

ECHO ECHO ECHO

Speaking Out

Record Rating

By David Taffner and Lisa Frisone
This is a hypothetical conversation between your "average" rock 'n roll star and your "average" protective parent.

Rock 'n Roll Star: Why are you against certain song lyrics?

Protective Parent: Because I don't want my children exposed to sex, violence and drugs.

RR: Doesn't the "real world" expose children to these things?

PP: Yes. They get enough of it on TV and in school. I don't want it in their music, too. Music is very important to them. They look up to you. If you tell them to "Party All The Time" they'll listen.

RR: Music has always been, and always will be, primarily an entertainment medium.

PP: You entertain with sex and drugs?

RR: Not all song lyrics refer to sex and drugs.

PP: I'm not concerned with all lyrics. Just the offensive ones, which may be few in number but strong in impact.

RR: It's good that you are concerned with what your children are listening to but parental guidance begins at home, not in a record store.

PP: Am I supposed to accompany my children to the mall and read the lyrics of every album before they buy it?

RR: You shouldn't have to. As a parent you should seek better communication with your kids. It's a shame that you expect the record companies to do your job. Why not get to the root of the problem and find out why some kids are so messed up in the first place?

PP: As a parent, I have tried to raise my children in a way so they will grow up to be loving, caring human beings. I can tell my children that this is the way they should live, but they don't look up to me. They look up to you.

RR: The majority of today's kids don't even listen to the types of music you wish to have rated. Madonna's "Like A Virgin" is the only album in Billboard Magazine's Top 50 chart that was found to be offensive. And if they do listen to

that music they don't take the lyrics as gospel. Did you take everything Elvis and the Beatles said seriously? Remember that the music you listened to was opposed by your parents.

PP: I have already said that I'm not concerned with the majority. There is a small group of musicians who write using explicit lyrics. I think that is totally unnecessary. The Beatles sang cute love songs. "I Wanna Hold Your Hand" is not quite as drastic as Madonna telling us she's been "touched for the very first time."

RR: Your parents didn't think the Beatles songs or Elvis' pelvic movements were cute. It is your responsibility to instill, in your own children, a sense of morality and ideals. I'm not saying you must police your children. It is this simple: if you feel you have failed somewhere in raising your children or that you can't trust their judgment, then you have no right to push your responsibility as parent and protector onto others.

PP: Well, I... they...

Isn't this ridiculous? This debate has been going on for (over eight) months now. Parents lobbied for a bill that would put ratings on records according to their lyrical content.

Congress didn't pass this bill. Instead, an agreement was made between the opposing parents and the recording industry.

A warning label will be placed on all albums found to be offensive. It will read: "Warning: Explicit Lyrics." Lyrics will also be printed on the back of albums to give parents a chance to see what their children are buying.

Parents believe they will now have some idea of what music their children are listening to and have some control over it. Musicians won't have their records rated, which many feared would lead to censorship, yet their personal liberties are still being violated. That is the bottom line. One group of musicians should not be singled out and used as scapegoats. This should not have been allowed to happen. What we are seeing is merely another aspect of the Orwellian/Big Brother complex. Haven't we better things to do with our time?

Arriola and Staub take top all-star honors

Congratulations to this year's Catholic-school athletes named to the City-Catholic (Division 1) and Private-Parochial all star teams. Voted on by area coaches, the players represent those athletes who displayed excellent ability and sportsmanship throughout the year.

Special congratulations should go to hurlers Steve Arriola of the Fighting Kings and the Cardinals' Julie Staub. Both pitchers were instrumental in leading their schools into the Section 5 tournament, and were named most valuable players in their respective divisions.

1986 CITY-CATHOLIC LEAGUE ALL STARS DIVISION I

Position	Name	Year	School
Pitcher	Steve Arriola	Junior	Kearney
Infielder	Fred Brightman	Senior	Kearney
Catcher	Brian Keenan	Senior	Kearney
Infielder	Chip Golembeski	Junior	McQuaid
Outfielder	Mike Fina	Senior	McQuaid
Outfielder	Kurt Washburn	Senior	McQuaid
Infielder	Gary Bischooping	Senior	Mooney
Outfielder	Paul Brecia	Junior	Mooney
Pitcher	Dan Cooney	Sophomore	Aquinas
Infielder	Mike Flanagan	Senior	Aquinas
Infielder	Rodney Griffin	Junior	Franklin

Player of the Year — Arriola

1986 PRIVATE-PAROCHIAL LEAGUE ALL STARS

Position	Name	Year	School
Pitcher	Julie Staub	Senior	Mooney
Infielder	Lori Padulo	Junior	Mooney
Infielder	Tracy Schmidt	Junior	Mooney
Outfielder	Josette Riola	Senior	Mooney
Pitcher	Ann Marie Rivaldo	Junior	Kearney
Catcher	Josie Raimond	Senior	Kearney
Infielder	Melanie Lipka	Freshman	Kearney
Pitcher	Marisa Diliberto	Senior	Nazareth
Catcher	Paula Short	Junior	Nazareth
Infielder	Amy Budd	Sophomore	Nazareth
Outfielder	Donna Grady	Senior	Mercy
Catcher	Laura Wambach	Sophomore	Mercy
Infielder	Donna Enright	Junior	Aquinas

Most Valuable Player — Staub

Essay contest asks students about 'Meaning of Liberty'

High school students in the United States and France are being invited to participate in an essay contest commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Statue of Liberty. The topic of the writing competition is "The Meaning of Liberty."

The National Education Association (NEA) is sponsoring the competition here in the United States, with the help of the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) and the U.S. Information Agency, which will translate the winning essays into several languages and distribute them worldwide.

The French Embassy in Washington, D.C. is coordinating the competition in France through the Ministry of Education.

Top essayists and two runners-up from each country will win a trip to visit the Statue of Liberty on October 28, for the official rededication of the statue. The six students will also visit Washington, D.C. to receive special commendations.

In the United States the contest is open to the 800 senior high school students who earned the prestigious "Achievement Award in Writing" from the NCTE earlier this year. Invitations to participate in the competition are being sent to this select group.

In France, lycee (senior high school) students will be invited to enter the essay competition.

Winners from both countries will be announced around October 1.

Priest returns from sabbatical to resume duties at McQuaid

Father William McCusker, S.J., a counselor at McQuaid Jesuit High School, has returned from an eight-month sabbatical. After 16 years as a counselor and director of guidance and counseling at McQuaid, Father McCusker spent eight months in training and working as a family therapist at the Ackerman Institute for Family

Therapy in New York City. He also interned as a family therapist at the Family Consultation Services Clinic at the Archdiocese of New York in the East Bronx.

Father McCusker has been an officer of the Rochester Diocesan Catholic Guidance Association, the Genesee Valley Personnel and Guidance Association and the Monroe County Counselors Association. He now returns to McQuaid as a counselor and to offer family therapy to families of McQuaid students.



HOUSE OF GUITARS

We received 7 correct entries identifying John Caferty & the Beaver Brown Band as the Providence R.I. bar band that made themselves a name by recording the sound track to the 1983 film "Eddie & the Cruisers."

The winner was Frank Meleca of the University of Rochester

MUSIC TRIVIA

This weeks question:
"Then I saw her face" is a line from what smash hit by The Monkees?

A: _____

Rules:
Each week the Courier-Journal in conjunction with the House of Guitars will feature a Music Trivia contest. All you have to do to enter is answer the question, fill in your name and address and the school you attend if applicable, cut out the coupon and send it to the Courier-Journal. If more than one correct entry is received, a drawing will be held and one winning entry will be drawn.

If you are the winning entry, you will be mailed a coupon for a free album. The album will be available at the House of Guitars, 645 Titus Ave. All entries must be received within seven days of this paper's publication. Winning names and answers will be printed the week following each trivia.

The Courier-Journal Music Trivia
114 S. Union St.
Rochester, NY 14607

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