



Volume 16 - Issue 1

December 1998

A Better Place: A Brebeuf Must-Read!

If you are still searching for the perfect Christmas gift, Alan Beaton '77 has the answer. This Brebeuf alumnus has just penned his first novel, *A Better Place*, published by Columbine Press and set in a fictitious Toronto Catholic Boys high school called "St. Ignatius". The novel draws largely from Alan's experiences as a student at Brebeuf in the early and mid-1970s.

The reference to a school like Brebeuf is not just symbolic, but central to the entire story. As the book's back page notes "... A shocking event awakens a high school memory in the mind of main character, John Hannibal Rankin,

that enables him to see his life from a different perspective."

For older Brebeufians, the vivid description of the old Jesuit priest in Chapter One will evoke many memories. It is this character whose development caught the attention of literary experts. Charis Wahi, publisher of *Ex Libris*, noted that "The Jesuit Priest is a literary gift from the author to the reader."

Since "*A Better Place*" was published in 1998, Alan has heard from many former classmates and fellow Brebeufians. Some alumni have even wondered if they were the model on which several of the more interesting

characters are based. Alan insists that all such characterizations are purely fictitious!

When is he not writing, Alan is running his own financial planning advisory practice with the Investment Planning Counsel of Canada. His older brother John, class of '75, runs his own computer maintenance company in Toronto.

A Better Place is available at bookstores everywhere including Chapters, Coles and Smith Books as well as Indigo. The book retails for \$19.95. Alumni wishing to contact Alan can reach him at 416-496-0999.

Alumni President's Message

by Kevin Lancey '72

Seasons Greetings to the Brebeuf community! May the joy and good will of Christmas and the coming new year bring peace to us all.

This season is always a time of reflection. September's lockout/strike presented a number of challenges for all concerned, and some social and extra-curricular school activities were cancelled or postponed. The school play, rugby team, and even the 35th Anniversary Celebrations were affected. However, the educational standards at Brebeuf remain high as our teaching staff strive to provide the best for the students. Many alumni activities are scheduled for 1999, Brebeuf's 36th year of dynamic existence and presence in Toronto. Floor hockey, ice hockey, and the alumni golf tournament will all continue.

Brebeuf's reputation is well known in this city. Naturally, we who are actively involved in the Alumni Association appeal for your continued and valuable support as we endeavour to keep the Brebeuf pride and traditions alive.

Of course, the Campaign for Brebeuf is an integral part of our invitation for your financial support, and you can read further about it on page 6. But we also welcome volunteer support at meetings and to plan events. To become more involved in the Brebeuf Alumni, you can call me at 416-441-1161, or Frank MacGrath at 905-726-4488, or e-mail Mike Da Costa at brebeufalumni@hotmail.com

Stay in touch and look for more information in the next few months on the 35th Anniversary Celebrations.

Studio Gradum Faciant!

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Email Contest! Win A Free Brebeuf Golf Shirt!

We want your email address for our directory! Forward it to brebeufalumni@hotmail.com before January 15, 1999. We will hold a draw on January 18 using the addresses that we receive. The winner gets a Brebeuf golf shirt with an embroidered crest! (If you have previously forwarded your address, you do not need to send it again). The winner will be contacted via email.

Did you know that the Alumni Association is on the Internet? Our website has information on alumni events and schools news, as well as an alumni email directory. You can also tell us when you change your address or phone number. Check it out! www.geocities.com/Athens/Acropolis/7415

Calendar of Events

February 19-20, 1999	Floor Hockey Tournament	Brebeuf High School
April 30-May 1, 1999	Hockey Tournament	Ice Gardens
June 22, 1999	Golf Tournament	Silver Lakes Golf Club

1998 Alumni Floor Hockey Tournament

by Pete Gillespie '85

The venerable Brebeuf gymnasium was once again the site of the Alumni Floor Hockey Tournament. Thanks to 52 players from 11 years, this year's tourney was a fun, hard-fought competition. 7 teams battled for the coveted title "Alumni Floor Hockey Champs", and Team '89 emerged as the 1998 victors.

With a never-say-die attitude and a passion for defense, the small group of '89 players defeated Team '97 3-2 in a dramatic final which went to double overtime. After the teams played to a 2-2 tie in the round-robin, everyone involved knew they were in for an exciting finale. Fighting back

from a 2-0 deficit, '89 scored with 45 seconds left in the second overtime, thereby avoiding a shootout.

This year's tournament MVP was Logan Purdy '97, who narrowly won out in the voting over his brother Mark Purdy '82. Boy, are these guys in shape! Thanks to all who attended, and special thanks to Drew Munro '82 and Steve White '81 for their tireless effort and assistance.

It is a fun weekend, and if you have never attended, we encourage you to come out on February 19th-20th, 1999 - individually or as a team - to have some fun and share some memories with friends and alumni.

For more information or to sign up, contact Stan Misthois '89 at (416) 963-9290 or myself at (416) 250-5520 x291.

Jim Barlow, '81

by Steve White, '81 - One of Brebeuf's more "colourful" Alumni, Jim Barlow, died suddenly of heart failure on December 12, 1997. He was 35. He will always be remembered for his "love of life" and of friends, for his compassion, his lively and animated personality, and perhaps most of all his constant and contagious laughter.

An active member of the Brebeuf community, Jim played football, was an avid musician and member of "the Brebeuf Band", an artist and an active supporter of almost every school activity. Although seldom in the limelight, I speak from experience when I say Jim was always there to lend his help. In everything he did, Jim consistently displayed the true "Brebeuf Spirit".

Many will remember Jim's endless efforts in Monday Night Floor Hockey, (and in the many Alumni tournaments which followed) - the image of Jim, long hair flowing, clothes torn from constant use and abuse, sweat pouring off his head as he ran tirelessly up and down the gym is a constant reminder of Jim's energy, devotion and passion.

Many Brebeuf Alumni and Staff were on hand at Jim's funeral and that support and heart felt emotion was extremely appreciated by Jim's family and his many friends. At the funeral, Jim was fondly remembered for his unique and friendly personality. "He could always make you laugh and bring you joy" remarked Steve Munro, '81, longtime friend of Jim's who delivered the eulogy.

In recognition of Jim's spirit, energy and dedication to Brebeuf, an award is being established in his name. Further details will be provided in the next issue of the Alumni "B". Our thoughts and prayers are with Jim, his family and many friends. He will be deeply missed!

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Staff Retirement Celebration

The Brebeuf gymnasium took on an intimate and joyous mood one Sunday last June as the Brebeuf community celebrated the retirement of two long standing members of the Religion department. Many family, friends, colleagues, and alumni gathered together to celebrate the educational careers of two distinguished and long time staff. Brother Henry Spencer and John Piovesan dedicated more than thirty-five years of combined teaching experience to the intellectual and spiritual benefit of Brebeuf staff and students.

Following the celebration of Mass by Father Fitzgerald, many laughs were shared as we helped these men move into the retirement "pasture", knowing that their energy and diverse interests will allow them little time for rest. Brother will continue his selfless

devotion to the well being of others as school Chaplain and Superior of the Brothers' house. John is active in the real estate market in the G.T.A. and is developing a tutoring service. Obvious throughout the ceremonies was the mutual respect that both Brother and John have for their students, their sense of learning as a lifetime pastime, their belief in the importance of teaching, and their approach to ministering as a vocation. Both men also showed their sense of humour, laughing along with us as they were roasted.

The grace by which John and Brother have carried out their duties in the service of others is a model for us. Countless students remember the long hours they shared with Brother as they cleaned and repaired the homes of elderly, or simply raised emotional

spirits through regular visitations to seniors as members of Les Donnes. John was a tireless fundraiser for various efforts and the inspiration for many hilarious Christmas skits over the years.

Both men enjoyed the close company of various generations of family and the presence of Brother's nephew and his family from Chicago was an obvious high point. Cake and refreshments followed in the cafeteria where photos from their past were displayed and a discussion elevated John's dishwasher loading techniques to near-hero status.

We thank Brother and John for their fine example, their inspiration, and their humour, and we wish them well as they share time with family and friends in the future. May God bless these faithful servants.

In Memoriam

The Brebeuf Alumni Association extends its condolences to the families of the following:
Jim Barlow '81, brother of Tom Barlow '84
Joan Belton, mother of Greg Belton '78 and Pat Belton '86

Pat Brown, father of Mark, John, Michael (deceased), Greg, and Christopher Brown
Mary Gillespie, mother of Pete Gillespie '85

Joan Belton

In early 1998 Joan Belton, former President of the Brebeuf Ladies Guild and mother of Greg '78 and Patrick '86, passed away. For many years Joan was a tireless volunteer for Brebeuf, leading the Ladies Guild and many other fundraising activities. She and her husband Ted were instrumental in the smooth transition from the Jesuits to the Presentation Brothers in the early 1980's, and in sustaining many of Brebeuf's finest traditions.

Alumni Database

Mike Da Costa '92 has taken over the Brebeuf alumni mailing lists and email database from fellow Brebeuf staffer Mario De Thomasis, who donated hundreds of hours to this task. Many thanks Mario!

Please send your address updates to Mike c/o Brebeuf Alumni Association, 211 Steeles Avenue East, Willowdale, Ontario M2M 3Y6 or email Mike at: brebeufalumni@hotmail.com.

Farewell Aileen!

Congratulations and best wishes to Aileen Turbach, who retired November 30, 1998 as Brebeuf's senior secretary.

Aileen, mother of Michael Turbach '77, served both the Jesuits and Presentation Brothers during her many years at Brebeuf, and assisted hundreds of students and all of the school organizations, including the Alumni Association.

Alumni Scholarship Winners

by Mike Rogers '81

Congratulations to two new members of the Brebeuf Alumni, Reggie George '98 and Genson D'Souza, who received Alumni Scholarships in June, 1998. Reggie was awarded the Father St. Clair Monaghan Scholarship and Genson received the Peter Knopfel Memorial Scholarship in recognition of their combination of academic standing

and varied involvement in school and community extra-curricular activities.

Both students were involved throughout Brebeuf in areas such as the 'B', the school plays, debating, charity organizations such as CanAid, VICs and the 30 hour famine.

On behalf of the Brebeuf community, I thank them for their Christian generosity and wish them luck in all their future endeavours.

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Where Are They Now?

Paul Badeski '78 is now living in Westport, Connecticut and working as a bond trader with Citicorp Securities. Paul and his wife Cathy have three children.

Paul Beamish '72 is a professor in the Business School at the University of Western Ontario. Paul recently completed a five year term as Editor In Chief of the Journal of International Business Studies.

Brad Belanger '92 married Sally Klein in Kingston on October 3rd, with fellow Brebeuf classmates Brian O'Neil, Eddie Nadalini, Mike Da Costa, and Sandro Morassutti in attendance. Brad works as a consultant for Ernst & Young in Edmonton, and can be reached at: brad.r.belanger@ca.eyi.com.

Roy Boesch '79 runs B & S emblem in Aurora, which supplies emblems for many professional sports leagues including the NHL and Major League Baseball.

Mike Da Costa '92 is proud to be back at Brebeuf, this time as an English teacher. He joins other alumni on staff, including Mike Daoust '67, Bob Lato '68, Paul Adams '71, Mike Speckert '79, Andy Boyd '79, Mike Rogers '81, John Murphy '81, and John A. Macdonald '82.

Aldo Di Felice '81 was recently appointed President of TLN Television (Teletatino Network Inc).

Former staff members Joe Younder and Holly Doyle joined current Brebeuf teacher Mark Burke in Ireland in the summer of 1998 for a "teaching holiday" at a Presentation Brothers school there. Coincidentally, pubs near Dublin reported a strong increase in sales for July and August.

Charles Foran '79 is helping Alan Beaton '77 to prove that the English classes taught at Brebeuf by Jim Barry, Joe Will, Mike Strimas et al. were potent. Charles has written several books, including the critically acclaimed Last House in Ulster. and Sketches in Winter. He is also a contributing editor for Saturday Night and Toronto Life magazines.

Gar Knutson '75 is the Federal Member of Parliament for St. Thomas, Ontario and has recently been appointed Parliamentary Secretary to Prime Minister Jean Chretien.

Christopher Kovacs '83 is a medical doctor now living in Paradise, Newfoundland. Chris is on the Faculty at Memorial University Health Sciences Centre.

Larry Lancefield '75 and Paul Oulahan '75 were both spotted at the Alumni Golf Tournament last June. Larry runs his own forensic accountancy practice while Paul has his own real estate brokerage in North York.

Peter Macdonald '85, who moved to California several years ago and attended law school there, married Stephanie Karp on August 16th, 1998 in Laguna Niguel, California. Peter's entire family attended, including his brother, John David Macdonald '88, and George Kelly '69. Having left his job as Deputy City Attorney for the City of Anaheim conducting criminal prosecutions - which conflicted with Stephanie's position as a criminal defense attorney in the same district - Peter is now working as General

Counsel of a nationwide mortgage lender based in Irvine, California. You can reach Peter via e-mail at pcg@exo.com

John Miller '81 is a Professional Engineer currently residing in Harare, Zimbabwe, managing the local assets of CCL Small Hydro Inc and "looking forward to early retirement." John and his wife Sandy have a daughter, Erin.

Blair McArthur '80 is the President and General Manager of Miller Waste Systems, a division of the Miller Group of companies.

Drew Munro '82 was married in August, 1998 to Susan Martin. Alumni attending included best man Steve Munro '81, Steve White '81, Pat Galligan '81 and Rob Killoran '96.

Larry Repar '80, former Alumni Association President, is the Vice-President Business Development for Premdor.

Randy Ugolini '84 is now living in Valemount, B.C. and teaching French, English & Senior Outdoor Education while enjoying the "Rocky Mountain" life.



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Hockey Tournament Format A Winner

by Bryon Disera '81, tournament convenor
We have 4 new champions from the Brebeuf Alumni Hockey Tournament, thanks to the new division format. '81 finally lost the title to '79 in the "A" division. In the "B" division, '82 defeated '80. '85 came in dead last (not sure they even scored a goal), after having being placed in the wrong division, obviously - next year we'll try to give them one of their own. '86 defeated '90 in the "C" division and in the "D" division '69/'73 proved tough to handle in a round robin format, winning all 3 games without any incidents (remember a couple of years ago?) Way to go, guys.
The Friday night pub at the "Blade and Firkin" drew the largest crowd yet, with more stories



of women, athletic triumphs, and parties that keep getting more and more exaggerated. Luckily a few wives were there and kept some of the stories in line. And in spite of the '85 team's performance on the ice, they did have the largest group in the pub, which has to count for something.

This year's tournament will have the same format and the same location - the Ice Gardens at York University on April 30th May 1st weekend. We are considering having the

final game for divisions "A," "B," and "C" on the Sunday morning of May 2nd to avoid playing three games on Saturday. All games would be over by 3pm, which would free up your Saturday night. Any feedback by team reps on this option would be greatly appreciated. We hope to have a team rep meeting in February 1999, at which time early payment of team entries will be accepted.

Any year that wants to join with another can do so now - fax me at my office at (905) 889-4451 or call at 905-889-4176.

We hope to everyone back for another year, as well as some new ones. If you don't want to play, come out to the Friday pub night and catch up with old friends - it's sure to be another memorable event!

Brebeuf Anniversary Update

In previous issues of this newsletter, the Alumni Association announced plans to celebrate Brebeuf's 35th Anniversary in 1998.

The recent school lockout and labour strife has caused such plans to be delayed until 1999.

Please keep an eye on future newsletters for more details. Alumni interested in helping plan these celebrations should contact:

Frank MacGrath '82 (905-726-4488)

or

Peter Teolis '79 (905-713-2230)



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Golf Tournament

The 1998 Brebeuf Alumni Golf Classic was held on June 18th at Silver Lakes Golf Club in Newmarket. More than 65 golfers enjoyed a terrific day on the links followed by a steak dinner.

Individual low gross honours went to Jim Coletto followed closely by Pat Lumbers '75 and Bryon Disera '81. The low net score of 49 was recorded by Paul Goudy. Nearly every graduating year was represented, from George Macri '69 to three recent graduates of the class of 1999 Nunno Battista, Mike Rotolo, and Joe Cornacchia. A strong contingent of staff members lead by Rick Naccarato, Brad Ryan and John Murphy '81 joined the alumni for the annual golf tournament.

At the tournament dinner, the Alumni Association honoured former Brebeuf athletic director and head of physical education, Bill Kennedy. Bill retired from teaching in June, 1998 after more than 30 years of service, including 18 years at Brebeuf. A large number of golfers had been students at Brebeuf during Bill's tenure, recalling fondly the 12 minute run on the upper football field. The Alumni association salutes Bill for his tremendous contributions both to Brebeuf and to teaching, and wishes him the best in retirement.

Special thanks to the alumni who helped support this tournament as hole sponsors and prize donors:

Bryon Disera '81 - Thornhill Building Supply
Phil Horgan '80 - Philip Horgan Barrister & Solicitor

Jim McGovern '81 and Mark Purdy '82 - BPI Mutual Funds

Steve White '81 - Ernst & Young

Peter Teolis '79 - Inter-Comm Communications

Frank MacGrath '82 - The Golf Group

Chris Stanfield '83 - Bell Canada

Paul Fujiwara '79 - Reebok Canada

Brian Black '75 - Hockey Hall of Fame

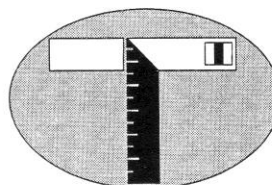
The 1999 tournament will be on Tuesday, June 22, 1999 at Silver Lakes, at \$125/player or \$475/foursome. Call Frank MacGrath '82 (905-726-4488) or Shawn Smith '84 (905-678-3119 x260) if you wish to participate.

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Each year, the Brebeuf Alumni Association funds programmes at Brebeuf, including two scholarships, support to Brebeuf athletic teams, semi-annual newsletters, and the floor hockey, hockey, and golf tournaments.

The Alumni Executive has resisted charging a mandatory alumni general membership fee for items like the newsletter, and rely on our annual events for the revenue to fund these programmes. Public financial support for secondary school education continues to be reduced. The role of the Alumni Association in providing scholarships and other programmes to benefit Brebeuf students - the future alumni - is paramount.

The Alumni Association is asking for your financial support. We hope all alumni will consider giving at one of the following levels:

Principal's Club: \$250 or greater. Donors will receive a tax receipt and membership in the Principal's Club.

Redmen Club: \$100 or greater. Donors will receive a tax receipt and membership in the Redmen Club.

Business Club: \$50-\$99. Donors will have their name or business card published in the Alumni B.

Anniversary Donor: \$35-\$49. In celebration of Brebeuf's 35th anniversary, donations of at least \$35 are encouraged.

Please fill out the donation form on the right and make your cheque payable to "Brebeuf College". Cheques from individual alumni, families, or companies are all acceptable.

Thanks for your continuing support!

Principal's Message

by Joe Brisbois

This fall, the Brebeuf community is not only beginning a new school year but celebrating the school's 35th anniversary. Brebeuf College came into existence in 1963 under the direction of the Jesuit Fathers. The school year is now well under way, with exceptional weather assisting the school's physical education program in September and October.

The memorial to Brother Maher in front of the school was completed this year with the installation of a commemorative plaque on a decorative border. The school walkway with the accompanying lighting has been completed and provides a very safe avenue for pedestrians. A drop off area in front of the main school building is now in operation as well as a sidewalk leading down to the main walkway for exit down to Steeles Avenue. This has assisted with traffic flow for both cars and pedestrians.

This past year witnessed the retirement of Brother Spencer, Mr. Piovesan and Mr. Ibrahim. Brother Spencer has continued to assist in the Chaplaincy area on a voluntary basis, Mike DaCosta, a former Brebeuf student, and Cynthia Thomas have joined the teaching staff

this year. Mr. John Shanahan replaced Mr. Peter Murphy as Vice Principal in January of 1998.

The Catholic School Advisory Council and the Alumni Association continue to work closely with the school. These relationships allow the school to strengthen the link with our immediate community. Both these groups are to be commended for their loyalty to the school. The tradition at Brebeuf continues to remain alive and well.

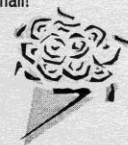
In September, 1998 a new bus stop was added in front of the school which operates at the end of the day. The addition of this stop has allowed for a speedier resolution to the bus stop congestion at day's end.

I encourage the Alumni to continue to support the Brebeuf community. The excellence of tradition at the school can only be enhanced by the involvement of students from the past. The strength of a community is directly attributed to its members and their support.

Brebeuf and St. Joe's

The subject of marriages between Brebeuf and St. Joseph Morrow Park alumni was raised recently. It didn't take long to compile the following list, and we probably haven't scratched the surface. If you know of any others, we'd love to hear from you by phone, fax or email!

Greg Rogers '72 and Eileen Irish
 Peter Barbetta '70 and Francie Hill
 Arnie Teolis '78 and Cathy Corcoran
 Dennis Tobin '79 and Nancy McInerney
 Bryon Disera '81 and Lisa Hotchkiss
 Paul Duggan '81 and Susan Reid
 David Pidduck '82 and Bonnie Best
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 Rob Hennebury '85 and Margaret D'Souza
 George Longo '86 and Andrea Daquano





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Where Are They Now Update:

The Alumni Association welcomes your feedback and input for the Alumni B, including Letters to the Editor, ideas for stories, and "Where Are They Now" updates. Fax your suggestions to Frank MacGrath at 905-726-4068 or email "brebeufalumni@hotmail.com."

White, 100% Brebeuf golf shirts with the school crest are now available for just \$20 (incl. tax!) Call (416) 393-5508 to order.

Brebeuf is considering a move to the semester system. Air your views by e-mailing brebeufalumni@hotmail.com or by calling (416) 393-5508.

1999 marks significant anniversaries for the Classes of '69, '74, '79, '84, '89, and '94. Thinking of holding a reunion? Contact Frank MacGrath '82 (905-726-4488) or Mike Da Costa '92 at Brebeuf (416-393-5508) to obtain a copy of your year's mailing list. If you submit the details of your event, we'd love to publish your story in the Alumni B!

Alumni Ads - Thank You!

Many thanks to the alumni and friends of Brebeuf who placed ads in this edition of the Alumni B. If you wish to help defray our publishing costs and promote your business to over 3,000 Brebeuf alumni, contact Paul Flanagan '72 at 905-770-3246 or Peter Gillespie '85 at 416-250-5520 ext. 291. The Brebeuf Alumni Association gratefully acknowledges the support of:

Dr. Timothy Barbetta

David Black

Paul Black

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John Flanagan

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Pete Gillespie

The Hawthorn School

Miller Waste (Blair McArthur '80)

O'Neill Electric (Greg Curran '81)

Peter Teolis

Thornhill Building Supply (Bryon Disera '81)

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