



A second chance

Auburn residents open their hearts to Richard Weaver as a heart transplant offers him a second chance at life. See Page 4.



Section 5 hoop update

Aquinas eliminates defending champion East High; McQuaid falls in overtime to Gates Chili. See Pages 8 and 9.

COURIER-JOURNAL

Catholic Diocese of Rochester

35 Cents

Thursday, February 27, 1986

16 Pages

World & Nation in Brief from NC News

World

Brazilian leaders meet pope

Vatican City (NC) — Pope John Paul II has invited Brazilian church leaders to the Vatican March 13-15 to discuss church activities in their country, the Vatican announced Feb. 21. A Vatican official who asked not to be identified said the discussions would cover liberation theology, which has become popular in Brazil and has drawn warnings from the Vatican. The official added, however, that the meeting would be more than a "doctrinal discussion" and would include other pastoral issues. The meeting will be an "informal encounter" undertaken in "fraternal dialogue," a statement from the Vatican press office said. The topics will be "concerned with the life and activity of the church in that nation," the statement said, without elaborating.

Nation

Send African aid to CRS

Washington (NC) — The U.S. government has asked countries supplying food relief to Ethiopia to send those supplies to Catholic Relief Services rather than to the Marxist government of Ethiopia, said Bart Kull, a spokesman for the U.S. Agency for International Development. Although the Washington Post reported earlier this month that CRS is unhappy with its allotment of U.S. grain for Ethiopian relief in 1986, according to Kull, "there is no disagreement on the amount of food which the U.S. government will provide to CRS."

Native American a bishop

Washington (NC) — Father Donald Pelotte, 40, provincial superior of the Blessed Sacrament Fathers of Cleveland, is the first American Indian to be named a bishop. Bishop-designate Pelotte, whose parents were Abenaki Indian and French Canadian, was appointed by Pope John Paul II Feb. 24 as coadjutor bishop of Gallup, N.M. He will automatically succeed Bishop Jerome Hastrich, 71, when he retires. Usual retirement age is 75.

CUA drama head dies at 79

Washington (NC) — Dominican Father Gilbert V. Hartke, who founded and was chairman of the drama department at The Catholic University of America in Washington for almost 40 years, died Feb. 21 of heart disease. He was 79. Father Hartke began his show-business career as a child actor and throughout his life he worked and was friends with Hollywood celebrities. But he insisted his primary role was that of priest. "I don't want to be known as a showbiz priest. The first thing in my life is the priesthood," he said in an interview shortly before his death.

Church officials led opposition to Marcos

By NC News Service

The Catholic Church's involvement in the post-election turmoil in the Philippines grew more visible as events led to the ouster of President Ferdinand Marcos Feb. 25.

Cardinal Jaime Sin of Manila had urged civil disobedience, while the pope and U.S. religious leaders had called for a peaceful solution and expressed solidarity with the Philippine bishops.

Thousands of Filipinos -- including priests and nuns -- responded to a call by Cardinal Sin Feb. 23 to keep vigil outside a camp housing military leaders who defected from the Marcos government. The cardinal had made his appeal on the Catholic radio station, Radio Veritas, which later stopped broadcasting after its main transmitters were sabotaged and technicians shut down a weaker backup system for repair.

The pope made his remarks Feb. 23 from his apartment window overlooking St. Peter's Square, where about 1,000 supporters of Philippine presidential candidate Corazon Aquino gathered. The supporters -- mostly Filipinos living in Rome -- wore hats, scarves and armbands of yellow, Mrs. Aquino's color. Among the supporters were priests and nuns.

In the United States, Cardinal Joseph L. Bernardin of Chicago and Bishop James Malone of Youngstown, Ohio, head of the U.S. bishops' conference, expressed "solidarity" with the Philippine bishops in their call for a non-violent struggle for justice. The U.S. Catholic Mission Association sent a message of solidarity to Religious in the

Philippines, while a Maryknoll priest was among those arrested outside the Philippine Embassy in Washington.

Mrs. Aquino and Marcos have declared themselves winners of the Feb. 7 presidential election. But international observers said the government vote count which proclaimed Marcos the winner was fraudulent.

By Feb. 24, Marcos had declared a "state of emergency" and said he would not resign, while opposition leaders said that "a new government has been set up," headed by Mrs. Aquino and her running mate, Sen. Salvador Laurel.

After Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and Lt. Gen. Fidel Ramos, the acting chief of staff, seized control of the defense ministry and called for Marcos' resignation Feb. 22, Cardinal Sin referred to them as "our two good friends."

Although the Philippine bishops did not directly endorse Mrs. Aquino, in a statement issued Feb. 14 they said the presidential elections were an unparalleled fraud and that "a government that seizes, assumes or retains power through fraudulent means has no moral basis."

Philippine Bishop Francisco Claver, a leader of the Institute on Church and Social Issues of Ateneo de Manila University and one of the principal authors of the bishops' statement, said endorsement of Mrs. Aquino was "implicit" in the statement.

Throughout the election campaign and following events, Radio Veritas -- the strongest station in the Philippines -- had been on the air virtually non-stop. However, at 5 a.m. Feb. 23, as listeners heard an account of the standoff between Enrile, Ramos and the government, gunmen shot up

the four 100-kilowatt transmitters.

"Quite a group, a bunch showed up wearing yellow, as if they were Aquino supporters, then sprayed the place with armalites," said Jesuit Father James B. Reuter, who runs the station.

Station officials said the attackers caused \$1.8 million in damage which would take six months to a year to repair.

The station used a 10-kilowatt backup system, then temporarily suspended broadcasts that evening.

"The spirit of the people has been superb," said Father Reuter, who is from Elizabethtown, N.J. "Everybody's coming in to help."

As the Philippine situation progressed from charges of fraud to economic boycotts to plans for inaugurations for both presidential candidates, U.S. church leaders sent messages of solidarity.

On Feb. 19, Cardinal Bernardin told Philippine bishops that Americans "stand in solidarity" with the Philippine people "to oppose intimidation, harassment, terrorism and murder."

The U.S. Catholic Mission Association told the Philippine Religious, "Your struggle for Christian freedom has been engraved in our hearts."

The same day, Maryknoll Father Gerald Wickenhauser and five other persons were arrested following an anti-Marcos demonstration outside the Philippine Embassy.

In a written statement, Father Wickenhauser said he was practicing civil disobedience "in solidarity with the Philippine bishops who have spoken out loud and clear" and with the U.S. bishops and the

Continued on Page 15

Dreamers of St. Augustine's suffer growing pains

By Teresa A. Parsons

For the people of St. Augustine's Parish and neighborhood, the thought of closing their 80-year-old school next fall is akin to the death of a dear and respected friend. As students and teachers and parents carry on the familiar cycle of school-year activities, their appreciation of each event is constantly heightened by the painful awareness that it is happening for the last time.

Part of the grieving process is realizing how much they have taken the school for granted. "I think parents are finding out just how special St. Augustine's was, looking elsewhere," said Sister St. Luke Hardy, the principal. Confusion over tuition rates and admission to other schools next year has, unintentionally she believes, left some families feeling hurt and unwanted.

During dismissal one day, she recalled, a mother paused amid the chaos to remark: "I'm so glad my kids are here. But I'm spoiled."

She was talking about what Sister St. Luke calls "the spirit" of St. Augustine's -- a sense of pride and joy in the variety of cultures, races and creeds welcomed and respected at the school. "Everyone gets along so well -- and by that I mean youngsters and parents," Sister St. Luke explained.

She doesn't believe that spirit will die when the school's doors close next fall. In fact she takes consolation in the fact that her students will carry it with them to other schools.

But as Easter and spring approach and the liturgical life of the parish focuses on rebirth, St. Augustine's parish council and staff are beginning to search for ways to resurrect the spirit of the school in other ministries.

That's one reason the parish social worker, Shelly D'Agnolo, began a support group for single parents and their children this year through a grant from DePaul Mental Health Services. More than 40 percent of the school's parents are single, but D'Agnolo is

sticking with small groups of four parents each, who meet in the rectory every weekly. A children's play therapy group also meets weekly with a DePaul staff person after school.

"We purposely kept the groups that size because these people need a lot of support," D'Agnolo explained. She hopes that the established groups will continue to meet next year and that as word spreads throughout the neighborhood, more groups will form.

St. Augustine's is probably the only parish

in the diocese with its own social worker. Besides crisis counseling and maintenance and advocacy with social service agencies, D'Agnolo also serves as evangelization coordinator and a member of the parish's RCIA team.

Hers is a position that evolved after Father Bill Trott, the pastor, determined to hire her first and decide on a job description afterward. They met during a year she spent volunteering at St. Bridget's Parish.

Continued on Page 10



When she sends her students home on the last day of school this year, Sister St. Luke Hardy, principal (left), believes the spirit of St. Augustine's School will travel with them. Jeff Goulding/Courier-Journal