

# ECHO ECHO ECHO ECHO

## New McQuaid chaplain has ties to the Pacific

By J. Peter Huggins  
McQuaid Jesuit High School

For many of us, returning to school in the fall is a big change from the summer's activities. But for McQuaid's new chaplain, Father Donald Devine, "change" is hardly a strong enough word.

Father Devine comes to McQuaid from a two-year stint as president of Xavier Jesuit High School on the Micronesian island of Moen in the Pacific Ocean.

Father Devine arrived at Xavier in August of 1984. Even though Moen is the capital of the Truk state — a federation of islands located in a lagoon — the Jesuit-run high school is one of only three high schools on the island.

As president of Xavier, Father Devine worked with the members of the Jesuit community and kept the school running smoothly. The community at Xavier comprised 16 adults and two children, representing a variety of nationalities and cultures. Among the community were two American Jesuits, a scholastic (Jesuit studying to become a priest), two Indonesian scholastics, six Micronesian staff members — including the principal — four international Jesuit volunteers and one Filipino. Also living at the school are 140 boarding students — 45 girls and 95 boys — from neighboring islands.

Xavier's campus is located on property that was owned by Spanish Jesuits prior to World War II. During the war, the Japanese occupied the site, and constructed a communications bunker, which is currently being used by the school.

After the war, the United States assumed

control of Micronesia, later selling the Xavier property back to the Jesuits for \$1,000.

Xavier opened in 1952 — two years after the establishment of McQuaid — and graduated its first class in 1956. One of these early graduates is now the president of the Micronesian Republic of Pelau.

About 900 kids take Xavier's entrance examination each year, and about 40 percent are accepted. In part, acceptance is based on a quota system that designates a certain number of admissions to each of the various areas of Micronesia — a 3,000-mile span. As a result, about 10 different languages are spoken by Xavier students, which initially poses a bit of a problem. To solve that difficulty, Xavier uses English as a common language. In this way, the classes can flow a bit more smoothly, as the teachers use English not only as a unifying force but also as an instructive tool.

Xavier students study many of the same subjects we do, but their schedule differs widely from ours. All students must take English twice a day — one class for grammar, the other class for literature. Xavier students also take three years of mathematics, science and history, as well as four years of theology.

Their history courses, however, are slightly different from ours, in that their first and third years of history consider the history of Micronesia. The second year focuses on European history, much as ours does. Xavier also offers physics and pre-calculus as senior electives, along with two computer courses.

With such heavy emphasis on academics,



Father Donald Devine sits among memorabilia he collected from the island of Moen, where he worked before coming to McQuaid.

it's no wonder that 85 percent of the students go on to college. Many of them return to Truk after college, which is helpful to the state's development.

And, as that Micronesian student adjusts to life in a large college, Father Devine is

readjusting to McQuaid, which he believes will be his permanent home. I would hazard a guess that the 1986/87 school year will be far different from Father Devine's last experience. But without change, life would certainly be dull.

## Speaking Out

By Kathleen Morgan  
DeSales High School

I think we'd all agree that one of the biggest problems facing high school students today is drug abuse. And now, more than ever, the focus is on the abuse of cocaine.

Cocaine abuse has never really received the full attention it deserved. It was not thought of as being highly dangerous or addictive, and for years people thought that it was used only by those with money — the celebrities and fast-trackers, not the neighborhood kids. Today, however, it is no longer escaping the sordid reputation that it deserves — that of a dangerous and deadly drug.

A major reason for this attention is the appearance of cocaine in a new form called crack. Crack is a cocaine freebase, in which powdered cocaine is mixed with baking soda and water. It hardens, and is broken into small lumps. Crack is smoked in a cigarette or a pipe. Many factors make crack attractive to kids today: it's easy to use, inexpensive and easily attainable. Crack is also highly potent, much more so than powdered cocaine. The euphoria is obtained in only a few seconds — it takes effect almost immediately and is much more intense. The high from crack also lasts longer, and causes the user to come down harder. Crack also poses an added danger because it causes the heart rate to quicken dramatically and the blood pressure to rise. Heart and lung problems often occur among users, as well as seizures. The most terrifying

thing about crack, however, is that in only a couple of weeks, a kid can develop a lifetime dependence upon cocaine.

Many organizations today have been set up to help young addicts face their problems and win their battle against cocaine. Such organizations only help the person after he or she has developed the problem, however, and cocaine addiction is considered to be a lifelong illness. Many programs have also been designed to teach young people about the dangers of cocaine. The number of people that these programs actually reach, however, is a relatively small one, unfortunately.

I think that the best way — in fact, the only way — to fight the drug problem in our schools today is to actually change the attitudes of society. How can parents teach their children to respect the dangers of drugs when they don't hesitate to have a drink to relax or take a sleeping pill to fall asleep? We are truly a drug culture, from aspirin to nicotine, from our health habits to our social lives. And because these drugs are so acceptable in society, it is often difficult for young people to see the dangers in such other drugs as cocaine. The danger of cocaine addiction most definitely is there, however, and it is growing rapidly.

I feel that the cocaine epidemic can be stopped, but it will take the full cooperation of everyone. We must end our dependence upon drugs in everyday life. It starts with cigarettes, alcohol, aspirin, vitamins and cold medicines. If we change the attitudes of society toward drugs, then the influence of drugs upon our youth will in turn disappear. The change will not come quickly or easily, but if and when it does, our battle against drug addiction will be won.

## Equal Time

Our Lady of Mercy High School  
Should there be drug testing in high school athletics?

SUSAN MAZUROWSKI, Junior

Yes, drug testing should be enforced at the high-school level. If an athlete is using drugs in high school, (that use) will progress with him or her to the college level. With drug testing, the problem can be detected, and the athlete will have a better chance of rehabilitation. If the athlete says that he or she is not taking drugs, then he or she shouldn't mind taking a drug test because there's nothing to hide.



TRICIA REID, Senior

Yes, I believe that the high school has the right to know whether or not an athlete is taking drugs, because these drugs affect performance during the game, which later reflects on the school. The testing will discourage athletes from taking drugs because they will know that the end result will be that they cannot participate in their sport.



KRISTEN WHITE, Freshman

I feel drug testing in school sports is a good idea. If kids are under the influence of drugs, they won't be able to perform to the best of their abilities. Therefore, they are not only hurting themselves, they are also hurting the team.



STEPHANIE SELNER, Sophomore

Yes, I feel there should be drug testing in high-school sports because drugs are illegal, but I also feel that drug testing could be intruding on an athlete's personal life. However, I feel people look up to students who are in sports, so my answer is yes!



## HOUSE OF GUITARS

We received 13 correct entries identifying **Roberta Flack** as the recording artist of the Top 40 Hit "The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face"



The winner was **Jeffrey Jodoin** of McQuaid High School

## MUSIC TRIVIA

This week's question:

What color door did the Rolling Stones want painted black?

A:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
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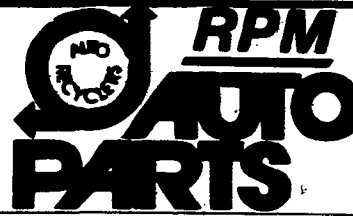
### Rules:

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 in 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 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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