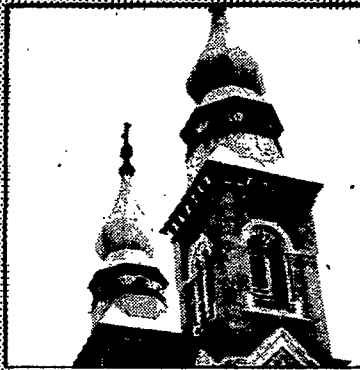




Departing director

Michael Affleck ends four years as the director of St. Joseph's House of Hospitality in July, leaving behind a legacy of social activism and coalitions with other activist groups. Page 16.



Reviewing Redeemer

Officials from the Rochester diocese and Holy Redeemer/St. Francis Xavier parish are reviewing the latest bids on the dry church, and plan to respond to those offers this week. Page 4.

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DPC debates budgetary consultation

By Lee Strong

Following a lively discussion of an unprecedented two hours in length, the Diocesan Pastoral Council voted Saturday, June 11, to accept the Ministerial Review Committee's review and recommendations on the 1988-1989 programs and budgets of the seven diocesan divisions.

At the same time, DPC members expressed frustration that the review schedule does not provide for DPC input earlier in the budget process, and objected to the shortness of time between the DPC's review and the July implementation of the budget.

These two factors, members noted, limit DPC input on which programs are funded or discontinued, and raise questions about the role of the DPC as an effective consultative body.

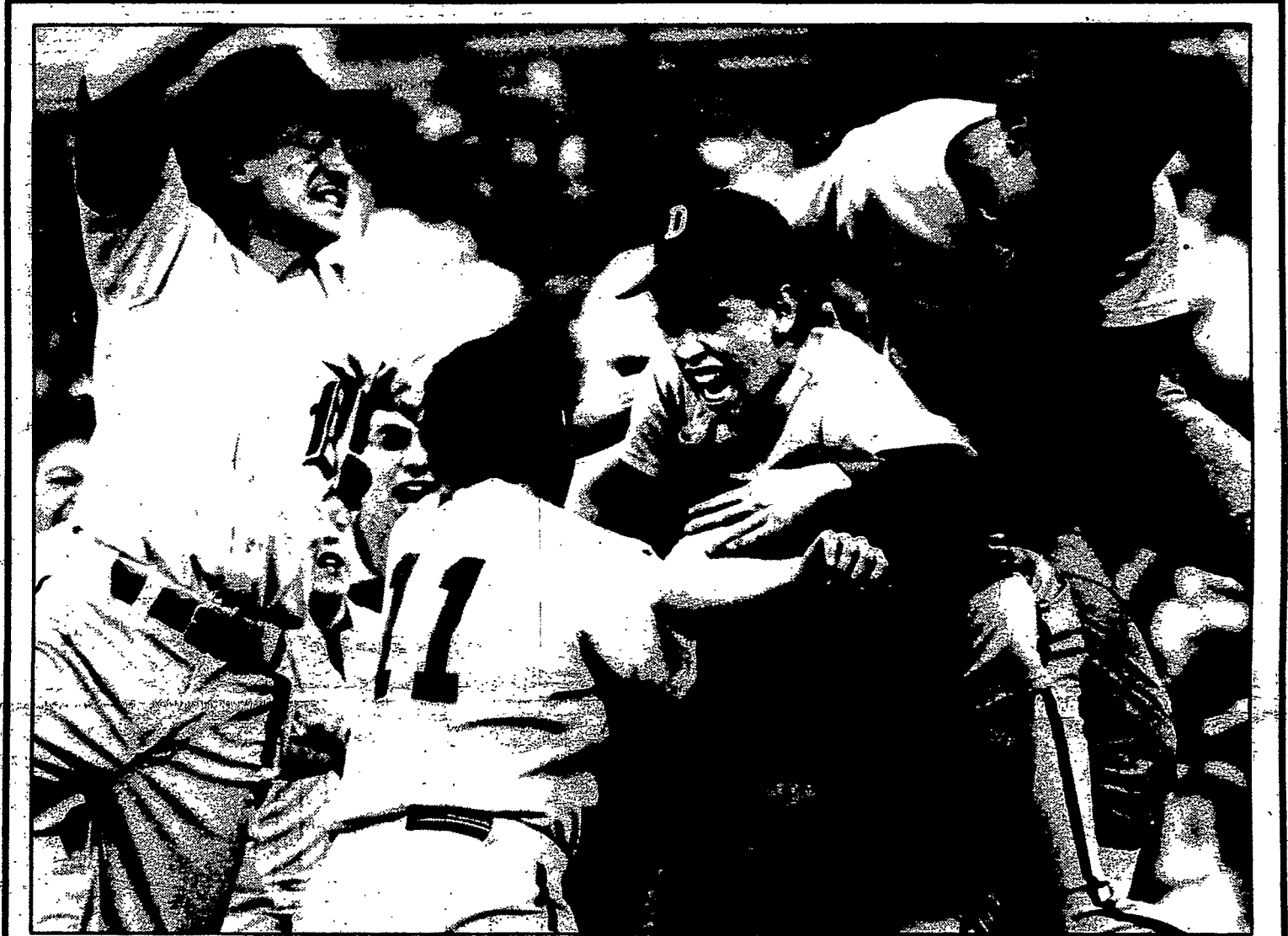
At one point in the discussion, several DPC members even suggested rejecting the MRC report — not because they disagreed with the committee's conclusions or diocesan spending, but because they wanted to draw attention to the council's objections to the process.

The DPC members also expressed concern that a lack of funds prevents the diocese from hiring needed personnel and from developing or expanding needed programs, particularly those for the elderly and young adults. To some degree this has been offset, however, by division attempts to work around the financial limits by consolidating existing programs, increasing fees, changing emphasis and direction for some programs, and eliminating others, the MRC noted.

Out-going DPC chairman Ron Jodoin said that in his five years on the council, he had never witnessed such involved discussion of an MRC report.

"It was the strongest reaction we've gotten to the MRC report," Jodoin noted. "In previous years, discussion was cut-and-dry. One of the complaints of the MRC was that (in previous years) they made their recommendations (to the DPC) and there seemed to be no follow-up. This time, the DPC showed a real desire to have some follow-up."

Jodoin suggested that the strong reaction was due in part to questions raised by members recently elected to the council by their parishes or appointed to serve as representatives of various groups in the diocese. The reaction may also have stemmed from feelings evoked during another lengthy discussion at the DPC's May meeting. During that session, members



Bonnie Trafelet/Courier-Journal

SWARMING SAINTS — DeSales' Jeff Tansy found himself under a sea of teammates after scoring the game-winning run in the bottom of the eighth inning, as the Saints took the Class C baseball championship against Pavilion, 8-7, at Silver Stadium last Saturday, June 11. For details of DeSales' big win, as well as action from the Section 5 girls' softball tournament, see pages 8-9.

considered what role the diocese's three consultative bodies — the DPC, the Priests' Council and the Sisters' Council — should play in diocesan decisions.

Significantly, the discussion and objections raised by DPC members paralleled many of the concerns and recommendations contained in the MRC report.

In his presentation to the DPC, MRC chairman Scott Arrington pointed out that committee members' primary concern was that the current timeline for the MRC's program and budget review prevents the diocese from benefitting from the committee's comments and recommendations. Thus, the committee suggested that the budgetary process be revised to better incorporate input from the MRC.

"Our input in the end comes too late to be effective in the system," Arrington said. As one possible means of resolving this situation, Arrington suggested that the annual appeal could

be moved to the spring of the year or that the diocese's fiscal year could be changed. Either of these moves could also contribute to more efficient budgeting, as revenue would be raised before funds were allocated, he said.

"It's a problem now that the money is raised six months after the budgets are prepared," Arrington explained.

He acknowledged, however, that changing the process schedule would entail revising the budgetary process both on diocesan and divisional levels. Consequently, this process would be a complex, involved operation, he said.

A second major concern listed in the MRC report — and voiced by DPC members — was that financial and personnel resources available to the divisions are inadequate to maintain current services and improve or initiate other programs.

"(New programs) are not being implemented, not because the divisions don't want to, but

because there are not enough funds available," Arrington said, noting that only because of volunteer help has the diocese been able to offer some of the programs that it has.

The MRC, a standing committee of the DPC, semi-annually reviews a cross-section of diocesan programs funded by the Thanks Giving Appeal. In June of each year, the committee reviews the diocesan budget and program plan for the coming fiscal year. In addition to this review, the MRC also submits recommendations for improving diocesan and divisional operations, and points out problem areas that need to be addressed.

At the June meeting, the MRC presented two reports: its budget review, and a review of diocesan program operations between June and November of 1987.

Normally, the program review for that time period would have been submitted to the DPC

Continued on Page 3

Hiring controversy heightens pain of school closing

By Teresa A. Parsons

For teachers and parishioners at St. James School, Waverly, the trauma of closing their school later this month has been inflamed by controversy over a neighboring school's failure to hire two longtime teachers.

Faced with a choice between closing the 34-year-old school or going into debt, members of St. James' parish council voted this spring not to reopen the kindergarten-through-grade-six school next year — a vote approved by Bishop Matthew H. Clark in March, 1988.

Shortly after the announcement, first-grade teacher Dianne Wilson and fourth-grade teacher Pauline Cleveland — each of whom has taught for 18 years at St. James — applied at nearby St. Patrick's School in Owego, which they were told had openings

for second- and fourth-grade teachers.

In May, both teachers were told the positions had been filled — allegedly by recent college graduates.

"I was shocked and very hurt at first. As that kind of wore off, I became very angry," Wilson said. "I realize the reason was probably money, but I don't know. Money to me is not a reason to throw 18-and-a-half years away as if it were nothing."

"It's very disappointing," agreed Cleveland, who last year purchased a house in Waverly. "My understanding of tenure is that if there is a position open, you are given preference." Tenure is granted to teachers after they have taught for five years in the diocesan school system.

Several other teachers from St. James also applied to the Owego school. One, a

kindergarten teacher who had taught in Waverly for one year, was hired at St. Patrick's. Meanwhile, Loretta Hayton, current principal of St. James, was named to replace Sister Mary E. Wintish, outgoing principal at St. Patrick's.

Hayton refused to comment on the situation.

Sister Wintish denied that her hiring decision was based on salaries. "We interviewed a number of women, and tried to find people who would best fit into our existing program," she said.

The usual hiring procedure at St. Patrick's, Sister Wintish explained, would be for the acting principal to interview those candidates approved by the diocesan office. The principal then discusses the candidates

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