

RAP AROUND

Don't Mix Your Drinking, Driving

Last Fall, Cardinal Mooney students heard about drinking and driving. As part of a week-long focus on safe driving, Frank Wheeler, supervisor with the Monroe County Medical Examiner's Office, presented a slide show. He stressed the fact that teenagers who drink and drive often become tragic statistics.

According to data compiled by his office, June — the month of proms and graduation parties — usually has the highest number of fatal accidents.

The slide presentation had an effect upon the students. According to senior Dan Timmerman, "It had a tremendous effect on me, and I think it did on everyone else too." He added that because the slides were from recent accidents in the Rochester area they "added to the reality."

Senior Mary Hanna summed up the presentation's message when she said, "No one should endanger innocent people's lives because he



Frank Wheeler talked with student Greg Herzog after his presentation to the Cardinal Mooney health classes.

didn't know when to stop drinking."

The students also viewed a film from the National Council on Alcoholism titled "The Last Prom." It concerned the tragic combination

of immaturity, alcohol, and the automobile.

The program was arranged by Al Cretney, health instructor, as part of the curriculum on the dangers of drug abuse.

They Talk About Marriage

Nazareth Academy seniors in Bernard McCullen's classes on Christian Marriage had the opportunity to hear Frank and Sue Staropoli who, as directors of the Diocesan Office of Family Life, work on a daily basis with married couples.



Frank and Sue Staropoli

Student questions were submitted beforehand to the Staropolis who discussed such topics as parenting, dating, courtship, and the working of marriage. Their message to the students was that every marriage has its ups and downs, and often, expectations before marriage are much higher than the lived reality.

The key to a successful marriage? "Communication is the answer," explained Frank Staropoli. "Without it, no marriage can succeed."

CYO Gets Grant for Teen Jobs

The Catholic Youth Organization received a \$2,800 grant from the Rochester Area Foundation for its Resource Referral Network, a program of information, coordination and referral services in the area of youth employment and

related educational programs. Information about available youth employment programs is obtained by calling the CYO Job Help Line, 232-2420. Agency and school personnel are asked to call Deborah Cummings, project director, 454-2030.



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 Cardinal Mooney during band practice. The person circled should bring the clipping to Joan M. Smith, Courier Journal, 114 South Union St., by noon, Tuesday, Feb. 23, to receive \$5.

Equal Time

Do you think that raising the legal drinking age is a solution to teen drinking?

AQUINAS

ERIC BAUMGARDNER
Junior
boxing

"I think the drinking age limit won't make much difference, especially raising it just one year. If it were raised to 21 it would make a difference because there are a lot of kids under that age who go into bars and can't handle the alcohol. If it's raised to 21 I feel there would be a greater crackdown. Also, if merchants would proof kids, it would be a help. A lot of kids say DWI laws will help, but they still get hammered and drive. Raising the legal age for driving and putting a curfew into effect would help."



RALPH PERROTTA
Junior
bowling

"I don't think raising the drinking age will help, and it's easy for kids to get alcohol. If it's made tougher it won't stop the kids; they'll just be more determined to obtain alcohol. As for the DWI law, I don't think it will stop the drinking but will discourage the kids from driving while drinking. In a sense, raising the legal age for driving might solve the problem but not everyone who drives drinks, and it would be punishing those who don't more than those who do."



TREVOR POWELL
Senior
boxing

"No, because it will only be raised one more year and there are kids more mature at 18 than some people are at 30. The DWI laws are pretty strict but I think there should be an automatic immediate suspension of a license for six months on the first offense rather than a jail sentence or a fine. I think that if you're old enough to get drafted, you should be able to drink."



JIM CALLERAME
Freshman
swimming

"I think it will be another obstacle because alcohol is so easy to get anyway. Like the gun laws in New York City — they make it tough to have a gun but people can get them. Raising the drinking age will make the younger kids more aware. I think the new DWI laws will have an impact because the kids will be more aware of the consequences."



TOM JOHNSON
Sophomore
hockey

"I don't think it will. Kids can go into stores and buy alcohol. They are not checked for age. They also can have others buy it for them. So raising the drinking age limit won't help. If they know that the driving laws are stricter, they'll think about drinking and driving. I don't think they want to kill themselves or anyone else. They're beginning to think responsibly. If they go out to drink they'll have someone else drive."



JIM WHITE
Senior

"I don't feel it will be a deterrent to teen drinking. Alcohol is easily accessible to people of any age from stores selling to under-aged teens, to teens having adults buy it for them. I also feel that if you're old enough to go into the Army you're old enough to drink. I hope the new DWI laws will be a deterrent because drinking and driving is a problem. There are a lot of causes of death but if we can eliminate drunk drivers we'll eliminate a major one."



JIM ALWARD
Sophomore

"I think raising the drinking age is going to stop drinking somewhat, but not all the way. Having a curfew and raising the driving age might stop those on the road who are drunk. But no matter what the laws, teens are going to drink and they will always be able to obtain alcohol."



JOE GIORDANO
Freshman
boxing

"I think bringing the drinking age up will make the teens want to drink more. If teens can't get into a bar, they can get beer by using a false ID. I think the new DWI laws will scare a lot of teenagers but legislation won't stop them from drinking."



Like to Read? Do It for a Good Cause

According to a Genesee Valley/Finger Lakes Chapter of the March of Dimes Foundation, the Gannett Rochester Newspapers, through its Newspaper in Education Program, will sponsor the March of Dimes Reading Olympics. The program is for students in grades one through six.

defects, America's number one child health problem.

During the olympics, each child reads an average of 12 books in one month, just for pleasure. This gives them the opportunity to improve their reading skills while enjoying books of their choice, and to know that they are helping others less fortunate.

olympic standards will be awarded for books read: four to nine books read will earn a bronze; 10 to 19 books will earn a silver; twenty and over, a gold. All participants will be awarded Certificates of Merit and Reading Olympics t-shirt iron-ons.

For further information, call the March of Dimes at (716) 385-1131.

Mrs. George Bush, the vice president's wife, is national chairperson of the 30-day event. She described the Reading Olympics as an exciting way for children in area schools to help the March of Dimes raise funds for the prevention of birth

Participating children sign up sponsors among parents, friends, and neighbors, who pledge money to the March of Dimes for each book the youngsters read. A variety of awards and honors will be given to each student who participates. Medals based the

CANDIES
FUND RAISING
Immediate Delivery
\$ CALL \$
TOM E. KELLIHER
HOME:
(716) 328-1438 or 435-3814