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Winner's Circle

RapAround weekly will run a photo of a group of students taken somewhere in the diocese. One person will be circled and if that person brings the clipping to the Courier-Journal before noon of the Tuesday following publication date, he or she will receive \$5. This week's photo was taken at Aquinas Institute during an assembly. The person circled above should bring the clipping to Joan M. Smith, Courier-Journal, by noon, Tuesday, Sept. 30 to receive \$5.

Remember the Plainfield Teachers?

By JOHN DOSER

For reasons we've never clearly understood, and certainly can't explain, the fall schoolboy sports season seems to be the most exciting.

Maybe it's just the re-opening of school, the renewing participation, although vicarious, in school football, or perhaps the fact that fall school sports outdoors draw the most fans.

If you're a die-hard local school sports buff, you might find the local daily sports pages boring because it's treatment of local school sports, excluding the major sport of football, is minimal.

That's the way, in part, that Morris Newburger, a Wall Street stockbroker, must have felt back in 1941 when he realized that the big city sports pages where dominated by the major colleges.

Rarely did he read anything about the little schools and their football teams, so he went out and did something about it.

He invented a college football team and named it the Plainfield Teachers. He chose Plainfield Teachers for his team's name because he felt the New Jersey identification lent credibility to his invention.

He began to telephone the New York Times and the New York Herald Tribune each Saturday with Plainfield's football

results, all figments of his imagination, and both newspapers accepted and began to publish his scores.

Eventually the news wires picked up Plainfield's results and soon Newburger's weekly accounts of Plainfield's exploits and achievements took on more personal information about the team's players, formations, school traditions and other background, all conceived by Newburger's tireless imagination.

A Gannett Newspaper, the Courier-News, then located in Plainfield, N.J., never fell for the Plainfield scores which it found each week on the wires.

Courier-News Sports Editor Eugene F. Hampson never permitted Plainfield's victories, led by the talented triple threat Chinese halfback Johnny Chung, who reportedly ate wild rice at halftime, to be mentioned on his pages.

While Newburger's phony ghost-writing publicist, Jerry Croyden, was turning out the weekly Plainfield hot copy, Hampson was writing about real All-Americans like Otto Graham of Northwestern among others.

The hoax was exposed, supposedly by Herald Tribune sportswriter Caswell Adams who wrote a little poem: "Far above New Jersey's swamplands, Plainfield Teachers' spires, Mark a

phantom, phony college, that got on the wires."

Caswell indeed did write the poem, but only after Hampson broke the story in his daily column a few days earlier.

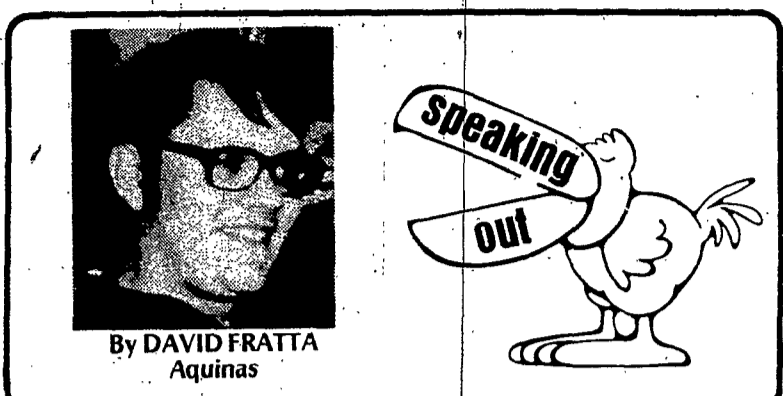
"Someone with a sense of humor," Hampson wrote, "if you could call it that, is taking the New York Times and the New York Herald Tribune for a grand ride. The individual or individuals have invented a football team known as the Plainfield Teachers and have already pushed it into the ranks of the unbeaten and untied teams of the country, according to the Times and the Tribune."

"The procedure seems to be to call both the Times and Tribune on Saturday evenings with the scores of the game, and the caller moaned over the wires recently that Plainfield Teachers had finally been scored upon by Winona via a field goal."

When Adams died in 1957, the hoax was "reborn" and appeared in the Courier-News' sports pages for the first time.

Newburger, also deceased, even with his wild imagination, never realized the widespread publicity his Plainfield Teachers and its Chinese hero would eventually achieve.

"Johnny Chung, Your bell has rung, But songs about you Will e'er be sung."



By DAVID FRATTA Aquinas

During World War II: Nazis slaughtered six million Jews. The world was appalled and America joined the war to fight such evils.

During the Vietnam War: Millions of soldiers and civilians died. Students—revolted, protesting the injustice of the war.

1975 — in the United States of America—abortion is now legal, legislation to legalize euthanasia is close at hand, crime rates are on the rise, robberies, muggings, and assaults fill the headlines.

Why is America letting this happen? Is human life less valuable than it was during World War II or the Vietnam War? Is human life less sacred?

Too many people are afraid to get involved, to speak out against the wrongs in our society, and to stand up for what is right. We can't let this happen; we can't sit back and watch the principles upon which our nation was founded crumble.

The principle is that all men are "endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights; that

among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

In the same way we fought the slaughter of millions in World War II, In the same way we protested the unjust killing of millions in the Vietnam War, we must protest the slaughter of thousands of human beings by abortion—here in our own America. We read about these things in papers, hear about them on the news—but wake up, they happen in our own city, our own diocese each day. God puts life on this earth and only he can take it away.

We must respect life. Many people think there's not much they can do but write congressman and representatives, but we all can help this situation by living in such a manner that we respect all life. We must follow the example that Jesus Christ set for us—in that he saw life and value in all human beings, the young, the aged, the sick, the outcasts, and the sinners.

As Christians we must accept each other, respect each other and help each other and maybe the rest of society will catch on.

HOTLINE

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.

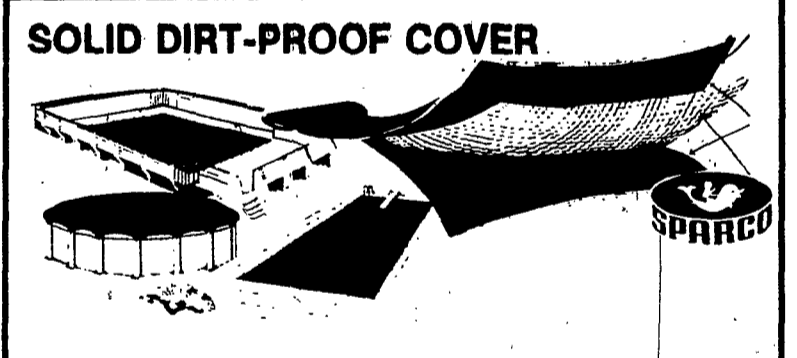
We need suggestions and invite criticism. From all indications, RapAround has gotten off to a successful start. We are pleased but need your help to keep it improving.



Future Computer Expert

Taking time from his study hall, McQuaid junior Richard LeBeaumont shows his 7 year old brother, Randy, how to operate a pocket computer. Randy was one of the many primary school young boys to attend McQuaid high school as guests of their older brothers on "Benjamin Day", Sept. 15. McQuaid annually sets aside a day for this event which is named for the biblical Joseph's (multi-colored coat fame) younger brother, Benjamin. The boys had a look at high school life.

Photo by Bruce Genut



POOL SIZE			COVER SIZE	PRICE	AQUA TUBE COVERS		
			ROUND		POOL SIZE:	REG. PRICE:	SALE PRICE:
12'	Round		15' Round	\$ 29.	16x24	\$214.00	\$171.00
15'	"		18' "	39.	16x32	\$237.00	\$189.00
18'	"		21' "	42.	20x40	\$327.00	\$261.00
21'	"		24' "	62.			
24'	"		27' "	77.			
27'	"		31' "	94.			
			OVAL		*FREE PACKAGE OF GROMMETS		
12'x18'			15'x21'	\$ 41.	EQUALIZER PILLOWS		
12'x20'			15'x23'	45.	5x5 - \$6.95 5x8 - \$10.95 5x15 - \$15.95		
12'x25'			15'x28'	53.	WATER TUBES 1x6 \$6.55		
15'x24'			18'x27'	59.			
15'x27'			18'x30'	65.			
15'x30'			18'x33'	72.			
16'x24'			19'x27'	58.			
16'x32'			19'x35'	79.			
18'x32'			21'x35'	84.			
18'x34'			21'x37'	91.			
18'x36'			21'x39'	96.			
			RECTANGLE				
12'x20'			17'x25'	\$ 48.			
12'x24'			17'x29'	55.			
16'x24'			21'x29'	71.			
16'x32'			21'x37'	90.			
16'x36'			21'x41'	93.			
18'x36'			23'x41'	119.			
20'x40'			25'x45'	129.			
20'x44'			25'x49'	140.			

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