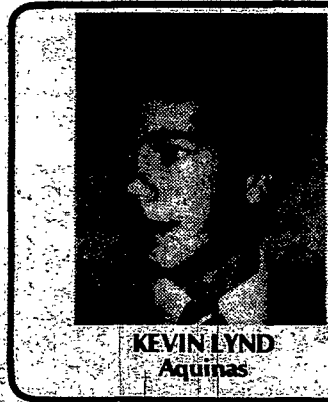


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KEVIN LYND
Aquinas



It is Saturday morning in a typical American home. At 10 a.m. the children have been watching television for two hours. Suddenly, SHAZAM! — the magical word is spoken, there is a flash of lightning, and the viewer is transformed into Captain Marvel. After 30 minutes of watching fantastic feats of flying in the course of fighting villains and righting wrongs, does he climb to the roof and attempt to launch himself into space? Or, does he shrug his shoulders and ask, "What's on next?"

Later in the day, you, the "average" teenager, pick up several comic books and for the next hour are engrossed in the adventures of Daredevil or Green Arrow. When you finish, are you apt to try your luck using a whip to swing down from the chimney?

Much has been written about the harmful effect of television and comic books on the younger generation. Dr. Fredric Wertham, author of the book "Seduction of the Innocent" states that comics are "an invitation to illiteracy; create an atmosphere of cruelty and deceit; and create a readiness for temptation." That damning criticism could equally be applied to countless numbers of paperback pulp and porno magazines, peddled with popularity to a large adult audience. It is interesting to note that the local drugstore usually displays them right next to Little Lulu, who is always fully clothed, and Bugs Bunny whose only violent weapon is a carrot.

Comics, whether read or viewed, have something to commend them. Now being phased out, the series Classics Illustrated was designed to try and awaken the readers' interest in great literature (David Copperfield, Little Women.) Animated comics, first made popular by Walt Disney, and now seen daily on television shows such as Sesame Street and Electric Company are being used successfully in early education. A recent newspaper article carried the news that the Planned Parenthood League is using a comic book format featuring Spiderman as part of its sex education campaign. While this

latter is subject to controversy, the fact remains that comics can be a powerful educational tool.

Because of their great popular appeal, comics are a valuable selling device — a fact recognized by makers of commercials and publishers of newspapers. A recent survey conducted by Boston University's Communications Research Center indicates that comics are read by more than 100 million Americans any weekday of the year. A medium that reaches that many people should be controlled with some responsibility as to its subject matter, which naturally raises the "bugaboo" of censorship.

In television, in movies, in books there seems to be an attitude of "anything goes." Ironically I see less of that attitude evidenced in comic books perhaps because there does exist a Code of Comic Magazines Association which monitors and regulates the material.

As a collector myself, I enjoy bolstering the imagination with a colorfully splashed page. I would have to admit that some of the story lines and plots are unforgivably weak but the art work is generally good. Like stamps, coins, or models, old comic books are becoming a valuable investment.

The only "danger to the mind" that I see in comic books or TV cartoons is the inordinate amount of time one might spend on them — time that could be spent doing other stimulating and enjoyable things. But too much of anything can be harmful!

Would you not consider it harmful if your father spent hours in front of the TV set instead of going to work? Or your mother read True Romance magazine all day and neglected her housework? The sensible solution to TV viewing and comic books is moderation in the time spent and selective judgment in what you read and watch. In the case of young children (and that includes some "teen-agers") both those rules become the responsibility of the parents. If that is censorship — we need it.



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 Cardinal Mooney during lunchtime. The person circled above should bring the clipping to Joan M. Smith, Courier-Journal, by noon, Tuesday, Sept. 21 to receive \$5.

New Faculty at Nazareth

Eight new faculty members have joined Nazareth Academy's staff for the 1976-1977 school year. Miss Rose Agresta, a certified driver education instructor as well as a qualified linguist, will teach Spanish and Driver Education. Mrs. Carol Gillis, teacher from Dover, Ohio, will join the freshman science faculty. Sister Campton Bush who has been an administrator and teacher in the Southern Tier since she left Nazareth's faculty 10 years ago, will return as a member of the Social Studies Department.

Two teachers will join the English Department; Miss Marylee Skelly, formerly a teacher in Elba, will teach English 9 and 11. Charles LaMattina will teach English 11, Speech and Drama and will also direct the school's dramatic productions.

Sister Kathleen Weider, formerly of St. Agnes High School, and Miss Barbara Skornia from Bay City, Mich. will teach Theology. Miss Skornia will also be an associate member of the Sisters of St. Joseph. Mrs. Pamela Rodgers, previously a staff member of Clarence High School, will join the Guidance Department.

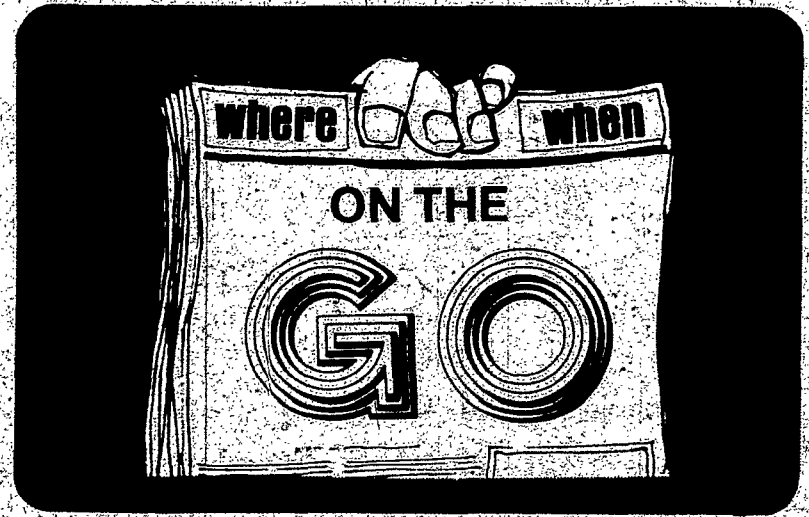
Aq. Boosters Plan Dinner

Tuesday, Sept. 21 is the date set for the first Aquinas Sports Boosters Dinner for the new school year of 1976-77. The place is the Aquinas Cafeteria at 7:30 p.m. A social hour starts off the activities at 6:30 p.m.

Football team. Dave Missell, Father Michael Wesley and Jerry McGuire will also address the gathering about the prospects of the Soccer, Cross Country and Freshmen Football seasons.

Head varsity football coach Nick Teta will be the main speaker for the evening and he will discuss his 1976 edition of the "Little Irish".

Reservations are \$5 per person and must be made by September 20 by calling Aquinas Institute at 254-2020.



- AQUINAS:**
Monday, Sept. 20 — Faculty meeting;
Tuesday, Sept. 21 — Sport Boosters Dinner, cafeteria; 6:30 p.m.
- BISHOP KEARNEY:**
Wednesday, Sept. 15 — Senior Class Mass; 10 a.m.
Thursday, Sept. 16 — Kearney Carnival opens; 6 p.m.
Parade from Town Hall to BK; 6 p.m.
Sept. 17-18 — Kearney Carnival; 6 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 19 — Kearney Carnival; 1 p.m.
- DeSALES:**
Wednesday, Sept. 15 — Parents Meeting, gym; 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 19 — Chicken Barbecue; 1-6 p.m.
- McQUAID:**
Friday, Sept. 17 — Assembly.
- NAZARETH:**
Friday, Sept. 17 — Assembly; 1:45 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 18 — Parents' Association Mass and Social, convent; 8 p.m.
- ST. AGNES:**
Friday, Sept. 17 — Mass of the Holy Spirit celebrated by Bishop Joseph L. Hogan.
- OUR LADY OF MERCY:**
Sunday, Sept. 19 — Freshmen Family Picnic; 3-6 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 22 — Faculty-Parent Board dinner; 6:30 p.m.



DeSales Trip

On Sept. 4, Mack Spellacy escorted his last year's freshman English class to Stratford-on-Avon, in Canada, to see Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice." Seated are: Greg Graham, Paul Hurley, Mark O'Donnell, Joseph Emmi. Standing: Bob Solleone, Mary Combs, Diane Gueretti, Tina Eorson, Jill Sullivan. Also members of the trip were teachers Jim Sullivan and Steve Muzzi, who are in the back row, with Spellacy at far right.