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OUR 96th YEAR

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Photo by Terrance J. Brennan

Catchy Story

Scott Zimmerman, 17, of McLean, Va., pulls off a neat behind-the-back maneuver during competition in the American Flying Disc Open this past weekend at St. John Fisher College. Some 2,500 spectators witnessed many dazzling Frisbee performances under the hot summer sun, perfect weather for what is becoming one of America's greatest pastimes.

DPC Meet Will Open New Era

By Martin Toombs

The Diocesan Pastoral Council (DPC) will move into a new era in September when it opens the 1979-80 council year.

The Sept. 15 meeting will be the first under Bishop Matthew H. Clark.

And, it will be the first without Sister Mary Ann Binsack serving as executive secretary.

Taking up her duties will be Judith Ann Kollar, a laywoman who brings to the job experience working for four dioceses, including Rochester.

Following a meeting of Bishop Clark and the presidents of the three consultative bodies while in Rome, the new bishop authorized the three groups to resume activities. As there were no elections this past spring, DPC members have been asked to extend their terms by one year. Sister Mary Ann reported that

nearly all have said that they will be able to continue to serve.

Sister Mary Ann's involvement actually goes back four years before the DPC itself. It was in May, 1971, she noted recently, when she was asked to represent the Diocesan Sisters Council on a Pastoral Council Formation Committee established by Bishop Hogan under Bishop McCafferty's chairmanship.

Remembering those four years of committee work, sister pointed out the many questions that had to be answered; no one knew what a Diocesan Pastoral Council should look like. A first proposal for a small group was rejected; work then moved toward forming the existing body, with 50 to 55 members.

In the spring of 1975 she ceased to be a committee member when Bishop Hogan asked her to become the new group's executive secretary.

And it was June of that year when the first DPC

Convocation brought to reality the goal that "people from every part of the diocese" be able to meet with their bishop, sister said.

At that first Convocation she was surprised to see the willingness of the members to work and participate in the council's activities. After four years, she commented, she is "still overwhelmed" by the efforts put forth by the delegates.

That first year there was some wheel spinning, Sister Mary Ann said, and concentration on organizational issues. But those efforts laid the groundwork for later progress.

"All along the way," Sister

Mary Ann said, "the concept of shared responsibility" which the DPC was founded on, "has grown each year."

Now, she commented, the group is "beginning to touch issues that are alive," and will affect the religious life of diocesans.

The DPC's value, she explained, is that it ensures that "the concerns of the diocese are going to be heard," and those concerns can be commented on from the variety of perspectives in the diocese.

"Bishop Hogan should get a lot of credit" for the DPC,

To 2

OBM Stresses Accountability

By John Dash

The Office of Black Ministries, its board and its new executive secretary are assuming a greater advocacy role for black Catholics in the face of the "invisibility, non-accountability and benign neglect," the Church has demonstrated, according to the Rev. Dr. John Walker.

Dr. Walker was recently appointed by the OBM board to fill the vacancy left

by this year's resignation of Father Jerome Robinson, OP, as executive secretary.

A spare man, long active in social justice questions for blacks, singled out the "major eradication of parochial schools," in black neighborhoods as evidence of a "lack of commitment to and a disregard of the aspirations of black parents' wishes for the education of their children."

"I feel that's done more to

add to the lack of confidence in the Church's stand to serve the needs of the black community than anything," he said.

Interviewed last week, Dr. Walker, and volunteer board members Father James Duah-Agyeman, Deborah Mullen and David Huddleston, assented to the proposition that the black Catholic must be drawn into the decision making process of the Church if there is to be any significant advance made in the area of the Church's racial polarities.

And it is to that end that the office and its board has dedicated itself.

Although persons ordained for ministry in other churches are working for diocesan programs at present, Dr. Walker, with his appointment as executive secretary of OBM, becomes the first ordained minister to hold an administrative post with the local Church.

The appointment was made following the board's consultation with Bishop Matthew H. Clark.

On that consultation, Father Duah-Agyeman reported, the bishop acknowledged that he expects the office to "articulate the concerns of the

area's black Catholics." Father Duah-Agyeman also reported that the bishop confessed to never having

To 2 Institute To Open Aug. 24

This Friday, Aug. 3, is the registration deadline for the 1979 Diocesan Liturgy Institute, which is scheduled for Aug. 24-25 at Keuka College, near Penn Yan. Parish staffs and liturgy committee members, liturgical ministers, pastoral musicians and others have received the requisite materials.

Father Eugene Walsh SS of Catholic University of America will deliver the keynote address Friday night and also speak at a plenary session Saturday. "I will bless the Lord... at all times" is the theme of the institute. There will be nine workshops and a general discussion meeting; celebrations of the Liturgy of the Hours and of the Eucharist, and resource displays.

Further information may be obtained from the Office of Liturgy, 716-328-3210.



Photo by Terrance J. Brennan

Lightning Strikes!

The decorative stone work on the front lawn of Sacred Heart Cathedral is what remains of a 700-pound finial knocked off the left corner tower by lightning. The crash came around 7:30 Tuesday night, July 24, and neighbors who saw it quickly carried away the shards as souvenirs, Father Thomas Wheeland said. The problem now is to find a stone-crafter who can work in the Gothic style. The electrical unit of the cathedral organ also was hit, Father Wheeland reported.



OBM members include (seated) Dr. Walker and Ms. Mullen; (standing) Father Duah-Agyeman and Huddleston