

The Signpost

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March 2023

Casey lips

By Kassidy Torchia

RBC Theater students participated in Trick or Suite at the Embassy Suites Hotel in October. Halloween decorated rooms in the hotel provided a safe environment for children with special needs to trick or treat.

RBC Girls' Soccer supported the Team Jack Foundation, created to support families in New Jersey facing the hardships of pediatric cancer and other medical conditions, during the fifth Annual Mountain vs. Seas Tournament. The entire tournament raised over \$40,000 in donations.

The Caseys showed their support of Aaron Van Trease, a St. John Vianney football player who suffered a spinal injury during a game, by hosting a "gold out" football game in his honor.

Senior Riley Manfredi placed second at the annual Monmouth County English Speaking Union Shakespeare Competition. Riley upholds a recent RBC tradition of placing in this tournament.

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2022-2023 Ushers in a New Young Priest for RBC

By: Rhiannon Hill

(I had the opportunity to interview the new chaplain of Red Bank Catholic High School, Father Rick.)

What is your favorite thing about RBC?

My favorite thing about RBC is having the opportunity to spend time with the students here, both in informal and formal settings, and trying to strive in all of these moments to convey the goodness and love of Jesus Christ.

What made you become a priest?

When I was in college, I was studying to be a high school

history teacher. I was starting to get more serious with my faith and by the end of college I was praying to God. He put on my heart the desire to serve him and the Church as a priest.

After I graduated from Stockton University, I went to Saint Charles in Philadelphia to be a Seminarian (man studying to be a priest), and I was ordained a priest on June 4, 2016. **What do you plan on doing for RBC and the community?**

I strive to be a good faithful priest who is present to the

needs of students and faculty, and provide opportunities in the classroom and the chapel for students to grow in their faith and encounter Jesus.

Why is it important for RBC students to have a good faith and to trust in God?

Faith and a relationship with Jesus Christ is essential to any life. Red Bank Catholic students have the privilege of being able to study in a Catholic high school where faith is an essential element. The most important thing that the school can do for students is to teach and pass on the Catholic faith. Nothing matters more than the students to grow in faith, hope, and love. I hope that students when they leave RBC know the Catholic faith better and love Jesus Christ more deeply.

What are your strengths as a priest?

My strengths are that I like being with people, and I am enthusiastic to teach others about the Catholic faith and help them to grow in their love of Jesus Christ.



Father Rick after Mass.



Freshmen welcomed on their first week.

Red Bank Catholic Welcomes the Caseys' Class of 2026

By: Amanda Foster (2026)

The school year of 2022-2023 introduces the incoming freshmen once again, the class of 2026. Red Bank Catholic is thrilled to bring in the new students we now know as part of the Casey family. With the short amount of time spent here, this class has already been able to participate in a number of activities, all wonderful op-

portunities to get to know their peers. It can be difficult when coming to a new school, but not at Red Bank Catholic.

One event the incoming students were able to participate in was the Freshman Social held in early September. This year, there was a big turn out. All students had an enjoyable time, and it was the first function where everyone was able to meet their fellow classmates.

There was food and fun games that students could engage in. Parents also had a chance to connect with each other at the event.

The students were formally welcomed into the community during the Freshman Convocation on September 27. The faculty organized a pin ceremony, and each student was pinned with a green shamrock to welcome the Class of 2026.

EDITORIALS

The Abortion Debate

By *Kampbell Torchia*

Abortion has been one of the most controversial topics in the United States for decades. The question of whether it is morally right or wrong to terminate a pregnancy has been an ongoing debate. *Roe v. Wade*, the previous Supreme Court decision that granted legal access to abortion, was recently overturned by the present Supreme Court in June 2022. This decision required every state in the U.S. to have at least one abortion clinic, and in 2017, 18% of pregnancies ended in abortion. However, the Supreme Court decision paved the way for individual states to ban abortion outright. There are two sides to every debate. In this one, the divided sides are pro-choice and pro-life.

The pro-choice view argues that women should have a legal right to choose what they do with their own bodies. They believe that abortion is a safe medical practice. Pro-choice supporters argue that if abortion is banned, mothers will be harmed in the process because they cannot get safe abortions. For women who are not financially ready, have been raped, or just were not planning for a child, the pro-choice side believes they should be able to choose whether to keep the child or not. The legalization of abortion would make it possible to save mothers in life-threatening pregnancies, and abort fetuses with health problems. A huge part of the pro-choice view is respect for women and their bodies. Many women feel that the government is not treating men and women equally, since there is a regulation regarding the female body, but not the male body. Pro-choicers believe that abortion is not morally wrong, since most abortions are done within the

first trimester of pregnancy, when the baby is still attached by the placenta and umbilical cord in the mother. A woman's right to choose has been argued for many decades, winning the fight when abortion was legalized with the *Roe v. Wade* decision in 1973. However, pro-choice supporters are fighting harder than ever now to make abortion legal again in light of the recent Supreme Court's decision overturning *Roe v. Wade*.

The pro-life perspective argues that life begins at the moment of conception, and that means abortion is the same as murder. At just ten weeks old, the fetus has already formed its organs, ears, and nostrils. Supporters of pro-life believe that they are the voice for the babies who cannot speak for themselves. They think abortion promotes a culture in which life is disposable.

No civilized society permits one human to harm another without punishment. Religious views also come into play on the pro-life side, though it should be noted that the United States is made up of many different religions and beliefs. Most religious precepts or guidelines make it clear that murder is a sin. Catholics are a major proponent of pro-life supporters. The Catholic Church teaches that life begins at conception, so according to that teaching, the fetus is a human being with rights.

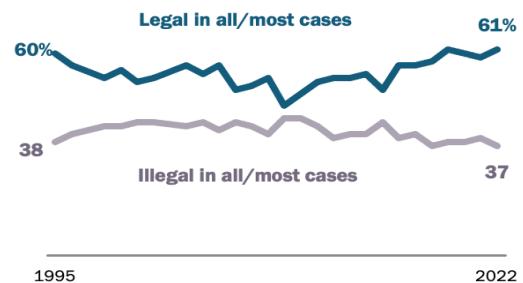
For women who cannot provide for their children, pro-lifers believe adoption is a solution. Currently, 1.5 million families are looking to adopt. Abortions may also cause medical complications later in life, such as miscarriages, ectopic pregnancies, and pelvic disease.

Not only might physical damage be done, but a woman's mental health may also be harmed. Many women who decide to terminate their pregnancies are minors and young women who may have limited choices, and are not fully educated about abortion or their options. Severe stress, anxiety, and depression form in many women after they have terminated a pregnancy.

Serious moral conflict is the basis of the pro-life argument. The pro-life side has put up a strong fight against abortion, finally succeeding in June of 2022 when *Roe v. Wade* was overturned. This continues to be one of the most controversial and bitterly fought issues in our nation in modern times.

Americans' views of abortion, 1995-2022

% of U.S. adults who say abortion should be ...



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*"Opinions stated are not necessarily
the voice of the Signpost."*

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FEATURES

Who's That Casey?

By: Caitlyn Evans

Bridget Ryan is currently a freshman at RBC. She is especially good at math, being in Honors Algebra 2/Trigonometry with Mrs. Guarillio. She currently plays three sports (competitive Irish step dancing, field hockey, basketball and hopefully lacrosse in the spring), works at Red Rock Tap and Grill, volunteers at her church, and is a member of the Caseys4Life Club.

Despite her demanding schedule, Bridget is adjusting well to high school. She hopes to make high honor roll next quarter after making honor roll this past quarter, and to do so, she plans on working extra hard in biology and maintaining her current work ethic with her other classes.

Bridget is the epitome of a well balanced student. One may wonder how such a busy person keeps up with her grades, sports, and social life. Bridget has managed to find a healthy balance between every aspect of her high school career. Her key to success is not procrastinating and getting things done early and if not, on time. This way she has less stress when she comes home from late night practices and work. This also helps make things easier when making time for family and friends.

Bridget is very excited for the rest of her freshman year.



Bridget Ryan demonstrates her academic excellence with geography.

Caseys Gain Career Experience Through Internships

By: Grace Anderson

The seniors at Red Bank Catholic are given the opportunity to intern with either a former RBC alum or another professional in their field of interest. The internship program runs in partnership with the RBC Thomas G. Labrecque Leadership Institute. This is an excellent opportunity for the Casey seniors to gain real-world experience in the field of their possible future careers.

These internships are one day a week for six to eight weeks. Teachers accommodate each student so they are able to make up the assignments they missed easily. Other benefits of the RBC Internship Program are the connections the senior students build with their mentors. These connections have proven to lead to summer jobs.

They can also write recommendations and act as a reference for future jobs.

One of the seniors this year, Adriana Pena, interns at Red Banks luxury clothing store, Garmany. She helps adjust the store's displays, mannequins,

and holiday decorations to gain experience before studying Fashion Merchandising and Design in college. These connections at Garmany help her better understand the field she is entering, and she is gaining possible future opportunities.



Senior intern Adriana Pena (at right), with Garmany co-workers.

Class of 2023 Celebrates Halloween With Great Style

By: Cate DeSousa



The seniors' Halloween costumes this year were creative as always, showing their great Halloween spirit. Pictured above are the winners from each category: (from top left)- Smurfs (Best group), Joker (Scariest), Steve Harvey-(far left)- (Most Original), (and below far left)-Joe Exotic and a tiger from Tiger King (Best duo), and (far right)-Victorious Cast (Best Overall). Teachers even got into the act- as seen below, center- art teacher Mrs. CarlaValentino and dance teacher Mrs. Kelly Gemellaro.



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Casey Players Present *Clue* as Fall Play on the Stage

By: Giana Razzoli

On Friday, November 18, and Saturday, November 19, the Red Bank Catholic Performing Arts Program presented *CLUE*. This is the first time in three years the Casey Players have put on a fall play. Even with the hiatus, *CLUE* went off without a hitch, and was a big hit.

Based on the work by Sandy Rustin, this mysterious comedy takes the original game characters (and some new faces!) and brings them to life on stage. Caught in a murder mystery house, the characters must figure out who the murderer is before they themselves are killed. With its twists and turns and excellent performances from our Caseys, the audience was left on the edge of their seats throughout its two acts. Congratulations to Director Jeanne Montano Giannetta, Assistant Directors Ms. Mary King and Miss Sarah Guarillio, Performing Arts Director Mrs. Kelly Gemellaro, and student directors, Gabriella Graham and Maragaret Fisher, on an incredible production and performance. The talented cast of major players was led by Garrett Nolan, disguised as the Butler, Wadsworth, Sydney Lithgow, as the Maid Yvette, Maeve Thurman, as the Cook, Anna Accardi as Mrs. White, Michael Makar as Colonel Mustard, Riley Manfredi as Mrs. Peacock, R. J. Vandenbrouck as Mr. Green, Jack Sisk as Professor Plum, and Francesca Rannucci as Miss Scarlet. Victoria Forte gave a nice turn as Ms. Boddy, who was really the Butler in disguise working for the authorities. Other characters included Eleanor Donohue as the Traffic Cop, Lilyanne White as the Motorist, Gabriella LoBosco as the Singing Telegram Girl (all three murder victims), Sarah Moser as Chief of Police, Abirah Napoleon as the Real Estate Agent, and an ensemble of Breanna Anglum, Callaghan Barrett,



Mrs. Peacock and Colonel Mustard are aghast at Mrs. White's reaction to her "gift," as she thinks at first that it is a snake, then realizes it is a rope.

*Don't forget to see
Anything Goes in
the spring!*



(From left)- Professor Plum, Yvette, Mrs. White, Miss Scarlet, Mrs. Peacock, and Colonel Mustard look on, perplexed as the murdered Cook ends up falling on top of poor Mr. Green.

Matthew Block, Stecey Cadet, Vanessa Corso, Mia Makar, and Emma Tava.

The fantastic set design and lighting by Mr. Robert Rutt with the help of Mrs. Carla Valentino really added to this already wonderful play. The student tech crew, led by Stage Manager Ksenia Karpova, worked very hard to bring the mansion to life for both actors and audience.

With its multiple rooms, it made the audience feel as if they were inside the mansion with the characters. The stunts were also a big part of the show, between the falling chandelier and the "murders."



As more dead bodies keep showing up, Professor Plum, Mrs. Peacock, and Wadsworth start to realize that their evening at Boddy Manor is closing in on them.

SPORTS

Football Rules

By: Dado Aw



Quarterback Frankie Williams hands the ball off to Sabino Portella.

Red Bank Catholic's Varsity Football Team put up a great fight for this fall's 2022 season. The team, led by captains Sabino Portella, Aidan Donohue, Najih Rahman, and Davin Brewton, had a great season despite the loss of many talented players from last year's senior class.

With a new quarterback, sophomore Frankie Williams, the Caseys adjusted quite well. With an overall record of 10-2 this season, the Caseys dominated the Shore.

Highlights of the 2022 season include rivalry games with Donovan Catholic and RFH. After losing to Donovan Catholic last year, the Caseys pulled off a 14-7 win this year. Juniors Tyler Burnham and Lorenzo Portella kept the offensive and defensive lines intact, while wide receivers Emmanuel Ross and Robert Stolfi played a huge role in scoring touchdowns.

The Caseys put up an extraordinary fight for States, easily dominating the first two rounds of the NJSIAA Tournament. Unfortunately, the Caseys lost the State Championship title this year at Metlife to DePaul Catholic High School in a tight game.

The varsity football team continues to work hard and persevere.

Girls' Tennis

By: Stephanie Mahns

Red Bank Catholic's Girls' Tennis finished this season with a 10-7 record. Seniors Veronika Baksht, Isabella Holovach, and Alexa Kiernan led the team, as well as their head coach Christine Rieger.

The team made it to the NJSIAA Tournament, and advanced all the way to the semi-finals. In the quarter-final round against Donovan Catholic, juniors Kaitlin Noonan and Peiyi Liu won both their singles matches. The team needed one more singles match to win, and Isabella Holovach came to help. With a nail-biting match, Isabella lost the first set, but came back and won the final two, winning the match for the Caseys. This win allowed the team to make it to the semi-finals, against Princeton Day, the number one ranked school for girls' tennis. These girls showed true talent in both singles and doubles matches throughout the season.



Tennis team's Peiyi Liu gets ready to return a serve in her singles match.

Girls' Soccer

By: Stephanie Mahns



Senior Sophia Racioppi battles with the opponent near the goal.

RBC Girls' Soccer celebrated another fantastic season this past fall. Ten seniors led the team this year: Peyton Auriemma, Sophia Racioppi, Julia Melilli, Devyn Drusjack, Noel Pauwels, Gianna Romeo, Alyssa Dimarco, Gianna Fitzsimmons, Grace Gibson, and Ava Sorrentino. With the help of Frank Lawrence, the team's head coach, girls soccer completed the season with a record of 13-5.

On their senior night, the girls played an outstanding game against Wall. Gianna Romeo and junior Ashley Inacio scored the majority of the goals, allowing the team to win 5-1. This win allowed the team to advance into the 7-0 Division, a big milestone for RBC soccer. After defeating Trinity Hall in an impressive game with an ending score of 3-0, the team advanced to the final round of the NJSIAA Tournament. The Caseys also advanced to the quarter final round in this year's Shore Conference Tournament. With the handful of skillful players up and down the field, and the best team spirit around, girls' soccer completed another successful season.

Gymnastics

By: Grace Anderson

The varsity gymnastics team, led by Coach Gina Roselle and Coach Kaitlyn Dalziel, tallied a strong season with 9 wins.

Maggie Franznick, Emily Heller, Erin Henderson, Maeve Martino, Mackenzie O'Hare, Daisy Gallagher, Izzy Galborneti, and Avery Shaughnessy all participated on the varsity gymnastics team.

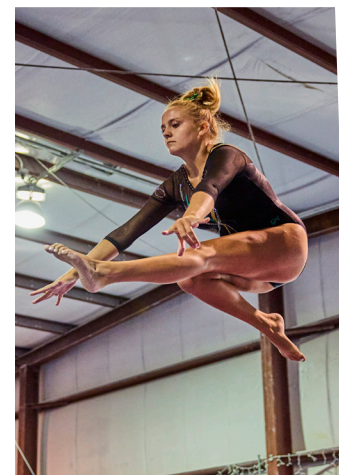
Captains were seniors, Emily Heller and Erin Henderson. To start the season, the team won their first meet against Wall Township. They also won against Holmdel, Hightstown, Howell, Ocean, Neptune, Marlboro, and Manalapan.

Mackenzie O'Hare, Maggie Franznick, Izzy Galborneti, and Daisy Gallagher of the varsity team qualified for The Shore Conference Tournament. This was a huge accomplishment and each participant competed well.

Another success of the varsity gymnastics team was breaking 100 at multiple meets during the season.

This was a great accomplishment for the team and required each member to compete at their best.

Based upon this year, the future looks bright for next season's varsity team.



Senior gymnastics captain Emily Heller competes on the balance beam.

SPORTS

Boys' & Girls' Cross Country Teams Dominate

By: Dylan Ciorciari

Red Bank Catholic's Cross Country team is one of RBC's most accomplished sports teams. The entire team is the embodiment of hard work and dedication to one goal—improving every day. Practice five days a week begins in July and continues all the way into November. This spectacular team of both girls and boys is trained by coach Robert DeFilippis and assistant coach Kyle Muller. The 2022's female team consisted of Cate Desousa, Grace Anderson, Kam-bell Torchia, Avery Hargis, Kassidy Torchia, Julia Garcia, Rhiannon Hill, Charlotte Heston, Ava Bataglio, Sarah Hailu, Savannah Salsman and Angelina Fragiacomio. The 2022 male team consisted of Patrick Coyle, Fletcher Hargis, William De'Julius, Andrew Sweeney, Connor DeFilippis, David Torres, and Nate Hogg.

2022 was a significant year for the girls' team with their achievements being: Competing in the Shore Conference where they placed third, the state meet, and the Meet of Champions. Sophomore Rhiannon Hill was the best sophomore in Shore Conference placing top 10. The top 5 girls were Cate DeSousa, Rhiannon Hill, Avery Hargis, Grace Anderson, and Ava Bataglio. At the Meet of Champions, the RBC girls' team placed seventh which is the highest since 2014. Cate also went to Oregon for the Nike Cross Country Nationals.

2022 was also a significant year for the boys, as they went to the Shore Conference and State meet. They also had an extraordinary start of the season when Patrick Coyle, Connor DeFilippis, and Andrew Sweeney competed in an invitational at Rhode Island.

At that race, Patrick Coyle placed first, Connor DeFilippis placed second, and Andrew Sweeney placed fourth.



Junior Patrick Coyle battles with fellow Monmouth County runner.



Sophomore Rhiannon Hill charges toward the finish line.



Savannah Isacson rushing to the goal.

Girls' Volleyball

By: Samantha Weber

The girls' volleyball team had a great season led by new coach Jessica Redmond and the captains Claire Cooke, Isabella Dalatri and Maddie Carpenter.

They went 15-9, fighting hard every game.

Junior Kailie Zebick was named All Division B North for Varsity Volleyball.



Senior Claire Cooke blocks a spike at the net.



Senior Dean Bolstad chases the ball down during a challenging soccer match.

Field Hockey

By Taylor Carlson

Red Bank Catholic's Girls' Varsity Field Hockey Team demonstrated determination and perseverance over the course of this 2022 season.

They were led by the two senior captains, Mimi Drechsler and Jenna Dziedzic.

Starting off the season right, the Caseys battled Manchester and were victorious with a 9-0 win that kicked the season off to a good start. The team had a 7-8 record for the season, with one additional tie.

The top two leading goal scorers who aided the team to seven victories are juniors Makenna Graham and Ellie Kopec.

Though the team was faced with difficult opponents, not once did the team give up.

Head coach Niki Ikeda and assistant coach Makayla Pak illustrated good leadership to help these girls accomplish all the great things that they did over the course of this season.

With this sort of leadership, the team looks forward to next season.

Boys' Soccer

By Cate DeSousa

Tough and eager, the boys' soccer team increased experience on the field this year with exciting games and accomplishments. One of the games that proved best the skills that these boys have was the game against Ranney, which ended in a 2-1 Casey victory.

This group of talented boys were led by senior captains Christian Condon, Bobby Milke, and Scottie Termotto this season. These boys were influential on the underclassmen and taught them how to step up to challenges.

Condon and Milke worked together well on the field to put points on the board for the Caseys, and freshman Micah Eagles and sophomore Andrew Torregrossa stepped up as underclassmen to help the Caseys.

They each scored multiple times throughout the season.

As Red Bank Catholic has six seniors graduating this year, it is crucial for these underclassmen to step up as leaders on and off the field.