

The Signpost

Volume 37 No. 2

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

March 2019

Casey clips

By The Signpost Staff

On February 22, the senior class observed 100 days until their graduation with a slideshow of memories of their four years together.

Senior Alyssa Marino was nominated for the Caring Award, on February 25, for her character as a special individual.

The RBC Art students will have their work displayed from March 4 to March 27 as part of an exhibit entitled "Kaleidoscope" at Artspace 105 in Red Bank.

RBC students and faculty checked on and maintained nesting houses for the blue bird population on March 9 as part of a 27 year partnership with Cornell University.

An Evening of Poetry will take place April 4 from 5pm to 7pm in the Cultural Center.

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Caseys4Life Club Marches for Those Who Cannot

by Brooke Formato

Over fifty Red Bank Catholic students and Caseys4Life Club members traveled to our nation's capital to participate in the March for Life, January 18, 2019. They embarked on their annual journey to Washington, D.C. with moderators Mrs. Flego, Mrs. DeStefano, and several Red Bank Catholic faculty members who have been organizing this trip since 2011.

However, since 1973 when the decision of Roe v. Wade legalizing abortion was issued by the Supreme Court, people from all over have traveled to America's biggest anti-abortion rally. The theme this year was unique from day one.

The experience begins the night before when students and chaperones gather in the Broad Street Auditorium for a prayer service and movie. Here they are educated in the scientific, political, and moral aspects of the life issue; they broke up into small groups for discussion and

attended a prayer service led by Father Ariel.

At four in the morning, they took a bus to St. Patrick's to start their rally off with Mass. They then proceeded to the National Mall to start their march. The annual rally protests both the practice and legality of abortion and includes speeches from politicians. This year's speakers included Dr. Alveda King, the Director of Civil Rights for the Unborn with Priests for Life; Carl Anderson, the Supreme

Knight of the Knights of Columbus; Archbishop Joseph Naumann, the Chairman of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Pro-life Activities Committee, and many more.

The Caseys are already looking forward to next year's March For Life. With a growing attendance for this March, awareness of this movement is raised and spread through friends and family who hear about it from the members who attend.



Father Daison, Father Ariel, and Father Vic at the March for Life.

Caseys Celebrate Catholic Schools Week

by Sofia Jensen

Catholic Schools Week is an annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States and has been a tradition at Red Bank Catholic for many years. It starts on the last Sunday in January and runs all week, which this year was January 27 to February 2. The theme was "Catholic Schools: Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed." The week consisted of special Masses and community building activities, such as pep rallies

and dress down days. Through these events, the school focused on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to Church, local communities and the nation. The week reminds students that Christ is our center and that Catholic high schools exist for Christ's mission. Throughout the week, students and faculty celebrated the gifts and talents given to us through Christ at Baptism and Confirmation.



The Church reminds us of our mission as a Catholic school.

EDITORIAL

We Honor a Career in Service

by Brianna Alwell

RBC Honors Alumnus:

Jamie Riley

Honor can be defined as a high regard of personal integrity, respect, and privilege. Honor shapes lives everyday, and provides the glue that holds a family, community, and country together. However, the price of honor can be great, and can even cost a person his or her life.

On January 22, 2019, during a training exercise in New Mexico, soldier Jamie Riley was killed. Riley, 21, of Fair Haven was one of two Army soldiers who died in the crash involving two Stryker vehicles at New Mexico's McGregor Range.

Jamie graduated from Red Bank Catholic in 2015 and enlisted in the Army nearly three years later. During his time in high school, Jamie excelled in football and track and field, and received his third degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do. Jamie's teachers remember him as a driven student whose desire to learn and grow did not stop when the bell rang.

Jamie joined the Army in 2018 and became a Cavalry Scout, a Reconnaissance Soldier stationed at Fort Bliss, Texas. Here he was assigned to the 1st Armored Division, 1st Battalion, 36th Infantry Regiment, and 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team. Jamie held the value of honor close to his heart every day. He had self-discipline and respected the chain of command and his fellow comrades. He did not let fear or let obstacles beat him; instead, he upheld the Constitution and protected America's freedoms every day.

Jamie's loss was felt throughout the Casey community. Hearts hung especially heavy

on February fourth as Red Bank Catholic students and faculty came together to pay tribute to the fallen hero. Students held flags and banners in support of Jamie, Jamie's family, and our troops as Jamie's procession drove down Peters Place on its way to Tower Hill Church in Red Bank. The Casey Family continues to mourn the loss of PFC Jamie Riley.

Military Careers

Jamie Riley was not the only Casey to pursue a career to serve the country. Recent graduates like Paddy Sciortino (RBC '17), Jack Smith (RBC '16), Matt Lamb (RBC '15), and more have taken the path of service after graduating.

Smith and Lamb returned to Red Bank Catholic to speak to students in the Military Careers Club about their experiences, both in high school and what it took to prepare them for their careers in the military. Both are part of the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) program at Penn State University. Sciortino attends West Point University and continues to train at the Army AIT school there. The U.S. Military Academy's mission for college students is to educate, train, and inspire the Corps of Cadets so that each graduate is a commissioned leader of character. Every soldier will be fully committed to the values of duty and honor and prepared for a career of professional excellence and service to the nation as an officer in the United States Army by the time they graduate.

A Call to Serve

As the costs of college continue to escalate, many high school graduates consider enlistment in the military service.

Becoming a successful adult requires the right combination of independence and support; serving in the military provides that combination for many.

Each of the five branches of the military – Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard – offer training programs immediately after high school. If a student decides to serve, they can receive college credits for their experience which is accepted by more than

2,300 colleges and universities. Moreover, soldiers can receive professional and technical training to meet licensing and credentials for jobs outside the military.

While our nation currently experiences some division, we can all agree on the courage and the dedication it must take to answer the call to serve our country. Jamie Riley and those like him have reminded us of how much we respect them.



Jamie Riley in his United States Army uniform.

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

Red Bank Catholic High School
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Published Quarterly

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FEATURES

Who's That Casey? Meet Biker

Nick Cardoza

by Lily Gardner



Nick Cardoza competing in a circuit.

Nick Cardoza is a freshman Casey who leaves Red Bank Catholic for a period of time to compete in Motocross, a form of off-road motorcycle racing held on enclosed off-road circuits. The circuits consist of jumps sizing anywhere between ten and seventy-five feet. Nick started riding dirt bikes when he was seven and started racing them at eleven. He now rides for one of the biggest motorcycle dealers on the East Coast,

Motorcycle Mall.

He has been sponsored by multiple brands, including yet not limited to Motorcycle Mall, Mika Metals, Dunlop Tires, Eks Brand Goggles, Risk Racing, Lector Fuel Systems, LITPro, and more. In March, Nick will be traveling to Florida for a week to race in Daytona Beach and compete against teenagers across the country. The Caseys wish him the best of luck in both racing and academics.

Ridge Road Run

by Lily Gardner

On May 19, 2019, the second annual Ridge Road Run will be taking place at Red Bank Regional High School. The run was created to promote awareness for mental health and suicide prevention. The goal is to raise money for local and national programs. The race is directed by Michael Eulner, Claudia Kelly, and Dawn Wilcox. It was founded by students from three local high schools: Red Bank Regional, Rumson Fair Haven High, and Red Bank Catholic. This year's race committee consists of two Red Bank Catholic students: Mack-

enzie Boyle and Katie Riddle.

Last year's race was a huge success, with over 1,500 runners and receiving over \$118,000 for the Mental Health Association of Monmouth County and the American Foundation of Suicide Prevention. This year's 3.1 mile run starts at 8:30 am and is followed by a 1 mile run and a kiddie dash. All participants are welcome to walk as well. Feel free to sign up, donate, volunteer, or sponsor. For additional information, please visit www.ridgeroadrun.org, or feel free to ask senior Mackenzie Boyle any questions.



Mock Trial Competes at Monmouth County Courthouse

by Meghan Frederick

RBC's Mock Trial Team successfully competed in two trials at the Monmouth County Courthouse in Freehold as part of the annual Vincent J. Apruzzese High School Mock Trial Competition.

The competition is sponsored by the New Jersey State Bar Foundation and provides high school students with an invaluable, hands-on opportunity to learn about our legal system.

They are able to try cases in the courtroom that pertain to specific issues in today's society.

The students, led by faculty moderators Ms. King and Ms. Boylan, along with attorney

-adviser Mrs. Vanessa Koppel, prepared and rehearsed for the case the entire first semester.

This year's case was civil, not criminal, in which a plaintiff was suing an amusement park as she claimed that she was injured on a defective roller coaster ride.

Of course, it is not as simple as that, when medical records and eyewitnesses come into play. The students portray lawyers and witnesses, and there is a great deal of preparation as they must study statements of facts and affidavits.

Lawyers must also be well versed in the art of objections for convincing argument.



Mock Trial team members in the courtroom, from left to right- Izzy Ermita, Gabby Marquez, Brenna Koppel, Kate Garwood, Grace McMullin, Tessa Linkletter, Jane Salcedo, Maddy Paris, Gabby Mokrzycki and Christina Kildare.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

RBC Dance Performances Delight

by Meghan Frederick

Red Bank Catholic's Dance Department has displayed numerous showcase moments this school year. From the beginning of the school year to now, the Dance Company has been involved in a variety of shows, trips, and performances, and never failed to impress. The RBC Dance Company kicked off the Christmas holiday season and performed to a sold out crowd at Monmouth University's Winter Dance Showcase at the Lauren K. Woods Theater. The girls' talent and professionalism was a phenomenal representation of dance. Next, the department put on a Christmas Cabaret Dance Show in the Broad Street Auditorium. Dancers and singers from the RBC Dance Department trans-

formed Christmas music to life on stage. The show was complete with high-kicking reindeer and dancing snowflakes among many other themed performances. Adding to their performances, the girls performed at Walt Disney World in Florida at the Disney Performing Arts Workshop. Here the dancers competed in a mock dance audition to gain a better insight of what it is like to be a performer at Disney.

Every year, Red Bank Catholic offers Senior Choreography to those who are interested to further involve themselves in dance. It is a great opportunity to dance and learn some fun choreography with friends. The senior dancers include: Maura Leonard, Kathryn Kurowski,

ki, Holly Robertson, Caroline Kane, Katie Fitzgerald, Olivia Caracappa, Emily Fajardo, Lizzie Forsyth and Ariana Butler. They welcome questions about the program.



Kathryn Kurowski leaps in the air during a pep rally.

Lend Me a Tenor a Hit

by Brianna Alwell

The Red Bank Catholic Theater Department brought their talents to the stage on the nights of January 18 and 19 for the winter play. The department performed Ken Ludwig's Tony award-winning play *Lend Me a Tenor*. This comedy filled the Broad Street Auditorium with lots of laughter. The biggest night in the history of the Cleveland Grand Opera Company went hilariously wrong when the world famous tenor, Tito Merelli, played by Kenny Blake, is nowhere to be found at the night of the gala. Henry Saunders, played by Zack Dalton, was the general manager of the company and stressed about perfecting everything.

After a fiery fight with his jealous wife, Tito received a double dose of tranquilizers through a series of mishaps. The bellhop kept showing up at the hotel suite at the wrong moment, trying to get an au-

tograph and a photo of Tito Merelli. Saunders ended up chasing the bellhop around the hotel suite and trying to strangle him. The company experienced one catastrophe after the next: the angry wife, a presumed death, crazy costumes, secret romantic romps, and mistaken identities. This was another great play performed by the Red Bank Catholic Theater Department. The performers allowed the audience to feel emotion on the spectrum and enjoy it.



The RBC Players in action on opening night.

Review-

Dear Evan Hansen

by Valentina Bertini

The book *Dear Evan Hansen* is a must-read story for anyone who has ever felt lost and yearns to be found.

Evan Hansen, an invisible high school senior, is drawn into a family's grief over the death of their son, Connor Murphy. Evan must pretend he was Connor's best friend. Because of this, Evan is no longer invisible and feels that he has a purpose to belong, but he is constantly consumed by guilt. This book explores many aspects, such as family dynamics, not fitting in, the importance of kindness, and mental and emotional health. *Dear Evan Hansen* is based on a musical, so if reading is not one's first choice, go see the Broadway show.

Musical Preview-

The Drowsy Chaperone

by Christina Kildare

The man in the chair, a melancholy man, played by Zachary Dalton is trying to cure his "non-specific sadness" by listening to a recording of a 1928 musical comedy, *The Drowsy Chaperone*. As he is listening to this recording, the characters appear in his apartment, and before his eyes, a drab flat is transformed into a Broadway set with fancy footlights, sparkling furniture, and painted backgrounds.

A wealthy widow, Mrs. Tottenham (Jacqueline Hennessy), hosts the wedding of the year as Janet Van de Graaff (Maggie Skalecki), starlet of Feldzig's Follies, decides to leave the stage for love, marrying tycoon Robert Martin (Michael Rue).

Meanwhile, Broadway producer Feldzeig, (Ryan Gotta), is attempting to persuade Janet to forget about marriage and continue starring in his play called *Feldzeig Foster*.

Plotting to undermine Janet is ditzy flapper Kitty, who wants to replace Janet as the star of *Feldzeig Foster*, (Lara Baktirian).

The plot thickens as others try to sabotage the wedding; two gangsters disguised as pastry chefs, (Ana Zeb and Erin Smith) are sent by Feldzeig's chief investor to make sure that the wedding is stopped and Janet stays in the show. The hiring of Aldolpho, a vain Latin lover, to seduce the bride, is unsuccessful, as he mistakes Janet's chaperone, a drunken diva, for Janet, and seduces her instead. Meanwhile, the groom's eager best man George (Shane Kirchner) sends him into the garden on roller skates blindfolded.

Join the RBC cast of talented actors, director Mrs. Herron, and musical director Mr. Mack on March 21, 22, 23, and 24 as they perform this hilarious show filled with mayhem.

SPORTS

Talented Underclassmen Lead Girls' Basketball in Strong Season

by Sofia Giamanco



Sophomore Sophia Sabino pushing the Casey offense.

The Red Bank Catholic girls' basketball team scored an exceptional division record of 10-4. Starting in preseason, it was apparent that the depth on varsity was a threat to be reckoned with.

Red Bank Catholic started one senior, one junior, one sophomore and two freshmen.

They competed in the Mt. St. Dominic Festival and went 2-1. Moreover, in another non-divisional game, Say Yes To Success Event, the girls beat Xaverian, New York, 71-51.

Despite the tough loss against Red Bank Regional, the girls crushed Camden Catholic in an NJSIAA Non-Public A South game 62-47.

One key non-conference game was against opponent Roselle Catholic. The Varsity girls won 53-40 with the help of freshman guard Justine Pissott's 15 points.

Another big win was against rival Rumson-Fair Haven.

Sophomore Sophia Sabino dictated most of the play for Red Bank Catholic and scored 12 points. The Caseys entered the fourth-quarter with a two-point lead, but an 8-1 run behind 3-pointers from Justine Pissott and Julia Setaro sealed the 42-28 win.

With a team fairly absent of senior leadership, starting only one senior, Sabino was able to fill that role for the Caseys and carry on last year's point guard Rose Caverly's success.

Sabino received First Team All Division for the A Central Division.

Two other standout players were recognized by the Asbury Park Press as well.

Second Team recognition went to freshman Justine Pissott and senior Julia Setaro. Julia was also chosen to represent the West Team in the senior All-Star game.

The future looks bright with so many strong young players.

Girls' Indoor Track Sweeps Individual Titles

by Elena Dimitri



Junior Maddy Kopec running at the Meet of Champions.

The girls' indoor track team racked up an excellent start to the season, winning their second straight Monmouth County Relay Championship. The 4x800 relay won the meet and also placed fifth in the United States with a time of 9:40.19. The 4x800 runners, Claudia Satzke, Gioanna Curci, Julianna Kopec, and Maddy Kopec, have been dominant all season; at Eastern States the relay qualified for Nationals with the help of Julianna's personal best time of 2:14. Other titles include second at Shore Conference, and second at Monmouth County Championships.

There were many individual wins this season as well. Tess

Darnell and Catherine Stolbof both ran a personal best when they broke 60 seconds in the 400m race at Eastern States. Elena Dimitri won the freshman mile at the Metropolitan Invitational with a time of 5:24. Claudia Satzke won the mile at NJCTC Championships with a personal best of 5:19. Tara Zeni placed fifth in the 55m race at NJCTC Championships, third at Groups, and eighth at the Meet of Championships. Zeni also finished her season placing seventh at the Meet of Championships for long jump.

Boys' stand out was senior Anthony Zamarra, who placed fourth at the New Balance Indoor Nationals in shotput.

Seniors Lead Ice Hockey

by Elena Dimitri



Justin Lidondici scoring a goal in the team's win against Wall.

The Red Bank Catholic Ice Hockey Team fought through a tough Class A North and non-conference schedule this season. The Caseys leaned on their gritty senior class — George Hart, Alex Gonzalez, Mario Flego, Logan Gallagher, Dylan McGowan, Ryan Wood, and goaltender Jack Bilancione to battle the season. One major win for the team was against the Wall Crimson Knights. Sophomore Jack Bilancione's 27 saves and sophomore Justin Lidondici's hat trick secured the 3-0 shutout.

SPORTS

Seniors Dominate Boys' Basketball

by Sofia Giamanco



Senior M.J. Wright dribbling down the court on a breakaway.

The boys' basketball team fought for a successful season, finishing with a record of 9-5 in the division.

Four of RBC's five losses came against teams seeded in the top 12 of the Shore Conference Tournament, and four of the five also came on the road.

The boys learned from their past and went on to compete in the Shore Conference Tournament quarterfinals for the first time since 1994. RBC's defense rose to the occasion during the fourth quarter and both overtime periods to fight off Wall, 74-68, and earn their spot.

An individual game that stands out was their win against Manasquan, 62-50. The Caseys handed the Warriors just their second loss of the season.

Point contributions in the win were from junior Charlie Gordinier with 20 points. Seniors John Duffy scored 15 and Stephen Lubischer added 13 points for Red Bank Catholic.

The Caseys also had four wins in the RWJ Barnabas Health Arena and claimed the WOBM Christmas Classic Championship in December.

Among the teams they defeated were fellow quarterfinalists Freehold Township, Point Pleasant Boro, Middletown South, and Marlboro.

The Caseys' next battle was the NJSIAA State Sectionals.

RBC defeated Bishop Ahr in a thriller, 53-52, in quarterfinal play of the NJSIAA Non-Public A South Division.

They moved on to the semifinal round against Paul VI, but lost 83-54.

Still, the boys compiled 20 wins and 8 losses total in a fine 2019 season of play.



Junior Kevin Bauman scores in the battle against Wall.

Individual Wrestlers Succeed

by Claudia Satzke



The boys celebrate an advance to the quarter-finals of the Region 6 Championships. From left: Coach La Mura, Steven Cmielewski, John Columbia, Aidan Meyler-McAuliffe, and Coach Gallagher.

The wrestling team was led by seniors Tom Voglino, Steven Cmielewski, Andrew Lennert, Lenny Meer, John Columbia, and Ambrose Richards.

The team advanced three wrestlers to the quarter-finals of the Region 6 Championships: junior Aidan Meyler-McAuliffe; senior John Columbia; and senior Steven Cmielewski. Cmielewski's top 3 finish earned him a trip to the State Championship Tournament in Atlantic City.

Cmielewski entered the tournament with a 39-3 record,

the most wins in Red Bank Catholic history. He ended his season in the quarter-finals, losing to Garfield's Michael Filieri (38-2).

John Columbia reached the quarter-finals and finished the season with a record of 25-8. Lastly, Aidan Meyler-McAuliffe reached the podium with a sixth place finish at 160. Aidan finished the season with 26 wins and 11 losses, and also earned a District Title. This is RBC's first since 2014. The boys will look to use this season's success as an incentive for next year.

Swimming Led by Upperclassmen

by Brooke Formato

The girls achieved a tough division record of 4-3.

Their wins include: Rumson Fair-Haven Regional, Shore Regional, Raritan, and Ranney School.

Seniors Sally Carden, Olivia Clarke, Carolyn Hazard, Sar-

ah Lucia, Kerryn Magee, Molly Meehan, Camryn Oneidas, Paige Miro, and Ainsley Stamberger led the girls into their final meet in NJSIAA State Groups against Bishop AHR.

They lost with a close score of 80-90 in that contest.



Sophomore Haley Stamberger swimming the 100 Freestyle.