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Red Bank Catholic High School • Red Bank, New Jersey 07701

May 2019

Casey lips

By The Signpost Staff

May 1- Two RBC ninth graders, Claire Cush and Michael Liddy were honored by the Monmouth County Bar Association for their Law Day essays on Free Speech, Free Press, and Free Society. Cush won second place and Liddy won third overall among Monmouth County high school students.

May 3- The 2019-2020 Student Council Installation Ceremony took place in the chapel. Outgoing officers were recognized and new officers sworn in.

May 10-The RBC Choir and Festival Orchestra presented a magical rendition of Beauty and the Beast in concert at 7pm in the BSA.

May 21- Senior Honors Theatre Arts students will present an evening of one act plays at the annual Blackbox Show in the Fine and Performing Arts Center at 3:45 pm. Four plays presented were also written by students. Tickets are free.

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Caseys Celebrate Holy Week with Passion

by Lily Gardner

During the 2019 Season of Lent, Casey Campus Ministry was pleased to offer our community many opportunities to celebrate.

Masses, as well as the Sacrament of Reconciliation, were offered to students of all grade levels. Moreover, the Daily Decade of the Rosary for Peace in Our World was offered Monday through Thursday before school.

Red Bank Catholic students were also brought to witness a presentation of the Living Stations of the Cross, performed by members of the Casey Campus Ministry. This prayer service provided a very personal, real presentation of Jesus' sacrifice for our salvation.

Our Annual Holy Week concluded with a retreat on April

seventeenth.

This included the viewing of Mel Gibson's *Passion of the Christ*. Students who attended had the chance to watch this intense and emotional film in a

reverent and supportive atmosphere.

May God bless us all as we walk with Jesus through His Passion, Death, and Resurrection



Mario Flego portrays Jesus crucified on the cross as the Living Stations are reverently enacted by members of Casey Campus Ministry.

MaxPrep Awards the Casey State Football Champions

by Claudia Satzke

Red Bank Catholic's 2018 championship football season officially concluded on April seventeenth as the MaxPrep organization visited the Eck Center and presented the football team with a national ranking trophy.

The team was recognized as part of MaxPrep's thirteenth annual Tour of Champions. The night prior players received their rings in a ceremony with parents and coaches in the Broad Street Auditorium.

MaxPrep is partnered with the Army National Guard and recognizes winning high school sports teams from around the country. Their Tour of Champions awards the top fifty schools of over 16,000 in the country for their commitment and hard work on the field.

Red Bank Catholic is one of

only two high schools in the state of New Jersey to be awarded.

This is in part due to their undefeated 11-0 season and State Championship.



Members of the football team pose with their championship rings.

<u>Ed</u>itorial

Crises in the Catholic Church

by Meghan Frederick

Notre Dame Cathedral Fire in Paris

A major fire engulfed Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris on April 15. As the Cathedral burned people around France and the world mourned. With heavy hearts, many watched from their television screens and saw the 850 year old building in flames. The beautiful Cathedral stands as a symbol of the beauty and history of Paris. One of the world's greatest treasures was burning, and the effect was felt around the world.

It took around 400 firefighters in a nine hour effort to stop the blaze. The cause of the fire is still unclear, but officials believe an electrical short-circuit was most likely the cause during the \$6.8 million renovation that was going on. The main structure of the cathedral was saved as well as the artwork, but the ceiling and spire of the cathedral came crashing down. They were able to salvage the Crown of Thorns, the Blessed Sacrament and other items. The French President Emmanuel Macron has promised to rebuild the cathedral, making it even more outstanding, and he will seek international help to do so. Donations from all over have poured in toward rebuilding the damaged portions of the cathedral.

As a community, we can continue to offer our prayers.



The Notre Dame Cathedral disaster in Paris, France burning.



Sri Lanka Bombings

Easter Sunday in Sri Lanka marked one of the country's deadliest acts of violence in a decade. Three churches in Sri Lanka were targeted in a series of coordinated terrorist suicide bombings.

At one Catholic church in Negombo, more than 100 people were killed. Some say that this is proof that Christians around the world are under attack, as this horrific theme of violence has been a recurring issue for activists in the United States and Europe.

The Sri Lankan government

has carefully addressed the issue while refusing to speculate on the perpetrators. Additionally, the government has worked to prevent social media theories from spreading false accusations. Recent news has confirmed that multiple suicide bombers and two bomb experts were the source of the violence on Easter in Sri Lanka, and all of those directly involved with the bombings are dead or arrested. One of the churches targeted has partially reopened, allowing for people to pray and continue to heal from this tragedy.



An inside view of St Anthony's Shrine in Kochchikade, Colombo, after one of the bombings in Sri Lanka.

The Signpost

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

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FEATURES

Who's That Casey? Meet Equestrian Alexa Setteducati

by Lily Gardner



Alexa competes in an equestrian jumping event.

Senior Alexa Setteducati has been riding horses and jumping in competitions since the seventh grade. Her main competition is the three foot Hunter Division. She has participated in events all over the country, such as in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and upstate New York.

In 2017, Alexa qualified second out of more than three hundred people at the Marshall and Sterling Finals in Saugerties, New York. This is a national equestrian event. Moreover, Alexa went to the World Equestrian Championships in Ohio to compete this past February.

In addition to her athletic talents, Alexa has been volunteering at the Monmouth County Parks Department since 2016, logging over forty hours per year.

Sophomore year, she successfully worked with the RBC Athletic Department and the United States Equestrian Federation through a rigorous process to implement equestrian as a recognized varsity sport where athletes would be eligible to earn a varsity letter. Alexa recently signed a National Letter of Intent with Sacred Heart University for equestrian.

RBC Students Featured on News12 New Jersey

by Brianna Alwell

Red Bank Catholic students from the LEAD club co-wrote a book about a person living with cerebral palsy.

The book, Everything Except, Brussel Sprouts and Lima Beans taught them a valuable lesson of inclusion and acceptance, and helped form an everlasting friendship with the person who inspired the book, nineteen year old Taylor English.

Taylor talked to students Alyssa Lazzara, Alex Earle, Paloma Pariente, Isabella Pariente, and Juliana Vacaro, about compassion and acceptance. She said she loves everything about her life, except brussel sprouts and lima beans.

The book concerns looking beyond the challenges of cerbral palsy. Taylor's grandmother, Diana English, says her ultimate dreams for Taylor are for her to be educated, self- sufficient, and to be an asset to the world.

Taylor also dreams of meeting Taylor Swift one day.

RBC Seniors Volunteer in Peru

by Lily Gardner

Seniors Mia Roccesano, Jenna Ryan, Lexi Setteducati, Lindsay Cook, Ali Gentile, and Shannon Wood spent their Easter Break vacation in Peru on a mission trip. The students went through an organization called Rustic Pathways. Two years prior, Lexi went through this organization on a volunteering excursion to Costa Rica. She had a life changing experience which influenced this second trip.

The girls spent eight days in the mountains of Peru camping, hiking, and working for the local community. The girls helped build a water pipe line for families in the Sacred Valleys. They hiked three miles a day to dig trenches and install the fresh water pipes.

Their diets consisted of potatoes, quinoa, and chicken, as well as some foreign favorites, such as guinea pig and alpaca. In their free time, the seniors hiked some of the Incan Ruins, one being Machu Picchu, and visited numerous waterfalls. On their journey, they saw many pigs, donkeys, chickens, stray dogs, and llamas.

Senior Ali Gentile said, "The families we helped were so thankful for our service which made the entire trip worth it. Some villagers even started crying."

The Caseys celebrated their last day with a small party wearing ponchos and showering in confetti.



Seniors Lexi Setteducati, Lindsay Cook, Ali Gentile, and Shannon Wood pose in their Peruvian ponchos.



Seniors Ali Gentile, Alexa Setteducati, and Lindsay Cook hike Machu Picchu.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

RBC Junior Honored in New Jersey Young Playwrights Contest by Meghan Frederick

Junior Jacqueline Hennessy was selected as one of the winners of the New Jersey Young Playwrights Contest sponsored by the Writers Theatre of New Jersev.

This Casey wrote the one act play "The Drifter's Gallery" for her Honors Theatre Arts class project.

The play will be directed by professionals and performed at the thirty-sixth annual New Jersey Young Playwrights Festival in June.

Jacqueline's play will also be performed by Casey students at the annual Black Box Show on May 21 in the RBC Fine and Performing Arts Building. She will be awarded the Governor's Award for Arts Education.

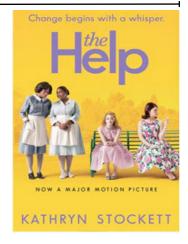


Jacqueline Hennessy in her RBC play costume.

Book Review The Help by Valentina Bertini

The Help is a must-read book. Why? The novel is about a pressing issue that dates far back in society. It focuses on an African-American maid, Aibileen Clark, babysitting her seventeen white children. Aibileen has always been obedient to her employer, Miss Leefolt; she never talks back.

On the other hand, her friend, Minny Jackson, another African-American maid, always speaks her mind and, unfortunately, loses many jobs because of it. Minny eventually works for a newcomer, who is a lot more to her than meets the eye.



A white woman nicknamed Skeeter, just returned from college, gives Aibileen, Minny, and several other maids a chance to speak their minds and tell their story in a book that could change their lives drastically. This story is heartbreaking and heart-lifting. The novel is a very famous movie which I advise everyone to watch.

Musical Review-

The Drowsy Chaperone by Christina Kildare

Broad Street took on Broadway with the Red Bank Catholic Casey Players' spring musical performance of The Drowsy Chaperone.

The Players put on outstanding performances on the nights of March 21, 22, 23, and 24. The actors and actresses put their hearts and souls into this work and filled the auditorium with laughter.

The opening scene portrays a melancholy man, played brilliantly by senior Zack Dalton, sitting in a chair trying to cure his nonspecific sadness by listening to a recording of a 1928 musical comedy, The Drowsy Chaperone. As he is listening to this recording, the supporting characters appear in his apartment. The stage is transformed into a Broadway set with footlights, sparkling furniture, painted backgrounds, and glitzy costumes.

Over fifteen students involved in the RBC drama and musical productions for the 2018-2019 school year have been nominated for this year's Basie Awards. Twelve of those nominations were for The Drowsy Chaperone.

The musical numbers, singing, and dancing by the ensemble were superb. All of the hard work put in by the production staff and stage crew paid off when the audience burst into laughter and applause. This was one of the most remarkable shows that RBC has displayed.



The performers pose at the end of an amazing show.

RBC Students Celebrate National Poetry Month

by Valentina Bertini

For National Poetry Month, Ms. King, with support from Mrs. Jacomme and a few enthusiastic poetry students, organized a poetry night on April tenth.

The atmosphere was relaxed, with dim lighting, round tables for conversation, and coffee and snacks for the taking.

Students trickled in after choir practice, and even, yes, right from athletics practice. Eventually, the cool, garret-like vibe of the dance studio came to life, with light background music and quiet banter.

The serious poets gathered their materials together. It was eye-opening to see that there are a number of teenagers out there that really do write their own poetry and stories; in fact, quite a lot.

Senior Ava Jensen, a literary magazine editor, welcomed the group, and the stage lit up as poet after poet went up and read.

Some, like Jensen and senior Ana Zeb, also of the literary magazine, had whole collections of their own poetry to read, while others found favorites from as far back as childhood and spontaneously started to go up to the stage and read.

Participants smiled as they realized the power of poetic expression. English teacher Mrs. Jacomme even had stacks of her own original poems in hand and shared them eagerly with the crowd to cheers.

All seemed to silently agree that it was nice to share an experience with students and teachers outside of the classroom in a different and communal setting.

Toward the end, Jensen remarked, "I have never felt so relaxed here."

The eclectic mix of students made the night special.

SPORTS

Girls' Lacrosse

by Sofia Giamanco



Seniors Grace Bruther, Gracie Gargiulo, Mackenzie Boyle, Abi George, Olivia Bezzone, Lily Gardner, and Riley O'Connor celebrate Boyle's 200th goal.

The girls' lacrosse team had an outstanding season with a division record of 6-2. Their two losses include a one-goal deficit against Rumson-Fair Haven and two goals against Manasquan- a result that sealed RBC's fate as the No. 3 seed in the Shore Conference Tournament. However, the Caseys came back in the Shore Conference semifinals and beat Manasquan 9-8. The girls will face Rumson-Fair Haven in the finals and eventually in the Central Jersey, Group 2 State Tournament.

Major wins this season were against two undefeated teams at the time, St. Rose, 15-5, and Southern, 16-3. Outside divisonal wins include: Monroe, Middletown South, Holmdel, Wall, Middletown North, and Kent Place. A key success to the Caseys' electrifying attack was Mackenzie Boyle controlling the draws. Boyle recognized that her height (5'11"), length, and strength made her perfect for earning possessions. Seniors Abi George and Gracie Gargi-

ulo also drilled with Boyle in the off season.

On the defensive side, goaltender Lindsay Mazzucco was selected as a member of the Puerto-Rican National Lacrosse Team. Even though Lindsay is not of Puerto-Rican descent, she was able to tryout as a passport player. A First Team All-Shore selection her freshman year, Lindsay's talent earned her a spot. The four defenders who helped her earn that honor are: Lily Gardner, Grace Bruther, Jenna Wyland and Riley Trainer.

We wish the girls luck in their tournaments.

Boys' Tennis

by Ava Giamanco

The boys' tennis team, led by seniors Timothy Beal, James McCaffrey, Tom McGovern, Timothy Screen, and Paul Singh, gained valuable experience this year. Their practice paid off when they beat Neptune 5-0. This building season will definitely be beneficial next year for the Caseys.

Outdoor Track

by Elena Dimitri



The 4x400 relay takes third with a time of 3:55.04 at Penn Relays.

The RBC Track Team has returned for another eventful season this spring. As most of the team was returning from the winter season, the team was projected to perform extremely well.

The girls' team won its fourth straight Monmouth County Relays title at Middletown North High School. This time, the title was won with more help from underclassmen than normal for the Caseys. With victories in the 4x1600 meter relay and the 3x400 hur-

dles, the Caseys received 72.1 points in the competition.

The boys' 4x100 relay, and Anthony Zamarra in shotput, both took first place.

The girls' team also excelled at the Rebel Relays in Howell Township with their 4x200 relay, breaking the RBC school record in that event by three seconds. Seniors Catherine Stolbof, Tara Zeni, Jessie Castellano and sophomore Tess Darnell set a record run of 1:44.87 and also earned the runners a National qualifying time.

Golf-Boys' and Girls'

by Elena Dimitri

This year the boys' golf team had a young roster with only one senior, Robert Mulligan. The remainder of the team consisted of three juniors, one sophomore, and two freshmen. They are 3-3 in their division and have one game remaining against Point Pleasant Beach.

Major wins outside the division were Holmdel, 195-197, and Middletown North, 200-218.

On the girl's side, there were no seniors this year. The team's impressive divisional record of 7-2 was led by sophomore Jada Walch. Walch shot a 92 at Jumping Brook Golf Course in Neptune and tied for 5th place in the Shore Conference Tournament out of 43 participants.

Other wins included Colts Neck 211-239, and Marlboro 187-216.

Congratulations to an oustanding season for the girls.



Jada Walch places top 5 in Shore Conference Tournament.

SPORTS

Baseball Tops Division Standings

by Sofia Giamanco



The boys warm up before the Autism Awareness Baseball Challenge.

Despite losing numerous key players last year, the Casey's pool of talent runs deep in the roster. The varsity boys' baseball team scored an undefeated divisional record of 14-0. Nine seniors led the team this year: Matthew Cloutier, Ryan O'Hara, Vincent Bianchi, Alex Gonzalez, Joseph Russo, Ray Martini, David Glancy, Mario Flego, and Steven Clagett. The boys are coached by Mr. Buddy Hausmann, who started his twelfth season this year with 212 wins.

Entering the Monmouth County Tournament with such an exceptional record, the boys were expected to go far. They beat Red Bank Regional 8-5. However, in the second round they lost a battle against Manasquan, 1-0.

The team also participated in the Autism Awareness challenge. The event was sponsored by the Teamwork Unlimited Foundation, and aimed to heighten awareness about autism. Loaded with talent, the boys are more focused than ever. They have their sights set on the Shore Conference Tournament and the State Tournament, where they will attempt to win the program's first NJ-SIAA South Jersey, Non-Public A championship since 1997. All four pitchers, Vincent Bianchi, Ryan O'Hara, John Nimeth and Shane Panzini, are expected to help the Caseys break that drought.

Softball

by Sofia Jensen

The softball team captured a well-fought division record of 6-5.

They are now looking to move forward in the Shore Conference Tournament after beating Monmouth Regional 2-1 in the first round.

Leading this year's team are seniors Isabella Goehring, Alyssa Savino, and Alexandra DiBenedetto. DiBenedetto will be continuing her academic and athletic career at The College of New Jersey.

The Caseys wish the girls luck moving forward.



Senior pitcher Alexandra DiBenedetto warms up before a game.

Boys Lacrosse

by Claudia Satzke



Declan Grigg, Sean Wosleger, Luke Gueci, Kyle Harms, and Jack Zenkert line up for a game.

The Red Bank Catholic Varsity Boys' Lacrosse Team has returned for another eventful season, finishing 3-5 in their division. However, this record does not attest to the talent on the team. Junior Luke Gueci was selected by the Shore Sports Network as one of the top Lacrosse defensemen to watch for the 2019 season. Luke was also a Second Team Class B North selection last season!

Jack Zenkert was also a big help this season; he reached his 100th career goal in a 14-7 win over Donovan Catholic.

A major win this year was against Wall when the boys defeated them 14-13. Jack Zenkert scored the first three goals for Red Bank Catholic and set the tone right off the whistle start. The boys never trailed Wall. With 47 seconds left, Kyle Boggio caught a pass from Luke Gueci and buried the final goal for the upset win. It was a score that stunned Wall and gave Red Bank Catholic the upper hand against a team that outscored them, 34-7 the past two years.

Wins outside the division include: South Brunswick, Donovan Catholic, Pennington School, Point Pleasant Boro, and St. Rose.

In the Shore Conference Tournament, the boys beat Jackson Liberty 18-6, but lost to Christian Brothers Academy in the second round.

Boys' Volleyball

by Brooke Formato

The boys' volleyball team possesses a dominant group of upperclassmen leaders. The team is led by seniors Anthony Pesce, Andrew Colannino, Anthony Blake, and Dylan Hutra. They are coached by Mr. Pete Bogdan.

The players have worked hard to win a critical game against Keyport, 2-0.

Senior Andrew Colannino commented, "This year we battled against every single opponent. Not in one match did we give up and admit defeat."

The Caseys wish the boys luck with their remaining divisional games.



Andrew Colannino spikes the ball.