

Synod

Continued from page 4

The synod delegates saw hope in an improved vocations picture as "the number of students for the priesthood has risen 53 percent throughout the world in the last 13 years."

Because of the political changes that took place in 1989, this was the first synod having bishops from all the East European countries and the Soviet republics of the

Soccer

Continued from page 15

accomplished a lot considering this was supposed to be a rebuilding season for the Kings.

"We became competitive as the year went along," he said.

The Kings finished 9-8-2.

Fourth-seeded Aquinas ended its season after falling to fifth-seeded Wayne (17-1), 2-1, in a quarterfinal match on Oct. 27.

Five minutes into the game, Lisa Messuro raised AQ's hopes by sneaking a goal past the Eagles' netminder. The Little Irish's hopes were dashed when Messuro injured her knee just three minutes later. Messuro finished the season with 12 goals and 22 assists.

Aquinas' final record was 12-5-1.

Fifth-seeded Nazareth Academy was rocked by fourth-seeded Penn Yan, 9-0, on Oct. 27.

The Lasers were hurt by the absence of several key players, who were either out of town for the game or injured.

"Our kids played hard for what we had," said Laser coach Dave Prophet. Nazareth finished the season 7-9-3.

Ukraine and Byelorussia.

Only two delegates — from China and Cambodia — did not attend the synod.

Synod delegates also heard progress reports Oct. 25 on two projects suggested by the 1985 Synod of Bishops and approved by the pope. They are:

- The drafting of a universal catechism for use by religious educators in writing diocesan and national catechisms.

- A study of the theological nature of bishops' conferences.

The report on the universal catechism was given by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, head of the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, who was appointed by the pope to head the drafting commission.

The cardinal expressed hope that the final version would be ready in 1992 and

said the commission is working to incorporate 24,000 changes suggested during an international consultation of bishops and church organizations.

Most criticisms were on the moral theology section, and revisions are being made to present "a Catholic morality which is concise and open to contemporary problems," he said.

The catechism will include brief summary descriptions "able to be memorized" of church doctrine along with lengthier descriptions, he said.

Regarding the bishops' conference study, it will have a "pastoral character" and avoid efforts to settle theological debates about the role of such conferences, said Cardinal Bernardin Gantin, head of the Vatican Congregation for Bishops. He was appointed by the pope to supervise the drafting of the document.

Investigation

Continued from page 7

remind them of what happened before, so there will not be a new dictatorship. The best protection against torture is publishing what happened."

The cardinal said he offered further help to the international experts.

Sociologist Margarida Genevois, a member of the justice and peace commission, said the church is taking the depositions because "the machinery of government" is not interested in helping.

"Almost every day, we have testimony from the families of the disappeared," Ms. Genevois said.

"Dom Paulo believes you cannot be Catholic if you don't battle against poverty and violence," she added.

Among the international experts meeting

with Cardinal Arns were three Americans: Clyde Snow, a forensic anthropologist; Dr. Eric Stover, consultant for Americas Watch and Physicians for Human Rights, two watchdog groups; and Dr. Fred Jordan, Oklahoma's chief medical examiner.

They also met with families of the disappeared and representatives of Brazilian human rights groups. They urged state and federal authorities to investigate "with urgency" what had happened to all those who disappeared in Brazil.

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The cardinal did not predict a date for completion of the study and said that the first draft was being reworked slowly based on responses from about half the world's bishops' conferences.

Several responses sharply criticized the first draft, and the U.S. bishops' conference suggested scrapping the draft and starting the work anew.

Cardinal Gantin appeared to signal a shift in focus to a more pastoral rather than legalistic document.

Because of existing differences about the nature of bishops' conferences, "it is not the aim of the new document to settle the open theological positions, but rather to allow a time for them to mature," he said.

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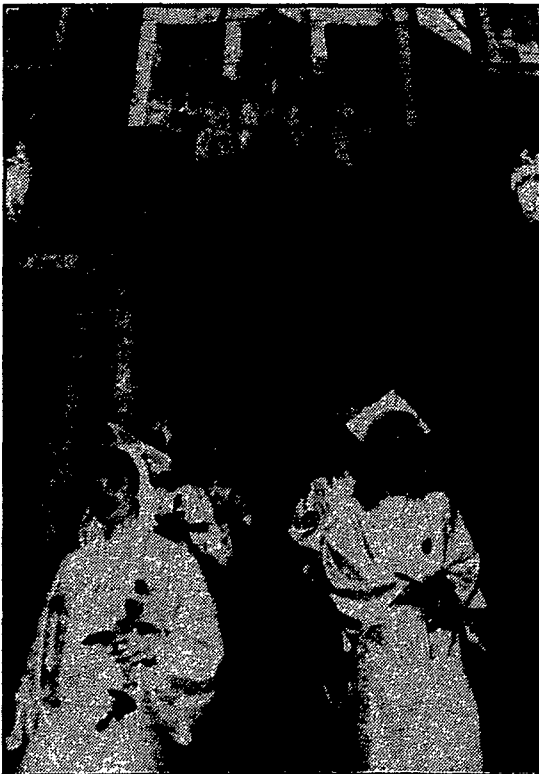
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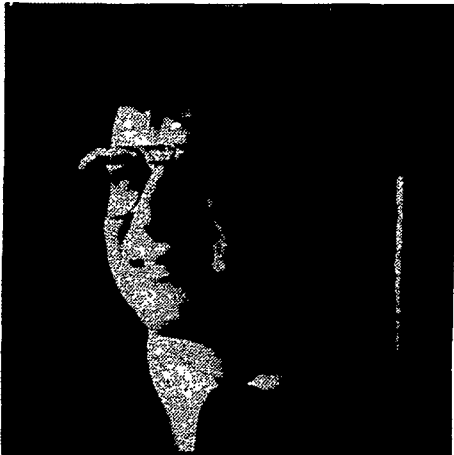
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