

The

Skirmisher

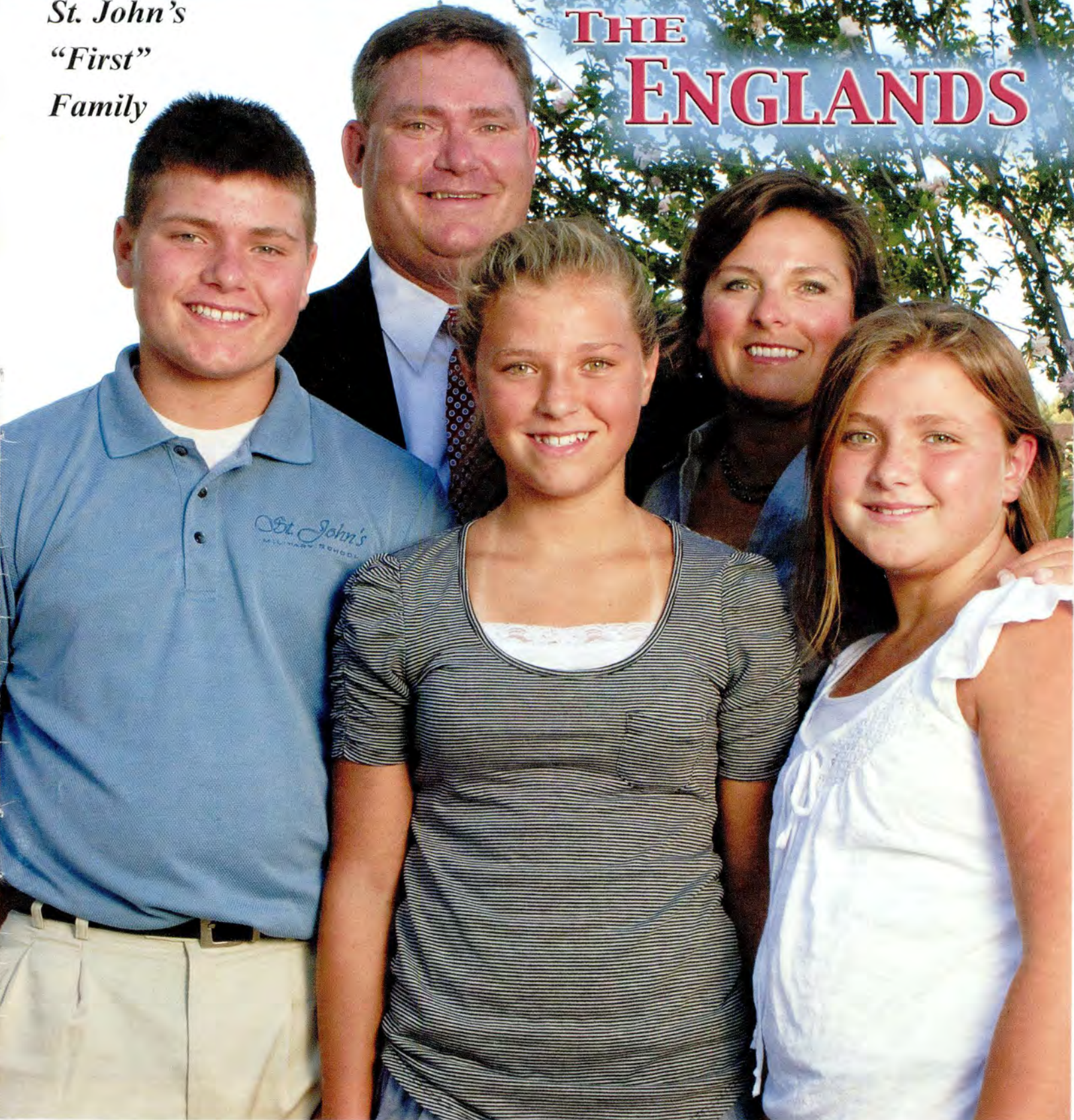
Fall 2010

Volume XCII No. 1

St. John's Military School

*St. John's
"First"
Family*

**THE
ENGLANDS**



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The Skirmisher

is published three times a year for alumni, parents, students and friends of

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Cover Photo by Justin Sperry

Enrollment



Not since, 1964, when Vail Hall was still standing, have so many young men worn the SJMS uniform!

- The pews of Armstrong Chapel are filled to capacity
- All the beds are occupied
- Tables in the mess hall are filled to their limit
- Squad leaders have full rosters
- The sports teams have room for substitutions
- Officers stay very busy

New staff have been added in both the military and academic departments. Marching in formation, the large battalion looks very impressive!

At St. John's...Life is Full!





SJMS Parents Association

What a great beginning to the 123rd Corps of Cadets!!! Leadership/Sports Camp was a huge success with over 127

cadets coming back early to learn leadership skills and begin their sports training. Some SJMS Parents Association members were at school a couple of weeks after school started and were impressed that even with 200 cadets on campus there was already a sense of camaraderie and order. What a tribute to the leadership of the school, as well as the corps!

Many "New Boys" have made it through their rigorous schedule and training, passed their tests, and graduated to "Old Boy" status. The sense of accomplishment is evident in the pictures of their smiling faces in the school's weekly newsletters. Congratulations to the families who now feel the pride of their sons' successfully accomplishing "Old Boy" status. These young men will enjoy that title for the rest of their lives.

The SJMS Parents Association is as strong as ever this year. The board members have spoken with many of the "New Boy" parents and have received many heartwarming thank you notes and e-mails. Always remember, we

are a resource for you and your cadet. If there is anything you need, even if it's just an ear, please give us a call. We have all been where you are and often can provide insight, support and comfort.

Our first class in our "Life 101" series was a HUGE success. The class, entitled "Responsibilities," touched on several topics including drinking and driving, riding in a car with someone who has been drinking or smoking pot, and texting while driving. We held two classes with 30 cadets in each session, and we had a waiting list. The kids had a blast, learned a lot, and overwhelmingly said the class helped them understand the impact of driving impaired or while distracted. A quote from one



cadet: "Mom, how in the heck could anyone text and drive?" Mission accomplished!

Watch for our next newsletter coming in November! We are including articles on:

- the hierarchy of the corps, such as how many companies there are, who runs each company, and which cadets are in the various companies

- the cadets' accomplishments
- AMS (Advanced Military Skills)
- results of the first-ever Raider Challenge
- Career Day. Planned for February 2011,

Career Day will encourage the high school cadets to learn about a variety of occupations and what education/experience is needed to become employed in those fields.

We are excited about the Cadets' progress, the increased emphasis on academics, the seamless nature in which the school is operating, and the wonderful activities planned. The boys are so advanced in their training after only a short period of time. It's going to be a great year!

Sara Cline

Gavin Covey straps into the go cart which, when driven wearing special goggles mimics the effects of impaired driving. Christian Marquez awaits his turn.



Kansas University Honors Top Scholars in Area High Schools

Enoch Lau, Gary Stone and Nuoya Wu were honored as Kansas Scholars for achieving the top three GPA's at SJMS. Presenting the cadets at the dinner held at the Salina Country Club was E. Andrew England, President of St. John's. Astronaut Steven Hawley, Professor of Physics at Kansas University spoke to the students being honored for their academic achievements. Liz Duckers dined and visited with the cadets during the banquet and mentioned how "sharp the cadets looked in their uniforms!" *Pictured below:* E. Andrew England, Enoch Lau, Steve Hawley, Nuoya Wu and Gary Stone.



E. Andrew England

18th President



E. Andrew England is no stranger to the SJMS campus or military protocol. Raised in Virginia he followed in the footsteps of his Father, attending Virginia Military Institute (VMI). While at VMI he played Rugby, held leadership positions and upon graduation commissioned as a 2LT, serving in the United States Army stationed in Ft. Riley, Kansas for four years.

England's association with St. John's began when he joined the Board of Trustees in 2003. Serving on the board at St. John's and serving in the military provided England with all the tools needed to run a Military School in the 21st century. England is young enough to make a long term commitment to the school and plans to be "in this for the long haul." Evidence exists on many levels that he will be a positive and dynamic leader. Already familiar with the Cadets by name, his leadership style has been one of personal involvement exhibiting a stern but caring demeanor.

Cadets know that he is watching them, both for the bad judgements they sometimes display and for the good they do. When addressing the Corps on the occasion of Lt Gen Richard Seitz's visit

to campus England proclaimed "It gives me great pride to be associated with such a fine group of young men." 🇺🇸

England takes time to answer questions about the school and his first few months in office!

What surprises have you had since beginning your Presidency?

One of the bigger lessons of my young presidency is that I should never be surprised by our Cadets stories and the things that they do. With the population of teenage boys we have, nothing is off limits. It is forcing me to observe, consider, then react. It has been a real challenge to understand that the boys we have come from backgrounds that I don't completely understand. I grew up in a family that loved and supported unconditionally. Most of our boys have lacked this; and I am learning to listen, empathize, and evaluate how we can begin to fill that void and provide a jumping off place for future success.

How have your first few months in office impacted your opinion of the school?

After five months in office, my opinion of the school has not changed a great deal. What has changed is my regard for those who work here. Part of the reason I took the job was the dedication I saw in the SJMS staff, but I don't think I properly understood the breadth and depth of their commitment to the Cadets. It is awesome to watch and a privilege to be a part of.

With the school's opening enrollment being so high, what does that mean for the future of the school?

Our enrollment success will allow us to become more focused on the programs and activities that will enrich the lives of the Cadets that attend SJMS. We have to develop the strategies that will sustain our enrollment and a big part of that will be retention. If we can offer the extracurricular activities, athletics, academics, and other programs that keep Cadets engaged and enthused, we will keep them coming back. I also sense a real need to help our boys in their preparations to leave SJMS after graduation. We need to develop ways to prepare them to leave the support that we have provided and enable them to be self-reliant and focused on sustaining success. 🇺🇸

First Family... Arrives



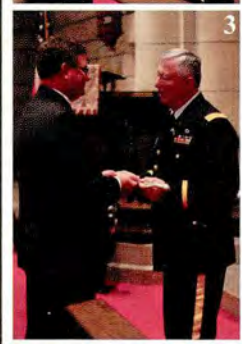
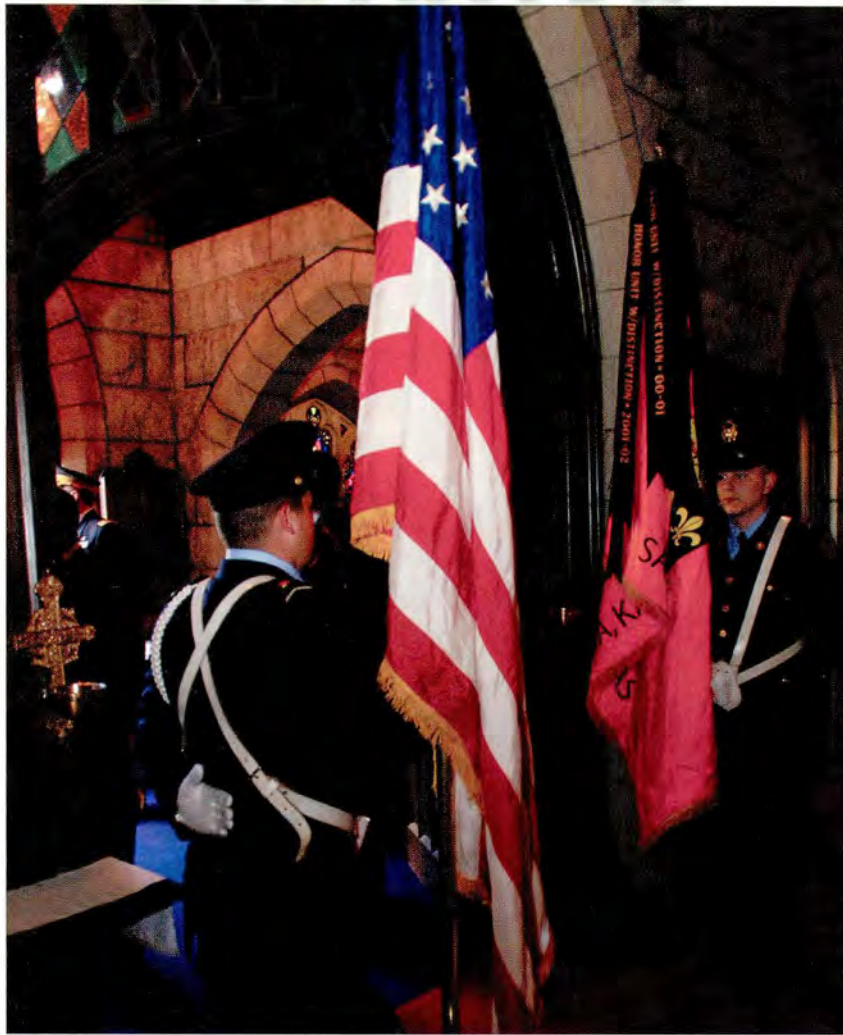
The England Family

From left: Katy, Grant 14, Kegan 12, Mary 10 and President England

The England's settled into their new home shortly after Fall Parents' Weekend. There haven't been children in the President's residence since the Duckers years and already the campus has transcended into a place where the joyful laughter of children at play resounds, and the family atmosphere is clearly evident. Even though Grant, Kegan and Mary stay busy with school activities and sports they still manage to find time to interact with Cadets and children on campus. First Lady, Katy England, an artist by profession, has plans to infuse Cadets into the Salina Arts community with field trips to the Salina Art Center (SAC), the SAC Cinema and Kansas Wesleyan University's gallery talks. Mrs. England is a docent at the SAC, and a visiting artist in USD 305 through the Salina Arts and Humanities Arts Infusion project. She helps students design and paint murals and has plans to have Cadets paint a mural in Linger Hall. Ozzy, the families' rescued black lab is slowly growing accustomed to the rambunctious Cadets and brings smiles to the faces of everyone he meets. The England years have begun. 🇺🇸

Welcome to the neighborhood!

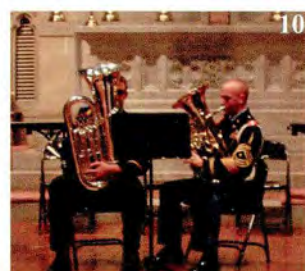
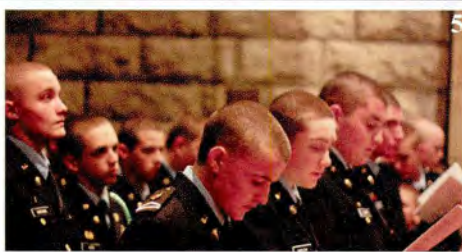
President... *Installed*



The Installation of E. Andrew England as President of St. John's Military School took place at Christ Cathedral, The Episcopal Cathedral of Western Kansas. Family here to support the Englands were; Andy's parents, Charles and Barbara England, his grandmother Novella Hatcher, his sister, Amy Burton and his brother, Chip England - Katy's parents, Norm and Kristy Yenkey, Katy's sister and husband Mari and Dr. Darrel Loder and her sister and husband Dr. Callie and Chris Rost.

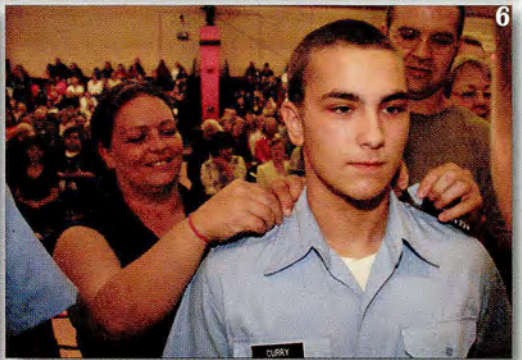
The service of Installation consisted of *Evensong* and a celebration of New Ministry. Cadets served as ushers, color guard and honor guard. Merrell Nelson, SJMS Choir director and organist composed a special work entitled, *Presidential Fanfare*, performed by the SJMS brass with Nelson on pipe organ.

1.) D. Dale Browning assisted by Gary Stone, presented England with the SJMS History Book as "a portal to the past and a window to the future!" 2.) Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Harry Smith, presented England the school colors "representing the corps values and unity of the school." 3.) MAJ George Stelljes presented England the Sabre as "a symbol of his position of authority." Max Brooks (not pictured) presented the keys to the school so that "the doors of SJMS will remain open to all who are called to attend!" The Chaplain (not pictured) presented England the Book of Common Prayer designating England as "a man of prayer among the Corps as they worship and pray." 4.) Bailey Wilton sings "You Raise Me Up" after the *Evensong* portion of the ceremony 5.) John Watkins, Jeff Sapp, Mark Shyba, Aaron Marlow, Garrett Schupp and Brian Strong follow along during the service. 6.) Colton Adkins peaks around Alexander Connors and Brian Strong while Chritopher Gerdes and Eddie Bean glance towards the camera. 7.) The Battalion Staff presides over the service near the choir loft. 8.) The Book of Common Prayer, School Flag, Sabre, keys to the school and Book of History are displayed on the table before the ceremony. 9.) The Honor Guard forms outside the Cathedral. 10.) Greg Saville and Patrick Harden perform following the service.



Parents Weekend *in pictures*

October 7, 8, 9 & 10



1.) Brandon Becker, Color Guard Commander, renders honors to the national colors. 2.) President England congratulates Alexander Bresse on becoming an "Old Boy." 3.) The SJMS Family gathers in Banes Gymnasium for the promotion ceremony. 4.) Joshua Harris is all smiles while spending time with his Mom, Janna Harris. 5.) Justin Gilbert stands with his parents, Susan and Donald Gilbert after being promoted. 6.) James Curry is assisted by his mom Stephanie Curry and step-dad Jimmy Mc Daniel when being promoted. 7.) The Yankey family, Carol, Tyler, Alan and younger sister enjoy time together in the Vanier Academic Building. 8.) Gary Stone serves as a member of the chapel council. 9.) D. Dale Browning, Headmaster, stands beside Quenton Schurr, Timothy Nicoll, Brandon Becker, and Ryan Lynch, members of the Color Guard during the church service held in Banes Gymnasium..



1.) Jordan Carter carrying the school colors, leads the charge as the football team runs through the Sabre Arch provided by the Battalion Staff prior to the start of the home football game. 2.) Abraham Quraishi (partially shown) and Sergio Cois join Devon Jemmett and Michael Kelly doing double duty as members of both the band and the football team! 3.) Tyler Schneider, Zakary Anderson and Samuel Hetherington play the snare drums in the middle of the tear drop as part of battalion drums during the retreat parade. 4.) Jake Whitting, leads the Middle School Drill Team comprised of Reece Turner, Colton Adkins, Daniel Laws, Nathan Pitts, Demetrios Kyriazakos, Chase

Rose, and Marcello Paz-Pulman through their performance. 5.) Members of the cross country team, Christopher O'Neil, Corey Lewis, Derek Miller, Andrew White, Trevor Hansen, and Tyler Yankey burst off the starting line as the race begins. 6.) Vernon Chan, Eli Harmon, Christian Marquez, Steven Bartholomew, Stefan Huston, Andrew Fager, and Weldon Dudding line up for introductions prior to the soccer game. 7.) The Black Knights Drill Team drills for the crowd. Quenton Schurr, Anthony Benevidas, Gary Stone, Stephen Ritter, Jonah Starbuck, Samuel Hetherington, Tyler Schneider, Brandon Becker and Ryan Lynch.

National Honor Society

Inductions



The National Honor Society (NHS) is the nation's premier organization established to recognize outstanding high school students. More than

just an honor roll, NHS serves to honor those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of Scholarship, Leadership, Service, and Character. These characteristics have been associated with membership in the organization since their beginnings in 1921. Today, it is estimated that more than one million students participate in activities of the NHS and chapters are found in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, many U.S. Territories, and Canada. Chapter membership not only recognizes students for their accomplishments, but challenges them to develop further through active involvement in school activities and community service. (cont. below)

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| <p>Junior</p>  | <p>Senior</p>  | <p>Senior</p>  | <p>Senior</p>  | <p>Junior</p>  | <p>Senior</p>  | <p>Senior</p>  |
| <p>Joshua Batchelor GPA 3.5 Colorado Springs, Colorado</p> | <p>Ian Brands GPA 3.8 Colorado Springs, Colorado</p> | <p>HaoZong Huang GPA 3.86 China</p> | <p>Enoch Lau GPA 4.1 Albuquerque, New Mexico</p> | <p>Gregory Saville GPA 3.72 Wichita, Kansas</p> | <p>Gary Stone GPA 3.85 Colorado Springs, Colorado</p> | <p>Nuoya Wu GPA 3.9 China</p> |
| <p><i>"As a member of NHS I am a part of an illustrious group of people who not only excel by themselves, but also strive to help others to succeed."</i></p> | <p><i>"Being in NHS is important because it is a tribute to hard work during my high school years."</i></p> | <p><i>"I believe membership in NHS represents being an honorable person who can be an example to others."</i></p> | <p><i>"Being in NHS represents an accomplishment that shows effort, pride and a desire to help others."</i></p> | <p><i>"Being in NHS means that I am positively affecting my high school and college career by being active in a widely-known academic society."</i></p> | <p><i>"Being a member of NHS looks good on a person's transcript and gives that person the opportunity to help people."</i></p> | <p><i>"Being in NHS challenges me to work harder and harder each day."</i></p> |
| <p>Future Plans: Attend the Air Force Academy & join the Air Force.</p> | <p>Future Plans: Finding happiness in everything he does!</p> | <p>Future Plans: Attend college to earn a Ph. D. in Mechanical Engineering</p> | <p>Future Plans: Attend the United States Military Academy at West Point</p> | <p>Future Plans: Play Football at the University of Oklahoma</p> | <p>Future Plans: Attend an ROTC College program and join the Army</p> | <p>Future Plans: Become a movie director</p> |

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p>Senior</p>  | <p>Senior</p>  | <p>Senior</p>  |
| <p>Jason Czerwinski GPA 3.25 Mesa, Arizona</p> | <p>Steven McPherson GPA 3.74 San Jose, California</p> | <p>Stephen Ritter GPA 3.53 Pueblo, Colorado</p> |
| <p><i>"Being in NHS means I am part of something bigger than myself and a group of highly motivated individuals."</i></p> | <p><i>"Being in NHS is a great honor because my Father is also a member of NHS and a very successful person so it will help me succeed."</i></p> | <p><i>"NHS is one of the highest honors I have received. I love being around people who share in my love of education and strive for perfection in all they do"</i></p> |
| <p>Future Plans: Attend Arizona State University's ROTC program and join the Army</p> | <p>Future Plans: Attend Loyola-Marymount Majoring in Finance</p> | <p>Future Plans: Attend West Point Commission and serve in the Infantry.</p> |

2010 Inductees

The members of the SJMS

Chapter of NHS have taken on the task of assisting the teachers with opportunity study hall. (OSH) OSH is held after school on Monday, Tuesday and Thursdays giving Cadets with missing or late assignments the chance to make up their work. Teachers and NHS members rotate weekly working in the library to help Cadets complete their work. OSH is a 'win - win situation' Cadets have the opportunity to achieve academic success and the NHS members have the opportunity to be involved in a school activity that benefits the other Cadets.

Scholastic Achievement

Blue Beret & Honor Roll

High School Blue Beret



Haozong Huang Christopher Gerdes Vernon Chan

Middle School Blue Beret



Bryan Ingram-DuBois John Sun Jake Whitting



High School Dean's Honor Roll



Merit Davey Nuoya Wu Steven Mc Pherson Wei Feng Jesse Campbell Daohan Sun



Andrew White Patrick Harden Levi Harmon Nathan Erlechman Eli Harmon Yechi Ma

High School Honor Roll



Abraham Quraishi Derek Bartholomay Enoch Lau John Watkins Nihal Gautam Mikal Chavarria



Stephen Ritter Timothy Nicoll Juanchristian Gonzalez Craig Roukema Alexander Bresse Joshua Batchelor



Jared Bressman Darius Bridgeman Klaus Mullens Austin Grounds Luke Whitting Alexander Gorrington



Quenton Schur Alexander Liu Brian Strong Nicholas Holmgren Brandon Becker Ian Brands



Gregory Saville Victor Fontana Xavier Ryan Gary Stone Robert Vrana Bretton Hibler



Tyler Yankey Sebastian Barnhill Weldon Dudding Jonathan Lockhart-Thompson Jason Czerwinski Adam Guzman

Middle School Dean's Honor Roll



Kole Stoltz Gunnar Hatton Brock Contello

Middle School Honor Roll



Demetrios Kyriazakos Daniel Laws Richard Reynolds



Devon Jemmett Matthew Giachetto Richard Wik



Alberto Elias-Romero Nathan Pitts

Middle School
High School

AWARDS



"Over one-fourth of the 123rd Corps of Cadets is being honored for their academic achievements. Congratulations to each and every one for their hard work and determination!"
Ginger Wooten, Academic Dean

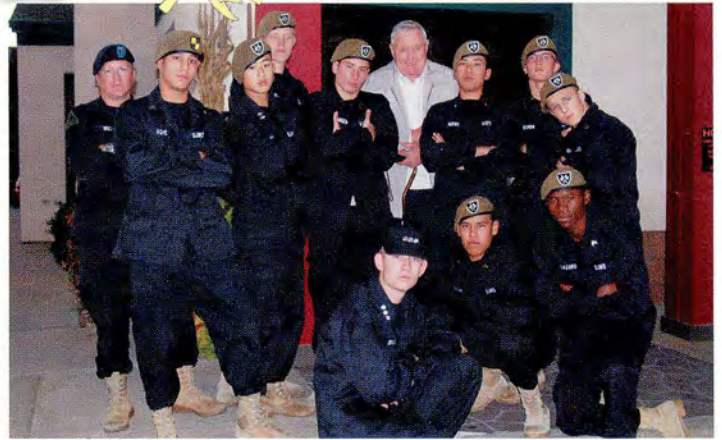


Tyler Schneider John O'Neill Alexander Hamm

RAIDER CHALLENGE



Ritter, Huang, O'Neil, Schur, Lau, Lazaro, Ashe, Hansen, Payan and Brands



D. Dale Browning rewarded the team and CPT Bell with a steak dinner.

Raider challenge is a competition against the best of all JROTC Cadets designed to be similar to an Army Ranger Challenge. We left campus at 3:00 a.m. to travel to Topeka and meet the other "Raiders" at the Armed Forces Reserve Center at Forbes Field.

As soon as we arrived, we learned they decided to move the time up a half hour so we almost immediately began with the Army Physical Fitness Test - Modified. The Modified Test is designed to be more difficult than the regular Army Physical Fitness Test. The modified Test required the Cadets to do two-minutes of perfect push-ups immediately followed

by two-minutes of perfect sit-ups. (Other participants were allowed a ten-minute break between the push-up and sit-up portion of the test.) The Cadets were also required to complete a two-mile run.

Other events included: First Aid Proficiency, The Blind Man's Walk, Land Navigation Skills, The Leadership Reaction Course and

The Creek Crossing requiring the Cadets to construct a bridge made out of rope.

Congratulations to: Enoch Lau, Steve Ritter, Tommy Ashe, Nick Payan, Ian Brands, Quenton Schur, Zakayo Lazaro, Trevor Hansen, Haozong Huang and Chris O'Neil for bringing home the trophy!

SFC Robert Cruce



FITNESS CHALLENGE

On September 18, the Corps competed in the Kansas National Guard Physical Fitness Challenge. The Corps was up at 6:00 a.m. and off campus by 7:00 a.m. Despite injuries from football and being extremely tired, the boys made an excellent showing and according to SFC Robert Cruce, "made us very proud." SJMS placed 1st, 2nd and 3rd in the Team Competition. In the civilian individual category, Zach Obad-Mathis won 1st place, Ian Brands won 2nd place and Anthony Benevides won 3rd place. All participants received a Certificate from Major General Bunding.



From Left: Chase Rose, Eli Harmon, Benjamin Rooth, Nihal Gautam, Levi Harmon and Jacob Ellis are ready for more challenge! Ryan Lynch holds the feet and counts the sit-ups of his partner. Anton Ryan looks for some water to keep himself hydrated.

AMS BMS



The Advanced Military Skills (AMS) team and sponsors Shawn Russell, SFC Roy Burch, Stephen Ritter, SSG Robert Cruce, Hao Zong Huang, Joshua Batchelor, CPT Brian Bell and Sergio Cois put the Cadets hoping to make the AMS team through a four and a half hour test of physical and mental challenges. Held in the dark of night, the challenge pushes the Cadets to their limit. Those that survived are the newest members, Zakayo Lazaro, Chris O'Neil, Nick Payan, Trevor Hansen, Jason Czerwinski, Quenton Schur, Ian Brands, Tommy Ashe, Chaz Molina and Enoch Lau!



The first BMS (Basic Military Skills) Challenge consisted of approximately three hours of physical training in a highly stressful (physically and mentally) environment. Meeting the challenge and now members of the BMS Team are: Luke & Jake Whitting, Daniel Laws, Blake Speaker, Jacob Andrews, Codey Shute, Nathan Pitts, and Gunnar Hatton.



Congratulations!



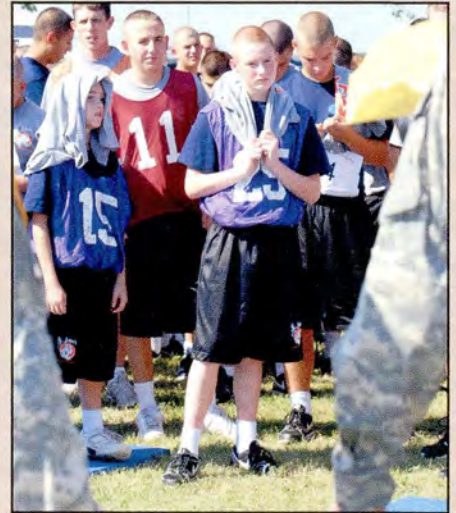
Zakaya Lazaro is at the front of the pack during the mile run.



Zachary Odab-Mathis sprints down the straight of way to the finish.



Anthony Benavides is well on his way to his third place finish in the fitness challenge.



Daniel Laws, Daniel Weisman and Codey Shute listen to the instructions for the next segment of the test.

Notes from Liz



Remembering Col. Keith G. Duckers President 1968-1993

Inurned at Arlington National cemetery
November 8, 2007

After Keith's (Colonel Duckers) death and inurnment, I was asked by a few "Why Arlington"? My reply was because that was what he wanted.

When visiting the Washington D.C. Area, we would visit the national cemetery. Keith would say I would like to be buried there. I would reply "Keith you were just a 17-year old yeoman third class in the Navy." His ship was en route to join the fleet forming for the invasion of the Japanese islands. Casualties were predicted to be catastrophic. But the atomic bomb was dropped and the Japanese surrendered unconditionally.

He came home from a meeting one evening where he visited with two men in the funeral business. He announced to me that he could be buried in Arlington if he was cremated. Even those who are eligible for "in-ground" burial can elect to have their remains placed in the Columbarium. There is a large white marble Columbarium high on a hill above the Pentagon. Several courtyards surround a small amphitheater. We put together the necessary papers and took them to the funeral home.


Keith is in Courtyard 8, Section FF, Row one, Niche one. I don't know what I expected—just placing the ashes in the cemetery someplace. What transpired when I arrived for the burial was much more than that! An honor guard placed the ashes on a pedestal. As the

American flag was snapped in place over the urn, three volleys were fired and "Taps" was played. A Navy Chaplain said a few words about Keith and read the 23rd Psalm. The flag was folded and given to me. Then a woman stepped up and gave me a red, white and blue scarf with stars and a sympathy card from the area commander and from her. She was an *Arlington Lady* representing the Navy. Others represent the Army and Air Force. This ceremony is done for every burial and inurnment at the cemetery. And there will be an *Arlington Lady* there at every ceremony whether there is family or not.

Keith liked the parades and ceremony of the military. We woke up to first call and went to bed with "Taps" while living at St. John's. He had two men working for him that knew how to do the pageantry with class and style-- Paul H. Kellogg and Bill Bunting.

When I arrived home, the phone was ringing. It was "Old Boy," Steve Erb, Class of 1964, a Cadet for eight years and Battalion Commander. He is a graduate of the U.S. Naval academy, Annapolis, and a retired Navy Captain. He wanted to know if an *Arlington Lady* was there and I responded "yes." He gave me a web site so I could learn about the work these volunteer military wives do. A number of services are held each day but when there you feel that it is being done just for you.

IT IS AWESOME! When my plane took off up the Potomac River past the majesty of the national Capitol with its memorials and buildings, I was sure Keith was happy because I had done what he wanted.

A Note: There is a beautiful book about Arlington, **Where Valor Rests**, published by the National Geographic Society. A journalism classmate of mine at the University of Kansas, Richard Clarkson and his company edited it. The current superintendent of the cemetery asked that a book be published because he wanted to give the survivors of the fallen from the current wars something in addition to the American flag. The book can be ordered from any of the major bookstores. 

Forward, MARCH!

"Old Boys" are stepping up to the challenge – providing scholarships to worthy young men and helping secure their futures. The goal: An endowed scholarship fund of \$250,000. The interest from these funds will perpetuate an annual scholarship for one or more Cadets. The purpose is to encourage the parents of each recipient that the Alumni "Old Boys" are convinced that what they received at SJMS will last forever! The winning plan involves either making a one-time gift, or making a five-year pledge. Think about it! A pledge of \$200 given each year for five years is a \$1000 gift. Better yet, you decide the amount, multiply it by five, send Terry Plumberg, Alumni Director, an e-mail, terryp@sjms.org – and the battle is won. Remember, when each Corps is dismissed forever; this scholarship will mark where "forever" begins. Now.... FORWARD, MARCH!

The "Old Boys" Association, (OBA) put their plan in action beginning in May 2010 by awarding two \$2,500.00 scholarships. The recipients, CSM, Victor Fontana and 1SG Chris Whitehead, have stepped up their roles in leadership positions.



Fontana, a senior from Florida, came into the SJMS family when he was in the eighth grade. He and his mother researched all the military schools in the states, and each decided SJMS was their choice. From the moment Fontana stepped on campus, he knew there was going to be a change. He wasn't the big kid on the block anymore. He learned how to take orders, clean his room, listen and march. During the five years since, he has been involved in wrestling, golf and football, the Color Guard and as a Drill Instructor of New Boys and a member of the Nicomachean Society.

Today, Fontana is a member of the Battalion Staff, serving as the Command Sergeant Major (CSM) of the 123rd Corps. His duties include: • Cannon Detail and training • Policing of campus • Selecting and training the Color Guard, • Assisting the Academic Department in supervising cadet behavior during class hours • Overseeing the RAT program. Even though his duties and challenges are many and his day is never predictable, Fontana is quick to offer support to both teachers and SJMS staff.



Whitehead, a junior from Colorado, chose to attend SJMS, and make few changes last year. He remembers when he and his parents first stepped on campus. Following a brief tour he and his family were looking at the Cadet Leaders' photos posted on the porch of the Vanier Academic Center. Whitehead turned to his father and said, "I'm going to be on there." Since that day, Whitehead has grown by leaps and bounds. He has made his parents proud, and earned the respect of many of the Cadets. Whitehead's position as 1SG of Headquarters Company means he is in charge of all "New Boys," both their training and adjustment to life at St. John's. (The same position held by Fontana last year) When dealing with the "New Boys," Whitehead feels a sense of pride and accomplishment when the "New Boys" pass their "Old Boy" test. Having over

120 "New Boys" that have gone on to successfully pass into "Old Boy" status has been a monumental accomplishment! Whitehead has also

The Goal:
An endowed
scholarship
fund of
\$250,000!

Michael E. Harris, "Old Boy," Class of 1998



His advice to current St. John's Cadets would be to "participate in every activity that St. John's offers. It will help you when you graduate!"



"Old Boy," 1998 Michael Harris was an exemplary Cadet and has continued to surpass ordinary expectations as a member of the Army Military Police force. He graduated C/MAJ as a member of the Battalion Staff and served as Band Master prior to his senior year. There

is a plaque in the round room honoring his service as Bandmaster, which is awarded to the Bandmaster that shows the same amount of character and dedication to the job as Harris did while a Cadet at St. John's.

Currently assigned to Ft. Leonard Wood, working in the Operations section of the General's Staff, SSG Harris has enjoyed a career filled with both mundane and dangerous deployments. Harris will attend school in December to become a special agent for the Army with assignment to Korea for a year.

After joining the Army in 1999, he served at Ground Zero as a Protective Service

Agent, worked on a Special Reaction Team (SWAT) and in 2008 worked as a Military Working Dog Handler and Combat Tracker Handler in Iraq. He was a Security Driver/Transportation Coordinator/Personal Security Officer for the Commanding General of Ft. Leonard Wood from January of 2008 to August of that same year. During this duty he drove several Senior VIP's including the Four Star TRADOC Commanding General. This assignment proved to be a pivotal point in his Army career. Upon completion of this position, the General asked Harris what he would like to do next; his answer was to attend the Von Licke Kennels Combat Tracking Dog Handlers Course. All it took was a phone call from the General and Harris was on his way to Denver to complete the Dog Handlers Course.

Harris describes his mission in Iraq with his beloved Dog, Chico. *I deployed to Iraq in November of 2008 with Chico, I was assigned to JSS McHenry (a very small outpost located near Hawijah which is about 50 miles south of Kirkuk) with Chico and conduct human tracking missions with several Units to include Special Operation*

Forces and the 1st Cav Division Cav Scout Unit. The tracking missions included tracking IED Triggerman, tracking insurgents that fled during raids, and to reestablish contact with the enemy after they attacked us and ran away. While on a

dismounted patrol in Hawijah with the Cav Scout Unit Chico and I were at the front of the formation walking down the city street. As we went to cross an alley, insurgents in the back of a pickup truck located down the alley fired a RPG 7 at Chico and myself. The RPG flew by approx 3 feet in front of my head and blew up next to us. Chico was hit in the face with a small piece of shrapnel. In spite of his injury, and the resulting firefight we were able to track the fleeing insurgents who where involved. During this deployment Chico and I were involved in numerous IED, RKG grenade attacks, and small arms engagements. Chico and I left Iraq in December of 2009. Upon leaving Iraq, Chico and I where inducted into the Order of the Combat Spurs by the 1st Cav Division and were awarded Gold Spurs. We both were also awarded the Combat Action Badge for direct enemy engagement. Chico was even given his own Combat Action Badge that was pinned to his harness.


Harris intends to stay in the Army until retirement and hopes to be a Warrant Officer once he becomes a Special Agent. Anyone who knew Harris while a Cadet would have no doubt that he will reach his goal.

His favorite memories of St. John's were wrestling season, commanding the band and Parents' Weekend!

Hooah!

been involved with football, basketball and golf. Each of their proudest moments is when their companies made Honor Company. Their favorite teacher is Ms Chris Zerger. Fontana states "She hasn't just taught me just English. It's also life skills, preparation and how to be organized." Whitehead agrees, "She is structured, and is an excellent teacher. She's the best!"

Fontana believes, "We achieved something great, and we achieved something together as a Corps. The brotherhood we have here, it's the relationship that builds you. SJMS doesn't give you an experience, but it gives you a feeling – a new feeling that is only produced here." Fontana plans to attend college upon graduation to attain a degree in Business with a minor in either Philosophy or Literature. Whitehead is hoping for a position on Battalion Staff for the 124th Corps!

Their journey has begun... and with one single step they are **Marching Forward!** 



Reach out, Recruit and Support!

The Corps is managed through the chain of command and runs best when each member of the staff understands his job and the importance of leading by example.

BATTALION Staff

The 123rd Battalion Staff faced the daunting task of managing the largest Corps of Cadets in recent memory. Their strength lies both in the support they give each other and the incredible variety of experience they bring to their positions. Each has contributed to the success of former Corps and made invaluable contributions to both the sports programs and in setting the academic standard in the classroom. Each could stand alone as a key leader but all pool their individuality to lead the Corps they serve. The Battalion Staff is called upon to show a measure of maturity in their ability to lead their peers and must preserve the stability of the Corps by avoiding favoritism. The Battalion Staff is called upon to temper their reactions to events that develop during the course of an ordinary day while also dedicating a portion of each day to meet their own needs.



BC

Albuquerque, NM
Son of Lilly Chan and Edly Lau

Enoch Lau

The Battalion Commander alone is responsible for all that his unit does or fails to do. He can delegate authority, but not responsibility. An Executive Officer and a staff assist him.

Lau came to St. John's three years ago, moving up the chain of command as a squad leader, platoon leader and then as commander of Headquarters Company. He believes that the most rewarding part of his job is when he "feels he has influenced someone positively." His greatest mentors have been MAJ Stelljes and CPT Reid because "they have been there to give me advice and better myself whenever I need them." Lau plays the violin and piano and made District Orchestra both his sophomore and junior year. He was goalie on the Mule-Skinner Soccer Team for 3 years and plays on the futsal team, a wintertime indoor soccer league.

Lau hopes to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point.



XO

Denver, CO
Son of Thomas and Tamara Ashe

Thomas Ashe

The Battalion Executive Officer is second in command and the principal assistant to the Commander. He is not in the Cadet Chain of Command. He is the coordinator and supervisor of the staff.

Ashe came to St. John's four years ago. He achieved the position of squad leader his first year, became a RAT Drill Instructor his second year was Charlie Company Commander his junior year. He believes the most difficult part of his job is "dealing with my brothers on staff if I have to get on their case." Ashe says Victor Fontana is his mentor because, "he took me under his wing after new boy and taught me the ways of SJMS. He's been my best friend for four years." Ashe has been a key player on the soccer team scoring goals and when playing goalie had many saves. Ashe plans to attend Colorado University at Boulder in the Marine ROTC program and commission as an officer in the Marine Corps.



CSM

Clearlake, LA
Son of Tina Fontana and Grandson of Victor Fontana

Victor Fontana

The Command Sergeant Major must Formulate Campus Police Plans, Train the Color Guard, Select Cannon Detail and Assist the Academic Department with Cadet behavior during class hours.

Fontana came to St. John's five years ago and spent those years growing into the no nonsense leader he is today. Fontana names SGT Ricky Jordan as his greatest mentor stating, "he has pushed me to not only be a better Cadet but a better man. He taught me a basis of what life is about and to strive to do my best." The most difficult component of his position is "balancing all my job related responsibilities with my personal responsibilities." When asked what the most rewarding part of his job is he responded "knowing that I am succeeding and doing something positive for myself and my family." Fontana plans to attend either Florida Gulf Coast University or Colorado University and Major in Business Accounting with a minor in Philosophy.



S-1

Colorado Springs, CO
Son of Drew and Susan Ritter

Stephen Ritter

The Battalion S-1 is the Personnel Officer. Duties include; collecting, preparing and presenting reports reflecting the current status of all personnel assigned to the Battalion.

Ritter came to St. John's during the 2009-2010 school year. He quickly became a visible presence because of both his physical height and his gregarious personality. Ritter became AMS Commander, Choirmaster and is helping assist Cadets and staff with technology issues. Ritter names CPT Brian Bell and SFC Rob Cruce as his greatest mentors because "they always push me to the next level; physically and mentally." Ritter feels the most difficult component of his responsibilities is "staying up all hours of the night doing paperwork!" Ritter plans to attend The United States Military Academy at West Point and Commission as an officer in the United States Army.



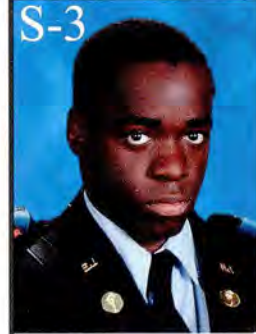
S-2

Colorado Springs, CO
Son of Mary Ellen Hinkle and Robert Stone

Gary Stone

The Battalion S-2 is the Intelligence/Academic Officer Provost Marshall. Duties include; form and train Cadet Patrol, Investigate Class I Offenses, and Monitor the D/F List.

Stone arrived on campus five years ago and spent time as a squad leader, platoon leader, and then Bravo Company Commander. Stone has been in the Band, and played football and wrestled. The time commitment required for his position "makes the academic part hard because I give up lots of free time fulfilling my duties." The most rewarding part of his job is "the idea that I am part of a business that changes lives and gives second chances which allows Cadets to redeem themselves." SFC Rob Cruce has been Stone's mentor and Father Figure who "believed in me even when I was doing something wrong and helped me in Bravo Company." Stone plans to attend Colorado State University's ROTC program and commission in the Army.



S-3

Missoula, MT
Son of Terry and Vicki Benishek

Zachary Benishek

The Battalion S-3 is the Operations and Training Officer. Duties include; responsibilities for all matters pertaining to organization, operations and training.

Benishek arrived last year and quickly caught the eye of Cadet leaders, and the adult staff as having great potential. While being measured for his uniforms his stance mirrored that of a well-seasoned Cadet rather than a "New Boy." He moved from a subordinate to Platoon Sergeant to Senior Drill Sergeant rather quickly. He believes that when disciplining his friends it is "important to enforce the discipline and maintain the standard the same way for all Cadets regardless of their rank." Benishek names BC Lau as his greatest mentor saying "since day one he helped me set personal goals and achieve them." The most rewarding part of his job is "seeing the changes in individuals lives." He plans to attend a Business College on an ROTC scholarship.



S-4

Colorado Springs, CO
Son of Kristine and Robert Brands

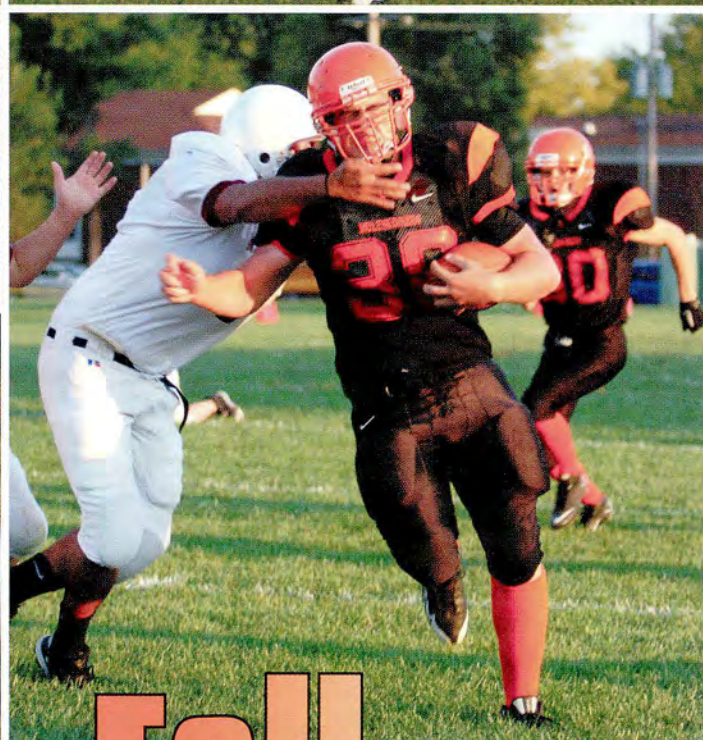
Ian Brands

The S-4 is the Logistics Officer and serves as the Senior Staff Officer after the Executive Officer. Duties include; transportation, mess- waiters, laundry, and dry cleaning

Brands, came to St. John's as a freshman in high school. His previous positions include; squad leader, platoon sergeant, and Bravo Company executive officer. Brands handles discipline with his friends "in a calm but serious manner, I sit down with them and talk it out so he stops his bad behavior. It is always difficult to find the right words to say when being a friend and a leader." Brands believes the most difficult component of his job is "making sure the Mess Hall is clean enough to make SFC Ricky Jordan happy! Being able to manage my time is also a very important component of my position." Brands names Hector Serna as his greatest mentor sighting as his reasons the close friendship that has developed between them and the fact that "I can talk to him about anything and he has supported my every decision and is like a father to me. Thank you, Mr. Serna" Not unlike many young people today, Brands is unsure about his future plans!

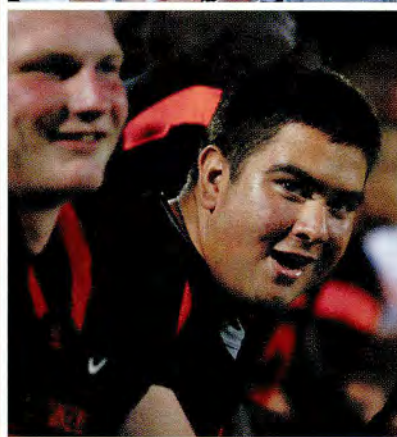


Clockwise: Jason Czerwinski runs through the huddle as he is introduced. Nicholas Nelson on his way to the end zone! Connor Madden picks up some yards. Greg Saville doing what he does best, getting by the defense. Francisco Arismendi and Gary Stone wait their turn on the sidelines. The Corps cheering on the team.



Football

Greg (Cadillac) Saville summed up the Football season in these words, "the team stuck together as a team no matter what the final outcome of the game. Our record does not reflect the quality of our players."



Fall

"By the end of the season we started practicing better and working together to encourage each other to succeed."

Chris O'Neil

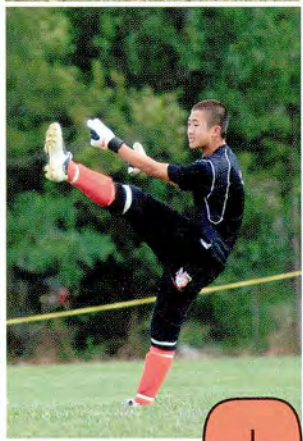
"Trevor Hansen and Derek Miller finished in the top ten at the Southeast of Saline Meet. Hansen was 2nd and Miller was 10th, our best showing this season."

Coach Martin





Clockwise: The team lines up on the sidelines for introductions. Steven Bartholomew controls the ball with fleet feet while Klaus Mullens waits behind in case the ball comes his way. Levi Harmon keeps his eyes on his opponent while deciding which way to move the ball past his closest defender. Patrick Harden kicks the ball away from the SJMS goal. Enoch Lau, goalie, launches the ball down the field with a goalie kick. Thomas Ashe goes airborne as he moves play down the field.



Soccer

Soccer opponents were seeing double this year as twins Eli and Levi Harmon were a double threat on the SJMS soccer team. Eli and Levi both enjoy the game. Eli says "I like playing the game and scoring goals." Levi has been playing since he was six years old and says "the best part of the game is winning."

Sports



Cross Country



Cross Country Team members pictured on these pages.

Trevor Hansen
Derek Miller
Benjamin Rooth
Tyler Yankey

Corey Lewis
Chris O'Neil
Justin Small
Andrew White

Run like the wind!

MILITARY advisors

Imagine for a moment, you are responsible for the care

and feeding of 227 teenagers; who must study, take care of duties, clean their rooms and shower between the hours of 3:15 p.m. and 7:30 a.m. The St. John's Military Advisors act as mentors, disciplinarians, stand in parents, and counselors. Military Advisors also field many calls during each shift from anxious parents. Four companies; Alpha, Bravo, Charlie and Headquarters each have a Senior Military Advisor who is assisted by other military advisors (MAs) throughout the week. MA's utilize military order and chain of command to help accomplish their duties during each shift! Cadets are called upon to assist within the companies for

accountability and communication. Jack Vanier Hall, Sage Hall and Clem Ferris barracks simmer with activity while the Cadets make their way through the after-school hours.

The men featured on these pages work tirelessly to ensure each cadet learns the lessons which will help guide them through their own journey in life.

The Military Advisors of St. John's Military School served their country a combined total of over 200 years, earned dozens of medals and commendations, have seen active duty in conflicts all over the globe, have earned academic degrees and have traveled the world; and still find their interactions with the Cadets to be most rewarding. This speaks to both the dedication of these men and the quality of the Cadets they serve.

The Military Advisors:

- Turn in and collect laundry
- Monitor Study Hour
- Supervise hair cuts
- Counsel and discipline
- Manage noise levels
- Accompany cadets to the mess hall for meals
- Arrange community service details
- Administer evening medications
- Monitor Shower Hour
- Enforce taps and reveille
- Secure the buildings at Taps
- Ensure Cadet safety and security

"If you don't feel good about working at SJMS and making a difference in kids lives, I would be surprised. No one works here because of the money. I believe that any parent that can afford it, should send their sons to St. John's."

SGM Jerry Nichols



Senior Military Advisors (SMA's)



Four Years
Army
Operation Iraqi
Freedom

CPT Brian
Bell

Bravo Company

Years of Service: Six
Positions Held: Military Advisor, In-School Suspension Officer and Senior Military Advisor

Groups Sponsored: BMS, AMS and Raider Team

What he likes best about working with the cadets:
"The opportunity to help them change their poor or unsuccessful behavior patterns into ones that will set them up for success in the future."

The most rewarding part of the job: "Watching an undisciplined new boy develop into a productive and responsible young man!"



31 Years Army tours
in Vietnam, both Gulf
Wars and Afghanistan
Awards: Legion of
Merit, Meritorious
Service, Army
Commendation and
Army Achievement

SGM Jerry
Nichols

Alpha Company

Years of Service: Five
Positions Held: Company Advisor, and Battalion Advisor

Groups Sponsored: Community Service and Church of Faith

The Most rewarding part of the job: "After counseling, mentoring and disciplining cadets - then seeing the light come on and settling into a 'straight away' cadet. This is very rewarding to me. Makes it all very worth the effort."

What funny story could you share about working with cadets? "My relationship with the 2010 Battalion Commander, Kyle Stuart was touch and go the first couple of years he was at St. John's. "Stuart started attending church with my wife and I and we became very close. Lorita (my wife) and I consider him our grandson and he calls us Grandpa and Grandma."



CPT Michael
Reid

Headquarters Company

Years of Service: Ten
Positions Held: Military Advisor, Football Coach Summer School Commandant

Groups Sponsored: Fit-Cast Weight Training

What he likes best about working with the cadets:
"Seeing their growth and leadership and their return visits after leaving St. John's."

The Most rewarding part of the job: "To see the cadets become young men eager to show what they can do and know that they will work hard for themselves and the corps and their company!"



Ten years Active
Six years
reserves
Army
Gulf War and
Iraqi Freedom

CPT Garrett
Winn

Charlie Company

Years of Service: Eleven
Positions Held: Military Advisor and Senior Military Advisor

What he likes best about working with the cadets:
"Seeing "Old Boys" who have graduated come back at commencement to talk about what they are doing now."

The most rewarding part of the job: "Working with the cadets on study groups in the office and seeing their grades improve."

What funny story could you share about working with cadets? "When the "Old Boys" come back and remember the times I caught them in the wrong and making them tile walk the hallways. This job is rewarding in seeing old boys return and knowing that your guidance from the past had a positive effect on their lives for their future."



SSG Roy Burch joined the SJMS staff one year ago. Burch was active duty Army for eight years serving in Iraq from March 2003 until February of 2004 and Afghanistan from March of 2008 until March of 2009. His awards include: Purple Heart • Army Commendation Medal • Army Achievement Medal, Army • Good Conduct Medal • National Defense Service Medal • Afghanistan Campaign Medal • Iraq Campaign Medal • Global War on Terrorism (Expeditionary) • Global War on Terrorism (Service) • NCO Professional Development Ribbon • Army Service Ribbon • Overseas Service Ribbon • NATO Medal. What he likes best about working with the Cadets is “sitting back watching and waiting to see what happens next.” He added that the most rewarding part of his job is knowing that there is a chance you might have made a difference!



SFC James Buttenhoff spent thirty-five years as a member of the Kansas Army National Guard and Active Guard Reserve. He was deployed to Kosovo from 2007 through 2009 in Germany from 1976-1977. His awards include: Joint Service Commendation Medal • Meritorious Service Medal • Army Commendation Medal • Army Achievement Medal • Army Good Conduct Medal • Overseas Service Medal • NATO Medal • National Defense Service Medal • Armed Services Reserve Medal • Global Was on Terrorism Medal • Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal. Buttenhoff says “having met some of these young men is rewarding in itself. I am extremely amazed as to how these young men perform their military duties, especially the drill and ceremony portions. I would match them against most military units and lay odds that the Cadets would out perform them in most situations.”



SFC Mark Giles served his country for 20 years as a member of the Marine serving in Kosovo, Somalia, Macedonia, Afghanistan and Iraq. He achieved the rank of (E-7) and has worked at here for three months. His awards include: • Navy Commendation Medal • Navy Achievement Medal • Presidential Unit Citation • Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal • National Defense Medal • Kosovo Campaign Medal • NATO Medal • Afghanistan Campaign Medal • Iraq Campaign Medal • Global War on Terrorism Service Medal • Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal • Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal • Sea Service Deployment • Joint Meritorious Unit Citation. Giles enjoys having the opportunity to “mold the Cadets into young men” and finds the most rewarding part of his job “the opportunity of belonging to a team again.”



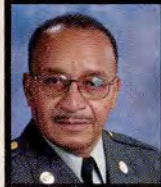
CPT Peter Kent is a Vietnam Veteran, serving on active duty in the Army for eight years. He had numerous assignments with Department of Defense, Defense Investigative Service and the Intelligence and Security Command as a Military Intelligence Coordinator, Special Agent, with U.S. Army Counterintelligence and as an Adjudicator for the Director of Central Intelligence. He was in the Army Reserves for several years, assigned to an Intelligence Unit as well as a Transportation (HET) unit. He served in CONUS as well as overseas. While overseas, Kent taught English as a second language to students and faculty at two universities. He attended the University of Maryland, Crowder College and the University of Southern California, Institute of Safety Systems Management. Kent is certified in Crisis Prevention and Intervention. Kent says “He is proud to be a member of the St. John’s Military School staff.”



MSG Johnnie McGee has been a member of the commandant’s staff for three and a half years. He retired from the United States Army as a MSG after serving for over 24 years. His awards include: • MSM (2) • ARCOM (2) • Achievement Medal (3) McGee likes “being able to mentor the Cadets and see them mature” and hopes he can, “make a difference in their lives.”



LT Ray Parker began his employment at St. John’s just a few short months ago yet he still has an advantage over the other newly hired military advisors; he spent four years as a Cadet. His techniques for dealing with Cadets is based on what he knows in his heart are possible for each Cadet to achieve and the standards each Cadet is well prepared to meet. Standards and behavior one time Cadet, Ray Parker met with great success. Parker settled in Salina and began building a life, attending college and starting a family. When asked what the most rewarding part of his job is he responded, “There are too many rewards to just name one.”



SFC Robert Pearson works the night shift as a military advisor and has been at St. John’s for 4 years. He spent twenty years in the United States Army achieving the rank of SFC and was awarded the Bronze Star. Pearson feels that the most rewarding part of his job is “watching their parents once they have graduated and the things they accomplish.”



SFC Danny Phillips retired as an SFC from the United States Army after 22 years; serving in the Berlin Occupation from 1976 through 1977 and 1985 through 1989. He twice had the occasion to guard the famed Nazi, Rudolf Hess. His awards include: • Meritorious Service Medal • Army Commendation Medal (2) • Good Conduct Medal • Berlin Occupation Medal • National Defense Medal • NCO Professional Development • Army Service Ribbon • Overseas Service Ribbon • Disaster Relief Ribbon. In addition to duties as a military advisor, Phillips sponsors the Civil Air Patrol SJMS contingent and serves as the Civil Air Patrol Salina Squadron Commander. Phillips feels the most rewarding part of his job is “seeing the Cadets grow mentally, emotionally and physically.” Phillips believes “SJMS is a place where young men can learn, grow and achieve things they might not be able to do anywhere else. The support they have here helps them to achieve and change for the better, to make their families as proud of them as we are every year that they are here.”



MAJ Felix Moret joined the military staff 12 years ago after serving 23 years on active duty in the Army. He achieved the rank of 1SG/MSG and served in the Iraq War. His awards include: Bronze Star • ARCOM’S. Moret arrives for duty when the Cadets are already safely tucked into their beds for the night and conducts hourly bed checks. When asked what he likes best about working with the Cadets he replied, “never knowing what’s going to happen when you show up for work.” Moret feels the most rewarding part of his job is “Seeing graduation day and watching the Cadets and their families enjoy their success.”



CPT Felix Moret, son of MAJ Moret, joined the military staff last year. He spent six years in the Navy as Petty Officer serving in Iraqi Enduring Freedom, three sea deployments and a deployment to Kuwait. His awards include: the Navy Marine Corps Achievement Medal • The Army Achievement Medal and a letter of Commendation. Moret enjoys waking the Cadets up in the morning and the different personalities they exhibit. The most rewarding part of the job is “successful Cadets at the end of the year and how proud they are of themselves and how proud their parents are as well.”

Veterans' Day Corps of Cadets Shine



The Corps of Cadets loaded the buses the morning of November 11, to support and honor those who served and died. The annual Veterans Day Ceremony is held on the 11th day of the 11th month at the 11th hour as proclaimed by President Woodrow Wilson in 1919. *From Left:* SFC Geronimo Rivera assists Macio Palacio with the proper way to hold the flag. ISG Tony Blair stands with the Patriot Guards who "have an unwavering respect for those who risk their very lives for America's freedom and security." The SJMS Color Guard renders honors to the flag.

Battalion Staff Cont.



Nuoya Wu

The S-5 is the Public Affairs Officer.

Bonjingwan, China
Son of Bin Wu
and
Qi Xiaojun

Wu is the only international student to be a member of the Battalion Staff. Coming to the United States 22 months ago from Mainland China; Wu has tried to immerse himself in American culture and help others understand his own cultural background. Wu is President of the Nichomachean Society, Vice-President of Chapel Council and Presidential Liaison for the National Honor Society. When asked what the most rewarding part of his job is he replied, "I think when people see my work and they smile, they like my work and they realize how good my skills are and how good I see my school." He considers Mr. Sperry to be his greatest mentor because "his photos are awesome and I respect him. He always stays calm to deal with situations and he always has a clever way out. His skills at video taking and photography are wonderful." Wu hopes to gain admission to New York University (NYU) to study film and eventually become a movie director and "make movies that will influence everyone's minds."



Patrick Harden

The Battalion S-3 Sergeant Major assists the S-1.

Edmond, OK
Son of Martha
Harden and
Thomas Harden

Harden is in his third year at St. John's. An accomplished musician, Harden has made State Band two years in a row and should be able to finish his high school career as a three time State Band member. He handles discipline with his friends by "making sure they understand what he is trying to accomplish." His positions in the Corps have included platoon leader, drill sergeant, senior drill sergeant and company clerk. He believes the most difficult part of his job is "to lead by example" and the most rewarding part of his job is "making the 123rd Corps better." Harden names Mrs. Stein as his greatest mentor "she is always encouraging me and cheering me up with her outlook towards life." Harden contributed to the success of the SJMS soccer team, lettering in the sport all three years. Harden also elevated the level of playing in the band by demonstrating positive leadership and giving the other band members a standard to emulate. Harden participated in the Salina Youth Symphony and attended the Military School Band Festival playing Euphonium in the concert band. Harden plans to attend Oklahoma University majoring in Business Finance.

Marine Corps Birthday

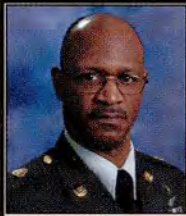


SJMS neighbor, retired Marine, Dan Pestinger, annually observes the Marine Corps Birthday by inviting the St. John's Band to march to his house located near the school, to raise the National Colors and Marine Corps Flag. The band plays the National Anthem while the colors are raised and then the Marine Corps Hymn. Pestinger then reads a letter sent to him by the Commander of the Marine Corps expressing pride in the Marines. Following the ceremony the Cadets are treated to breakfast. *From left:* Zak Anderson, Tyler Schneider, Sergio Cois, Devon Jemmett, Stefan Roberts, Austin Grounds, Darius Bridgeman, Dan Pestinger, Richard Reynolds, Brian Cerato, Joshua Batchelor, Abraham Quraishi, Micheal Kelly and Alexander Liu. **Sempre Fi!**

Military Advisors Cont.



SSG Micha Stahl joined the military staff four months ago after spending 19 years as a Staff Sergeant in law enforcement. Stahl spent part of his time in law enforcement as a member of a SWAT team receiving a Kansas Life Saving Award during his time on the force. When asked what he likes best about working with the Cadets he responded "The feeling that I'm making a difference and how excited they are to see me when I arrive for work."



MSG Keith Price joined the staff at St. John's two years ago after serving in the United States Army for 32 years retiring as a MSG (E-8). Price served in Desert Shield, Desert Storm and Iraqi Freedom. His awards include: • Meritorious Service Medal • Army Commendation Medal (4) • Army Achievement Medal (8) • Combat Action Badge • Aviation Badge • Air Assault Badge. The most rewarding part of the job according to Price is "making a difference in the lives of the Cadets."



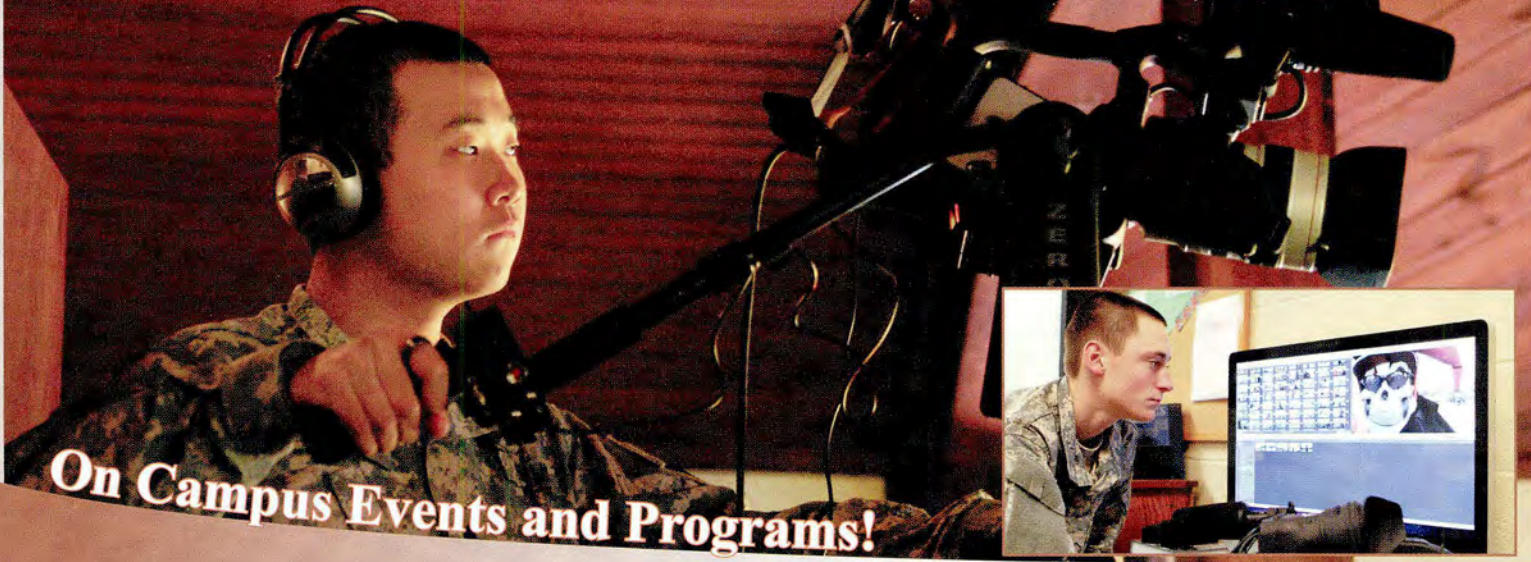
SFC Marshall Thompson spent 16 years in the Army achieving the rank of Staff Sergeant spending five years stationed in Germany. His awards include: • Army Commendation Medal • Good Conduct Medal (4) • National Defense Service Medal • Overseas Service Ribbon (2) • NCO Professional Development Ribbon (2) In the nine months he has been associated with St. John's he likes best "the chance he has to change Cadet behavior to the better."



CPT Stephen Young has been at St. John's for ten years working as a Senior Military Advisor for Charlie Company and most recently as a military advisor. He has a background in law enforcement, serving as a deputy sheriff for three years. What he likes best about working with Cadets is "getting to know them and being able to guide them when taking on new challenges as they mature into young men. It is an awesome feeling to be a part of something like that." Young related one of his funniest memories of working in the barracks was with a Cadet he nick-named "Bosker." "Bosker" had noticed that I had not been myself and was pretty short when it came to dealing with Cadets. During my bed check I went by his room and shined my flashlight in the window. There was "Bosker" standing up straight in his bed with a pillow behind his head and his blanket pulled up to his neck, snoring, as though he was sleeping. When I asked him what he was doing he said, "I thought you might need a laugh, and this was something you had probably never seen." I admit, it made me laugh and still does to this day. I miss that kid." Young feels that "the most rewarding part of his job is being able to give cadets the knowledge that I have acquired throughout the years and pass it on to them hoping it will help them in life. I will tell you that nothing is more rewarding than when a cadet comes back and says, "I want to thank you for all that you did for me."

Cadets Nuoya Wu and Jonathan Lockhart-Thompson are enrolled in the new Video Production Class taught by Justin Sperry. Wu and Lockhart-Thompson study subjects related to camera and tripod control and have spent many hours filming Cadet activities and sporting events. Wu hopes to have a video ready for AFI to show to the inspectors what he says are "the advantages of attending St. John's." Both Lockhart-Thompson and Wu are learning to edit their footage with a software program called Final Cut. New equipment was purchased prior to the start of the 2010-2011 school year to give Mr. Sperry time to become familiar with the capabilities of the cameras.

Lights...Camera...Action!



On Campus Events and Programs!



Michael Davidson, DMA, Assistant Professor of Trombone at the University of Kansas spent an hour with the SJMS brass and wind players talking about all facets of instrumental playing. He demonstrated proper breathe control and played for the class. Davidson uses breathing 'machines' to help students produce a 'good' sound! Darius Bridgeman, the only SJMS Trombone player received a short trombone lesson from Dr. Davidson. Davidson joined the Cadets in the board room for lunch and continued their conversation about music!

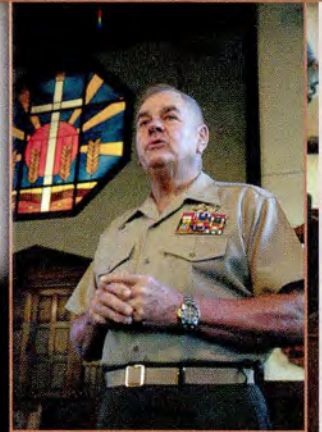


Retired Lt Gen Richard Seitz, Junction City, Kansas, longtime Trustee of St. John's Military School visited campus November 4. Seitz joined Headmaster D. Dale Browning and President, E. Andrew England on the reviewing stand as the 123rd Corps of Cadets Passed-in-Review. Following the review, Seitz addressed the Cadets in the Stevens Center Mess Hall. Seitz commended the corps for "looking sharp on the march" and encouraged each young man to "accept the responsibility of upholding the principles for which St. John's stands."

Below: Greg Saville, Charlie Company Commander, Robert Vrana, guide-on bearer, and Platoon Leaders, James Pena and Joshua Amen salute as they lead their company by the reviewing stand.



COL Albert J. Ransom, USMC Retired, returned to campus at the end of October to teach the 123rd Corps of Cadets a leadership course. During the visit, Ransom immersed himself in the activities of the Corps. Wearing his new SJMS letter jacket, Ransom spent the entire home football game on the side-lines cheering on the Mule-Skinners and assisting the coaches. Following the Cadets 76 - 42 victory, the coaches and team presented Ransom with the game ball. While on campus Ransom worked with the staff on producing a video to be used for parents and for the "Old Boy" Scholarship Fund. Ransom conducted a "Principles of Leadership" course for Cadets, providing each with a course handout they will be able to use throughout their careers. Ransom stated "it was great to return to my Alma Mater and give back a small portion of what St. John's did for me when I was a Cadet." *Sempre Fi!*



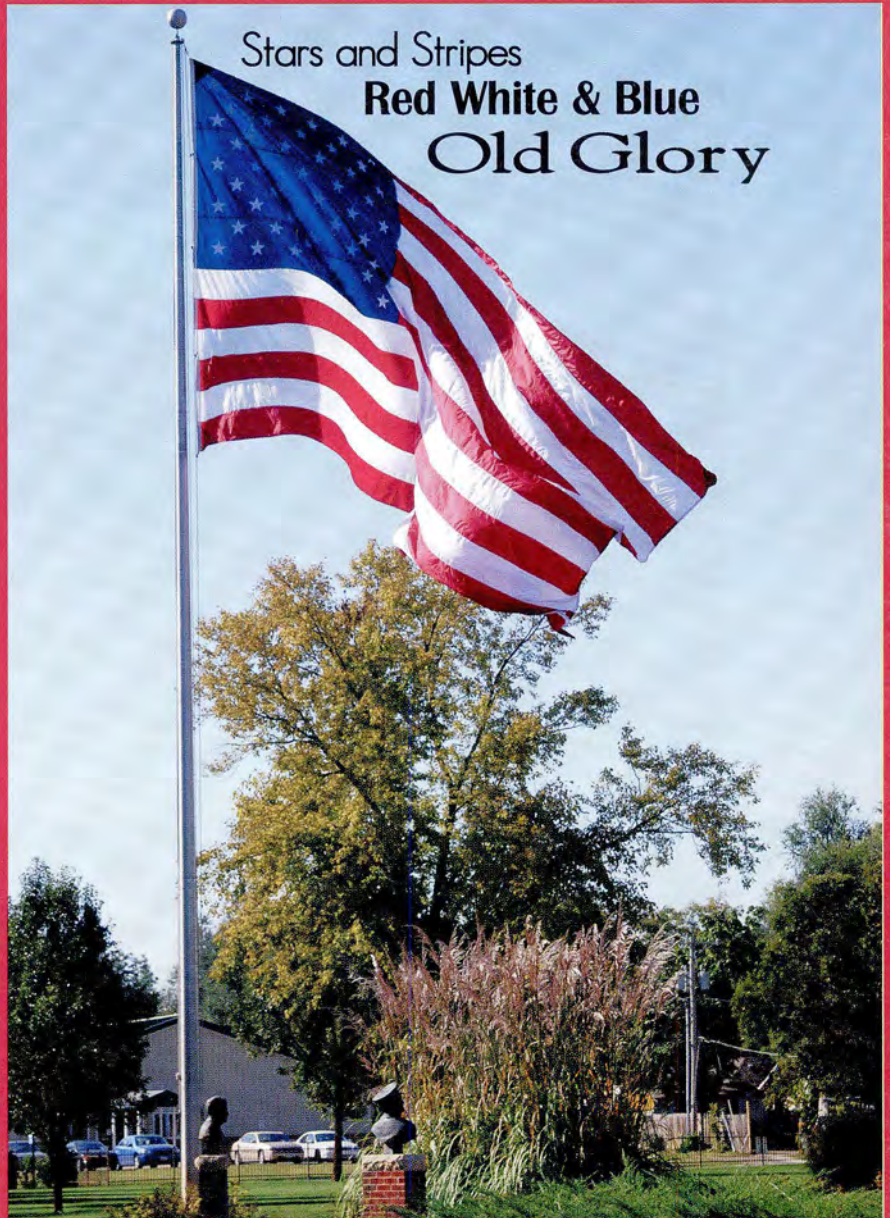
OR CURRENT RESIDENT

Kansans sometimes curse the winds that blow across the plains but when there is enough wind to buoy the Garrison Flag not a cross word will be heard. Some say it takes their breathe away to see the Garrison Flag fly.

Joe Rauh presented a garrison flag to St. John's in 1980 in memory of his son, Don, a SJMS trustee from Busboom & Rauh Construction Company. This Flag had become tattered from being whipped in the wind; and with each trip to the seamstress to repair the damage that had occurred, the flag's proportions had become compromised. Thanks to the generosity of Bob Miller, President Busboom and Rauh, and longtime St. John's Trustee, the 'old' Garrison flag was replaced by a 'new' one and once again is displayed on the teardrop for special campus events. It takes over twenty-four Cadets to prepare the Garrison to be hoisted up the flag poll and just as many to properly fold the flag for storage.

The entire St. John's Family sends a big Thank You out to Bob Miller!

Let Freedom Ring!



Bravo Company Cadets prepare to fold the new Garrison Flag