

R-K Teacher receives Archdiocesan Teaching Award

Rosati-Kain High School biology teacher Donna Scott has been selected to receive the Archbishop Raymond L. Burke Teacher Recognition Award, which honors individual teachers for their service and performance in Catholic elementary and secondary schools. Recipients of this award are full-time employees of a Catholic school, have taught a minimum of three years in a Catholic school and have the support and endorsement of the school's principal. Additionally, recipients have utilized effective teaching strategies that focus on individual student learning and development. Donna Scott is the sole secondary school teacher to receive this award, and was chosen by a group of Catholic secondary school principals. She will be honored at a special reception in May, along with eight other educators.

"We're very excited that Mrs. Donna Scott is receiving this recognition," said Principal Judy Mohan. "And we're glad that she's using her



Great Scott: R-K Biology teacher Donna Scott has taught at R-K since 2003.

award-winning teaching skills here at Rosati!" Scott has been at R-K since 2003, where she's taught Biology 1 and Biology 2. In 2005, the Biology 2 was designated an AP course. Of her teaching philosophy, Scott notes "I believe in cooperative education. I tend to remember things better when I've discussed a topic with someone, rather than hearing a lecture about it, and so I try to incorporate that idea in my classroom." "Sometimes, students have a way of

explaining science concepts to each other in terms they can understand better than the terms I use. I also use stories and analogies to tie science concepts to things with which they are already familiar. If I can use a story that incorporates my students, so much the better. I believe homework and repetition are important in the learning process. Experts say the average learner needs to hear something about 10 or 12 times before it is learned - and the trick is to find different ways to have the repetition without the boredom!"

On receiving the award, Scott was excited and surprised. She notes that "the Archdiocese has lots of very good teachers, and being chosen is an honor I love my students, and I enjoy sharing Biology with them. The teachers with whom I work help make me a better teacher, and as I walk around the corner from the parking lot to the school doors every morning, I really do count my blessings to be doing a job I love here at R-K."