

Rap Around Rap Around Rap Around

Merit Achievers Are Halfway to Goal

Over at Bishop Kearney, Brother Brian Walsh, principal, announced that seniors Gretchen Luchinger and Michael Mendolia are National Merit semifinalists in the 1984 Merit Scholarship competition. Both Gretchen and Michael are members of the BK High School band, the Forensics Club, the yearbook Crown and Sceptre, and the school's literary magazine Orb, of which Michael is editor. Michael has also been involved in Kearney's spring musicals and the Video Club.

In addition to Gretchen's activities she is also a member of the newspa-

per staff and the International Club. Gretchen is the daughter of Paul and Anne Luchinger of Pittsford. Michael is the son of Michael and Rosemary Mendolia of Irondequoit.

Our Lady of Mercy seniors Maris Gerace of Penfield, and Suzanne May of Fairport are also semifinalists in the 1984 National Merit Scholarship Program. The girls are among 21 semifinalists from the Rochester area.

Thomas Giordano, John Kelly and Tammy Ramsey are the Aquinas semifinalists in the competition. Tom, a member of St. Ambrose parish, is the son

of Mr. and Mrs. Alphonse Giordano of Overbrook Avenue.

John is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Kelly of Seneca Parkway and is a member of Sacred Heart parish. Tammy is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bradford Wheeler of Pixley Road.

To reach the semifinalist competition these students scored in the top one-half percent of all seniors in the nation taking the PSAT/NMSQT, the qualifying test for the Merit Program. They will have an opportunity to advance in the competition for 5,000 Merit Scholarships to be awarded in the spring.



They're Bullish on Sales

The Bishop Kearney Magazine Drive is under way. Money raised will be used toward a new guidance and career center, new gymnastics equipment, computer hardware, and to subsidize student activities and athletics. Getting psyched for the biggest drive ever are in front from left, Mark Egeling, Mark Maring; In back are Sister Joyce Whitman, moderator, Jolita Rakutis, Kathy Brown, Cathy Coffas, Amy Freitas and Mike Sciolino. Anyone interested in ordering magazines, records or tapes, or to renew current magazine subscriptions can contact the school at 342-4000.



Officers See Active Year

Aquinas Student Council officers are from left, E.J. Mills, treasurer; Steve Tomanovich, vice president; Rick Gerbino, president; Tom Giordano, secretary. Council events include dances, the boys annual Spaghetti Bowl the girls first annual Powder Puff Game, and a Ham Jam '84. "We plan to give our best efforts to make this school year a unique and memorable one for the Aquinas student body," said Rick.

Artist Takes A First

Brother Daniel Smith, chairman of the Bishop Kearney art department, has announced that senior Kevin Kommeth won first place (\$300 prize) in the regional competition of the nationwide art contest sponsored by the Cheeseborough-Ponds Co. Competition theme was the family and Kevin's winning entry was a pastel scene of an urban family gathered together at the end of the day.

Kevin's entry will now be judged in the national competition in New York City this fall involving 60 high school art students from throughout the nation. Top contest awards will be a \$1,500 prize and an all-expense paid trip to New York for the winning student and art teacher.

Kevin is the son of David Kommeth of Irondequoit.



Mercy Mag Push

Mercy sophomores Missy Piekunka and Michelle D'Ambrosia look at the prizes available to Mericians for selling subscription quotas. The school's magazine drive starts Thursday, Sept. 29 and will run through Thursday, Oct. 13. Goal is \$50,000 in subscriptions.

Has the U.S. become a nation of mediocrity where people don't strive to do better but do just enough to get by?

BISHOP KEARNEY

MICHAEL MENDOLIA
Senior
band

"No because the American dream still exists and it is one of idealism. The school systems are getting stricter. In technology we're making greater strides. We're not complacent with our advantages over other countries but are trying to gain in technology. Some people are mediocre but the majority of Americans are trying to be the best they can become."



MICHELLE BRUNELLE
Sophomore
gymnastics

"No. I think we are coming out of that phase. There was a time we were pretty lazy but are now striving for higher goals. It was definitely the foreign competition that changed things. We are in a race with Japan and Russia, militarily and technologically and Americans have always wanted to be the best. Because of the space and computer age we are upgrading our educational system. The young are our future so we have to educate them the best way we can."



MARK BEIGENWALD
Junior
lacrosse

"No, I don't think so. I think Americans are still striving to do the best they can in spite of the current recession. I feel we have a tendency to set a goal and work toward that goal until we reach it. This is shown greatly in our political and technological advancement in the past years. If America had become complacent we wouldn't be where we are today."



BETSY OBERLIES
Freshman

"No, I don't think the U.S. has become a nation of mediocrity. I think everyone strives to do the best they can because there is so much competition in the world in jobs, sports, education. Schools are much stricter now because they want the people to get a good education to help them prepare for future careers so that no matter what field they go into they will be the best they can be."



MATTHEW SMITH
Freshman
Video Club

"No. I think we still are trying to achieve the best standards. Factories are trying to top one another with better products and we are still in foreign competition. I think it's the competition that makes this nation strive to turn out the best in athletes, cars, and education. Americans have always tried to be the best in everything."



KIM JONES
Junior
forensics

"No. I think everyone has a personal goal they wish to achieve. Everybody wants to be number one so people recognize them. There is so much competition in the world and we are all striving to be the best at what we do. Maybe we slacked off for a while but I think everyone was concerned that the U.S. stay number one. Without competition there is no high goal for us to reach. Competition offers a chance to be as good as or better in everything."



BARBARA ENOS
Senior

"I don't agree with that. I think Americans are still striving for what they believe in and working hard for their dreams and goals. There might have been a time when we were like that but it didn't have much effect. We controlled it. We know that to get anything out of life we have to work hard for it. I think foreign competition keeps us wanting to stay ahead."



MIKE GRECO
Sophomore

"Yes. I think people just do what they have to do to get by. As long as they can get by they don't want to put anymore effort into what they are doing. I don't know if we are falling behind the foreign countries because they also may be becoming complacent. I think it is the competition that motivates people to be better than they are."



Equal Time