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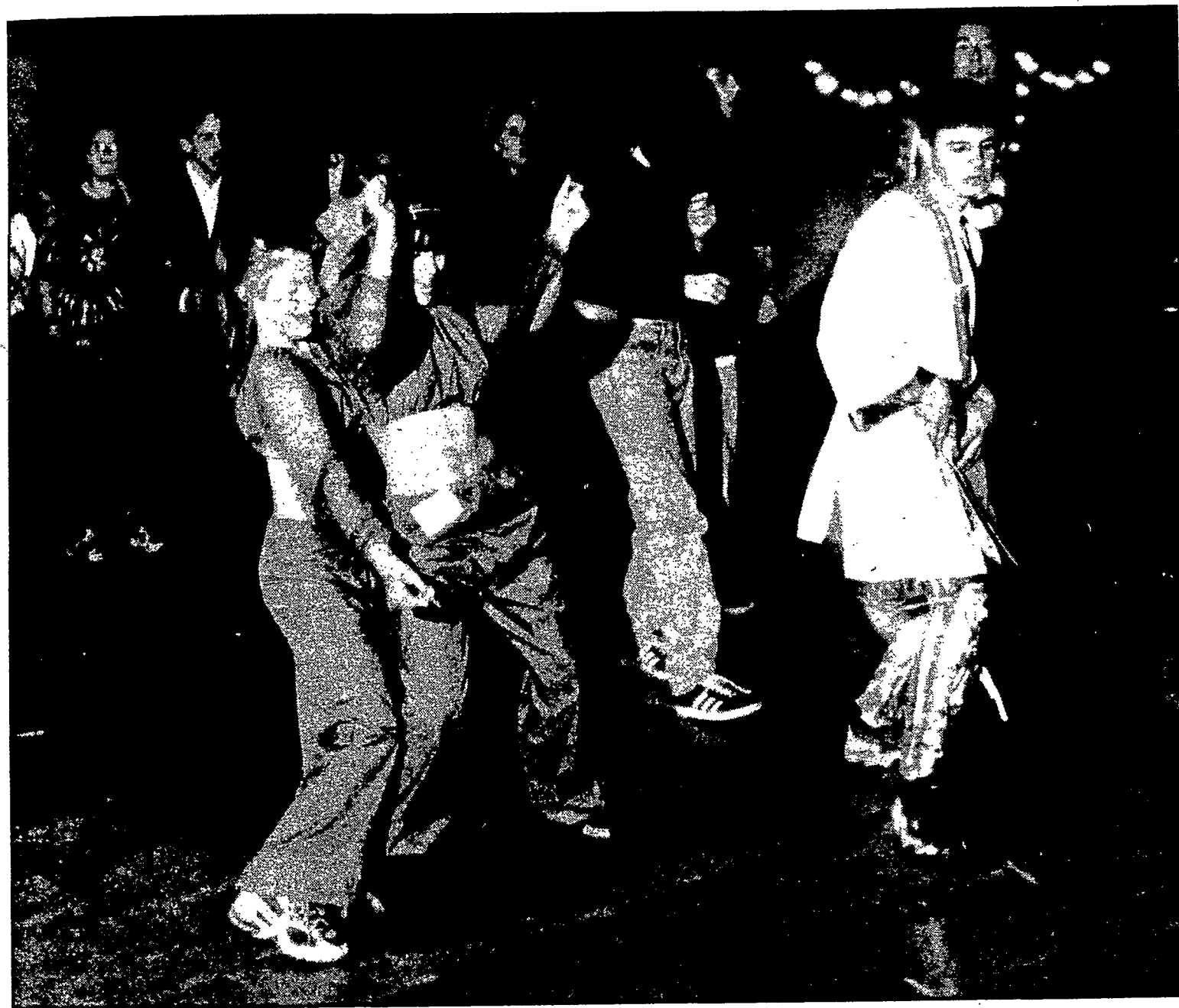
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(from left) Jessica Hibbs, 14, Nicole Hahn, 14, and Andrew Lazzaro, 15, enthusiastically participate in a dance marathon Oct. 25 at St. John the Evangelist School, Spencerport. Proceeds from the teen marathon will help members of the parish's youth ministry program attend the Nov. 20-23 National Catholic Youth Conference in Kansas City.

people," Brian said.

Bridget said that other teens appear most comfortable when they aren't required to do fancy, complicated moves.

"It usually takes a slow song to get some people out there," Bridget said.

One surefire way to fill a dance floor, Bridget added, is to play such

standard hits as "YMCA," or songs off the "Grease" soundtrack.

"They're songs everybody would know, no matter what kind of music you're into," Bridget said.

And what teen dance these days is complete without the Macarena? The wildly popular line-dance song vaulted Bridget into stardom last year when

she was named "Macarena Queen" at a high-school Halloween dance.

"I did it backwards," she explained.

The versatile Pete Tarkulich said he doesn't prefer any particular kind of dancing. Rather, he said, his body naturally adapts to the rhythm of whatever kind of music might be playing.

"I just move to the beat. The music



The Village People's "YMCA" helps to fill the dance floor Oct. 25.

Story by
Mike Latona

Photographs by
Greg Francis

kind of affects me somehow," said Pete, 16, from St. John the Evangelist in Spencerport.

Brian noted that this instinctual approach allows for dancers to interpret the same song in different ways.

"Everybody's got their own way of dancing," he said.

And none of those ways are necessarily wrong, Bridget emphasized.

"Everyone has rhythm. If you know the beat and can stay with the beat, then you can dance," Bridget asserted.

Stephanie, also, believes that all people have a beat and rhythm living inside of them.

"I just think that not everyone has found it yet," she said.

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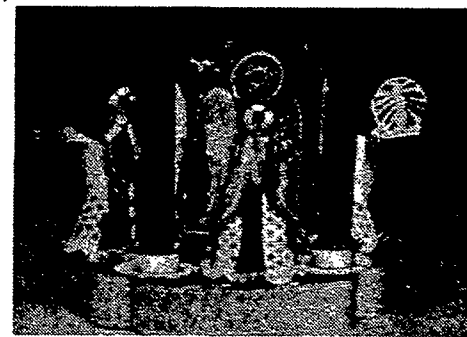
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