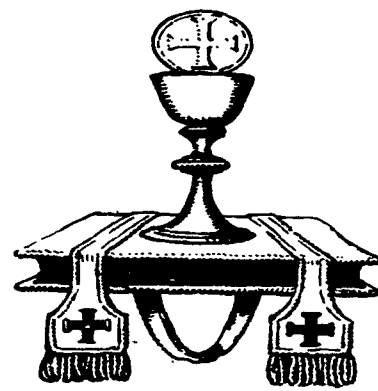




# *few* ARE CHOSEN



Steve Lape, who will enter St. Augustine's Seminary in Toronto this fall, currently works as a weekend disc jockey at WKLX-FM in Rochester.

S. John Wilkin/Staff photographer

‘  
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Steve Lape

## *DJ chooses the seminary over spinning discs*

By Mike Latona  
Staff writer

**B**y working as a disc jockey for radio station WKLX-FM in Rochester, Steve Lape has spent the last several years fulfilling his passion for music.

Yet this work was unable to address a deeper passion lingering inside Lape's soul.

"I felt I was very successful at (DJ work) because I got a lot of compliments from management," said the 27-year-old Lape, known to his listeners as Steve Williams.

But, he admitted, "I felt very unsatisfied and very unfulfilled in the business of radio. I just saw there were a lot of people in many different jobs who just wanted to get the bigger paycheck, the promotion, the nice house, the car. I was never into that."

After talking with Father Dennis R. Sear during a trip to Great Britain in the summer of 1992, Lape decided that "maybe I should pursue this feeling I've had on and off for some time of the priesthood." Father Sear, parochial vicar at St. James Church in Irondequoit, now serves as Lape's spiritual director.

Lape joined the discernment program at Becket Hall that fall, and moved into Becket in August of 1993. Located at 314 Gregory St., Becket serves as a residential, diocesan pre-theology program and center for priesthood vocations.

Lape is one of two pre-seminarians currently



In addition to being a DJ, Lape has been active at St. Theodore's Church as a lector, eucharistic minister, choir member, parish council member and volunteer youth group leader over the past 10 years.

residing at Becket. The other is Dave Ford, who hails from the Albany diocese.

The discernment process, said Lape, helped him firmly solidify his vocational plans.

"As the year (1992-93) progressed, I could not see myself doing anything in the future except being a priest," Lape remarked. "I knew, for the past several years, that my life had to be devoted to helping people. As far as what road that would take me on, I wasn't really sure. (Now) I'm pretty sure this is the right path God wants me to take, and that's what counts."

Lape is currently completing two philosophy courses at St. John Fisher College, where he pre-

viously received his bachelor's degree in communications back in 1989.

This fall, he expects to begin studying at St. Augustine's Seminary in Toronto. His ordination is tentatively scheduled for 1999.

Lape will remain active with WKLX up until he enters the seminary. He currently works weekend shifts for the all-odds station, where he was first employed as a part-time disc jockey from 1988 through 1990.

Lape then worked full-time at the station — as promotions director — for slightly more than a year. He resigned from WKLX in January of 1992 but returned on a part-time basis — again as disc jockey — in February of 1993.

When he announced his plans to enter the priesthood, Lape acknowledged that a few of his colleagues were caught off-guard.

"I've received some surprised looks, but they've all been surprised in a good way," he said. "I've had nothing but support."

In addition to his on-air work, Lape also DJs at parties — such as a recent gathering at his home parish of St. Theodore Church in Gates. Lape has also been extremely active at St. Theodore's in a variety of other roles over the past 10 years, serving as lector, eucharistic minister, choir member, parish-council member and volunteer youth-group leader.

He is hoping to continue his connection with odds music after he enters the priesthood. "It's definitely in my blood. I wouldn't mind setting up a sock hop," he said.

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