

Youth

'God talk' draws response from Brighton youth group

By Rob Cullivan

BRIGHTON — A little less than two years ago, Roxanne Salata's love life had turned sour, and she felt as if there wasn't much reason to live.

One of those motions was a weekend retreat all confirmation candidates were required to attend. At the retreat, Salata had some probing questions for her believing peers.

Since then, Salata, now a senior, has let God run her life, part of which is spent as an active member of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish's youth group.

At the group's meeting on Sunday, Jan. 15, Salata, along with fellow Brighton senior Dave Maltz, led a discussion on the meaning of Christ's death.

"Did He have to die?" Maltz asked the students, their faces lit only by the three candles on the meeting room floor.

"If it were any of us, we would have dropped the cross right there and gone after them," Clay said.

but the tone was generally serious, for the whole evening.

Salata related Christ's sacrifice to her current studies. "We've been reading Sophocles," she said.

What God wants interested many of the students, who related accounts of sacrifice and giving in the own lives.

When the discussion ended, the students joined hands to pray together. One girl petitioned God on behalf of a pregnant friend, and another prayed for her sister going to college.

Afterwards, Salata commented that the meeting had filled her with peace. Discussions focused on spiritual issues seemed to create the best response among the students, she said.

Not all her high school friends respond to her faith as readily as the group did, but then she doesn't go around preaching.

But Salata disagreed, pressing her friend to admit that when she went out to drink and party with others, she sometimes wondered whether Salata would approve of such behavior.

Regardless of whether she succeeds with her subtle message, Salata feels it is worth trying to bring others to God anyway.

great deal of anxiety prior to a visit, but after it is completed, it was not half as bad as previously thought.

Throughout January, teachers are constantly emphasizing how important it is to study for the exams.

Despite the warnings, we find every excuse not to study so that we have to cram most of the year's work into one night.

Perhaps the exams are not really a test of what has been learned during the year. Rather, they seem to be more of a test of how much can be remembered after a few hours of cramming.

We can look at the middle of the school year from several different perspectives. Seniors have only half of a year remaining in their high school careers.

Workshop examines dreams

The SSJ Spirituality Institute is offering "Dreams: Vehicle of Spiritual Growth," a four-part workshop on understanding dreams, on Jan. 25, Feb. 8, 22, and March 8.

The four sessions will cover the topics "Why Do I Dream?" "How Do I Approach Dreams?" "What Do Dreams Reveal?" and "Dream-work."

Cost for the series is \$5 per session. For more information, contact Sister Ann de Porres, SSJ, at 716/586-1000, ext. 68.



Roxanne Salata (right) reads a passage from the Gospel according to St. Luke to members of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish youth group.

Aquinas Institute

Why do you go to Catholic school?

As Teens See It

DANA PARRINELLO, Sophomore

The reason I made the decision to attend a Catholic high school (was) due to my past experiences with public and Catholic education.



Aquinas gives me the personal attention in areas where it is needed. It has given me a positive attitude toward a higher level of learning.

FINBA BURKE, Sophomore

First of all, my brother and sister had been attending one. I had been in Catholic schools for eight years prior to high school.



When looking into Catholic high schools during eighth grade, I saw fine education and excellent programs in college preparation.

ANN MARIE FEELEY, Sophomore

One reason is that my family is Catholic, so it pleased my parents to see me going to Aquinas.



At a Catholic school, it seems that the teachers and students associate in a more personal way, and more attention can be given to the students.

CHRISTINA MANCINI, Junior

I have gone to a Catholic school since grade three, so I knew that I would feel right at home.



Theology classes are another thing that I like about Catholic schools. I feel that it is important to have some background in my religion, and I enjoy the rap sessions that we often have.

SAM OGNIBENE, Junior

I chose Aquinas because my dad is an alumnus, and also because it is a school that has a long-standing tradition of high standards in academics, sports and spiritual growth.



HOUSE OF GUITARS

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

We received 11 correct entries identifying Irving Berlin as the composer of "God Bless America."



The winner was Paul Brewster of Hornell

MUSIC TRIVIA

This week's question:

Who was the lead singer for Blondie?

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.

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

Speaking Out

By Paul Hezel DeSales High School

Christmas vacation ceased to exist at the beginning of the new year. Sleeping late every morning became a thing of the past.

As though it was a way to celebrate the new year, students were thrown back into the all-too familiar classroom. Once again, they faced the pressure to complete such everyday assignments as reading 15 pages of history or studying for a chemistry test the next day.

Soon after the return to school comes the dreaded midterm exams. Simply stated, midterms are a three-hour test in each subject on all that we learned, failed to learn or forgot during the first half of the school year.

Association plans dinner to benefit blind children

The Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired of Greater Rochester, Inc., will present Chefs' Delight, a benefit dinner, on Jan. 30 at the Holiday Inn-Rochester South.

The evening will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a cash bar, followed at 7:30 by a dinner prepared by members of The A.C.F. Professional Chefs and Cooks Association of Rochester.

Cost for the dinner is \$35 per person or \$350 for a table of ten, with the proceeds to benefit programs for blind and visually impaired children.

For more information, call Kathy Langton at 716/232-1111. The deadline for reservations is January 19.