

Joan M. Smith, Editor

The Scottish Connection

By Joan M. Smith



Photo by Joan M. Smith

JA Training

Friday, Nov. 9 was a busy day for Junior Achievement of Rochester. An all-day training session was held at the Chamber of Commerce followed by dinner and a dance. According to JA sources about 250 JA leaders took part in the workshops and discussions regarding the upcoming business year. Above, Peter Veitch a sophomore at Bishop Kearney along with fellow classmates review the day's agenda.

Vicki Harris' Scottish heritage is showing. It has been floating near the surface most of her life, mirrored in her interest in the bagpipes. It finally surfaced a year and a half ago. That was when Vicki, now a sophomore at Nazareth Academy, was driving by the Culver Road Armory and heard the fitting sounds of bagpipes. She stopped to investigate and discovered the Rochester Piper Band. She stayed to watch them practice and struck up a conversation with one of its members, James Jarvie. Her enthusiasm for the bagpipes was so evident that Jarvie, a native of Fyfe, Scotland, offered to instruct her — and there began Vicki's challenge of mastering the pipes.

"It's a totally different type of instrument," she noted, adding, "I used to play the violin and it's a far cry from that."

In the beginning, it was necessary for her to start learning on the chanter, (the part of the bagpipe provided with finger holes for playing the melody). She spent the better part of a year on it



VICKI HARRIS

before graduating to the pipes, and she admitted that even after six months on them she is still developing the technique.

"You don't become a good piper just like that, it takes time," she said, noting there were times when she became discouraged.

Since taking up the pipes, Vicki has joined the Piper Band and described the group as more of a street band rather than a competition one although they have performed at the New York State highland games in Bath and Liverpool. During the summers they are kept busy performing in firemen parades and have given performances for the Canal Town Days in Palmyra, University of Rochester celebrations, and at the Genesee Country Village.

The bagpipe, besides being a difficult instrument to play, demanding "a lot of lung power", is also a temperamental one. It needs to be warmed up at least 15 minutes before the piper performs. It also demands physical care like seasoning the bag with a liquid substance that Vicki referred to as "gook, and smells terrible!" This substance is heated and poured into the bag which makes the leather more supple.

Vicki counts herself fortunate to have been able to purchase a set of bagpipes right from Scotland through Jarvie who recently visited his homeland. Her set, and bagpipes differ — Irish pipes can have bellows and only one drone — has three drones, one base and two tenors which provide the harmony; the chanter and the bag. According to Vicki, the cost can range from \$350 to thousands of dollars.

She has many melodies she favors playing but singled out "Amazing Grace" as the most beautiful and which she played for the Nazareth Ethnic assembly last week.

Though she is kept busy with the bagpipe, the band and as treasurer of the Student Council, Vicki holds onto a very special dream; "To take my pipes over to Scotland," she wistfully said, "and play in the highlands."

But lest we forget — there is another side to Vicki Harris. She is also of German ancestry. Is there another challenge waiting for her in learning to play the glockenspiel?

On The Go

AQUINAS
Saturday, Nov. 17 —
APA Card Party, 8 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 18 —
Football Banquet, Dandrea's
Restaurant, 7 p.m.

BISHOP KEARNEY
Thursday, Nov. 15 —
Parent-teachers meeting, 7-9
p.m.
Friday, Nov. 16 — Fall
play, "Stardust", 8 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 17 —
"Stardust", 8 p.m.
Monday, Nov. 19 —
Thanksgiving Liturgy;
Marching Kings perform at
Xerox; parent-teacher
meeting, 7-9 p.m.
Tuesday, Nov. 20 —

Senior Pax Day, A221;
Parents' Club mailing.
Wednesday, Nov. 21 —
Thanksgiving vacation.

CARDINAL MOONEY
Thursday, Nov. 15 —
Freshmen girls retreat;
AFPA Oxfam Fast; Follies.
Friday, Nov. 16 —
Follies.
Saturday, Nov. 17 —
Cheerleaders convention,
gym, 9-5 p.m.; Dinner
theater, Follies party.
Sunday, Nov. 18 —
Follies matinee, 2 p.m.
Wednesday, Nov. 21 —
Report cards distributed.

DESALES
Wednesday, Nov. 21 —

Bishop Clark to celebrate
Mass of Thanksgiving.
Nov. 22-23 —
Thanksgiving recess.

MCQUAID
Monday, Nov. 19 — Red
Cross Bloodmobile.
Wednesday, Nov. 21 —
Key Awards assembly;
dismissal, 1:28 p.m.

NAZARETH
Thursday, Nov. 15 —
Junior class meeting,
auditorium; school pictures.
Friday, Nov. 17 — New
York State School Music
Association Festival, East
High School.; garage sale
set-up, 1-10 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 17 —
Garage sale, 9-4 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 18 —
Garage sale, 12-4 p.m.;
clean-up, 4-6 p.m.
Monday, Nov. 19 —
Parent meetings, 2-5 p.m.;
Music department meeting.
Tuesday, Nov. 20 —
Thanksgiving Liturgy;
parent meetings, 6:30-9:30
p.m.; department meetings.
Wednesday, Nov. 21 —
Church classes in-school
field trip, 9:30-11:15 a.m.;
blood drive, 9:30 a.m. - 3:30
p.m.; English, Religious
Studies and Art department
meetings.

NOTRE DAME
Blood bank, 1-3 p.m.;

assembly.
Friday, Nov. 16 — World
Hunger Day; end of first
quarter; play performance of
Charlie Brown.
Saturday, Nov. 17 —
Charlie Brown performance.
Sunday, Nov. 18 —
Sophomore class pancake
breakfast, 9-1:30 a.m.;
Future Secretaries
Association installation tea,
2 p.m.
Monday, Nov. 19 —
Report card marking; Board
of Governors meeting.
Nov. 19-20 — Teacher
conference days.
OUR LADY OF MERCY
Thursday, Nov. 15 —
Assembly; Fall musical,
"Irene".

Nov. 16-17 — Fall
musical, "Irene".
Tuesday, Nov. 20 — SGA
meeting.
ST. AGNES
Thursday, Nov. 15 —
Human Development
meeting; hunger banquet.
Nov. 15-17 — "Thieves
Carnival" performance, 8
p.m.
Thursday, Nov. 15 —
Free admission for senior
citizens for play.
Saturday, Nov. 18 —
Open House.
Tuesday, Nov. 20 —
Baked food sale sponsored
by Girls Athletic
Association.
Wednesday, Nov. 21 —
Magazine drive holiday.



St. Agnes Welcomes Visitors

Sunday, Nov. 18, is Open House at St. Agnes High School. There will be tours, 7-9 p.m., for visitors to visit various academic and extracurricular demonstrations, with opportunities to meet school personnel. Above photo shows students participating in a balloon launch during their recent celebration of the school's 40th anniversary.

RapAround Rep Named Good Citizen

Eileen Connolly, Raparound coordinator, has been named Nazareth Academy's "Outstanding Citizen" in the 1979 competition sponsored by the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution. She will receive a pin from the Irondequoit Chapter, DAR, and a Certificate of Award from the National Society.

She along with other local contestants must answer a questionnaire under the supervision of the sponsoring chapter in order to be eligible to compete in the district, state and national titles. The state winner will receive a pin and a \$100 bond; the other nine district winners will receive a \$50 bond; and the National Good Citizen will be awarded a \$1,000 college scholarship and an engraved sterling silver bowl.



EILEEN CONNOLLY

The contest, open to boys and girls in the senior classes of private and public accredited high schools, stresses the qualifications of dependability, service, leadership and patriotism.

BK Sales Hit Peak

Bishop Kearney students sold a record high of \$72,000 in their recent school magazine drive. Top sales persons were: Tom Murant, Mike Norton, Therese Durman, Lorraine Kolupski, Jeff Brown, Christine Tucker, Amy Joslyn, Tracy Romano, Mike Piant, Paula Rentschler, Barbara Bement, and Roxanne Aiello.

Profits from the sale will be used for the school's education program, student retreat projects, and to help finance the new school computer.

Early Deadline

Because of the Thanksgiving holiday, the Courier-Journal deadline for the Nov. 28 issue will be Tuesday, Nov. 20.