

Col. Schaefer Receives Warm Hometown Welcome

By Joan M. Smith

Rochester paid tribute to a favorite son last week. Col. Thomas Schaefer, who spent 444 days as a hostage in Iran, returned to his hometown, Feb. 3, and the Catholic community was out in force to contribute to the celebration.

The Bishop Kearney Marching Kings gave him a musical welcome at the airport and performed in the official ceremonies at the War Memorial. Auxiliary Bishop Dennis W. Hickey also was on hand at the War Memorial where he joined Rabbi Shamai Kanter, representative of the Jewish Community, and Canon James B. Prichard, Episcopal Diocese of Rochester, in offering the prayers of Thanksgiving.

Numbered in the enthusiastic audience which included Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, members of the military, and city and county dignitaries, were Sister Lucetta and eighth grade pupils from Holy Ghost School. Further down the aisle, waving American flags, were junior high pupils from Sacred Heart school. They were accompanied by Sister Sheila Luber, SSI, principal, and their teachers. The pupils were eager to talk about their awareness of the hostage situation. The girls said they had read everything about the hostages since Day One and were ecstatic that their optimistic opinion that the hostages would definitely be released had proven true.



Photo by Joan M. Smith

A happy, proud Col. Schaefer spoke to those who braved the cold and attended the ceremonies at the War Memorial welcoming him home. Bishop Dennis W. Hickey represented the Diocese of Rochester.



presented Col. Schaefer with greeting cards from an eighth grade class in Penfield. Afterwards, a smiling Mary Lyons told this reporter that the greetings had come from her GCD class at St. Joseph's school.

American duty and pride was the theme behind Col. Schaefer's remarks, and those

in uniform (policemen, Marine and Air Force personnel) seemed to stand a bit straighter as he spoke. In discussing their ordeal in Iran he said, "We are not heroes, not one of us — we did a job that would be expected of any American."

Bishop Hickey closed the ceremonies with benediction.

'Sexometer' Unveiled As NFP Instrument

London (RNS) — An electronic "Sexometer" that can signal to women their fertile and infertile periods has been developed, a research official reported here.

The device was developed for the World Health Organization (WHO) for use in developing countries with population problems, said Dr. Heinz Wolff, head of the

British Medical Research Council's Clinical Research Center, and a member of a WHO panel on contraception.

He said the device is simple to use, requiring only that the woman place a small electronic sensor in her mouth every morning to take her temperature. The sensor transmits the temperature to a miniature computer which stores the daily information.

"When the 'safe' (infertile) period in her cycle is reached, the computer activates a green 'go-ahead light,'" Dr. Wolff reported. He said the meter can be equipped with an additional circuit to "activate an alternative red light to advise when the optimum phase for conception has been reached."

Dr. Wolff said the device is in production for testing at family planning clinics and is expected to go on trial in British clinics this year.

The electronic Sexometer is based on temperature changes which accompany a woman's monthly reproductive cycle. Studies have shown that the temperature changes can be used as an accurate indicator of the days when a woman is fertile and conception is most likely to occur, and those periods when she is infertile and conception not expected. This knowledge is already being used by followers of Natural Family Planning.

\$100,000 Raised For Italian Relief

More than \$100,000 was raised in this area for the relief of the victims of last year's earthquakes in Italy.

Vice Consul of Italy, Arthur Anzalone, in Rochester.

Two distinct efforts, one by the Diocese of Rochester and the other by an ad hoc civilian group, raised \$37,040.45 and \$75,000 respectively.

The committee also said that a special group of five people will travel to Italy at their own expense to distribute the funds.

In the diocesan effort, headed by Father Joseph Reinhart, all monies received are forwarded to Catholic Relief Services which in turn aids the earthquake victims.

Scout Awards Given

The Boy Scouts of America honored 11 scout leaders with the highest award presented to adult leaders recently. The Silver Beaver Award presented by the Otetiana Council Boy Scouts of America, went to Dorothy DeRomanis and John Ling Jr., Rochester; Ellen Neisner and Robert N. Wilson, Brighton; Juanita Ashman and Donald Deussen, Spencerport; Edward Keiser, Greece; Randy DeFrank,

Irondequoit; Robert W. Belt and Frank Lisuzzo, Gates; and John Newberry, Webster.

Each year the Otetiana Council recognizes outstanding scouting volunteers with the presentation of the Silver Beaver Award. The award is based on leadership, guidance and devotion to the ideals of scouting and is the highest bestowed on adult scouters by the council, a scout release said.

Insights In Liturgy

By Father Thomas Nellis



present in the midst of his people so that once again he can offer his sacrifice of praise through us, with us, and in us. The "thanks and praise" we are privileged to offer to God in the Mass is nothing less than Jesus' own love for his Father, now transplanted and rooted in our poor, human hearts.

Reflections of A Presider

The introductory of the Eucharistic prayer comes to mind as a good summary of what presiding at Eucharist means to me. Each of the presider's three exhortations the people evoke a different aspect of his role.

(1) "The Lord be with you." The Eucharistic liturgy is essentially a social affair. It is not my personal prayer to God at which other people just happen to be present. It is our prayer, our celebration of the Lord's death and rising.

As presider, I certainly have a special and unique role to play in offering that prayer and leading that celebration. But unless the people of God actively involve themselves in the sacred action, I have failed in my duty as a priest.

(2) "Lift up your hearts." If the people are able to respond truthfully, "We have lifted them up to the Lord," it will be not only because I, as the presider, help them by preaching an effective homily and by proclaiming the Eucharistic prayer with devotion, but also because I support and coordinate the other

ministries necessary for a fruitful celebration of the Eucharist.

Friendly ushers, competent servers, enthusiastic readers, beautiful music, attractive vestments and furnishings, an adequate sound system — all these and more enter into the work of disposing God's people for prayer. Therefore, concern for these things is an important part of my role as presider.

(3) "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." When I utter these words at Mass I sometimes have the sense of being at the very center of the universe, where heaven is joined to earth and time enters eternity. Jesus, the High Priest of the New Covenant, is about to become sacramentally

How wonderful, how awesome, how hopeful is that solemn invitation of the presider, "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." By offering here on earth the sacrifice of the Cross we take part in that heavenly liturgy where Christ sits forever at God's right hand, making intercession for us. We anticipate that moment when the kingdom of this world will become the kingdom of the Lord and of his Christ, and every creature in the universe will join the angels and saints in singing: "To him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, be praise and honor, glory and might, for ever and ever." (Rev. 5:13)

(Father Thomas Nellis is the associate pastor for the community at St. Cecilia's Parish, Rochester.)

FREE MILK PROGRAM

The United States Secretary of Agriculture has announced new income guidelines to be used by schools participating in the Special Milk Program and/or Free Reduced Lunch Programs in determining a child's eligibility for free and reduced price meals and/or free milk. These new guidelines become effective by March 2nd. The guidelines are available at the schools for all parents.

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