Thursday, May 21, 1987

COURIER-JOURNAL

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Nazareth Academy students help the needy in rural Alabama

By Cynthia Yantz

Nazareth Academy We have all been told about the prejudice and degrading conditions that still exist in the rural South today, yet most of us have never actually seen these conditions or talked with people who have experienced them. During this past Easter vacation, however, eight high school students accompanied by Sister Marilyn Pray and Donna DelSanto traveled to the rural South.

From April 12 to April 23, Nazareth Academy seniors Lora Wise, Kerry Lum, Christine Foley, Maria Padula and Kathy Lambert, along with juniors Sally DeCarolis and Amy Sauter and Mercy junior Marlene Mendola, spent time in both Selma and Pine Apple, Alabama, assisting the needy.

The girls were divided into two groups. One group worked in Selma while the others



Nazareth senior Kathy Lambert (front) assists in applying tarpaper to a house

worked in Pine Apple, and after several days they switched locations. In Pine Apple, the girls repaired a house by putting tarpaper on the sides. At the local school, Moore Academy, some of the girls explained the basics of computer use to fourth-, fifth-, and sixth-graders. Because it was Eastertime, they also organized an Easter egg hunt, which the smaller children enjoyed immensely.

In Selma, some of the girls helped out in day care and nursery school at the community center. They sorted clothing, mailed letters to congressional representatives and helped out at the local soup kitchen. They even helped clean a house for two elderly, incapacitated women who were basically confined to one room.

The things the girls saw left a large impression upon them. "Selma is a place that you know is there, but you never understand or realize just what it is all about," Lora Wise remarked.

The houses the girls had repaired and cleaned were really shacks made out of scraps, with only cardboard for insulation. The girls could see the ground through cracks in the floor, and in many of the places there was no running water.

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Kerry Lum wasn't expecting the prominence of the social differences between blacks and whites. "I was surprised at the underlying discrimination," she said. "After talking to the people there, you could easily identify it."

For each of the girls, the Alabama experience offered hard work and a bit of culture shock, yet all of them enjoyed the opportunity to help people who so clearly needed assistance. The warmth and friendliness of the people there helped to make the girls' stay enjoyable.



By Rebecca Fewkes Bishop Kearney High School

To me, the expanding controversy which has come to be called "Iranscam" is an utterly confusing situation. Countless incoherent news articles present innumerable views on the controversy.

There are two problems here. First, the more we learn about the Iran-Iraq situation, the more complicated and convoluted it gets. Every day, we hear more second-hand reports of new twists in the case. The second problem lies in the fact that modern communication allows special-interest factions to make political use of situations such as these. No one knows who's telling the straight story. Our leaders are failing to consider the situation in light of our national principles, which would help them to find a solution.

The simplest critique of the events is this. Iran and Iraq are small countries and traditional enemies. It is relatively well-known that the USSR has assumed the tutelage of Iraq; the Mideastern country is under a terrorist communistic regime. Now the United States has begun to swap arms — presumably for hostages - with Iran. So far it seems simple. But at the same time, our government is supporting other small Mideastern countries in attacks on Iran. This weakens the country and indirectly helps the causes of the Iraquis and the Soviets.

This certainly appears to be a power play without regard for human life, but there are also economic factors. The Persian Gulf, dually controlled on one side by Iran and Iraq, is a rich field of crude oil. This explains why the United States is willing to work with either side.

Iran used to supply this nation with oil; Iraq also provided a good amount. Today, the crude oil of the Persian Gulf is sold not only to the United States, but to Japan and many European nations as well. The crude oil from other parts of the world is also distributed largely to the United States.

If Iran and Iraq stopped supplying Europe and Japan, these oil-thirsty nations would have to seek other markets; consequently, we would lose our nearly exclusive access to oil from other parts of the world. This would mean high costs, because the United States would then have to bargain for its oil. There's nothing like growing demand to raise the price of any commodity, and no one likes to spend a dollar if a quarter will do.

It appears that the United States is playing a chess game, and playing on both sides. The people affected by our foreign policy are treated simply as pawns. And that's where Iranscam stops being just a game. Lives are at stake, and if the United States continues with this policy, we will checkmate ourselves for good. Somebody has to come up with a solution.

I say it's time to get back to the basics. The United States has to straighten out its twisted foreign policy - to slow down and reset its priorities. I'm not calling for isolationism, but for a re-examination of the goals and values that brought this nation together in the first place. Our leaders should go to the root of the confusion and find out what really happened. Complicated maneuvers might win a war — they have in the past — but they don't bring real peace. A straightforward, ethical approach is necessary.

I realize that this solution offers complications of its own, because it requires abandoning all original pretense. It won't be easy, but it is a solution simpler than the problem.

<u> Loual lime</u> SUE PODGORSKI, junior I feel that if people believe in God, then they should show you in the simplest way how they feel and try to make you believe just that. Why should we have to give so much money for what we believe in? And I think TV should show all the evangelism they do but fund the reality behind it. But don't make spectacles of the people who

are only trying to help us believe a little

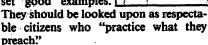
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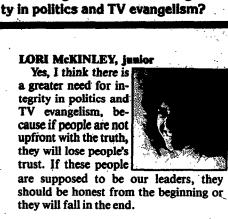


look up to, and we should be proud that they represent us.

LORA BATTISTI, junior

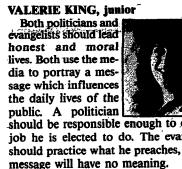
Yes. I think there is a greater need for integrity in politics and TV evangelists. The people who run our country and even those religious should set good examples.



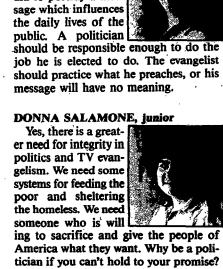


Cardinal Mooney High School

Is there a greater need for integri-



Yes, there is a greating to sacrifice and give the people of America what they want. Why be a politician if you can't hold to your promise? Who wants to vote for someone who can't help the economy and only hinder it?



HOU	SE (DF G	UITAI	RS
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We received 13 correct entries identifying The Doobie Brothers as the recording artists of their #1 song, "Black Water."

The winner was Jeff Ferruzza of Rochester		
of notnester		

MUSIC TRIVIA

This	wee	k's	question:
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Who recorded the following #1 song; "Rock Me Gently?"

Name	
Address	
City	State
Zip Code	

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 ans guestion. 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 papers issue date. Winning names and answers will be printed the week following each drawing.

The Courier-Journal **Music Trivia** 1150 Buffalo Rd. Rochester, N.Y. 14624

