RapAroundRapAroundRapAroundRap

Here Comes the Class of 1981

BY JOAN M. SMITH

"Make the best of your four years," was the advice given by junior Lori Roberts to the incoming freshmen over at St. Agnes High School during their orientation day Sept. 7.

Lori along with classmates Dottie Keenan, Tammie Dinolfo and Cheryl SanFilipo held an informational panel discussion in Mrs. Betty Geen's homeroom. Their aim was to make the new students feel at home and instruct them about their school. They accomplished their job through ancedotes about their experiences and jokes about their mistakes like Lori's disastrous attempt at making fudge.

They explained free time periods, gave a rundown on all the school activities available, how to join them, school taboos and the one piece of universal advice which brought laughter, "If you have trouble with your locker, give it a good kick."

The panel presentation was only one phase of the orientation program. Down in the auditorium, Sister Melita Burley, freshman English teacher, showed a film introducing the students to high school life. She then held an informal session during which she encouraged them to meet with people they didn't know. To help break the ice, Sister raised the question as to who traveled the farthest to come to St. Agnes. It was discovered that one student would be traveling 350 miles a week to attend classes!

Another important part of the orientation was the seminar on how to read a schedule and a unique program for freshmen finding their way around the school; a hunt contest directed by freshman moderator, Cathy Palmer. The students would gather in her room, receive a form listing various school locations and then proceed to search them out.

"Such a big school," was the most often heard comment while they looked and looked for lockers, homerooms, the library, guidance and nurse's office. It was agreed that the gym locker room and the bookstore were the most difficult to find.

A picnic lunch and informal gathering on the school grounds ended the day's events and allowed the freshmen to mingle and introduce themselves.

According to seniors Cathy Crowley and Sue Doran, on hand to help with the activities, the primary concern of most freshmen was that the school was bigger than they were used to. Also, in grammar school they had known everyone — now there were so many new faces.

But it was excitement rather than nervousness which identified the 1977 freshman class as they took their first steps into a new phase of their lives.

Photos by Terrance J. Brennan

Susan Burke, Katie Doran and Theresa Lauth finally discover the Dean of Students office.

Robin Finn, Marie Jones and Janet Kress begin their hunt for important school locations such as the cafeteria.

Joan McClean listens intently to Sister Christine Lloyd while she explains the art of reading and understanding class schedules.

"Where, oh, where do we head now?" moaned St. Agnes freshmen.

Junior class officers Dottie Keenan, Lori Roberts, Tammie Dinolfo and Cheryl SanFilipo devoted their time to informing the freshmen about St. Agnes High School.