

1983

Ladies and Gentlemen, Guests, Staff of Brebeuf College School, Graduates.

✓ The tradition at Brebeuf College School is that at Graduation the Rector of the School gives a summary of all the major events of the past academic year. Each year this report seems to get longer and longer, so this year I will simply highlight some of the events in the school.

✓ The enrollment this past year was 652 students. This was composed of 337 students in Grades 9 & 10 and 315 students in Grades 11, 12 & 13. This year's Grade 13 was the largest class ever in the history of the school with 104 students. With the number of students indicating that they are returning to Brebeuf we are anticipating another full school for 1983-84.

✓ Financially, the school should ~~break~~ break even this year - this has been helped a great deal by grants from the Canadian Jesuits, the Brebeuf Jesuits and help we have received from various ~~people~~ ^{sources}. Our fund-raising was again very successful, about \$32,000 was raised, \$20,000 of which will go towards retiring a deficit that has begun to build ^{again} and the remainder will be put into a special fund for building in the future. The Bursary programme help^s many deserving students - our thanks to those who helped out in this area, especially the Ladies Guild who fund this programme annually.

✓ Speaking of the Ladies Guild, under the Presidency of Mrs. Theresa Gibson, they had a very successful year. They donated \$5,000 to the school - \$2,000 towards the Bursary Fund, \$2,000 towards the daily running of the school, and \$1,000 towards the library. They also helped to buy hockey uniforms, new band jackets and a micro-share for the computer programme. The reception today after these Graduation Exercises has also been organized by them and the Grade 12 Mothers. Next year's Guild will be under the direction of Mrs. Joan Belton - many thanks to Theresa Gibson for her work the past two years as President.

~~The Student Council is under~~

✓ The student council, with President Andy Halpin, organized the regular activities and introduced a very successful Walk-a-Thon for the funding of various school activities. Next Year's Council will be under the President, John Shin.

The Brebeuf Alumni Association was active again this year.

Gary Gannage, ~~Graduate of Brebeuf~~, the president of the Association, with many active members organized an Alumni Event, which took place on Friday, May 13 and Saturday, May 14. Many Alumni returned to take part in the floor hockey, ice hockey and basketball tournaments, as well as in the Social held at St. Joseph's Morrow Park. Twelve Alumni also participated in the special careers day held on October 22 for the present students of Brebeuf. During the year, Graduates have returned to speak to various classes ~~as well~~ on specialized topics. Two issues of the Alumni B Newsletter have already been sent out and a third one is now being prepared.

✓ Our students also participated in a number of academic contests, *which include the following*
1) In the Canadian Mathematics Competition - at the Grade 10 & 11 levels, Brebeuf placed first out of all the Toronto Metro Separate Schools and ^{Metro} Catholic High Schools.

2) In the Computer Programming Contest in April at the Junior Level, for Grades 9 & 10, Brebeuf took top honours.

3) Brebeuf's "Reach for the Top" Teams of Chris Kovacs, Lionel Noronha, Mike Lewandowski and Jay Gibson were the North York Champions this year.

4) Brebeuf Students participated in 3 University of Waterloo Mathematics Contests. Ron Dizy scored in the top 3% out of 4,413 students. Others who did very well were Chris Kovacs, Jim Gutcher, Robert Emery, Lionel Noronha, Stephen Loffree.

There were a number of other contests, however, I have simply taken the highlights.

✓ In the Sports Field, Brebeuf entered teams in 14 different sports, which were made up of about 280 students.

In Tennis, Rob de Gasperis and Mike Scott brought Brebeuf the doubles crown in the T.D.C.A.A. competition. In Track & Field, 9 of our students qualified to go to the Metro Competition.

The senior Basketball Team won for the second year in a row the Loyola Invitational Tournament in Montreal. Our Senior Soccer

Redmen placed first in the Eastern Division of the T.D.C.A.A. but lost the playoffs in overtime. The Senior Rugby Team took the T.D.C.A.A. Championship for the second year in a row.

✓ In the Nation System, it is estimated that over 300 students participated in a number of activities - the most favoured activities included Grade 9 Flag Football, Table-tennis, MASH quiz, Trivia quiz and Grade 13 Floor Hockey. The latter completed its eleventh year, with the staff winning the championship for the 5th time in the history of the Monday Night Floor hockey league. *Bayview Hockey League*

✓ This year our Music Department had one of its busiest seasons ever. Besides the annual Christmas and Spring Concerts, a Spring Musical with Theatre Brebeuf was staged (more on that later). Our Senior Band grew to over 80 members. We ended ~~our~~ ^{the} year with a cultural exchange trip in May when 68 students travelled to Scranton Pennsylvania to be hosted by the West Scranton High School Music Department. This was a return trip, as West Scranton visited our school last spring. One of the high-lights of that trip was a day spent in New York City seeing the United Nations Building and the Broadway Musical "Chorus Line".

✓ In April, Theatre Brebeuf's three and a half month's preparation culminated in the presentation of the musical, FIDDLER ON THE ROOF. The production earned glowing tributes for the some eighty students involved. Congratulations to the cast, crew, band and production teams. Theatre Brebeuf also contributed to the presentation of a Christmas and Easter liturgical service for the whole student body.

✓ In the publications department, the 12th volume of Triple Bronze, an anthology of Grade 13 poetry, was published this Spring. Chris Kovacs of Grade 13 received this year's literary award for his contribution to ^{the production} Triple Bronze. The fifth edition of NOOSPHERE was published, in fact just came out and it contains the best short story writing for Grade 12s. Echon, the school Year book is still in the process of being put together - a few dedicated students are putting in long hours to preserve the memories of this year for the whole student body.

✓ Several of the present Graduating Class assisted Grade 9 English students in improving their skills in English language and literature. Also many were helping other students in Math and Science areas as well. The generosity of these students is a beginning of peer-tutoring programme in the school which is growing each year as part of ~~being~~ ^{of} "service to others."

✗ There was also a special 75-minute performance of the life of Christ, presented for the Grade 10's by a professional troupe called 4-Cast. It was acted in the centre of the Gym - theatre in the round - and was part of the Grade 10 religion course.

✓ This year, the second Mini-Lecture Series for Parents was held - the topics included: Scripture, Witnessing, Christology, Annulments, moral decision making, and bio-ethics. This series began last year with 8 people and has grown in attendance to over 50 people.

✓ There were many others events in the school, which if I tried to mention, my report would be more than twice the length. I have simply tried, as I mentioned at the beginning, to highlight some of the major events in the life of the school over this past year.

I want to take a few more minutes of your time. First I want to express publicly today, my very sincere thanks to all the staff at Brebeuf, the teachers, secretaries and caretakers for their dedication, involvement, concern and hard work. This school could not be what it is today without such committed Christians.

✓ We are losing some staff this year. Fr. Brian Massie has been assigned to the Jesuit Parish in Thunder Bay, Ontario; Fr. Don Beaudois has been assigned to the Jesuit Parish in St. John's, Newfoundland; and, Mr. Rick Johnston will be one of the founding teachers of the new Catholic High School in Scarborough East, John Paul II. I know that I speak for all of us here today, ^{and} we wish you all the best in your new work. We thank you for all you have done for Brebeuf College School and you are always welcome here as part of our family.

To the Graduates, I wish to say that the best wishes of all at Brebeuf go with you as you graduate. We hope and pray that the example of our patron, St. Jean de Brebeuf, may live with you and inspire you throughout your life. We look forward to seeing you again as alumni of Brebeuf College School.

Finally, I have the honour of introducing our Guest Speaker for Graduation. He, himself, is a graduate of Brebeuf College School, a former lay-missionary in Africa, and presently on the Staff in the Geography Department. Ladies and Gentlemen, I would like to present our speaker, Mr. Greg Rogers.

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Brebeuf students participated in 3 University of Waterloo Mathematics Contests. Some who did very well were Terry Nowicki, Chris Lipski, Ron Dizy, Robert Emery, Lionel Noronha, and Stephen O'Brien.