

1980

Rev. Fr. Crusoe, Rev. Father Casey, Mr. Gazeley, The Teaching Staff of Brebeuf College School, Special Guests, Graduates, Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is traditional at graduation that the Rector of Brebeuf College School gives an annual report covering the past academic year. I will try to do this as concisely as possible.

This year we had the largest number of students in Brebeuf's history, we began the year with 653 students. This number stretched our facilities to their limit. This was mainly due to the opening up of a 5th Grade 10 class, which is one class above our normal 4 classes.

Also we were slightly up in numbers in the private sector of the school. This year we have 100 candidates for the Secondary School Graduation Diploma for Grade 12 and 86 candidates for the Honours Graduation Diploma for Grade 13. Of the 86 students in Grade 13, we are anticipating 24 Ontario Scholars from this group.

Our Senior students participated in a number of outside tests:

1. In the McMaster University Biology Contest, Peter Yu received honourable mention for placing in the top 20.
2. In the McMaster University Physics Contest, Edwin Nowicki and Reg Wilcox tied for 3rd place, and honourable mention went to Michael Kovacs, John Karababas, James Williams, and Peter Scherer for placing within the top 20.
3. In the Twelfth Sir Isaac Newton Test 1980 sponsored by the University of Waterloo. The average score of the 9 Brebeuf students entered was 22.9 compared with the average of 9.2 for all entries. Our top two students competing as a 2-man team finished with scores of 31 for Greg Loffree and 38 for Edwin Nowicki and as a team they finished third overall.
4. In the chemistry 13 News Research Assistantship Examination 1980, two of our students ranked within the top 250 out of 5,600 students in Ontario writing the examination. They were Michael Kovacs and Edwin Nowicki and they have been awarded prizes from the University of Waterloo and the University of Toronto.

The BREBEUF LAY ADVSORY BOARD was instrumental in organizing, under the leadership of Joan and Ted Belton, our 500 CLUB. The revenues from this lottery should bring about \$15,000.00 to support the private sector of Brebeuf College School. We greatly appreciate your support of our fund-raising efforts.

BURSARIES were once again granted to deserving students and I would like to thank those who helped in the bursary programme for others.

The BREBEUF LADIES GUILD were very active again this year in a variety of projects, which included: the annual jacket sale in Aug., the Dinner-dance at Villa Columbo, the Brebeuf Recipe Book, the Mother-son communion Breakfast, the Spring Bridge, The Fashion Show, and the Keep-fit classes. Through their dedication and hard work they have helped out in the following areas of the school: through the Student Council they have helped the Gr.13 Dinner and the Junior Semi-Formal, the Sports Dinner to be held on the 19th of this month,

furnishings for the School Chapel, a typewriter for the main office, and they plan to work on the electrical wiring here in the Gym (the lines you see are simply temporary), the exhaust system for the change rooms and the gym and the improvement of the crowded teachers' lounge. Many thanks to the Ladies who worked so hard to make this year successful under the leadership of Mrs. Velma Letterio. I should mention as well that the Grade 12 mothers will be catering the reception after this graduation, so the work of the Guild is still going on.

Brebeuf's REACH FOR THE TOP team had another fine season but failed to repeat last year's sweep of the Metro Championship, loosing out in the final game. However, in an exhibition game before the student body, Brebeuf's team defeated the touring British Championship team. The season can be considered quite successful and the team of Mark Quigg, Philip Horgan, John Hoddinott and Steven Beamish are to be congratulated.

The Gr. 13 Graduating Class of Brebeuf under the direction of Mr. James Barry produced the 9th edition of TRIPLE BRONZE, an annual anthology of student poetry. A special word of thanks goes to Filippo Salustri who worked many hours editing and printing the anthology.

The Brebeuf PUBLIC SPEAKING contests were held during the year in the school to determine the best original speech and elocution winners in the Junior, Intermediate, and Senior divisions. This year's winners were:

Junior Elocution: Clinton D'Souza

Junior Original : Bill Neeson

Intermediate Elocution: Ivan Mraz

Intermediate Original: Chris Stanfield

Senior Elocution: Chris Zions

Senior Original : Mervyn Meharchand.

In March two of our students competed in the Royal Canadian Legion Public Speaking Contest in North York. Christopher Kovacs of Gr. 10 placed second in the Junior Division and Mervyn Meharchand of Gr. 11 placed third in the Senior Division. Also Paul DeSouza of Gr. 10 gained third prize in North York for his poetic entry in the Royal Canadian Legion Annual Creative Writing Contest, Senior Division.

The MUSIC DEPARTMENT managed two highly successful concerts this year. At the Christmas Concert, 65 students performed in the Senior Concert Band with the added sounds of the 17 piece Stage Band. Both of these groups performed again at the Spring Concert and this time they were joined by the Junior Band - a group consisting of 45 students - and a new addition, a Brass Quintet. Some of these students are here today to play for our graduation as well. Also a highlight of the music programme was the performance here in the Brebeuf Gym of a special Brass Quintet, sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and the Metropolitan Separate School Board.

T.V. BREBEUF completed its 10th year this Spring. This school club had 15 members and tapes any significant event in the school such as the school play, the spring band concert, panel discussions and major sports events. They also produce television skits, spoofs, commercials and documentaries. This year's producers were Filippo Salustri, Mark Purcell, John Moore, Joe DeCarli and Ed Moffat.

DEBATE BREBEUF placed first in one of the several debates held in PRO-CON FORUM COMPETITION. In addition, several individual speaker awards were earned by Brebeuf debaters. Senior debaters who will be missed when they graduate this year include Robert O'Brien, Peter Camillieri and John Hoddinott.

On May 12th of this year, the Grade 9 & 11 geography students with Mr. Jack and Mr. Sullivan organized for the student body a special panel discussion on energy. Guest speakers for this occasion were: Mr. Robert Shea from ESSO, Mr. Jim Peterson, Member of Parliament for Willowdale Riding, and Professor Robert MacDonald from the Environment Studies Department of York University.

The 1979-1980 BREBEUF ATHLETIC PROGRAMME consisted of many events. Brebeuf school teams competed in T.D.C.A.A. competition in 13 different sports. Our basketball teams showed great depth and promise. The Bantams were undefeated until the play-offs. The Junior and Senior Teams both made the play-offs with a strong second half performance. The Senior team won the Montreal Loyola Tournament. Hats off to the coaches: Father Toppings, Mr Jack, Mr Hill and Mr. Will for providing an exciting season.

Our Senior Hockey team, under the direction of Mr. Barry, was very competitive in a very strong league.

Our Volleyball teams continued to grow - with the Bantams losing in the play-off, while our first ever Junior Volleyball Team lost in the semi-final.

Our Gymnastic team retained the T.D.C.A.A. championship, winning the overall trophy as well as the Senior division. Our Swim team placed second at the C.Y.O. meet.

Interest in soccer continues to grow at Brebeuf. We fielded three teams: Mr. DiRocco coached the Bantams, Mr. Daoust the Juniors and Mr. Racco the Senior team. Our Junior team made it to the semi-final round.

Our school had many outstanding individual performances during the year including:

James Stafford - cross-country champion and record holder of 3,000 metre in track.

Tom Baker - C.Y.O. individual swim champion.

Mark Reade - in hockey.

Valter Viola in volleyball

Paul Lim Hing - individual Junior Champion in Gymnastics

Philip Li - second place finish in gymnastics.

Tim Flanagan - T.D.C.A.A. finalist in tennis.

Jim Lavery in soccer.

and Jim Mahoney in golf.

This year in the GRADE 13 MONDAY NIGHT FLOOR HOCKEY, the Petun nation under Captain Andy Quinn won the pennant. They edged out Tony Leblanc's Pontiac Nation. Rocco Lapadula, the leading scorer in the league was voted the most valuable player, and Steven Fritz was voted the top goalie.

Two new events were added in school sports this year: (1) the Goulding Arena Senior Hockey League - which was an intramural hockey league played on Fridays. The Huron Team, coached by Fr. Toppings and Mr. Will, emerged as the winning team. Thanks are in order to Mr. Johnston who organized the league.

(2) Saturday afternoon floor hockey games were instituted for Grade 9 students who wished to participate in an afternoon of exercise and fun.

The STUDENT COUNCIL was very successful this year in fund-raising and in supporting many school activities such as sports, team trips, yearbook, etc. The new President of the Student Council, FRANK MacGRATH, has a great challenge ahead of him for next year.

The spiritual life of the school was well nourished by the addition this year of two chaplains - Fr. Tom Czajer and Fr. Rob Brennan. They organized and directed the days of recollection for the Grades 9 & 10 students, and worked on special twi-light retreats for the Gr. 11 Students in conjunction with St. Joseph's Morrow Park. They also planned and organized the student liturgies and para-liturgies throughout the school year.

Folk Masses were introduced at First Friday Masses this year, with several guitarists and vocalists leading the student body in liturgical song. Roses for life, the Pro-Life symbol, were distributed to the student body in a special ceremony marking RESPECT FOR LIFE month in Ontario.

It is with real regret that I have to announce that we are losing a very fine and dedicated teacher from our staff - Mr. Jerry Keyes. Mr. Keyes has contributed greatly to our English Department and towards our annual play production, which was this year A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS. To Mr. Keyes I would like to express my thanks and best wishes, and I am sure that I speak also for you, for his future work at Assumption High School in Burlington.

I would also like to express my thanks publicly to the teaching staff of Brebeuf College School for their help and co-operation this past year. I greatly appreciate their help, support and dedication. Thank you.

I would now like to say a word to our Graduates before I introduce our Guest Speaker. We at Brebeuf College School hope and pray that the spirit of St. Jean de Brebeuf - the spirit of dedication, the spirit of excellence, of selflessness, and of being a man for others will be with you throughout your lives as a legacy of Brebeuf College School. Good luck and our prayers go with you in your future work and studies.

I now have the very pleasant task of introducing our Guest Speaker for the Graduation.

~~The person who is our Guest Speaker is well known to you so my introduction will be brief. Father gave three years as Principal of Brebeuf College School - three years of love, dedication and hard-work. Always there was a smile, and always he was willing to listen.~~

~~Ladies and Gentlemen, our Guest Speaker, Father Kenneth Casey.~~

The person who is our Guest Speaker is well known to you so my introduction will be brief. Father was Principal of Brebeuf College School for three years, after serving 20 years as Principal of Loyola High School in Montreal. Three years here - three years of dedication and hard-work - always he had a smile, always he was willing to listen. He left here saddened, for his heart has always been in high school work.

Ladies and Gentlemen, would you kindly welcome back to Brebeuf, our Guest Speaker, Father Kenneth Casey.