

# Curriculum Evaluation Leads to Revision

Our elementary schools have the responsibility of assisting children in developing the basic skills, generalizations, creative potential, understandings, and concepts which will lead them to further learning and creative doing and thinking. The child is perceived as a person whose integrity rests upon the fulfillment of his potentials as a spiritual, as well as a corporal being. Great care is taken to provide for growth in Christian beliefs, values, and attitudes throughout the school program.

During the past year administrators have evaluated their present policies on homework, classroom testing, and the standards for accepting students' work. These policies have been discussed with staffs, underscored, and in some cases revised in setting standards that will challenge students to become all they are capable of becoming.

In addition to reemphasizing high standards and ex-

pectations, attention has also been given to early detection of learning disabilities as a means of decreasing potential learning problems. Each school is required to administer a pre-k testing program with design for follow-up instruction and evaluation. During the current year the diocese will finalize policy in this regard. Along with this, continued emphasis will be placed on early childhood education. Monitoring of "Project Cope", a nationally validated preschool curriculum, will continue in 16 schools in the diocese.

Emphasis on the humanities is also being given consideration. This Fall, the diocese will issue a new art guideline for use in all schools. In addition to this, work is beginning on the development of a music curriculum.

While Catholic education has always maintained a clear emphasis on moral values it is in our own day that the Church has proclaimed most explicitly that peace and

justice are at the core of the Gospel and that education for peace and justice is at the core of Catholic education. Consequently, the Education to Justice Steering Committee will continue to work with individual schools in developing curriculum plans.

In addition to this, our current sex education curriculum is under revision, and plans for expanding a pilot project on serving the needs of gifted and talented students is underway. The development of diocesan-wide implementation of metrication is also a priority item this year.

As we begin the new year we also have a new report card format for students in grades 1-8 and for the first time, a diocesan kindergarten report card. We are pleased with the interest and cooperation of parents, teachers and administrators in the development of curriculum projects.

## Nazareth College Plans Special Year

Nazareth College's year-long program of special events will include dedications of two college facilities; a conference on the changing roles of men and women; a college information night; and return performances by The Acting Company.

Dedication of the college's new Casa Italiana will be held Friday, Sept. 29, 1:30 p.m. followed by an open house, 2-5 p.m. Alessandro Cortese de Bosis, consul general of Italy will be the honored guest.

Dr. Thomas Culliton, noted reading specialist from Boston University, will be guest speaker for the dedication of the Marie Callahan Reading Clinic, Thursday, Sept. 28, 7:30 p.m. He will deliver an address on reading at the Otto A. Shults Community Center.

Co-equal Education Conference activities begin on Sept. 25, 8 p.m. in the Nazareth Arts Center with two guest speakers: Brenda Feigen Fasteau, former coordinator of the American Civil Liberties Union Women's Rights Project and her husband, Marc Feigen Fasteau, author of "The Male Machine".

Fifty private colleges, including all local schools, will be represented at College Information Night, 7-10, Sept. 27 in the Otto A. Shults Community Center. The event, which is sponsored by the Catholic College Coordinating Council, is an informative meeting for college-bound high school students and their parents.

Three plays by the Acting Company will open the 1978-79 Nazareth Arts Center season. The nine show series of dance, theatre and mime will include performances by Vincent Price, Maureen O'Sullivan and the Alvin Ailey Repertory Ensemble. The Sunday Afternoon series will provide free entertainment ranging from Shakespearean drama by

Richard Wordsworth to calypso music.

Dr. Lewis Thomas, chief executive officer of the Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and author of "Lives of a Cell," will be the keynote speaker at a seminar on the college library, Nov. 7. Activities for the day will include dedication ceremonies.

In addition to special events, a full varsity schedule for the basketball, swimming, volleyball and tennis teams will round the year.

The conference is designed to prepare young men and women for new lifestyles. Activities planned for the month include workshops, films, plays and art shows centered on the theme of the changing roles of men and women.

### Alumna Joins St. Ann's

Hornell—St. Ann's School will be greeting two new teachers who themselves graduated from St. Ann's when school opens Sept. 6.

Graduates Barbara Lawrence and Margaret Dempsey will be joining the school's faculty.

Ms. Lawrence will be the first grade teacher, replacing Sister Denise who retired, and Ms. Dempsey will be the fourth grade teacher.

Sister Mary Ambrose, school principal, reports that the school's curriculum will be basically unchanged from last year, and that the enrollment also has remained steady.


The school will have full-day sessions beginning on the first day, she noted, with the school's kindergarten meeting in the morning.

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