

ECHO ECHO ECHO ECHO

Counselor job teaches student about herself, leading others

By Kathleen Morgan
DeSales High School

This summer has been one of the best I've had, and definitely the most rewarding. I spent eight weeks of my summer vacation in Auburn as a counselor at a Girl Scout camp there. This was my first year as a counselor, and I thoroughly enjoyed every minute of the experience.

I had attended summer camp several years earlier and took leadership-training courses, which helped me immeasurably. So, when I arrived at camp this summer, I was already prepared to lead new songs and games, teach swimming lessons, deal with homesick campers and generally be an effective leader.

I learned the most, however, from the actual experience of being a counselor, with the kids themselves proving to be my greatest teachers. I learned a lot about myself through them — what my strengths are and what I need to work on to be a good leader. I

also learned a lot about the kids, and how they handled their own problems and interacted with each other. I saw the determination of a child struggling to perform a swimming stroke, and that child's jubilation upon its perfection. I witnessed the self-satisfaction of a child who achieved something all on her own, but also the sense of security and camaraderie that she received from being with a group of girls of her own age and interests.

Mostly this year, though, I learned about the job itself and what it takes, to do it well. I learned to give all I could of myself to my job, and to allow myself to learn from the kids and from the staff members.

Finally, I learned the importance of the different aspects of leadership, — responsibility, patience and, most importantly, an honest and complete love for the children and for the job I did.

Four Jesuits join faculty at McQuaid

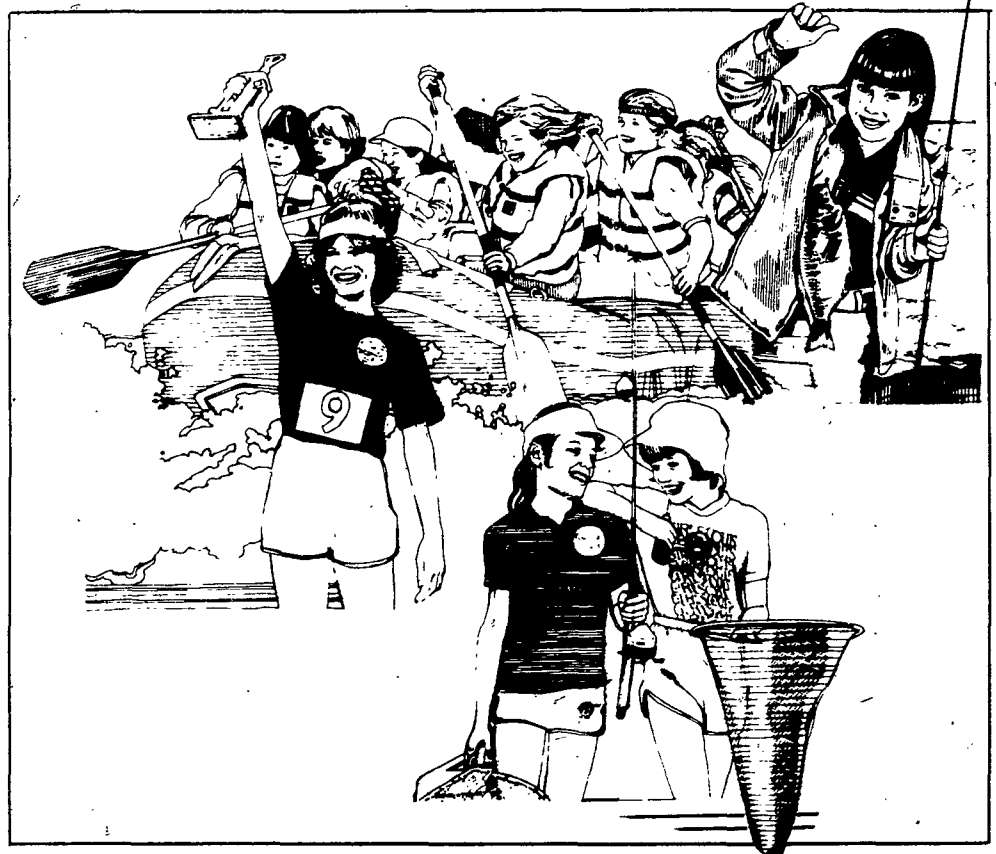
As McQuaid Jesuit High School begins its 33rd year, it welcomes four new Jesuits to its faculty. Father Paul W. Nochelski, SJ, will be the new principal. Father Nochelski replaces Father Eugene A. Zimpfer, SJ, who has been reassigned to his alma mater, Canisius High School of Buffalo.

Father Nochelski is a member of McQuaid's first graduating class, the class of 1958, and is the first alumnus to become McQuaid's principal. He has taught English and history in Jesuit high schools and has had previous experience as an assistant principal.

Philip G. Judge, SJ, is a Jesuit scholastic who comes to McQuaid from philosophical studies at Fordham University's Murray-Weigal Hall.

Father James P. Higgins, SJ, was ordained to the priesthood last year. After theological studies in Toronto, he taught mathematics for three years. Father Higgins, a certified public accountant who has worked at the Jesuit Office in the Wall Street area.

Father Donald G. Devine, SJ, will be the school's new chaplain. He comes to McQuaid directly from the Caroline and Marshall Islands in the Pacific, where he spent the last two years as director of Xavier High School on the Island of Truk. Prior to that assignment, he served as superintendent of all the Jesuit high schools in the New York Province. He previously served as a teacher of English and theology.



Speaking Out

By Elizabeth Berliner
Notre Dame High School

The controversy surrounding the seat belt law, which was enacted throughout New York State in January of this year, seems to have come to a standstill. Is this due to an acceptance of the law or a belligerent refusal to acknowledge it?

On August 9, three high-school students in the Elmira area were involved in a tragic automobile accident which, once again, brought the regulation to the forefront. The two passengers in the car, one seatbelted in the front seat and the other riding in the back, walked away from the scene of the accident with a few minor scrapes and stitches. The driver of the car, however, 17-year-old Mike Watson, died in what is known as the "second crash." He was thrown from the car because he had failed to put on his seat belt.

As news of the accident spread throughout the community, it brought about the harsh realization that young people are not as immune to death as they would like to believe. Fortunately, it also forced many students in the area to accept the fact that the seat belt law was not enacted to be an inconvenience for people, but with the intention of saving valuable lives.

But law enforcement officials cannot and should not be expected to constantly watch over the public with threatening fines in order to force cooperation with a law undoubtedly designed to save lives. Each individual has a responsibility to himself to make every effort to ensure his own safety. It is about time that these efforts were realized.

Mike Watson's death was tragic, but perhaps it will help others to take action to protect themselves because — as in many other tragedies — his death could have very easily been prevented. And that, in itself, is perhaps the most tragic aspect of this incident.



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If yours is the winning entry, you will be mailed a coupon for a free album or tape of your choice redeemable at the House of Guitars, 645 Titus Ave. All entries must be received within seven days of this paper's issue date. Winning names and answers will be printed the week following each drawing.

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