

# RAP AROUND

## SPEAKING OUT

By Beth Palermo  
Bishop Kearney

People are beginning to complain about the sensational media coverage of the private lives of people in the news. There are questions to be asked: Doesn't the press have the right to print? Doesn't the public have the right to know what is going on in the world? Isn't part of being a public figure adjusting to fame? But on the other side: Don't public figures have the right to privacy? Doesn't the media have the responsibility to respect the dignity of the people whom they are reporting?

The private lives of the Royal Family of England are constantly grabbing headlines. Coverage has included photographs of the

pregnant Princess Diana in a swim suit to news of Princess Anne's "imminent divorce" from her husband.

There is the case of Mary Cunningham, a high level executive, formerly of Bendix Corporation. When her rise to the top was rumored to be because of her involvement with the corporation's president, it grabbed headlines. Every facet of her private and professional life was paraded before the public in articles and interviews with friends and acquaintances, until the publicity became tiresome.

The recent death of Princess Grace of Monaco is another example of excess publicity. While she lay in state, television cameras showed closeups of her body. And while her funeral was of world interest, it was unnecessary to show closeups of her grief-stricken husband and children and all the prominent people who

attended her funeral. Perhaps it was fortunate that the Princess's critical condition was so well concealed. Imagine enduring the shock and the serious condition of a loved one while being besieged by reporters and photographers.

There are, of course, benefits of having extensive media coverage. Without the interest of Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein, the Watergate incident might never have surfaced, and the public probably wouldn't have been aware of it.

I support freedom of the press, and I also feel that the public has the right to know about the news. However, I feel that the media must employ good taste and tact when covering personal lives. I believe the media is obligated to respect the dignity of the people they are putting into the spotlight.

## Aquinas Will March In Bigger Competition

After a 10-year absence, according to H. David Martin, Aquinas Band director, the band has rejoined the New York State Field Band Conference and will perform in its first competition, Saturday, Oct. 16, at Hilton High School.

The volunteer services of four Aquinas alumni have helped mold the band into competition form. Ken Brooks, class of '76, and former instructor for the Greece Cadets, Rochester Renegades and Crusaders Drum Corps, is teaching percussion instruments. David Bucklin, '73, a member of the Aquinas State Championship Band of the 70s and color guard instructor for the Hilton Lockport Blazers and the Renegades, teaches

show designer. The 1982-83 band has doubled in size, growing from 40 to 85 members since June. Martin states that the band is enthusiastic and its goal is to bring back the NYS Marching Championship Novice Class from Syracuse in November.

Also lending their talents to the band are David Bruni, former drum major for the Greece Cadets and Rochester Renegades Drum Corps, who is assistant marching instructor, and Vince Bruni, who was the drill designer for the AQ State Championship Band, is band consultant and

show designer.

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Aquinas color guard practices for first field band competition on Oct. 16.

## Oct. 15 Marks Youth Meeting

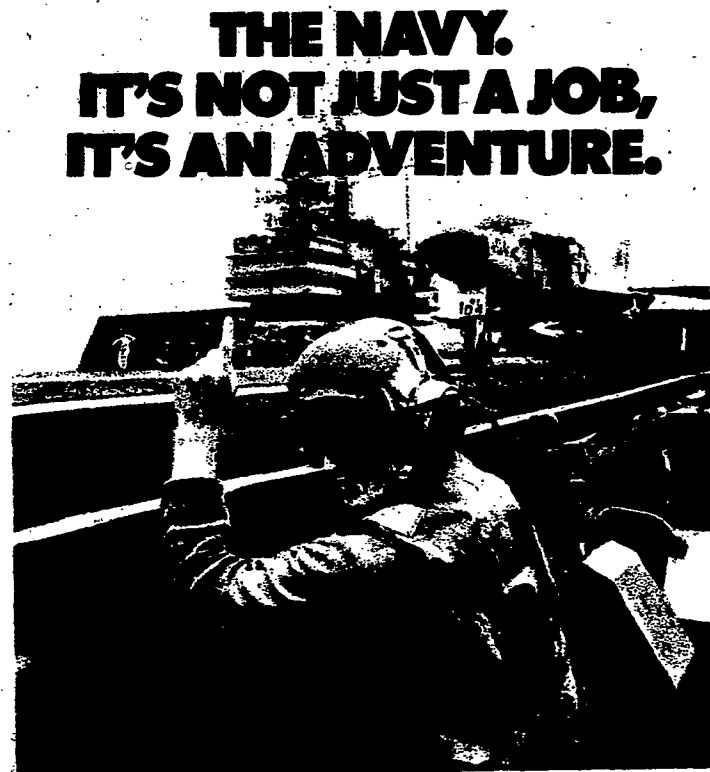
The third annual Diocesan Youth Convocation will be from 7 to 10 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 15, at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 1089 Joseph Ave.

This year the convocation takes on a new direction with the appointment of Patrick Fox as director of Youth Ministry.

The meeting will include presentations from the teen representatives to the Diocesan Pastoral Council and Diocesan Youth Commission. There will be discussion followed by games and refreshments.

The event is designed to

coincide with Youth Day which will take place the following day, Saturday, Oct. 16, at Monroe Community College. Those attending the convocation from out of town will be provided with housing if they choose to stay over for Youth Day. For more information contact Pat Fox at 328-3210.



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