirit.

Four commonplace objects were taken over in the New Testament as sacramental signs: water, bread, wine and oil. Oil is mentioned, in the Epistle of James (5:14-15), the basic text relative to the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick. It was surely appropriate that the Christian Church use holy oil in this and other aspects of the sacramental system established by Jesus, whose title (Messiah, Christ) means "the anointed."

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Keep All OB Units Theme Of Hospital Public Hearing

By MOLLY JUDGE

Public opinion expressed last week at the third hearing sponsored by the Monroe County Health Council Hospital Committee ran against the elimination of any obstetrical facilities in the Rochester area.

The hearing, held at the Arnett Branch Library March 4, was one of seven scheduled for February and March. The committee intends to weigh public opinion in deciding by this April which of the five obstetrical units should be closed.

Donald M. Irish, director of the Medical Society of Monroe County, summed up majority opinion.

"Why close any one of our OB-GYN units?" he asked. "Hospitals are a private enterprise and they would go bankrupt if they were in financial trouble. The citizens have spoken and none of them have told which one should be closed. All said don't close this one or that one. Why close any?"

Irish said the Medical Society had found that the highest perinatal mortality rates were recorded at hospitals having more than 2,000 births annually.

The Genesee Region Health Planning Council appointed the committee to reach a decision following a 1971 study by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. This study stated that "full hospital obstetric services, in terms of use of beds, personnel and facilities of the care of all kinds of obstetric complications, can only be provided efficiently when more than 1,500 deliveries occur per year."

The committee is investigating the OB facilities at Strong Memorial, Highland, Genesee, Rochester General and St. Mary's hospitals, which are all within a 30 minute proximity of each other.

St. Mary's seems particularly threatened because only 1,305 babies, fewer than in any of the other hospitals, were delivered there last year.

Rochester's first hospital, founded by the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, St. Mary's is the only Catholic hospital in the city. It is also the

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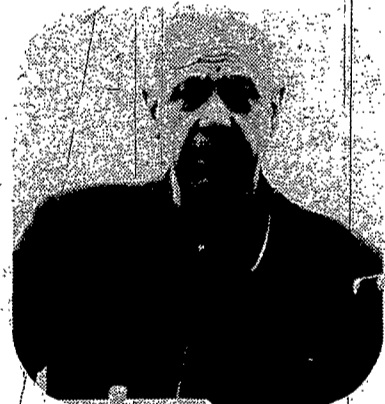
THOMAS PETRILLO

chairman of the Monroe County Health Council's Hospital Committee, listens to the public opinion.



DONALD M. IRISH

director of the Medical Society of Monroe County, maintains that all obstetrical units should remain open.



DR. BERNARD P. SOEHNER

physician at St. Mary's Hospital, believes that St. Mary's is one of the finest community hospitals in the country.



JANET GILLESPIE

student at the University of Rochester and 19th ward resident, wants to preserve both St. Mary's and Highland OB units.

Fr. Marvin Reelected Priests Council Head

By MOLLY JUDGE

Father James Marvin was re-elected president of the Diocesan Priests' Council at an informational meeting for newly elected members, March 4, at Becket Hall.

The meeting was attended by the new age block and regional representatives and their alternates, along with Bishops Joseph L. Hogan and Dennis W. Hickey. Father James Lawlor was elected vice president to replace Father Richard Torney. Father John Hemple was elected to replace Father James Boyle as elected senator secretary. This secretary's duties deal mainly with keeping informed on state

wide Priest Council action, and informing the bishop on local PC activities.

The salaried position of executive secretary, which was vacated by Father Louis Vasile, remains unfilled. Father Marvin mentioned that this position, which requires note-taking during the meeting, would be inappropriate for an elected senator and urged that the job be filled by an individual outside the PC. The members discussed the possibility of employing someone other than a priest, but Father Marvin cautioned that a person who is not a priest wouldn't understand the true spirit of the

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