



What do you think of the New Jersey Supreme Court's decision allowing Karen Quinlan "the right to die?"

OUR LADY OF MERCY

Lee Garrity, freshman, basketball
"I don't think they should have decided that way because if I was in Karen's position I wouldn't want someone to have the say whether I lived or died. I'd rather just be nothing than be dead. I'd feel guilty if I had to carry the decision through."



Suzanne Lorti, freshman
"I think it was a good decision. She doesn't have any life now so it won't make any difference. I think it's better for her. If I was in that position and it was left up to me I think I'd carry the decision out."



Mia Alfieri, senior
"I think she's still living. A while back they thought there was some brain activity, and they say you are not dead until the brain stops so I feel she's still alive and they don't have the right to decide to take her off the machine. I think a law setting a time limit on being left on a machine, say three years, might be helpful in making this type of decision. I also believe, a terminal patient has the right to decide whether or not to end his life."



Kathleen Buckley, sophomore
"I agree with the decision because if they took her off the machine she'd die anyway and she'd be like the machine herself if she has to continue on it. They want her to be at peace rather than just being a vegetable and not able to have life. What ever is best for the patient, especially if they decide for themselves (say like a terminal cancer patient) that they've had enough."



Liz Lane, freshman, ski club
"I agree with the decision because Karen doesn't know what is going on and if she did live she'd just be a vegetable. It's also very costly for her parents both financially and emotionally to keep her on this machine. She wouldn't live if she were taken off the machine. She is being kept alive artificially."



Anne Wolfe, senior, Christian Action Movement
"Considering that her parents who presume to know her the best feel she should be taken off the respirator, I agree with their decision. I think it's an awful decision to make because you have to consider religious beliefs, but hopefully I'll never be put in that situation of making a decision such as that, but I do feel Karen would be better off."



Carol Vaya, sophomore
"I agree with the decision because I feel she's already dead. She's not living on her own. Also, it was her parent's right. They've waited a long time and nothing has happened to change her condition, and since they've decided it's no use it's their decision to make."



Debbie Cameron, freshman, basketball
"I'm in favor of the ruling because no one should have to go through what Karen has and it's a painful thing for the parents to go through. People should be allowed to make that decision for those who are unable to."



Government First Hand

Nazareth Academy juniors Linda Fischer and Lori Sailer and senior Patricia Matroniano have been selected to participate in the annual Student Day in City Government, scheduled for April 28.

The program is designed to give area high school students a first hand view of the administrative functions of local government. The students will actually take the place of an elected official or administrator, will draft their own resolutions, and act upon them during a mock City Council meeting.

Gabriel Staffers for Honors

Seven Nazareth Academy seniors have been accepted as members of the International Honorary Society for High School Journalists. To qualify for this honor, students must be Juniors or Seniors in the top third of their class who have done superior work in some phase of journalism.

Miss Mary Ann Satter, faculty adviser of Nazareth's school newspaper, The Gabriel, recommended Ann Marie Kulzer, Laurie Darnaschke, Mary Rose Stevenson, Terry Mulee, Pat Hartleben, Joanne Wilkin and Marlene Adam, each of whom has been on the staff for two or three years. Each received a membership card, a subscription to the group's publication, Quill and Scroll, and a gold pin.



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 Mercy High School during lunch. The person circled above should bring the clipping to Joan M. Smith, Courier-Journal, by noon, Tuesday, May 4 to receive \$5.



Superstar at Kearney

Len Cala (with microphone) rehearses his part with other cast members for the Bishop Kearney High School production of Jesus Christ Superstar. Performances at the school start tomorrow, April 29, and continue through Sunday, May 2, at 8 p.m., with Sunday matinee at 2 p.m.

Montreal Next for Buerkle?

By JOHN DOSER

Dick Buerkle, distance-running Spanish teacher at Bishop Kearney High School, has qualified for the Olympic Trials.

Rochester's own finished second in the men's 10,000 meter race last week at the Penn Relays in Philadelphia behind winner Greg Fredericks of the Philadelphia Pioneers, who turned a 28:24.6.

Buerkle, representing the New York Athletic Club, was clocked at 28:26.4.

The two were shoulder-to-shoulder until Fredericks managed a final burst of strength for a last-ditch sprint in the final 200 meters.

The Rochester running hero has apparently licked his recent bout with an ailment which caused him shortness of breath and much coughing.

It was this allergy-type illness which forced him to cut short an effort in a 3,000 meter race in February in New York City.

Medics weren't certain whether the problem was an asthma or the residue of a virus infection.

A far greater challenge, first and foremost, is Buerkle's training — it isn't easy to train in the cold and snow of Rochester while many of his U.S. competitors practice their routines in southern climates.

He has to squeeze in his dozen or more miles a day between Spanish classes at Kearney.

There's also his domestic life which is made easier because of Jean, an understanding spouse who is his most avid cheerleader, as well as chief source of moral support.

Buerkle won't discourage youngsters from running, but it's understandable he doesn't think it's the most glamorous of sports occupations.

He says he intentionally takes a low profile about himself and his future in the sport. He occasionally "dreams" about the glamor of becoming a world class athlete, but then the rigors of running up Cobbs

Hill through snow, sleet or puddles snap him back to reality.

Running has produced many friends, throughout the world, Buerkle says. He enjoys meeting people and says that is one of the reasons he still runs.

"There is something about the kind of people I meet; the athletes, the writers, etc., which really makes life interesting," he says.

Buerkle isn't carried away with the prospect of winning a Gold Medal in Montreal this summer.

He read the book "All That Glitters Is Gold," a treatise about former Olympic champions and what they are doing today, and in some cases it's rather depressing.

He's reluctant to offer any predictions about how he'll finish in the upcoming Olympic Trials in June at Eugene, Ore.

He says he won't build up his hopes about anything, but realistically, he admits he has certain times in mind which he must make in order to be among the final qualifiers.