

1983-1984

At the year end assemblies, which were begun last year, I give a short report on the major events of the present academic year.

(It is traditional at Brebeuf College School for the Rector of the school to give a summary of events of the past year. Last year I revised this tradition slightly by only giving the highlights of the academic year.)

The opening enrollment this year was 670 students -- this was almost evenly divided between the M.S.S.B. Separate School of Grades 9 & 10 and the private sector of Grades 11, 12 & 13. Also this year we inaugurated the special class of 9 students who have done extremely well at Brebeuf thanks to the good will and help of both the students and staff.

Financially this year we should break even with the assistance of \$35,000.00 from the Jesuit Fathers. The Brebeuf Benefactors Society raised \$31,000.00 which was put in the building fund begun last year. The amount in the building fund coupled with the federal government grant of \$103,000.00 allows us to begin a building project that includes an addition to the Cafeteria, an addition to the main office and a new chapel. Work will begin on these projects on the 18th of June. Our thanks to Mr. Jim Peterson, MP for Willowdale, and to the many parents and alumni who contributed to the fundraising project and made it a success.

Over \$6,000.00 was given out this year in bursaries to help students remain at Brebeuf College School. A special word of thanks should go to the Ladies Guild who each year have helped in the bursary project.

I would also like to express a special word of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Ted Belton. Mr. Ted Belton has chaired the Brebeuf Benefactors for the last 6 years and Mrs. Joan Belton is president of the Ladies Guild. Witout thier help and dedication over the past years, and the help of the many members of both these groups, Brebeuf College School could not have continued year by year.

The alumni association was very active this year. They sponsored the Careers Day in the School for the students from grades 9 to 13. They also ran a very successful ^{3rd} Alumni Weekend on May 25-27th. The Alumni weekend had 14 hockey teams, 50 alumni in floor hcokey and 8 basketball teams involved. The president of the association is Frank MacGrath, a 1982 Graduate. The Alumni have also issued two Alumni 'B' newsletters. They are now preparing for a fall golf tournament.

Brebaeuf College school has over 50 extra-curricular activities in the school - these include both intramural and extramural teams and groups. Since it is impossible to acknowledge and summarize each and every one - I have taken a few hgihlights only, however, many students and staff have worked hard in these activities and they certainly deserve credit for what they have done and which has helped to build up the Spirit of Brebeuf.

Our Reach for the Top teams, made up of Lionel and Osborne Noronha, Jay Gibson and Rob Shaufler, won the North York flight but lost out in the quarter finals of the Toronto Championship. (Lionel and Rob are in today's Graduating Class).

over In the M.S.S.B. Computer Programming Contest our Junior Team placed 5th and our Senior team placed 4th overall.

The Brebeuf Science Fair saw 43 participants in our own Gym - 12 of these young men went to the Metro Wide Science Fair, where they received, one first, one second and two thirds in the intermediate division.

In the Royal Canadian Legion's ~~Annual~~ Writing Contest, Roman Rakus of Grade 11 came first in the poetry division for Willowdale and second for North York. Jeff Adams of Grade 10 came first in the prose division for both Willowdale and North York and second for Metro-Toronto.

Thirty-six Brebeuf Students wrote the Canadian Mathematics Competition. In the Grade 11 Competition, Brebeuf was first out of all the Catholic Schools in Metro Toronto and in the ~~Grade~~ 10 competition, we stood 2nd for the Catholic Schools. Congratulations to all who competed.

Triple Bronze, Brebeuf's annual anthology of student poetry, was published for the 13th time this Spring. Eighty students from this year's Gr. 13 graduating class have contributions in Vol 13 of Triple Bronze.

In our Own Brebeuf Speech Contest, the winners were:

Senior Elocution - Lino Cugini

Senior original - Jim Varghese

Intermediate Elocution - Peter Weerasingle

Intermediate Original - a tie between: Antonio Kang and

Kurt Bergmanis.

Junior Elocution - Mark McLarney

Junior Original - Jim Cosentino

In the musical field, the music department performed in the Christmas and Spring Concerts here at Brebeuf. After a number of years, the concerts are once again being held in the school. The students, with Mr. Butash, were also involved at the Mother-Son Communion Breakfast, Benefactor's Appreciation Night, Grade 8 Orientation Evening, will be at the 'Celebrate Brebeuf' Day and today at the Graduation Mass and Exercises. Three of our students have been selected for the 90 piece band to play at Downsview for the Holy Father's visit to Toronto in September.

Two new clubs emerged this year. The first was the Stockmarket Investmanet Club whose aim is to become familiar with stock market investments. A special treat for this group was the lunch hosted by HONEST Ed Mirvish.

The second new club was Radio Brebeuf - 2 or 3 times a week for 5 minutes each broadcasts were made. Most were entertaining and informative and they certainly helped to add to the Brebeuf Spirit and information.

Theatre Brebeuf put on a Christmas Play - 'Gift of the Magi' and a Spring production - 'The Odd Couple'. Mr. Strimas also directed a special Holy Thursday Liturgy, which is the 3rd he has helped to write and direct for the school.

In our 'in-school-service-programme', 50 senior students have helped to tutor Junior Students who were having difficulties in a variety of subjects. Also each of our Special students had 2 big brothers who were seniors.

On the playing fields of Brebeuf College School, the Senior Rugby Team took for the 3rd year in a row the TDCAA Championship. Also they won the Toronto-Weston Invitational Tournament after 4 games and 5 periods of overtime. For the second year they competed in the OFSAA Tournament.

A new idea emerged this year for a social/volleyball night between 13's of Brebeuf and Sacred Heart in Newmarket - over 75 participated from the two schools. Hopefully, this will grow to include more schools in the future.

In the nation system over 200 competitive games were played from flag football to Indoor soccer and from chess to a spelling bee. For the second consecutive year, the Red Knights have captured the Nation Pennant. Congratulations to the Red Knights.

A new sports facility was added this year - a 400 meter track. This was courtesy of the M.S.S.B. A gracious thank you goes out from Brebeuf to the M.S.S.B., especially to Father Geary who went to bat for Brebeuf over the summer months. Due to the track, the nation system held 2 meets - both of which had about 175 Brebeuf students competing. Also our REDMEN TRACK AND FIELD team scored 95 points in the TDCAA Finals to place 6th out of 18 schools. Brebeuf qualified 8 individuals for the Metros - the highest total ever. Also we hosted an elementary school meet on May 31st - well over 300 students were around the track - these same students re-appeared on the following Saturday to another meet under the direction of Mr. ~~Dave~~ Milsom of St. Agnes School.

My congratulations to all the students and staff who participated in the nation system and on Redmen teams representing Breb af on the ice, on the wrestling mats, on the gymnastic apparatus, the courts for basketball and volleyball, and on the field for football and soccer and in every other sport in which we competed.

I would like to make special mention of congratulations to Mr. Greg Rogers who takes over the Directorship of the Jesuit Camp EKON with Fr. Len Altilia. Our Chaplain, Fr. Rob Brennan, will be working at the camp as chaplain this summer. Also 6 Brebeuf students will be working as counsellors this summer at EKON, on beautiful Lake Joseph.

As you are well aware there are a number of changes taking place at Brebeuf this summer besides the building project mentioned earlier. Firstly, Mr. Richard Szpin will be leaving Brebeuf to take up a teaching position at the new school John Paul II in Scarborough. The Jesuit Fathers will hand over the administration of Brebeuf College School after 21 years to the Presentation Brothers. One Jesuit will be remaining at the request of the Cardinal, Fr. Rob Brennan, who will be the school chaplain. On behalf of the Jesuit Fathers I would like to say thank you for your caring and you know that you will be remembered in our prayers... the whole Brebeuf Family - the students, teachers and parents.

To today's graduates I would like to express my congratulations - I must admit that I feel part of the class of '84 since they began as 25 students when I began as Principal 25 years ago & now I, too, graduate with them. My prayers & best wishes will be with you.

Finally, I have the pleasure of introducing our guest speaker. Father Rob Brennan has returned to Brebeuf this year after a year away in the far east. His learning & experience of this past year has added a great deal to the school community. Ladies & Gentlemen & graduates, may I now introduce, Father Rob Brennan.