



Mike Latona

(From left) Katie Havert, Aubre Ford and Hillary Barber, all of Marion, conclude the April 7-8 Newark movie festival with a pillow fight. Ford and Barber are parishioners at St. Gregory's Church.

There's a method to this 'madness'

Movie lock-ins prove popular

By Mike Latona
Staff writer

NEWARK — "Well, I'm ready for bed," announced Debi Housel as the sun streamed through the doorway at Showplace 5.

At 8 a.m., people traveling past the movie complex down Routes 31 and 88 were just beginning their day. But for 119 sleepy-eyed youths and eight adults, a long and fun-filled night was reaching its conclusion.

Newark's first-ever "Movie Madness Lock-In," held April 7-8, brought together young parishioners from St. Michael's Church, 401 S. Main St., as well as parishes in surrounding towns and villages. Housel, who serves as youth minister at St. Michael's and who was also the event's coordinator, noted that several non-Catholic youths attended as well.

The young people, all in grades 7-12, were treated to three recently released

movies during their overnight stay: *Major League II*, *D2 Mighty Ducks* and *Naked Gun 33 1/3*.

Movies were not the only offerings during this overnight party. A scavenger hunt took place at 3 a.m., and the youths were given a safety seminar by Newark police.

Eating also proved to be a popular activity. Adult chaperones provided refreshments by cooking hot dogs and serving breakfast, and the popcorn-strewn floors indicated that the concession stand had been well-utilized.

"We stuffed our faces with Gummi Worms," said Andrea Finewood, 13.

"I never slept a wink," added her best friend, Abbey Nedvesky, 12.

The two St. Michael's parishioners both gave their biggest "thumbs-up" to *D2 Mighty Ducks*.

Housel noted that the most valuable aspect of this lock-in was that youths representing various towns and Christian faiths came together as one.

"A lot of them made new friends," said Housel. As she spoke, a group of teenage girls were exchanging phone numbers by writing them down on each other's hands. Others were closing out their stay by staging a pillow fight in the lobby.

However, the energy level was not as prevalent among the many youths who simply chose to curl up in their sleeping bags until their rides showed up.

Housel, who inaugurated a similar event last year when she was youth minister at St. Rita's Church in Webster, emphasized that the lock-in's ecumenical ap-



All-night movie viewing was an exhausting effort for Kelly Carr of St. Michael's Church in Newark.

proach was vital because "if I did it just for Catholics, (the youths) would say, 'This isn't fair, because we come to the movies with our (non-Catholic) friends.'"

Movie lock-ins are apparently catching on in popularity in the Rochester diocese, especially during school-recess slots such as last week's Easter break. The Webster lock-in was repeated at the Loews Theatres during this past February recess, and an overnight movie festival was also staged at Ithaca's State Theatre the same week.

Both events shared the Newark lock-in's regional approach. Webster's lock-in was attended by youths from several Monroe County parishes, and the Ithaca gathering was open to all Southern Tier teens.

Color guard captures another world crown

DAYTON, OHIO — Members of the color guard and dance ensemble at Bishop Kearney High School successfully defended their world championship titles this past weekend.

The color guard captured a gold medal at the World Guard International championships, held April 9-10 at Dayton University. This 25-member group achieved a final point total of 94.5 to place first for the second consecutive year.

Twelve members from this group also performed in the dance ensemble competition, and earned a second gold medal there as well.

BK's color guard has performed on the national level for nine years. This female contingent — which also includes students from Northeastern Catholic Junior High School — has made it all the way to the top after placing fourth in 1991 and third in 1992.

Mercy-McQuaid group will present five shows

BRIGHTON — The Mercy-McQuaid Players will stage five presentations of "Finian's Rainbow" for their annual spring musical.

This production will feature student performers from Our Lady of Mercy and McQuaid Jesuit high schools. Show dates are April 15-16 and April 22-23 at 8 p.m. each evening. There will also be a 2 p.m. matinee on April 17. All shows will take place at the Mercy auditorium, 1437 Blossom Road.

Tickets are \$7 for adults, and \$5 for students and senior citizens. For information, call 716/288-7120.

'Bye Bye Birdie' at BK

IRONDEQUOIT — Students from Bishop Kearney High School will perform the musical "Bye Bye Birdie" on Friday and Saturday, May 6 and 7, in the school auditorium located at 125 Kings Highway S. Show times are 8 p.m.

This popular parody is based on the military drafting of Elvis Presley.

Tickets will be available at the door. Cost is \$6 for adults and \$5 for students and senior citizens.

For further details, call 716/342-4000.

Webster group to conduct 'Bid for the Kids' auction

WEBSTER — Donated items are needed for the second annual "Bid for the Kids" auction, sponsored by the youth group at St. Rita's Church, 1008 Maple Drive.

The event is scheduled for Sunday, April 24, at Pufferbelly's on May Street. A 1:30 p.m. preview will be followed by the auction at 2 p.m.

Those with merchandise to donate to the auction should call Melissa Vullo at 716/671-1100 or 338-9404, or Joan Paquette at 671-3196.

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