



Filling the cracks

Traditional ministry may have neglected young adults, but Karen Rinehard sees progress as she reflects on diocesan accomplishments. Story on Page 10.



Mercy holds on

Our Lady of Mercy's basketball team maintains its top ranking with a second-half rally in a 53-49 pairing with Edison. Photos on Page 15.

COURIER-JOURNAL

Catholic Diocese of Rochester

35 Cents

Thursday, January 23, 1986

16 Pages

World & Nation in Brief from NC News

World

Cardinal warns of plot

Manila, Philippines (NC) — The Philippines' outspoken Cardinal Jaime Sin has warned of a corrupt "sinister plot" to sway the country's Feb. 7 presidential elections. In a pastoral letter released Jan. 18, the cardinal reports "undue pressure on hapless government employees to make them work (illegally) for certain candidates." Without identifying the culprits, the letter adds that "if a candidate wins by cheating, he can only be forgiven by God if he renounces the office."

Pope seeks Mideast peace

Vatican City (NC) — Pope John Paul II prayed for Christians and Moslems in Lebanon Jan. 19 and voiced concern that the situation in the war-torn nation "is again becoming worrisome." The pope recalled the plight of Lebanon during his Sunday Angelus address from his apartment window overlooking St. Peter's Square. "We will pray for all Lebanese," he said to 10,000 pilgrims gathered in the square.

Nation

U.S. should cut defense

Washington (NC) — The U.S. government should reduce its military spending as one step in meeting the social needs of the poor, Archbishop Rembert Weakland of Milwaukee told a congressional symposium Jan. 16. Archbishop Weakland, who chairs the bishops' committee on the economics pastoral said: "I am sure the bishops feel very strongly that enough cuts in the military could make the difference to meet all the needs (of the poor) that we're concerned about."

Love can defeat terrorism

New Orleans (NC) — The greatest weapon Christians have against terrorism is the example of Christ's love for his enemies according to Father Douglas A. Doussan, the chairman of a national peace organization in the newspaper of the New Orleans Archdiocese. "While hating the actions of terrorists, our faith demands that we love the terrorists themselves...because our one Father in heaven loves them," wrote Father Doussan, coordinator of Pax Christi New Orleans and chairman of the Pax Christi USA national council.

Cardinal praises commission

Washington (NC) — Initial progress by a commission in a 7-year-old labor dispute between farmworkers and the Campbell Soup Co. has brought "new hope" for a workable solution, said Cardinal John J. O'Connor of New York. The commission, established last year, has brought representatives of farmworkers, growers and Campbell to the negotiating table.



Jeff Goulding/Courier-Journal

Witnessing the passion

In the Bishop Kearney Alumni production of "Jesus Christ Superstar," Simon (Sam Van Epps) restrains a woman, played by Mary Burkwit, who is overcome by grief as she watches Roman guards flog Christ. For story and more photos see Echo, Page 8.

'85 appeal falls short; bishop seeks budget cuts

By Karen M. Franz

Early last week, Bishop Matthew H. Clark announced to members of the diocesan staff that the 1985-86 Thanks Giving Appeal had fallen approximately \$400,000 short of its goal of \$3.562 million. As a result of the shortfall, Bishop Clark has directed all diocesan department heads to reassess their programs and immediately reduce their budgets.

"While I have asked our department directors to make budget cuts effective immediately, I have also urged them to do their best to maintain our commitment to the poor, the young and to programs that provide quality church leadership training," Bishop Clark said in making the announcement.

Parish representatives react to appeal — Page 5

According to Father James Moynihan, appeal coordinator, the number of people who made donations declined from 68,000 last year to 53,000 this year, a loss of 15,000 donors. Much of the donor loss occurred in the "small-gift category," those who contributed \$5 to \$50 last year.

The method of this year's appeal — a campaign based primarily on mail solicitation — was a departure from the traditional means used to gather donations. In previous years, the appeal has been conducted primarily through the use of in-hall solicitation, in which parishioners stop in their parish halls after Sunday Mass to fill out pledge cards. Critics of this year's appeal have blamed its format for failing to attract — or, in some cases, for turning off — potential donors.

Although he did not specifically attribute the appeal shortfall to the new format, Father Moynihan pointed out that several of its aspects may have contributed to the

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Catholic elementary school plan criticized

By Teresa A. Parsons

Speaker after speaker asked for more time and greater parental involvement in planning for the future of Rochester's Catholic elementary schools at an open hearing last Tuesday night at St. Anthony of Padua School hall.

Parish council and staff members, principals and parents were invited to react to the proposed Catholic Elementary School Plan for the City of Rochester and Monroe County. In impassioned terms and in tones that ranged from tearful to sarcastic, 29 speakers addressed mostly critical remarks to a crowd of about 250 people, including Bishop Matthew H. Clark and members of the Urban School Study Steering Committee.

The plan, released December 3, proposes two regional junior high schools and reorganization of six schools to kindergarten or pre-kindergarten through grade six formats. Financing, diocesan support, school certification and inter-parish cooperation in planning projects are also covered by the plan.

The proposed time line calls for a final plan to be introduced by Monday, Feb. 3,

"If we are not in a crisis situation, as Father (John) Mulligan was quoted as saying ... then what's the hurry?" asked Jean Gilbert, president of the Catholic Federation of School Parents. She suggested that instead a "total master plan for the county" be thoroughly discussed and developed with more meaningful and active involvement by parents.

Several speakers said parents, teachers and minorities were not adequately represented on the steering committee. Two of the committee's 11 members are termed parent representatives and one is Hispanic.

"We resent the fact that studies and surveys which ultimately concern minority students have been conducted with the absence of black input," said Teryle Brewley, a member of the Board of Directors of the diocesan Office of Black Ministries.

Representatives from some suburban schools were upset by their inclusion in inter-parish planning groups, charged with developing programs for junior high curricula.

"As the principal of a suburban elementary school, we have been receiving material on

an information-only basis and thus have not been involved in any of the planning," said Sister Ann Collins, principal of St. Ambrose School. "I find it difficult to understand the sudden change from onlooker to participant."

Other speakers questioned the fact that not all city schools would be restructured by the plan. Those schools excluded are Sacred Heart, Holy Cross, Holy Rosary and Most Precious Blood.

Parents decried the elimination of parental choice that would occur if seventh and eighth grades were moved from six elementary schools to two regional junior high schools.

"I feel that we as parents are entitled to decide where we want our children to go. You are not giving us any choice with this plan," said Kathy Englerth, a school board member. "Since we at St. Boniface have not asked for your help, nor do we feel we need your help, we feel a great injustice is being done if we are forced to give up our seventh and eighth grades."

Charging that the plan is not specific

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