



Seasonal signals

Bishop Keamey's annual Blue and Gold Games and a new athletic director at Aquinas are among the reminders of the approaching fall sports season. Page 9.



Salvadoran sojourn

A trip to El Salvador has left a Rochester activist convinced that the United States should no longer support the current regime in that war-torn nation. Page 16.

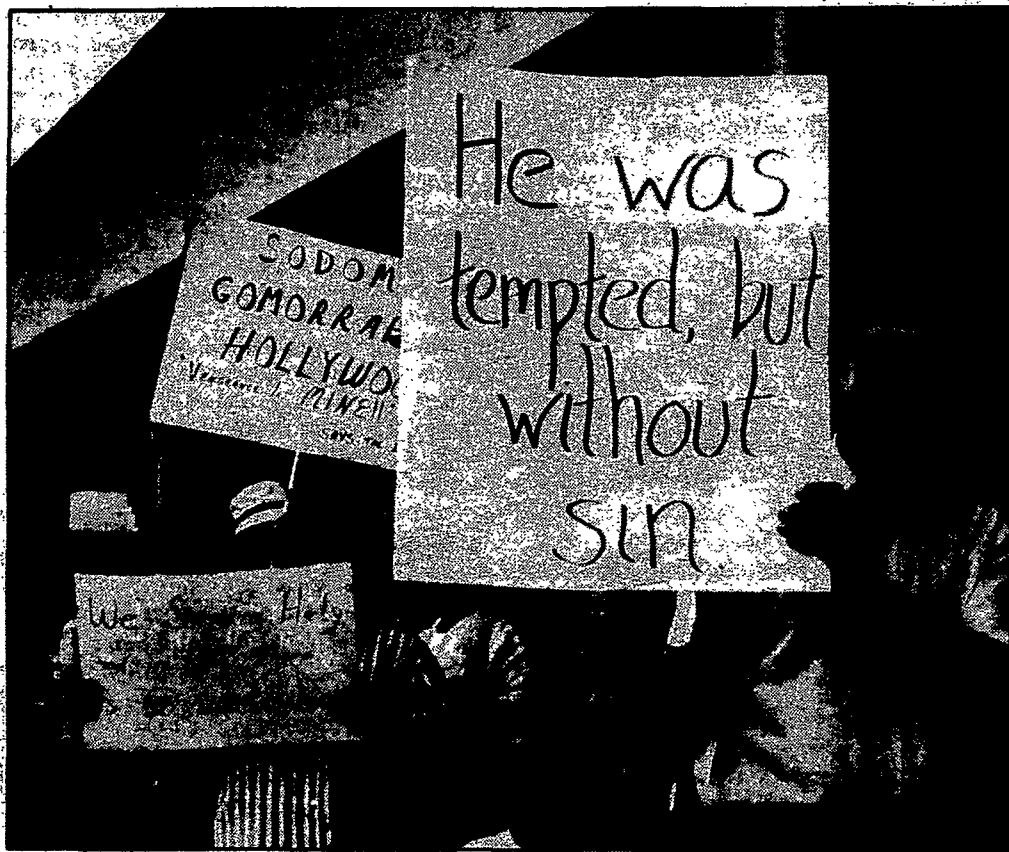
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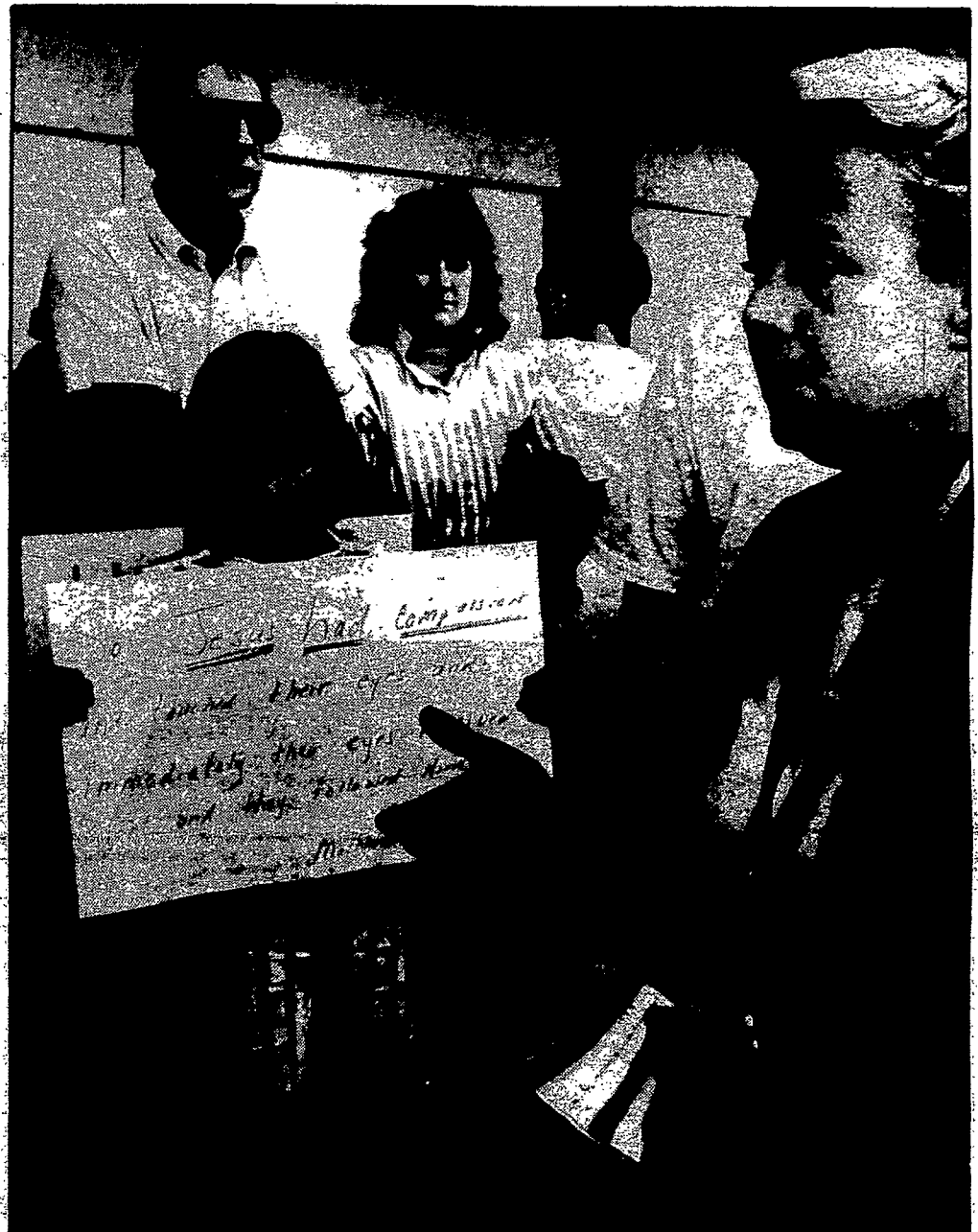
50 Cents

Thursday, September 1, 1988

16 Pages



About 200 people, organized by Morality in Media, protested the opening of "The Last Temptation of Christ" in Buffalo. At right, Diane Galuski speaks to the protesters.



'Temptation' debuting to promise of protests

By Richard A. Kiley

Martin Scorsese's controversial film *The Last Temptation of Christ* was scheduled to make its Rochester debut at The Little Theater on Wednesday, August 31 (after press time), amid a wave of protests against the film's content.

Pam Blanpied, co-owner of the art and revival theater at 240 East Ave., said the film will have an open-ended run in the Flower City, meaning that it will be showing at the Little "two weeks for sure."

"For us, it's clearly a matter of principle," Blanpied said in explaining her decision to show the movie. "The film should be available for people who want to see it." She added that the film was "the kind of movie we would normally show here" and that it "should not be censored by public outcry."

The controversial film portrayal of Christ's life, which includes a dream sequence in which Jesus marries and makes love to the prostitute Mary Magdalene, opened in Buffalo Friday, Aug. 26. Morality in Media of Western New York, Inc., a Buffalo-based group geared specifically

toward fighting immorality and pornography in the media, organized afternoon and evening prayer vigils in front of The Maple Ridge Theater in the Buffalo suburb of Amherst. The Maple Ridge is an eight-screen multiplex operated by the Kansas City, Mo.-based AMC chain.

Diane Galuski, president of Morality in Media, said the group will continue to organize the vigils and "urge a personal boycott of all AMC Theaters and Universal Pictures so they will never release a blasphemous film again."

"This could be a very decisive time for us. We have to turn evil into good ... it's our responsibility," said Galuski, whose group has previously boycotted such movies as *Hail Mary*, *Caligula*, and *The Life of Brian*.

Galuski said she has not seen the movie and that she has no intention to do so.

"When you sit on the jury you don't have to see the crime to judge it. This film is most repulsive to me," Galuski said. "Most of us have copies of the original and revised scripts. I could not get through it (the script) and stay emotionally calm."

Galuski also accused Universal Pictures of granting the Maple Ridge Theater a copy of the film without charging an initial fee, a common practice between the distributor and the theater. Employees of the Amherst theater declined to comment on whether an initial fee was paid or how the movie did at the box office its first weekend. Blanpied also refused to comment on whether the Little paid an initial fee for the movie.

Buffalo resident Jim Likoudis, president of the national organization of Catholics United for the Faith, said CUF chapters nationwide have become involved in boycotts and protests against the film.

"This is a totally blasphemous portrayal of Christ. He was not tempted by women. Christ would not sin; He was impeccable," said Likoudis, who believes movies like *Temptation* will continue to be made "unless

people in the Church begin to speak out.

"There has been a continual slide of immorality in American culture. People are looking at the Church for guidance. The Catholic Church is being outrageously maligned and defamed in the most outrageous manner," Likoudis said. "Hollywood is out of control; the secular media is out of control."

But Noel MacDonald, a district manager for AMC in Mt. Laurel, N.J., said the chain has not found the movie to be offensive.

"We want people to decide for themselves, not from some quote on a piece of paper or from third-hand information," said MacDonald, whose district encompasses New York, New Jersey and Massachusetts. "If people want to see the film, we will show it."

Bishop announces regional education plan

By Lee Strong

Calling for an emphasis on "Catholic" rather than "parochial" schools and for a broader understanding of Catholic education, Bishop Matthew H. Clark announced August 26 the formation of the Southern Tier Cluster.

Bishop Clark and a panel consisting of Father John Mulligan and representatives of the diocesan Division of Education outlined plans for the cluster to a gathering of pastors, principals and catechetical leaders from the 30 parishes it will comprise.

During his presentation, Bishop Clark also said that in light of recommendations made by the Five Year Financial Planning Task Force, the diocese will form a Bishop's Commission on Catholic Education in September, hire a consultant to work with the commission, develop a marketing plan for Catholic schools

and — if the transition from parochial schools to Catholic schools succeeds — create a \$20 million endowment fund.

The overall goal of the plan is to "maintain Catholic school presence" in the diocese, Bishop Clark said. He described the plan as a restatement of the diocese's "historic commitment to quality Catholic education," and declared that, "Catholic school education was, is and will be a priority for our diocese."

The Southern Tier Cluster includes both parishes with and without schools in order to broaden "the base for moral and financial support of our schools," Bishop Clark said. In the future, he noted, the diocesan emphasis will no longer be "on parochial schools but on Catholic schools — a joint responsibility shared by the entire Catholic community."

The meeting, which took place at St. Mary

Our Mother in Horseheads, was the first of three such gatherings designed to announce the reconfiguration of parishes outside Monroe County into three clusters: the Southern Tier, the Finger Lakes and the Valley, which encompasses parishes along Route 390. The remaining meetings will take place at St. Mary's, Waterloo, on September 13 and St. Mary's, Dansville, on September 16. The formation of these clusters follows the reorganization of diocesan schools in Monroe County into four quadrants.

According to Brother Brian Walsh, diocesan superintendent of schools, the organization of the quadrants and clusters will enable the diocese to foster local ownership of Catholic education, while at the same time encouraging the development of a

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