



### Leap of faith

Four Sisters of St. Joseph are taking their tuneful tradition to new audiences. In the process, members of the Blue Suspenders are discovering a new ministry through music. See Page 6.



### All-star blowout

Syracuse-bound quarterback Billy Scharr and Rush-Henrietta Roth graduate Stan Johnson lead the East to a resounding win over the West in the fourth annual Eddie Meath football game. See page 10.

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## World & Nation in Brief from NC News

### World

#### Pope pleads for hostages

Castel Gandolfo, Italy — Pope John Paul II, speaking four days after a private meeting with ex-hostage Servite Father Lawrence Jenco, has appealed for the quick release of all other hostages in Lebanon. The pope's plea came less than 24 hours after a threat from a source claiming to be the Moslem fundamentalist group Islamic Jihad threatened to kill three remaining U.S. hostages in Beirut unless its demands were met. "I am thinking not only of the foreign hostages, but also of the hundreds of Lebanese — Christians and Moslems — kidnapped in numerous acts of violence and war," the pope said during a noon Angelus blessing at his summer residence, Castel Gandolfo.

#### Order to open Cuban mission

Milan, Italy — Mother Teresa of Calcutta, founder of the Missionaries of Charity, said her order will open a mission in Cuba Oct. 7. Mother Teresa said her recent meeting with Cuban President Fidel Castro convinced her that "he loves the poor." She said the communist leader respected her order because of its lack of political involvement. The 1979 Nobel Peace Prize winner said her order has houses in other communist countries — Poland, Yugoslavia and Ethiopia — and hopes to open another soon in China.

### Nation

#### Ortega requests Vatican talks

Chicago — Nicaragua's President Daniel Ortega said he wants to talk to the Vatican about the state of the Church in his country. Ortega said the ruling Sandinistas are prepared "to establish serious discussions with the Vatican" over complaints of anti-religious reprisals by the government. Speaking to a Chicago audience Aug. 3, he defended the government, however, saying that more than 140 clergy were killed in Latin America in recent years but none was killed in Nicaragua. The vice president of the Nicaraguan bishops' conference, Bishop Pablo Antonio Vega, was expelled from the country July 4, and Monsignor Bismarck Carballo, head of Managua Archdiocese communications, was denied re-entry to Nicaragua June 28.

#### Price tag protested

Denver — A large public celebration and a "witness" against its expense greeted Archbishop J. Francis Stafford at his installation July 30-31 as the new archbishop of Denver. Some 7,000 people joined two cardinals and 60 bishops at a consecrated Mass July 31 in Denver's downtown convention center. About two dozen Denver Catholics passed out statements before the Mass, however, expressing concern about the estimated \$80,000 price tag for the installation and saying that the money should have gone to the poor. Archbishop Stafford, who turned 54 just a few days before the installation, had been bishop of Memphis, Tenn., since 1982.



Jeff Goulding/Courier-Journal

A group of people, wishing only to be identified as "part of the body of Christ," holds a prayer vigil on the lawn in front of the University of Rochester's Strong Auditorium, where the controversial film "Hail Mary" was being shown. In the background is the university's Interfaith Chapel.

## Nearly 450 turn out to protest 'Hail Mary'

By Richard A. Kiley

An ecumenical prayer group of about 450 protesters did not thwart the curiosity of 630 people who streamed into the University of Rochester's Strong Auditorium Thursday night, July 31, to view the controversial film "Hail Mary."

Protesters staged the prayer service, led by clergy of several denominations, "in reparation for the University's showing of the blasphemous film," which is a modern-day presentation of the Annunciation, Incarnation and Virgin Birth.

Although critics have given the movie mixed reviews, reaction to the film was unanimous outside the theater, even though all protesters interviewed admitted they had not seen the film.

## Annual appeal revamped again; organizers hope to recoup losses

By Karen M. Franz

If nothing else, the \$500,000 shortfall in last year's Thanks Giving Appeal taught TGA organizers a harsh but important lesson: what works in other dioceses or for secular organizations may not necessarily work for the Diocese of Rochester.

That lesson was not learned at a small price. Diocesan programs were hit twice with hefty budget cuts as a result of the shortfall.

Hoping to eliminate the possibility of such austerity measures this year, TGA organizers have abandoned most of the features of the 1985 campaign — including the use of a consulting firm — and have returned to a format similar to that of the successful 1984 campaign.

In-hall solicitation has once again become the cornerstone of the appeal, as organizers

"The movie is obscene; the Virgin is a symbol of peace, and it's not right to make a mockery out of her," said Teresa V. Novins of Sacred Heart Parish in Rochester. "I was always taught as a child that the Virgin is back in the biblical days — not now."

### For a review of 'Hail Mary' and a summary of the post-screening forum, see Page 7.

Novins was solemn but vehement in her disapproval of the movie, which she said she had no intention of seeing.

"She (Mary) had only one child, and God gave her that child," Novins continued. "St. Joseph married her and took care of her. Mary

was a person for peace, not obscenity."

Some signs amid the half-circle of protesters read "U of R you've got no class," "God is not mocked," and "Lay people are speaking up for moral decency." They discounted the university's claim that the film's showing was merely a part of its regularly scheduled summer film festival.

"Mary wasn't this way as far as our beliefs go," said John Donnelly, 67, of St. Monica Parish. "If they (university officials) want to show a filthy show, we're going to be here. I don't go to these kinds of movies, but I'm out here because I know Mike Macaluso (director of New York State Citizens for a Decent Community) and I believe in what he says."

Donnelly said that he feared the showing of director Jean Luc Godard's film would only complicate a problem he feels is already out of control, especially in Monroe County.

"There should be a code of morality. I just saw on TV tonight that Monroe County is now the leading county in venereal disease (cases in New York State)," Donnelly said. "Kids see stuff like this, and they see there is nothing to believe in. A movie like this only aggravates people."

"This guy (Godard) is supposed to be an artist, and for him to cause a division among people doesn't do anything for anybody," Donnelly concluded.

Among the younger protesters on hand was Greg Price, whose father is a member of the Blue Army — a group devoted to Mary.

"The movie offends me. The profanity, from what I've heard, is gross," said the 16-year-old Holy Ghost parishioner. "This movie doesn't even show anything that happened in the past; it lacks truth. (I agree) people have (the right to) freedom of speech, but they shouldn't put down the Blessed Mother."

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