



File photo
Father Daniel Berrigan read from the Bible during a sit-in at Highland Hospital in 1989. Sister Lorraine Julien, SSJ, is pictured next to him.

Berrigan

Continued from page 3

wrongfully exercised governmental authority, the priest commented, adding that the Jewish prophets constantly criticized authorities who abused their offices.

"Only God is great," he said. "Human authority either reflects the humanity of God, the compassion of God, or it is to be derided and mocked."

The priest observed that the current air war against Iraq is killing civilians, despite press reports downplaying such casualties. "A filthy, indiscriminate destruction is presented as surgical and precise," he said, pointing out that former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark — who has visited Iraq since the bombing campaign began — estimated that destructive power equivalent to two nuclear weapons a day is being dropped on Iraq.

Father Berrigan also criticized the news media for inaccurately portraying the nation and its religious leaders as being united in support of the war.

"If we are victimized by the mainline media in this effort to portray a church and a nation united in mass killing, we are falling before an image ... and giving to sticks and stones the honor due to a God of life," the priest asserted.

As part of his workshop following the service, the priest took questions from participants — some who criticized his pacifist stance. One woman compared the war against Iraq with the war against Nazi Germany, and another man asked Father Berrigan how a man like Hitler could be defeated without resorting to warfare.

In response, Father Berrigan said it could be argued that although Hitler was defeated in body, his spirit lives on in the "indiscriminate" bombings and other actions against civilians that have marked wars since the end of World War II.

He cited as examples the civil war in El Salvador, in which the United States has supported the right-wing government against leftist rebels, and the December,

1989, U.S. invasion of Panama.

"It's hard to see that we've disposed of Hitler," he said.

When members of the audience asked how to work for peace, Father Berrigan suggested exploring non-payment of taxes or the creation of tax shelters that protect income from being used to finance war. He also raised the idea of using churches as sanctuaries for war resisters.

Father Berrigan also emphasized that non-violent resistance does not necessarily have immediate results. He noted that he had traveled through Eastern Europe and seen what communist persecution had done to Christians who had patiently maintained their faith through years of oppression.

"A whole generation of people ... saw nothing improve and yet did not give up," he said. "Then, all of a sudden, something happened," he continued, likening the new freedom in Eastern Europe to a volcano whose pressure gradually builds until it erupts.

McQuaid

Continued from page 10

Jason Newton collected 10 points. The Little Irish were 7-for-8 from the free-throw line.

Although Aquinas Coach Mike Dianetti said his team will be seeded around No. 11 in the Section 5 Class BB tourney, he said "a ton of things can happen between then and now."

Earlier in the week, Kearney destroyed host Hilton, 76-63, on Feb. 5.

The Kings, who controlled the tempo of the game throughout, held a huge 39-23 lead at intermission.

Pawlak poured in a game-high 24 points and was 10-for-11 from the foul line. Ryan buried 16 points and 12 rebounds.

Over in the Finger Lakes West, Geneva DeSales (12-2, 16-2) played a tough league battle against host Naples on Feb. 8. The Saints mauled the Big Green Machine, 91-69.

With Mark Higgins and Jim McDermott returning to the lineup after recovering from injuries, the Saints took a 20-17 first quarter lead. By the end of the first half, DeSales had ballooned the lead to 43-32.

The Saints put the game away with a big third quarter as DeSales led 70-47 at the end of the quarter.

Bob McFadden scored a game-high 21 points for DeSales. Todd Hardy added 19 points, including four three-pointers. Higgins poured in 14 points, Ed Marsteiner registered 13 points and McDermott scored 10 points for DeSales.

Elmira Notre Dame (9-2, 16-3) has



Babette G. Augustin/Staff photographer
East's Arthur Long gives Jeff Reese of McQuaid a squeeze with his knees in an attempt to get the ball.

already secured the top spot for the upcoming Section 4 Class C sectionals, according to Crusaders' Coach Mike D'Aloisio.

"No one can catch us now," said D'Aloisio. "We control our own destiny as far as the league championship goes."

Notre Dame could have won the Sullivan Trail Conference League title with a win at home against Horseheads on Feb. 12.

On Feb. 8, Notre Dame defeated Corning West, 73-60.

Scoring was fairly balanced among the starters — Geoff Woodworth poured in 24 points, Mike Bennett tallied 14 points, Bryan Sheehan added 13 and Rick Shaw registered 11.

Earlier in the week, Notre Dame visited Hornell and handed the Red Raiders a 76-58 drubbing in what D'Aloisio called his team's best game of the season. Geoff Woodworth collected a game-high 22 points, Shaw poured in 18, and Sheehan tallied 17.

D'Aloisio said his team shot over 60 percent from the field, and his reserves played a key role in the league win.

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