RapAround RapAround RapAround RapAround

Young Volunteers Make Parish CCD Programs Click

By JOAN M. SMITH

David Faraone, director of Youth Ministry over at St. Theodore's, was well pleased with this summer's parish Vacation Bible School. It was the second year for the school program and he attributed two facts for its success: the blending of ages rather than having the children segregated by age groups; the dedicated efforts of the 15 young adult CCD volunteers, all students of Gates-Chili High School.

The rapport these young adults achieved with their elementary school charges came through loud and clear throughout the summer sessions. No matter what was planned for them, the children were only too happy to be a part of it. They weren't, however, the only ones to benefit from the venture. The volunteers, themselves, considered their time with the youngsters a learning experience.

"I've learned a lot from the kids," explained coordinator Brad Mykins. "I have had no problem relating to them."

Aside from his CCD commitments to St. Theodore's, Brad who is a junior, plays offensive tackle for the Gates-Chili Spartans, is a member of the school's literary club and has played in the band.

Fellow coordinator, senior Mary Jo Cannito, stated that her learning experience with the children had been one of patience.

"They're really enjoyable," she said noting, "They really get into things."

Another coordinator, sophomore Nancy Loverde laughingly agreed. "You have to keep up the activities," she said, "and realize they can't sit still for long."

Due to the enthusiastic involvement of the volunteers, sitting still wasn't a problem. Besides bible reading and study, there were scripture plays, time for snacking, all sorts of activities including sports, arts, crafts and cooking. There were also special visitors such as Red Cross reps and the fire marshall who spoke on safety. There were field trips to Channel 13 and 21 along with picnics and Masses. The youngsters even became involved in community service, visiting Dunn Towers and singing for the residents.

In talking with volunteer Kathy Kwarta, she admitted to thoroughly enjoying her summer with the children "They were happy and fun," she exclaimed.

Kathy will be a freshman at Gates-Chili this September. Although she's nervous about the step into high school, she's anxious to set out a pattern for the future. This mature line of thinking best characterized all the volunteers — their awareness of responsibility.

It was a happy time this summer for those youngsters who attended St. Theodore's Vacation Bible School. But as shown in the photos, the high school counselors had as good time as their charges. On right, Paula Blackman, reaches tall, as she follows Brad Mykins' example in miming a song. Below, sophomore Bob Satter indulges in some horseplay with Melissa Janicki (on shoulders), Mike Scanlon and Jeff Bucci. Melissa said that summer school had been fun because of the arts and crafts and they had learned so much. She voiced everyone's opinion when asked how she had found the counselors — "They're all nice," she smiled.

Photos by Terrance J. Brennan

Mooney Graduate to Head St. Agnes Sport Program

By JOAN M. SMITH

Janis LaVigne is the new athletic director at St. Agnes High School.

She was only four days on the job as successor to Barbara Coppini when RapAround interviewed her — consequently her athletic program and its coaching staff were obviously incomplete at that time.

Last year St. Agnes fielded teams in only three sports: volleyball, basketball and softball.

A fourth possibility, LaVigne says, is soccer.

LaVigne was graduated in June from William Penn College, Oskaloosa, Iowa, where she double majored in physical education and home economics.

She ran cross country and played volleyball, basketball and softball in addition to participating in track.

She's a Cardinal Mooney graduate where she lettered in soccer, field hockey, basketball and softball.

While her predecessor co-coached the three major St. Agnes sports in the past, LaVigne wasn't certain at press time, but believes she will probably be doing the same thing.

There were no All-Catholic girls' all-star teams when LaVigne played at Mooney, but she did attend a few basketball camps out of town — Hartwick College, for one — where she was named MVP and a member of the camp's all-star team.

She admits it will be challenging to experience her initial teaching and coaching job in addition to being an administrator.

But having challenges, she says is good for motivating one's self.

Uniform Project

Due to the increasing cost of uniforms, Bishop Kearney High School is having a next to new uniform sale on Aug. 25, 6:30-9 p.m. and Aug. 26, 9:30-1 p.m. Uniforms to be sold (boys blazers and girls' summer uniforms, blazers, skirts, blouses), can be dropped off at the school, Aug. 21, 6:30-9 p.m. and Aug. 22, 1-3 p.m.

Paper Drive

The Action for People Association of Cardinal Mooney High School is sponsoring their 10th paper drive, Sept. 30, 9-3:30 p.m. in the school parking lot.

Symmex Places In National Honors

Symmex, a Junior Achievement Company counseled by the Gleason Works, placed fourth at the National JA Conference recently held at the University of Indiana. The company previously had been honored as the Rochester Area Company of the Year and then went on to take one of the three top places in Region One, which comprises 12 of the northeastern states.

Michael Brown, president; Julie Schmidt, secretary and Kathy Trodle, treasurer, were the three Symmex officers who competed at Bloomington. Brown is a 1978 McQuaid graduate and Julie and Kathy are students at Our Lady of Mercy High School.

Symmex manufactured and sold solid cherry salt and pepper shakers through the year and in addition secured the contract with the JA office to manufacture the trophies and plaques at the awards banquet in May.

Symmex also presented a special scholarship of $300 to the JA Scholarship Committee to be presented to a qualified achiever.

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JOAN M. SMITH, Editor