

Honored from page A1

enough to extend this celebration to me, I'm very pleased."

Sister Doelker was nominated by Sister Frances Nadolny, OP, superintendent of Detroit's Schools of the Archdiocese, and John Rashid, an assistant superintendent.

"Sister Regina possesses the qualities of a good Catholic school administrator," Nadolny said in a written statement. "She is concerned about the students' religious education, their academic capability and their commitment to service in the community."

She is no stranger to awards, having received the 1997 Principal of the Year award from the Catholic Association of Secondary Administrators.

As head of Mercy High School, she oversees 910 students, including 270 "freshwomen" and about 100 staffers. Mercy is one of 42 Mercy schools in the United States. More than 12,000 students have graduated from Mercy throughout its 66-year history.

After graduating from Mercy in 1956, she became a Sister of Mercy. She has lived most of her life in Detroit and still lives there in the Madonna Convent, near Focus:HOPE.

Living among many poor Detroiters and working in the more affluent Farmington Hills represents an interesting contrast for the nun.

"I enjoy being a part of the African American community," she said. "One of the thrusts for our community is to reach out to the poor."

Roughly 10 percent of Mercy's students are on tuition assistance programs and about 30 percent of the students are minorities.

Some of Mercy's poorer students have flourished despite incredible odds. One student, whose mother was on Aid to Families With Dependent Children, struggled to make her way through Mercy about 10 years ago. She graduated from the University of Michigan with a bachelor's degree and from Harvard University with a master's degree.

"She wanted to be here in the worst way," Sister Doelker said. The school's cultural diversity is one of its hallmarks.

"Our black students really know they can make it here," she said. "This school is very diverse."

The head of the school's student council is an African American and students routinely get involved with multicultural activities, such as the recent Diversity Conference held at Oakland Community College.

Students are bused in daily from more than 60 communities throughout metro Detroit and from as far away as Brighton.

"It's a minor miracle that it works," Sister Doelker said.

As principal, she rarely deals with student discipline.

"I deal with it when I'm the last resort," she said. "Sometimes I get kids who are acting out and need attention — and get it."

Sister Doelker said she believes the all-female setup helps stem many problems.

"My theory is that girls do better alone and boys do better with girls," she said.

Mercy students recently performed "Annie," the classic Broadway play with a predominantly female cast. Male staffers played male roles.

When she's not busy with Mercy or with the Sisters, Sister Doelker likes to get close to nature.

"One of my favorite things is to go to Kensington (Metropark)," she said, referring to the sprawling public park near Milford. "I like to take a hike and have a picnic. In nicer weather, I like to swim."

MERCY HIGH SCHOOL

Some information about Sister Regina Doelker:

Education:

- 1956 — graduated as valedictorian from Our Lady of Mercy High School.
- 1962 — graduated with bachelor of arts in mathematics from Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.
- 1963 — received teacher's certificate from Mercy College of Detroit.
- 1970 — received master of arts degree in mathematics from the University of Detroit.

Affiliations:

- Member since 1956 of Sisters of Mercy of the Institute of the Americas.
- Member of National Catholic Education Association, vice president/treasurer of the Catholic Association of Secondary Administrators, member of the Archdiocese of Detroit Secondary Schools Principals and Vision 2000 Metro West Regional principals.
- Farmington/Farmington Hills' Multicultural/Multiracial Steering Committee.
- president, Mercy High School Board of Trustees.

Sister Regina possesses the qualities of a good Catholic school administrator. She is concerned about the students' religious education, their academic capability and their commitment to service in the community.'

Sister Frances Nadolny, OP
—superintendent of Detroit's Schools of the Archdiocese

STUART'S FEDERAL FIREPLACE
50 Years of Excellence

The Legend Continues with a New Generation of Gas Grills Built for a Lifetime

We Install!

At Home Spring BBQ Tune-up \$49 Plus Parts Reg. \$70

Bring in this coupon. Expires 4-30-99

Webster Charmglow Sunbeam Ducane Kenmore Brollmaster & More

Sister Doelker's education and involvement set high standard

Some information about Sister Regina Doelker:

Education:

- 1956 — graduated as valedictorian from Our Lady of Mercy High School.
- 1962 — graduated with bachelor of arts in mathematics from Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.
- 1963 — received teacher's certificate from Mercy College of Detroit.
- 1970 — received master of arts degree in mathematics from the University of Detroit.

Affiliations:

- Member since 1956 of Sisters of Mercy of the Institute of the Americas.
- Member of National Catholic Education Association, vice president/treasurer of the Catholic Association of Secondary Administrators, member of the Archdiocese of Detroit Secondary Schools Principals and Vision 2000 Metro West Regional principals.
- Farmington/Farmington Hills' Multicultural/Multiracial Steering Committee.
- president, Mercy High School Board of Trustees.

20 MONTH CD

5.25% APY

At this rate you can really grow your money.

\$1,000 minimum deposit. Limited time offer. Act now.

Huntington Banks

Call toll-free 1-877-480-2345 • www.huntington.com

APRIL

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12 Because it's always his shining hour.
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21 **Steven Lagos**
IN PERSON, 1 to 4. Designer Jewelry.
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30

Neiman Marcus