

Echo

Mental Health Players use role-playing as teaching tool

By Anthony Wang

Elmira Notre Dame High School

Everybody has to deal with problems. Often these problems can be handled without a lot of difficulty. There are some, however, who are unable to cope with their problems. For them, life becomes an utter mass of confusion. Unfortunately, most people are unwilling to help, leaving the troubled individuals to deal with problems themselves.

The Mental Health Players at Notre Dame High School overcome an organization that can help people overcome life's obstacles. The primary purpose of this group is to help the community become aware of the mental-health problems of everyday life. In becoming aware of these problems, the community can develop

ways of responding to them.

The founder of the Mental Health Players, John Edwards, started this group in 1969 with the intent of helping the Elmira community accept the newly built psychiatric center, which Edwards considered "community-based."

Edwards, who works at the psychiatric center, wanted to establish a means of community education that would not bore or alienate anyone. Subsequently, he developed the idea of role-playing as a teaching tool.

Role-playing has its advantages. It can be used for virtually any subject. This is important because of the wide range of topics addressed by the group — death, retirement, marital conflict, divorce, mental illness, mental retardation, pregnancy, child abuse and

much more. Role-playing also makes the audience feel part of the situations.

Basically, the role-playing is done like this: The moderator gives the audience an idea of what's going to happen next and the problems that will be discussed. Then the students come out to perform in character. What is unique about this concept is that there are no lines to remember; everything is done spontaneously. The moderator, or psycho-dramatist, leads the student in the beginning, and then the player is on his or her own. While this is going on, the audience can speak directly to the student about what he or she did or what experience is being depicted.

Occasionally, people in the audience will try to advise the character in any of the various

situations. Sometimes the character will be an honor student who drinks heavily at home. Another situation that might be portrayed is that of a mother and daughter arguing over a wild party at their house that resulted in a lot of damage to the house.

Patricia Ladley, who is the administrator of the Notre Dame chapter of the Mental Health Players, said the group offers self-confidence, learning how to relate with others and becoming more well-rounded individuals. All these things could help students in gaining college admission.

"There is a high chance that a person could get more insight to his or her own self by playing the part of another," Ladley observed.

Nazareth's annual food drive to assist Rochester's needy

During the week of Thanksgiving, November 23-25, members of the National Honor Society at Nazareth Academy will conduct their second-annual food drive. Students will collect non-perishable foods and donations to create food baskets for Rochester-area families and to help restock area food cupboards.

After being delivered to the Genesee Valley Food Bank, the food will be distributed to soup kitchens and other non-profit agencies. Two years ago, National Honor Society members collected more than 1,000 pounds of food.

Outside donations are also welcome, and should be delivered to the main office of Nazareth Academy, 1001 Lake Ave., Roches-

ter to the attention of Marcia Habecker.

Nazareth students, faculty and staff will get a glimpse of the world hunger problem at lunchtime on Thursday, Nov. 19, when they participate in Oxfam America's Day of Fast.

The religious studies department and the Christian life committee are sponsoring a bread-and-soup lunch that day to remind students of people who suffer from long-term hunger and malnutrition.

Proceeds from the lunch will be sent to Oxfam to aid in the self-help projects that fund Third World countries.

The day will close with a special prayer service.

Sister Cities Committee to award scholarships to study in Poland

Members of the Krakow-Rochester Sister Cities Committee recently announced that they will award two scholarships for study during the summer of 1988 at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland.

This academic program is six weeks in length, beginning on or about July 10, 1988. The curriculum consists of instruction in Polish-language skills as well as lectures in English that will cover a wide variety of topics relating to Polish history and culture. Weekend excursions to places of historical interest are also part of the program.

Scholarships will pay the full cost of tuition, room and board during the six-week session. Round-trip airfare to Poland, with departure from Toronto Airport, is also covered by the awards.

Applicants must be U.S. citizens permanently residing in the Greater Rochester area. They must be high school graduates with at least one parent of Polish descent. Applicants must also be between 19-35 years of age as of July 1, 1988.

Call (716) 467-0930 for information.

Adult enrichment series set for Cardinal Mooney soon

Sister Anne Marie Fehrenbach, SSI, will conduct a four-week, adult enrichment series on Advent Spirituality in Room 221 of Cardinal Mooney High School, 800 Maiden Lane, Greece from November 30 to December 21.

Session titles and dates are as follows: "God of the Desert" Nov. 30; "Prophetic Poetry" Dec. 7; "Listening As a Biblical Stance" Dec. 14; and "The Word Became Flesh" Dec. 21. All programs will run from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Sister Fehrenbach, who is currently teaching

her seventh year of theology 10 and 11 at Cardinal Mooney, has master's degrees in educational administration from Brockport and in theology from St. Bernard's Seminary.

The fee for the course is \$10. Preregistration and prepayment are required. Deadline for registration is one week before each course is scheduled. Make checks payable to Cardinal Mooney High School.

Call (716) 865-1000 for information.

Conference on youth planned for Holiday Inn in Rochester

"Challenge to Youth: Shaping Tomorrow Today" is the title of a conference about youth as problem solvers scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 19, at the Genesee Plaza Holiday Inn in Rochester.

Conference workshops deal with such areas as career planning, volunteering and job searching. The day will begin with registration at 8:30 a.m., and will wrap up at 4 p.m.

Pre-registration for the conference and the workshops is required. The fee, which includes workshops and lunch, is \$40 for professionals and \$20 for students and senior citizens.

Contact the United Way of Greater Rochester, Volunteer Resources Division, 55 St. Paul St., Rochester, 14604, for information. Registration forms must be returned by November 9.

At McQuaid Jesuit

Does a public official's past affect his present qualifications?

ERIK LIEBEGOTT, senior

I feel that regardless of the past show a great deal of immaturity and the responsibility on the part of an adult, especially a public official. If one is to accept a position in public office, he should be able to live up to the public expectations. His past actions, thus, are an indication of his credibility.



ERIC ONA, senior

To say a person is incompetent because of his past is absurd; people can change and mature as they grow older. Americans expect our government officials to be absolutely pristine and moral, but trying to find someone like this is virtually impossible. How can we judge someone competent by an action in the past when what matters is the future?



As Teens See It

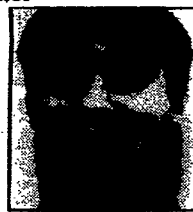
BEJAN SHEMIRANI, senior

I think that rather than being judged on a minor past occurrence, a public official should be viewed in light of his overall experiences and achievements. No one can be expected to have an impeccable past.



SEAN NOONAN, senior

Generally speaking, an average person's past does not reflect their present qualities. But in the case of a person who is about to assume one of the most prestigious positions in our country, their past actions play an important role in establishing their character and gaining the public's trust.



Rochester families needed for student exchange program

Intercambio Internacional de Estudiantes, A.C., a cultural-exchange program, is offering Rochester-area families the opportunity to share their homes with a young boy or girl from Central America. Children will arrive during November, December or January for an eight- to nine-week stay.

Founded in 1959, the Intercambio Program has successfully arranged for more than 50,000 children and families to meet and experience one another's cultures. Intercambio is designed for younger children,

aged 13-17, who are looking for a home with a family that has a youngster of the same age, sex and interests.


These children are sponsored by their own parents, covered by insurance for health and accidents and bring their own spending money.

Families interested in providing room and board, and in sharing their activities can learn more about Intercambio by calling 1-800-437-4170 or writing Intercambio, 3122 Broadway, Fargo, North Dakota 58102.

HOUSE OF GUITARS

Most New Album And Tape Releases Just \$5.98
CD's From \$8.98 - \$11.98 Each

We received 14 correct entries identifying the song; "The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down."



The winner was Peter Schultheis of Bishop Kearney

MUSIC TRIVIA

This week's question:
What was the first Beatles single to be #1 in both England & America?

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____
Zip Code: _____
School: _____


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 Titan 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
1150 Buffalo Rd.
Rochester, N.Y. 14624

ATHLETES OUTLET

Professional Team & Tee-Shirt Headquarters NFL, NBA, NHL

We received 3 correct entries identifying "8" as the number of warmup pitches a reliever gets coming into a baseball game.



The winner was Fred Tillinghast of St. Theodore's

SPORTS TRIVIA

This week's question:
What football team lost the very first Super Bowl?

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____
Zip Code: _____
School: _____

Rules:
Each week, the Courier-Journal, in conjunction with the Athletes Outlet will feature a Sports 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 certificate redeemable for \$5.00 OFF towards any purchase at either of the two Athletes Outlet locations: Long Ridge Mall, next to Sears, or Perinton Square Mall. 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 Sports Trivia
1150 Buffalo Rd.
Rochester, NY 14624