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# Student, university settle their dispute

PITTSBURGH - A Catholic student and Carnegie Mellon University have settled out of court over the university's firing of him as a resident assistant when he refused to wear a button he said violated his beliefs. Patrick J. Mooney, from Frederick, Md., brought a federal civil rights lawsuit against the school after he said he was discharged as a resident assistant in April, 1991, because he would not wear a button bearing a symbol of the homosexual movement. He was told to wear it during sensitivity training on gay, lesbian and bisexual issues.

# Official blasts reform capping family size

WASHINGTON - A welfare reform proposal putting a cap on family size to ban added benefits for more children "would have a devastating effect," said a Catholic Charities USA official. A welfare mother falls behind financially even when getting an increased grant after bearing another child, according to Sharon M. Daly, deputy assistant to the president of Catholic Charities. At a July 6 Capitol Hill staff forum, she called the family cap proposal in the Clinton welfare reform plan a form of "social engineering."

# Vatican bestows honor on Kurt Waldheim

VIENNA, Austria - Kurt Waldheim, former Austrian president whose World War II role as a Nazi officer stirred controversy, has been made a papal knight. The honor was given to Waldheim, who is Catholic, during a July 6 ceremony by Archbishop Donato Squicciarini, Vatican ambassador to Austria. At the ceremony, which took place at the Vatican Embassy in Vienna. Waldheim was made a Knight of the Ordine Piano, founded in 1847 by Pope Pius IX.

# Prince Charles visits Catholic side of Belfast

BELFAST, Northern Ireland -British heir to the throne Prince Charles crossed the "peace line" separating Protestant and Roman Catholic ghettoes in divided Belfast July 7 to visit the Catholic heartland of West Belfast. Charles, on a visit to the province where Irish nationalist guerrillas have fought for 25 years against British rule, traveled in an armored car.

# Britain study suggests fetuses can feel pain

MANCHESTER, England -Newly published research in Britain suggests that fetuses can feel pain - and that anesthetics might be administered to a fetus prior to abortion. The news was welcomed by pro-life campaigners who said the research was further proof of the humanity of the unborn children. The research was published in the London-based medical magazine, The Lancet. It was carried out by the Department of Chemical Pathology and the Center for Fetal Care at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, west London.

Compiled from Catholic News Ser-

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# Group prays for G-7 leaders to help poor

NAPLES, Italy (CNS) – While leaders of the seven richest industrial nations debated the effect of a weak dollar on the world economy, a group of church people prayed that their decisions help the poor.

Some were hopeful, others skeptical. They united in a 13-hour "Nightwatch of the Little People of the Earth" during the Group of Seven meeting of world leaders in Naples. The leaders met to coordinate economic policies and examine political flashpoints, such as the war in Bosnia.

An appeal issued by nightwatch organizers urged a "world social contract" that would "put into motion a redistribution of the wealth."

The purpose would be "to recognize the right of each person to be able to have a social income permitting a house, necessary nutrition, health and the possibility of education," said the appeal.

The nightwatch took place at a sports arena the night of July 8-9 as leaders of the United States, Great Britain, France, Japan, Germany, Italy and Canada gathered for two days of consultations.

About 10,000 people attended the nightwatch of speeches and songs organized by the Emmanuel Community, an Italian social action group founded by Jesuit Father Mario Marafioti.

Among those present were:

- Abbe Pierre, 81-year-old French Fi anciscan well-known for his work with the homeless.

- Bishop Samuel Ruiz Garcia of San Cristobal de Las Casas, Mexico, site of an indigenous rebellion several months

 Bishop Antonio Riboldi of Acerra, Italy, an intermediary for members of crime organizations wanting to turn themselves in.

- Street children from Sao Salvador

da Bahia, Brazil.

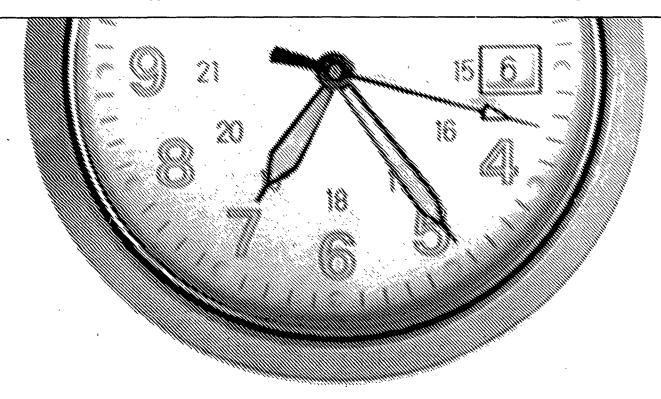
The "little people" are those who "do not have sufficient autonomy to manage their own lives," said Father Marafioti. He mentioned the poor, the sick, the handicapped and drug addicts.

Economic imbalances are "due to a system, based on the law of the strong, who grab the goods of the world," he said. "Twenty percent of the world's population consumes 80 percent of the resources.'

The West spends billions of dollars on "information superhighways" benefitting a few, he said.

"If this money were committed to constructing houses for the homeless, it would show a concrete change of mentality and perspective," Father Marafioti said.

Bishop Ruiz said world economic planning is based on a "structural selfishness" favoring wealthy nations.



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