Columnist decries pro-life stereotype

By Rob Cullivan
Staff writer

BRIGHTON — Pro-life activists are routinely stereotyped by the pro-choice movement and the media as male, conservative, poorly educated, low-income fanatics, according to newspaper columnist Nat Hentoff.

But Hentoff, who writes for the Village Voice and The Washington Post, noted that a number of this nation's liberal thinkers are as critical of abortion as they are of the death penalty and nuclear proliferation.

And some of those pro-life leftists are women calling themselves feminists, he added.

The free-speech advocate and author of several books on subjects ranging from jazz to social issues, made his remarks to about 150 people during a Nov. 14 talk at Temple B'rith Kodesh, 2131 Elmwood Ave. The speech was sponsored by Feminists for Life of Western New York.

A Jew and an atheist, Hentoff has become one of the nation's leading proponents of the consistent life ethic, which holds that all human life should be respected from womb to tomb. The Catholic Church has become one of the ethic's strongest supporters. Church leaders have applied the ethic several times during their various statements condemning abortion, euthanasia, war and capital punishment.

In addition to decrying stereotypes that distort pro-life supporters, Hentoff



S. John Wilkin/Staff photographer

Nat Hentoff, civil libertarian and columnist for the *Village Voice* and *The Washington Post*, talked about the consistent life ethic during a Nov. 14 speech titled, 'Free Speech for Me — But Not for Thee.' The talk took place at Brighton's Temple B'Rith Kodesh.

also spoke on several other issues — most notably free speech, the subject of his latest book titled, "Free Speech for Me, But Not For Thee — How the Left and Right Censor One Another."

Censorship by the left and the right threatens the First Amendment's protection of the rights to free speech and free access to information, he argued.

Hentoff explained that liberals have made several college campuses difficult for any student with views that questions "politically correct" orthodoxy. Even liberal, or left-leaning students, have been labeled racist and sexist for casual comments in class that cast doubt on the prevailing views of the day, he commented.

Meanwhile, Christian conservatives have been winning seats on school boards throughout the nation in elections only to use their power to ban books offensive to their sensibilities and to punish teachers espousing views contradictory to their fundamentalist Christian beliefs, he explained.

Literacy group forms at Nazareth College

PITTSFORD — The education department at Nazareth College of Rochester, 4245 East Ave., has organized a group of 11 Rochesterarea school districts and schools interested in exploring literacy intratives

This program, titled "Consortium of Educators and Administrators of Literacy," will meet five times each year to discuss various issues concerning literacy. Guest speakers are scheduled to appear at each session.

The first meeting was Oct. 19 Other session dates during the 1994-95 school year are Dec. 7, Jan. 25, March 8 and May 17. Districts or schools wishing to join this consortium should call Kenneth Weiss at 716/586-2525, ext. 367.

Project aid now available from the Junior League

ROCHESTER — The Junior League of Rochester, Inc., is seeking project applications from Rochesterarea non-profit organizations.

The application deadling is Dec. 1. 1994. One-year funding and volunteer resources for approved projects will be available in June of 1995. A project must address a specific community need and impact the community it will serve.

Junior League is an organization of women active in community improvement. For details on project applications, call 716/385-8590

Holy Childhood offers holiday greeting cards

HENRIETTA — Greeting cards designed by students from School of the Holy Childhood, 100 Groton

Parkway, are currently on sale.

These items are available in sets of 12 cards and envelopes for \$6.50 per set. They can be purchased by calling Holy Childhood's development office at 716/359-3710.

Proceeds will benefit Holy Childhood, a non-denominational and non-profit school for mentally handicapped children and adults.

Society begins card sale; needs volunteer workers

ROCHESTER —The American Cancer Society's annual holidaycard sale is currently underway.

Orders for holiday cards can be placed through the Cancer Society's Monroe County unit. A variety of packages is available. Orders are tax-deductible and will benefit various Cancer Society programs,

In addition, the agency is seeking volunteers to serve in a variety of capacities. Long-term and shortterm assignments are available.

To place an order for holiday cards, or for details on volunteering possibilities, call 716/288-1950.

Mall seeks volunteers for Christmas project

FAIRPORT — Perinton Square Mall, 6720 Pittsford-Palmyra Road, is seeking volunteers for its annual Christmas Angel Tree Project which runs through mid-December.

Over the past eight years, this project has provided more than 17,000 Rochester area needy children with Christmas gifts they would not receive otherwise.

To volunteer, call Bob or Berty Post at 716/388-1731, or the mall promotion office at 223-8254.

DeSales alumni raise funds for classmate

By Lee Strong
Senior staff writer

GENEVA – A group of DeSales High School alumni has organized a benefit for this Saturday to help a classmate whose wife and daughter were recently murdered in their Port Orchard, Wash., home, and whose stepchildren were seriously injured during the same attack.

Members of DeSales' class of 1984 have collected money and have organized a fundraiser, scheduled for Nov. 19 at 7 p.m. The benefit at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Milton Street will assist Kurt Uhl in paying for his wife and daughter's funeral, his stepchildren's hospitalization and rehabilitation, and related bills. Meanwhile, Geneva-area merchants and other DeSales alumni have been donating prizes to raffle off,

No column this week

Due to the bishops' meeting in Washington, D.C., Bishop Matthew H. Clark's column is not running this week. The column will resume next week.

and a Uhl Family Fund has been established at the National Bank of Geneva.

"I'm just trying to do what I can to help," explained Ron Phillips, coordinator of the effort. "It's just to help out a little."

Uhl's wife, Kelly, and the couple's 4-year-old daughter, Melissa, were stabbed to death Oct. 22. Injured in the attack were Uhl's stepchildren, 11-year-old Ron and 10-year-old Kristy Livermore.

The day of the attack, Kurt, a member of the U.S. Navy, was stationed on a submarine docked in Jacksonville, Fla.

Police have arrested 36-year-old Steven M. Morgan and charged him with two counts of first-degree aggravated murder, two counts of attempted murder and one count of cocaine possession. Morgan was allegedly seeking drugs in the Uhl's home at the time of the attack.

Phillips said he thought of doing something on his own after he learned of the attack. Describing Uhl as his best friend, he noted that the two men have stayed in close contact over the years. They had just spent some time together this past summer when Uhl visited Geneva for the class of 1984's 10-year reunion.

Other classmates also wanted to do

something, Phillips said. At first, class members took up a collection but then Phillips, a member of the Knights of Columbus, arranged to use the Knights' hall free of charge for this Saturday's fundraiser. Soon after that, Geneva-area businesses began contributing items.

businesses began contributing items.
"It kept going and going," Phillips said.

Already, the effort has raised some \$600 to \$700 in donations, Phillips estimated. His hope is to raise between \$3,000 and \$4,000.

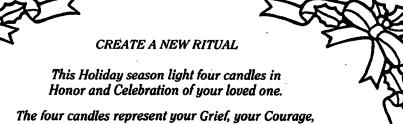
Although Kurt Uhl's insurance does cover some of the medical expenses, it does not cover them all, and the stepchildren's natural father does not have medical insurance of any kind. Meanwhile, Kristy Livermore is still in the hospital undergoing physical therapy and rehabilitation due to injuries to her legs.

Ron Livermore has been released from the hospital and is staying with his natural father.

Phillips noted since the attack, Uhl has lost not only his wife and daughter, but he may also lose his stepchildren.

"One minute he's got a family, two stepkids, a wife, a daughter he thought the world of, now he doesn't even have the two kids," Phillips lamented. "He loved those kids."

EDITORS' NOTE: Contributions may be sent to the Uhl Family Fund, c/o The National Bank of Geneva, 2 Seneca St., Geneva, N.Y. 14456.



During this Season of New Hope, may you find Peace and Joy in Remembering.

your Memories, and your Love.





Catholic Courier (USPS 135-580) Vol. 106 No. 7 November 17, 1994

Published weekly except the last Thursday in December.

Subscription rates: single copy, 75¢; oneyear subscription in U.S., \$20.00; Canada and foreign \$20.00 plus postage. Offices: 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624, 716/328-4340. Second-Class postage paid at Rochester, N.Y.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Catholic Courier, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624.