

# ECHO ECHO ECHO ECHO

## Students consider part-time jobs demanding, educational

By Cynthia Yantz  
Nazareth Academy

As the 2:30 p.m. bell rings, students leave their classes in a bustle of activity and a flurry of noise. Although almost all the students leave school rapidly, their destinations differ. Some are anxious to get home in time to relax in front of a 3 p.m. soap opera or to get a start on their homework. Others, however, hurry to get to work on time.

In a recent survey at Nazareth Academy, seniors were asked about their part-time jobs. Among the questions on the survey were: "Do you have a job?" "Where do you work?" "Do you earn more than the minimum wage?" and, "How do you spend the money you earn?"

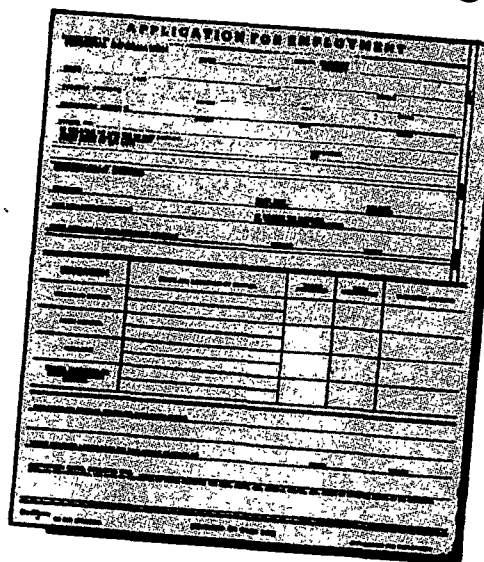
The survey results provided some interesting information. Eighty-four percent of the seniors polled said they were working part time and, in some cases, students reported having more than one job. Fifteen percent of the students who work said they earn the minimum wage; the remaining 85 percent earn \$3.40 to \$5.

Seniors said that the spending money is the

most important factor to teenagers who are considering part-time jobs. Money spells independence of a sort, yet the seniors noted that earning an income is sometimes a double-edged sword. On the one hand, when a girl gets a job, her parents generally stop buying some items they had previously paid for (clothing, for example). And some parents expect their daughters' new incomes to pay tuition, to help with the family bills or to be deposited into savings accounts in preparation for college expenses.

The survey also revealed that most students find balancing school work, a job and some kind of social life to be very difficult. But, as students reported, a part-time job can be an education in itself. "It is important to have a job because it gives teenagers a sense of responsibility and, hopefully, teaches them to manage their time wisely," explained Kerry Lum, a Nazareth senior who works at Monroe Microfilm, Inc.

Moreover, a job allows student to use skills learned in school and to obtain skills that are not taught in the classroom. Students who



responded to the survey reported that their jobs allowed them to meet new people, gain practical experience in the working world and explore different directions they may want to take

after graduation.

Everyone grumbles at one time or another about his or her job, but of the seniors polled, 73 percent said that they actually enjoyed their work. In addition, however, they were quick to point out that part-time jobs do entail some disadvantages. Above all, students stated that their jobs interfere with their ability to do their homework assignments. After a long day — six and one-half hours at school, and four to six hours on the job — students usually are not in the frame of mind to do their homework. As a result, many students-employees occasionally — or frequently, in some cases — arrive at school unprepared for the day's classes. Survey respondents listed fatigue, headaches and a lack of social activity as additional disadvantages of part-time work.

The overall recommendation that could be drawn from the survey results is that students who are considering part-time work should decide whether they are willing to give up other activities in order to work and whether they will be able to handle the extra demands a job will create.

### Equal Time

Cardinal Mooney High School  
What is the most positive contribution that you can make to your school?

GINA GIANCURSIO, sophomore—soccer:

One of the biggest contributions that I can make is to excel scholastically while getting involved in sports, so that I can make a name for myself and my school.



LISA SERIO, senior—newspaper:

The most positive contribution that I can make to my school is my involvement, which in turn generates school spirit. Through my hard work and dedication, others will pick up the enthusiasm and see us (Mooney students) as a community.



STEVE BRIEN, senior—PA announcer:

The most positive contribution I can give to my school is my time, not necessarily in service but in participation — going to sporting events, attending musicals or other activities. These are all an important part of high school.



ED BROWNE, senior—swim team:

The most positive thing I can do is to get involved in school activities. If every student entered at least one extra-curricular activity, it would produce a lot of students who cared about the school and what happens here.



ALISA BROOKINS, senior—Honor Society officer:

The best contribution that I can give my school would be a positive attitude — a positive attitude toward my school work and my teachers. This would make our school a nicer and happier place to be.



TOM MOLL, senior—Student Senate:

Pride in one's school is the most positive contribution that an individual can give, because it provides a healthy atmosphere in which to learn, to teach and to be every day.



### Speaking Out

By Drita Zenelovic

Bishop Kearney High School

Communication breakdowns and the inability to talk have become the greatest enemies of people in my age group. Adolescence is the time to begin exploring life and emotions, but instead, teenagers are silent about what they have learned.

This silence is not brought about by choice. Many teens have never developed the art of talking meaningfully. A teen can talk on the telephone for three hours straight and then not remember a thing that he or she had said.

But the problem goes much deeper than that. In their early teens, kids need the emotional support that will enable them to develop an ability to talk to their parents. What one says is not always what one means.

The major problem is the pressure to conform. The phrases "but everyone does it" and "what are you going to do with the rest of your life?" make a teen feel inner resentment. As a result, communicating is harder, because those frequently

used phrases sting. Many teenagers hide behind "you don't understand me." Understanding may be impossible to achieve, because one must open oneself to another by means of communication.

Many teens carry into their adult years an inability to communicate. When primary relationships fail, the chances are reduced for others to succeed at communicating with such people later on.

It isn't entirely the fault of the teens, however. Parents are sometimes unable to communicate because of their own insecurities. Some parents are afraid of rejection, and this lack of confidence strengthens the walls that divide the generations.

Despite such barriers, teens should try to break through. Today, some kids consider it mature to "hate" their parents. This causes the gap to widen even further. I believe that the best way to break down those walls is for teens to see their parents as equals and for parents to see their children as adults.

Maybe then we will talk to each other more openly.

### Group sponsors art contest for elementary-school students

Monroe County students in grades one through six are invited to enter the "America the Musical" art contest, sponsored by the Monroe County School Music Association.

Entries may range from drawings, painting or collages to sculptures of clay or other media and small constructions.

Winners will receive ribbons and their creations will be displayed at Marketplace Mall in March.

The deadline for entries is February 24. For information contact Barbara Chadwick at School No. 23, 170 Barrington St., Rochester.

### Employment program needs help from Monroe County residents

GROW, the employment program of Regional Council on Aging, is seeking unemployed Monroe County suburban residents 45 and older to participate in a half-day discussion session. This focus group will

consider effective outreach strategies. Participants will be provided a small stipend.

To apply for the focus group, contact the main office at (716) 225-3209.

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### HOUSE OF GUITARS

We received 26 correct entries identifying "A Horse With No Name" as the 1972 America song.

The winner was Nick Pieramico of Penfield



### MUSIC TRIVIA

#### This week's question:

From what 1977 James Taylor song do the following lyrics come from; "I'm handy with love and I'm no fool."

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
School \_\_\_\_\_

A:

#### 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.

The Courier-Journal  
Music Trivia  
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