

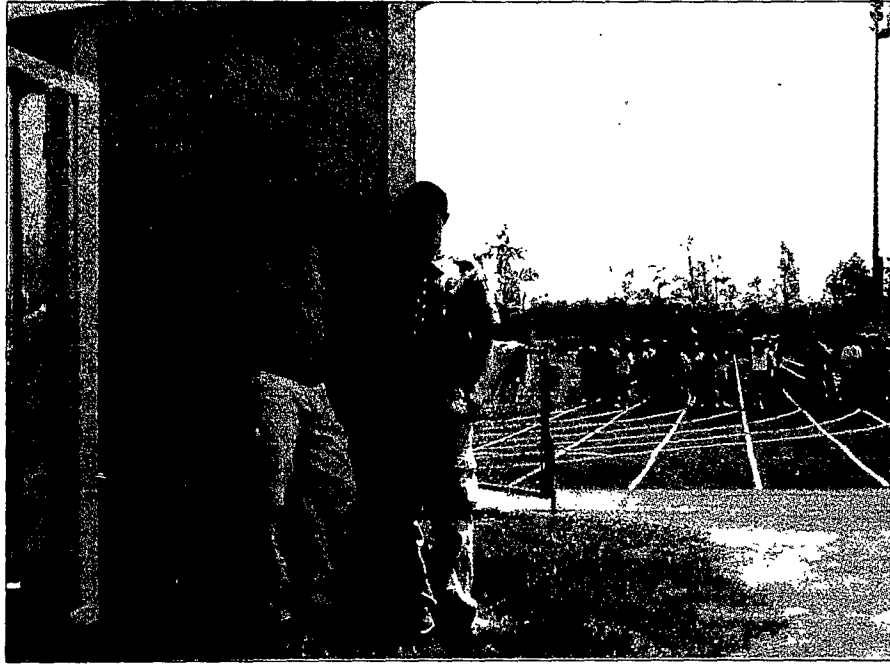
Scouts make lasting contributions

Mike Latona/Catholic Courier

WALWORTH — Andrew Stanton and Andy Auble share not only first names, but also a love for staying busy — often with similar activities. In fact, it was through assisting each other on construction projects that Andrew and Andy both became Eagle Scouts this past year.

Among the musts for becoming an Eagle Scout is to complete an extensive service project that benefits a church, school or other community function outside of Boy Scouting. In 2001 Andy designed and built a ticket booth at the Wayne County Fairgrounds in Palmyra; the booth is now used for various events. During construction Andy enlisted the help of several members of Boy Scout Troop 167 in Macedon, including Andrew.

From there, Andrew decided to launch a similar project for the athletic complex at Gananda High School, where he and Andy are both finishing their junior years. Naturally, Andy was right there as one of the Scouts pitching in on the construction. The booth was finished in early 2002 and was used for athletic contests beginning this past fall.



Rebecca Gosselin/Catholic Courier

Andrew Stanton (right) and Andy Auble, Eagle Scouts and parishioners of St. Patrick's Parish in Macedon, pose June 5 next to the ticket booth at Gananda High School's athletic complex. With Andy's help, Andrew built the booth as part of his Eagle Scout project.

"I feel good I could help out the community in some way," Andrew said, adding that whenever he walks by the ticket booth he feels "awesome."

Andy feels the same about his booth at the fairgrounds, saying, "It's something in my life where I can kind of leave a mark of what I've done."

Both Andrew, 16, and Andy, 17, have belonged to Troop 167 since 1997. Some of their other Eagle Scout requirements included earning at least 21 merit badges, and spending six months in a Scouting leadership position. After Andrew and Andy fulfilled all their obliga-



tions, they were honored as Eagle Scouts in a ceremony that took place last September at St. Patrick's Church in Macedon, where they are liturgical ministers.

Andrew and Andy say the Eagle Scout distinction is a crowning touch for their roles in an organization that's been consistently enjoyable and fulfilling. "I never really got bored with it," Andy said of Scouting.

Yet the first-year Eagle Scouts' activities go far beyond Scouting. An-

drew is an altar server and musician at St. Patrick's Church, and at Gananda High he's an outfielder on the varsity baseball team and is also involved in other sports as well as music and drama club. He's an honor student and member of the Math Team, and also belongs to a leadership program through the American Red Cross.

Andy, meanwhile, is an Academic All-American and a scorekeeper for the high-school baseball team. Away from school he serves as a greeter at St. Patrick's Parish. He is also deeply involved with the Wayne County 4-H program and is considering a career in agriculture. He has received the Governor's Youth Recognition and Congressional Youth Leadership awards. Additionally, he's a member of the Wayne County Fair Advisory Board — "I live at the fairgrounds over the summer," he commented.

As if their level of involvement wasn't already high enough, the two have found a way to cram another commitment into their schedule. On most school days in recent months Andy drove to Andrew's home at the crack of dawn; they then headed to the high-school weight room to slip in a vigorous workout before school began.

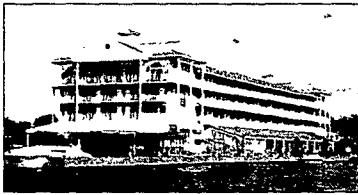
"I pick him up at ten to six (o'clock), five to six. I don't mind it, being a farm boy," Andy said of the early-morning activity.

"Yeah, we're crazy," Andrew added cheerfully.

Actually, Andrew said, being on the go isn't all that crazy as long as it remains enjoyable.

"I just like everything," he remarked. "I don't have one moment where I hate anything."

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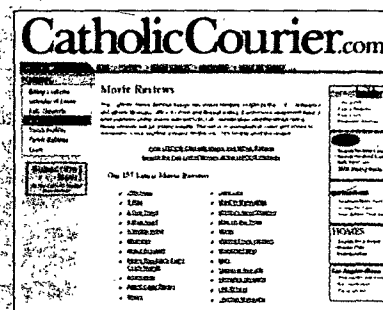
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