

Rap Around Rap Around Rap Around Rap

Joan M. Smith, editor



Heralds Pursue Sign of the Times

By Joan M. Smith

History, especially medieval history, can be a heavy subject for teenagers who think the only time is now! Brother Jeffrey Oxx, however, in his sophomore European history class at Bishop Kearney, brings his students face to face with living in the age of knights, chivalry, when armorial bearings originated.

In medieval battles and tournaments, a knight wore a coat of arms -- a tunic marked with his emblem used as a device to inform friend from foe. He also displayed this insignia on his shield. When armor went out of fashion, the coat of arms remained a family's hereditary emblem of honor, emblazoned on seals and possessions.

In September, Brother Oxx challenged his students to create a family coat of arms. The assignment meant investigating family history, researching heraldic symbols and their meanings, and then designing and producing individual family crests. The finished products, which include rampant lions, crossed swords, crowns, and doves on brilliant fields of red, yellow, and blue, have turned Brother Oxx's classroom into a medieval chamber like the King Henry VII Chapel in Westminster Abbey where the armorial banners of the Knights of Bath are displayed.

But along with the decorative results of the assignment came knowledge of family heritage. "A lot of the students find out for the first time what their families were involved in in Europe," Brother Oxx said.

The students were happy to show and



Scott, Steve, Lisa, Jackie and Dave admiring each other's family crests.

Photos by Joan M. Smith

explain their heraldic creations.

Scott Desens included in his coat of arms the bee, which he said meant hardworker, and the owl for wisdom.

Steve Sinaguglia, using the Italian flag as background, incorporated the eagle and the lion, explaining they were the heraldic symbols of freedom and courage, respectively. His crest also is emblazoned with crossed swords representing bravery and virtue in battle.

Lisa Amoroso also used the eagle for freedom while Jackie Bleyendahl's coat of arms bears the crown symbolizing royalty.

Dave Cali, who explained that the family name once had been Cavalero, worked into the family crest the helmet he said was the heraldic symbol for medieval knights or cavaliers. Horses, which according

to Dave represented the cavaliers horsemanship, support the Cali shield. Topping the crest is an ax and this, Dave said, signified the cavaliers as bearers of arms who combined Christian ideals with the military ideas of bravery and loyalty.

Each of the students in Brother Oxx's class created a coat of arms befitting a medieval knight and, who knows, perhaps there was a Sir Densens who was a jousting champion, or a Lady Bleyendahl in the court of medieval kings.



Brother Oxx surveying the results of his assignment.



They Make the Big League

Mercy sophomore Colleen Keegan and senior Cindy Troidle have been selected to the Private-Parochial All-Star Soccer Team. Cindy, from St. Thomas More parish, was captain of the team and Colleen, St. Louis in Pittsford, the leading scorer with 10 goals and three assists.

Other school soccer players selected for the team are: Terry Alves, Lisa DiQuattro, Angelea Lanzafame, Sue Corrigan from Cardinal Mooney; Doreen Byers and Christine Rusczyk, Aquinas; Linda Merkel and Kathy Brown from Bishop Kearney. Tammy DiCesare, from Cardinal Mooney, was named Most Valuable Player of the league.

BK Stage Lights Up, Nov. 18-19

"The Miracle Worker" depicting the struggle between Annie Sullivan and Helen Keller, will be presented at 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday, Nov. 18-19 at Bishop Kearney High School.

Members of the cast are Rachel Adams, Mike Baccoli, Molly Laragy, Gail Link, Katie Maloney, Chris O'Connor, Sue Palmer, Holly Paxton, Sue Pryor, Fauna Pappalardo, Tim Rendsland, Cindy Vanderlee, Amy Wilson and Beth Yaeckel.

Brother James MacDonald is directing the stage crew and handling the ticket sales. Brother Daniel Smith is coordinating the stage design.

Tickets for the play are \$3 and can be purchased at the door or may be reserved by calling 342-4000.

Double Entertainment Is Scheduled

The Aquinas Audio-Visual Department is presenting "Tootsie" at 8 p.m., Friday, Nov. 18 in the school auditorium.

A "Tootsie" look-a-like contest will take place during intermission with a cash prize going to the winner. Aquinas students will be admitted free with school ID, students under 12, \$1, students \$2.50, and adults \$3.

They Excel Academically

Students have "A" averages and recently made the Aquinas St. Thomas Club are seniors: Nancy Bradshaw, Katherine Burke, Louis DeCarolis, Jeannine DelVecchio, Thomas Giordano, John Kelly, Kerry Lynch, Erin Maxcy, Joseph Menz, Sean Patton, Anne Marie Schickler, Frank Tantalio, David Tomer; juniors: Mario DiLuigi, Susan Dorr, Karen Famale, Joseph Ferraulo, Kyle Healey, Pasquale Iannoli, Maureen Lynd, Sara Phillips, Joseph Sanguedolce, Paul Tuttle, Brian Waldmiller, Mary Wamser; sophomores: Lisa Dambra, Amy DelVecchio, Richard DiMarco, George Dougherty, John Englert, Jeffrey Ferruzza, Michael McLaen, Christopher Montesano, Christopher Murphy, Timothy O'Loughlin, David Philippone, Glenn Risolo, Leon Sawyko, Carl Scarpulla, Susan Triassi, Patrick VanPutte; freshmen: Tiffany Becks, Therese Daniel, Diane Faust, Patricia Gramke, Margaret Hen-

erson, Anthony Inzana, Stacey Jakubowski, Thomas Kelly, Peter Kurdt, William LaDue, Jennifer Lewis, John Lynch, Michelle May, Sean McNamara, James Murrer,

Edward Przybycien, Sean Schiano, Eric Setzer, Mark Simonelli, Kristina Skelton, Michael Thomas, Christian Trabold, John Wasula, Dekote Woods, Corinna Zampi.

Events On Agenda

McQuaid seniors and parents will gather for a BASH Mass and brunch on Sunday, Dec. 4. On Thursday, Dec. 8 there will be a special Mass celebrating the

feast of the Immaculate Conception.

On Dec. 12 there will be Christmas basket preparations and the Christmas Liturgy will be at 11 a.m., Tuesday, Dec. 13.

Mercy Rates High In Press Contest

Two publications of Our Lady of Mercy High School were recently cited by the Empire State School Press Association.

"The Quill," Mercy's newspaper, received a first place rating among high school newspapers across the state. It also picked up an honorable mention citation in the Best Front Page

category. Mrs. Paulette D'Amada, an English instructor, is adviser to the newspaper.

The "Mercedes", school literary magazine, received an All New York Rating, the highest placement among high school magazines. Mrs. Jane O'Brien, English instructor, is moderator of the magazine.



Winner's Circle

RapAround weekly will run a photo 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 during a diocesan teen retreat at Notre Dame Retreat House. The person circled should bring the clipping to school office to be forwarded to Joan M. Smith, Courier-Journal, 114 South Union St., by noon, Tuesday, Nov. 22, to receive \$5.

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