



Already at work on this year's BASH are, from left, front, Marion Clement, Mary Reiser, Mary Ann Palermo; rear, Father Richard P. Noonan, Robert Reiser, Father McDonald, Thomas Clement, Jack Rogers.

McQuaid Benefit March 26

The fourth annual BASH (Building a Scholastic Heritage) of McQuaid Jesuit High School is scheduled for

Olympics Theme of Contest

The New York State Council of the Knights of Columbus has selected "The Olympics — Is There a Future?" as its topic for the 1977 Oratorical Contest to be conducted by the State Circle Columbian Squires

Open to any boy or girl who is a resident of the state and who is being graduated from an accredited public or private high school in January or June, 1977, the competition consists of district contests taking place before March 1 and area finals to be conducted by April 1.

Nine area winners will then vie at the state finals at the State Council Convention in May. First prize in the finals is a \$2,000 scholarship, runnerup a \$1,500 scholarship, and third place a \$1,200 scholarship. The remaining six finalists will receive \$200 government bonds.

Contestants must prepare an original speech on the topic and deliver within a minimum time of four minutes and a maximum of five minutes. Applications must be filed by Feb. 1 and are available from Trinity Council, 4618, in Webster.

WINS SCHOLARSHIP

Dexter Martinez, a project coordinator for the Catholic Youth Organization, has been awarded a scholarship for a new management course in the Rochester Institute of Technology College of Continuing Education. Martinez, a Rochester resident since 1956, works with the Puerto Rican Youth Development Center. He is a member of the board of Baden Street Center. The RYO award is made in the name of Paul Miller, chairman of the board of Gannett Company.

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Saturday evening, March 26 at the school.

BASH, a major fundraising event for McQuaid, will include cocktails, a gourmet dinner, silent and oral auctions, and a mid-night meal. Invitations, designed by artist Dick Kane, will be mailed out soon. Kane also created the decorations for the evening which will follow the theme of "Safari"

Father John McDonald,

SJ, rector-president of McQuaid and general chairman of BASH, is being assisted by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Clement and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Reiser.

McQuaid receives no financial assistance from local, state, federal or diocesan sources. Because tuition covers half of the cost-per-student, the school must rely on other sources for income. During the past three years, BASH has raised more than \$220,000.

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A CALL FOR THE SUPPORT OF JUSTICE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

In Spring, 1976, a Commission for International Justice and Peace was initiated in the Diocese of Rochester. One of its responsibilities is to identify specific aspects of injustice and involve the Church of Rochester in manageable programs to decrease the level of injustice suffered by individuals and nations.

Throughout Summer and Fall, members of the Commission have been concerned about conditions in Namibia, Rhodesia and the Republic of South Africa as they relate to Black Africans and other oppressed groups in their painful struggle for human rights. Through the various media we have become acutely aware of the conflict.

As members of the Commission, we have taken note of the challenge of the Congressional Black Caucus expressed in the manifesto adopted at the September 25, 1976 Washington meeting, urging the Judeo-Christian community to hold the United States government to its "historical commitment to self-determination", specifically in Southern Africa, where Blacks are denied even the most basic freedom of mobility within their own country.

Bishop James S. Rausch, (General Secretary of the United States Catholic Conference) and the United States Catholic Bishops, in an open letter to Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, makes it quite clear that:

"The liberation movements are legitimate expressions of the peoples' desire for human rights, as was the movement toward American independence two hundred years ago".

Bishop Rausch also points to the entanglement and the complicity of the United States corporate investments in Africa — a systematic investment detrimental to indigenous freedom.

(Bishop Rausch, Open Letter to the Secretary of State, April 7, 1976)

The United Nations has gone on record supporting justice in southern Africa. In a vote 108-11 with 22 abstentions, a motion was passed, stating:

"that the racist regime of South Africa is illegitimate and has no right to represent the people of South Africa".

(Rochester Democrat and Chronicle, Nov. 10, 1976)

As the Church and as members of the human family, we cannot ignore the struggle of the people of southern Africa and their efforts to secure a just and equitable recognition of their civil rights in accordance with the principles of **The Universal Declaration of Human Rights**.

(United Nation General Assembly, Dec. 10, 1948)

We, the International Justice and Peace Commission of the Diocese of Rochester, therefore unreservedly condemn the acts of repression and exploitation perpetrated against the oppressed people in southern Africa especially by those who claim to be Christian, and yet are not ashamed to distort and defame the image of Christ among people.

We endorse the following proposals in Bishop Rausch's letter to Secretary Kissinger:

- The Congress can and should repeal the Byrd Amendment which presently allows the United States to subvert UN economic sanctions against the Smith regime;

- The Administration should provide unequivocal assurances to Rhodesia and the Republic of South Africa that no United States assistance, military, political or financial, will be forthcoming to support or sustain the existing system of government; any aid will be contingent upon bringing black majorities into full participation in the respective governments;

- All available means, public and private, political and moral, should be used to restrict and discourage U.S. business and investment in Rhodesia, Namibia and South Africa;

- U.S. corporations operating in Rhodesia and South Africa have a responsibility to evaluate their presence in more than economic terms; a moral responsibility exists to assess the role they play in sustaining systems which stand indicted and ostracized in the international community.

(Bishop Rausch, Open Letter to the Secretary of State, April 7, 1976)

The members of the International Justice and Peace Commission acknowledge the complexity of current problems which emanate from centuries of racism ingrained in history and custom. Nevertheless, on behalf of human dignity, we are compelled to assert with the Black Clergymen that we will

"speak and act here, in this nation, with all our resources and strength, to end forever the rule of racist regimes everywhere".

(Ad Hoc Committee of National Conference of Black Churchmen Concerned About South Africa.)

International Justice and Peace Commission
 Diocese of Rochester, 750 W. Main St.
 Bishop Joseph L. Hogan

Jan. 5, 1977