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More Probation for Catholic Schools

By JOHN DOSER

Jefferson High athletic director Jim DeBell was on the telephone bright and early one day last week as Section 5, publicity director informing the media that the Section's executive committee had voted to retain the Catholic Experiment for another two years.

"I can't tell you why or how," DeBell explained, "I'm just supposed to make the phone calls."

The decision came as a mild surprise because many school people thought the Section would announce that the Catholic and private schools, which had been probationary members for the past two years, would now be accepted as full members.

One alternative, of course, was total rejection by the executive committee of the Catholic and private schools' request for membership.

The schools involved are Aquinas, Bishop Kearney, Cardinal Mooney, McQuaid, Geneva De Sales, Harley, Allendale/Columbia and Houghton Academy.

Section 5 President John Carbaugh of Brighton says the extension was recommended by the New York State Public High School Athletic Association, the parent group of Section 5.

"We had no specific positive or negative reaction to our request for comments from member athletic directors, principals or coaches, but most thought it would be a good idea to extend it for two more years," Carbaugh explains.

For the schools involved it's

like being placed on good behavior for another two years, but none of the four Catholic school athletic directors contacted were overly upset at the decision, although all were slightly disappointed.

The problems are not new — Catholic school boundaries give the schools greater geographical areas from which to attract student-athletes and public school personnel object to alleged recruitment of athletes which Catholic school officials loudly deny.

In neighboring Syracuse, Section 3 recently approved a request by Catholic high schools to remain as members of the Section in all sports competition by a 62-26 vote, despite a mild furor over a string of Catholic school championships in the recent March Section 3 basketball tournament.

While Section 5's executive committee elected to make the decision on Catholic-private schools membership itself, it did hold a referendum on whether the Section should participate in regional basketball tournaments.

The Section voted, 52-45, not to participate in regional tournaments, at least next year, despite the fact that Bill Farrell of Rush-Henrietta, Section 5's basketball chairman, who is also state basketball chairman, is authorized by the state association to set up regional tournaments as experimental stepping-stones to a state tournament.

New York State is one of only two or three states in the nation which do not have a state basketball tournament.

It was considered that Section 5 champions might square off with Section 6 (Buffalo)

champions next year when both Sections complete their respective basketball tournaments.

Carbaugh says most members of Section 5 apparently feel its tournament is highly successful and see no reason to get involved in anything bigger which might detract from the tournament or affect league schedules.

Carbaugh says it's too early to comment on a bill before the New York State Senate submitted by Syracuse Senator Tarky Lombardi which authorizes and directs the commissioner of education to establish and conduct a secondary schools post-season state basketball championship tournament.

"It's the first I've heard of it," Carbaugh says, "but I will say that Section 5's executive committee unanimously voted against a state tournament when we discussed it at our March meeting."

Carbaugh says the Section is not opposed to future regional tournaments despite the fact it voted against participation in them next year.

The regional playoffs are in the second year of a two-year experiment Carbaugh noted.

Farrell says the regional playoff referendum was not a vote by Section 5 personnel. "It was a superintendents' vote, not an athletic directors' vote," Farrell says.

Farrell notes that 27 superintendents didn't vote at all and adds that when they do vote they are inconsistent.

"They have approved inter-sectional competition in gymnastics, track, wrestling, golf and tennis, but not in any team sports including basketball or hockey.

"They are not being consistent; what's good for one sport is good for all. They are discriminating against team sports and it's not fair to let one sport compete and not another."

Father King, "We thought that the program would be played to pilgrims on tourist buses but now we find it mainly reaches those who stay at hostels run by nuns or brothers. The program is also played at 1 p.m. in the restaurant of the Vatican Museum.

Reports on daily events in Rome is the section of the program that has most appeal for pilgrims and as it turns out, for residents of Rome. Among the diversity of attractions mentioned recently on the program were an evening with French singer Gilbert Beaud, an ecumenical service at one of Rome's English-language churches, a play staged by the students of Notre Dame International School and a walk through Rome's Via dei Coronari, a street of antiques shops, where an antiques fair was in progress.

The reason is Vatican Radio's "Hello Pilgrim" program which is aired twice daily at 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. It seeks to help pilgrims get the most out of their stay in Rome and tells them in various languages about current money exchange rates, daily events, useful emergency phone numbers to call in case of need, and as a respite — after bombarding the ear of the listener with four or five languages — soothes them with an Italian love song, or the theme music of the American film "The Sting."

The daily broadcast languages are in English, French, Italian and Spanish, with German language twice a week.

That's because the Germans were reckoned more likely to understand one of the other languages than the rest of us," explained the English language commentator, Father Michael King, an Australian diocesan priest with considerable experience in radio and television.

The "Hello Pilgrim" program is intended to reach as many visitors to Rome as possible. Said

St. Thomas the Apostle Holy Name Society has scheduled its 42nd annual picnic for Monday, June 23, rain or shine, at the St. Paul Exempts grounds on Thomas Avenue, Irondequoit, and Norm Robinson is chairman of the affair for the 42nd time. It will start at 6 p.m. with a softball game. Women of the parish will serve dinner at 7. Tickets, limited to 100, are available from Robinson or at the door for \$4.50.



Kevin Skerrett



Robert F. Hahn

Valedictorian Chosen

Kevin Skerrett has been chosen valedictorian for the 1975 graduating class of Aquinas Institute.

Kevin, who ranks second in the graduating class, has been very active at Aquinas for the past four years. He was a member of the hurdling squad in track for two seasons and was recently a football manager. He has been an active member of the Forensic Society at the school. Through his debating he has earned a Degree of Distinction, which is the second highest honor possible in the world of debating.

Kevin was a member of the Aquinas Band for four years and he finds time in the summer to be a counsellor at a Boy Scout Camp in the Adirondack Mountains.

At his parish church, St. James, he is chairperson of the Youth Council and is a Sunday Mass lector. He also sings in the Folk Group at the Church.

The Teen League gets some of his valuable time and he also finds time to be on the committee for the Hike for Hope.

Academy Appointment

Robert F. Hahn, a 1975 graduate of Bishop Kearney High School and member of St. Salome's parish, has been appointed to the United States Military Academy at West Point. He will be sworn in on July 7, 1975.

Bicentennial Music Given

In observance of the Bicentennial, J.C. Penney Company has offered the nation's 30,000 high schools and colleges a gift portfolio of sheet music arranged and scored for band, orchestra and chorus prepared by distinguished American composers.

Area Catholic schools which have received the historic music include: Cardinal Mooney, McQuaid, Nazareth Academy, St. Agnes, and St. John Fisher and Nazareth Colleges.

Winner!

Earl Urlaub, 1975 graduate of Bishop Kearney High School, was recipient of the Winner's Circle \$5 for the week of June 11.

'Pop' Music Aired On Vatican Radio

Rome [RNS] — Unusual sounds have been riding the waves of Vatican Radio since the Holy Year began — lisping Castilian Spanish, guttural German, lilting French, Australian English, and most eyebrow raising of all, pop music.

The reason is Vatican Radio's "Hello Pilgrim" program which is aired twice daily at 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. It seeks to help pilgrims get the most out of their stay in Rome and tells them in various languages about current money exchange rates, daily events, useful emergency phone numbers to call in case of need, and as a respite — after bombarding the ear of the listener with four or five languages — soothes them with an Italian love song, or the theme music of the American film "The Sting."

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