

Youth 81

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Contents:

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Those Tough Questions About the Church — How Do You Answer?	1
Where Did We Come From?	3
Decisions That Can Change Your Life	5
What's in a Name?	6
Yea Team!	7
Pass the Ball!	9
Focusing on the YOU Photo Contest Winners	10
The Record of the Rocks	12
'Now That's a Dumb Rule!'	14
What's It Like to Be a Teen in West Germany?	16
News & Reviews	18
A Perfect Friendship	20
By the Way . . . Are You Important?	20
Youth on Camera	Back Cover

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COVER: Playing together in a musical group, playing on a sports team or living in a family — many activities require teamwork in order to be successful. See "Yea Team!" beginning page 7. Photo by Warren Watson.

Letters

Will never forget SEP

I wanted to go to SEP camp very much, but I knew with Dad [in his] third title year it wouldn't be possible.

Well, I was sponsored by a special and giving person. I was then accepted to attend third session for 1981. With God's help I was able to go when everything looked hopeless.

I never knew there was a place as great as SEP. I made the best friends I could ever have. And I learned many new things. I'll never forget my wonderful and exciting experiences at SEP 1981!

Erika Stanley
Evansville, Ind.

Better things to do

Thank you very much for *Youth 81*, and particularly for the article on boredom [April]. I used to suffer from this, but thanks to your article I've found better things to do in my spare time.

I've taken up music again after neglecting it for over a year and have decided to take an active part in a great magazine.

Antony Wood
Gileston, Wales

"Why Talk to God?"

I really enjoyed the article, "Why Talk to God?" [August]. It has helped me understand more about prayer and asking God to help us not only in bad times but also in the good times, like for the food and clothing God has given us.

Keep those great articles coming!

Tony Chaney
Middletown, Ohio

Risk it!

Thank you so much for your article on shyness in the August issue.

Shyness really is a difficult thing to overcome. I know because I used to be so terribly shy, or in other words, afraid of exposing myself and risking rejection.

I hope you publish this because I would really like to say something to all those who have a hard time feeling comfortable with themselves:

Risk it! Find out what your abilities are and use what God gave you. Accept the fact that you may not be as good as someone else in one thing, but you are good at something else. God wants you to figure out what your talents are and to use them. Plus, many of the things you may be so paranoid about are things that others don't even notice. You are an individual.

Paula Ross
Grand Rapids, Mich.

Those Tough Questions About the Church How Do You Answer?

By Bernie Schnippert

He was mad. I was scared. And both of us had good reasons to feel the way we did!

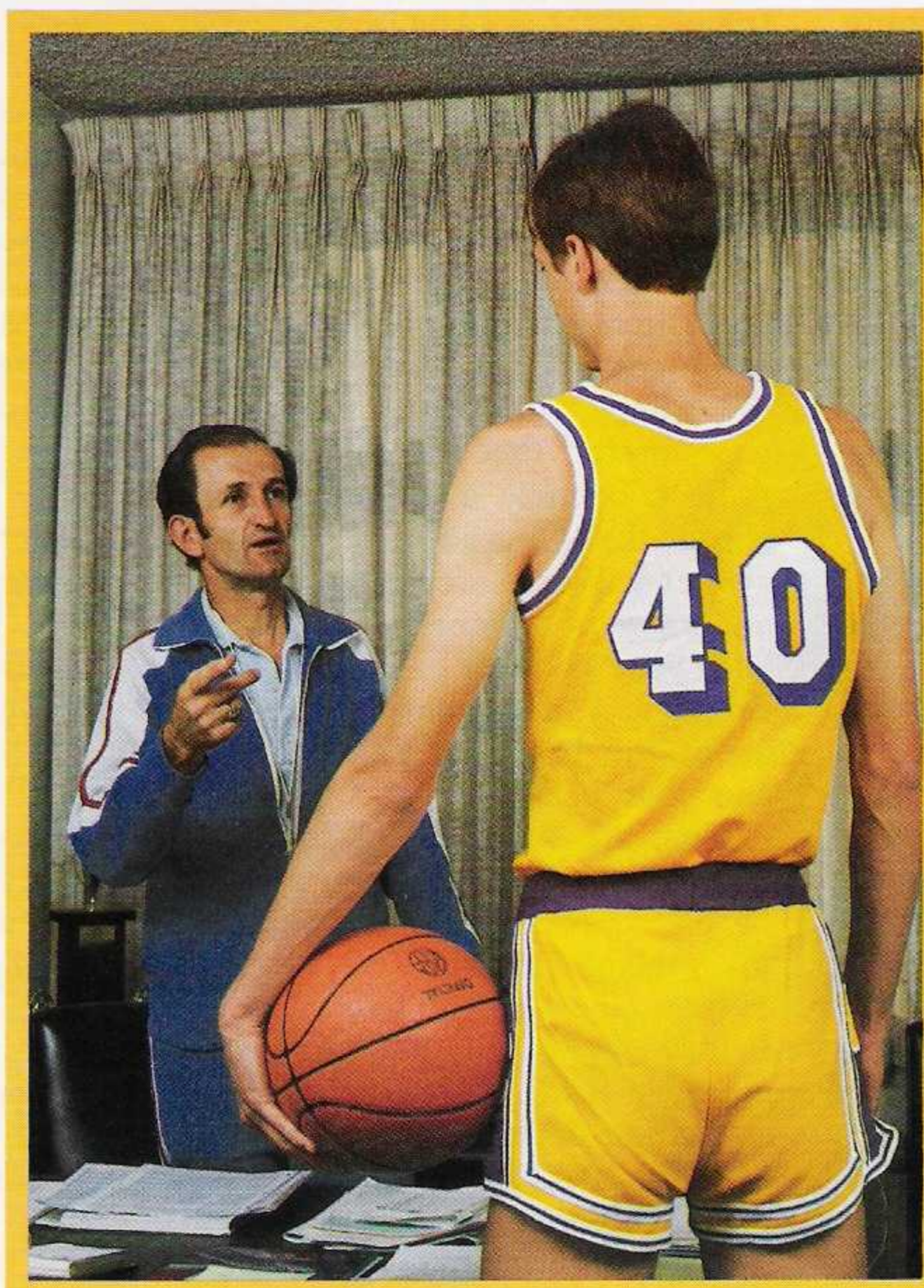
He was mad because he — the much feared, straight-talking coach of the basketball team — had just been told by the tallest teenager he had ever met that the teenager could not play basketball on Friday nights or Saturday.

I was scared — because I was that teenager, and the coach wanted me to tell him why I couldn't play.

His question really put the pressure on me 15 years ago, when this event occurred. What would you have said if you had been in my position? Do you know what to say when you are asked questions like this? In short, do you know how to answer questions about the Church?

Make no mistake about it. Answering questions about why you believe what you believe can be tough for anyone. Your local pastor went to college to learn how to answer questions from people like your friends and teachers, and sometimes he needs help. And he earns his salary by answering questions!

So don't feel bad if you don't always have the perfect answer for



everyone who asks you about your beliefs. The only ones who have perfect answers for every question are television and movie characters who have their answers neatly written into the script ahead of time.

Actually, the place to start when searching for an answer to a question is to make sure a question has been asked in the first place.

Many times people say things just

to tease you or hear themselves talk. They really may not expect an answer. For example, a friend who says to you, "You sure are weird for not going to Friday night football games, aren't you?", isn't really asking you a question about the Sabbath and doesn't expect a religious explanation. So don't waste your time trying to answer "non-questions" like this. Simply smile and reply with some humor like, "Well, I've got just as much right to be weird as you do."

If you are sure that a question is being asked, next try to tell what sort of attitude the questioner is in. Is he sincere, sarcastic, argumentative or spiteful? Most of the time, the only questions worthy of answers are the sincere ones. People who are being sarcastic or argumentative don't deserve or even really want an answer.

Frankly, you may find that you really haven't been asked too many real, sincere questions. But from time to time they do come along, and it helps to know what to say when they do. As a matter of fact, God says in I Peter 3:15 that we should be able to give an answer to every person who asks about our beliefs.

A well-thought-out, intelligent answer will show others your beliefs

are reasonable even though people will disagree with your answers. For, as Solomon said, "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver" (Prov. 25:11). On the other hand, a poorly worded answer can make you look bad even when you're right.

But what is a "good" answer?

First, it is brief. Solomon said, "In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin" (Prov. 10:19). In other words, the longer you make your answer, the greater the chance is that you will make a mistake.

Next, the answer should be simple — not full of complicated, tricky thinking. God's Word is profound and deep, but its truths can be put simply if we work at it. Pastor General Herbert W. Armstrong often says, "I am trying to make this so simple that even a child can understand."

Next, the answer to a question should be direct. Someone who asks why you keep the Sabbath should be told, "I keep it because . . .", followed by a short, simple answer. You should not give a history of the Sabbath from creation to the present day in order to answer a question that is much more specific than that.

The next important quality of a good answer is that it should be given positively and confidently, with the conviction that comes from having proved it yourself. Be careful never to let a person intimidate you or make you feel stupid for obeying God's way. Some people like to do that because human nature tries to intimidate others so it can look better itself. Simply refuse to allow their taunting attitude to upset you.

Know the answers

Your answers will be confident and positive if you *know* the answer to the question and if you are *sure* that the Church's teaching on the subject is correct. This means that you will have to spend some time in Bible study, reading the Church's literature and thinking through and proving the teachings for yourself. If you do, you will have the knowledge you need.

If you apply God's truth in your life, you will see that it is correct. And when you answer the question,

you'll be able to do so by saying what *you* believe, not just what the Church teaches. Personal answers are always strong.

And finally, a good answer does not raise new issues. For example, a poor answer to the question, "Why do you keep the Sabbath?" would be, "Because we also keep God's Holy Days and the Sabbath and Holy Days stand or fall together." Instead of directly and simply and briefly answering the question, you have raised a new question in the person's mind. He is now wondering, "What are the Holy Days?"

It isn't always easy to come up with a good answer to a question, so it's best to prepare. Think beforehand about what type of questions your friends might ask you, and come up with the answers so that you know them if they do ask. It might even be good to write them down and practice answering them.

If you really take the time to know the answers, when someone asks you a question you won't become rattled and forget what you know.

Perhaps you could suggest to your pastor that the YOU, as a project, compile a list of questions about the Church and a list of answers. Work over the questions and answers together as a group — with your minister — until you feel confident you can answer questions about the basics of God's Church and your beliefs.

Here are a few sample questions and answers. In what ways are they "good" answers? Can you improve upon them? How?

Question: Why don't you go to the Friday night football games like everyone else?

Answer: Because I keep the Saturday Sabbath, beginning on Friday night and ending Saturday night. This is the weekly religious Holy Day I have learned to keep from the Bible.

Question: Why don't you keep Christmas?

Answer: Because I have learned that the Bible does not teach keeping it and that history books prove it was originally not a Christian celebration anyway.

Question: Why don't you eat pork?

Answer: Because I have learned

that the Bible says we shouldn't eat it.

Here is one more caution. Sometimes you may run into an adult who tries to put you on the spot. He might be able to do it because you are younger and might know less about the Bible.

When you're on the spot

Don't be embarrassed if someone tries to put you down with a question. If you cannot answer him, simply say: "I am still learning. I cannot answer every question yet but I can tell you whom to ask if you sincerely want to know." Tell them further, "I may not be able to answer every question about my Church, but I know that I have thought about and have more answers for my beliefs than most people do for theirs."

Another technique for answering people who are trying to put you on the spot is to answer a question with a question. For example, someone who asks you why you keep the Sabbath could be asked, "First, can you tell me why you keep Sunday?" Christ used this technique from time to time (Matt. 21:23-27). But this approach is usually best reserved for someone who is trying to trap you rather than for someone who is actually being sincere. A sincere question should get a sincere answer.

If you prepare, you'll be ready for the time when your friend, teacher or even your basketball coach asks you why you do this or that.

It was more than 15 years ago that I had to answer my coach's question. I went back to see him 12 years later, but things were different this time. For one, I was older. And, he wasn't mad. Nor was I scared. But I was surprised. For, after speaking awhile with him, he surprised me by expressing admiration that I had become a minister. Then he said, "You always did seem like a young man who knew where he was going." (And I thought he hated me!)

Are you wondering what my answer to him was when he asked me why I kept the Sabbath? To be frank, I can't remember! But judging from the complimentary comments he made when I visited him 12 years later, the answer must have been all right! □

Where Did We Come From?

*Do they teach evolution in your school?
Has your teacher ever said the Bible account of creation is not true? Here are some things you should know!*

By Clayton Steep

Would you have been fooled?

The whole class was listening to the biology teacher. He was trying to explain why they should believe in evolution rather than the Bible account of the creation of the universe.

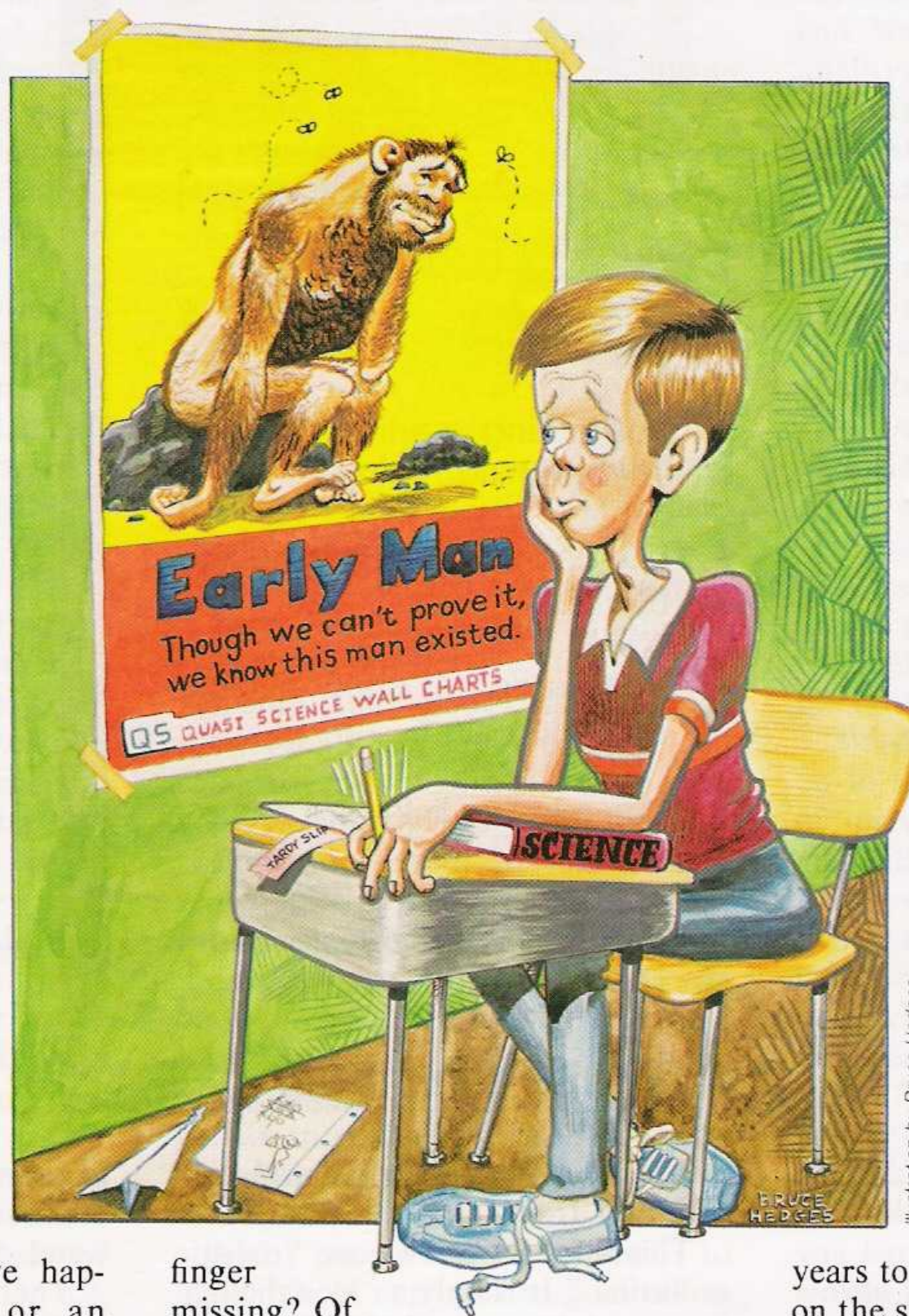
"We know the Bible story about creation is not true," he said, "because the Bible says that God took one of Adam's ribs out to create Eve. Now if that were true, we men would have one less rib on one side today. But we don't! So we know the Bible can't be true!"

The students laughed and shook their heads in agreement.

This happened in a science class at a big state university. But it could have happened in a high school or an elementary school. What if it had happened in your science class? Would you have seen the hole in the teacher's reasoning?

Were you fooled?

If a man had his finger cut off, would his son be born with that same



finger missing? Of course not! The number of fingers on his son's hands would not be affected.

Just because God took one of Adam's ribs does not mean his sons had any ribs missing. They had the normal number of ribs and so did all their sons and their sons' sons up to today.

So you see, the teacher did not disprove the Bible at all. Nor did he prove evolution. But the class thought he did.

Don't let yourself be fooled when a teacher or a textbook tries to tell you that you evolved from animals. They may use technical language, hard to be understood if you are not a scientist. But don't be fooled by that either. All of their arguments fall as flat as the reasoning about Adam's rib.

Evolution cannot be proved no matter what the books say. God created living things just as the Bible claims. The proof is all around us.

The trunk of the tree

You don't have to try to understand all of the little details about the theory of evolution. It would take

years to read the many books written on the subject. They don't prove that the idea of evolution is true anyway. All we need to do is to cut down the trunk of the tree and all the twigs — all the complicated books and study papers — fall with it.

Here are basic principles that cut down the trunk of the tree of evolution. Keep them in mind and you don't ever

Illustration by Bruce Hedges

need to be confused by tricky, "scientific"-sounding arguments.

1. *Something cannot come from nothing by itself.*

Imagine nothing. Just total darkness. For those who do not believe God created all things, that's how it had to be before the beginning.

Since there was nothing, there would be no way for something to start. Not even an explosion. Not even a cloud of energy. Not even a molecule or an atom. Nothing could come into being by itself. God had to be there in the first place or nothing could ever have happened.

2. *Life cannot come into being by itself.*

Even if we start with a whole universe that miraculously appeared from nowhere, earth would just be a dead planet much like Mars is now. And it would stay dead, too, just like Mars has stayed dead. The reason is simple. Life cannot begin by itself. It hasn't begun on Mars. It hasn't begun on the moon or on Venus or on Jupiter or on any other planet. And it never would have begun on earth by itself.

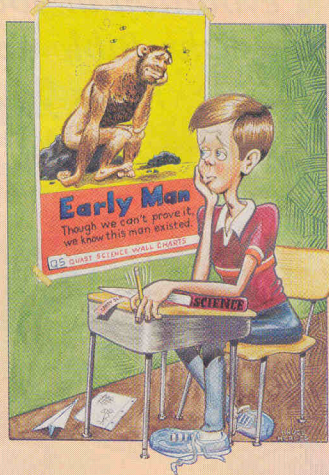
Certain scientists have claimed they are creating "life" in test tubes. But what has happened in their test tubes is entirely different from what could have taken place on a dead planet — by accident. For one thing, there would have been no scientists around to influence what was taking place, like they influence and guide what happens in their test tubes. For another thing, the "life" they say they are producing in their test tubes is not even close to being a true living cell with all of its harmonious parts.

Why don't you try it? You have a good mind. Learn all you can about life and then mix some things together. Use any chemical ingredients you wish.

If you spent your whole life at it, you could never produce something that lives. If you can't do it, as intelligent as you are, how could

something that knows nothing make something that lives? The answer is that it could not and did not happen.

Some people who want very badly to believe in evolution get around these first two points by saying: "All right, we'll admit God did have something to do with creation. He created matter where there was nothing and He created the first



- 1 Something cannot come from nothing by itself.
- 2 Life cannot come into being by itself.
- 3 Fossils do not show evolution happened.
- 4 The missing links are missing.
- 5 The so-called "living fossils" defy evolution.

living cells. Then He let evolution take over from there."

This idea is known as "theistic evolution." It is only an idea though; it never happened. God did not use evolution to create. Evolution simply did not take place. The following points are just three of the many proofs that it did not occur.

3. *Fossils do not show evolution happened.*

The theory of evolution is supposed

to be proved by the order in which fossils are found in layers of the earth. The oldest fossils are supposed to be found in the oldest layers. But how do scientists think they know which are the "oldest" layers? By the fossils they find in them! So, you see, the main "proof" of evolution is just reasoning in a circle.

4. *The missing links are missing.*

If evolution happened, there would have to be enormous numbers of links between varieties of living things. But they are missing. Today many scientists are admitting that the links are not there. Even Charles Darwin, in his book about evolution, *The Origin of Species*, said that perhaps the biggest problem with his theory was the lack of fossil proof to show the existence of the missing links.

Of course! That's because they never existed! God designed and created man and the different kinds of animals and brought them into being suddenly.

5. *The so-called "living fossils" defy evolution.*

If evolution were really happening, why wouldn't all creatures be evolving? Scientists admit creatures such as the following have not changed for millions of years by their figures: the bat (50 million years), the sea urchin (100 million years), the dragonfly (170 million years), the cockroach (250 million years), the starfish (500 million years).

Obviously these creatures, and others like them, decided long ago to reject the theory of evolution because it doesn't make sense and to stay the way they were!

There are many proofs that God created the universe and all living things just like the Bible says He did. Our free booklet, *Does God Exist?*, offers more information about where life came from and discusses some of the theories evolutionists have come up with. Why not write for your own personal copy? □

By Alan Dean

In a recent survey, a group of people 30 years old and older were asked, "If you had your life to live over again, what one thing would you do differently?"

The answers were saddening. For example: "I'd marry a different person — I should have listened to my parents about 'him.'" More than 50 percent said they would marry someone else!

Others said they would obtain a better education or would choose other jobs.

For many of these people, the choices are made. It is too late! They made bad choices in their teenage and young adult years, the years when choices can be especially critical to future success and happiness, and now they are paying the consequences.

It seems that most people, instead of planning ahead to make right choices and to avoid problems, are following the way that leads to lifelong frustration. How can you avoid making those same mistakes? Let's analyze where these people went wrong.

Take a look at five crucial wrong choices many people make either by actually deciding or, more likely, just by failing to make the right choice. These five points, if followed, will guarantee a life of mediocrity and unhappiness.

1. *Just take life as it comes.*

If you don't have well-defined goals or a program to achieve something, you won't. Where would you like to be in five years? You won't make it if you don't have a plan of attack.

When I was studying accounting at night school, I was told I had a 1 percent chance of passing. Reason? Not because it was too hard for me, but because most young people of 17, my age at the time, are too easily distracted and more interested in having a good time. Ask yourself: Do I have goals for school, work, sports, music, recreation and, most important of all, do I have spiritual goals?

2. *Enjoy the moment and don't worry about the consequences.*

DECISIONS That Can Change Your Life

The lack of self-discipline is a major reason people make wrong choices. Can you say "no" to yourself? Be honest — think of the days you intended to study or the exercise program that you're planning to start soon. Somehow watching television seems easier, but you'll probably end up hating yourself for wasting yet another night.

It's a matter of self-discipline. Ask yourself, Can I sit down and study? If someone comes along with the tempting word *fun*, can I say, "Not today"? Self-discipline is the ability to put off some fun today to insure fun tomorrow. You will never achieve success without it.

3. *Believe second best will do.*

Most people lack the ambition to rise above mediocrity. Poor workmanship and shoddy indifference show up all over our society. If you can learn to do it with all your might, you will be a success.

Push yourself to do your best at school. Strive to do well in sports. Practice to become proficient in music. Champions are made, not born. They are the ones who go at it harder.

Don't settle for just getting by — believe in yourself and do your best.

4. *Don't learn any more than they force you to.*

Many people think it is smart to leave school early, or to goof off at school. In this increasingly competitive society, however, you need to acquire as much education as you can. Too many people are trapped in mundane jobs they were forced to take because of insufficient education.

Education is more than just technical know-how — knowing how

to build, repair or develop. It involves expanding the mind to know right values of how to live, how to get along with others, of morality (what's right and wrong), of how to appreciate quality and how to conduct oneself in all situations.

Now is the time. Read good books and magazines, experience cultural events, mix with all types of people, young and old. YOU and SEP offer great opportunities for a fuller education.

5. *Rush to marry the person you "fall in love" with.*

Society knocks right dating, virginity and the sanctity of marriage. However, society's batting average isn't too good! In some areas, nearly half of the marriages don't last, and a lot more married couples are just tolerating one another.

Why is everyone in a rush to latch on to someone? Enjoy the company of many people. Date widely. Give yourself time to learn what characteristics you prefer in a future mate. A little secret to the girls — if a guy likes you, he'll climb mountains and swim rivers to be with you. Fellows, don't panic — if she's the right one, she will feel the same about you, no matter how many others get in line to take her out.

Give yourself some time. When you have traveled, studied and dated widely, you will be ready to choose a mate for life.

Youth is a time to enjoy yourself, as Solomon said. But it is also a time when you plant the seeds of success or failure.

I hope that when you are 30, if you are asked to write "What would I have done differently?", you will be able to return a blank sheet. □

What is it that distinguishes you from everybody else?

Is it your blond hair, cute dimples or your height? No, there are many other blonds, quite a number with dimples and thousands who are 6 feet tall.

Maybe it's your talents and abilities? Your great personality and sparkling wit? Once again, you're not alone in any of these.

Your main distinguishing possession has been with you from birth and will be with you until you die. It may be remembered even after that. It's your name. Your name gives you identity — it's legal proof that you actually exist. And it tells a lot about you.

It's hard to imagine a group of people without names, isn't it? Historians have not found records of any people at any time who have not had some form of naming or identifying each other. And when you check the Bible you'll find that a name is one of the first things God gave to man. It's the first thing we give a newborn baby — his own special name.

How names began

Names seem to fall into several broad categories. People could be named according to their physical characteristics, such as strong arm or Armstrong. They could be named according to their residences, like Joseph of Arimathea. Sometimes names were given in connection with some other person, such as a father — William's son or Williamson. A name could also record an incident or exploit.

Imagine that you are stranded on a desert isle with several other people who don't speak your language. They can't tell you their names, and you begin to try to identify them in your own mind. One is very blond so mentally you name him "Whitehead." "Crabby" is an appropriate name for the one who is often irritable. There is a man who wears a

patch over an infected eye. He's "the man with the patch" or "Patch" for short. That is the way you have chosen to separate him from all the others, and the name sticks — even when the patch is no longer worn.

There is another popular way babies are named. Parents want to start their children out the best they can. If they are religious they sometimes name their children after great people in the Bible, such as David, Peter, Deborah or Sarah.

Sometimes parents get carried away. Mr. and Mrs. Clapp of 18th-century Rhode Island named their son "Through-much-tribulation-we-enter-into-the-kingdom-of-heaven" Clapp! Maybe they called him "Tribby" for short!

The Murphys took no chances when they named their son "Daniel's wisdom may I know, Stephen's faith and spirit choose, John's divine communion seal, Moses' meekness, Joshua's zeal, win-the-day and conquer-all" Murphy.

Do names have meaning today?

What does this have to do with us today? You've probably all had the experience of telling your parents about an incident at school. Perhaps it concerned someone named John.

What's in a Name?

By Karen Meeker

And, as always, your parents asked, "John who?" "John Johnson," you answered with impatience. It seemed unimportant to you, but your parents were trying to sort out in their minds which John you meant. They were identifying him.

Once the identification is made something else happens, too. Other information about John is brought to mind. Sometimes it will be about his parents: "Oh, yes, they're the Johnsons who live at the end of the block." Or it could be about his abilities: "John Johnson who is on the basketball team?" Or, "the smartest kid in science" or "the one who is so polite."

You see, once the identification is made it's usually followed by other information you have about that person — good or bad. And, as in the case of "Patch," the name and evaluation usually stick even though it may not be true any more.

Your name is among the most important possessions you have. God's name was important enough to Him that He made a commandment about it.

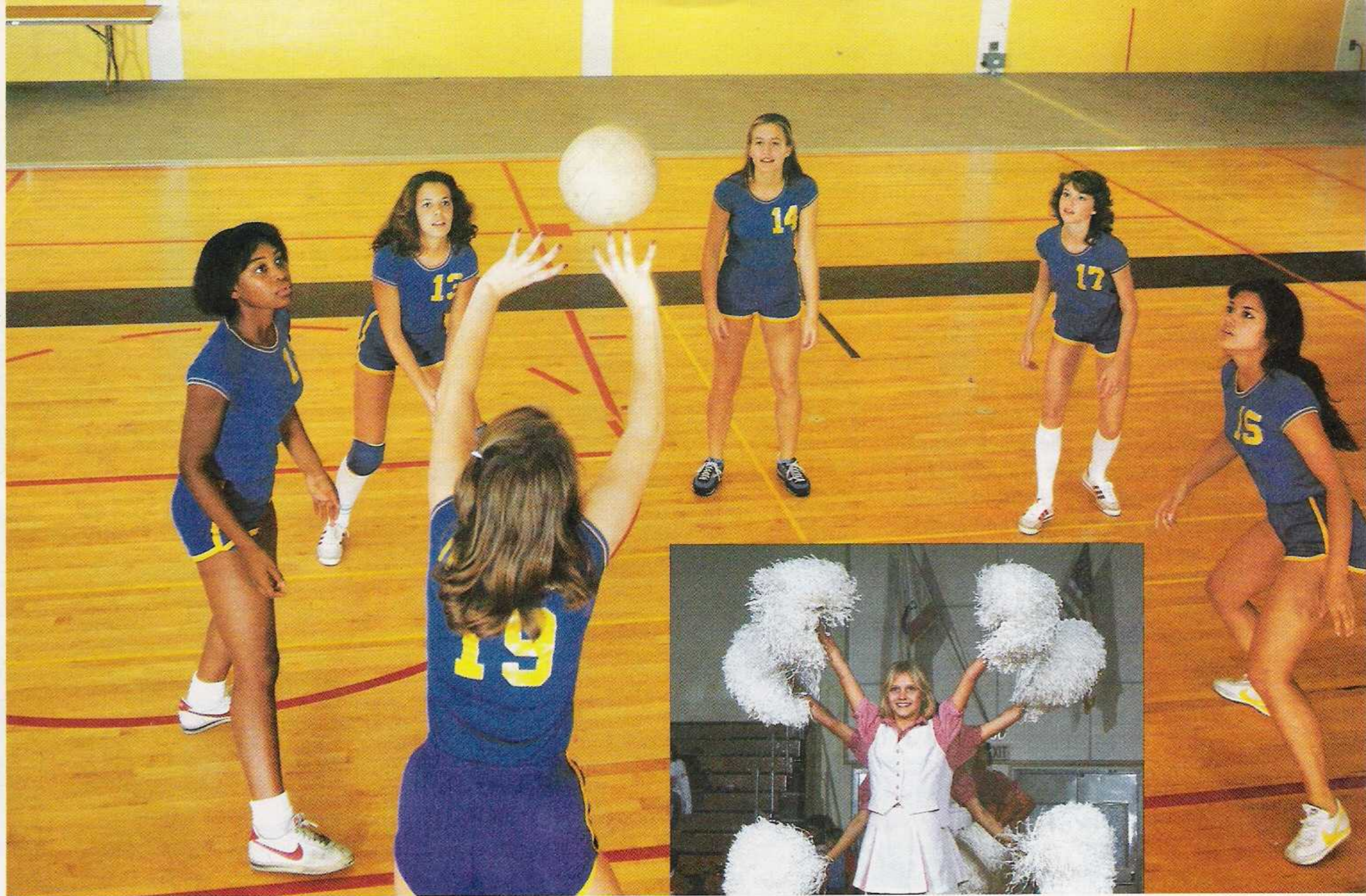
Your name is almost always equated with your actions and a rash action may have lasting effects. That's why it is so important to consider what you do and see what the long-range effects might be.

You may only cheat once on an exam but when you are caught, you become "Jack the cheater." The same applies when one is lazy or too loud or is rude. The name and the actions become part of your reputation, and your reputation sticks.

A name can bring to mind either desirable or undesirable responses, even if we don't know the person personally — only by reputation.

If someone is dependable, honest, a hard worker, friendly or talented in some field, his or her name and reputation are assets to those around. Parents, friends, future mates and children will all feel the effects of this reputation.

The next time you tell a story or hear about what "Sally so-and-so" did, remember how important your name is and take care of it. Your education, your job, your future may depend on that prized possession — a good reputation. □



Yea Team!

*Can you think of any activities that don't involve teamwork?
How much are you contributing to your teams?*

By Tom Hanson

George joked nervously as the team captains chose sides for the volleyball game.

George was always the last one chosen, and this time was proving to be no exception.

As the other players were chosen, George wondered why. I'm really a good player, he thought. I hit every ball close to me, and I always tell my teammates how they can play better.

And that was George's problem. He was a good individual player, but

he knew nothing of playing on a team. Most teams didn't want George on their side. On every missed point, the entire team braced itself for a lecture from George. Of course, whenever George missed the ball, he had an excuse.

Sound familiar? Everyone knows someone like George. Overconfident, always lending a "helping" hand to less fortunate souls.

Success in sports or any of life's activities depends a great deal on putting down your own ambitions for the good of the group.

There are a lot of things you can't

do all by yourself. You need the support of others and they need the right and proper kind of support and encouragement from you.

When U.S. President Ronald Reagan was governor of the state of California he had a plaque on his desk that said, "You can accomplish much if you don't mind who gets the credit."

That's a lot like the dictionary definition of teamwork: "work done by several asso-



ciates with each doing a part but all subordinating personal prominence to the efficiency of the whole."

Few people grate on the nerves more than braggarts. They're always saying how good they are at this or that. Once, when I was a senior in high school, I asked a freshman how he was doing in football. He told me of some excellent plays he had made, mentioned that the track coach said he could have qualified for the state meet (he decided not to join the team, though) and ended by saying he was a superb baseball player.

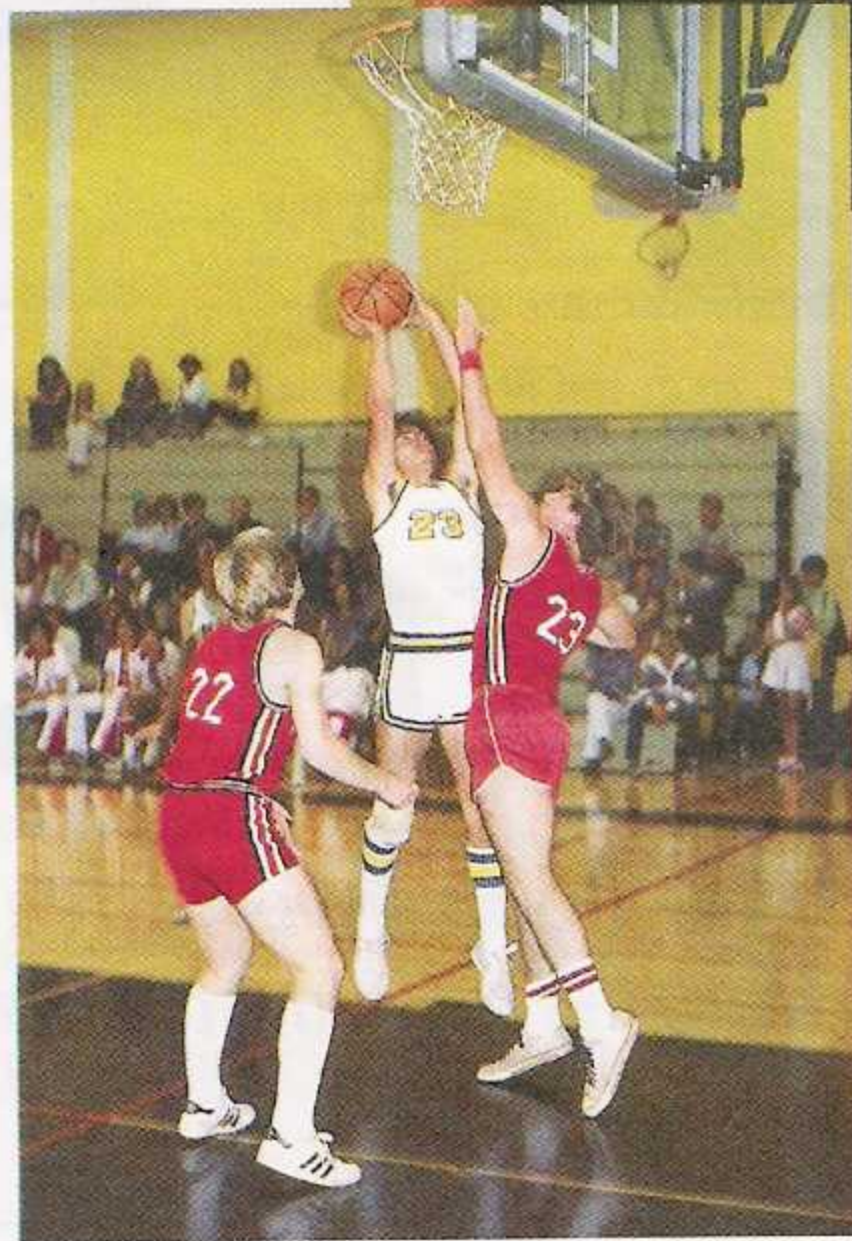
God's Word has something to say to people like this. "For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself" (Gal. 6:3). And, "Let another man praise thee, and not thine own mouth" (Prov. 27:2).

Don't get upset when you see others with more talents than you have. God gives out talents according to His will. He gave you the ones you've got, and He gave others theirs. No one has them all; no one is totally left out.

Don't get discouraged if you don't have as much talent in some area as others. Look on the talents of others positively. Recognize their strong points and your own, and see how you can work together. You can accomplish much more than if you try to do it all by yourself.

Teamwork in sports is important on the sidelines and at halftimes as well as on the playing field. To watch cheerleaders perform in unison can really be uplifting to the fans and to the team. Many games are won or lost because of the support of the fans or the lack of it.

The cheerleaders help to build the enthusiasm of the crowd. Five cheer-



Playing in a band, playing basketball, volleyball or cheerleading — it's hard to think of an activity that doesn't involve teamwork. (Photos by Warren Watson and Scott Smith)

leaders working together as one (teamwork) can

do much in bringing the crowd to their feet. Five who perform as individuals can be an embarrassment. A simple routine done as a unit is more effective than a more difficult one where individuals are showing off.

What if you aren't interested in sports and cheerleading? Is teamwork important in other facets of life? You might be hard pressed to find an activity that doesn't involve teamwork.

Playing musical instruments is an example. It takes countless hours of practice to get an entire band or orchestra to perform as a unit, so that

one bad note won't spoil it all.

A backyard barbecue is a great way to get together with friends, and a successful barbecue involves teamwork. If someone forgets to bring the charcoal or the grill, the whole barbecue could be a disaster. If someone forgets the drinks, that's no fun either. Or how about a barbecue with no food?

A YOU dance can be a lesson in teamwork. One person can't do it all by himself. Oftentimes committees are formed with certain tasks delegated to each. One group might be in charge of decorations, another refreshments and another cleanup. All are equally important. I used to dread cleanup, but that job is necessary to make a dance come off smoothly.

I learned a lot about not minding who gets the credit when I worked for an advertising agency that published books about towns in conjunction with their chambers of commerce. In one town I shot most of the pictures, wrote the entirety of the book and did the dummy layout. I made a presentation to the chamber of commerce, and the company vice president praised me.

Several days later my immediate superior fired me for refusing to work on the Feast of Trumpets. Several months after this I learned that my boss, who did almost nothing on the book, had his picture in the local newspaper accepting an award for that book. He didn't even bother to call me and thank me for my efforts.

But, even though I was mistreated, I left that job on a personal high. I knew my work was at its best and I had the thrill of standing up for the truth.

Pastor General Herbert W. Armstrong often speaks of give versus get. Teamwork, giving of yourself for the good of the team, is the epitome of give. Being a show-off and seeking glory for yourself is the epitome of get. And Christ said it's better to give than receive (Acts 20:35). Give of yourself, whether you get the credit or not.

You might not have looked at it this way before, but your family is a team, too. Dad's the coach, Mom's the assistant and you and your brothers and sisters are team members. Each family member plays a necessary role.

Through Mr. Armstrong's leadership, families in God's Church are growing closer together (Mal. 4:5-6). They are beginning to function even more as a team.

Think about the position each member of your family team must fill. If your dad doesn't work hard to provide an adequate living for the family, the family will suffer. If your mom doesn't do her best to take care of the home and family, you might not get fed, and you might go to school in tattered clothing.

You play a mighty important role in the family, too. God calls children a blessing to a family (Ps. 127, 128). You are a blessing to your parents, especially if you show honor and consideration to them.

It's not easy for your dad and mom to take care of the house alone. There are many ways that you can help. You should take out the trash, help with the dishes or mow the grass, without being asked. If you're old enough, you can help your parents by running errands or helping with car or home repairs or care of younger sisters or brothers. That will give the

family more time to enjoy each other's company.

Or how about getting together on a family work project? Maybe the basement hasn't been cleaned out in a while. It can really bring back memories to be cleaning and discover old toys or other articles that remind us of events our families have enjoyed together.

You're a member of a team even more important than your own family. As a part (an integral part) of this Church, you are on God's team, destined to become leaders in the world tomorrow. That's quite an honor.

God is the Captain of that team, and though He could do it all Himself, He has called Mr. Armstrong and all of us to do His Work. He is relying on all of us, working in unity, to get the job done.

There is no end to the number of activities that require teamwork. Keep teamwork in mind whenever you find yourself working with other people. Remember that the group can accomplish a lot if you don't mind who gets the credit. □

Pass the Ball!

"BASKETBALL IS most magical when all players apply their talents in a way most helpful to the team," according to *Sports Illustrated* writer John Papanek. "The scorers must score, the rebounders must rebound, the passers pass, the subs do their chores cheerfully." Mr. Papanek is describing teamwork.

If a basketball team had only guards, who would rebound the ball? If there were five tall forwards on one team, who would dribble and control the ball?

The coach plays a vital role, too. Without a leader, most groups attempt success in vain. A coach is necessary to direct the players, to see what mistakes they're making and where they can best apply their strong points, and then to call

plays and substitute players accordingly.

When he invented basketball 90 years ago in a Springfield, Mass., YMCA, Dr. James Naismith had in mind a concept of team play. Most professional players agree. "This game is not an individual game; it's a team game, and a team player's the only kind that wins," said George "Iceman" Gervin, the fifth player in basketball history to win three straight scoring titles.

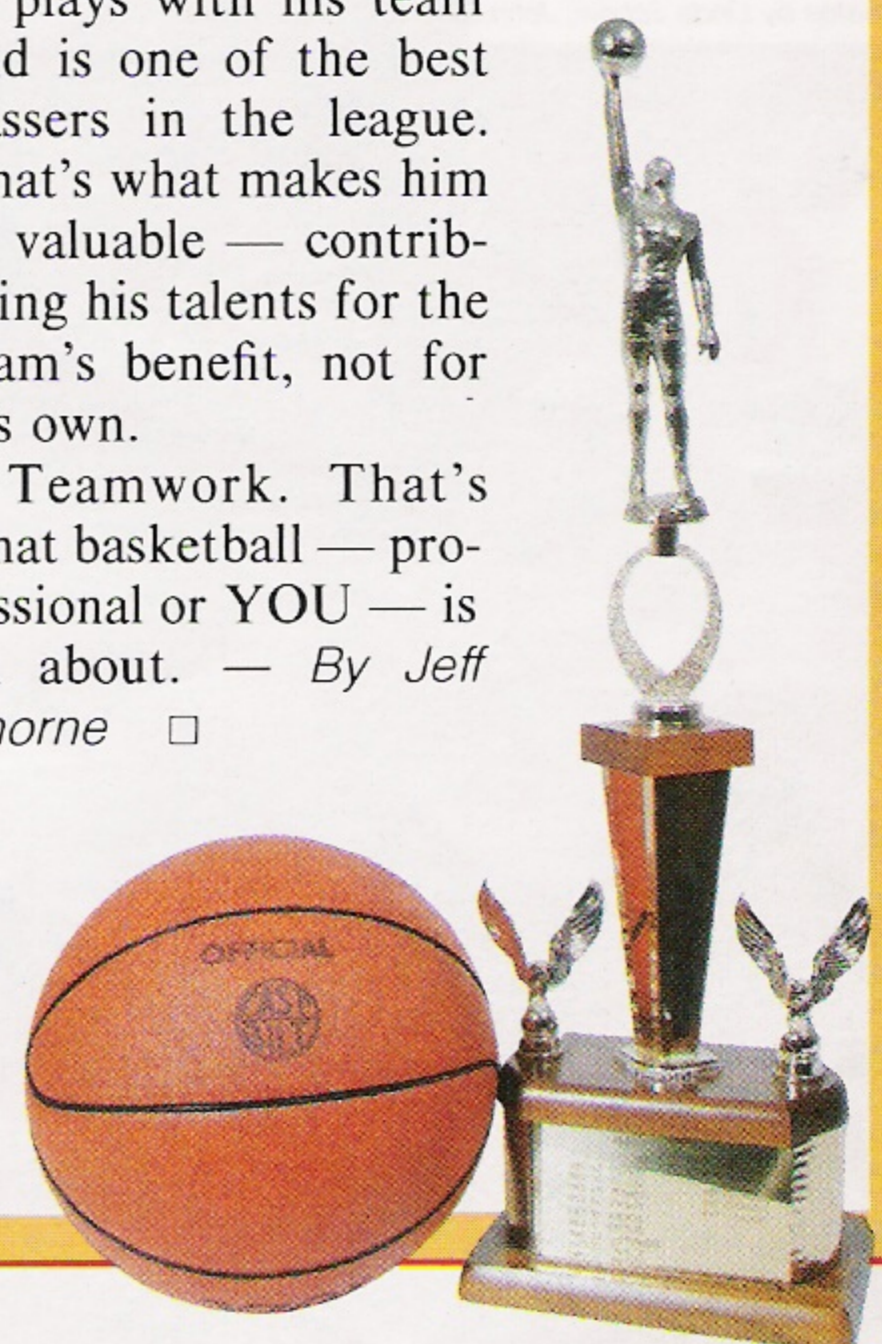
Ever wonder why Boston Celtics' player Larry Bird, acclaimed by the Celtics' president, Arnold "Red" Auerbach, to be the best passing forward ever, is a great player? Not because all he does is shoot and play for himself. No, he plays team ball.

Or how about Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, center for the Los Angeles Lakers? "Abdul-Jabbar, alone, is a superb player but not a cham-

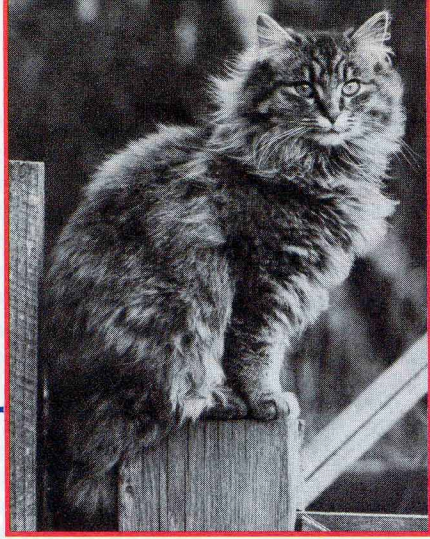
pion. Give him help, match all the right pieces together and something magnificent happens," noted one *Sports Illustrated* writer.

Julius Erving of the Philadelphia 76ers, commonly known as "Dr. J" doesn't "hog" the ball. Dr. J. plays with his team and is one of the best passers in the league. That's what makes him so valuable — contributing his talents for the team's benefit, not for his own.

Teamwork. That's what basketball — professional or YOU — is all about. — By Jeff Zhorne □



Deanna Schow's photo (right) was the contest's black and white winner. Below: Deanna with her dog, her cat, her sister Karen and her cheerleading team (she's on the right).



Focusing on Photo Cont

Deanna Schow

Getting her cat to stay still was the hardest part in composing the best all-around black and white photograph in the 1981 YOU Photo Contest, according to photographer Deanna Schow.

Deanna explained that everything worked out well in her award-winning photo of her cat, Baby Farrah.

"My exposure was good and I had the perfect framing device. Keeping the cat still was my big problem — but it all worked out."

Deanna, a high school senior, has had photography classes, including darkroom work, at her high school for two years, and she is now taking the third year, which introduces the students to color photography. Deanna's grades at school are high and this year she will be working on the school yearbook. She hopes to attend Ambassador College next fall.

Deanna's family has attended the Tacoma, Wash., church for 13 years, and she has been a cheerleader with the YOU team for three years. She also enjoys helping with the preschool Bible classes and the children's choir at church.

Besides photography, which she says is her major interest, some of her varied interests include art, technical productions, swimming, waterskiing, boating, tennis, snow skiing, ice-skating, cooking and sewing.

Deanna works for her parents in their swimming pool store and takes care of cooking and many of the household chores during the summer when her parents must spend long hours working in the business.

Her parents are proud of Deanna and feel she has learned a great deal

from her interest in photography: "The many hours Deanna has spent in the photo lab at school have helped her learn the importance of patience and persistence in obtaining satisfying and worthwhile results."

Deanna's advice to beginning photographers is to not get discouraged when things don't go right. "It takes a lot of time and work for pictures to come out right. Learn from your mistakes — I've had a lot of practice at that!"

She also advises to take your camera along even when you don't think you'll be using it. You never know when or where that great picture will turn up.

Deanna's camera is a Canon AE-1, and she develops her film and makes prints herself in her high school's photography lab. □

Dominick Furlano

Photos by Linda Schow, John Brau and Elio Furlano



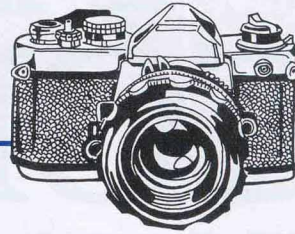
the YOU est Winners

winning photo (the "Youth on Camera" feature for October-November).

"My zoom lens was set at about 175-mm. to compress the distance and to enlarge the rapidly fading sun. I used a low f-stop to soften the background. It was cold, but I composed the shot and quickly squeezed off two frames before the sun disappeared.

"For the final 8-by-10-inch printing, the slide was flipped, cropped slightly, printed with a black border and mounted on heavy white poster-board."

Dominick wants to get more involved in darkroom work ("The creativity potential in the darkroom is virtually unlimited!") and would like to experiment with photomicrography and astrophotography. □



The creativity that photography offers led Dominick Furlano, who took the best all-around color photo in the 1981 YOU Photo Contest, to become interested in it as a hobby at age 13.

But photography is by no means his only activity. He lists as other major hobbies: flying (he's a licensed pilot), taxidermy, piano, synthesizer, chess and golf.

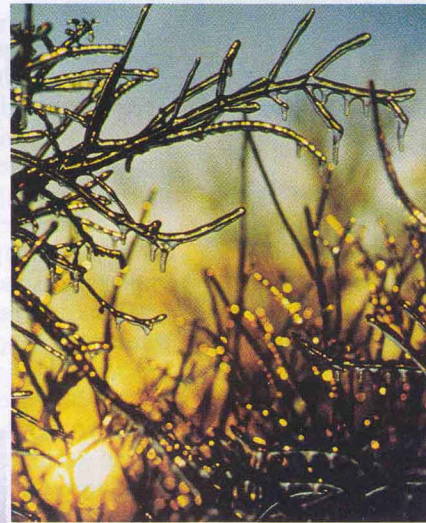
Plus he was his high school salutatorian, won third place in a national academic competition, was on his high school yearbook staff and worked to pay for all his hobbies and to save up for college. (He is a freshman this year at Ambassador College in Big Sandy, Tex.)

And he has been involved with special music at church along with being a member of YOU and Spokesman Club.

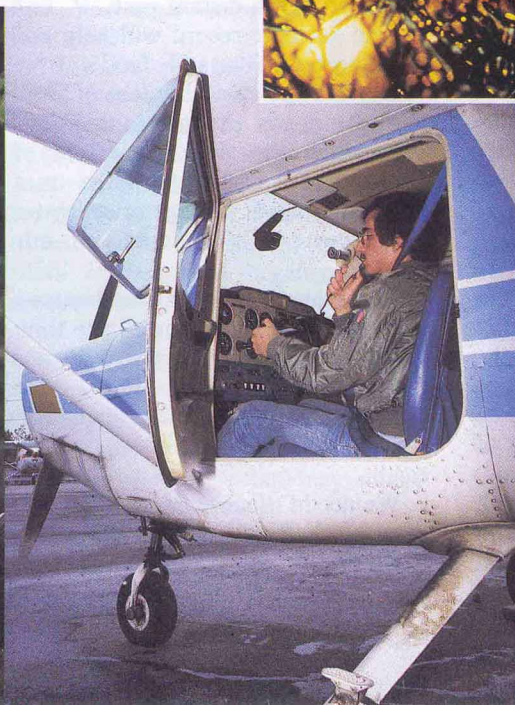
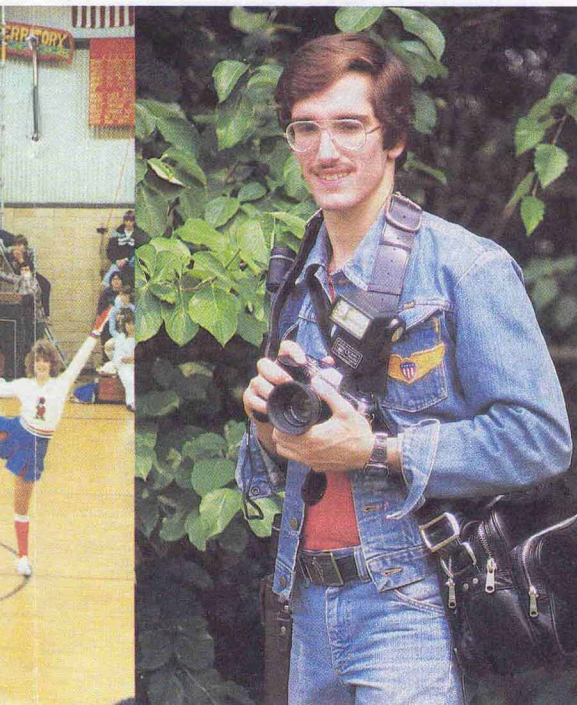
Dominick believes in getting involved in different interests as early in life as possible, and in using the talents God has given to the fullest while making sure to seek the Kingdom of God first.

Dominick learned about photography by reading, studying award-winning photographs and by experience. He says that with photography it's not so much the equipment that's important as it is creativity. He advises beginning photographers to "learn to look at and photograph ordinary things differently — from unusual angles and in unusual positions. Get involved in photography clubs and the yearbook staff at school. Read all you can about the subject, study award-winning photos and be neat in everything you do. Keep shooting and don't get discouraged. Fine shots will undoubtedly come!"

Dominick used ASA 64 color slide film, which has low grain and good color absorption, in creating his award-



Last month's "Youth on Camera" featured Dominick Furlano's winning entry (left): three of Dominick's major hobbies — photography, flying and golf.



THE RECORD OF THE ROCKS

By Richard Burky

It is a small world — from God's perspective.

But when you look at it from man's point of view, this earth we live on is not only incredibly huge, it is also fantastically complex.

Each piece of dirt and sand, each rock and mountain has a story to tell, and examining the way the rocks are stacked on each other can take you on a journey back through thousands, even millions, of years of time.

The investigation of the earth's mysteries — geology — includes a broad spectrum of subjects and related activities, everything from panning for gold to studying fossils, from exploring for oil to collecting crystals.

Reading the record

Perhaps the most fascinating and exciting aspect of geology is studying the past history of the earth and the life forms that have existed on it. It shows us what was happening here on earth many eons before the time of Adam.

While the Bible gives us much information on what has happened on earth since Adam, it gives us only a

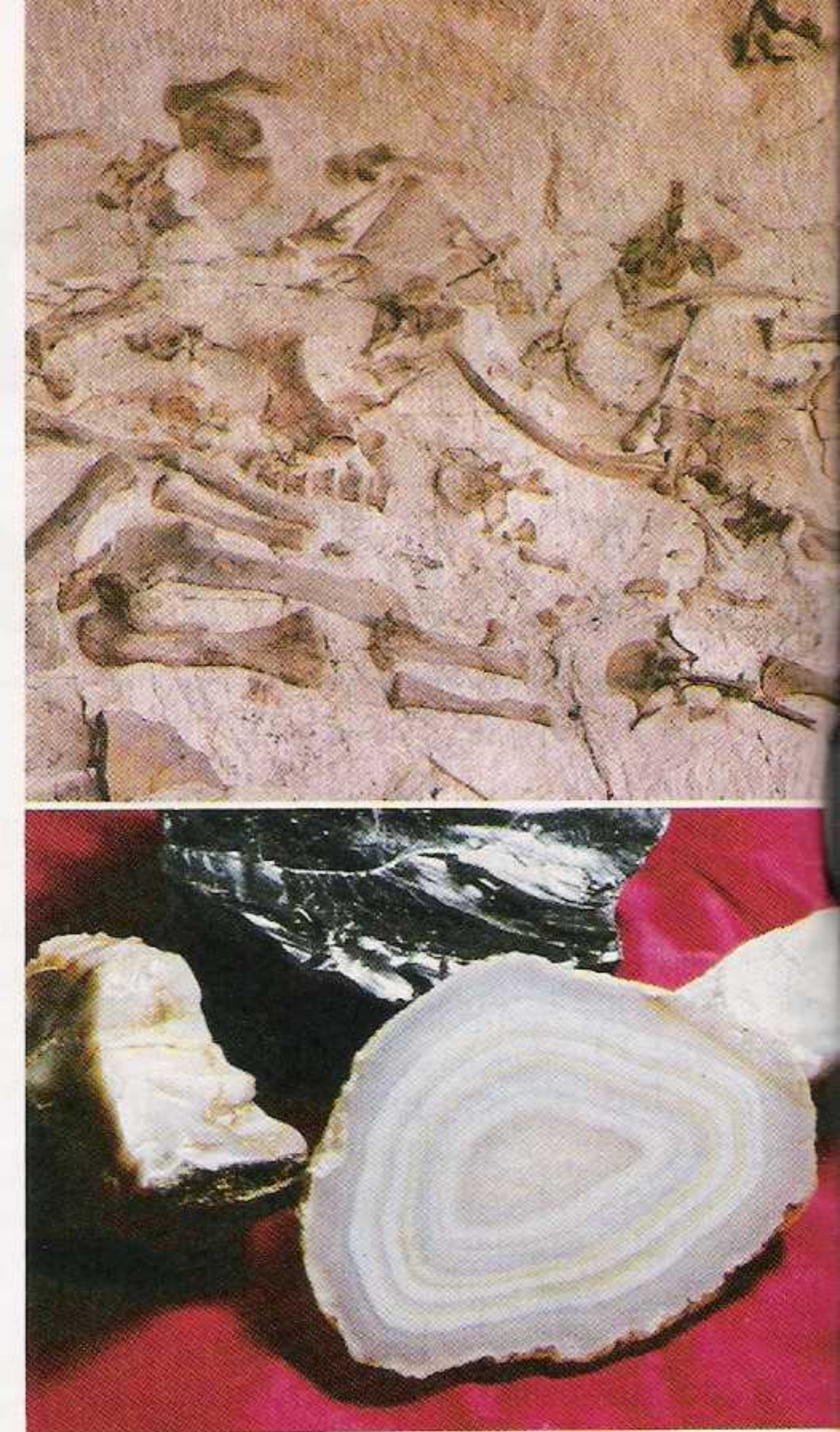
few keys to what happened before Adam. For that time period, the geologic record is the only source of detailed information available to us.

Studying the geologic record thus gives us a glimpse into what God did on earth before the creation of man. Such knowledge is not nearly so important as spiritual understanding, yet it is still a thrill to understand what was happening on the earth, perhaps many millions of years ago. It is quite an experience to uncover fossils from the distant past.

The geologic record will help you to better understand God's time frame and the eternal nature of God. As astronomy expands our minds concerning the size and extent of God's creation, geology gives us a firsthand look at the age of at least a little piece of that creation, our earth.

The Church has long understood that the Bible allows for all the time we find in the geologic record, before the creation of Adam. God — not mindless and directionless evolution — fashioned all the life forms on earth.

We needn't fear the factual knowledge of the fossil record. We must, however, be on guard against the



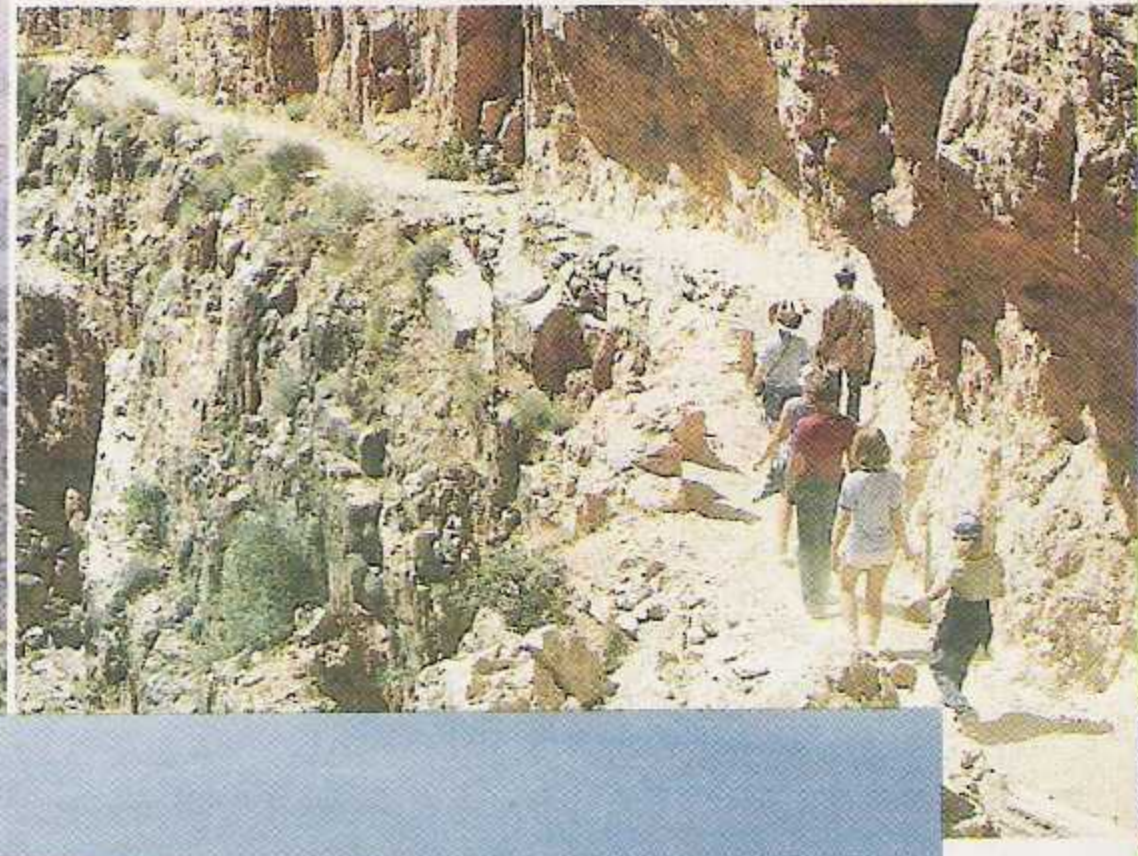
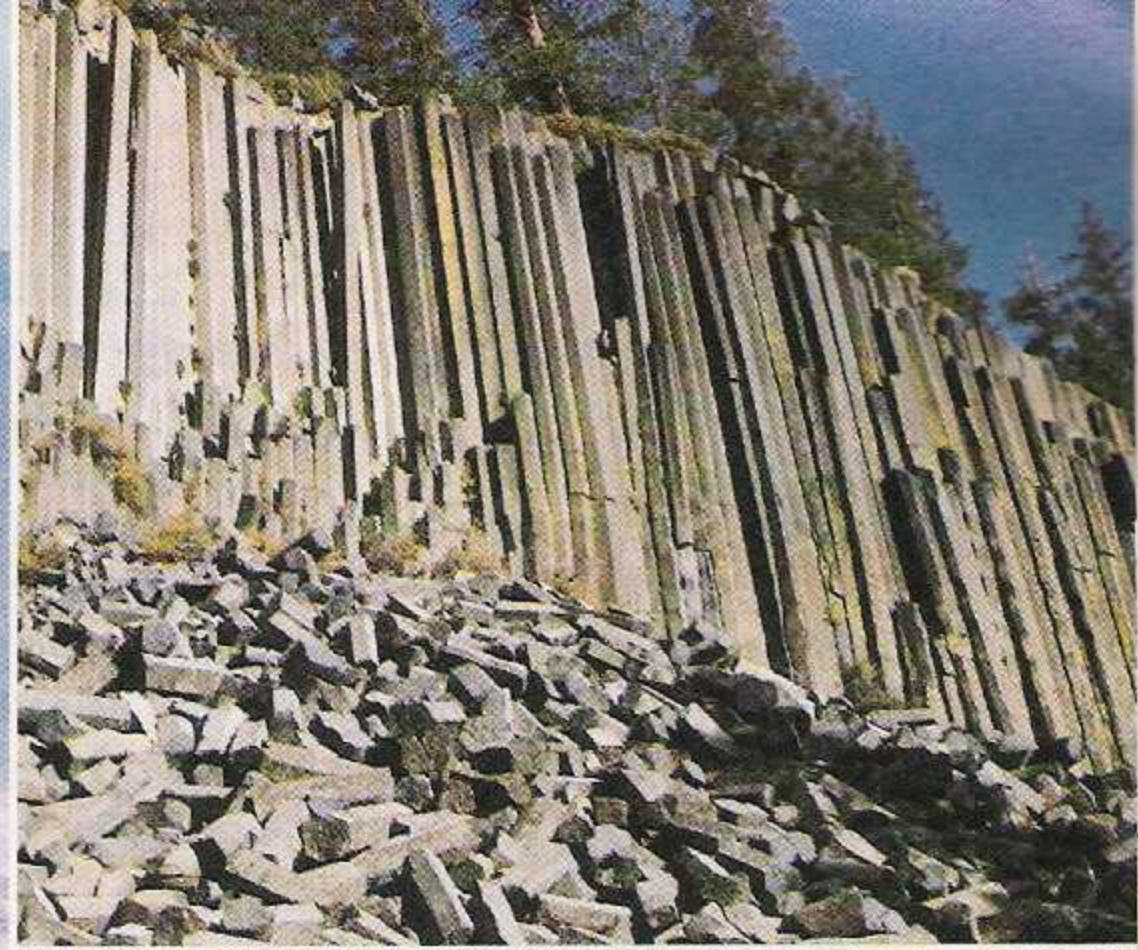
subtle as well as the obvious evolutionary philosophy in practically all books and articles dealing with geology and paleontology.

Geology has a lot to offer

Besides the fascinating geologic record, geology has a lot more to offer you. What would you like? A physical challenge? An intellectual challenge? To be inspired by beauty and natural wonders? An enjoyable and rewarding pastime or hobby? Even one that might lead to a job, a business or profession in the future? Or would you just like something interesting or challenging to do for a weekend or a summer trip? The variety of opportunities in geology is limitless.

One of the most exciting ways to enjoy geology is to visit and explore areas of special geological interest. There is always something new and different to discover. You can go by car, but if you are willing to do a little hiking, you can greatly expand your horizons. This is an activity that can be enjoyed by two, three or a whole group.

And it's not that expensive. The biggest cost is the gasoline it takes to get you there. Consult a good guidebook on backpacking for specific hints in planning your trips and learning what precautions are necessary.



You can get ideas for places to visit from travel and outdoor magazines or from information offered through tourist bureaus. Be sure to consider national parks or monuments. Have you ever noticed how many of those in the United States are based on spectacular or unique geological formations? Probably more than half of them, and especially the well-known ones like: Yellowstone, the Grand Canyon, Yosemite, Carlsbad Caverns, Zion, Bryce and the Petrified Forest. These all offer first-class opportunities for personal or group field trips.

You can explore them at whatever level of thoroughness or difficulty you desire — by automobile, hiking, backpacking, river rafting or rock climbing.

In national parks, the areas of geologic interest have usually been developed for group use and enjoyment. The parks provide excellent trail guides and displays for understanding their prominent features and natural history. These geologically important areas are also rich in striking scenic beauty for the artist and photographer. Some members of the group may wish to sit and paint or take photographs, while others test their physical endurance on a rugged trail or climb. All in all, the parks provide excellent opportunities for

memorable group trips and outings.

As nice as they are, the parks do lack one thing. You cannot collect geological specimens in them. But collecting specimens is a big part of the fun. It can be very enjoyable to find fossils, beautiful crystals, striking mineral specimens or gemstones. It is a thrill to go to an area where you can search and dig through the rock or soil for yourself, and keep what you find. You never know what you will find next!

Locations for collecting are far more common than many realize. Look closely at the rocks in your backyard or in nearby hills and canyons. You could easily find they contain crystals that rival the beauty of cut gems. Or they may contain fossil remnants of organisms that predate Adam by eons of time. If you need help in finding collecting localities near you, consult "rock hound," or mineral collector's, guidebooks or geologic publications that cover your area. These should be available in rock or lapidary shops, libraries and bookstores.

Panning for gold holds an attraction for many. You might be

Upper left: fossils at Dinosaur National Monument, Utah. Lower left: a collection of commonly found gem material. Center: the Grand Canyon showing the rock layers (strata). Right, from top: basalt columns, Devil's Postpile National Monument, Calif.; YOU group from Paducah and Madisonville, Ky., hiking in the Grand Canyon; tufa towers at Mono Lake, Calif.

surprised how close you live to gold-panning territory. Did you realize the first gold rush in the United States was to Georgia, not to California or Alaska? As I sit writing here in Pasadena, I am reminded that the major gold producer in the state of California a few years ago was within 15 miles of the Ambassador College campus.

Gold panning requires a little patience and practice. And don't
(Continued on page 19)

Did you know that you are not allowed to whistle underwater in Vermont?

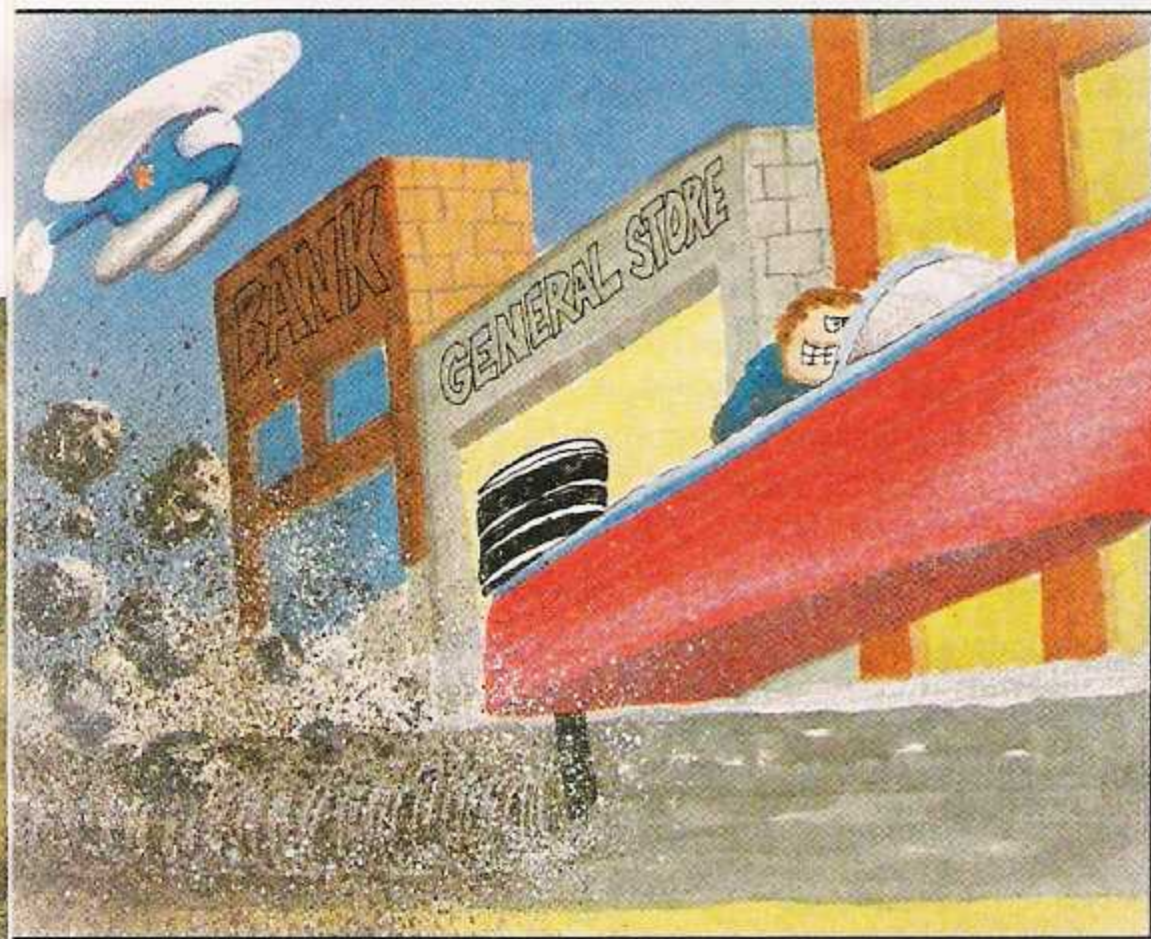
Or that if you happen to live in McDonald, Ohio, you should not march your goose down the main street? It's against the law. It is also illegal to lasso a fish in Tennessee.

You must not use a motorboat on the streets of Brewton, Ala. And while we are on the subject, in Elko, Nev., you can't even appear on the streets at all unless you are wearing a mask.

Believe it or not, these are real laws — and still in force. Of course, nobody takes them too seriously any more. They were made long ago, but they have never been cleared off the books.

It happens in all countries. One day, many years ago, Empress Catherine of Russia was walking in her garden in winter when she noticed a snowdrop in bloom. She was impressed that the little flower was in bloom so early, and she told her escort to make sure nobody would pick it.

The escort ordered a sentry to guard the spot. Well, the Empress forgot about the snowdrop, but nobody had the authority to tell the palace guard to stop posting someone there.



Make sure you don't use a motorboat on the streets of Brewton, Ala. — it's against the law. (Illustrations by Monte Wolverton)

'Now That's a Dumb Rule!'

Why are there "dumb rules" and what should you do about them?

By John Halford

They were still guarding the spot faithfully, 70 years later. Everybody had forgotten why, but "orders are orders."

There are other laws around today that some people think are also silly and unreasonable, but they are still in force. So you are expected to keep them, even if you don't agree. So what should you do when your country, your town or your school makes what you consider to be a really dumb rule?

For instance, suppose your school makes a new rule that is really difficult to keep. Let's say that some students have been misbehaving, and in an effort to solve the problem, the school administration makes some rule that inconveniences everybody. You and your friends are annoyed — you all think it is a really dumb rule. What should you do?

Keep it! Yes, even if it is a rule that really doesn't seem to make any sense to you — keep it anyway.

Keep reading and I think you'll see why.

Why so many laws?

Remember what Pastor General Herbert W. Armstrong has been telling us all for many years. Ever since Adam and Eve and the Garden of Eden, men and women have been breaking rules and laws. God's laws, man's laws, any laws. We don't like to keep laws; we like to decide for ourselves what is right and what is wrong. And because of this, we have more and more laws.

Most people will not become murderers or major criminals. But they will do selfish, thoughtless, self-centered things without thinking of the welfare of others. So we have to have many little laws like: "No loitering" or "Keep off the grass" or "No skateboards allowed."

These laws can be annoying sometimes, but they are needed in a world where people think mainly

about themselves and their own welfare. And because people still like to see how close they can come to breaking the laws, we have to have people to enforce them.

Nobody in his right mind says, "I'll make a stupid rule, just for the sake of making it." Laws are made for specific reasons. Even regulations like those at the start of this article were made with some purpose in mind. Those seemingly loony rules were designed to solve problems that existed many years ago. But, times

you and your friends, it might be best for everyone that the law is kept.

For instance, in Singapore, there are heavy penalties for littering the streets. A moment's carelessness or forgetfulness can cost you a lot of money.

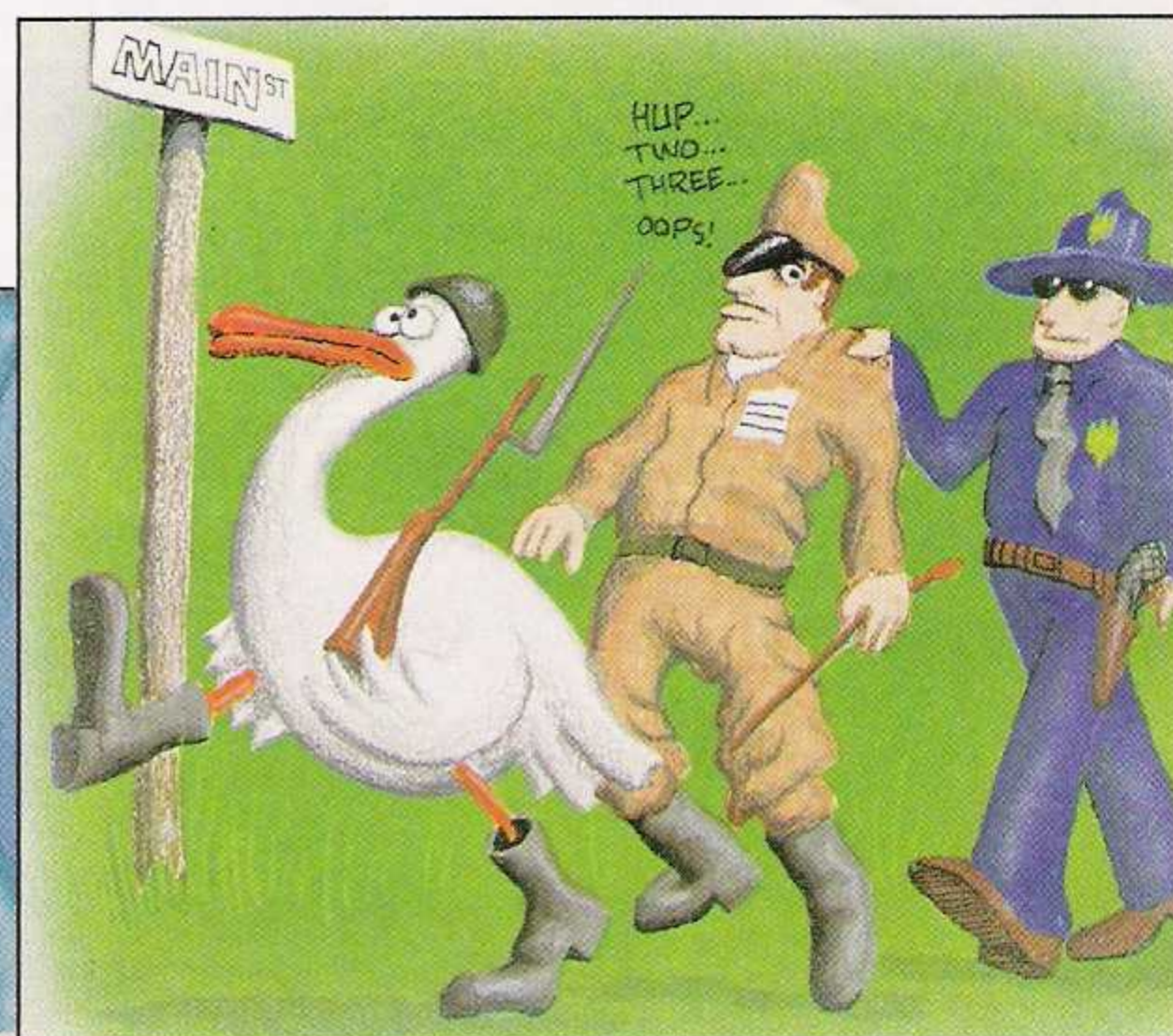
It's annoying and expensive to be caught, but it's a good law. Singapore is a clean city, free of most of the diseases that plague many other Asian cities that let their streets get filthy.

Second, even if you disagree

they complain about how unfair the law is.

You can avoid the penalty — by avoiding breaking the law.

But there is a third reason why *Youth 81* readers should be concerned about keeping the rules — even rules that seem a bit unreasonable.



You'd better not try whistling underwater in Vermont or marching your goose down the main street of McDonald, Ohio. If you do, you'll be breaking the law.

Remember that if everyone thought of the other person's comfort and well-being, we wouldn't need so many laws. But not everyone does. So we have made up rules to cover every possible problem.

Soon: sensible rules

But in the world tomorrow, the rules will be God's rules. They will be sensible, well thought out, practical and fair. The world will live in peace and cooperation. Nations will be friends. Did you ever notice how friends do not need dozens of picky rules to stop them from harming one another?

The Bible says that God's laws are holy, just and good. But, even so, people will not want to keep them.

(Continued on page 19)

change, and now nobody pays attention to them.

But what about the rules that don't make any sense to you but that are still in force? If it is the law, you should try to keep it. (Of course, there is an exception. If what you are expected to do is against the higher laws of God, then obviously you should put His higher law first.)

You should decide to keep the law even if you can't understand it because of these three reasons:

First, realize that it just might not be such a bad law after all. We tend to see things from our own point of view. But, although a rule may be inconvenient, frustrating or unfair to

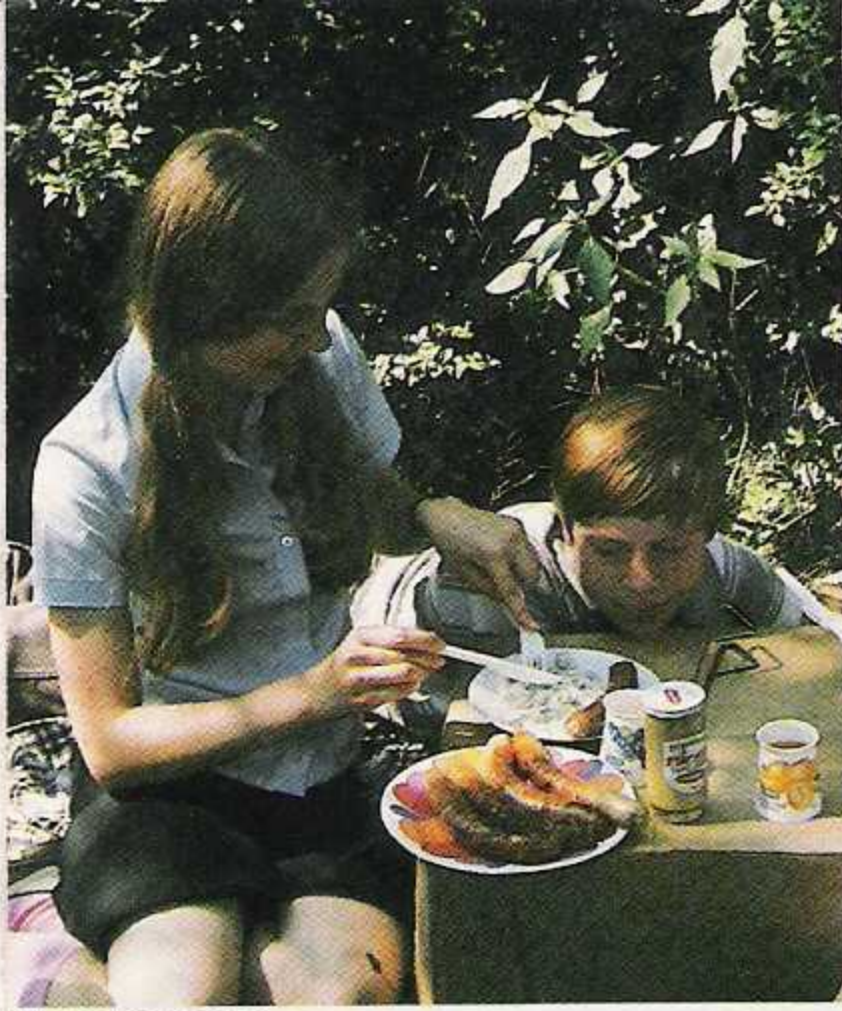
PLEASE DO NOT ANNOY, TORMENT, PESTER, PLAGUE, MOLEST, WORRY, BADGER, HARRY, HARASS, HECKLE, PERSECUTE, IRK, BULLYRAG, VEX, DISQUIET, GRATE, BESET, BOTHER, TEASE, NETTLE, TANTALIZE, OR RUFFLE THE ANIMALS

SAN DIEGO ZOO
SAN DIEGO WILD ANIMAL PARK

This rule protects the animals of the San Diego Wild Animal Park from mean, ornery, vicious, cruel, malicious, ill-natured, churlish, spiteful and cantankerous individuals.

with the rule, remember there is still a penalty for breaking it. Most people who break laws, even small ones, don't plan to get caught. But when they do, and the penalty is inflicted,





What's It Like to Be a Teen in West Germany?

Visiting some of the beautiful, picturesque settings in West Germany (the *Bundesrepublik Deutschland*), you could easily forget that it is a highly industrialized country with more than 61 million people, 23 million cars and 21 million television sets — all in an area smaller than the state of Nevada!

In other sections of the coun-

try, however, the huge, bustling factories make it quite apparent why West Germany is a leading industrial nation.

Because of its technological progress and its democratic government, in many ways the life of the German young people in God's Church is not so different from their counterparts in the United States and in England and other European countries.

The Church brethren have faced some difficulties, though. Students in Germany go to school on Saturday as

well as Monday through Friday, and just a few years ago parents were not allowed to keep their children away from school on the Sabbath.

Schools vs. the Sabbath

Mr. and Mrs. Eisermann, two of the first members of the Worldwide Church of God in Germany, had to take their children away from home every Sabbath morning to prevent the police from picking up the children and taking them to school. The Eisermanns took on a long and



Clockwise from upper left: German youths enjoying a picnic; the Guenther Vorsatz family band, from the Frankfurt church, plays at feasts, socials and Sabbath services; youths exercising at the Feast in Bonndorf in the Black Forest; a soccer game at the Feast; Games Night at the Feast in Czechoslovakia; sing-along around the camp fire after a week-long youth camp at Sauerland Nature Reserve; a three-legged race, Feast Family Sports Day. (Photos by Christel Wilson)

Germans will drive to distant countries to marvel at the idyllic countryside and yet many of them have never traveled to the many picturesque areas in Germany, considered to be some of the most beautiful countryside on earth. One example of this beauty is the Black Forest, where God's Church has kept the Feast of Tabernacles for many years.

A lot of Germans, especially the young people, are worried about these troubled times when war is always threatening. The West's defense policies seem to many of the young people to be a sure way to nuclear world war. The arguments against the arms race are not only taken from politics, but also from the Bible. Therefore, the Sermon on the Mount is a surprisingly frequent subject of conversation.

When you hear of West Germany, you probably automatically think of the other half of Germany, East Germany, which doesn't enjoy the freedoms of the western part. The Iron Curtain prevents, in a brutal way, the people in East Germany from traveling to the West. This, of course, affects the young people in the Church in East Germany. They cannot visit the members in the West, so the young people in West Germany visit the brethren in East Germany when they can.

One other thing. If you ever decide to visit the German young people in their home country, don't forget to pack an umbrella and warm clothes.

arduous court battle. Their perseverance paid off: The highest German administrative court ruled that Mrs. Eisermann, as a member of the Worldwide Church of God, could keep her son and her daughters away from school on the Sabbath.

However, the problem isn't over yet. Monika and Erich Schoelkopf are fighting a lawsuit now against the State of Baden-Wuerttemberg to allow their children to keep the Sabbath.

And even when the young people are allowed to miss school on Saturdays, it is difficult for them to make up what they miss. Competition is high because, generally, to get into the occupation you want, you must do very well in school.

Another problem faced by the young men after high school is the draft. It is mandatory to serve for 15 months in the armed forces or to work in civil service as a conscientious objector.

Johannes Eisermann had to fight in court for two years before he became the first young man of the Worldwide Church of God to be

recognized as a conscientious objector.

Another young man, Andreas Drosdek, has been waiting for more than a year for the court to accept the Ambassador College curriculum as theology study. Theology students are exempt from the draft.

There are few young people in each congregation in Germany. Most of them are not able to get together often because of the distance between church areas.

But when they do get together, they like to have dances patterned after the ones at Ambassador College. They also like to have sing-alongs and to play sports like volleyball and soccer. But most important, they just like to be together and to talk about their experiences.

Annual high points

The high points of the year for the young people in the Church are the Feast at Bonndorf in the Black Forest and at Brno, Czechoslovakia, the winter camp in the Austrian mountains and, for those who know a little bit of English, the SEP summer camp in Scotland.

You have to be 18 to get a driver's license in Germany and then you have to come up with about \$500 to pay for the instruction. At 16, however, a young person is allowed to drive a small motorbike. Many German young people dream of owning some form of personal transportation or a stereo system.



Thrills and spills in the snow make the annual winter camp in the Austrian mountains a high point of the year for the West German young people. (Photo by Rania Allaoua)

Few people have ever left Germany with a sunburn, but be careful so you don't catch a cold! □

This article was compiled from reports by Norbert Link and Markus Klett, two Ambassador College students from Germany.

News & Reviews

Proverbs: Messages for Today

"Will Rogers said he never met a man he didn't like," remarked the eulogist at a funeral not long ago. "But when it comes to the man we're honoring today," he went on, "we could say that he never met a man who didn't like *him*."

Quite strong words of praise, those.

How would you like people

to feel this way about you? They can, you know. They can if you will follow the advice of wise King Solomon.

And realize this: To be well thought of, you don't have to have a lot of money, be famous, pretty, tall or strong. In fact, all of us can easily think of people who seem to have every good thing this world has to offer

going for them, and yet they are disliked by their peers.

But there is a way to be well thought of, no matter what your income or status or personality or looks.

That way is described in Proverbs 12:8, when Solomon says, "A man shall be commended according to his wisdom." Yes, people like and respect a wise man. Why? Because a wise man is one who fears God (Prov.

1:7), and one who thus applies God's law of outgoing love and concern to every person he meets. People like a person who treats them this way.

Being well liked, of course, is not the most important thing in life. But if you apply the laws of God, you will be training yourself to achieve the most important goal in life — God's Kingdom — and you will automatically draw people to you as you obey God's giving laws.

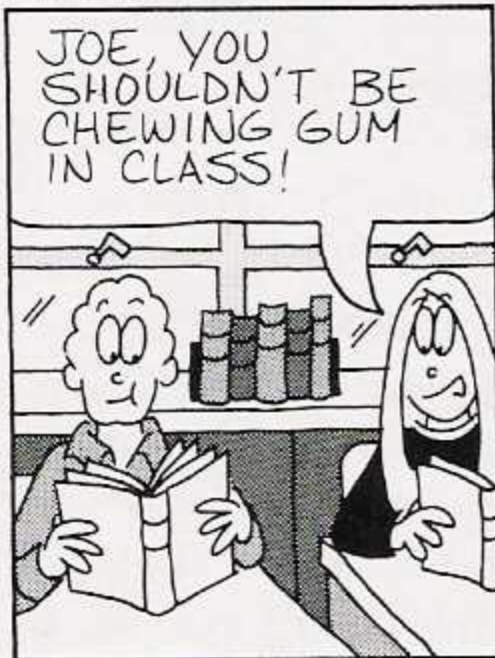
"A man shall be commended according to his wisdom."

Read those words again. Ask yourself: "How much am I commended? How wisely do I treat others?"

American humorist Will Rogers said he "never met a man he didn't like." Would he have still said that if he had met you? — *By Bernie Schnippert* □

FRISBEE'S FRIENDS

BY CAROL SPRINGER



Do Your Back (and Your Looks) a Favor

Think thin, think proud, think tall. That's the way to look better and feel better about yourself — through correct posture.

When your stomach protrudes and your shoulders slouch, you don't look or feel your best and you may be bringing future back pains on yourself.

Think of your spinal column as a stack of blocks. When even one block in a stack is slightly out of line it can cause the others to adjust their position or it can cause the entire stack to collapse.

If the way you stand or sit causes your back to be slightly out of line, it won't necessarily cause your body to collapse, but there will be extra stress placed on the muscles that hold the vertebrae in place. This causes unnaturally shortened

or stretched muscles, which eventually lead to back pain, not to mention an unflattering appearance.

If you want to improve your looks and your health, concentrate on the following areas. They will help anyone, male or female, stand erect:

1. Your rib cage should be lifted up — not collapsed forward until it's sitting on the stomach. If you lift your rib cage, your shoulders will automatically be pushed back and down. Don't exaggerate by arching your back, however. After you lift your rib cage, the middle of your ear should be directly over your shoulder and upper arm.

2. Tilt the top of your pelvis bone back, not forward. If it's forward, it causes the lower back to sway — a major cause of

lower back pain. To tilt the pelvis correctly, tighten the buttocks and abdomen muscles.

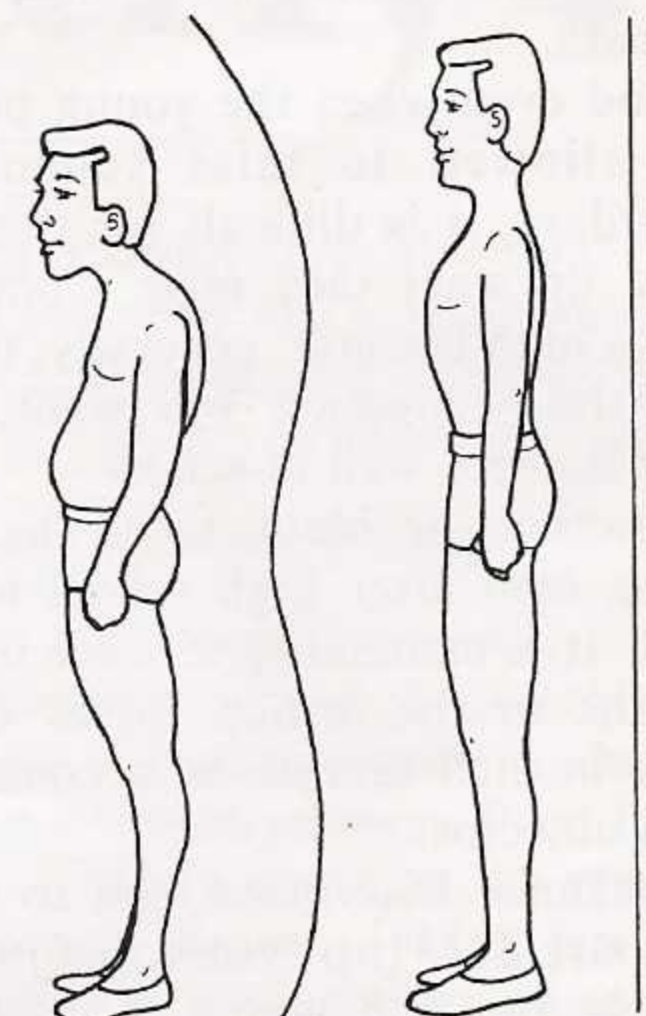
3. Your knees should not be bent or locked and your feet and ankles should meet

at right angles for even distribution of weight.

If you concentrate on these points, checking your posture in a mirror, you can develop a posture habit that will give you a painless, healthy back as well as a more pleasing physical appearance. — *By Marsha Whitley* □

Check Your Posture

Left: Collapsed rib cage, protruded stomach (pelvis forward) and locked knees contribute to a swayback and unflattering appearance. Right: Standing this way will contribute to a healthy back and a pleasing appearance. (Illustrations by Greg Sandilands)



That's a Dumb Rule

(Continued from page 15)

Not at first, anyway. They will be used to being disobedient, cheating and getting away with as much as they can. People will need to see an example of law keeping.

That's where you come in. You will be helping to build that world tomorrow.

God is watching now to see what kind of people His teenagers are growing up to be. Do they respect laws? Not only big laws against stealing, drugs and drunk driving, but even little laws.

If a sign says, "Please keep off the grass," do you take delight in trampling on it all the more? If a notice asks you politely to leave your supermarket cart in a certain place, do you deliberately leave it in the middle of the parking lot instead?

Oh, you'll probably get away with it most of the time. Most people do. But have you really gotten away with anything? God saw you and you have shown Him something about yourself. He sees that you don't respect laws as much as you should.

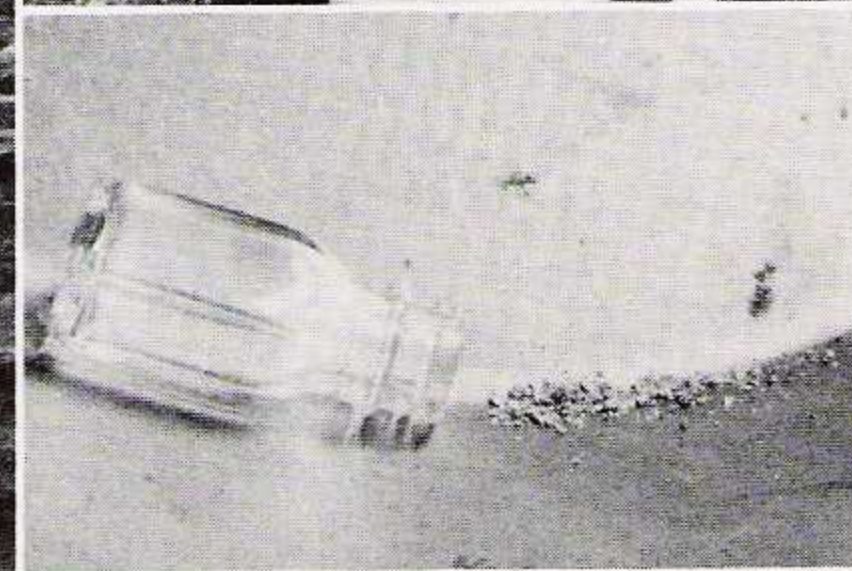
Perhaps in the Millennium teenagers will have a really good laugh about some of the rules and regulations we have today. With God in charge and Satan put away, society will be very different. Thinking of others' welfare will become the way of life, and we just won't need so many rules.

Maybe you will look back and smile, too. But the point will be, you will have shown God that you can and will keep the law. And He in turn will know that He can trust you to keep and enforce the sensible, helpful laws that will govern society in the world tomorrow.

So try and show respect for law — all laws. It's easy to say, but it takes real character to do it.

It is a rare person who can say, "I am going to show everybody — but especially God — that I am a person who respects the law, and will live by the rules."

Such a law-abiding person deserves a pat on the back — well, unless he or she lives in Georgia. An old law says it is illegal to pat someone on the back there! □



THE RECORD OF THE ROCKS

(Continued from page 13)

expect to get rich at it. Be prepared to accept as success a few "colors" (small particles) of gold in the bottom of your pan after several hours of work. But, it's exciting and makes for a fun outing with your friends.

Some people enjoy collecting small samples of sand (kept in clear glass or plastic vials) from beaches around the world. In addition to the geographical interest, the sand itself can tell you a great deal about the area from which it came. Sand gives a brief survey of a locality's rock and mineral types. It can provide much insight into the geologic history of an area. Prospectors often use the sand of a stream bed to determine if the minerals they seek exist in the areas drained by the stream.

Others collect small crystals or groups of crystals about the size of a fingernail. These are known as thumbnail collections.

A collection like this has many advantages. It is small and takes up less room than the typical rock or

Clockwise from left: Imperial School students try panning for gold; looking for "colors" in the streambed sand; gold (not found by the Imperial students). (Photos by John Halford and Warren Watson)

mineral collection. Small crystals are much more common, are easier to find and are easier to collect than large, showy ones.

Also, small crystals are more apt to be perfectly formed than larger ones. You may need a magnifying glass to help you see them, but they can be exquisitely beautiful. They will also be less expensive if you are buying them.

Probably the most popular hobby dealing with geology is collecting and fashioning gemstone material into jewelry. It can be enjoyable and profitable if you do a good job and have a market for your work. The competition is strong, however, and much poor-quality material is on the market. To do well requires that you develop an original and pleasing style and do it with superior craftsmanship.

Your enjoyment of geology can be what you want to make it — from a single weekend trip to a lifelong interest. It can greatly broaden your horizons, stimulate your mind and enrich your life.

Books will help you understand geology, but you don't need a book to start. Just look closely at the rocks, strata and geologic features around you. Ask yourself a few questions. How and when were these things formed? Try to figure out the answers. You might be surprised how soon you are into geology. □

A PERFECT FRIENDSHIP

This special friendship is not just for a few — you too can be a part of it!

By Mike Bedford

I'd like to tell you about a friend of mine. He's very wise, very old and very outgoing. My friend introduced himself to me a little more than a year ago. Since he is quite a popular fellow, I had already heard of him before our first meeting, but I had known little about him.

Many people have heard of him also, but the majority of them have the wrong ideas about who he is and what he's really like. The reason is that even though my friend is outgoing toward those he meets, he tends to stay in the background when it comes to people in general. He has just a small group of friends, at least for the time being.

I guess the best way to describe this friend of mine is to say he's a teacher. He's well educated and has had fantastic experiences. He has an incredible understanding of people, places and things. The best part is that he loves to give this knowledge to others.

I visit him regularly, to listen to what he has to say and to tell him about what I think and feel. What surprises me most is that he'll listen intently to me for hours, if I need him to. He is never too occupied to lend an ear, even though he is constantly busy. He's always working — I've never seen a more productive worker. He spends time helping others develop this same incentive.

My new friend had one son, but

he's enlarging his family. And now I'm proud to say I've become one of his sons!

You should see his house. It's beautifully decorated with the finest furnishings. He also has lots of efficient and obedient servants who enjoy working for him.

His house is governed by a set of rules, some helping his children to show the proper respect to him, others showing them how to love each other. These rules are enforced for everyone's good.

My friend also knows the secrets to successful living, and he encourages his family to live by these principles. You know, we've all been a lot happier for it, too.

There is one thing I especially like about my new friend and father: When he gives me something, which he does often, he expects me to share it with others. And when I do, he always gives me more. It never fails.

Surely you know my friend. He's my Father, and He's yours, too. His house is in heaven, where He sits on a beautiful throne surrounded by millions of angels.

Our Father has made it possible to share in His perfect wisdom, by reading the Book He's left with us — the Holy Bible. That's how He speaks to us. We are encouraged to speak with Him by praying regularly, sharing our innermost thoughts with Him. In this way, our Father, the eternal God, will be a close friend of yours — now and forever. □

Mike Bedford is a 19 year old from Butler, N.J.

THIS IS your last *Youth 81*. That's right. It's the last *Youth 81* we're going to send you. Why? Because, believe it or not, a whole year has gone by now since the birth of *Youth 81*, and the next issue you receive will be the January issue of *Youth 82*.

I've been reflecting back, as this first year of *Youth 81* comes to a close, on why Pastor General Herbert W. Armstrong began a new magazine just for you young people of the Church. Publishing a magazine is expensive. It's not something you get into without a real purpose and a lot of thought. Mr. Armstrong feels you are worth it.

Do you believe that? Or do you feel unimportant as far as God's Work is concerned? Do you really understand what "God's Work" is and what part you play in it?

You've heard your parents or the ministers at Church talk about "God's Work." When you read *The Good News* or the Church's other publications, you see it mentioned numerous times. And when you hear Mr. Armstrong give a sermon, you know that "God's Work" is one of the main things he emphasizes.

But just what is "God's Work"?

In short, the commission from God to His Church is to announce to the world that God's Kingdom is about to be set up on earth to enforce peace, happiness and prosperity for everyone and end all the evils that now plague mankind (Matt. 24:14). God's announcement of His soon-coming government is the most important responsibility given to humankind. And God has decreed that this announcement *must be made* before His Kingdom can be set up.

This Work is being done through Mr. Armstrong's personal meetings with world leaders and through his broadcasts, ads, books and booklets and the other Church publications. Your parents were specially called out of the billions of people on this earth to be a part

BY THE WAY...

By Dexter Faulkner

Are You Important?



of God's Church. Your parents were called by God to help do His Work. You know how they have given themselves in many ways to support and back up Mr. Armstrong in fulfilling this great commission.

So where do you fit in?

Your part

Because your mother, father or both your parents were chosen by God to be in His Church, you are holy to God (I Cor. 7:14). What does that mean? It means that you have special access to God, an access not available to the majority of people in the world. You can understand certain spiritual knowledge they cannot and enjoy such privileges as protection and healing.

Your knowledge and keeping of God's laws enable you to avoid suffering the tragic consequences of sin that other people suffer. Have you been taking those privileges for granted? You shouldn't. Because you have this valuable knowledge, God holds you responsible for setting a right example for everyone with whom you come in contact daily.

Your example as a teenager in God's Church — respecting God's Sabbath, honoring your parents, resisting destructive peer pressure, building skills and talents — is impressive because so many young people today have abandoned all

hope for a better world. They don't know that God is going to change this evil world, so they live for the pleasures of the moment. Those of you who are confidently working to better yourselves, preparing for responsibilities in God's world tomorrow, are proving in the most effective way, that you are looking far beyond the troubles and problems of this age. Setting that right example helps do His Work!

By being involved in Church activities — being active in YOU, serving on the moving crew, helping out at the Feast, performing special music, setting up and taking down equipment or chairs at services — you encourage others and help unify the Church. That's certainly helping do God's Work.

Your offerings, though perhaps not large, help to do the Work. Even a dollar goes a long way. According to recent statistics, if you could purchase the Church's publications and you had only one American dollar, here's what you could buy for someone: one 48-page, full-color, subscription-version *Plain Truth*, one 32-page, full-color *Good News* magazine, one full-color issue of *Youth 81*, one 32-page booklet and a 16-page reprint.

On top of that you could buy one *Plain Truth* cardholder to place in a store, complete with 25

subscription cards that would result in 25 new subscriptions to *The Plain Truth*. And you'd still have a nickel left over! That's what it costs the Work to produce all these items up through to final printing, not including postage.

Who says a dollar won't buy much today? Your tithes and offerings help tremendously!

God notices

The point is that you can be and should be an important part of God's Work. Whatever part you play is vital — the example you set, the service you do for the Church, the offerings you give, the prayers to God asking Him to help the Work. These are only a few practical ways you can contribute. I'm sure you can think of others. And believe me, God notices.

God has called only a comparatively few families to be involved in His Work. Every single member is important to Him. God can use you in a powerful way now and in the world tomorrow if you want and allow Him to.

After all, who else in this world is receiving the specialized training you are in God's way of living? No one else will be better qualified to be leaders in the world tomorrow.

You — each and every one of you — are important to God and His Work. □



Left: Best general subject black and white photo, 1981 YOU photo contest. Below: Best all-around black and white photo. See article, page 10. "Youth on Camera" is a regular feature for your photographic talents. Send in your interesting, creative shots for possible publication.

Photographer — Deanna Schow
Age 17
Port Orchard, Wash.



**YOUTH ON
CAMERA**



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