

Rap Around Rap Around Rap Around



Photo by Terrance J. Brennan

Mrs. Patrick Briody (center) standing with her daughters said, "I didn't know I was starting a tradition but I'm glad it turned out that way." The graduate sisters from left: Colleen, Christine, Rosemary, Theresa, Mrs. Briody, Patricia, Mary, Kathleen, and Margaret.

Nine Sisters, One High School

By JOAN M. SMITH

Colleen Briody graduated from St. Agnes High School, June 22. As she accepted her diploma, a family tradition spanning 17 years ended. Colleen is the youngest and last of nine sisters to graduate from St. Agnes. Margaret Briody began it when she entered the school in September, 1957. She was followed by sisters Kathleen, Mary, Patricia, Sheila, Theresa, Rosemary, Christine and Colleen.

The Briody family doesn't end there, however — although not St. Agnes graduates there are two brothers — Vincent (McQuaid, '70) and John (Pittsford-Sutherland, '74).

With Colleen's help, RapAround was able to assemble eight of the sisters for an interview. It was quite a gathering. The girls, lively and good-natured, certainly enjoy getting together no matter what the occasion. Intermingled with their gentle teasing of one another, they delighted in recalling their high school years. Would they like to relive them?

"Knowing what I know now, I'd like to go back," commented Patricia (Mrs. John Plumeri, class of '67). She went on to say that it was the moral attitudes and principles taught at St. Agnes which had most impressed her.

After high school graduation, Pat took classes at Nazareth College and is now employed with the County of Monroe. She has two sons, Patrick and Kevin.

Rosemary, ('73) a voice major from St. Agnes, said she'd rather do high school over than college and what she remembered most about St. Agnes was the school spirit.

She received her BA in social work from Nazareth College and is presently employed at St. John's Nursing Home. According to her sisters she is musically talented as a singer and guitarist. She has performed at weddings, played benefits for

the Board of Cooperative Education and has performed at the Irish Inn.

Theresa ('72) is one of the Briodys' three nurses and received her degree from St. Joseph School of Nursing, Elmira. She has worked at the Georgetown University Hospital in Washington, D.C., and is currently on the staff in Strong Memorial's burn unit.

She couldn't remember what had triggered the decision to become a nurse. "They made me do it," she laughed, referring to her two sisters who are enthusiastic members of the profession.

Margaret Briody ('61) not only began the St. Agnes tradition but also started the nursing career trend. She received her BA in Nursing from the University of Maryland and her MA from Catholic University in Washington, D. C. She has just returned to Rochester where she holds a joint appointment at the University of Rochester as instructor and clinician.

Kathleen, (Mrs. Fred Keller, class of '63), said she always wanted to be a nurse and admitted she wouldn't want to relive her high school years. Kathy received her degree from Monroe Community College and is now a team coordinator on the medical floor at Rochester General Hospital. She has three possible recruits for St. Agnes — her daughters, Kristi, Laura and Debra.

Her sister Mary, (Mrs. Michael KinCannon, '65), also has future prospects for St. Agnes — daughters Heather and Kathy.

Mary attended Nazareth College, receiving a BA in Business and Economics. She has worked as a legal secretary.

Christine, ('75), majored in music and was a member of the glee club while attending St. Agnes. She is now at Nazareth College as a music major and will graduate in 1979. She intends to continue with graduate work with a

view to teaching music at college level. Her sisters persuaded her into disclosing that she finished high school in three years due to accelerated courses.

RapAround was sorry it didn't meet Sister Sheila Briody, SSJ, ('69). She is at Notre Dame University pursuing summer courses for her MA in Liturgy. Sister, however, is still a part of St.

Agnes life — she is on the school's teaching faculty.

And what of the last graduate — Colleen? She's looking forward to attending Nazareth College in September where she will major in Business. Looking back over her four years at St. Agnes, she couldn't recall any surprises. "Having eight sisters going before me," she said, "I knew what the high school years were going to be

like."

While reminiscing about their respective school years, the girls suddenly chorused, "Hey, don't forget dad! He had something to do with all this."

How does Patrick Briody feel about attending all those graduations?

"Very proud," smiled daughter Margaret.

Sports Who's Who

Editor's note — Readers are invited to mail brief news items for this column to Who's Who, 51 Boxwood Lane, Fairport, N. Y. 14450.

He did not attend a Catholic high school, but Clayton Barnard, the 23-year-old wrestler from Hilton who died last week of acute leukemia, left his Christian mark on virtually everyone with whom he had contact.

Barnard learned of his illness June 9 from doctors at St. Mary's Hospital; he died July 10, with his wife, Debra, at his side. He understood his situation and he left it entirely in the hands of the Lord.

Clayton Barnard's name became a household word in the Hilton community as a wrestler for Hilton High School.

In 1973, he won the Monroe County League Championship in his weight class, added the Section 5 title, won the state freestyle championship and took third in the state AAU tournament.

He was named winner of the John J. Ordway Award as Section 5's outstanding wrestler; Ordway was an outstanding wrestler who ironically died of leukemia eight years ago.

Barnard was proclaimed Hilton High School's senior athlete of the year and was no slouch in the classroom either — he was a member of the National Honor Society.

He went on to Ashland College in Ohio and won NCAA Division III All-America honor three years in a row.

He transferred to North Carolina University to pursue a teaching career. He intended to teach and coach at a church affiliated school in Ohio.

His goal never materialized; he ended up at St. Mary's Hospital instead.

Even during his final days, he was encouraging patients with similar illnesses to accept Christ.

FOOTNOTES — Vince Baiamonte, a McQuaid senior, qualified for the Empire State Games' wrestling tournament Aug. 16-20 at Syracuse University.

Baiamonte finished second in the 177-pound class of the Region 6 competition which included Rochester and Buffalo area wrestlers.

Winner of the Region 6 test was John Zito of East Rochester who defeated Baiamonte, 8-5.

An All-City-Catholic wrestler, Baiamonte gained a personal distinction in April by defeating Polish World Junior Champion Karol Bulenda, 18-12, in an international match where an American team comprised mostly of Rochester wrestlers battled the Polish National Junior Team to a 5-5 tie.

Rob Horak, Bishop Kearney, was eliminated in the quarter-finals of the Rochester District Golf Association's Junior Championships by Stu Harris, 2 and 1. Horak was defending champion.

John Ryan Jr., McQuaid, lost to Bob Sinclair, 3 and 2.

Tony Ferrara is the new head basketball coach at Aquinas; he succeeds Jim Baron who resigned to take a college coaching job at a school yet to be named. Ferrara is a graduate of Mynderse Academy, Seneca Falls, and taught and coached at Council Bluffs, Iowa, for the past four years.

Bob Keenehan and Mike Goodberlet of Cardinal Mooney and Mychal Sheehy and Dave Roberson of McQuaid are still in the thick of competition for berths on the Western New York basketball team to represent the area in the Empire State Games' basketball tournament next month in Syracuse.