

**Editorials**

**Sorry, Boys**

Boys will be boys. Sometimes even after they pass into manhood.

The latest example is provided by two men in Minnesota who complained because they missed part of a Vikings football game on television due to the broadcast of the installation of the new pope.

"We couldn't get the game because all three networks were televising the installation ceremonies of Pope John Paul," one said. "Sacrilege or not, we were burned up."

Another complained that "pre-empting America's favorite pastime was for many asking too much."

This despite the fact that live television of a papal installation is a once in a lifetime event and only God and Pete Rozelle know how many professional football games have been, are being, and will be aired. And keep in mind that these fellas were missing only part of one game — on a day that three or four games were viewable.

Oh, by the way, what makes all of this worth editorializing about is that both of the football fanatics

are priests — one a monsignor and the other the editor of a diocesan newspaper.

It's going to be all right now, boys. No more papal ceremonies to interrupt your games. At least not for a while.

**Good Omen**

Pope John Paul continues to give hope of continuing the progressive postures of his immediate predecessors. The latest example is his appointment of Cardinal Bernardin Gantin as the new president of the Pontifical Council "Cor Unum" (One Heart), the Vatican's coordinating agency for Catholic aid and development projects.

He will add the new responsibility to his roles as president of the Pontifical Commission for Justice and Peace and member of two other Vatican congregations — Evangelization of Peoples and the Causes of Saints.

Cardinal Gantin is the first black to have been considered a possibility for the papacy — at least in modern Church history. Only 56, his name very possibly could come up again for the pontificate in the future.

Pope John Paul's quick selection of Cardinal Gantin for the important Cor Unum leadership shows at once his respect for the African's capabilities and his

openness in promoting the cause of black leadership in the Church.

It augurs well for us all.

**Not 1 Yet**

It is probably incorrect to call the new pontiff Pope John Paul I, the latter part of the appellation, "the first," an unnecessary appendage.

Since there is no John Paul II it is probably improper to have a first, somewhat akin to having a John Smith Sr. before junior is born.

This has been the precedent among the 263 popes of the Roman Catholic Church. For instance, such pontiffs as Dionysius, Mark or Romanus whose names have never been seconded, are listed without any following numeral. And, of course, the best example is St. Peter himself.

However, it should be kept in mind that John Paul is an original in more ways than one. His choice of name underscores this, as well as his reference to himself as the supreme pastor. So if he decides to call himself John Paul I then so it shall be.

As a sidebar, the new pope's name in Italian comes out Papa Giovanni Paolo, quite a mouthful even for the natives. So the efficient Romans use the elision Gianpaolo. That's easy for them to say.

**and Opinions**

**Does E Make Ir Point?**

Editor:

For those who would 'pooh-pooh' the sexist revolution, and the feminists' clout, here is the latest on their ridiculous but effective attempts to neuterize the genders and further their cause to inflict the Equal Rights Amendment upon us all.

In Fort Lauderdale, Fla., the Broward County School Board has decided to "desex" English. If their plan is adopted "he" would become an "e" and so would "she." "Him" and "her" would become an "ir." Alternative language would replace all those sexist words like he, she, him, her, his and hers. Some examples: "Terry Winters is a gifted student who missed ir bus. The janitor finds Terry and takes ir to the guidance office. Q. Why did e miss ir bus? A. E was afraid to go home. Q. Who was e with? A. E was by irself. Q. What did e fear about the bus? A. Ir's mother would be waiting at the bus stop and e had a note from the teacher, etc., etc.

These are the feminists who declare that the ERA is not going to change a thing except the right to "equal work for equal pay." That was the gimmick from the beginning. Desensitize the masses to a point of frenzy on the one issue of equality of work and pay and the rest of the package can be smuggled in with ease.

The unisex trend is their life's work and will not rest until it becomes a universal life style. These die-hard destroyers of womanhood, femininity and motherhood go much further. Every use is being made to desensitize and demoralize public opinion in a subliminal but crafty and highly sophisticated manner called "agenda setting." They have in-

filtrated every available source, columnists, authors, lecturers, writers, who never fail to recall they are dealing with the "masses" and by this method of desensitization and agenda setting, inject their poison into the written and spoken word. Among the lesser known perhaps but equally vehement is Mary Bader Papa who snatches every waking moment to hawk her wares for the ERA cause. We are therefore treated to a dual feast of unisex and ERA propaganda in her obsession with the male influence. Even the Almighty is not spared. The good bishops are grist for her mill as well. In the National Catholic Reporter of June 2, her article ERA's Pro-Family sets the scene with the remark "mercifully May is over." Ms. Papa spews out her venom toward the bishops for squashing an attempt to endorse the ERA and lashes out at them stressing, "This prestigious group of bachelors." Her disdain for them worsens as she insults the Judeo-Christian community who worship God the Father, as she serves to emphasize her envy of the masculine mystique with the following: "Now as for the majority of men who axed this effort to help the endangered ERA, I shall ask God to forgive you. "SHE is, after all, merciful."

I don't know about Ms. Papa's God but mine is an eternal "Father" and Jesus is His Eternal "Son."

Mrs. Michael Hoffman  
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**Appointment Questioned**

Editor:

It is with mixed emotions that Father

Atwell's appointment as interim director of the department of ecumenism will be met by many diocesan. Father Atwell's callous, bitter and vituperative attacks on the institutional Roman Catholic Church and, in particular, on Pope Paul VI must necessarily call into question the efficacy of his appointment. He has a history of great disservice to the Church and the pontiff as reflected in his journalistic writings — however well-intentioned his personal motives might have been in his own mind.

It would indeed be encouraging if assurances were given that he will not use his new position as a soapbox from which to destructively criticize the Magisterium and the Chair of Peter. The continuing dialogue of ecumenism cannot be built on a foundation of willful theological interpretation which deprecates our Patrimony of Faith. It is to be hoped that he will not betray his Bishop or his Church in this new position.

William F. Schmitz  
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**Why Not Whole Plan?**

Editor:

The diocesan Human Life Committee in conjunction with the Office of Family Life will adopt and begin to implement at least part of the National Catholic Conference of Bishops Pastoral Plan for Pro-Life Activities.

The NCCB plan is super — well-researched, clear, explicit and comprehensive. Published in the Fall of 1975 and immediately praised by Catholics throughout the country with knowledge and experience in this area; it was adopted and implemented by most dioceses in the United States.

The NCCB plan would activate three major efforts: education, pastoral and legislative. I compliment Bishop Hogan and the Human Life Com-

mittee for adopting this program. However, I must ask why they are not implementing the entire program or why they do not state that they will implement the entire program in a realistic period of time?

It really makes little sense that Bishop Hogan and the Human Life Committee have deleted the legislative effort recommended by the NCCB plan. The legislative effort and education are so entwined that they are difficult to separate. Secondly, one of the main objectives of the program is to protect the lives of unborn children. Why not immediately direct the people they educate to support pro-life legislation? OHD and the Office of Education do this consistently on the issues that interest them.

Our state has had 10 years to adapt to the pro-abortion mentality. Many laypeople, religious and clergy already indicate a tolerance for abortion. Our young people have had years of population propaganda from social studies and biology teachers and texts, in addition to ZPG and Planned Parenthood speakers. Some of our daughters have been aborted without our knowledge or consent, some of our friends have forced their daughters to abort, and all of us are subsidizing abortion.

The hour is late. Let's begin urging effective action on this issue in this diocese. Let us wholeheartedly adopt the bishops pro-life action plan and enthusiastically implement it in its entirety. Our tolerance for hideous abortion practices is a frightful reflection of an insidious moral degeneration that is taking place within ourselves.

Jeanne D. Sweeney  
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**Traveling Vicariously**

Editor:

I live in a high rise for elderly people. We Catholics in this building

look forward to the Courier-Journal every week.

We especially enjoy "On the Right Side" by Father Paul J. Cuddy. His column is not only inspiring but his description of Ireland on his tours is most

enlightening for us who will never get there.

We thought you might appreciate knowing of our interest in the Courier.

Alice Kaiser  
(For residents of Schwartz Towers)  
Auburn, N.Y. 13021



"YOUR HUSBAND AND CHILDREN ARE HAPPY YOU'VE FOUND AN EXERCISE YOU REALLY ENJOY, MRS. HUTCHISON, BUT THEY'RE WONDERING WHEN THEY'RE GOING TO GET A DECENT SUPPER!"

**Guidelines**

Letters intended for publication must be addressed to Opinion, Courier-Journal, 67 Chestnut St., Rochester, N.Y. 14604.

Expressions of opinions should be brief, no longer than 1 1/2 pages, typed, double-spaced, with names and addresses.

We reserve the right to edit as to length, offensive words, libelous statements, or to reject altogether. Generally speaking, however, only limited grammatical corrections will be made and letters will reflect the writer's own style.

We encourage readers to submit opinions but since we try to print letters from as many different contributors as possible we will publish no more than one letter a month from the same individual.

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