

# A move for modest dress

Terry McGuire/CNS

SEATTLE (CNS) — She has been interviewed on the "Today" show and on CNN about her effort to get a retail store to offer modest clothing for girls.

Newspapers and magazines around the country have spread her story.

But has all the publicity given 11-year-old Ella Gunderson of Redmond a big head?

"No. We've tried to wrap this whole thing in a lot of prayer to ward (it) off," said her mother, Pam.

Ella, who will be a sixth-grader at Holy Family School in Kirkland this fall, said the newfound fame makes her uncomfortable.

"I don't really like it a whole ton," she told *The Catholic Northwest Progress*, newspaper of the Seattle Archdiocese.

But when pressed, she added that a positive side to the publicity has been "getting the word out."

By that she means that many girls would opt to wear more modest clothing, if only they could find it.

That was the thrust of a letter she wrote to Nordstrom last winter. She complained to the Seattle-based retailer that the clothes it sells for girls

## Education

— particularly the jeans she was interested in purchasing — were too tight and showed too much skin.

"I see all these girls who walk around with pants that show their belly button and underwear," she wrote. "Even at my age, I know that is not modest."

She said that the clerk who was helping her suggested "there is only one look." If that is true, Ella added, then girls are supposed "to walk around half naked. I think that you should change that."

Her letter went all the way up to Pete Nordstrom, the store's executive vice president, and store officials promised that her concerns would be passed on to their buyers.

Ella's mother noted that people from all over the country have written letters of support, saying they've been inspired by what one person can accomplish by speaking up and hoped to write their own letters on issues of importance to them.

"What Ella says she's learned from all this is that you should speak up, because you might be heard," Pam Gunderson said.



Mike Crupi/Catholic Courier

## Cutting a rug, '50s style

Fifth-graders Justin Allison and Stephanie Solimano (left) start off the dance number "We Go Together" as other Nazareth Academy students clad in leather jackets and poodle skirts look on during a May 27 dress rehearsal for the school's spring concert. The concert, which was performed for a live audience that night, was a celebration of the Partnership in Learning program.

### The Catholic Schools of Monroe County

thank the following businesses, organizations and individuals for their generous support of the 2004 Catholic Schools

# SCHOLARSHIP GOLF CLASSIC

#### MAJOR TOURNAMENT SPONSORS

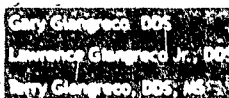


**Clover Capital**  
MANAGEMENT

your bank



Canandaigua  
National  
Bank & Trust



**HSBC**  
The world's local bank

**M&T Bank**

Understanding what's important.

MUTUAL OF AMERICA

A Rochester Tradition Since 1952  
**PIEHLER**  
IS THE DEALER

#### SCHOLARSHIP SPONSORS

Aquinas Institute  
Bishop Kearney High School  
The Bonadio Group  
The Credit Bureau  
IKON Office Solutions  
Phillips Lytle LLP  
Mason Selkowitz Marketing Inc  
McQuaid Jesuit High School  
John and Julie Odenbach  
Our Lady of Mercy High School  
Rochester Colonial Manufacturing Corp.  
Sign Impressions  
Spoleto Construction Corp.

#### GREEN SPONSORS

The Berry Company  
Fibertech Networks LLC  
The Hearing Company  
Holy Cross School  
Northwestern Mutual Financial Network  
Our Mother of Sorrows School  
Rochester Lead Works Inc.

#### HOLE SPONSORS

Basilian Fathers of Christ the King  
Robert Calcagno DDS  
Fedyk Builders Inc  
Gallina Development Corp  
Grassmasters Lawn & Landscape  
Harcourt School Publishers  
Holy Family School  
Holy Trinity School  
Home Properties Inc  
Integrated Systems  
Jacobstem Food Service  
Jeffrey Lowenguth DDS  
Manning Squires & Henning Co. Inc  
Martens Corporation  
Metro Footcare Associates  
Monroe Piping & Sheet Metal LLC  
Nolans Rental  
Passero Associates  
Pooler Enterprises  
St. Andrew School  
St. John the Evangelist School - Humboldt St  
St. Margaret Mary School  
Schiano Law Office  
Students of St. John the Evangelist School - Greece  
Students of St. Joseph School - Penfield  
Students of Siena Catholic Academy  
TEKE Machine Corp.  
Were Forms Inc  
www.youngschoolirishdance.com

#### DONATIONS

Frank Crombe  
Falvo Funeral Home  
Frank Gervasi CPA  
Steven Kazlev Orthodontics  
Laborers Union Local 435  
Rich and Carol Mileo

