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The bagpipes just "ring" said Ann O'Dell who prefers playing them out of doors where their wails and trills echo unencumbered by walls. Ann will spend the summer in the Canadian hills increasing her expertise on the pipes as well as competing in the Highland Games which highlight the week-end festivities up

Photos by Ben Susso

North. The bagpipes are an impressive instrument but one which isn't mastered quickly. For beginners it's the "chanter" (center photo) on which they learn the intricate fingering techniques needed to make the bagpipes respond musically.

The Bagpipes are Coming

BY JOAN M. SMITH

Bagpipes are a capricious instrument. It takes gentle determination to make them obey the commands of a performer. The important ingredient for conquering their elusiveness in Ann O'Dell's words; "Is mostly to be patient." She also explained, "You have to be a perfectionist to play the bagpipes well."

Besides being a perfectionist, Ann, who is a senior at Our Lady of Mercy-High School, has a lifting and infectious personality which bubbles over as she discusses her "pipes". The day RapAround interviewed her she was especially excited. She had just finished her Biology regents and was packing to spend the summer in the Canadian

hills at the Coel-Mor Farm which hosts a bagpipe school.

Ann left Friday, June 25 for the farm in Kinmount, 150 miles Northeast of Toronto, where she will help farm as well as "practice, practice" on the bagpipes. While there she will have the chance to participate in the Highland Garnes which are held throughout Canada.

Though Ann can't pin down the exact reason for her interest in the pipes other than, "I love the sound," her primary reason for taking two years of lessons is to participate in competitions. She also dreams of joining a bagpipe

According to Ann the bagpipe is reputed to be the hardest instrument to play and beginners usually start on a "chanter" which

is a tube-like mechanism with a reed on which they learn the fingering techniques. The pipers bible is the "Scots Guard" which contains the various degrees of music, and "weighs four pounds," quipped Ann.

Ann practices as much as she can and admits to achieving better performances in the summer due to the instruction and constant playing at the Kinmount school.

"I love to play the pipes in the summer, especially out in the hills," and her voice softened as she described how the pipes "ring" when played outdoors as compared to their sound inside.

She is proud to have worked under Donald MacPherson from

Scotland who taught at the Kinmount school last year. Ann acknowledged him as "the greatest piper in the world." It was he who stressed the importance of patience in learning the bagpipes.

Ann's senior year will be a busy some at Mercy. She is editor of the Quill as well as a representative of the school's Christian Action Movement organization. Her future plans include college although she hasn't made a choice nor has she decided on her major. In Ann's estimation this is typical of her Aquarius personality. "I'll probably change my mind a hundred times," she declared.

She is absolutely certain of one thing though, she loves to play the pipes for people. In fact, she'll play for "anyone who is around."

Sectional Championships Seen Sure Thing

By JOHN DOSER

Dick Cerone, Section 5 football chairman and Jefferson High head football coach, says-sectional championship football games should be a sure thing by next Fall (1977) at least

There's a slim chance there will be some sectional games this Fall.

The plan, according to Cerone, is to break all teams into five classifications (AAA, AA, A, B, and C); and award positive points for victories and negative points for losses, much the same as in sectional basketball.

"We'd pick the top two teams from each classification on the basis of points and play them off for the various sectional titles," Cerone says."

Four of the games probably would be played at Holleder Stadium and the fifth at another good site, possibly the U of R's Fauver Stadium, for example.

All the games would be played on the same day — and would constitute the 10th game of the season — with the state commissioner of education's blessing, yet to be bestowed.

Not all schools are in favor of sectional play, but Cerone believes once the system gets underway it would only be a matter of time before the enthusiasm generated over the ultimate possibilities of opponents, sweeps the others into the fold.

"There are some schools, down in Livingston County for example, who at this time don't really want to get into sectional championships.

"But let the league explain why an undefeated Caledonia-Mumford isn't eligible for sectionals; in the end Ethink they'll all be for it," Cerone predicts.

The rating system would produce another advantage, explains Cerone.

"There won't be any more scheduling of pushover teams, because a Triple A school wouldn't receive as many points for beating an A school as it would for beating another AAA school it should strengthen everybody's schedules." Cerone says

There's no doubt it could also create some big games and put a lot of fans in the stands at either Holleder or Fauver

Some recent big games between Catholic and public schools have drawn excellent crowds — some 14,000 saw Aquinas top Fairport at Holleder six years ago; another 7-8,000 saw Rush-Henrietta lose to the Little Irish last year at Holleder in the first gridiron meeting between the two powerhouses.

Cerone, ironically, is among those City Catholic League coaches who are frustrated because of budget problems faced by the city's public schools.

"We can't compete with the Catholic schools in most sports, especially football, because we don't have the funding.

"We appreciate that the Catholic schools need good gates from their games to pay for their sports programs, and we know it's tough for them to play a city school with only a handful of people on the city team's side," Cerone says.

Cerone predicts that sometime in the near future the City-Catholic League will go back to a City school and Catholic school divisional set-up which will again give Catholic schools an opportunity to schedule out-of-town opponents who will spark a better paying crowd:

"It won't make all that difference," Cerone says, "because under the new sectional set-up, teams gain or lose points whether the opponent is league or non-league. The system makes every game an important game."

Return to a pure Catholic division would be a turn-about; years ago the desire to eliminate costly road trips or home game guarantees to out-of-town teams were reasons for seeking membership in the City-Catholic League.

Cerone expects sectional title games to draw well, but there's another aspect to contend with — one Catholic school, at least, wants a cut of the sectional gate, an impossibility, however, because all income from sectional games in all sports gots into the sectional bank account — which in turn funds the section's other tournaments and intersectional competition.

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