

# RapAround



Photo by Joan Smith

Sister Marie, on her way to see what had transpired with her film in the dark room, took time out to discuss academics with Roxanne Miller, Antoinette Elderkin, sophomores, and junior Julie Stubbings.

## They're Off!

Cross country is here and the runners have been lucky with the weather. Last week's meet at Cobbs Hill was held on a sunny 70 degree day. Cardinal Mooney's Mike Testa and Phil Yargau stretch out their muscles, while below, Aquinas trackmen get in stride. Among teams competing were Bishop Kearney, Edison Tech, East, Charlotte, Jefferson, Ben Franklin and John Marshall.



Photos by Susan McKinney



## Students Consider Vice Principal a Friend

By Joan M. Smith

School has only been in session a few weeks and already the students over at St. Agnes have zeroed in on a helpmate, Sister Marie Castagnaro. No matter where the new vice-principal turns there is always someone looking for her — and she relishes it. "My goal," she declared, "is to be a part of the whole community."

Before taking over the duties of vice principal, Sister Marie served five years as principal of St. Paul's grammar school in Oswego. Before that she taught eight years at Guardian Angels School. Although born in Brooklyn she considers herself a Rochesterian. A graduate of Nazareth Academy, she has a BA in History from Nazareth College and a Master's in

Supervision and Curriculum Development from Syracuse University.

Having taught kindergarten through sixth grade and also religious education to grades 7-12, she admitted to missing the classroom. Because of this desire to be personally involved with the students she is more often out in the halls, meeting them, than behind her desk. Come four o'clock, however, and you'll find her office bound where she remains until her work is done.

Sister is enthused about all her activities but especially enjoys talking about her photography. She lays claim to being the official photographer for the congregation, and like all photo buffs, she has gone

from just taking pictures to developing them.

Being in education these 13 years and seeing the changes Sister Marie is definite in her opinion that today's students are different — "a lot of individualism," she noted. She also pinpointed a discovery by educators: "Not all students are college bound, which I don't think is wrong. They're looking for technology," she explained and said programs like the Board of Cooperative Educational services (BOCES) give a choice and the students who choose this route are happy going into a trade.

In speaking of the Catholic schools Sister Marie observed, "We've held our own educationally, turning out students who are top notch."

## Merit Semi-finalist Has Numerous Interests

Elizabeth Hinkelman, a Nazareth Academy senior, has qualified as one of the semi-finalists in the National Merit Scholarship competition. Students qualified as a result of the PSAT-NMSQ tests administered in 1978. Semi-finalists in this program must meet further requirements; obtaining endorsements from their school principal, submitting scholastic records of high standing and taking a second test to confirm their high standing of the 1978 test. Merit scholars are then considered for several scholarships and grants.

Elizabeth, the daughter of Ralph and Carol Hinkelman, is pleased with the nomination, although she readily admits that high test scores are not the only measure of intellect and talent. She sees her success as due, in part, to the fact that she has always recognized what needs to be done in order to succeed in the present educational system. "Usually," she said, "I'm

willing to go along with the system; but that doesn't always mean that I am satisfied with it."

Her scholastic success, she feels, is due largely to the influence of her parents as well as to the challenge of the advanced courses which she has been able to pursue at Nazareth.

Although she enjoys her studies and spends whatever time is needed in order to do assignments well, she is by no means one-sided in her interests. She has been active in the Girl Scouts, folk group, Perisian Choir, Writers' Club, the school literary magazine and newspaper. She is currently interested in social justice issues and is considering becoming involved in drama this year.

### WINNER!

Margo Owens, a freshman at St. Agnes High School, was the recipient of the Winner's Circle \$5 for the week of Sept. 19.

She is considering several New York State colleges through which to channel her interests in language, literature, engineering, psychology and law.

## Speaking Out

By Karen Kuhn Cardinal Mooney

Capital punishment, euthanasia, and abortion are all questions that deal with the moral, legal and religious aspects of life. Each one questions whether one man has the right to take the life of another.

Capital punishment involves the old adage, "An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth," but is this a valid way to pay for a crime? Should a convicted criminal die to make amends for his killings? Does this bring back his victims? And then what if he's later proven innocent? The pros and cons of capital punishment have gone

through the court system for years. Some states have accepted it, others haven't taken a stand. In a sense, wasn't Gary Gilmore (the killer who wanted to be executed in 1977) using the justice system for his own self-destruction. The final question is left up to us.

Euthanasia in the dictionary is defined as the "termination of what may appear to be an unbearable life." The word itself means "good death." This also is a moral question for Christians. The Church has taken a stand against euthanasia — the question — when exactly does the soul leave the body? And yet, if someone is mentally and physically dead — kept alive only by artificial means — don't they have the final right to die in a dignified manner?

The question of when the soul actually enters a body also causes the Catholic Church to be against abortion. Does the mother have the right to terminate the life of a fetus? This fetus is seen by some to be a molecular mass, a developing human with a developing soul, neither of which is whole. To others, those who demonstrate for the Right to Live movement, this fetus is viewed as a human already endowed with a soul. When this life is terminated, the act of abortion is nothing better than a conscious act of murder. Whose rights should be respected? The fetus's or the mother's? And does the fetus have rights? In the end, one way or another, someone's rights will have to be compromised and we will have to answer morally to ourselves and God.



## 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 Our Lady of Mercy during a pep rally. The person circled above should bring the clipping to above on Joan M. Smith, Courier-Journal, by noon, Oct. 9, to receive \$5.