



Back to basics

GeVa's recent production of 'Inherit the Wind' has inspired an examination of the central issue raised during the Scopes trial: the great creation debate. See page 9.



Gaining respect

Rodney Griffin gains both yardage and respect in Franklin's win over Aquinas; Cardinal Mooney continues to roll in boys' soccer. See Pages 17 and 18.

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World & Nation in Brief from NC News

World

Mother Teresa unhurt

Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania — A small aircraft carrying Nobel peace laureate Mother Teresa of Calcutta killed five when it veered into a crowd after an aborted takeoff in central Tanzania.

Mother Teresa, 76, founder of the Missionaries of Charity, was shaken but unhurt in the accident. An Indian member of her order was among the dead. The accident occurred Oct. 11 at the Hombolo missionary center about 200 miles west of the Tanzanian capital, Dar es Salaam, where Mother Teresa had gone to visit one of her order's convents.

Document due out on debt

Vatican City — The Vatican plans to publish a document before the end of 1986 on the Third World's mounting foreign debt crisis, said a Vatican official helping prepare the document.

The Vatican also announced in June that the foreign debt problem would be one of the themes discussed in the 1987 papal World Peace Day message.

The debt document will be an additional statement and probably will be released before World Peace Day Jan. 1, said the Vatican official, who asked not to be named.

Catholic involvement urged

Pretoria, South Africa — Representatives of South Africa's official Catholic movements urged lay Catholics to peacefully battle racial injustice in society and the church. Participants in an Oct. 11-12 meeting also encouraged lay movements to back the campaign to end the military draft. "The time has come to take sides by making a clear option for the oppressed," the delegates said in a program of action released at the end of the conference Oct. 12.

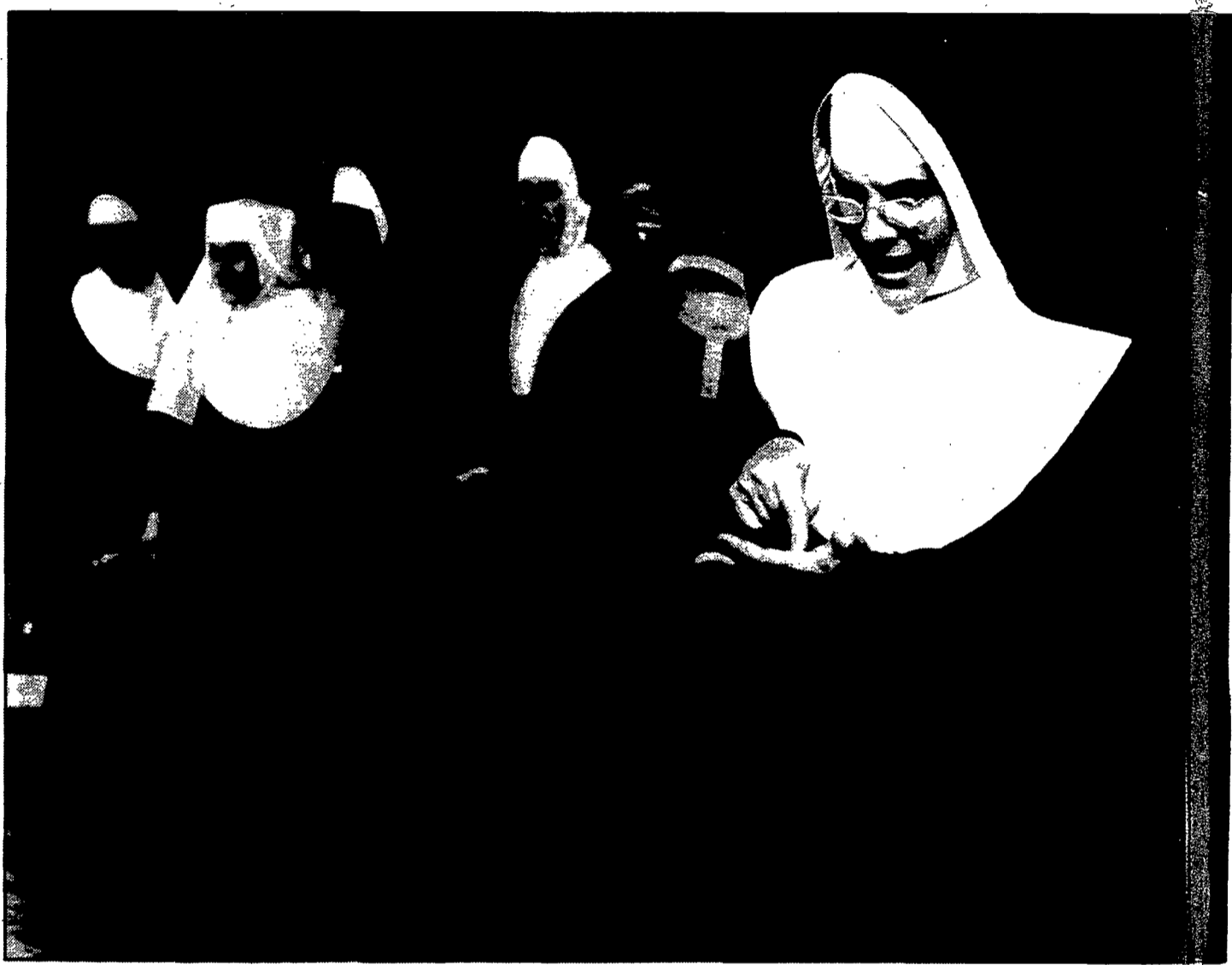
Nation

Birth control use draws fire

New York — News that nine public high schools in New York have been distributing contraceptives for the past two years drew sharp protests in early October from the Archdiocese of New York and the Diocese of Brooklyn. "At a time when educators at the highest levels are speaking of the crying need for values in education, is this clandestine effort not establishing promiscuity rather than restraint as part of the value system for young Americans?" asked Auxiliary Bishop Edward M. Egan, vicar for education in the New York Archdiocese.

Ordination issue 'inescapable'

Washington — The women's ordination issue is a symbol of the "inescapable agenda" facing the Catholic Church today, a Canadian bishop told participants in a conference on "Women in the Church" in Washington. "The issue of women's ordination has become a symbol of the willingness or refusal of the Catholic Church to come to grips with the challenges presented by contemporary society," Bishop Remi J. De Roo of Victoria, British Columbia, said in the closing address at the Oct. 10-12 conference, which attracted more than 2,500 participants.



'Nunsensical' hi-jinks

Jeff Goulding/Courier-Journal

Reverend Mother Mary Regina (Phyl Contestable), far right, makes an emphatic point in Downstairs Cabaret's production of 'Nonsense.' At left, her quaking subordinates respond in four-part harmony. For story, see page 8.

Ecumenical group's fast protests contra aid

By Karen M. Franz

In an effort to awaken Rochesterians and all U.S. citizens from complacency in regard to our government's actions in Nicaragua, eight local representatives of various religious denominations announced Wednesday, Oct. 8, that they had begun a three-day fast in solidarity with four Washington-



Jeff Goulding/Courier-Journal

Rabbi Judea Miller, left, of Temple B'rith Kodesh, described the ecumenical group's fast. At right is the Rev. Richard S. Gilbert, pastor of First Unitarian Church.

based veterans who last month undertook an open-ended fast in protest of U.S. involvement in that country.

"What has happened with these four men who are fasting in Washington is that they have reminded me of the call of conscience. Perhaps we were numbed and fatigued by the efforts of the Vietnam War," said fast participant Rabbi Judea Miller of a seeming lack of interest in the message the four veterans are staking their lives to make.

Rabbi Miller, leader of Temple B'rith Kodesh, spoke Oct. 8 at the ad hoc ecumenical group's press conference at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse.

The four veterans — one, a former Catholic priest who recently renounced a Congressional Medal of Honor he received for his service in Vietnam — say they will fast until they recognize a "significant signal of protest ... from U.S. citizens condemning U.S. government policies in Central America."

A written statement distributed to the press said the eight Rochesterians "have come to feel compelled to speak out against what they perceive as an undeclared U.S. war in Nicaragua."

The Rev. Richard S. Gilbert of the First Unitarian Church was instrumental in arranging for the eight religious representatives to fast as a group and to bring their concerns to the local media. In the press release, the Rev. Gilbert said, "As people of conscience, we feel we must do all we can to call our community's attention to the war in Nicaragua. We believe it is our responsibility to take a leading role in raising our voices

against the violence our country is perpetrating against Nicaragua."

Other participants in the fast were: Sister Elizabeth Anne LeValley, superior general of the Sisters of St. Joseph; Father James Callan, pastor of Corpus Christi Church; Intern Minister Kathleen McTigue of the First Unitarian Church; Randy Baker of the Rochester Zen Center; Sister Kathleen Weider, SSJ, assistant chaplain of Nazareth College; and Isabel Morrison, coordinator of Action of Church and Community Together of the Downtown Presbyterian Church.

At the outset of the press conference, the Rev. Gilbert said the group's fast is designed to show solidarity with the suffering people in Nicaragua and with the veterans who are fasting in Washington.

The Washington fasters are Charles Litekey, 55, former U.S. Catholic Army chaplain in Vietnam and recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor, which he renounced in July as part of the protest; George Mizo, 40, U.S. Army combat veteran of Vietnam; Duncan Murphy, 66, former member of the U.S. Army Ambulance Corps and World War II combat veteran; and S. Brian Willson, 45, former U.S. Air Force security officer and Vietnam veteran.

On the day of the Rochester press conference, Litekey and Mizo had been fasting for 38 days; Murphy and Willson were in day 24. As of press time — Tuesday, Oct. 14 — the count had reached 44 days for Litekey and Mizo. All four veterans appeared that morning on the Donahue Show, and were

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