

R.I. Governor:

Politicians Should Be Consistent on Abortion

Providence, R.I. (NC) -- Rhode Island Gov. J. Joseph Garrahy said politicians who are personally against abortion have a "leadership responsibility" to speak out against it publicly.

Garrahy, an Irish Catholic Democrat who announced a year ago he would not seek re-election after four consecutive terms, said, "In my view, if clearly something is wrong then somehow we've

got a leadership responsibility to speak out against wrongs."

Controversy over the issue flared anew this summer with the nomination for vice president of Rep. Geraldine Fer-

raro, D-N.Y., who says she is personally opposed to abortion but does not support legislative restrictions against it, and the comments on abortion and politics by New York Gov. Mario Cuomo.

voters must consider more choosing candidates in the than the abortion issue when upcoming elections.

Archdiocese Upheld On Homosexual Issue

New York (NC) -- A court decision has upheld the contention of the New York Archdiocese that Mayor Ed Koch lacked authority to forbid discrimination against employing homosexuals by groups providing contractual services to New York City.

Judge Alvin Klein of the New York State Supreme Court, in a decision released Sept. 5, said the mayor "is not empowered to bypass the legislative process and create

new social policy absent a proper legislative basis."

The decision affects millions of dollars in city funds provided to social service agencies, including Catholic agencies, under annual contracts for day care, foster care, senior citizen programs and other services.

Koch said the city would appeal the decision and that he would ask the City Council to pass legislation forbidding discrimination.

Such proposed legislation has been repeatedly voted down in past years.

At issue was Koch's Executive Order 50, which required that agencies receiving city social service funds sign agreements promising not to discriminate in employment on the basis of "sexual orientation or affectional preference."

Agencies in the Diocese of Brooklyn, which includes the New York boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens, raised no objection to the order. Auxiliary Bishop Joseph M. Sullivan, who directs Catholic Charities of Brooklyn, said non-discrimination did not imply approval of homosexual behavior and that Executive Order 50 had not created any problems for the diocese.

However, Archbishop O'Connor, whose archdiocese includes the New York boroughs of Manhattan, Staten Island and the Bronx, as well as seven upstate counties, said agreeing to the requirements of the order would mean a compromise of Catholic moral principles and said archdiocesan agencies would give up city funds rather than sign.

Pope to Visit Puerto Rico

Vatican City (NC) -- Pope John Paul II plans a pastoral visit to Puerto Rico and to the Dominican Republic capital of Santo Domingo, Oct. 11-13, the Vatican has announced.

The trip to Puerto Rico, a U.S. commonwealth, would be the first papal visit to the island, which neighbors the Dominican Republic. More than 80 percent of Puerto Rico's 3.7 million population is Catholic.

More than 94 percent of the Dominican Republic's 5.5 million people are Catholic.

The Vatican press office statement added that the trip would include a stop in Zaragoza, Spain, but gave no further details of the planned visit.

Diplomats in Rome have said the pope's trip to the Dominican Republic, which would be his second to the Caribbean nation, would coincide with the Oct. 12 anniversary of Christopher Columbus' first voyage to the Americas and with a meeting there of the Latin American Bishops' Conference.

Vatican sources said that Pope John Paul plans to stay overnight in Zaragoza on his way to Santo Domingo and to participate in ceremonies there celebrating the Madonna of Pilar. They said the pope would continue on to Santo Domingo and stop in Puerto Rico on his way back to Rome.

Legislators Seen As Disregarding Nonpublic Schools

Albany -- Pupils in non-public schools did not fare well with the state legislature this year, according to the State Catholic Conference.

While legislators enacted the largest single increase ever in aid to education, \$470 million, pupils in nonpublic schools will not gain much, according to the conference.

"On the basis of the legislature's performance in the 1984 session, neither the Senate nor the Assembly seem sufficiently interested in responding to the needs of nonpublic students," said J. Alan Davitt, executive director of the conference. "In a year of record gains in aid to public schools, the nonpublic school community did not make much headway in promoting the principle of fair play for all students."

Davitt attributed the disappointing apportionment to the legislature's inadequate regard for nonpublic education and to its fear of offending public school interest groups.

According to Davitt, the legislature's major failure was a refusal to act on a bill which would provide tax credits against educational expenses for parents in both public and nonpublic schools. State Sen. James H.

Donovan conducted statewide hearings but never sponsored legislation. Other bills were introduced but none received any action.

"The legislature's failure can only be considered a setback in a state which once took the lead in promoting constitutionally acceptable forms of aid to nonpublic school children," Davitt said.

Citing Gov. Mario Cuomo's recent announcement that the state will end the current fiscal year with a sizable surplus and that future fiscal years will likely result in a higher-than-expected revenue base, Davitt said he hoped that an education tax benefit program would be included among the significant tax cuts and changes the legislature is expected to enact next year.

Davitt also cited the legislature for failure to act on providing transportation to nonpublic pupils on certain days when public schools are closed, for enacting a computer hardware bill which applies only to public schools, a teacher Summer employment bill which applies only to public school teachers and Senate passage of a school asbestos abatement bill which applies only to public school buildings.

Park Ridge Tournament Scheduled

The fifth annual golf tournament and banquet to benefit health care services provided by Park Ridge Hospital and its affiliated organizations has been scheduled for Monday, Sept. 17 at Ridgmont Country Club.

Donations for the event are: \$110 for each golfer, which includes golf cart, lunch, dinner and prizes; \$100 for business sponsors of individual holes, which includes dinner; \$150 for business sponsors who also wish to play golf; \$50 for those wishing to attend the dinner only; and \$25 for patrons that cannot attend the event.

The event begins with registration at 11 a.m., followed by lunch at 11:30 a.m. and tee-off at 12:15 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres and dinner will follow in the clubhouse at 6:30 p.m.

In addition, Kitt said that the Tyler Insurance Agency is sponsoring another hole-in-one contest on the par three, 10th hole. "Anyone making a hole-in-one will win \$10,000," Kitt said, "\$5,000 of which will be given to the golfer and \$5,000 to the Park Ridge Foundation."

All proceeds from the event are donated to the foundation to benefit Park Ridge Hospital, Park Ridge Nursing Home, Park Ridge Chemical Dependency, and Western Monroe Mental Health Center.

For further information, contact the Park Ridge Foundation, 1555 Long Pond Road, Rochester, N.Y., 14626; or call 225-7900.

5 Win Medals In Skate Test

Five skaters from the Genesee Figure Skating Club were medal winners at the Skating Club of Western New York's seventh annual summer competition recently in Cheektowaga.

Erika Eichelberger of Chili, competing in the Juvenile Division, led the club's skaters with three gold medals in compulsory figures and compulsory moves and a silver medal in music interpretation. Erika, 9, will be entering the fourth grade at St. Pius X in the Fall.

Joanne Glaser, 17, who will be a senior at Nazareth Academy this year, won a gold medal in novice dance.

Other medal winners from the local club are Heather Ascroft of Greece, silver in intermediate ladies compulsory figures; Ami Klinksky of Pittsford, silver medal in juvenile ladies compulsory figures, and Alison Wofford of Penfield, bronze medal in juvenile ladies music interpretation.

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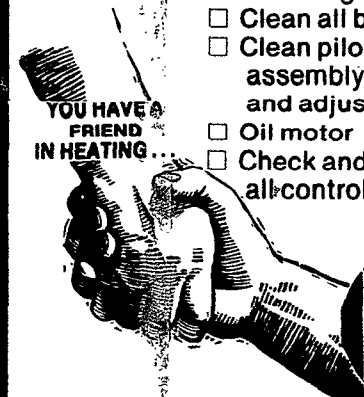
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