

THE OCCASIONAL



Rosati-Kain High School

The Occasional

March 2016

PRIDE & PREJUDICE: A GROUP EFFORT



Rosati-Kain's production of the Jane Austen classic, *Pride and Prejudice*, wrapped up on Saturday, March 12th after three performances and months of preparation. The cast and all of the crews toiled tirelessly to make this production shine. Sophomore and assistant stage manager Bianca Ituarte says, "A lot of work went into this production. While the actors are the faces of the show, the crew runs it. Costume crew made sure the actors had proper outfits, makeup crew helped the actors be seen with all of the lighting, lights and sound gave the show light and music, house sold tickets so people would come, set crew made sure we had a functional set, and of course, stage management coordinates with most of the crews for a fun show."

The costumes included many of the dresses, jackets, and headwear. During tech week and the performances, the costume crew, or costumettes, did quick changes, tied people into their dresses, and made sure all cravats were tied properly. Costumette and senior Ellie

Hoerner says, "I really enjoyed getting to know members of the cast and my own crew better. I also liked the excitement of helping with quick changes in very little light with very little time." This was Ellie's eighth and final show, and also her first show with her brother, St. Mary's sophomore Thomas Hoerner. Thomas played Mr. Charles Bingley and enjoyed his experience. He says, "I just really liked all of the people. Everyone was all so great. Getting everything done was great fun as well, but it was the people who were all working toward that same goal as I was, who made it more than worth the while." Senior Miranda Wilmsmeyer agrees, saying, "My favorite part is the tight bond the cast and crew form each year. We're like a family." This was her eighth theatre production doing the spotlight at R-K and will greatly miss the atmosphere of the light box.

Everyone really worked together to make this production as great as it was. It truly was a group effort.

- Katie Antrainer

Calendar of upcoming events

MARCH

- 20-23..... Kairos 32
- 23..... Holy Week Liturgy/Passion Mime
- 24-Apr 3..... Easter Break

APRIL

- 6..... 12:15 Dismissal
- 13..... Jr. & Sr. Mid Quarter
- 14..... Jr. Ring Mass
- 15..... Fr. & Soph. Early Dismissal/ Jr. College Visits/Sr. Prayer Day
- 16..... Jr. Ring Dance
- 20..... Fr. & Soph. Mid-Quarter
- 22..... Sr. 11:15 Dismissal for Prom
- 27..... Kougapalooza

MAY

- 1..... Father/Daughter Picnic I | am
- 2..... AP Exams
- 4..... 12:15 Dismissal
- 6..... Hot Dog Day
- 9..... Sr. Exams
- 10-11..... Jr. & Sr. Exams
- 12..... Jr. Exams/Graduation Practice / Class Night/Sr. Lock-In
- 13..... Jr. Commissioning Liturgy
- 16..... Graduation 7pm
- 24..... Quarter 4 Ends
- 25-27..... Exams

Go, Fight, Win!



"TWO! FOUR! SIX! EIGHT! WHO DO WE APPRECIATE?" It's March, and Rosati's winter sports have officially come to an end. Swimmers and divers, as well as the basketball team, have battled their way through the whole season with strong determination.

The basketball team has had an extremely productive season. Varsity coach Sean Benedict has a passion for basketball and has been coaching for sixteen years. He has seen much improvement and success in all of the Rosati girls. For example, junior Shannon Theobald in one game beat the R-K school record and made eight three-pointers. Coach Benedict says he's happy that "she finally just let it play out. It was really nice to see." New to Rosati, Coach Benedict believes that "it's human nature to resist change...when someone comes in to do something different there's a lot of crisis." He encourages all future members of the R-K basketball league to be willing to work hard and be open to change, saying, "if you're coming to play, be ready for the worst!"

Sophomore Paige McNiff, who has been playing basketball for eight years, is a member of the Junior Varsity team. The JV season was both entertaining and

stressful, and the girls were always full of excitement. When asked how that team bonds, Paige said, "just talking in the locker room--that's where you become a team!" She believes if you're "prepared to work hard, and give 100% effort," you are a good fit for the R-K basketball team!

Additionally, the Splashing Kougars had a successful season, and there have been many individual as well as team accomplishments. Rosati-Kain's swim coach, Rachel Graczak, said that the team improved its relay time by 11 seconds within two days. Coach Graczak exclaimed that the team was "on fire!" She loved to see everyone step up and move faster. Senior Kelsey Rohman, a member of the varsity dive team, told of diving's progression and how much fun it was. She said, "There's always something new to do. I learn a new skill. I learn new techniques." Kelsey trusts that "the coaches are always willing to work with you and make you your best self."

R-K's successful winter sports season could not have happened without the dedication of coaches, players, managers, and all the Rosati girls who came out to cheer on the amazing Koug athletes. Thanks for a great winter sports season!"

- Logan Hendrix

Seize the Day

On January 28th, the Class of 2016 took a field trip to the Fox Theatre to see the Broadway musical *Newsies*. The field trip was originally scheduled for the St. Louis Repertory Theatre, but because of a production cancellation, *Newsies* was chosen as the field trip instead. The seniors had a great time, and senior Jaci Street was enthusiastic: "That was some of the best choreography I have ever seen. Most of the guys in the production were more flexible than I will ever be and it was beautiful. The show was a lot of fun overall." For those who do not know, *Newsies* is a musical set in the early 20th century about paper boys striking against unfair treatment in New York City. It features themes of friendship, love, and teamwork. Senior Carla Haines said, "Newsies was a great musical. You could feel the excitement and energy from the seniors all throughout the day. The music was wonderful and the dancing was even better." An added benefit of the trip was a first-time visit to the Fox Theater for some of the seniors who were impressed with the art-deco style and the extravagant decor.

- Katie Antrainer

The Occasional Staff includes:

Katie Antrainer

Alena Chulick

Ariel Hall

Logan Hendrix

Ellie Hoerner

Susi Orozco-Gillan

Rebecca Sommer

Special thanks to:

Ms. Govero-Yann

Lizzie McCarthy

Current Events

On the early morning of March 9th, 2016, there was a solar eclipse that was visible in southern Asia. Singapore, Northern Australia, and Hawaii could see a partial eclipse, but Indonesia got the best view, being able to see the sun blocked out in totality. It was first seen around 6:20 AM local time in Jakarta, the capital of Indonesia. Citizens of the nation's capital made their way as quickly as possible to the city's planetarium in order to view the eclipse as clearly and safely as possible. The next total solar eclipse will occur on August 21, 2017, in a narrow path of the United States.

New photos taken by the New Horizons team at NASA have shown a chain of mountains on Pluto. Although these photos were taken during the 2015 Pluto fly-by, they were released on March 3rd after being analyzed. These "mountains" are actually huge water ice formations capped with methane snow, similar to icebergs on Earth. These hills float in a Nitrogen sea that sits on the surface of the stranger-than-originally-thought planet. In fact, these new photos suggest that there is much more water-ice on Pluto than originally thought, which is a very exciting thing to discover.

About a month ago, a famous theory was proven right - Einstein's theory of relativity! Scientists at LIGO (the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory) discovered evidence of gravitational waves, which are ripples in space-time, proving that time is relative. The detected gravitational waves were created by two massive black holes merging together around 1.3 billion years ago. The sound of these two black holes colliding was a 1/15 of a second "chirp". Einstein proposed the concept of "space-time" in 1915, and until now, there hasn't been a cosmic event massive enough to detect that it exists. Now we finally get to see the theory of relativity confirmed. Congratulations Einstein!

- Rebecca Sommer

What's New in STEM?



For quite some time, experts have predicted that science is the only vehicle for progress in the world, and here at R-K, the science department is evolving to match the advances being made. R-K strives to prepare girls to enter the ever-changing, fast-paced world. In this past year, the R-K science department has been preparing to implement some new changes in the coming years while continuing to educate girls to the highest capacity.

Rosati's science classes are in full swing. Freshmen are learning about force in Integrated Chemistry and Physics. In biology, sophomores are studying cell division. Juniors in Chemistry are learning about ionic and covalent bonds. Students in AP Biology recently traveled to Chicago and are currently studying ecology along with preparation for the AP test. Eco-Act students are teaching lessons on the environment to grade-school students. In Anatomy, girls are learning about the brain and nervous system, and physics students are studying electricity.

The robotics team, SistaMatik, recently competed as the only all-girls robotics team at the regional robotics competition held at the Chaifetz Arena on March 11 and 12. Of 49 teams, they were awarded with first place in defense, eighth place in offensive power rating, and the prestigious Judges' Award. They had the highest scoring game with 145

points. Annie Hilker '17, also won the Dean's List Award, and will also go on to compete further.

The Science National Honor Society has been active as well, dissecting owl pellets, touring Millipore Sigma's facilities, and participating in a TrashBash to pick up litter around the Mississippi River.

The coming years will bring many changes for science at Rosati. Next school year, the science department plans on expanding current classes. A.C.C. Physics has a large enrollment for the next year. Mrs. Lester, the physics teacher and robotics moderator of R-K, says, "I'm really excited about the future. We're getting a variety of students with a variety of interests."

Another new project for the science department is the addition of AP Chemistry next year. Both students and faculty feel the excitement that comes with the new addition. When asked about her thoughts on the new class, Mrs. Daues said that she was "excited and a little frightened, but mostly excited," and Michelle Ferkel '17 says, "I like that there is a bigger variety of classes."

Overall, there are many exciting science-related activities happening around Rosati-Kain. With the amount of new opportunities and improvements to come, the future is bright for STEM at R-K.

- Ariel Hall

NEW YEAR, NEW FACES

Rosati-Kain kicked off the New Year by welcoming two new freshman theology teachers, Ms. Liz Hejlek and Mr. Henry Samson.

Why did Mr. Samson and Ms. Hejlek choose Rosati? They both were impressed by Dr. Ann Goodwin's expression of Rosati's greatness and visions; Mr. Samson stated "Dr. Goodwin reached out to me about teaching. I really enjoyed how she explained what made Rosati so awesome." Ms. Hejlek said, "I like the size of the school, the energy of students and staff, and the vision that Sr. Joan, Dr. Goodwin, and Mr. McNamee have for the future."

What are their favorite things about Rosati? Mr. Samson remarked that it was his feelings of acceptance he has received: "I really enjoy having felt accepted since day one. That is most special to me," he remarked. Ms. Hejlek's favorite thing about Rosati is getting to know the students through extra-curriculars. "One of my favorite things about Rosati has been attending after-school events, such as basketball games, the dodgeball tournament, the play, the robotics competition, Karen House, etc. I treasure opportunities to get to know students outside the classroom." Ms. Hejlek also mentioned the inspiration she gets from Rosati's vow to encourage leadership in living out the Gospel and the values that come from the Gospel, "I am inspired by Rosati's commitment to

forming servant leaders who strive to live out the Gospel values of community, knowing and serving our neighbor, and active love."

Based on their love for Rosati, what makes this school such a wonderful fit for them? Mr. Samson remarked that it was the welcoming attitude of the students and the evidence of faith. "I like not only the Catholic identity of the school and the freedom to incorporate faith and Christ into everything we do, but also the accepting nature of the community as well. There's is such a vibrant healthy mix of individuals here that makes the daily procedures of school exciting." Ms. Hejlek mentioned an immediate specialness and good size and energy, I knew Rosati was a special place from the moment I first walked through the doors."

What did Mr. Samson and Ms. Hejlek dream of doing before they knew they wanted to be teachers? Mr. Samson, like most kids, had a few wild dreams of his own. Before teaching, he thought about being a MLB player and mega crane operator. Before Ms. Hejlek realized teaching was for her, she mentioned maybe wanted to be a dancer or a lawyer as well as teaching. In any case, Rosati students are very lucky to have welcomed two wonderful teachers to impart their knowledge and help mold the young women of Rosati-Kain.

- Susi Orozco-Gillan

PERSON IN THE HALL

How do you style your uniform?

"With whatever's clean." –Tricia Carey '17

What's your favorite place to go in the CWE?

"Pizzeria Mia." – Marcelle Owona '17

Where do you like to hang out with friends?

"I like to go to different parks: Forest, Tower Grove, Castlewood." –Molly Bastida '17

What's your favorite pair of socks?

"My Christmas socks with reindeer. They have fuzzy bells and little paws. I wear them all year long!" –Lexy Hohn '17

"I ordered them online, and they have Bernie Sanders' face on them!" – Catherine Marx '16

What's your Starbucks order?

"Today, Grande Flat White." –Rebecca Sommer '16

What are your summer plans?

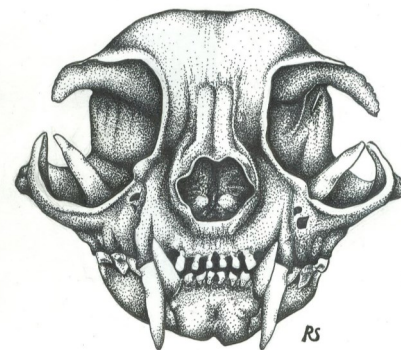
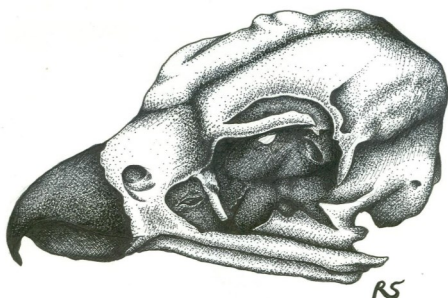
"I'm going on a cruise to Mexico to visit ancient ruins and go scuba diving." –Tricia Carey '17

"My family is going to Chicago, and we are going to the American Girl store for brunch. Then we're heading to the aquarium and the children's museum. It's my last opportunity to be a child." –Alex Jones '16

"Going to Spain with my mom this summer." –Nora Dooley '16

- Alena Chulick

Featured Art



- Rebecca Sommer.

Blast From the Past: R-K Uniforms Over the Years



Rosati-Kain has a long history, and a lot has changed over its 100 years. While much remains the same – Rosati’s values, city location, and personality – one of the most visible changes is in the uniform worn by R-K girls since the school’s founding.

When R-K began in 1912, girls had no uniform or dress code. Simple dresses were worn in the style of the day, frequently with large hairbows, sailor-style ties, and lace-up boots. The requirement of a uniform began in 1915, when girls had to wear a middy blouse (a shirt similar to those worn by sailors) secured with a scarf-style tie. The blouse was worn with a navy skirt and hated by the girls, who were bitter about changing from their own clothes to the plain uniform ensembles.

As times changed, so did fashion, and Rosati’s uniforms morphed to fit the style of the times. In the 1920s, hems grew shorter and petal-collared blouses were adopted along with bobbed hair. During this time a system of ties was created: the color red was designated for freshmen, light blue for sophomores, dark blue for juniors, and black for seniors. In 1924, R-K introduced gym classes, and the girls’ gym uniforms were bloomers with a smock top. During the 1930s the gym

uniform changed to green jumpers. In the 1940s the girls wore Peter Pan-collared blouses with knee-length, fitted skirts.



This decade marked a change in the colors of the ties: green for “freshies,” red for sophomores, light blue for juniors, and coveted black for seniors. These ties were strips of satin or velvet secured to the collar of every girl’s school blouse with a straight pin. Girls endured the pins but upon their exit from the school building, girls removed their ties and stuffed them into their purses. After all, girls who took the bus did not want the McBride boys to know that they were only lowly underclassmen. The tradition of removing ties excluded seniors, who had suffered for three years to obtain their black ties and therefore kept them on as long as possible.

In the 1950s skirts became longer and looser, and girls sometimes wore

high heels to school. More popular shoe options included brogues, saddle shoes, and penny loafers, while sneaker remained a “must” for gym class. Letter sweaters adorned with medals and pins were in fashion along with oxford blouses. Girls continued to wear white and navy into the 1960s.



In 1970 the tradition of ties was abolished, and in 1973 the enforced uniform was removed from Rosati. A dress code was installed that allowed students to wear any navy skirt or pants with any shirt, provided that the shirt had a collar. In the 1980s girls liked to accessorize with layered sweaters the popular “preppy” style of the time. Some students just wore polos and sweatshirts, but sweatshirts from other high school were forbidden. The 1990s was a continuation of this dress code with the addition of khaki bottoms.

The year 2003 marked a very important change to the R-K uniform – the inclusion of the plaid skirt and polo combination. The skirt’s introduction was spearheaded by students and was slightly controversial, as girls worried that it would rob students of their individuality. The plaid skirt remains the most popular uniform option around school.

- Ellie Hoerner

Special thanks to Mrs. Guidici

Class of 1942

A few Occasional reporters talked with Helen Guentel, R-K '42 to talk about her Rosati experience. We have included the highlights of the interview.

"How did you feel walking into Rosati on your first day of freshman year?"

"I was kind of enthusiastic, I really was. Because I came with 4 of my classmates, and I wound up in one class with one of my classmates, so we weren't totally alone. We were kind of ga-ga over the whole place. We took a street car to get here, so that was nice. I enjoyed it. During

summer vacation I always looked forward to going back in September. I thought it was a nice social activity!"

"What about R-K is the same?"

"Well, the outside of the building is the same. But I don't think you have anything left. Our home ec was a little building outside, and our physics lab was outside."

"They always referred to the bathrooms as the "lavatories." They had two entrances, one on the side and one in the front. If the Sister was coming to check something in one door, the kids would all pour out the other one! The nun would come down and there wasn't anybody in there!"

"What is your favorite memory from your time at Rosati?"

"I know you won't believe this, is when one of my classmates, when we had study period on the first floor, wanted to go skating at the Winter Garden. She wanted to get an early start, and it was our last class, so she raised one of the windows and went out the window. Everybody told her "Bye, bye, good luck!" And she made it, and nobody ever knew except our class that she went out the window. You'll be happy to know that she later became a Notre Dame nun!"

- Alena Chulick

"Best Day of My Life"



The RKpellas, one of the most recent additions to Rosati-Kain's long list of clubs, is the school's new a cappella group. The group was formed in early January and has grown immensely thanks to the hard work of its wonderful leaders and talented members. The RKpellas recently participated in the first annual CBC A Cappella Festival, which took place at CBC High School and also included groups from St. Louis University, COCA, Grand Center Arts Academy, and CBC.

Ms. Hardy, the club's faculty moderator,, says that she created the group because she "wanted to give freshmen who were interested in singing other opportunities besides freshman chorus."

Because the club is open to R-K students of all grades and levels of musical experience, it gives freshmen and students not enrolled in chorus classes opportunities to practice and perform with girls of different abilities, interests, and grade levels. In fact, Ms. Hardy says that her favorite part of being the club's moderator has been "seeing the freshmen really enjoy singing." Grace Shortall, a senior who functions as the group's president, helped Ms. Hardy found the RKpellas. Grace, who has a "passion for a cappella music," says that she knew she wanted to help with the group as soon as she heard it was a possibility back in December. The club's creation has not been easy -- she

says that hardest part of getting the group up and running was "making sure that everyone who's interested in it has the opportunity to be a part of it, because it's hard to work around every busy Rosati girl's schedule."

Freshman Alex Rollins says that she joined the RKpellas because she likes singing and she thinks a cappella music is "really cool." Morgan Schindler, also a freshman, says that, so far, her favorite part of being a member of RKpellas was hanging out before the CBC A Cappella Festival and getting to spend time with other RKpellas members. Alex says that she really enjoys being a part of the RKpellas and that the club should continue next year. Morgan says "it's a lot of fun, and it's a really cool club to join."

The RKpellas meet every Tuesday and Thursday after school to work on their songs as well as learn new vocal warm-ups and singing techniques. The group's performance songs include "Best Day of My Life," "Royals," and "Rather Be." The club's members look forward to performing for the R-K community at the Spring Concerts and are excited to showcase all the practice and hard work that continue to go into making RKpellas a success.

- Ellie Hoerner