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DeSales Hosts Drum Pageant

Geneva — DeSales High School's Support Our School (SOS) committee sponsored a "Pageant of Drums" July 10. The event, directed by Art Muzzi, was in Shuron Park where six corps competed for trophies and three additional groups were on hand for exhibition.

SOS Chairman Joe D'Amico presented the first place trophy to the Grenadiers from Endicott. Second place was awarded to the Kingston Indians from Kingston, N.Y. and third place went to the Kingsmen from Fitchburg, Mass.

The St. John's Girls Corps received a bicentennial flag from the City of Geneva which was presented by its bicentennial chairman, Frank Pullano.

Best Drum Major trophy went to the Mighty Liberators of Rochester, and best Color Guard trophy was awarded the Kingsmen of Fitchburg, Mass.

Preceding the pageant was a bicentennial parade in which the DeSales Student Council entered a twelve foot Uncle Sam. He was placed atop a birthday cake shaped as the map of the United States.

Debbie Verzella and Sally Walsh work on the Uncle Sam float which the DeSales Student Council entered in the Geneva Bicentennial parade on July 10. Council members, under the direction of Moderator Ann Smith, spent many evening hours preparing the huge float.

BK Alumnus Hitting Well

Art Carlisi, a graduate of Bishop Kearney High School who is now a sophomore at Niagara University, led the Niagara baseball team in batting average, base hits and doubles this spring.

With a batting average of .432 he collected 32 hits in 74 times at bat, including five doubles and three triples. He also had 15 runs batted in.

Studies Evaluated On High Schools

In a recent New York Times report it was stated that a favorite target of educational reformers over the years has been the American high school. There have been countless studies leading to numerous recommendations for change.

Dr. A. Harry Passow, a professor at Teachers College of Columbia University has completed a review of the major studies and has identified the themes recurring in the recommendations.

"I tried to indicate," remarked Dr. Passow in a recent interview, "how these reports have had some impact, but never really change the schools as substantially as they advocated."

Some of the themes reported by Dr. Passow are these: high schools should not be the only institution expected to deliver education to youths; students must have more opportunities to benefit from actual job experience; there should be better ways of teaching about the responsibilities of citizenship; out-of-classroom learning should count toward diploma requirements.

It is Dr. Passow's contention that not enough attention was given to the problems of implementation in connection with some of the recommendations.

He feels that until now, high schools have been slow to change despite the recommendations for reform offered by various study commissions. He expects the pace to accelerate, however, because he explained, "We know more about the change process and how to implement reform."

Photo by Joan M. Smith

Soviet students through Communist youth organizations (Young Pioneers, Komosol) receive military training while attending school. Above, young adults change the guard at a war memorial in Kiev, the Ukrainian capitol. Note the Soviet military officer who is instructing them in their parade etiquette.

Russian Youth: A Bird's Eye View

By JOAN M. SMITH

"Chewing gum?". "Chewing gum?" This question is constantly asked tourists on escalators, subways, in streets and parks by countless Russian teen-agers. For a pack of spearmint, juicy fruit or any of the American brand gums, these young people are willing to trade an assortment of Soviet military pins.

The young traders are not aggressive but can be insistent in their bartering techniques. Russian adults, however, will not tolerate prolonged persistence and often interrupt transactions with stern words which send the hucksters on their way.

Perhaps it was because school was in session but during a recent visit to the Soviet Union, Russian youth, other than for their trading adventures, seemed inconspicuous. Their days are busy with studies, sports activities and programs sponsored by the Communist youth organizations. As the State provides for education, it isn't necessary nor is it expected that teen-agers work during their school years. Besides, there aren't the job areas for them such as paper routes, fast-food services, or grocery store check-outs. Young adults belonging to the Communist youth groups and who wish to work summer jobs with paid bonuses are sent to agricultural cooperatives, and dam and railroad construction sites which are mushrooming in the provinces.

Saturday night means a break from the young people's weekly routines and they crowd the Moscow restaurants to laugh, chatter and dance with gusto. Though dances like the "hustle" have yet to invade the Soviet Union, the young adults are content to work up a storm doing the rock dances of the 60s. But it's the fast moving folk melodies which create the most fun and keep the dancers going until the band quits at 11:30 p.m. In Moscow, as throughout the country, most social activity ceases at an early hour even on the weekends.

Fashion is not a by-product of Soviet society. There are no "cool dudes" in the Russian male fashion world. They dress conservatively in suits and ties reminiscent of the 1930s and 40s. Mini-skirts with boots, simple dresses at varying lengths, and a few denim outfits were the noted female attire, at least in Moscow. Pantsuits were evident, but were worn only by tourists.

Authority is not just a word in Soviet society, it is a condition of existence. State authority is a power which is not reckoned with easily. But just as powerful is the ever-present authority of the adult faction which doesn't hesitate to come down hard on its youth for public misbehavior.

Mini-Project Funded

The State Education Department, through the Monroe 2 -Orleans Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES), has approved funding for a mini-project to Father William C. McCusker, SJ, director of Counseling Services at McQuaid Jesuit High School. The award is for the development of a packaged workshop on "Strength Building and Goal Setting for Underachievers."

Father McCusker has been counselor and director of Counseling Services for seven years, and has developed workshops for high school students and counselors in Career Development, Self-Awareness, Human Potential and Personal Values.

"This proposed workshop in Strength Building and Goal Setting", said Father McCusker, "is significantly appropriate today. Educators are bothered and puzzled at the low achievement of students who seem to have more than the necessary talents and abilities to succeed. This workshop is based on a theory that many of the underachievers have a poor self-image and lack specific skills to set reasonable goals. We are going to try to remedy both problems."

Father McCusker is serving his second term as president of the Rochester Diocesan Catholic Counselors Council and has been vice president of the Monroe County Counselors and senator for the Genesee Valley Guidance and Personnel Association. He has presented programs at the state and the national Personnel and Guidance Conventions and has taught courses in Self-Awareness and Human Growth at the State College at Brockport, at Plattsburgh and at St. John Fisher College.

School Group Hires Executive

Marist Brother Bernard G. Flood has been appointed executive director of the Catholic School Administrators Association of New York State. He will be responsible for maintaining communications and organizing programs to increase the competence of Catholic school administrators. He will act as a public spokesman for Catholic education on the state level.

Brother Flood replaces Brother Peter A. Pontolillo, SM, who resigned to assume the principalship of Colegio San Jose, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico.

Brother Flood recently was consultant for Planning and Administration for the Diocese of Birmingham, Alabama.

Hike for Hope Fund Petitions

In the past six years, more than 150,000 Rochester area youths have hiked over three million miles and raised more than $2 million for Project HOPE and local charities.

Each year 15 per cent of all funds collected from the Hike for Hope are donated to selected charities in the Monroe County area. The funds are disbursed to community-oriented organizations selected by an allocations committee on the basis of applications which are submitted by groups requesting consideration.

The selection process soon will begin again. Applications can be procured by calling or writing: HIKE for HOPE, Allocations Committee, 808 Temple Building, Rochester, New York 14604.

Summer School

Three area Catholic high schools are offering summer school sessions. Aquinas Institute, and Nazareth Academy have a limited program, with classes in Math and business subjects. Aquinas is offering a Driver's Education course.

Bishop Kearney High School is operating a full summer school program.