

Echo

Students celebrate moving up at Mercy with 'Class Bash'

By Amy Carr
 Our Lady of Mercy High School
 To the freshman class, the end of the school year signifies becoming more a part of the Mercy family. Sophomores traditionally view it as an end to the "underclassmen era" and a fresh beginning to new privileges. It shortens the endless path toward graduation for juniors, while seniors count the days until it arrives.

That special day, known to most as simply the last day of school, takes on added meaning at Our Lady of Mercy High School, where it is celebrated as "Class Bash."

Two years ago, Class Bash replaced the

former "class day," which was set aside primarily for the senior class. The bash now includes all classes in an end-of-the-year celebration with special events planned to honor the seniors.

"Class Bash is unique because it gets all classes together for one last time before leaving one another for the summer. It is a time of unity, friendship, and fun!" explained Senior Colleen Prosser.

Mercy celebrated Class Bash 1988 on Tuesday, June 14, from 8:15 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.. Organized by the student council, interested students and faculty, and headed by history teacher Pat Ciarletto, the day began with a

senior breakfast, slide show, and tree-planting ceremony in honor of the class of 1988.

After the breakfast, members of all classes met in the Mercy auditorium for a "battle of the air bands and talent show" contest, in which students lip-synched popular tunes and performed other talent acts.

After the moving-up ceremony, during which all classes moved forward to their new auditorium seats and honored the seniors, McQuaid High School's student band, "Exploding Boy," performed in an afternoon outdoor concert. Lunch was served and yearbooks were distributed to students during the concert. According to student government president Stephanie Lester, 50 sheets of pizza, 42 cases of coke, 900 ice cream sandwiches, and two cases of lemonade were purchased in prepara-

tion for the event.

Although Class Bash is a celebration for all students, a special tribute is always given to the seniors through the senior breakfast and moving-up ceremony. This year was no exception. The moving-up ceremony, which gives seniors the opportunity to give goodbyes to Mercy and their friends, was especially meaningful to the senior class. As Senior Karen De Costa Fernandes stated, "The moving-up ceremony is sentimental and symbolized the combination of our years at Mercy."

As other classes looked ahead, Class Bash also gave seniors the chance to look back upon four years of friendship, lockers, blue uniforms, cafeteria lunches, and senioritis — and to realize the finality of graduation.

DeSales High School Was anything good accomplished by the recent U.S.-Soviet summit?

KATHERINE OYLER, senior

No. I do not think it had any long-term benefits. The summit was more for show than for actually doing something productive.



DEAN ASKIN, junior

Yes, I believe it did do some good. It improved relationships between the U.S. and the Soviet Union because we're getting to understand each other's different opinions.



As Teens See It

CARIN CARAVITA, senior

Yes, because we couldn't do anything but improve our relationship with the Soviets. It never has been a love relationship, but with all of these talks and meetings, something good could come out of it.



Five suggestions offer assistance on forming new friendships

By Christopher Carstens
 NC News Service

The time comes in almost every teen's life when meeting some new people really would help. Maybe you just moved or your best friend fell in love last week and seems to have forgotten your phone number.

Or you simply decided that the time has come to broaden your social horizons. Whatever the reasons, it would be nice having someone new to talk with at school or to call on a lonely Tuesday night.

Here's a list of five tips that can help make it happen.

1) You won't meet any new people while listening to the radio in your room.

Sometimes teens who feel lonesome hide out. They go into their bedrooms, put on the headphones and wait for something interesting to happen.

Be honest. When was the last time a fascinating stranger walked into your room and introduced him/herself? If it hasn't happened yet, it probably won't happen in the future.

2) To meet new people, get involved in a small-group activity.

Meeting new people is easiest in a small

Coming of Age

group working on a shared task. One of the best bets is joining your parish youth group and volunteering for a committee. Any committee will do, but it will be more fun working on one that really interests you.

Getting to know other teens is easier on a committee than in big meetings. If you sit in a room with 100 teenagers, starting a conversation with any one of them can feel almost impossible.

Every junior high and high school has clubs and organizations doing all sorts of things in small groups and committees. Get involved and you will start meeting new people.

3) You may need to talk first.

Two teens who eventually might be great pals never will have the chance unless one breaks

the ice and says something. You can sit there and wait for the other person to talk first, but the other person might be waiting for you, too. If you want to meet somebody, you just may have to be the one to open your mouth.

4) Make it easier on yourself by putting the focus on the other person.

Before you take that first leap, think: "Hi, let's talk about you." Actually, you'd never really say those words, but you might say, "Have you studied for the history exam?" or "That's a great shirt. Where did you buy it?"

Then pretend you're a reporter working on an article about this person. Ask questions and focus on learning as much as you can about the person you have just met.

Remember, most people would rather talk about themselves than anything. Don't get too personal at first — school, clothes, sports and TV are pretty safe topics when you're getting started.

5) Plan to meet again.

Lots of times people meet once but don't find each other after that. If you'd like to get together again, say so. Most people feel

Speaking Out

and monotony of many jobs, they also greatly reduced the need for skilled craftsmen. Thousands of identical items can now be produced in a fraction of the time needed to create them by hand.

Obviously, not everyone is a spectator or nothing would be accomplished, but the fear that someday automation may supplant human nature is valid. In the wake of a computer revolution, it is imperative for us to remember our natural ingenuity, imagination, and drive to succeed. These qualities will preserve our cultures and keep us politically, physically, and socially active — thus reducing both the fear and the actual likelihood of our becoming a spectator society.

flattered.

Make a simple offer like, "I'll see you after math class," or "Let's get a Coke at lunch time." If you are in a class or a club together, simply saying, "I'll see you next time" communicates your interest.

Remember, you aren't making a pledge to be best friends forever or to get married. You're only saying, "I'd like to see you again."

Meeting new people can be tricky. It can sometimes seem impossible, but it isn't. If you are willing to give it some time and effort — because none of these tips work like magic — you will find the world is full of people just waiting to meet you.

Dr. Christopher Carstens is a clinical psychologist in San Diego, Calif. He frequently addresses youth-ministry groups.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Courier-Journal continues its trial run of Coming of Age. We've had some positive reaction, for which we're grateful, but it's all come from adults. What do you teens think? Send your comments to: Editor, Courier-Journal, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624, or call (716) 328-4340 (collect if it's a toll call).

Team Outfitters

Golf - Baseball - Softball - Hockey - Football - Basketball

We received 4 correct entries identifying Paul Krause as the Washington Redskins-Minnesota Vikings defensive back that retired with an NFL record 81 career interceptions.

The winner was Dolores Decker of Rochester

SPORTS TRIVIA

This week's question:

Who's the All-Time leader in NASCAR victories?

A: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip Code: _____

School: _____

Rules:

Each week, the Courier-Journal, in conjunction with Zambito's Sport Shop 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 \$10.00 OFF towards any purchase at Zambito's Sport Shop, 1350 Culver Rd.

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

HOUSE OF GUITARS

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

We received 15 correct entries identifying The Monster Mash as Bobby "Boris" Pickett's only hit in 1962.

The winner was Judy Michael of Rochester

MUSIC TRIVIA

This week's question:

Who made it big with "Tiptoe Through the Tulips" in 1968?

A: _____

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 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.

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