

Around Rap Around Rap Around Rap Around

Equal Time

Will you make New Year resolutions?
ST. AGNES

LISA SAMELA
Senior
volleyball



"Yes. I make resolutions every year but I make them and then after a few months, I forget about them. I'm going to try and be more patient with people and work harder. There's going to be a lot going on in the year 1979 with graduation and college. All my years have been good."

MARY FLOW
Senior



"My resolution is to come to grips with my decisions. I have to make a decision about college. I think a new year is kind of scary because of graduating and going to college but I'm looking forward to 1979."

CATHY NOLAN
Junior
4-H Club



"I generally make resolutions then tend to forget what they were. 1979 is going to be a better year. I intend to put more effort into looking for a job and I want to do better on my midterms — not cramming like other years. New Year's Day is my birthday!"

KATHY LYND
Sophomore



"Probably. Resolutions are good ideas but people don't keep them very long — just a couple of months. There's nothing special that I'm looking forward to in 1979. I'd like to get my average up in school. I like seeing a new year because you can get a fresh start."

JOYCE PALMER
Senior
Tai Kwan Do



"No. I'm not. I'd rather look back and see what I've already done rather than talk about what I'm going to do. Regarding resolutions, I find people make them and don't bother to keep them. The year 1979 looks like it's going to be a good year for me."

JANET KRESS
Sophomore
WTNT



"Yes. I'm going to try and stop being smart with my parents and take my classes more seriously. I want to achieve better marks in my classes. 1979 looks like it's going to be a normal year for me."

JOAN GEEDY
Sophomore
ski club



"I'm going to study hard and take my classes more seriously and keep up with my grades. The coming of a new year doesn't bother me because it's just another year. I think the world will stay pretty much the same in the year 1979."

CHERYL SANFILIPPO
Senior

Student Senate vice president
"Well, I always make one every year — to lose weight — unfortunately I don't stick to it! I'm sort of sad seeing an old year end and starting another one because I know I'm getting older and I'll have to leave a lot behind but there are challenging things to look forward to. I want to have fun in my college years."

Botanical Giant

There's a tree growing in Nazareth Academy's English Resource room! Back in 1960, an eight inch schefflera plant was moved into room 212 along with several other plants. Some grew and then gradually died — but the schefflera kept growing and growing until it outgrew its planter.

Three years ago a vicious attack of insects threatened the schefflera's life but some careful nursing was able to save it. Today, it stands seven

feet and measures five feet across. The tree adds a beauty of its own to the study area, is a great conversation piece and serves as a natural divider between two sections of the room.

Students have been asking Sister Victoria what she'd do when it reached the ceiling, "cut a hole?" They had their answer last month when the tree did reach the ceiling. But sister found a low stool to put it on, thus giving it another foot of space to expand.

However, a new owner is being sought for the plant — someone who has a high-ceilinged home to offer it.

The schefflera plant, commonly called an umbrella tree, was named for the 18th century botanist, J.C. Scheffler. It is a tropical plant, a native of Australia.

Busing: Agenda Item

The Parents Club of St. Agnes High School has scheduled a parent-faculty tureen supper and meeting at the East River Road school, Jan. 16, 6:30 p.m. Mrs. Kay Roehrig and Mrs. Carolyn St. James have coordinated this meeting as an opportunity to rally city parents of St. Agnes students to the need for legislative action on the transportation issue.

Guest Speaker will be Mrs. Virginia Ouwelken, president and co-founder of the Rochester Chapter of the New York State

Federation of Catholic School Parents. She is currently the youth coordinator of the Church of the Holy Spirit in Webster. Formerly, she was a school social worker for the City School District, where she started the Primary Mental Health Program. She was also one of the five original members of the professional staff of the Residential Treatment Center of the Convalescent Hospital for Children. Mrs. Ouwelken's topic will be, "Wanted: Parents, Alive and Well, or Don't Just Let George Do It."

Winter Concert

Our Lady of Mercy High School is singing in the new year. A winter concert, featuring Glee Club and voice classes, will be performed, Sunday, Jan. 14, 3 p.m. in the school's auditorium.

Sister Marie David will be accompanist and Mrs. Shirley Bezek conductor. Musical selections will range from Christmas songs to Schubert's "Benedictus" to the modern "Love is Blue" and "Freedom".

Soloist Maryann Deisenroth will perform "Coventry Carol".

Social Study Awards

Nazareth Academy's Social Studies Department gives special recognition to outstanding effort and achievement. First quarter achievers who placed highest in their class received awards in Asian-African Cultures, European Studies, American Studies and Street Law. Several others were recognized for particular

projects.

Freshman Lisa Tantalo and Pamela Costello merited honors in their Asian-African course. Sophomore Iris Vierra was honored for her excellence in a peer teaching activity and Ann Rice for her outstanding notebook work.

Juniors Sue De Matteo, Angela Paris, Elizabeth Vargo

and Marcy Fiorica claimed honors for their project on immigrants and Eileen Connelly, Christine Nitzman, Christine Pospula, Kathy Ward, Letizia Bartolone, Lori Napieralski, Ann Saia, Mary Beth Stone, Kathy Fegan, Terri Schirmer, Lisa Walts, Elizabeth, Hinkjeman and Patti Mahns for theirs on American People.

Speaking Out



By CHRIS KOLLER McQuaid

More than anybody will readily admit, we are controlled by the media. When society speaks to us through television or the newspaper, we listen.

In the past five years, however, the media's message has become simpler and simpler; the intellectual level that the media operates on has, in many cases, plummeted.

In newspapers, this lack of intelligence is readily shown in the increased usage of the feature story. The news feature is a prepackaged story or biography written days or weeks in advance for a

newspaper, involving a minimum amount of news and a maximum amount of "human interest". One section is devoted to features, the local sections are quickly becoming devoid of all local news as such. Recently, features have started to appear on front pages of newspapers.

This trend towards a lower intelligence level within the media is epitomized by the trivial magazines in the country today. These magazines supposedly introduce one to today's celebrities and interesting people but they are slickly produced gossip columns; articles ridiculously short and written for people with a fourth grader's attention span.

We regard ourselves as an intelligent, civilized culture which has achieved much on earth. However, if we were to be destroyed tomorrow, and one thousand years from now some anthropologist came poking along, trying to reconstruct our society, what would he think if he were to come upon tapes of our popular television programs? Can we honestly say that we are proud to be a part of the culture that has inspired

"Mork and Mindy", "Wonder Woman" and "The Incredible Hulk"?

Without a doubt, the mindless television programming of today is the worst product of the media. Completely devoid of any vestige of intelligence, these shows feature ridiculous plots, vapid dialogues, and absurdly shallow characters. These shows fail to be intellectually stimulating and aren't executed well enough to be escapism. These are generalizations, of course, but mature, intelligent shows are infrequent among the major networks.

The reason that I find this lack of intelligent communication so distressing is because the ordinary human being is a sensitive, astute person capable of considerable intelligence. Why he should accept such emptiness as "The Love Boat" is a frustrating question. As long as we, the public, continue to watch and read such banality without complaining, the masters of the media will continue to shovel it to us; like a mother spoon feeding her infant horrible, tasting strained prunes. Eventually, he will rebel and so I hope, will we.



Winners Circle

RapAround weekly will run a photo of a group of students taken somewhere in the diocese. One person will be circled and if that person brings the clipping to the Courier-Journal before noon of the Tuesday following our publication date, he or she will receive \$5. This week's photo was taken at Geneva DeSales during lunch. The person circled above should bring the clipping to the school office to be forwarded to Joan M. Smith, Courier-Journal, by noon Tuesday, Jan. 16 to receive \$5.