



All the lonely people

Highland Hospital's chaplain, Sister Susan Schantz, SSJ, offers practical suggestions for coping with loneliness and loss during the holiday season. See Page 5.



Taking pride

For the past 40 years, the School of the Holy Childhood has served up its special recipe of hope for mentally handicapped children and adults. See Page 7.

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World & Nation in Brief from NC News

World

AIDS likened to Chernobyl

London — The AIDS crisis is "a moral Chernobyl" which will force people to reconsider personal and sexual relationships, said Cardinal George Basil Hume of Westminster, England. "Just as Chernobyl made us question what we were doing with our human environment, so I think this AIDS question, agonizing though it is, is going to force us to consider our attitude toward personal relationships, human relationships, and how sexuality fits into that," he said in a television interview.

China-Rome rift continues

Rome — Progress has been slow in resolving differences over religious relations between the Catholic Church and Chinese officials, the Vatican's top diplomat said. Secretary of State Cardinal Agostino Casaroli added that the Vatican sees the China problem as both simple and complex. "Simple because it is enough that they accept the common hierarchy — and then not too many other things would be asked (of them)," he said. "The real problem is communion (with Rome.)" But Chinese authorities, who sponsor the National Association of Patriotic Catholics, which rejects ties with Rome, are apparently not about to change their position, the cardinal said. "I think that in this case, it's the Chinese more than we who are going slowly," he said.

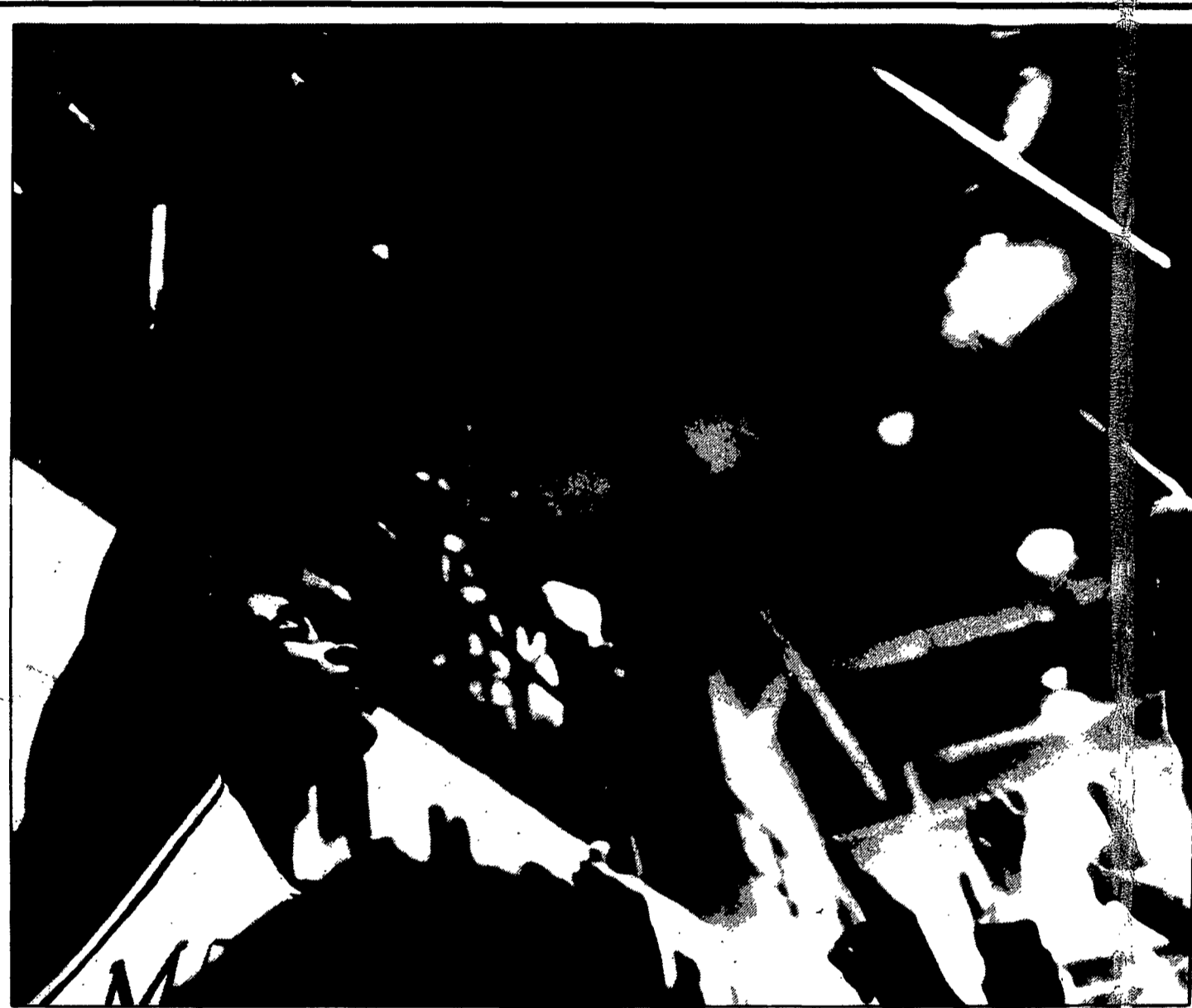
Nation

Contraception plan draws fire

Washington — A national panel's recommendations Dec. 9 to reduce the number of teen pregnancies through more abortion and contraception "are exactly the recommendations made over 15 years ago by Planned Parenthood," said Richard Doerflinger, assistant director of the U.S. bishops' Committee for Pro-Life Activities. "Those proposals have been tried and have failed miserably," he said, and the panel has proposed only "more of the same." The panel, the National Research Council, is affiliated with the National Academy of Sciences.

Immigration report available

Washington — A report spelling out who will qualify for legalization under the new immigration reform law has been published by the U.S. Catholic Conference's Department of Migration and Refugee Services. The four-page report also describes the penalties to which employers are subject for hiring illegal aliens. Written in Spanish and English and in question-and-answer form, it is available in diocesan resettlement offices. The new federal immigration law approved by Congress in October will allow an untold number of illegal aliens to apply for legal status.



Jeff Goulding/Courier Journal

WINNING KNIGHT — Riding high after his team's 59-58 upset of East, McQuaid Glenn Taggart gets the hero's treatment from some of the more than 800 fans in attendance at McQuaid. For details of the Knights' thrilling one-point win, see Page 13.

CUF chapter sparked protest against book

By Teresa A. Parsons

Vatican officials left a Spencerport woman feeling surprised but vindicated last month when they ordered Bishop Matthew H. Clark to remove his imprimatur from the book "Parents Talk Love."

It has been more than a year since Margaret Nolan, a parishioner at St. John the Evangelist Church in Spencerport, brought the book to the attention of fellow members of the Rochester chapter of Catholics United for the Faith (CUF).

"I felt I was doing the right thing," she said. "If a cardinal did this, I have to feel he backed it (her action) up."

A parent and former school board member, Nolan became concerned after attending a "Parents Talk Love" workshop presented by the book's authors, Father Matthew Kawiak and Susan Sullivan, who were both then working in her parish. When their book was published in November, 1985, she bought and read a copy.

"If you had attended the workshop, you would have seen for yourself there was a strong stress on masturbation and homosexuality. The same thing is true throughout the book," she said. "I just thought that — knowing how it had been taught ... if it didn't follow the correct teaching of the Church — it should be brought to the attention of somebody else."

Other CUF members studied the book and agreed that it did not represent the Church's teaching on sex. Some members, including Nolan, wrote individual letters outlining their objections; others drafted a letter from

the chapter.

Most sent copies to Bishop Clark and to Vatican officials, including Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger of the Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, and to Cardinal Edouard Gagnon, president of the Pontifical Council on the Family.

Cardinal Gagnon responded to several writers, thanking them for the information. Neither Bishop Clark nor Cardinal Ratzinger responded directly to the letters, according to CUF members.

Parents in other dioceses were also concerned about "Parents Talk Love," according to James Likoudis, CUF's international vice president and a longtime member of the Buffalo chapter. "I know of parents right here in Buffalo who were upset," he said.

While he acknowledged that CUF members in both Rochester and Buffalo had written letters about the book, Likoudis said he did not know whether their letters prompted the Vatican action.

"I don't think it would be correct to claim exclusive credit for this," he said. "I don't know why the Holy See does what it does when it does it. There's no question that the CUF chapter in Rochester, CUF people in Buffalo and I'm sure other lay people and groups reacted similarly to bring this book to the attention of the Holy See."

Unlike traditionalist groups who reject the reforms of the Second Vatican Council, CUF was established in 1968 by Catholic lay persons who claim to fully support the

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76 J., whose wife left him six months ago, has custody of their three children, ages 2, 4, and 6. As the result of an almost fatal accident last year, J. is no longer able to work full-time. He has moved into a temporary home closer to his extended family, but doesn't have sufficient resources to provide adequately for himself and his children.

77 B. and H., both in their seventies, are raising their five-year-old grandson, whose mother abandoned him as an infant.

The couple's Social Security does not provide enough money for them to make necessary repairs on their home's heating system. They are providing a safe, loving home for their grandson and don't want to lose him.

78 C. and A. were doing well on their dairy farm until a few years ago, when their land was flooded and they lost the crop they used to feed the animals. Buying feed only put them further in debt. In each successive year, they have hoped it would rain less and the crop would flourish — but each year C. and A. have lost part or all of their planting. Now they are deeply in debt and can't find a buyer for their land. For the first

Continued on Page 18