

News, Editorials, Features, Photos

Eight to Attend King's Workshop

Eight Venard journalists will attend the Fifth Annual High School Journalism Workshop at King's College, Wikes-Barre, Saturday, March 19.

Vince Kantorski, Lloyd Hevelhorst, John Boccellari, Paul Lafranchise, Bernie Beazley, Joe Olson, Gerry Schafer, and Greg Chirichigno will represent the school.

News and editorial writing, art and cartoons, photography, and features are a few of the nine section-

al meetings for the morning session of the workshop. The highlights of the afternoon session are an hour-long journalism movie, round table discussions, and the presentation of awards.

The Courier will submit to the contest approximately 20 outstanding photos, features, and articles that have appeared in the paper since September.

The day will end at 5:00 with entertainment and refreshments.

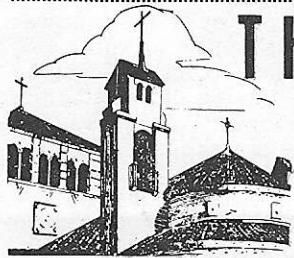
Upperclasses Assist At Byzantine Mass

The Senior and Junior Classes, accompanied by Fathers Trettel and Whelan, assisted at a Byzantine Rite Mass at Saints Cyril and Methodius Ukranian Greek Catholic Church, Olyphant, Tuesday, Feb. 22.

The Mass, which began at 9:00 was celebrated by Father Patrylak, assistant at St. Cyril and Methodius Parish. During the Mass Father formally welcomed the guests, addressing some 200 school children who also attended.

The high point of the Mass was reception of Communion under both species of bread and wine, a "first" for some.

A Communion breakfast of juice, ham and eggs, rolls, and coffee followed for all in the parish meeting hall. Father Patrylak said grace and after the meal he opened the floor for questions. During this 30 minute period Father Patrylak explained much of the background of the Byzantine rite and the history of his own parish, Saints Cyril and Methodius.



The Venard Courier

Maryknoll Junior Seminary
Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania

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Sophomores, Freshmen To Stage "Court Martial"

Sophomores and freshmen are teaming up to present "The Caine Mutiny Court-Martial," a two-hour drama which explores the question of authority and obedience to one's superior. The play will be staged for students Saturday, March 12, and for parents Sunday, March 13.

Directors Bill Duggan and Don Lamken said that the play will be presented in a "theater in the round" style with the audience sitting in a semicircle around the stage. Bill said the reason for this type of staging is to create a courtroom atmosphere. The audience will be asked to rise and sit as the judge and court members enter and leave. The whole idea of a "theater-in-the-round" setting is to create more audience contact with the play and the players and to help them live the parts.

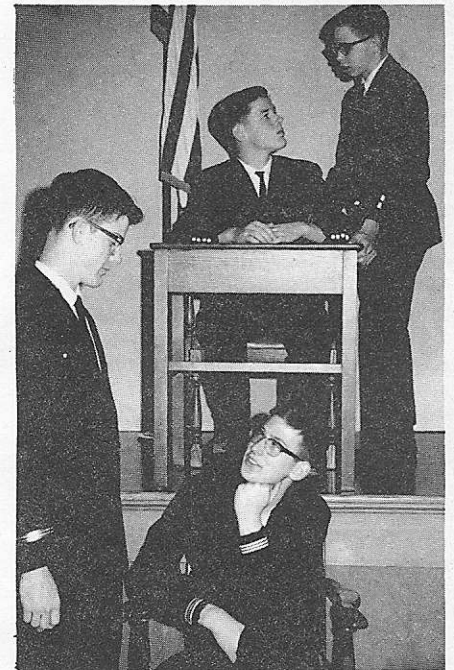
Gene O'Loughlin is running the show behind the scenes with help from E.J. Hahn, Frank and Dom

Brancoato, Ron Poirier, Marty B. Mc Donough, Greg Phillips, Jay Kretschmer, and Bob Vasas.

While the stage crew hammers the cast will be memorizing. Justin McCarthy plays the role of Lt. Steve Maryk, the defendant. He is accused of the unjustified relief of Lt. Cmdr. Queeg (Al Jette). While attempting to prove Maryk's guilt, Lt. Cmdr. John Challee (Paul Lafranchise) runs into the "shyster tactics" of Lt. Barney Greenwald (Bernie Beazley).

Supporting members of the cast include Ed Fantis, John Gaul, Greg Chirichigno, Mark Madden, George Tallon, John Traynor, Bill Joyce, Ed Wagner, Greg Jablonski, Andy Cottone, and Tom MacGregor. Father Whelan is helping these "stars" perfect their roles.

Some of the faculty members will be familiar with the play. "The Caine Mutiny Court-Martial" was presented at the Venard in 1956.



Lt. Barney Greenwald (Bernie Beazley) examines Signalman Urban (Ed Wagner), while Cmdr. John Challee (Paul Lafranchise) consults with Captian Blakely (Bill Joyce) during rehearsal for "The Cain Mutiny Court-Martial."

Change Our Marking System?

A student roster was placed on the recreation room bulletin board recently to learn students' opinion on the quarterly and semester marking system.

Seventy five students (84% of the total enrollment) wish to keep the present numerical system. Fourteen students (16% of the student body) wish to change to a letter system. Only two freshmen, three sophomores, five juniors, and four seniors agree to change the system.

Yes

Take a good look at the semester or quarterly marks when they are posted and see if they don't resemble the results of a digital computer gone wild. Numbers, numbers, decimal points, numbers, numbers. Can a student's academic progress be measured to one-one-hundredth of a point?

Academic progress is basically abstract, not to be pin-pointed with mechanical precision.

Why not change the marking system from numbers to letters? Classifying a student in a group would eliminate some petty competition that accompanies numerical grades. Since academic progress is not exact, the measurement of that progress likewise cannot be exact. All "B" students would be grouped together. One would not be three-fourths of one point higher or lower than the other. This change would also rid us of "point-pinchers" who are always juggling numbers and computing averages.

V.K.

No

Not a quarter goes by without students comparing their marks. In regards to markings, a student likes to know exactly where he stands. A student wants to know how many points he's dropped or gone up in his courses. If he's dropped, it gives him the incentive to work harder, to "bear down" and pull that number up as far as he can. If he's gone up, he gets a feeling of satisfaction from knowing that the extrastudying he's done has paid off. And, naturally he works more to make sure his mark doesn't drop, but goes up even higher.

Nothing is wrong with students comparing their marks. If they're aiming for a higher rank in their class, who can blame them? Competition is what makes this school run. Maybe in a school of eight or nine hundred, the letter system of marking would pose no problems. But this seminary contains less than one hundred, which means the competition is stronger. Naturally the students want to know exactly where they stand.

L.H.

Evidence of the "new look" in seminaries is the Home Visit Program at Sacred Heart college seminary in Detroit, Michigan. Working through the Catholic Interracial Council almost 200, about 97 percent of the seminarians, have overnight weekend visits in Negro homes. Negro seminarians visit white families.

In the entire world there are 392, 400 priests. Of this number only 33,000 are engaged in evangelizing the one billion nine hundred million non-Christians. Whereas 359,000 other priest are absorbed by the 510 million Catholics. The facts are that in Christian countries there is one priest for 1,229 faithful. In others there is one priest for 60,000 non-Christians.

Moreover, of the 33,000 priests who are working in mission countries a great number is already occupied by the ordinary ministry among the baptized, by schools, seminaries and charitable works. How many of them remain for the direct evangelization of non-Christians?

Good Old Days

An ad in the 1925 Field Afar read:

"The VENARD
Fresh Mountain Air
Hiking
Swimming
Baseball
Boating

Well Balanced Meals Prepared by
Maryknoll Sisters
Religious Atmosphere"

A present Venarder may ask, "What kind of a Venard did they have back in 1925? They sure are right when they say 'the good old days.' That place sounds more like a summer resort than a seminary."

If you feel this way, you're 100% correct; that is, correct in your estimate of it as a summer resort. It was exactly that. Each summer the Venard opened its doors to boys from about eight to fifteen years of age and ran what was called the Venard Summer Camp.

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Unionville. . . Slocum Hollow. . . Scranton

Scranton Celebrates Centennial

by G. Connolly

Ever hear of the great metropolis of Slocum Hollow? Actually it wasn't a great metropolis at all. Slocum Hollow was a town. It really wasn't Slocum Hollow (but Unionville) until the Slocum brothers arrived; but that's jumping ahead of my story.

It all began in 1615. Etienne Brule passed by the valley while exploring the Susquehanna River. His Huron friends killed him in a quarrel and feasted on his remains.

The valley was left alone for another 70 years. In 1681, Charles II of England was hustling William Penn and Quakers out of England and granted them a large tract of land in the New World. Some 40,000 other colonists ended up settling the area by 1718.

Two Connecticut Yankees, Philip and James Goot, built a sawmill and gristmill in the valley in 1786. By then the little town was known as "Unionville."

Unionville was an ideal location, being hemmed in to the north and east by the Moosic Mountains, and by the West Mountains to the west.

Two inhabitants, Ebenezer and Benjamin Slocum, invested their savings and added a forge and distillery to the town. But by that time it had become known as "Slocum Hollow." No doubt it was because of the Slocum brothers.

Again, in 1840, two brothers invested their money in Slocum Hollow to build five blast furnaces. They wanted to develop the area's rich supply of anthracite coal. They had soon formed the "Lackawanna Iron and Steel Company." They were George Whitfield Scranton and his brother Selden.

"Slocum Hollow" was now called "Scranton." This name was made official in 1851. Soon the city asked for a charter. So it was in 1866 that Scranton was officially chartered a city.

By 1870 the population had risen from 9,203 (in 1860) to 35,092. Coal had really become big and began overshadowing the iron ore mines. Waves of immigrants entered Scranton; Welsh, Polish, Italians, and Irish. Education facilities were becoming cramped. So in 1888 the University of Scranton was opened. Marywood College opened a quarter of a century later, in 1915.

Slocum Hollow had really grown by this time. It became the fourth largest city in the entire state. But by the end of the Second World War coal was on the decline. In 1958 coal production was but a bare fourth of what it was in 1948.

Soon the "Scranton plan" was established. Fifteen years after World War II, it could boast of 30 plants and three million feet of new factory space.

Thus, this year Scranton celebrates its centennial. One hundred years have passed since it was officially called a city.



The "Ski Family," Jay Kretschmer, Ron Poirier, Ed Wagner, Dave Cronk, and Dave Butler, pose for their first family portrait following the Feb. 22 Mardi Gras. For displaying the best costumes Jim Henderly and Bill Joyce (a faculty breakfast), Lloyd Hevelhorst and Joe Orr (Batman and Robin), and Al Jette (a "Tareyton Smoker") will be treated to the movie "On the Waterfront."

Orphans Receive Big Brothers

Seven Venarders went to Our Lady of Fatima Orphanage, Elmhurst, Sunday, Feb. 6. Participating in the first of a series of visits were Curt Cadorette, Bill Dillon, Gerry Will, Gerry Connolly, Bruce Selbert and Rick Cams.

The orphanage program was begun as a project of the Academia. All preliminary arrangements were made by Paul Laudicina and later Curt Cadorette was placed in charge of the project.

Sister Evangeline, in charge of the orphanage, greeted the visitors and assigned a group of children to each Venarder.

Seniors Ready To Blast Off

Dear Mom and Dad,

Last week while passing by the physics lab I happened to hear the munching of jaws. Thinking it was Al Gedicks eating a piece of freshly made toast, I ventured in. It was Al all right, but he was eating his toaster.

Jim Ostendorf, faithful to the big beat with which he is obsessed, has recently bought a 1929 pre-depression phonograph. He is now in the process of converting 45's to 78's.

Jim McCormick and Jim Reilly have asked if their physics projects can come in the form of a yearbook.

Peter Vemarsky said he has forgotten exactly what his physics experiment is but it does have something to do with the moon. Later, Curt Cadorette remarked that Vern is probably making a mousetrap.

Some seniors have made progress though. Steve Schlairet has already purchased three cardboard playcards to which he has applied the letters L-A-Y-S-E-R. Paul Laudicina, also deserves a hand for his feat of collecting ten bananas for his "monkey," even though bananas are very popular with the students at the moment.

Nick Weyland's project will more than likely be something to see. For that matter, it will be something to see Nick Weyland during the coming weeks.

I myself feel that St. Patrick will probably turn over in his grave at the thought of the seniors presenting their projects on his feast day, March 17.

Your son,
Bill Dillon

Gerry Connolly was asked to stay with the diaper set and entertain them in the gym. The other six groups went for a hike lasting all afternoon.

Of the 58 children at the orphanage 55 are not orphans but come from broken homes. The girls are greatly outnumbered and range up to 18 years of age. The boys are generally younger, the oldest being 13.

The purpose of these visits is twofold. They give Venarders the experience of working with children, which will be beneficial for their future mission work, and they give the children a chance to get out for a day and enjoy themselves.

Courts Close

by T. MacGregor

Maryknoll closed its courts February 20 on a sour note, losing its last game of the season to Pocono Catholic 55-37.

The year's classic contest with Calicoon had been dropped 86-52 the previous week. The Knollers were down 27 points at half time. A third quarter spurt cut the Friars' lead to 18 points. The Venarders fizzled, though, and Calicoon glided to an easy victory. Weyland pumped in 26 for Maryknoll, while Hudak had 29 for Calicoon.

In the only other game since the last issue of the Courier, Maryknoll grabbed a squeaker from St. Basil's 41-39. Weyland with 21 tallied more than half the Venard's total points.

In the February 6 game, the Venard freshmen felt the pangs of defeat as they were downed by Our Lady of Peace 50-59. The hardcourt was a mass of determination as both teams battled furiously to come out on top.

The first half saw action by both teams with the Venard taking a 13-10 lead at the quarter. But the team fell behind when Our Lady of Peace reeled off 22 points in the second quarter. The score stood 32-21 at the half.

In the second half futile attempts were made but the deficit was too hard to make up as the Venard frosh lost 50-59.

Bill Noellert, Dave Butler, and Tim Gavin made up 37 of those 50 points, including 20 in the second half for the Venard.



by Nick Weyland and Jim McCormick

We would like to take this opportunity to commend the student body for backing up the basketball team through a difficult season. We didn't win very many games or give you much to cheer about, but you were behind us all the way. Thanks. We were proud to play for you.

The groundhog has come up from his hole, the melting snow has left the field a puddle of mud, "Sandy" Martin and "Mickey" Fedderwitz had a catch . . . Spring is near.

So it goes as basketball season draws to a close and baseball fever starts to spread. Tryouts stand tentatively for March 9. Joe Perfetto, coach of Minooka Motors, will also coach the Venard team this spring.

Baseball fans may be surprised at the changes slated for the team this year.

At the suggestion of Father Ament, the team will select a manager whose job will be to arrange games, buy equipment, and phone the opposing coaches.

A full season of possible games with Pocono Catholic, Holy Rosary, Scranton Prep, Minooka Motors, St. Mike's, and Calicoon is foreseen. A sizeable percentage of last year's team should provide the nucleus for a winning season, but it is hoped that many new faces will bolster the team to full strength.

One of the members of the team has already been called upon to defend the team's honor. Challenged by Pocono Catholic's mightiest arm, he entered a contest as to who could throw a baseball farther. Our boy won, but not by much. She almost out-threw him.

Bill Joyce, questioned about his Mardi Gras costume (Bill went as a salad, and Jim Hendry as the cook) said he's glad of their first place prize and that we should all "jump for Joyce."

On March 1 the Venard pool halls will come alive once again as the pool tournament begins.

This year there will be only one division - doubles. A team must sink twenty five balls to win a game. The teams that win advance to the next round.

First prize is free tickets. (all expenses paid) to see a movie.

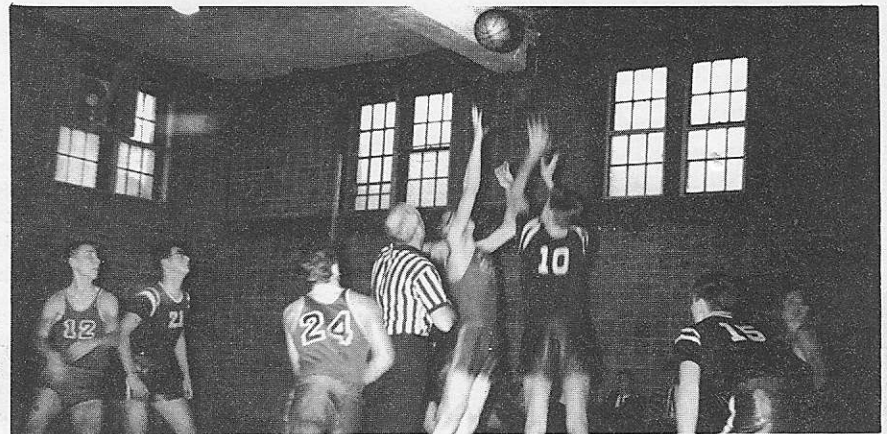
A drive is being started to buy a film catcher for the projectionist. It will be composed of a long barrel that will stop any reels of film from rolling on the floor during movies. Projectionists Al Gedicks and Jim Vernarsky think butterfly nets will serve the same purpose.

Join the Sugar Stars rebellion. Fight to switch !!!

And a closing thought to help weather winter months - - - - - Remember, those in the square and in the round shall not be saved, but rather those in the spiral.

Individual Wrap-Up

	PTS.	G.P.	A.V.
Weyland	265	16	16.5
McDonough	146	16	9.1
Borer	163	14	11.6
Kopaniasz	64	15	4.2
Kretowicz	149	10	14.9
Vernarsky	48	16	3.0
McCormick	38	12	3.1
Weinburger	32	16	2.0
	PTS.	G.P.	A.V.
MacGregor	142	13	10.9
Treanor	116	12	9.6
Waelder	68	11	6.1
Elliott	47	10	4.7
Canavan	34	13	2.6
Beazley	24	12	2.0



Bob Kopaniasz, Jim Vernarsky, and Marty T. McDonough stand poised for the balls as Nick Weyland goes up for the jump on the Feb. 19 Calicoon game.