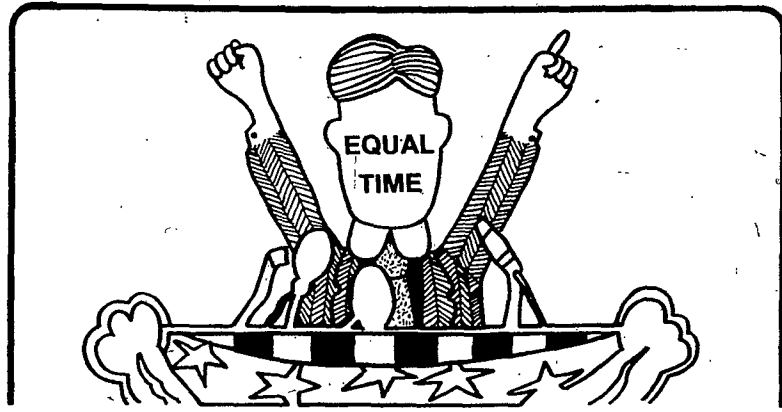


Around Rap Around Rap Around Rap Around Rap Around Rap Around Rap



It has been indicated by some educators that compulsory education after age 14 is unnecessary. Do you think the legal age for quitting school should be lowered to 14?

ST. AGNES

Argiro Makridis, junior "No. If you stop school at 14 it isn't enough time to learn all you should about life and its problems. The learning process is worthwhile and important at least until the age of 16."



Nancy Wolkonowski, sophomore "No because you are not mature enough at 14 and you don't know enough about life at that age. And you may not be able to get a job at that age because most jobs require a good education. If you decide on a certain career like Marine Biology you need a specific education for it which means more years of schooling. I think high school education is the most important of all."

Cheryl Lynn Owens, sophomore "I think the required age for leaving school should be made 18 because then you have everything you need — a high school diploma — and then you can get a job. Dropping out at 14 or 16 lessens the chance of making your life worthwhile. You hinder your self-growth."

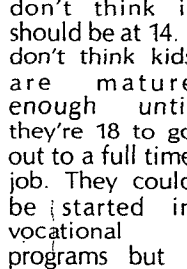
Kathy Crowley, sophomore "I'm against it. Everyone should have at least a high school education if they want to have a decent job. I think education should be opened more into the vocational format instead of the basics but dropout requirement age should remain at 16."



Melvyn Gray, junior "No. I feel you should stay in school until 16 and then if you want to drop out, all right. I think you should stay in school as long as possible. Besides at 14 you're still a kid."



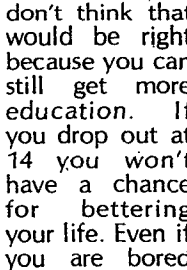
Peggy Booth, senior "No. I don't think it should be at 14. I don't think kids are mature enough until they're 18 to go out to a full time job. They could be started in vocational programs but I don't think 14 year olds are physically or emotionally capable of handling full time jobs. I've learned a lot in my four high school years. There is always time for learning."



Sue Chatterton, sophomore "I say no because they don't have their life planned out. They wouldn't know what to do if they dropped out of school. They probably wouldn't be able to get a job because they need the knowledge. They're too young to have to plan for their future. Education doesn't get repetitive because there is so much to learn."



Terri Walters, sophomore "I don't think that would be right because you can still get more education. If you drop out at 14 you won't have a chance for bettering your life. Even if you are bored you are still learning even though you don't realize it."



Winner!

Terry Britt, a sophomore at Aquinas Institute, was the recipient of the Winner's Circle \$5 for the week of Dec. 3.

McQuaid Group To Sing

St. Agnes High School's Dec. 18 Christmas Concert will have an added attraction this year in the McQuaid Glee Club.

The St. Agnes Glee Club, Chorus and Chamber Singers also will perform and there will be a punch and cookie reception in the gym after the program.

Runners Win Awards

Three Aquinas cross country athletes were awarded trophies at the school's Sports Booster Banquet held Sunday, Dec. 8.

They were: Don Felice for the most improved; Brian O'Connor, the most valuable; Bob Birecree as the most outstanding runner.

Lineman of the Year

Elmira — Senior Kevin Seaman, named Lion's Club Student of the Month for November, was selected as the lineman of the year. He received the Joe Dwyer Memorial Award for his performances on the Bi-State Championship Notre Dame Crusader Football team.

Breaking Training Rules Doesn't Score Points

By JOHN DOSER

Breaking athletic training rules doesn't usually result in putting points on the scoreboard.

Last week a talented suburban high school superstar, described by the New York State Sportswriters Association as a "preseason 'blue chip' performer, was suspended for the season for breaking training rules.

All school teams have athletic training rules which more or less prohibit the use of alcohol, smoking, drugs, staying out late, etc., etc., for being detrimental to the goals of athletics.

But how and to what degree the penalties for violations are handed out vary greatly from school to school.

Tim Jordan, athletic director at McQuaid, says that McQuaid doesn't have the athletic policy that Brighton High has, for example, which he considers to be tough. "I can't believe that one," he says.

Jordan says McQuaid does have a school policy as far as drinking at athletic functions are concerned, and there are school rules about drugs, alcohol, smoking etc.

Smoking is allowed at McQuaid, however, if you're a senior, and have the privilege (presumably based on grades and behavior) and smoke in designated areas.

McQuaid is somewhat less than rigid in so far as drinking is concerned as it regards athletes.

"I tolerate no smoking or drinking," Jordan explains, "but

"I say... there's no drinking in excess... because you know damn well some people do go to parties and have beers and stuff and you don't want to back yourself into a wall and tell a kid he's off the team if he has one beer."

Jordan says he's never had players at McQuaid in his eight years there violate the school's drinking and smoking rules, although he says he's suspended players for missing practices (especially over holiday periods).

Bishop Kearney athletic director Don Della Vella explains that while there are school policies regarding smoking, drinking and drugs, it's been pretty much left up to each coach — up to now. He's changing that.

"We're in the process of developing a coaching manual relative to Bishop Kearney... we're going through and establishing certain policies and procedures (relative to smoking, drinking, drugs etc.) that hopefully this spring will give all our coaches the same clear-cut policy to work by."

Most Kearney coaches work by these rules anyway, Della Vella says, because it's been an "understood thing." He says part of the coaches' manual will also concern academic eligibility.

"To have a rule is fine, but an enforced rule is more meaningful, in a fair way, that everybody on the entire coaching staff honors and interprets in the same perspective."

Della Vella says several years ago he let a couple of boys go from his football team because they were involved with drinking, not once, or twice, but three times.

this year which resulted in a one game suspension for the athlete. It could have been more than one game; it depends on the situation," he says.

"On the first violation we sat down and reviewed the rules with the team; on the second we spoke with the individuals; on the third... that was it."

"We try to leave ourselves a little flexibility... our coaches pretty well set their own rules involving smoking, drinking, late hours etc... as individual situations warrant, individual penalties result," Missell says.

Aquinas athletic director Dave Missell says each case is dealt with individually between the coach and himself.

"We had an incident in football

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