

# On the MOVE

STORY BY STAFF WRITER MIKE LATONA  
PHOTOGRAPHS BY STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER S. JOHN WILKIN

## giving thanks

**W**hen do you lump dirt bikes and warm cars into the same group as God and family?

When a bunch of very creative minds address a very basic question: "What are you thankful for this Thanksgiving?"

We first floated that inquiry by a group of diocesan teenagers who were deep in reflection during a recent "Awakening Faith" retreat at the Rotary Sunshine Camp in Rush. A few days later, we raised the topic again with another gang of teens who arrived at the Pastoral Center — early-season snowstorm notwithstanding — to begin their long bus ride through the night toward Minneapolis for the National Catholic Youth Conference.

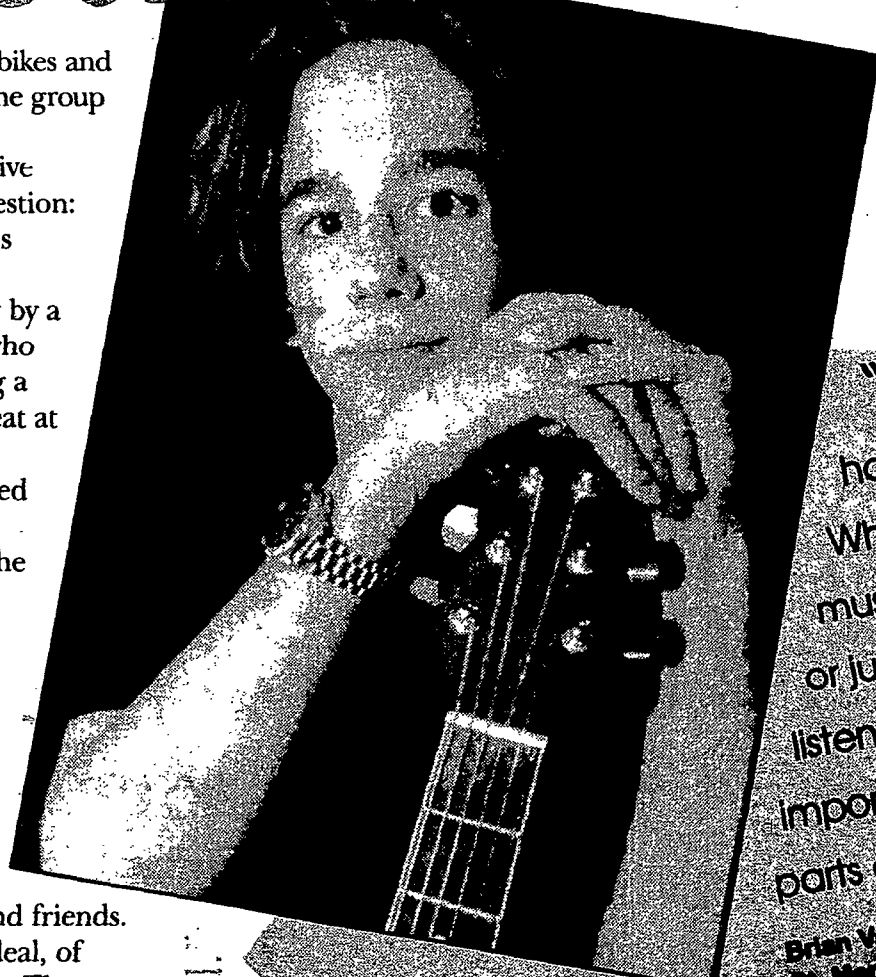
Although said in many different ways, the clear-cut winners for Most Popular Response were: faith, family and friends. To which you might say, "Big deal, of course they're going to say that. They want to look good in the newspaper!"

Well, maybe there are a couple of future politicians in the crowd. But take a good look at some of these comments. When Matt Clark talks about the importance of family following the death of his father, that's not sentiment he's simply making up. When Diana Haggerty doesn't even know where to begin because her thankfulness runs so deep, she's coming from the heart.

On the lighter side, respondents simply gave thanks for some of the joys of being a teenager ... driver's licenses, parents easing up on curfews, etc.

Hope you get to enjoy all these things you're thankful for in the upcoming weeks. Happy holidays!

**"For being 16."**  
Justin Harris, 16; St. Francis of Assisi, Catatonk



"For the gifts God has given to all of us. Whether they are music, public speaking or just being able to listen, they are all important and all parts of God's plan."

Brian Vallmont, 17  
St. Mary, Honeycove

How do curfews got extended?

Joelle Anderson, 16; St. Mary, Ar.

**"For having a nice family and a nice home to live at. And having an awesome and powerful dirt bike!"**



Jeff Harris, 14  
St. Francis of Assisi, Catatonk

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**THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:**  
What Singer is nick named "Chairman of the Board?"

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
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School: \_\_\_\_\_  
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**LARGEST SELECTION AT THE LOWEST PRICES NEW & USED SCHOOL BAND INSTRUMENTS**

**WINNER:** Lorrelne Rietz of Rochester correctly identified The Allman Brothers Band as the rock group that Cher's second husband was a member of.

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### Hey, what's the scoop with this page?

The staff of the Catholic Courier has been scheming for months to come up with a youth package diocesan teens would look forward to reading every week. We had tons of meetings to discuss everything from the pages' name to their content and graphics. And we bounced our ideas off the Diocesan Youth Committee (special thanks to committee members and diocesan youth-ministry coordinator Michael Theisen).

"On the Move" is the result. We sure hope you like it! Every week it will offer a lively two-page spread focusing on some issue affecting the youths of our diocese at church, in school, at play or at home. In the next few weeks, we'll add such recurring features as "Spotlight," a chance to cheer your friends' accomplishments.

Remember, "On the Move" is your section. So feedback is not only welcome, but absolutely vital! Let us know what you like about "On the Move," how it can be improved and what subjects you'd like to read about in upcoming issues.

Call Mike Latona at 716/328-4340 or write him at the Catholic Courier, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624. We look forward to meeting you and hearing from you!

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