

# The Pilot

Fall 2015

*The mission of Roncalli High School is to educate in the Catholic traditions of spiritual growth, life-long service, and academic excellence.*



“School Spirit” by Alex Konop

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Emese Roza Gyiran (Mesi): . Two things that I enjoy at Roncalli are Psychology and Mr. Waak's candy. The people here are very friendly, they smile a lot and always greet everyone. I have become more open here.



Jiaxin Jiang (Sunny): The class schedule here is nice because it does not give a lot of pressure, and I can join the sports that I would like to. I became more casual, but organized. I like how well Americans get along with each other.



Shiduo Li (Neal): My favorite thing about Roncalli is that it is small. I enjoy band here and I also like to play guitar in my free time.



Lukrecija Jakelyte (Luka): My favorite thing about Roncalli is its atmosphere. It really feels like home, especially when you leave school at 7 pm. It is small so you meet everyone, and people know each other. The school is really a nice community. What is more we have the coolest and best principal I have ever seen.

# International Students



Yicum Zhang (Kim): Roncalli is a really nice high school. My favorite part of the school would be the students and teachers here. Roncalli students are friendly and helpful and the teachers are kind and always give help when you need it.



Youming Zhang (Victor): My favorite thing about Roncalli is that we have lots of activities. I also really like the math class. Everyone here is really busy and happy.



Siyuan Chen (Chen): My favorite thing about Roncalli is that it has a small campus. In China I had a class of 500 students. My favorite subject at Roncalli is computer architecture.



By : Michaela Klein  
and Anna Gottshall

# Fresh Starts and New Beginnings

Anywhere you go, the first week of school is always a huge adjustment for many students. For the sophomores, juniors, and seniors here at Roncalli, the transition isn't as drastic as it is for the incoming freshmen and new students. Luckily, the freshmen got acquainted with the school and their schedules with an extended orientation day. They were able to go through their classes, eat lunch, and play some ice-breaker style games with their new classmates to start off their 4 year journey at Roncalli. For everyone else, the year began in a similar fashion, with students determined to start off strong.

This year's freshman class consists of students from 8 area schools, all the way from St. Mary's in Algoma to St. Francis of Assisi in Manitowoc. From these classes, 29 students are boys and 35 are girls, giving the class of 2019 a grand total of 64 students. The feeder schools are: St. Francis of Assisi, St. Peter the Fisherman, Holy Rosary, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, St. Mary/St. Michael, Divine Savior, St. Mary, and various local public and home schools.

To start off such a journey as high school, with many new faces, as well as a new environment, the freshmen and new students at Roncalli had to make many adjustments. "One thing that I definitely had to adjust to is how fast paced everything is compared to middle school. Also, the high school teachers are not as tolerant as middle school teachers...you can not get away with stuff as much as you could in middle school," says Thomas Taddy, a freshman hailing from St. Peter the Fisherman. In addition to these adjustments, the freshman from out of town have to deal with traveling to and from school everyday. "Having to get up early to ride to and from school is pretty hectic. I don't have much time to do really anything at home, so I have to work hard to get almost all my homework done at school. This is very different from grade school because I only live 10 minutes away from St. Mary's. However, even though I'm usually really tired at school, I don't always mind waking up early and getting home late because Roncalli and the people who go here are worth it," says freshman Emily Guillete.

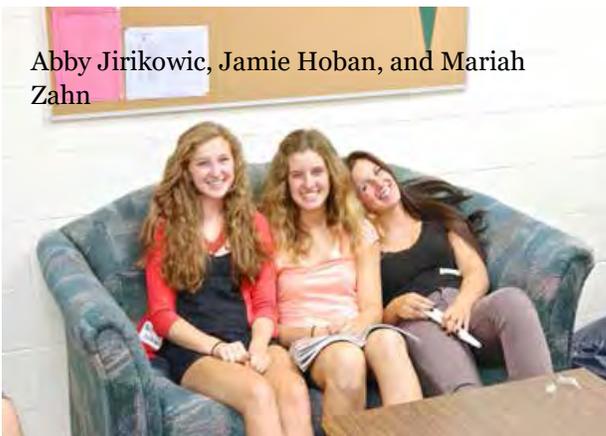
If you ask any senior, like myself, the transition from junior to senior year was nearly seamless. The first week of school is one of routine at this point, but nonetheless, it is still huge. Riley Wetenkamp says, "What made my first week of senior year different than the others was knowing that there were going to be so many lasts this year. High school really does go by fast, so cherish every moment of it!"

Regardless of class and place in the high school journey, the students of Roncalli gathered for the first day of school on August 25. The place was hectic as always, with people trying to find classrooms, getting use to their new schedules, and running to sports events and practices. According to Mr. Olson, he feels that we've taken this fast start, and used it to our advantage. "The first week of school often sets the tone for the rest of the year. This year opened very well. We were particularly impressed with our seniors who welcomed the freshmen class. They did an outstanding job of helping our newest students acclimate themselves and incorporate themselves into our community. That mature leadership continues to be evidenced in the classrooms, in activities, and in the daily life of the school. If the first month of school is an indicator of how our year will progress we can all look forward to a memorable 2015- 16."



Megan and Thomas Taddy

Abby Jirikowic, Jamie Hoban, and Mariah Zahn



Sophomore girls gather for a picture at Orientation

# All in the Family!

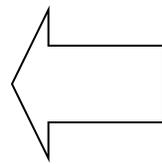
It seems that almost every year there are seniors who have siblings entering their first year of high school here at Roncalli. See if you can match the incoming freshman with their senior sibling!



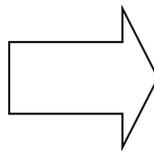
Answers: Clara & Emma, Aaron & Tanna, Alicia & Raven, Nathan & Dan, David & Josh, Isabel & Christine, McKenzie & Chombi, Ian & Tomerot, Nicole & Jake, Matt & Zach



Freshmen



Seniors



# 50 years of Roncalli

## July 17-18: Roncalli Rocks

On July 17-18, 2015 Roncalli hosted its annual summer show. It was called "A Road Trip Through The Decades." The show covered several decades from the 70's through the present. Many alumni returned to Roncalli and thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to perform once again in the Zimmer Auditorium.



## September 8: The First Day

On September 8, 2015 Roncalli hosted an assembly for on the anniversary of first day of school for the class of 1969. Many teachers and students from opening day of 1969 came back to celebrate this milestone in Roncalli High School history!



## September 12: Cross Country Invitational

The Sue Schneider Schmitt Invitational is in recognition and appreciation for Sue's dedication, faith, and the ability to motivate and guide young people for 5 decades.



## October 2: Homecoming

On October 2, 2015 the Roncalli Jets played the Two Rivers Raiders for their annual homecoming game. Roncalli hosted a tailgate party, which included a smelt fry at Municipal Field. At the tailgate party Mr. Stelzer hosted a trivia contest. During halftime of the football game, the school recognized members of the State Championship Football Teams.



## December 5: Kersten Court Dedication

On December 5, 2015 the Roncalli's new gym floor will be dedicated to the first Athletic Director and Coach Jim Kersten. The gym was renovated after 50 years of use. During the gym renovation the bleachers, floor, and scoreboards were replaced. The gym is used for many different events including volleyball, basketball, and auctions.





1. What year was the first Homecoming?
2. What year did the Fine Arts Center open?
3. Who was the first Principal?
4. What company prints the Pilot Magazine?
5. When was the first day of school in 1965?
6. What was the name of the first school newspaper?
7. How much money did Roncalli raise during its 2014-15 mission collection?
8. This year marked how many years for the Roncalli Cross Country Invite?
9. What was the 2015 Fall Play?
10. Who was the first Roncalli Athletic Director?

Answers: 1. 1969, 2. 2002, 3. Brother Cyril Litecky, 4. Fricke Printing, 5. September 7, 6. The Torch, 7. \$5,368.52, 8. 48, 9. Mouse Trap, 10. Jim Kersten

# Equestrians at Roncalli

Several Roncalli students are involved in horseback riding. Here are their stories.

Mary Marchlewski owns and rides her horse at Forward Farm. The discipline that she rides is called Saddle seat. Her horse's name is Sebastian, and he is a four year old chestnut American Saddlebred. Mary shows Sebastian in the summer, and his registered show name is Hands in the Heir.



Beth Check rides Western and trail rides. She leases a dun paint horse named Cody. She rides on trails near Highway 10 and in Cody's pasture.

Ashley Anhalt rides Western. She owns a chestnut paint named Diana. Ashley rides at her house.





Katie Rotter takes horseback riding lessons at Ots Sunrise Farm and rides the discipline of Dressage. She rides Denero, a bay (brown body with black legs, mane, and tail) Arabian, Spirit, a gray Welsh, and Bea, a black Friesian.

Ashlyn Christel rides Western and trail rides as well. She owns a sorrel paint horse named Iowa. She rides on her property and trails near Highway 10.



Alex Konop rides English. She takes lessons at Forward Farm and rides at her neighbor's house. She rides various horses for lessons but also rides Bo, her neighbor's pony. Bo is a chestnut Morgan pony.

Natalie Weyers rides Hunt seat and Western. She owns a red roan Appaloosa named Ell. Ell's registered show name is Mission For Success. Natalie shows her horse all over the U.S., but she also rides at her house and her trainer's facility.



Written by Mary Marchlewski

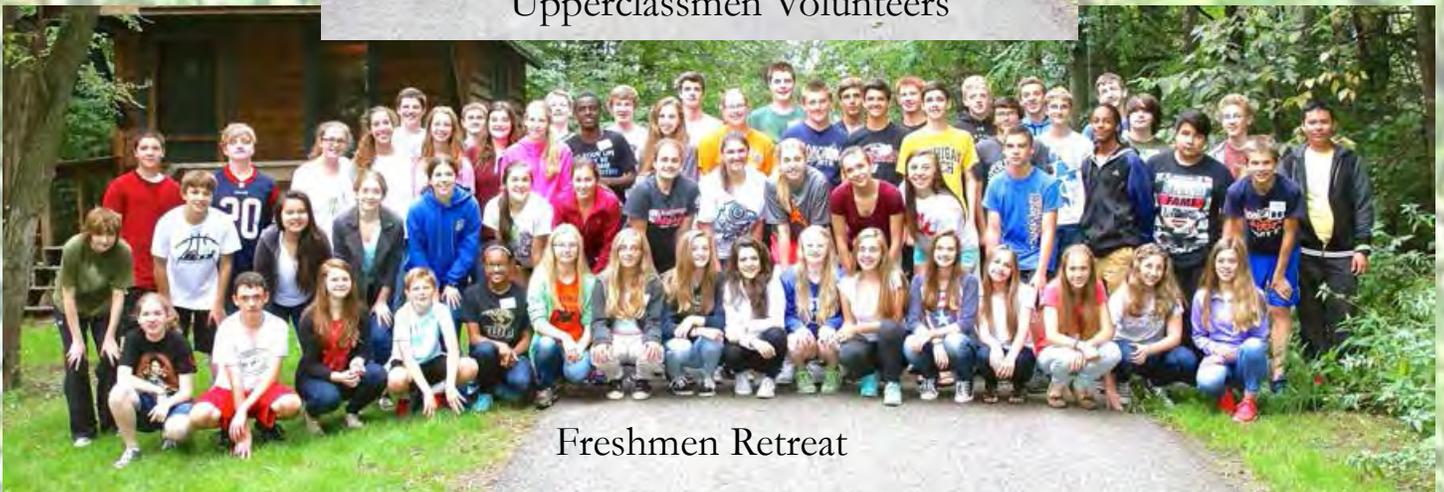
# Retreats

Retreats have played a crucial role in one's Christian faith ever since the time of Christ Himself. Scripture recalls times of Jesus "retreating" to pray alone and spend time with His Father in prayer (Luke 5:16), so it seems natural that we, as followers of Christ, would do the same thing. Going on a retreat provides an opportunity- an opportunity to detox from a world of distraction and confusion, and spend time in community and prayer. God is a God of encounter- He wants to connect with and make Himself known to us. Retreats are a fantastic opportunity to love God, and let yourself be loved by God. The heart of the Gospel and of Christianity is that our God is deeply in love with us, and taking the time to retreat to be with Him is of immeasurable value to one's faith life.

-Mr. Geiger



Upperclassmen Volunteers



Freshmen Retreat



By: Elizabeth Tulachka

# The Mousetrap



My love affair with Agatha Christie began in high school. I'm constantly scouring second-hand bookstores for well worn copies bearing that well known name. Obviously, I am not alone in my admiration; she is the world's best-selling mystery writer, after all. Much of the attraction of Ms. Christie's writing is that it is not only clever, it is very human. Her characters are wonderfully flawed: they are sometimes foolish, jealous, or cruel, but even the villains are never solely defined by these traits. They are complex, and as such, they are relatable. Maybe it's this quality that has led to the success of "The Mousetrap", the longest running play in theatre. Since its initial performance in 1952, it has continuously run. The play's run is almost four times longer than the average age of those performing it tonight. Not too shabby, Ms. Christie...

-Miss Green



Written by: Matthew Pawlowski



Matt Massimo



Hope Gentile



Christian Bradley



Julia Platteter



Zach LeVene



Ethan Peters



Ryan Roethle



Anna Gottshall



The Cast



# Homecoming



We can all agree homecoming was a blast! Especially with starting the week off right with 'Mack Monday'. Many of the students participated in wearing flowered Hawaiian shirts along with captivating flower leis. On Tuesday, you could spot many of the student body supporting their school and showing their spirit by wearing their navy and Columbia blues with the theme of 'school spirit'. Wednesday was 'team sports wear', along with casual wear. After lunch, several teachers participated in judging the hallway decorations, resulting in a win for the junior class. Additionally, the band toured St. Francis of Assisi Middle and Elementary in Manitowoc, and Holy Rosary in Kewanee. Later in the afternoon, classes proceeded outside to the soccer field where the four class teams for volleyball competed. Between games, we were entertained with an excellent performance of the guy-girl routine, along with the procession of the homecoming court. Thursday was the day to show off your class colors. Freshman wore their outgoing orange, sophomores in their ravishing red, juniors in gorgeous green, and finally the seniors traditionally in their beautiful bubbly blue. On Thursday students also participated in the survival games, consisting of six main events. With the highest resulting score, the Seniors rushed the court to celebrate their win. Finally Friday came, and students showed up to school looking their finest to celebrate mass with Bishop Ricken. Later that night was the Homecoming football game against the Two River Raiders. The Roncalli dance team performed with many younger girls, who participated in a poms clinic earlier that week, to the song 'Drag Me Down' by One Direction. The Roncalli marching band performed during halftime with their field show to music by My Chemical Romance. Despite the unfortunate loss of the game, the homecoming activities and events were very enjoyable. The homecoming dance on Saturday night was well attended and a great time was had by all.



# THE DANCE

By: Michelle Wilson and Marcella Van Eyck



# Student Fans of Roncalli

Written by: Garrett Gleichner &  
Justin Polzin

What does being a fan mean to you? To some, it's the love of the game they are watching, a certain team, or a specific athlete. To others, it may be the drama and thrill of the game that makes them love being a fan. Here at Roncalli High School every student who comes to sports events has a lot of passion. Our fan base, some have said, is the best in the area when it comes to supporting our Jets. Whether it's at Ron Rubick Field for a Friday night football game or in the gym for a volleyball or basketball game, our fans are loud and ready to cheer.



We sat down with senior Zach Schneider and junior Kate Patek for an interview about the fans and their experiences at games.

## **To you, what does it mean to be a fan and be part of the student section?**

**Zach:** It means a lot. Roncalli is like a second home to me and I am proud to support my school. The student section for sports events at Roncalli is easily the best in Manitowoc and the conference. It is a great community of friends that enjoy cheering for and representing our school.

**Kate:** You get to cheer with your classmates and have fun while watching the game together.

## **What's the difference between growing up as a spectator in the adult section with your parents and now being a voice in the student section?**

**Zach:** I get a lot more excited and it is a lot more fun to be with your friends. It is a great feeling to be able to enjoy an event with your closest friends.

**Kate:** The games are way more intense in the student section.



**What is the atmosphere like when you walk into the stadium/high school for a big game?**

**Zach:** It is the best feeling ever. The atmosphere is insane. Some of the greatest memories I have are because of the excitement the student section fills the room with.

**Kate:** Everyone is very excited and hyped up for the game. You can feel it in the air.



**What's your most memorable moment as a fan here at Roncalli?**

**Zach:** My most memorable moment is a play in the fourth quarter of last year's basketball playoff game against Wrightstown. It was said to be the loudest the gym has ever gotten at any point during a Roncalli sports event. I felt honored to be in that moment with so many of my closest peers.

**Kate:** 2 years ago, in Watertown for the Level 4 playoff football game against Platteville.

**What is your favorite theme for games?**

**Zach:** The best theme is white out. It looks so cool looking at a sea of white in the crowd.

**Kate:** Neon, because it's so bright and looks cool when the students are together.



Being athletes, having a student section is huge. It creates a lot of energy for us players, especially in big games. The team transitions the energy from the crowd and students into how they play and perform. Without the students the games would be quiet and the team wouldn't get fired up. Some of the favorite chants are "Lets Go Jets", "I Believe", and the famous roller coaster where there is one student that directs the rest of the students that act like they are on a huge roller coaster.

One of the best memories of being a fan was when the boys basketball team made it to the semi-finals during the 2013 –2014 season when the whole Kohl Center was filled with screaming fans and just a lot of good memories. The fans of Roncalli do so much for the athletes that play.

# The Pilot Through the Years

**2009**

The first issue of *The Pilot* was distributed in October 2009 as a Senior Project for Meaghan Kulas and Cassie Johnston. Artwork and articles from eight students were included. Mr. Berkhout was the advisor of the project.

**2010**

The *Pilot* was continued the following year as another Senior Project, this time for Sarah Olson and Carly Braun.

**2011**

Mr. Berkhout and Mr. Stelzer wanted *The Pilot* to continue, and 5 sophomores, Ben Wichlacz, Spencer Fricke, Katy Orth, Sarah Wagner and Rachel Baetke, were selected as the first *Pilot* staff members. Mrs. Paula Wichlacz was added as an advisor.

**2012**

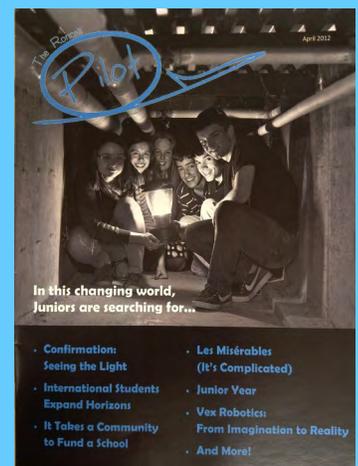
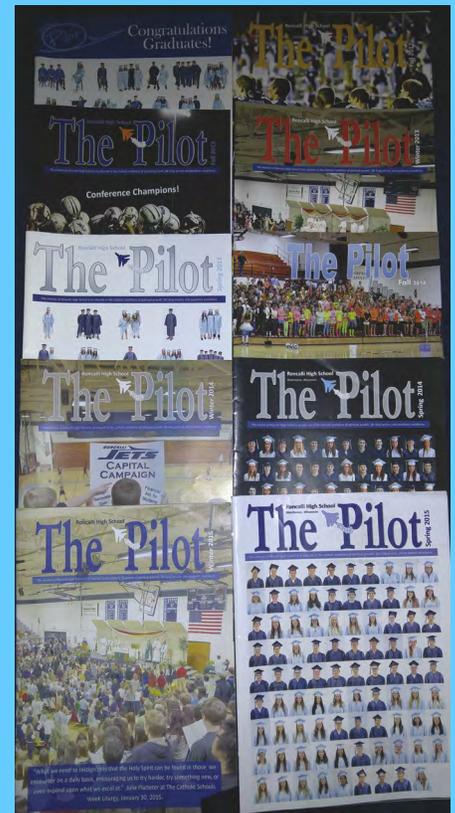
The number of issues per year was changed from four to three but the amount of pages per issue was changed from 16 to 20.

**2014**

*The Pilot* staff grew each year and in 2014 the original 5 staff members graduated. Mrs. Wichlacz left the staff in the summer of 2014 when she and her family moved to Florida.

**Today**

*The Pilot* staff has grown to more than a dozen members, and continues to evolve creatively with every issue. With the help and advisement from Mr. Berkhout, Mrs. Rohrer, and Mr. Stelzer, pictures from Mrs. Schrimpf, and the generous printing services of Mr. Bill Fricke at Fricke Printing, the *Pilot* has been able, and continues to publish creative articles that extend not only throughout the Roncalli community but beyond as well.

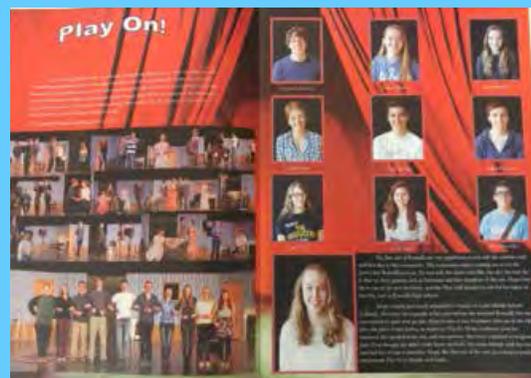
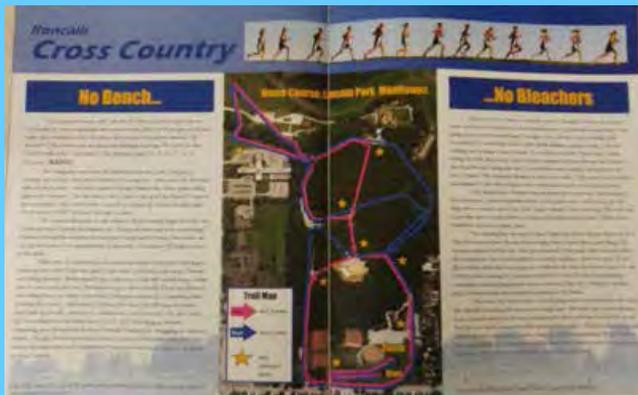
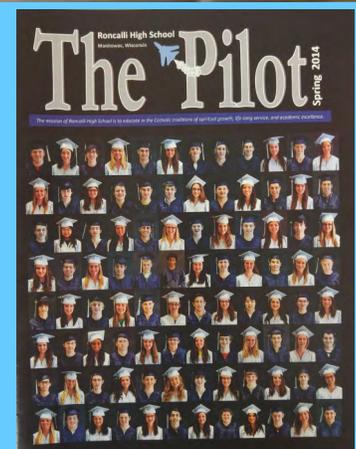


By: Zachary LeVene

# The Pilot Then, Now, and Everything in Between

## Favorite Articles:

- “My favorite articles are the ones where students share their faith. This is what I believe makes a Roncalli education special.” -Mr. Stelzer
- “I enjoy the spring issue in which we include a photo of each senior in cap and gown. That started around 3 years ago and has now become a tradition. I also enjoy any article that really expresses the writer’s creativity. That’s really the purpose of *The Pilot* after all.” -Mr. Berkhout
- “There are so many [articles] I really liked. Some were interesting in their simplicity, like the lunch article [from Fall 2012]. The cross country article that contrasted the runner’s experience with the spectator’s experience was fun. The articles about performances on stage and behind-the-scenes were full of inside jokes and terrific photos. And the sports articles always had lots of heart. I think in the end, each issue offered everyone something to like.” -Mrs. Wichlacz



## Thank You!

Thank you to all past and present *Pilot* contributors! Notably, thank you to Mr. Berkhout for your help, support, pictures, and advice, Mrs. Wichlacz for your years of guidance to the staff, Mrs. Rohrer for your proofreading skills and literary knowledge, Mr. Stelzer for your contributions to publicity and refinement, Mrs. Schrimpf for your photos, Mr. Fricke for generously printing each issue for free, and the entire staff both past and present for your great articles and creative expressions through the years. Thank you everyone who has played a part in putting *The Pilot* together and making it into the huge success that it has been and continues to be!

## Fall 2015 Pilot Contributors:



“It has been a great journey: 5 appearances in state championship games, coaching two all star games, invitations to the NFL Hall of Fame and the Olympic training center in Colorado Springs and all sorts of honors. All of that is great but the greatest honor for me has been to coach these young men. Every day, I walk through the locker room and look in their eyes as they put on the gear to get ready for practice or a game and I can see their excitement, their dreams, their passion. That is what motivates me. I want them to fulfill their dreams and I want them to succeed and so I have put my heart and soul into coaching for 40 years to teach these young men to continue to have dreams and always strive for success.”

Go Jets,  
Coach Ray

