



Renee Brault, James Michaelsen and Terrance Brennan after the presentation of awards at the Rochester Safety Council's celebration.

Courier Staffers Cited for Courage

Last Thursday, 200 people gathered at the Rochester Chamber of Commerce for an awards luncheon, sponsored by the Rochester Safety Council, to pay tribute to six heroes. Among those honored were Courier-Journal employees James Michaelsen, composer, and Terrance J. Brennan, photographer.

Michaelsen earned the

Meritorious Service Certificate and Brennan a Letter of Commendation for their courage and quick actions in what Rochester Police Capt. Charles Price called "an inexcusable knife attack."

Both young men, on their way to work Feb. 15, witnessed a stabbing on Chestnut Street. While Brennan raced to the victim's aid, Michaelsen pursued the assailant,

cornered him and held him at bay until police arrived.

The victim, Renee Brault, who was on hand at the ceremonies to present the awards, said she was fine and "very thankful" for their actions.

Regarding his award, Brennan said he hoped it wasn't made so much to honor his courage as his instincts because he explained, "In terms of courage the one who deserves the award is Renee because I think it takes special strength to be able to walk the same street again."

Michaelsen declared he felt good about receiving the award adding, "it's a once in a lifetime thing . . . I hope!"

Other recipients included Thomas Parnell, Richard Courtright, Arthur Plouffe, and Joseph Alarie. The William Keeler Award was presented posthumously to the former Rochester Fire Marshal, Morton Fink.

K of C Notes 75th

Newark — The Knights of Columbus, Council 897, recently celebrated their 75th anniversary with a special dinner at the Newark Rowntowner. Rep. Frank Horton delivered the main address of the evening.

The program included an invocation by Father Eugene Sweeney, and a closing prayer by Father Joseph McDonnell, pastor emeritus of St. Michael's Church.

John Crescibene, grand knight, also spoke at the dinner, and Francis "Pat" Smith acted as toastmaster.

The evening honored both past grand knights of the organization and the memory of the charter members, who first banded together on May 30, 1904.



Sister Mary Elizabeth Stewart, SA, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Stewart of St. Lucy's Parish in Retsof, made her first profession of vows on May 26 in the Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement, Graymoor, Garrison, N.Y.

Survey to Influence Paluch Music Selections

Several diocesan parishes are among the more than 600 nationwide which are participating in a program conducted by the J. S. Paluch Company to aid that company's selection of songs for its monthly missalettes. The Paluch missalettes are used by many diocesan parishes.

First the parishes in the program were asked to evaluate songs from a list of 71 new selections. Each parish received tapes of about 25 songs, and sheet music. The opinions of each parish's choir directors and others involved in music for the parish were asked.

From those responses, a booklet was printed with 26 songs, which was recently sent to the parishes.

Mrs. Theresa Pierotti, the choir director at St. Vincent DePaul, Corning, reported that she and the organist, Mrs. Thomas Ward, and some choir members, evaluated the songs during the first phase of the program. The parish now has the booklets, she said. She and Mrs. Ward taught some of the new songs to the students in the school, she reported, and during the summer, they will begin teaching them in church. They will be looking to see how the congregations like the new songs, she said.

Father Albert Cason, a co-pastor of St. Patrick's, Owego, noted that the parish music

director, Authur Pare, and several others evaluated the tapes of the new songs that were received during the winter. They just received the booklets, he said, and will probably begin using them at the end of the summer.

Father Cason noted that the program is "an opportunity to try new songs," and "for us to see if people can relate to other songs than the ones they've known in the past."

Paluch has stated that they intend to use the information they receive to determine selections for the company's missalettes beginning in 1980.

J. S. Paluch himself stated that "We want to be sure that good songs, songs with texts that present Scripture or Christian doctrine in a strong contemporary language, songs with simple and attractive melodies that congregations can sing, get to the people in our parishes. But first we have to be sure that the songs will appeal to the broad spectrum of tastes and skills that are characteristic of any Catholic parish. We just don't know any way to be sure of this except a trial run."

Other diocesan parishes participating in the program's second phase are Holy Spirit, Webster; St. Christophers', North Chili; St. Felix, Clifton Springs, St. Gregory's, Marion, St. James, St. John the Evangelist, Holy

Redeemer and St. Philip Neri, Rochester; Nativity of the Blessed Virgin, Brockport; St. Patrick's, Mount Morris; and St. Vincent DePaul, Churchville.



Father Ferdinand Cisek, a former pastor of St. Theresa Church, Rochester, has been elected a consultant of the Conventual Franciscan Province of St. Anthony of Padua. He is pastor of St. Joseph Church in Mt. Carmel, near Harrisburg, Pa. He was born in Brooklyn in 1914 and ordained in Rome in 1938. Father Cisek spent about nine years here, from 1966 on. Except for the two pastorates, his priestly life has been spent in formation work and as a teacher in high schools run by his order.

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