

RAP AROUND

Joan M. Smith, Editor

Getting a Start on College

According to Aquinas Institute sources, students in college-level courses hit a new high this year. There is a total enrollment of 247 students in nine different college-level courses. The number of students signed up for Analytic Geometry-Pre Calculus was so high that an additional section was added.

The courses are taught under two different programs: Advanced Placement (AP), and the Cooperative Program with St. John Fisher College.

The traditional AP program has an enrollment of 87 students in five courses: English literature, biology, calculus, American history and European history. The remaining 160 students are enrolled in the Cooperative Program in four courses: political science, statistics, advanced math and analytic geometry-pre calculus. The Aquinas teachers who teach these courses are adjunct instructors of St. John Fisher. The courses and the grade become part of the college transcript after the completion of one year at Fisher.



Mrs. Tortorella, Eric Trabold, Louis DiFabio, Dan Rodas, and Lance Gonyo in the Advanced Placement English course.

These courses are primarily intended for seniors, but there are some notable exceptions. Last year, 95 percent of the juniors in Joseph Lester's American history honors class earned grades of three on their AP test. This level of achievement is the minimum requirement for earning a college credit. There were also five sophomores who successfully earned college credit in AP European history under

the direction of Thomas Gigliotti.

Aquinas has offered college credit courses for selected students for 20 years. The school is among the 23 percent of the nation's 22,000 secondary schools to offer college-level AP course work. Such programs enable students to be intellectually challenged without going to college. They are also economically advantageous because credit is given without payment of higher college fees.

Math Mysteries Offer Challenge

Members of Nazareth Academy's new math club, Nu Alpha Zeta, are sharpening their wits and pencils as they prepare to do battle with integers (whole numbers), rational numbers and unknowns. The 28 members are math students whose recreation is wrestling with math problems designed to baffle even the most perceptive student.

Moderator Mrs. Carol Gillis explained that the club was entirely student-initiated. "Students approached me one day," she said, "and asked for more challenging work in mathematics to do in their spare time."

In November the club visited Greece Athena to observe a tournament, and wound up entering the competition. While they

didn't come in first, they didn't finish last, either. So on Dec. 16, they entered another tournament and their results were an improvement. "With a little more practice they'll be ready for the trophies," said Mrs. Gillis. "then watch out!"

Members of the club are: Polly Chiang, Michelle Powers, Peggy Wang, Judy Chiang, Lynn Pittaway, Tynise Edwards, Capucine Smith, Emira Woods, Mary Ann Mycek, Kathy Foran, Ermalinda Bonaccio, Chris Gerbino, Laura Hinkelman, Emily Zicari, Sharyn Aguglia, Kim Arsenault, Amy Powarzynski, Adrienne Allen, Patricia Gaffney, Elaine Cornish, Margaret Goodman, Elana Rivera, Kathy Dwyer, Lemilia Powell, Dawn Olszanski, Jeanne Darling, Lisa Streb and Vickey Rowe.

Entrance Exam, Jan. 9

The high school entrance exam for the Catholic high schools will be given at 8:30 a.m., this Saturday, Jan. 9. It will be given at the following high schools: St. Agnes, Aquinas, Bishop Kearney, Cardinal Mooney, McQuaid, Our Lady of Mercy, and Nazareth Academy.

For further information, contact any of these schools by phone or mail. All eighth grade girls and boys are welcome to take the exam.

Winner

Paula Hoak, a freshman at Our Lady of Mercy, was the recipient of the Winner's Circle \$5 for the week of Dec. 16.



Winner's 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 Bishop Kearney in the cafeteria. The person circled should bring the clipping to Joan M. Smith, Courier-Journal, 114 South Union St., by noon, Tuesday, Jan. 12, to receive \$5.

Equal Time

Is your generation one of followers or leaders?

BISHOP KEARNEY

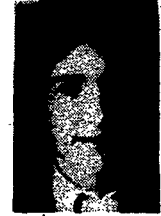
ERIC TRACHTENBERG
Senior
forensics

"I've noted that although teenagers want to consider themselves different, with the spread of conservatism there's a trend among them to think the same conservatism. This makes them followers instead of leaders. They do it differently than adults — they follow with a wider range of possibilities."



CHRIS TOOMBS
Junior
International Club

"I think we were all conformists once, ready to accept the policies of the older generation, but now we're venturing out on our own. Seems like we're growing more and more independent and are functioning as a unit. I think we're constantly setting our own trends."



LORI BIANCO
Sophomore

"We're a mixture. The majority of us are leaders today because a lot of us are determined. The generation today is experiencing many problems. Kids are maturing faster now and through the things that happened while we were young — Iran, Vietnam, drugs — we're determined not to let those things happen again. We've got minds of our own. We've been brought up freer and can think for ourselves and we have a broader education."



CINDY GUSTKE
Junior
gymnastics

"I think we are leaders because we're always trying to change things. In order to change things, you have to have leadership."



BARBARA CALUNEO
Junior
yearbook editor

"I think we're leaders because of all the crises in the world. We have to have minds of our own. We're the next generation so we'll have to solve these problems and do so we're going to have to have leaders. We realize the problems and know we've got to have help in solving them."



TAMMY BRAUN
Junior
yearbook staff

"It depends on a person's parents and friends. If the parents are forceful it will be reflected in the children's personalities. If the friends are leaders the person will pick up the trait. It depends on the teenager's background."



MIKE BOVARD
Junior
gaming association

"I think the teenagers of this generation will be leaders. We may be conformists now, but that will change within the next five or six years. History goes in cycles and I foresee a return to the 60s radicalism. For example, the kids in the 50s were being channeled in certain directions; then there was the social upheaval of the 60s."



GINA HURNY
Junior
volleyball

"I think we're leaders because of all the technology and the fact that we're thinking more of the future than the generations before us did. We think for ourselves rather than follow a mass movement."



A Conducting Whirlwind

Nazareth Academy music teacher Sister Donna Marie Cucci is no stranger to conducting. She has directed the Nazareth Perosian Choir, the Chorus, and the Choral Belles, and along with these songsters has performed on local TV, at various local industries, and for private and public groups.

A few weeks ago she was invited to be a conductor for the second annual Handel's "Messiah" Sing-Along held at the Nazareth College Arts Center on Dec. 20. The real thriller, however, was when the Opera Theatre of Rochester called for her assistance. It seems that the chorus engaged in performing Humperdink's "Hansel and Gretel" scheduled for the Eastman Theatre on Jan. 2-3 could not carry the part. Would Sister Donna Marie's students step in to help?

As a result, seven Nazareth girls appeared in the opera's chorus. They were: Emira Woods, Mary Foley, Amy



SISTER DONNA MARIE

Cady, Gloria Boehm, Brenda Morris, Colleen Neary and Donna Ringholz. Sister Donna Marie also found herself, besides conducting the chorus, singing a minor part in the opera itself.

Sister Donna Marie graduated from Nazareth College and received her MA in music and conducting from the Eastman School of Music.

She has taught and conducted at Nazareth for the past seven years.

More Than Just Teaching

Nazareth Academy faculty used the first semester to get inside the dynamics of teaching with a series of workshops highlighting the non-teaching aspects of education. Starting with the first faculty meeting in September, Sister Elaine Englert, principal, set the theme of "serve the Lord with gladness" and asked teachers to "formulate both personal and professional goals for the year."

Since then the faculty has addressed the process of setting goals and objectives in the light of the mission of education, discussed the mission of Nazareth Academy, and has attended workshops which enable them to use classroom techniques through which they get to know students better in order to help them work through school-related problems.