

COURIER-JOURNAL/
CATHOLIC CHARITIES
CHRISTMAS FUND
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domination. This dream came true when they defected to Italy and were admitted six months ago to the United States as refugees. Mrs. T. is now studying English, and Catholic Family Center is helping Mr. T. to find employment.

37 Mr. and Mrs. M. and their young child are Ethiopian refugees who have been in the United States for one year. He is an accountant, but has only been able to find temporary employment. She was trained as a nurse's aide in her country, but recently was helped by Catholic Family Center to find employment as a housekeeper at a hotel. They are still struggling to become economically self-sufficient and are thankful for the help and acceptance they have received since coming to Rochester.

38 T. and B. are a sister and brother who escaped from Laos. After three years in a refugee camp in Thailand they were accepted for resettlement in the United States. This was not their first attempt to escape. In 1982, they were pushed back from the shores of Thailand into the Mekong River and were forced to swim back to the Laotian border. There, they were captured and jailed. Although they are now happy to be free in the United States, they worry about the rest of their family left behind in Laos. Catholic Family Center, through the Inter-Church Refugee Assistance Program, is helping them to become adjusted to their new life.

39 Ms. C. is a young single parent with two small children, living on a public assistance grant. She was working but couldn't find adequate day care, so she was forced to quit. Her youngest child has an ongoing medical problem that necessitates frequent trips to the doctor.

40 Mrs. R.S. endured many tragedies and hardships in Cambodia. Eight months ago, she found refuge in Rochester through the Refugee Resettlement Program at Catholic Family Center. However, as the widowed mother of six children, ages 1 to 12, she is now struggling to survive in a strange, new environment. Catholic Family Center continues to provide guidance, support and friendship.

41 P.S. is a three-year old Cambodian child with only five percent vision. She was born in a refugee camp, where malnutrition and poor medical care probably contributed to her blindness. She is now enrolled in a special training program provided by BOCES. Her father attends English classes and works with Catholic Family Center to prepare himself for employment. Her mother, who has medical problems, remains at home to care for another child 1 1/2 years old. This young family has only been in the United States for six months and will need the service of Catholic Family Center's Refugee Program for some time.

42 Mrs. M. is a 39-year old Vietnamese mother who patiently and courageously fought for several years to obtain an exit permit for herself and her three children. She arrived in the United States about a year ago. The only baggage she brought with her was a lack of English skills, a very limited education, little familiarity with American culture and tremendous anxiety. However, she also possessed a strong will and a strong body from years of working as a farmer. Soon after arriving in the United States, she willingly accepted a low-paying job in order to avoid public assistance. She is unable, however, to completely support her family on her low wages. She will continue to need help for awhile as she improves her English and as Catholic Family Center assists her towards her goal of becoming self-supporting.

43 J. is a 23-year-old single parent with two little girls. Her husband deserted her a year ago, and his whereabouts have

been unknown ever since. J. is a highly motivated young woman, an impeccable housekeeper (even though her furnishings are sparse), and an affectionate mother. You can make her Christmas bright by providing household articles and gifts for the children.

44 A. is a 15-year-old mother of a two-month old baby. She is struggling to grow up fast and, with her mother's help, is taking good care of the baby. A. attends school every day and hopes to graduate in two years. She is looking forward to an office career, through which she can support herself and her baby.

45 On Charlotte's first visit to Catholic Family Center, she came by bus, bringing along her two children, for whom she could not afford to hire a babysitter. Charlotte has done a pretty good job of taking care of herself, having lived on her own since she was twelve. Now, at age 20, she still lives independently, aided only by public assistance she receives in order to support her two children, Sharon, age two, and Mark, six months old. Both children need warm winter clothing and toys to brighten their otherwise bleak Christmas.

46 A disabled, diabetic grandfather and grandmother recovering from back surgery live on Social Security. They need a single bed and mattress for their 14-year-old grandson, who is 6'3" tall, has outgrown everything, and is too young to get a steady job to help out.

47 Sam, disabled and on crutches, cares for his wife and daughters, ages 18, 16, 13, on the family's small Social Security allowance. They need many basic commodities

in their inner-city apartment.

48 These disabled parents, both recovering from cancer surgery, are caring for their children, Louise, 21; Becky, 10 (who suffers from cerebral palsy and is in a wheelchair); Michael, 20, who is in special education; and granddaughter Liza, 1. The family needs many extras their small budget does not cover.

49 P. a divorced single parent from another culture, who would work if she could, suffers from a physical disability, making it impossible for her to maintain a job at this time. Along with coping with her own physical limitations, P. has a two-year old daughter who has had congenital heart problems, and underwent open heart surgery this past summer. Recovery has been a long process for this little girl, but things seem to be going well for both P. and her daughter. Finances are very tight in this family, which is currently being supported by public assistance. P. spends extra money on her daughter and items not covered by insurance. Food or clothing would be sincerely appreciated by this family.

50 G.S., a single father with terminal cancer, lives with his 9-year old son. This father and son have a special and close relationship with one another. Medical treatments have been emotionally draining for both father and son, but through their hope and love for each other, they are surviving. G.S. supports himself and his son through public assistance and does a good job of making ends meet, although no extra money is left for Christmas presents. Clothing or food would be appreciated by this family.

Hoopla

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provide the Crusaders with a potent scoring punch, and J.P. Bernatavitz and Pat Lynch provide steady play at the guard position.

Players who saw quite a bit of playing time on the JV team last year, who will be looked to for offensive production this season include Scott Lang, Sean Murray and Christian Falkenberg. Falkenberg is a 6'3" junior who should be exciting to watch for Crusader fans.

John Phillips also returns for Johnston. Phillips attained valuable sectional experience when he was called up from the JV team late in the season.

Mike Agan, Mark Nicosia and Mike Mesuch should also see some playing time.

"We feel our experience is inside, but we'll still look to the fast break like we've done for years," said Johnston, who is both athletic director and a guidance counselor at Notre Dame. "We want to make it cloudy for them (opposing teams) sometimes so they don't know what they're up against."

Notre Dame has a grueling road to the sectionals, but Johnston said the regular season schedule provides his squad with what it needs to go far in the post-season tourney.

"In our league you really can't slight anyone," said Johnston, citing Elmira Free Acade-

my, Hornell, Southside, and Corning East and West as examples. EFA went all the way to the state final against Manhasset of Long Island.

"But we're looking forward to battling for the league title just like we've done in the past," Johnston said.

The Crusaders open the season against Seton Catholic from Binghamton on December 6.

Prediction: As Ferris and Vecellio go, so go the Crusaders. Count on the Crusaders winning some games they probably have no right to during the regular season, and proving they are one of the best small schools in Section 4 when they reach the sectionals.

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