

Around Rap Around Rap Around Rap Around

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Retirement Not in Sight Says City's Nick Zona

By JOHN DOSER

Nick Zona, the chief consultant of health, physical education and recreation for the Rochester City School District, says he hasn't made up his mind about retiring at the end of the school year.

Zona, 63, who is generally credited with being the background force which helped to bring about a City League and Catholic League athletic merger, and instrumental in attaining at least a probationary membership for Catholic and private schools in Section 5 of the N.Y. State Public High School Athletic Association, admits he's heard the rumors about his retirement, too.

He also admits he's been thinking about retirement, but adds he's not made any definite plans.

"If I do, I'll do nothing about it until the required time, which is 30 days before the day of retirement, at that time I will submit my letter to the superintendent," Zona says.

A 41-year veteran in teaching and coaching in the City School District, he won two sectional basketball titles at Franklin without being a member of the Franklin High faculty. He was only a substitute teacher at the time.

"That was in 1940-41 and 1941-42. I decided I needed to get a contract somewhere, so I signed to teach in Batavia."

Superintendent James Spinning called Zona into his office, asked why he was leaving, found out, and then went to work to honorably erase the Batavia arrangement and keep Zona in the city system.

Zona got into coaching through Carl Chamberlain, then department head at Franklin. He gave Zona the job of operating the evening school adult education program in 1937.

"Chamberlain decided as long as I was doing that, I might just as well work with the teams, so I was an assistant coach in soccer and basketball (to Byrnes Beach).

When Beach decided to give up basketball in 1940, I was named the head coach by the principal, Roy L. Butterfield, and Chamberlain.

For many years, Zona explains, he could not understand why the City League should not include the Catholic schools.

When the city high schools experienced reorganization in the middle 1960s, opportunity presented itself when the city went from nine to six city high schools.

"That made a perfect opportunity to invite the Catholic schools into our league. It was approved by the Superintendent, and my assistants, Barney Smith and later Roger Bunce, did most of the bull work in getting it set up and it's been very effective to this day," Zona says.

He believes the merger reinforced the idea to Section 5 that the Catholic schools did have something to offer the Section.

"I think the fact we were able to play with very few incidents and those we had were caused mostly by coaches who spoke out of turn rather than by the boys themselves, made the Section realize that the partnership could be arranged without any difficulty."

The single greatest advantage of the City-Catholic merger was the elimination of the need to go out of town for competition.

"For years Aquinas had to travel all over the country to get games, and if we were not able to get the Catholic schools to come in with us, it meant that perhaps we would have to go to places like Watertown, Rome and other far out cities to get enough games to fill out a schedule," Zona says.

Zona has never permitted the city league to stand still, he's always tried to accommodate the league's needs. If and when he does retire, there will be one very large need to be filled — it's spelled Z-O-N-A.



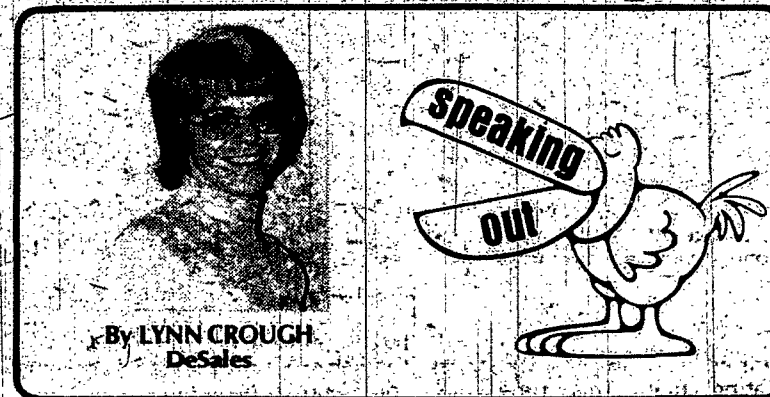
Aquinas Scholarship Winners

Shown above are the eighth graders who have won scholarships to Aquinas Institute. Front row: Edward Baranowycz of St. Margaret Mary's parish; Thomas Skirvin of St. Monica's; Edwin Kase of St. Augustine's; Kevin Lynd of St. Ambrose. Second row: Bart Kilinski of St. Helen's; Thomas Castelein of St. Charles; David Bond, Our Lady of Good Counsel and Matthew Brett of Our Lady of Mercy. The scholarships were awarded on the basis of the students' performance on entrance exams.

JA Delegates Attend Meeting

The Rochester area was represented by a delegation of 36 high school-age business leaders at the 26th Annual Eastern Regional Junior Achievement Conference Tuesday, Feb. 24, at Mount Airy Lodge in Pennsylvania. The four-day convention of teenage representatives of business-counselled Junior Achievement enterprises attracted more than 1,000 delegates from twelve Middle Atlantic and New England states.

Rochester Catholic High School representatives were Brian Doran and Dennis McNaughton from Aquinas Institute; Lynn Kellman, Thom Abraham, Darryl Duge from Bishop Kearney; Michelle Murray, Nazareth Academy; Suzanne Hahn, Our Lady of Mercy.



By LYNN CROUGH DeSales

Does anyone really know how fast time passes? I don't think so! Many of us can remember things which happened to us years ago and it still seems like yesterday.

Much has happened to everyone during the years gone by. An example is the amount of time spent in school. It has taken time to learn such things as religion, math, science, history, English, languages, business and many things in general about life. Yet it doesn't seem like it has taken so long.

Another thing which seems to have happened just yesterday is the participation in the sacraments. It's hard to believe that it took six years after we were born and baptized to reach the time for us to experience our First Confession, and First Communion. For some of us who have been confirmed even more years have passed by without us realizing it.

The adults around us know another way of pointing out how fast time passes. They can do this by just thinking of all the different places they have been and lived in. It's probably hard for them to think that they lived in that town 10 years ago.

Family Mass Planned at BK

"One nation under God" will be the theme for this year's Family Mass at Bishop Kearney High School. The Family Mass, a yearly tradition planned jointly by the B.K. Parents' Clubs, will be Sunday, March 7, at 10 a.m. in the school cafeteria.

Father John C. Murray of the Department of Religious Studies at St. John Fisher College will be the celebrant and will give the sermon. A breakfast will be served following the service.

Co-chairmen for this event are Ed and Bettie Murphy, and Tom and Gerry Lyons.

ago. Where did that 10 years go and where has the time gone since they left there? Where are the people they once knew?

On the other hand there are the people who say time goes by for them but nothing happens. Time has passed just as fast for them only they don't realize it because they were not involved in anything. They had nothing to keep them busy.

No one should let time pass without being able to say that they did something with it, even if it is just to say they made another person smile. There are many jobs which provide an income, but there are just as many which are voluntary involvements.

It is important to be involved. Yes, there are a lot of responsibilities and work that go along with joining a group. But you will find it worthwhile no matter what your age. Don't let life go by without you as a member. It will be gone before you know it.

Mercy Awards

Amy Salamone of St. Louis Parish received an Honorary Mercy Alumnae Scholarship. Deidre Fletcher, Blessed Sacrament; Rebecca Kaltenbach, St. John the Evangelist; Barbara Rath, St. John of Rochester, and Mary Jean Schmitt, Blessed Sacrament, have been awarded alumnae scholarships worth \$100 for each of their first two years at Our Lady of Mercy High School.

SPEAKING CONTEST

Doraine Day of Port Byron Central School won the oratorical contest sponsored by Pope Pius XII Council, Knights of Columbus.

Becky Rath of Kendall Central High School was second, and Michael Flanigan of Bishop Kearney, third, in the contest held Feb. 22 at Kearney. The assigned topic: The American Revolution — Myth or Miracle.



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 St. Agnes High during an assembly. The person circled above should bring the clipping to Joan M. Smith, Courier-Journal, by noon, Tuesday, March 9 to receive \$5.