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Joan M. Smith, Editor

The Problem with Rock Concerts

By Joan M. Smith

Our culture, according to Sister Sheila Briody, St. Agnes chaplain, is ritual-prone and as such has produced the rock concert. "And if it weren't rock concerts," she said, "we'd have something else."

Sister explained that the rock concert provides a forum for the young set to be together. But this type of forum, since its emergence from its sub-culture status of the 60s to its recognized place in today's culture, has achieved a bad reputation.

Because of audience

behavioral problems there have been times when concerts have been heavily monitored by law enforcement agencies, cancelled, and have led to riots. The questions are why? and what can be done about it?

The answer to what can be done is Rochester's Heads on Straight (HOS) organization of which Sister Sheila is a member.

Dan Schey is HOS project coordinator and the group involves 100 trained volunteers, age 15-44, with 50 more members being trained. They work the War Memorial

during rock concerts. Their job: to be of assistance when there are alcohol, drug, and emotional crises.

The HOS philosophy is to be non-judgmental and not to force their assistance on anyone. Their goal is to involve concert goers, themselves, with the plight of their troubled companions.

According to Schey, when the group first became operable, they would notice that if a group member was having a problem they would be left by their peers to sit it out. Now, said Schey, people are beginning to take responsibility for their peers and to help them out with the aid of HOS volunteers.

HOS has a room set aside

away from the arena to where those needing assistance are taken. Medics are on hand to give an examination and to check vital signs every 10 to 20 minutes. Usually, according to Schey, a few hours with this type of care, the person is back to normal. There are times, however, when the person has to be taken to the hospital, an action usually not taken unless as a last resort.

Schey recalled one such case involving a 15-year-old who had taken what she thought to be marijuana. It turned out to be PCB, "angel dust." When HOS volunteers found her, she was crying hysterically and couldn't talk or stand.

"Your head can be going a

mile a minute," Schey explained about the drug that can work both as a stimulant and depressant.

After four hours in the HOS recovery room, her condition remained unchanged and she had to be transported to the hospital.

Regardless of drug abuse situations, alcohol is still the number one problem, said Schey. "Eighty-four per cent of those I see in the room are on alcohol," he said.

But no matter the percentage of alcohol as opposed to drugs, the question remains — why are such problems synonymous with rock concerts?

"Alcohol and drugs have become more acceptable to the younger set," Schey said. Another reason, he added,

was that so many of the entertainment groups promote the partying attitude.

HOS has become a success through community involvement and coordination between Memorial officials and the police department. Also, concert goers have become aware of the HOS volunteers and acknowledge them.

"It was obviously a surprise to many of the St. Agnes students to see me at a concert and on their territory," Sister Sheila, "but I felt accepted by them."

As far as the volunteers, Schey is proud of them and their work. "There's only one word to describe the volunteers," he said, "beautiful."



Music Through the Ages

This Friday and Saturday, May 8-9, the McQuaid parents will present their annual Spring musical at 8 p.m. This year's production is "He and She" and is being directed by Father William O'Malley. Above, he gives a pointer to cast members Judy Soha, front left; Diane Parrinello; Cookie Knight, and Kay Mahar, standing rear left. Reserved tables or seats are available for \$3 by calling Betty Connelly at 244-0969. Unreserved bleacher seats at \$1.50 are available at the door.

Coyne to Exchange Mercy Blue for Navy Blue

By Joan M. Smith

It will be "anchors aweigh" for Ellen Coyne this summer. Ellen, a senior at Our Lady of Mercy, has been accepted at the Naval Academy at Annapolis. She will be among 90 women who will make up the 1100-member class of 1986.

Ellen has a soft voice, a ready smile, and an easy manner, but this quietness isn't the whole picture. When asked if she had ever imagined herself as a navy officer, she laughed and said, "I've always had a vision of myself being in uniform and yelling orders at people."

She doesn't have any qualms about entering what was once an all-male fortress. However, the physical requirements, "might kill me," she said. When she reports this summer it will be for two months of boot camp.

Physical exertion, however, isn't new to Ellen. She runs track, plays tennis, runs cross-country and downhill skis.

Aside from her athletic

endeavors, Ellen has been involved in Mercy theater with a performance in the school's recent presentation of Shakespeare's "Midsummer Night's Dream." She is editor of the Mercedes literary magazine, has coordinated school blood drives, is a member of the National Honor Society, received a National Merit Scholarship commendation, and has sung in Mercy's Field Day songfests.

At the Academy she will major in engineering with plans to expand into the aeronautical field.

In explaining the reasons for her commitment to the military, Ellen said they were "the opportunities of travel, the challenges of a disciplined life, and knowing you are working with the best people in the country."

A disciplined life military style can be relentless. Did she

foresee any trouble with it? No problems she said. "I discipline myself to a certain extent," and she credited Mercy with her motivation to do so.

Women attending the military academies have become routine but have raised a hot question about women serving in combat units.

Ellen understands the military's thinking but, "I don't think they have a basis for saying women can't handle combat. I think women react better in emergency situations. And I think the time will come."

Ellen reports to the Academy on July 7. Her next four years will be filled with academic and military matters. There will be cruises where she will become acquainted with ships and the duties required of junior officers.



Ellen plays the recorder, a medieval-type flute.

Ellen will graduate from Annapolis as a commissioned officer with a five-year tour of duty ahead of her and she can't wait to begin it all. She recalled her week's orientation visit to the Academy last summer and told how, because of her excitement, she was up at 5:30 that first morning. "I knew the place had to have some magic," she said.

Shine Those Dancing Shoes

Bishop Kearney High School's junior prom will be held on Friday, May 8 at the Burgundy Basin Inn. Prom theme is "The Best of Times." Music will be provided by Wells Curtis.

Moderators for the event are Mrs. Barbara Spalma and Mrs. Carol Cowan.

The senior ball will be on Monday, June 1, at Marvin's Country Club. Moderators are Sister Yvonne and Father Lawrence Gross.

Exam Set for May 16

The Guidance Department at Nazareth Academy has announced that the second entrance test will be given at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 16. The test will be given to those who missed the January test and wish to enter Nazareth Academy for the 1981-82 school year.

Chamberlain Wins GMI Scholarship

Kelly Chamberlain, a senior at Nazareth Academy, has been selected to attend the General Motors Institute starting September. During the next four years she will train to be an automotive engineer, a career she has aimed for throughout her four years at Nazareth.

Kelly lives with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Chamberlain, in Greece. She plays in the Nazareth Academy and Aquinas bands and is active in her parish cheerleading program.

She has taken five years of math through Nazareth's independent math program and is also taking physics. According to math department chairman, Sister Patricia Sullivan, "Kelly is one of the best math students to come along."

Kelly is also a recipient of



KELLY CHAMBERLAIN

a New York State Regents Scholarship and works at McCurdy's part-time.

Selection for the General Motors Institute is done on the basis of the student's ability and achievement in math and science, and an interview.

On The Go

AQUINAS
May 8 10 — "The Music Man," school auditorium.

BISHOP KEARNEY
Thursday, May 7 — Assembly schedule; dismissal, 1:45 p.m.; faculty meeting.

Friday, May 8 — Olympic Day for freshmen and sophomores; no classes for juniors and seniors; Junior Prom.
Saturday, May 9 — Mothers Club "next to new clothing sale," cafeteria, 9-3 p.m.

CARDINAL MOONEY
Thursday, May 7 — Junior and senior girls' retreat day.
May 8-9 — "My Fair Lady" presentation.

Monday, May 11 — Men's Guild Board meeting.
Wednesday, May 13 — faculty prayer meeting, 4:5 p.m.

McQUAID
May 8-9 — "He and She" presentation, 8 p.m.

NAZARETH
Thursday, May 7 — Band concert at grammar schools.
Monday, May 11 — Student Council speeches.
Tuesday, May 12 — Student Council elections; department head meetings.
Wednesday, May 13 — Student Council elections; class meetings; exams due to department heads.

OUR LADY OF MERCY
Thursday, May 7 — Arts

Festival: Parents' Forum on Drugs and Alcohol, school cafeteria, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, May 11 — Board of Governors meeting, 8 p.m.

Tuesday, May 12 — Faculty meeting, 3 p.m.
Wednesday, May 13 — CAM, CSMC, SGA meetings, 3 p.m.

ST. AGNES
Thursday, May 7 — Senior class baked food sale.
Friday, May 8 — Girls Athletic Association baked food sale.

Monday, May 11 — Class officer elections.
May 12-13 — Freshman retreat.
Wednesday, May 13 — Homeroom moderators meeting.

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