

The Skirmisher

Fall 2011

Volume XCIII No. 1

St. John's Military School



124th

building a "A BANNER YEAR"



✝ Welcome Matthew



Matthew Lewis brings the gift of spiritual guidance and song to the SJMS campus.

An accomplished guitarist with a pleasing voice, Lewis, by example has shown the Cadets what it means to 'praise the Lord.'

Just prior to arriving at St. John's, he was enrolled in the Duke University school of Divinity. The St. John's campus is starkly different from the atmosphere at Duke.

Here, we have only male students-much younger and with a different view of the world. St. John's is a tough crowd. The Cadets come from a wide variety of church experiences and often question the need for worship. Lewis has been undeterred from sharing the message of the Lord.

Sermons are delivered with gusto and are full of dynamics. His voice rises and falls in pitch and volume throughout his weekly homilies. Each time he preaches, he gives the listener the impression this may be the most important lesson he will ever deliver.

Together with Lewis' fresh preaching style,

and the contributions of Choir Director and Church organist Merrell Nelson, you might say that Armstrong Chapel is rockin'. The Chapel Choir and praise band, together with the Cadets who serve on the Chapel Council, have awakened a new spirituality on campus.



Matthew's faithful companion, "Sweetie," adopted from the animal shelter, can often be seen romping and playing with the Cadets on the teardrop when the weather allows. Sweetie has found a home here at St. John's and is reveling in the companionship of his new master and the 200 + new playmates he's found.
Left: Chaz Molina and Daniel Staniaszek bond with Sweetie!



Sweet Potato Pancake...aka "Sweetie"

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the *Skirmisher*

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This new program recognizes and rewards Cadets for good behavior and a positive work ethic.

The 124th Corps of Cadets is building a year to be remembered. Winning seasons on the athletic field, diligence in the classroom, recognition and awards for physical strength, and academics have all contributed to a sense of accomplishment for the St. John's family.

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Back Cover
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Max Brooks

Kansas Scholars



Klaus Mullens, Gregory Saville, and Joshua Batchelor.

Klaus Mullens, Gregory Saville, and Joshua Batchelor were honored as Kansas Scholars for achieving the top three GPA's at SJMS. Sponsored by Kansas University, the program recognizes academic achievement by high school seniors. KU invites students from area high schools, along with school administrators and counselors, to attend a banquet at the Salina Country Club. The students receive a copy of the Kansas Honors Dictionary, a certificate suitable for framing, and information explaining scholarship monies available to Kansas scholars at the University of Kansas. Ginger Wooten, SJMS Academic Dean, explains "I appreciate the chance to have our Cadets recognized together with other area students, and look forward to the banquet each year!"

spotlight on sjmspa

St. John's Military School Parents' Association



What a great beginning to the 124th Corp of Cadets!!! Leadership/Sports Camp was a huge success with many Cadets coming back early to learn

leadership skills and begin their sports training. The SJMS staff is very impressed with how serious this year's Corps leaders are taking their responsibilities. The leaders did an excellent job training the "New Boys," while helping maintain the camaraderie of the "Old Boys." The "Old Boys" feel a sense of pride and are excited about what this year has to offer.

Many "New Boys" made it through their rigorous schedule and training, passed their "New Boy" 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.

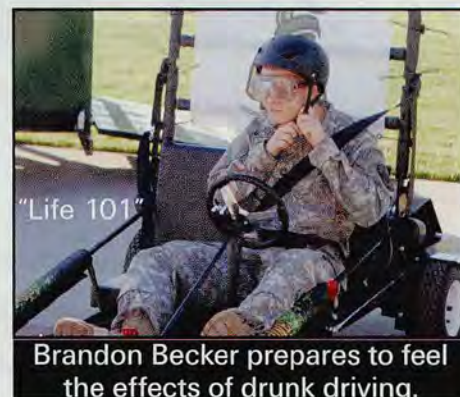
Our first class in our "Life 101" series was a HUGE success. The class, entitled "Responsibilities," touched on several topics, including drinking and driving, riding in a car with someone who has been drinking or smoking pot, and texting while driving. We held two classes with 30 Cadets in each session,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

Our November Newsletter included:

- 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

- Career Day. Planned for February 2012, Career Day encourages 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 and are well on their way to having a great year!



Brandon Becker prepares to feel the effects of drunk driving.

Tammy Ashe at
tamaraashe@hotmail.com
 303-944-2344

OR

Sara Cline at
businesswriter@msn.com
 402-350-8872

High School ←

Blue Beret

→ Middle School



Eli Harmon Merit Davey Arman Singh



Christopher Kessler Perry Yam Kasch Layton

High School ←

Dean's Honor Roll

→ Middle School



Bryan Elm Levi Harmon Ricardo Limon Jacob Astle Adam Walther Brandon Becker James McCaffrey



Ryan Barrera-Law Christopher Castriso Kole Stoltz



Caelon Tautz William Abikzer Matthew Giachetto Elliott Murray Craig Roukema Nicholas Migliarese

The Blue Beret is worn by the Cadets earning the highest GPA in the Corps!
The Cadets are listed in order of their grade point average.

High School ←

Honor Roll

→ Middle School



Levi Gottsponer Daniel Moffenbier David Loera Uribe Leon Rosenberg Wei Feng Jack Busacker John Haen



Jake Whitting Avi Arms Leeor Arms



Alexander Goring Alberto Elias Romero Alec Costilla Aaron Poulin Luke Whitting Thomas Dalsaso Jorge Alduncin Alemon



Michael Byington Demetrios Kyriazakos Cameron Webb



Reily Byrne Noah Lightner Michael Barron Howard Hellwig Bretton Hibler Christopher O'Neil Gregory Saville



Daniel Laws Isaac Farris Nathaniel Pearson

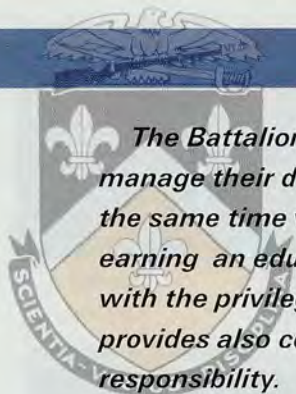


Calvin Guardiola Sawyer Williams Bryan Ingram-Dubois Timothy Pilcher Sergio Cois Hunter Nicodemus Chase Rose



Chu Wang Steven Juszcyk Quenton Schur John Miner Quentin McCarthy Scott Timpe Richard Wik Joshua Batchelor





The Battalion Staff must manage their duties while at the same time work towards earning an education. Along with the privileges their rank provides also comes much responsibility.

The Battalion Staff sets the tone for the school year, leading by example and insisting that the members of the Corps of Cadets understand and meet the standards of the school!

Battalion Staff



Son of Candice & Peter Czerwinski
Phoenix, AZ



Son of Tiffany & Brad Saville
Andover, KS



Son of Julann Wygal
Dana Point, CA



Son of Dilbir & Karanjit Singh
Gold River, CA

Jason Czerwinski Gregory Saville Chaz Molina Arjun Singh

Years at SJMS: 3	Years at SJMS: 4	Years at SJMS: 4	Years at SJMS: 3
Position:	Position:	Position:	Position:
Battalion Commander	Executive Officer	Battalion Command Sergeant Major	S3 Sergeant Major
Responsibilities:	Responsibilities:	Responsibilities:	Responsibilities:
Manage company staff and the Executive Officer and the Command Sergeant Major	Leading and mentoring the other members of the staff and assuming the duties of the BC in his absence.	Select and train the color guard and cannon detail. Oversee the RAT program and formulate a campus police plan.	Coordinate the RAT program and assist with "New Boy" training as the training non-commissioned officer.
Post Secondary Plans	Post Secondary Plans	Post Secondary Plans	Post Secondary Plans
Attend the University of Arizona as a member of the Army or Marine ROTC program.	Play football for the University of Oklahoma while earning a degree in Law.	Attend a state university in California majoring in business and engineering.	Attend College or join the Military.

Jason Czerwinski believes the most rewarding part of his job is "the satisfaction of knowing people look up to me; that I am helping them to become more disciplined and educated." Members of the faculty and staff describe Czerwinski's leadership style as being controlled and firm. He is a quiet man with a keen sense of direction in his own life and a clear view of the path he believes the Corps of Cadets should be following. The most difficult part of his job comes from "being a mediator between the adult and Cadet staff, because the two groups often take different stands on matters concerning the school." He credits CPT Mike Reid with being his greatest mentor "because he helped me overcome personal problems and conflicts with my parents, which helped me become a stronger more confident person." **Greg Saville** is known as "Cadillac" on the football field because of the way he drives the ball down the field. Active in music and a good student, Saville brings

a wide variety of experience to his position. His leadership positions include; drill sergeant, platoon leader and company commander. When handling discipline with his friends, he believes if he "treats them with the respect they've earned, he can expect the same in return." Saville credits MSG Johnnie McGee as being his greatest mentor stating, "he has helped me with many situations when I have needed help."

Chaz Molina worked his way through the ranks of the Corps as a senior drill instructor, first sergeant, team leader, and drill sergeant. Molina feels the most rewarding part of his job is "Doing it with all my brothers and knowing you accomplished the job with your brothers." Molina credits MSG Keith Price as being his greatest mentor "due to the simple fact that he tells it like it is." He handles the tough

task of disciplining his friends by treating them with respect and telling them to "man up and take the punishment." **Arjun Singh** earned his spot on the battalion staff by climbing the ladder from the bottom up. Starting as a squad leader, then a platoon sergeant, he became a RAT drill instructor, then became senior drill instructor for the RAT (Rehabilitative Attentiveness Training) program. Singh considers RAT training to be the most difficult part of his job because "you must change an unmotivated Cadet and make him care about his life." Singh sites SPC. Walker and LCPL Sibio for helping set up a solid base for the non-commissioned officers and future leaders of the Corps. Singh also explained "I took SFC Ricky Jordan's attitude and used it in my position in the Corps. He has been a good teacher during my three years at St. John's." **Joshua**



Son of Nanette
Lampman & Rod
Batchelor

Joshua Batchelor



Son of Daniel
Staniaszek
Glen Head, NY

Daniel Staniaszek



Son of Julia Fox &
Dennis Fox
Allen, TX

Stefan Roberts



Son of Tina Gujer &
Robert Poulin
E. Palo Alto, CA

Aaron Poulin



Son of David &
Karen Bressman
Powell, OH

Jared Bressman

Years at SJMS: 5	Years at SJMS: 3	Years at SJMS: 4	Years at SJMS: 2	Years at SJMS: 2
Position:	Position:	Position:	Position:	Position:
S1	S2	S3	S4	S5
Responsibilities:	Responsibilities:	Responsibilities:	Responsibilities:	Responsibilities:
Maintain ROTC records on high school Cadets, prepare reports, act as narrator for special events, and announce at mess.	Monitor Cadet academic achievement, manage Cadet Patrol and ensure the completion of security checks.	Supervise Cadet training programs and create schedules for ceremonies and parades.	Control mess hall and laundry operations, plan transportation for the Corps, and work with the Quartermaster.	Take photos of Corps activities, public relations, and coordinate community service events.
Post Secondary Plans	Post Secondary Plans	Post Secondary Plans	Post Secondary Plans	Post Secondary Plans
Attend Colorado the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs.	Attend college.	Attend Texas A&M on a four-year ROTC scholarship.	Attend College on an ROTC scholarship and attend Veterinary Medicine School.	Attending the University of Dayton and earn a Degree in Law.

Batchelor has the longest tenure at SJMS of all the members of the battalion staff. He had trouble citing just one member of the staff that has been a mentor, stating, "through the years, practically all the staff has helped me out one way or another." He believes the key to disciplining his friends is to remember "when we are on pass or during free time we are friends; otherwise, they are subordinates and everyone is treated the same." Batchelor plans to become a registered nurse by earning a Bachelor of Science degree from The University of Colorado, in Colorado Springs. **Daniel Staniaszek** is responsible for monitoring the academic standing of the Corps. He believes the most rewarding part of his job is "making sure everyone gets good grades." He believes that his friends "respect me enough to do what I say." Staniaszek credits his friend and fellow staff member,

Chaz Molina with being his greatest mentor, stating, "he has been by my side since I've been here. We help each other." Staniaszek plans to attend college but is not certain of the career path he will choose.

Stefan Roberts gives CPT Mike Reid credit for being his greatest mentor stating, "he always congratulated me on my hard work, and he always gave me the motivation to try harder at this school." Roberts, experienced at several levels of leadership in the corps, believes that the most difficult part of the S-3 position is "being able to get my drill instructors motivated to do their job to the best of their abilities." **Aaron Poulin** in only in his second year at St. John's has found success on battalion staff. The most difficult component of his job is "keeping 200 Cadets in the mess hall quiet and happy." Poulin feels the great friends he developed in the

123rd Corps served as his mentors. He gives a shout out to those friends, "long live the private table." Poulin dreams of becoming a Veterinarian specializing in exotic avian species and traveling to South America or Australia to study parrots and cockatoos, because they are, in his words, "truly fascinating and beautiful creatures." **Jared Bressman** feels the most rewarding part of his job is "being on staff and helping out when needed." His past experience in the Corps includes: drill instructor, company clerk, guide-on bearer, and squad leader. This year, Bressman spends a great deal of time capturing on film many Corps activities, both on and off campus. He lists the most difficult part of his job as "trying to go to all activities and community service events." Bressman credits SFC Mark Giles, MSG Johnnie McGee, and SGM Jerry Nichols with "teaching me to strive hard to achieve my goals."

Christopher Kessler, SJMS seventh grade Cadet when



asked how the battalion staff is doing

responded, "they really do a good job, they discipline when it's needed - but they are fair."

SJMS

Raider Team

Raider Challenge is a Junior ROTC event that consists of physically and mentally challenging activities and leadership. A team is usually composed of 8 team members and an alternate. Each Team member must train hard physically, doing push-ups, sit-ups, pull-ups, rope climb, mile run, and a 6.2 mile run. Cadets must be able to tie 8 knots, understand the first aid steps, and be able to concentrate and think on their feet under extreme stress. This is an all-day activity.

Our Raider team is comprised of cadets from all companies. There are Company Commanders, a 1SG, platoon leaders, platoon sergeants, and even the Battalion commander and Battalion Command Sergeant Major. The following cadets are or have been part of this team first semester: William Abikzer, Jacob Ellis, Wei Feng, Calvin Guardiola, Eli Harmon, Levi Harmon, Andrew Klaas, Christian Marquez, J.D. Miner, Vincent Pestello, Aaron Poulin, Daniel Staniaszek, Chu Wang, Nick Zucker, Quenton Schur, Jason Czerwinski, Chaz Molina, Chris O'Neil, Zakayo Lazaro, and Josh Batchelor.

Over the course of first semester, the SJMS Raider Team has competed in six different events. We started the year off with the National Guard Army Physical Fitness Test. There, our teams took second place overall. This team consisted of cadets Schur, Ellis, Miner, and Abikzer. This was to be the first of several trophies.

The next event they competed in was the 4th Annual "Golden Valley" Raider Challenge in Clinton, MO. Our team competed honorably, but was unable to secure any trophies. Although they came home from it empty handed, the event was an excellent learning opportunity, setting the tone for the next challenge.

The next event was the 11th Annual Jean Kaplan "Red Bull" Raider Challenge in Johnston, IA. After a long and exhaustive day, our team was able to take third place in the 10 kilometer road march. During this event, the team was given two ruck sacks weighing 50lbs each, which they had to trade off throughout the event. This was particularly difficult considering our team left Salina at 11 o'clock Friday night after the football game, and sacrificed going to the first school dance to represent the school. A long drive, but well worth it.

After returning to St. John's, the team prepared for the 7th Annual "Tiger Raider Challenge" in Sedalia, MO. This was another long drive as the team departed after the football game and drove 5 hours to get there on time. As it turned out, these factors were too much for the team to overcome, and they were forced to come back empty handed. Again, however, this only further motivated the team with the upcoming meet during the fall Parent's Weekend.

This meet took place in what could be considered our back

yard at Ft. Riley Army Base. The 3rd Brigade Western Regional Meet was particularly special, as some of the cadets' parents were in attendance. After another long and brutal event, our team came away with First Place in the Army physical Fitness Test and Second Place in the 10 kilometer Road March. Another great result for many hours of hard training.

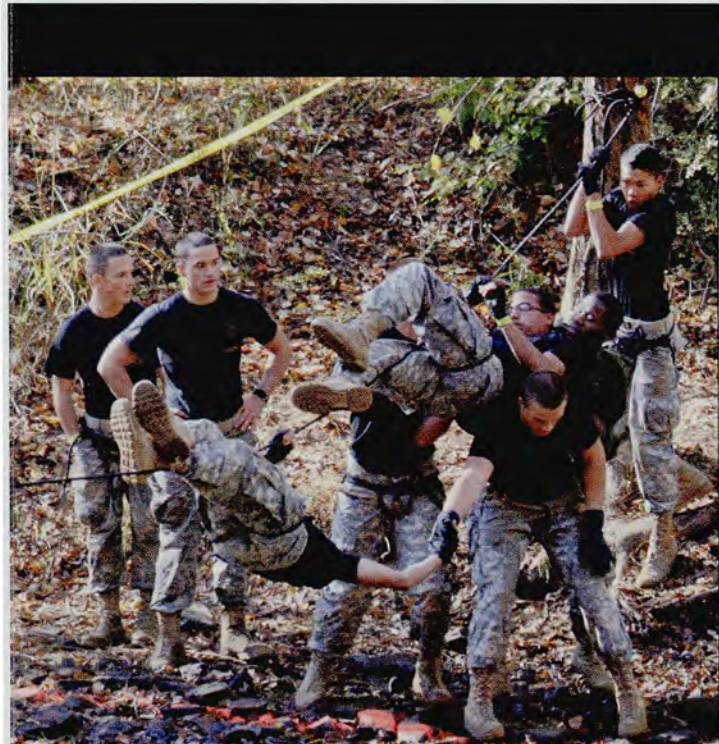
The final event of the semester proved to be the most challenging, as our team competed for the first time ever in the National Raider Challenge Championships in Molena, GA. The grueling 18 hour drive was stretched into two days of travel. Upon arrival, the team got straight to work. Out of the 27 all male teams that competed, our SJMS Raider Team finished 15 overall. This is a tremendous accomplishment for a team that is only in its second season ever competing in Raider Challenges!

Second semester is going to be a busy one. We have several Raider Challenges as well as the Bataan Death March over spring break. Our first event will be right after the cadets return from Christmas break on Jan. 21st and 22nd. It is the United States Open Raider Challenge at Camp Bullis, TX. We will be trying to improve on a Third Place Overall finish from last year. We will then begin preparing for the Bataan Death March, a memorial event that is a full marathon length! After that, we have three events in April. We have the Air Capital Raider Challenge in Wichita, KS on April 7th, the "6th Annual Pony Express Raider Challenge" in St Joseph, MO on April 20th and 21st, and then the - "First In The Nation Pioneer Raider Challenge" in Ft. Leavenworth, KS on April 27th and 28th. There are also a few other events that have yet to be announced, but we plan to attend.

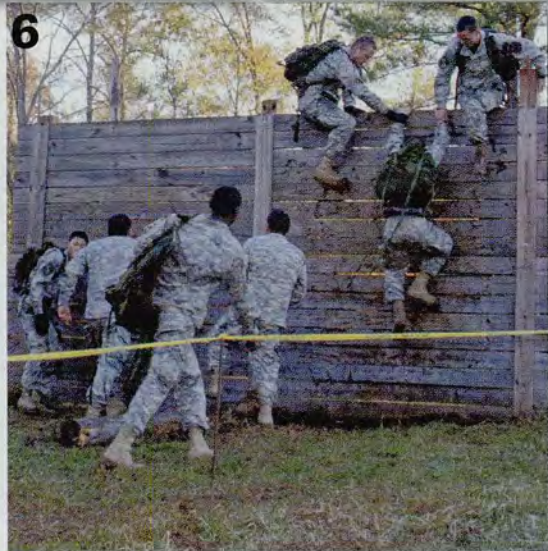
These young men should be commended for the effort and dedication they have put forth on behalf of St. John's. They have leadership positions in the corps and are members of SJMS sports teams. They are held to high academic standards as well as behavioral standards that well exceed expectations. Everything they do directly reflects St. John's. We can all be proud of the way they have represented SJMS with dignity and professionalism.

Brian Bell and Rob Cruce





1. The SJMS Raider Team members traverse the rope bridge.
 2. The Raiders work together constructing the rope bridge.
 3. Jason Czerwinski holds William Abikzer during the sit-up portion of the physical fitness challenge.
 4. The Raiders await the start of their next test!
 5. Quenton Schur ties the rope between the trees for the rope bridge.
 6. During the Raider Gauntlet, the teams have to negotiate articles while carrying weighted ruck sacks. The SJMS Raiders assist each other in climbing the wall.



"Being the only freshman in the history of the school to make the Raider Team makes me feel very proud. I love everything about being on the Raider Team, the activities, the teamwork, just the whole thing."
 Calvin
 Guardiola



Parents' Weekend... a chance for the SJMS family to come together and celebrate the Corps of Cadets!

October 12-15, 2011

Right: the garrison flag is being taken down by several Cadets Sunday evening after family and friends have departed campus.



National Honor Society members *Bretton Hibler, *Levi Harmon, *Merit Davey, Gerg Saville, Josh Batchelor, and *Eli Harmon. (* denotes inducted Parents' Weekend.)

Right: Augustin Castillo opens the ceremony singing the Star Spangled Banner.



The Black Knights commanded by Tyler Schneider, Josh Harris, Nicholas Ross-Simmons, Connor Madden, Ryan Lynch, Richard Wik, Ben Williams, Steven Juszczyk, and Luke Whitting. (hidden in back row Brooklyn Mc Knight)

Parents Sara & Richard Cline watch as their son, Justin Ferraro salutes Jason Czerwinski, after being promoted!



Top: Mr. Osborne witnesses his son Michael, become an "Old Boy." Left: Isaac Ferris, Blase Whitting and Reece Turner wait to perform the Alma Mater.

Left: Middle School Drill Team drills! Jake Whitting, Blase Whitting, Reece Turner, Michael Osborne, Ryan Barrera-Law, Justin Gilbert, Daniel Laws, Christopher Kessler, and Jacob Younger.

Katy England....



Katy England spent the first year on campus quietly observing the lives of Cadets while measuring the tempo of the school. Like the artist that she is, Katy carefully planned the design of her first ladyship and carefully chose the colors of her palate.

The 124th Corps of Cadets have experienced the beginning of what is sure to be an extraordinary chapter in the history of SJMS first ladies.

Several lucky members of the 124th Corps have been invited on spur of the moment trips to Bogeys (a longtime Salina favorite) for shakes and fries. Invitations to join the family for weekend brunch, and special luncheons for the leadership of the Corps contribute to the message that the first lady is also a Mom away from home to the young men that reside on the St. John's campus.

Constantly thinking of ways to integrate the Cadets into the Salina community, Mrs. England provides Cadets the opportunity to participate in Snapshots, an 18 week program for high school students at the Salina Art Center. "Snapshots integrates photography and other visual arts with expressive writing as a means of encouraging students to share their lives through self-exploration and individual expression." Katy transports the Cadets to class each week and shares her passion for art with each of the participants.

Katy is confident in the knowledge that when the Cadets interact with the people of Salina, the image of St. John's will continue to be a positive one.

Mrs. England organized an evening of caroling by giving the Cadets the opportunity to volunteer and visit Presbyterian Manor (a senior living community); the homes of former first lady Elizabeth Duckers; current board member, Tom Bell; and longtime SJMS employees, Ken and Lilian Faerber. Katy arranged for hot chocolate and brownies and a showing of Elf in the Browning reception room following the caroling.

The rest of the England clan have embraced their new life on the St. John's campus by welcoming the Cadets into their family. It is a common sight to see the England children playing capture the flag on the weekends with middle school Cadets. President England spends evenings monitoring the halls of the barracks, and Katy has implemented new programs sure to impact Cadet life in a positive way.

Katy has built close friendships with SJMS staff members, kept her eye on every aspect of the workings of the school, and still managed to keep the England household running smoothly!

Thank you for your leadership and dedication to the St. John's family! We look forward to your future plans to enrich the lives of St. John's Cadets!

Wendy Stein




1. Michael Byington singing the carols.
2. Mary & Kegan England in the Christmas spirit.
3. Stefan Roberts & Darius Bridgeman add the sound of horns.
4. Merrell Nelson directs the singing.
5. Ryan Barrera-Law visits with a resident at the manor.

Several Cadets volunteered to go caroling with Mrs. England. Mr. Merrell Nelson provided accompaniment on the piano, and Mrs. Stein and some of the band members provided musical support. The Cadets were encouraged to greet the residents at Presbyterian Manor after singing.



Above: Bryan Ingram Dubois, Michael Collins, Nicholas Ross-Simmons and David Loera-Urbe are participating in the "Snapshots" program at the Salina Art Center. The Cadets work closely with the teachers to explore their creative side and continue exploring the art of photography and self-expression.

 The football team started the season with fifty three players, the largest roster in football since I began coaching twenty-five years ago. The guys worked very hard through the season, and it showed as we improved each week.

These Cadets knew what they wanted, and it was our jobs as coaches to help them achieve their goals. The 14 seniors each made a huge difference in their own way. The Cadets finally had a season above five hundred and beat some public schools that we hadn't beaten in years. The feeling was so great when the guys accomplished these goals.

SJMS played in the KCAA league, and for the first time in the history of the school had a chance to compete for a state title. Five players made all league; Jake Ellis, defense safety first

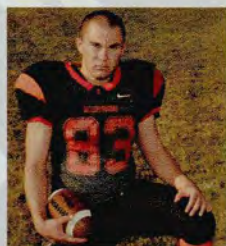
team, second team offense quarterback, Leconte Prophete, first team offense tight end, Jason Czerwinski second team offense center, Greg Saville, second team defense nose guard, and Quenton Schur, second team defense linebacker.

The coaching staff would like to say thanks again to the guys who played football this season.

Coach Roy Lawrence



ALL-LEAGUE



Jason Czerwinski
Center



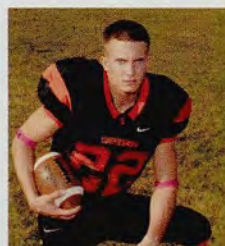
Jake Ellis
Safety



Leconte Prophete
Tight End



Greg Saville
Nose Guard



Quenton Schur
Linebacker



front row: Kole Stoltz (manager) Drake Donenfeld, Brooklyn Mc Knight, Leon Rosenberg, Braxton Botorff, Zakayo Lazaro, Justin Ferraro
second row: (manager) Sawyer Williams John Miner, Anthony Terlecki, Tyler Scott, Jason Czerwinski, Austin Easley, Nicholas Migliarese, Jake Ellis
third row: Coach Mark Hickman, Coach Joe Rischer, Connor Dempsey, Leconte Phrophete, Greg Saville, Hunter Nicodemus, Brandon Mudd, Jordan Covers, Kwame Nkemakolam, (manager) Roland, Arnold Coach Mike Reid, Head Coach Roy Lawrence
Fourth row: Anthony Edwards, Andrew Klaas, Austin Schrenkel, Joshua Batchelor, Joshua Harris, Vincent Pestello, Quenton Schur, Jared Bressman

Football

“This season was much better than last year. The team really tried to improve their times and take the sport seriously!”

Nich Holmgren



Overall, Coach Lewis and myself thought that this last Cross Country season went very well. Throughout the season we saw steady improvement from all of our runners. At the beginning of the season many of the runners had trouble finishing an easy mile run, but by the end of the season our runners had improved and developed into competitive 5K (3.1 Miles) runners. We are very proud of all of our runners and are looking forward to seeing most of them again next season.

Coach James Johnson

front row: (manager) Dillon Sweet, Isaac Farris, Ricardo Limon, Samuel Lockhart, Lucas Boes, second row: David Loera, Julius Visser, Christopher O’Neil, Frederico Gonzalez, Klaus Mullens, Daniel Staniaszek, Jacob Astle, third row: Coach Matthew Lewis, Alex Sigmon, Eric Olsen, Clayton Burton, Nicholas Holmgren, Coach James D. Johnson.

Cross Country



**Bryan Cerato
kickin it!**



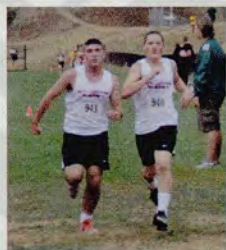
**Luis Marquez
attacks.**



**Cross Country
Team spirit.**



**Astle, Holmgren
& Mullens.**



**Visser & Loera
race to the finish!**



**Soccer
Team Spirit.**



front row: Levi Harmon, Jorge Alduncin, Jaime De La Paz, Eli Harmon, Luis Libreros, Bryan Cerato, Andre Popovic. back row: Brandon O’Neil, Sergio Cois, Alec Costilla, Christian Marquez, Daniel Noyes, Ben Williams, Francisco Puente, Juan Pablo Abraham-Arroyo, Daniel Moffenbier

This year our soccer team went beyond our expectations. This team is by far the best skilled team we have had in our four years of coaching. It was also the first team who finished the season with a winning record, 10-7. The combination of young talent and the experience of our seniors was perfect for this group of guys who struggled the whole season to keep this team together. We are very proud of this group of Cadets who did a fine job at representing St. John’s athletics.

*Coach Leo Alvarado and
Coach Daniel Leech*

**Season Record
10 - 7**

Soccer

Notes from Liz



There has been recent interest in Ralph Macchio in *Dancing with The Stars*. He earned stardom in the movie

The *Karate Kid*, but he began his march to fame on the St. John's campus.

In the Warner Brothers film, *The Brave Young Men of Weinberg* (later purchased by Mad magazine it became "Up the Academy"). Macchio, Hutch Parker, Wendell Brown and Tom Citera made their film debuts as young men from widely diverse backgrounds who meet in a military academy. Macchio was cast as the moody son of a Mafia Godfather.

He was 17 at the time and was from Long Island. He had been studying dance since age three. His idol was Gene Kelly, and he planned to build a career as a dancer on Broadway and in movie musicals. I guess he reached that goal by his skills in "Dancing."

The movie was filmed in Salina during the fall of 1979. Ira Loostain, production manager, explained why Salina was selected. He said, "We will use Cadets because, one, they have spiffy uniforms and two, because they can already march." Peter Wooley, production designer,

added "It has nothing to do with the location, but it has everything to do with the people. People have been very receptive here. It seems like a nice place to work." Many people in Salina were used as 'extras.'

Barbara Bach played the guns and ammunition instructor and married Ringo Starr shortly after the filming of the movie. Tom Poston, known for his comedic work, played the role of quartermaster in the show. All his filming was done in the morning so he could play golf every afternoon at the Salina Country Club.

The movie wasn't very good; however it is not on the list of the worst movies ever filmed. But as Donna Vanier, the coordinator between the school and film company, and Keith said "We laughed all the way to the bank." At that time the main building was a "hole in the ground" as Vail Hall had burned and the Vanier Academic Center was being built.

One of the executives reported it was estimated that more than \$2 million was spent in Salina. The singing group "The Landmines," Charles Kephart, Jim Coddington, Jack Gallagher, Jack Stewart and John Ryberg, still get "residual payments," as does former Sgt. Bill Bunting of the St. John's staff who had a role as a soccer player.

Robert Downey, father of the now popular Robert Downey Jr., was the director of the show. In fact, the younger Downey may have been a Cadet for a few hours. The gates at the school entrance were used during the filming at Kansas Wesleyan University. After the completion of filming, the gates were moved to the SJMS campus. The crew also left an obstacle course on the west side of the campus that was removed at some point in time. The Commandant's golf cart was a result of that movie. Lt.Col. Paul Kellogg, Commandant, injured a leg while filming a soccer game on Perkins Field. Production designer Wooley knew they had to have Kellogg's help. Wooley rented a cart so Kellogg could get around. Kellogg thought it was such a good idea that he kept the cart after the crew left Salina. Wooley was so impressed with the Kansas hospitality that he returned to film two other productions. "The Day After" filmed in Lawrence and "Murder Ordained" near Emporia. The largest crowd to attend anything on the School campus was on hand the evening the Warner Brothers demolition experts, headed by the famous Candy Flanagan, used explosives to create a spectacular scene for the movie.

The Cadets and faculty and staff learned that movie making is not glamorous. It is hard work.



"Old Boys" ... Bound together by their love of St. John's!

Everyone needs a "go-to" guy; someone you can depend upon to be a sounding board, provide a shoulder to lean on, or simply to be able to just pick up the phone and end the conversation with laughter and/or a solution. We are lucky to have a great Old Boy Association (OBA) Board of directors. When Bill Meidell, class of 1966 and a founding father of the OBA board, stepped down from the board in May of 2010, a new member was needed to fill his spot. Meidell is now a consultant and leaves the everyday business of the alumni organization to more active members.

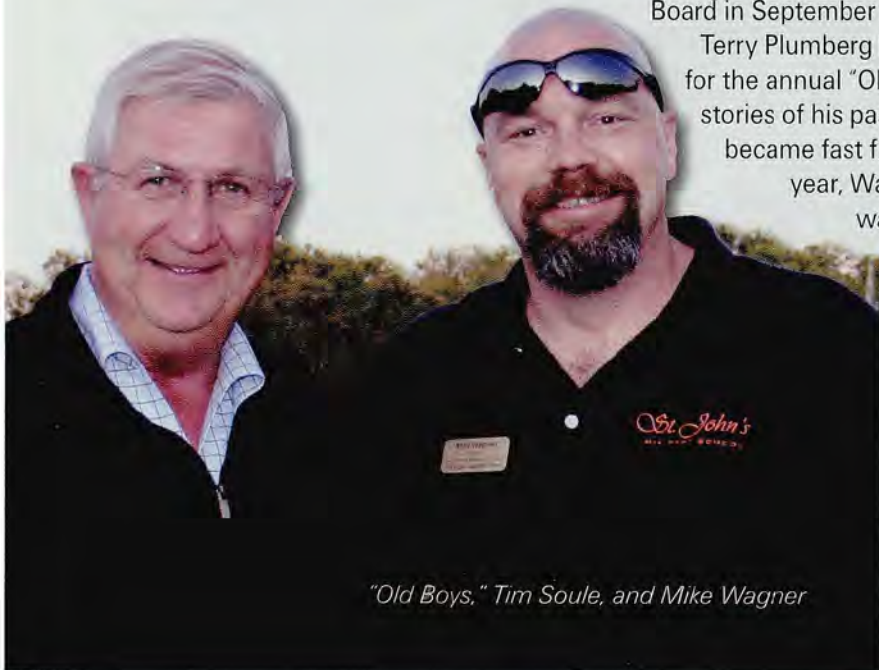
The OBA board wanted someone who was dedicated to the goals of SJMS, resided relatively close to campus, and could help with planning and implementing events. The board also hoped the candidate would start building relationships with parents and Cadets; and so with these guidelines in place, Mike Wagner, 1991, was asked to join the Board in September of 2011.

Terry Plumberg became acquainted with Wagner during a trip to Colorado for the annual "Old Boy" Golf Tournament. On the drive west, Wagner shared stories of his past, and his dedication to St. John's. Plumberg and Wagner became fast friends. Plumberg explained, "During Commencement last year, Wagner made sure to help with the "Old Boy" reception, and was responsible for getting the artifacts back to the Alumni Room. Since then, he has helped with other events on campus and attended October Parents' Weekend. What an impact he has made in a very short time."

Wagner resides in Hays, KS and has two daughters, Julia 14 and Jade 10. Wagner attended SJMS for three years, graduating in 1991. His favorite memories of SJMS are with SGM Jerry Houseley, and he keeps in contact with classmates, Darren Johnson and Tony Herald.

We welcome you Mike, and thank you for the bonds you have established and your dedication to your Alma Mater!

Terry Plumberg



"Old Boys," Tim Soule, and Mike Wagner

Scholarships symbolize...opportunity!

"I really wanted to graduate from SJMS and without the scholarship. I wouldn't be here right now, I'm very grateful for this opportunity."

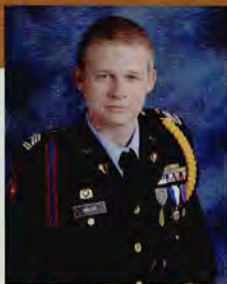
Bretton Hibler

"This is a great school, and I'm excelling more than I thought I could. I just really want to say thank you to the "Old Boys" for helping us."

Merit Davey



Merit Davey



Bretton Hibler

Bretton Hibler, Senior, Medina, Ohio, and Merit Davey, Sophomore, Montgomery, Alabama, have many things in common. Both work diligently to maintain high grade point averages. Hibler holds a 3.7 average, and Davey maintains a 4.0 GPA. Hibler is President of Chapel Council and Davey is Vice President. Each has excelled in leadership during his time at St. John's. Davey plans to attend college through the Army ROTC program and serve in the United States Army. Hibler is undecided about his college plans.

The OBA Board, comprised of Lou Barnett, 1973, Dick Retrum, 1966, Bill Salmon, 1953, Jefferson Baker, 1986, David Dumler, 1987, Tom Wilson, 1962, Darren Johnson 1991, Neal Thierren, 1986, Mike Wagner, 1991, and Bill Meidell, 1954, under the guidance of D. Dale Browning, 1955, choose the annual recipients from eligible Cadets. The board takes this task very seriously and awards these scholarships with great pride.

Giving to the Campaign is easy!

Simply contact the Alumni Office,
by phone at: 785 823 7231 ex. 7783
or send an e-mail to: terryp@sjms.org.

The Forward, March! Campaign was kicked off by COL. Al Ransom, class of 1956. Ransom is very passionate about the Campaign, because when he was a Cadet, an anonymous donor provided a scholarship which allowed him to finish his schooling at St. John's. Ransom believes his success in life can be directly attributed to what he learned at St. John's. Ransom's life was changed through the scholarship, and he wants to do all he can to ensure other Cadets have the same opportunities.

To date, over \$70,000 has been raised. "Our goal is to raise \$250,000, and to provide one full ride scholarship each year," states Terry Plumberg, Alumni Director. "I have been overwhelmed at the generosity of the "Old Boys," as they have given from their heart, and continue to be avid supporters of SJMS."



"The rewards are often greater for the giver. The donor is taking ownership of his heritage and traditions - let's give the same chance to these young men as others have done before."

Terry Plumberg



Mr. & Mrs. O'Connell

During Fall Parents' Weekend, a new fund-raising drive was initiated by Mr. and Mrs. O'Connell, parents of current Cadet 2LT Daniel O'Connell and former Cadet Mohammed Alcharif. The O'Connells spoke to parents and relatives of St. John's Cadets, encouraging all to contribute to a Parents Scholarship fund. Thanks to the vision of the O'Connell family, St. John's has received nearly \$7,000.00 in checks and pledges in support of this new scholarship drive. At Commencement, these merit based scholarships will be awarded to Cadets returning for the 125th Corps. Contributions to support additional scholarships will be accepted through March.

Please contact:

Max Brooks, St. John's Director of
Development and Marketing,
at 785.823.7231 ex 7750
or maxbrooks@sjms.org.



"Old Boy," Dan Moran Class of 1993, pledged \$75,000.00 to fund a new computer lab to replace the lab given in his honor by his Great Grandmother, Jesse Given, in 1996. The new lab will feature state of the art computers, new desks and a new screen.

Coming Soon The "New" Moran Computer Lab!

Phillip Gamito, SJMS Network administrator, worked over the Christmas holiday setting up the lab to be ready for second semester. Computer teacher, Deb Feil, announced the plans for her new lab at the faculty meeting December 12, 2011.

St. John's is deeply appreciative for the substantial support given by the Jesse Given estate, and feel very fortunate that "Old Boy" Dan Moran (Great Grandson of Jesse Given) is carrying forward the legacy of philanthropy to the school.

Max Brooks, Director of Marketing

MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



from left: Dee Longbine, Bob Vidricksen, Gabby Merry, Dan Pestinger, Sergio Cois, Darius Bridgeman, Bryan Cerato, Caelon Tautz, Daniel Moffenbier, Dylan Sweet, Benjamin Williams, Lucas Boes, Calvin Guardiola, Stafan Roberts, Chase Rose, Tyler Schneider, Quenton Mc Carthy, Gregory Saville and Christopher Wilson.

Dan Pestinger, SJMS neighbor and friend, annually observes the Marine Corps Birthday by inviting the Band to perform. The Band rises early and marches down the street north of the school to the Pestinger residence. Upon arrival, the band plays the Star Spangled Banner and the Marine Corps Hymn while Pestinger raises both our nation's colors

and the Marine Corps flag. Pestinger then reads a letter addressed to him by the commandant of the Marine Corps, Four Star General James F. Amos. Following the ceremony, the band members are treated to a hearty breakfast of sausages, biscuits, jam and jellies, hot cocoa and juice.

Thank you Mr. Pestinger!

VETERAN'S DAY

The 124th supported the Veteran's Day Ceremony on November 11. Veteran's Day, held on the 11th day of the 11th month at the 11th hour, gives all American's the chance to honor those serving in harm's way and those who have given the ultimate sacrifice. The Cadet corps stood in formation, including the SJMS color guard, a detachment of State colors, and the band. The band performed a medley of service songs prior to the ceremony, played the Star Spangled Banner, and ended the ceremony with an arrangement of echo taps.

Photos: 1. Members of the Battalion Staff render honors; Jared Bressman, Aaron Poulin, Daniel

Staniaszek, and Joshua Batchelor. 2. Bryan Cerato and Stefan Roberts sound taps. 3. Wendy Stein directs, Lucas Boes, Caelon Tautz, Gregory Saville, Sergio Cois, Darius Bridgeman, and Dillon Sweet as they sound the echo. 4. Members of the SJMS Color Guard; Connor Madden, Ryan Lynch, Richard Wik, Brooklyn Mc Knight, and Travis Huffman.





Q&A with D. Dale Browning



Q What keeps you busy in Scottsdale?
 This has been a good winter in Scottsdale with beautiful weather, green grass, and flowers in full bloom. One of my true joys in life is to play golf, but with my "balance" problem, golf is difficult. However, I do play once a week. I meet with my therapist and exercise trainer three times a week for physical conditioning, entertain house guests frequently (everyone likes Scottsdale in the winter), play bridge often, read both fiction and non-fiction books, and spend a lot of time with my family, many of whom live here. I know it doesn't sound like an exciting life, but it's been enjoyable.

Q When are you planning to return to campus?
 I very much hope that I can return to the campus the first of April and stay until the end of school. I truly miss being at SJMS.

Q What do you miss most about being at St. John's?
 Most of all, I miss the opportunity to visit and meet with the cadets and be a part of the daily activities of the school. Half of the Cadet corps are new to the school this year, and I wish I had the chance to get to know them. With respect to the "Old Boys," I miss them very much. Each one of them is a unique young man with his own talents and personality. What great memories I have of each one of them. Finally, I miss the St. John's adult staff who are some of the most caring people I have ever met.

Q How do you stay involved with the school while you are away?
 I have phone calls each day with cadets, parents, staff, and administrative personnel on a variety of issues. Mr. England is kind enough to call me almost every evening and review the day (for which I am deeply appreciative). Additionally, I receive documentation and reports often.

Q Do you participate in the daily management of the school?
 I attend by conference call all management meetings, committee meetings, and board meetings. And again, I talk with the president and other members of senior management often and most of the time, daily.

Q As Headmaster, what do you see as your most important component of leadership?
 I hope that the few contributions I have made to St. John's have had a positive effect on the quality of life the cadets have on campus. Most importantly, I hope I have influenced them in a small way that they know their life has significant meaning, and that the future is filled with happiness for those who make the effort to care for other people and commit themselves to meaningful goals.

Q What pleases you most about being associated with St. John's?
 I think my greatest pleasure in being associated with St. John's is my conviction that our school has helped and assisted thousands of young men to have a more fulfilling life as a result of their time at SJMS. We continue to do that today and I hope we will be making that same contribution to young men a hundred years from now.



Dale with Quenton Schur, at the podium, with Merrell Nelson, with Jason Czerwinski, and cheering on the football team.

student of the month

The student of the month is a program that was developed by Academic Dean, Ginger Wooten, and reading and social science teacher, Paula Wilton. Each month, teachers nominate a middle school and a high school student who are exemplifying good character and displaying a good work ethic in the classroom. The nominee does not have to be earning the highest grade in the class. After all nominations are made, Wilton distributes the ballot for voting among the faculty. Mrs. Wilton announces which student received the most votes. A different Cadet is recognized each month. The winners receive a prize and have their picture and information posted on the wall in the hallway of the Vanier Academic Center. The winners are also recognized in the electronic newsletter sent to parents through e-mail.

We congratulate all the students of the month for first semester!



Paula Wilton



Ginger Wooten

September



Middle School

**Christopher
Castrisos**



High School

**Gregory
Saville**

October



Middle School

**Kasch
Layton**



High School

**Nicholas
Migliarese**

November



Middle School

**Nicholas
Vetter**



High School

**Levi
Gottsponer**

★ SEPTEMBER

Christopher Castrisos is an eighth grader from Wichita, Kansas. He is the son of James and Rhonda Castrisos. This is Christopher's first year at SJMS, and his favorite subject is history. His hobbies are video games, plastic model building, paintballing, Brazilian Jiujutsu, and fishing. Activities that Castrisos is involved in at SJMS are fencing, scuba, Civil Air Patrol, the robotics team, and the wrestling team.

Gregory Saville is from Andover, Kansas and is a senior at SJMS. This is his 4th year at SJMS. Greg is the son of Brad and Tiffany Saville. Greg's favorite subject is English. His hobbies are long-boarding and playing video games. Activities Greg is involved in at SJMS are band, football, wrestling, and the National Honor Society.

★ OCTOBER

Kasch Layton, seventh grade, is the son of Randy and Mary Dowis and Kerwin Layton. This is Kasch's first year

at St. John's, and he is from Colorado Springs, Colorado. His favorite subject is math. His hobbies are reading and playing soccer. Kasch enjoys being on the robotics team at SJMS and looks forward to playing on the basketball team. Kasch's reading teacher, Mrs. Wilton, had this to say about Kasch. "Kasch is an extremely dedicated, respectful, and dependable student. He is a great role model for other students. I really admire him and appreciate the positive contribution he makes to the class."

Nick Migliarese is the high school student of the month nominee. Nick is in eleventh grade and the son of Susan and Dan Migliarese. He is from Calgary, Alberta, Canada, and his hobbies are skateboarding and snowboarding. This is Nick's first year at SJMS, and woodshop is his favorite class. Nick's JROTC instructor nominated him for this award. "Cadet Migliarese leads through his actions. "I have never heard him say anything bad about another cadet or this school. He does what

is expected without any complaints," said 1SG Tony Blair.

★ NOVEMBER

Nick Vetter is the son of Brett and Amy Jackson. Nick is in seventh grade and is from Omaha, Nebraska. His favorite subject at SJMS is P.E. Nick's hobbies include video games and sports. This is Nick's first year at St. John's, and he is excited to be part of the middle school basketball team. Nick's teachers describe him as an excellent student with model classroom behavior. Way to go Nick!

Levi Gottsponer, eleventh grade, is the son of Louis and Cathy Gottsponer and is from Fayetteville, Arkansas. This is Levi's second year at St. John's, and his favorite subject is Trigonometry. Levi's hobbies are hanging out with his friends and playing golf. He looks forward to being on the golf team at St. John's this spring.

Paula Wilton

fifth & sixth graders explore their world



Kole Stoltz described the activity as being "really cool because we did things that actual engineers do in their work."



Anna Robles used a Christmas tradition, the making of ginger bread houses, to help the fifth and sixth grade Cadets understand basic principles of engineering and design. The Cadets were required to make blueprints and design a ginger bread house that would be structurally sound. The individual houses were combined to make a Christmas village, which the Cadets named *Frostyville*!!



Terry Plumberg, Director of Alumni, invited the fifth and sixth grade class to the Alumni room for root beer floats. While there, the Cadets modeled some of the uniform items from the past. Plumberg is making sure that every Cadet is aware that we have an Alumni Room dedicated to preserving our past.

front row: Blase Whitting, Jacob Younger, and Augustin Castillo. *second row:* Ryan Barrera-Law, Kole Stoltz, James Nias, Perry Yam and Michael Osborne. *back row:* Mr. Jones



Mr. Jones' fifth and sixth grade students made a trip to the Rolling Hills Wildlife Adventure located just west of Salina. Rolling Hills Wildlife Adventure is dedicated to the preservation of wildlife through participation in conservation programs and by providing fun and interactive educational experiences. The Cadets were able to get a good look at the buffalo herd and learn about their eating habits and habitat.

Cadets making the trip: Ryan Barrera-Law, Augustin Castillo, James Nias, Michael Osborne, Kole Stoltz, Blase Whitting, Perry Yam, and Jacob Younger.

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Director of Marketing at St. John's.

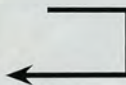
Tax deductible contributions to either the Alumni or Parents Scholarships are always welcome. For any questions about designating St. John's Military School as a beneficiary in your planned giving, establishing named scholarships, or contributing to campus improvement projects, I can be reached by phone

at 785.823.7231 ex 7750 or by e-mail at maxbrooks@sjms.org.

I look forward to hearing from you!

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