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Skir misher

On the Cover 121 "Second to None" The The 121st Corps Mantra is published three times a year for alumni, parents, students and friends of

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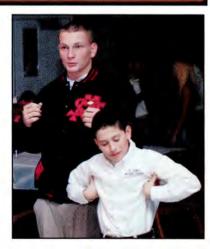
Dancin' another night away. The third dance of the year featured a professional "DJ" and some line dancing fun!



The mirror ball provides atmosphere for the winter dance.



Justin Ferraro works on his dance moves while "New Boy" Timothy Thibault claps along.



Gary Stone and Jacob Nash do the chicken dance!

Patrick Harden

Makes State Band!



Sometime during the month of August as I was driving north on I-35, my cell phone rang. The number from Oklahoma, was unfamiliar! On the other end was Martha Harden, who was considering sending her young son, Patrick to St. John's. I was receiving the call because Patrick was a musician. Little did I know that this young man would turn out to be one of the best musicians to ever set

foot on the St. John's campus. After answering every question and explaining that the band program at St. John's would differ in every way from any public school high school band program Harden had been involved in, I became hopeful that Mrs. Harden would send her son to St. John's.

"New Boy" Harden did indeed end up attending St. John's and I've been smiling ever since. His timely arrival on campus coincided with the arrival of the Browning Drum & Bugle Corps instruments! The sound Patrick produces on the tenor bugle borders on heavenly. He serves as section leader during band class and often offers sage advice to the members of the class

with less musical experience. He has been especially helpful to the substitute teacher when I find it necessary to miss school.

In late October 2009, Harden auditioned for and made District Band as first chair Euphonium. This enabled him to audition for State Band. On January 7, 2009, Patrick joined over 780 musicians at Central High School in Salina, Kansas in their quest to qualify for State Band. We received the news several days later that he had made third chair Euphonium in the 123&4A Band. Harden will travel with me to the Kansas Music Educators In-Service Workshop in Wichita, Kansas on Thursday February 26, 2009 to join the other one hundred and eighteen 10th, 11th and 12th grade band students in rehearsals that will culminate in a concert three days later.

Harden is by no means a one-dimensional cadet. He is on the honor roll, was a member of the SJMS Soccer team in the fall and is currently a member of the basketball team and plans to be on the golf team in the spring. He is company guide-on for Headquarters Company and a member of the Browning Drum & Bugle Corps.

Congratulations, Patrick!

Wendy Stein

Zak Anderson

Zak Anderson won the Drum Major Competition during the 33rd Annual Military School Band Festival, held at St. John's

Northwestern Military Academy in Delafield, Wisconsin. Anderson competes against nine drum majors from Military Colleges and Schools across the nation. Master Chief,

Joe D. Brown, from the Navy Band in Washington D.C.was the festival clinician and has

Wins the Drum Major Competition

worked with Anderson for two years.

Eduardo Velasco and Patrick Harden participated in the concert band and Mrs. Stein played Alto Saxophone in the Jazz Band.

Congratulations, Eduardo, Patrick and Zak!



Enoch Lau, Haozong Huang and Merrell Neslson performed for the Delta Kappa Gamma meeting at the Salina Country Club Feb. 7, at the request of Ruth Cox, SJMS libraian and member of Delta Kappa Gamma.



Haozong Huang enjoys lunch after playing his piano selection.



Nelson, Huang and Lau admire the beauty of the Salina Contry Club.



Enoch Lau plays a violin solo accompanied by Merrell Nelson, SJMS Chapel Choir Director.

"Old Boy" DAVID DUMLER



Tim Soule, Janet Terry and David Dumler

Reflecting on a long career in the field of teaching brings a plethora of images that have become embedded in the far corners of my mind. The Battalion XO, of the 121st Corps, Ryan David, asked how long I had been teaching at St. John's. When he learned I was in my twenty-fifth year at St. John's he inquired, "What was it like, back when you first started?" Explaining to David how exhilarated I felt when on my first day in the classroom class leader, Tommy Keil called the cadets to attention and silence fell upon the room. This brought a startled response form David. He asked, "You remember his name?" Of course I remember his name! Cadets have a way of implanting themselves in the hearts and minds of the faculty and staff at St. John's. There are hundreds upon hundreds of names carved into my past of young men that made a difference at St. John's and went on to make a difference in the world.

David Dumler, graduate of the 98th Corps,

Alumni

Joins the Board of Trustees

currently serving as a member of the Board of Trustees, has a place deep in the hearts of many former and current staff members.

The image of Dumler leading the SJMS Band down Santa Fe for parades, his infectious smile, the finesse with which he served as a member of the battalion staff and his gentlemanly manner all combine to bring forth images once frozen in time, back to life.

His term on the board has just begun but brings hope and encouragement at many levels. Board members, once cadets, bring an added element to each and every scenario that develops for the trustees to consider. "Old Boys," Tim Soule and D. Dale Browning have long added their experience as cadets to the governing philosophy of the school. Dumler brings experiences 30 years later than those of Browning and Soule and stands ready to offer his own manner of thinking to the board.

Dumler left St. John's in 1985. He attended college at the University of Northern Colorado, majoring in Mass Communication with a minor in English and Speech Communication. He met his wife, Jenn at the end of his sophomore year. Currently employed at Elavon, the merchant subsidiary of US Bank, Dumler followed his father, Denny Dumler long time member of the St. John's endowment board, into banking. His wife Jenn,

expertly runs the Dumler household and in addition works full time as a multi-media developer for Lockheed Martin. The Dumler family resides in Denver, Colorado, and includes daughter, Rachel (7) and son, William (3).

Dumler was surprised at "the depth and breadth of the commitment to the school by faculty, staff, alumni, and the board of trustees to the cadets and to St. John's Military School." His vision for the future of the school is for St. John's to grow by 20% each year until reaching maximum enrollment.

"Old Boys," like Larry Britegam, D. Dale Browning, David Dumler and Tim Soule have much to offer as members of the Board of Trustees, but in reality they are just giving again, because the first time around they gave plenty.

Wendy Stein



Jenn, Rachel, William and David Dumler

Reach, Recruit and Represent Old Boys Association Mission Statement



"Patience is a virtue", my folks would often tell me, however, in this day of quick fixes and instant knowledge via the internet, patience is sometimes hard to achieve. I find the hardest part of my job is locating Old Boys. America is on the move, and many times the addresses, phone numbers or email is incorrect, or no longer exists. When I am contacted to locate an Old Boy, I use several different

search engines, however with the privacy laws that exist, my efforts, many times, go in vane.

Recently an Old Boy, Darren Johnson, 1991, suggested forming a "group" of St. John's Military School Alumni on Facebook. According to Wikipedia, "Facebook is a popular, free-access social networking website. Users can join networks organized by city, workplace, school, and region to connect and interact with other people. People can also add friends and send them messages, and update their

personal profile to notify friends about themselves." If the user has a profile, you simply type their name to search – it's that easy!

I have found this tool to be invaluable in reaching so many Old Boys. Quick access to information concerning an Old Boys email to including a message board or recent photos for updates is helpful in my plight. While this is all said and good, I still want to encourage all Old Boys to update their information on the SJMS website. Simply go to www.sjms.org and click on Alumni. There is a member log in link, and once the information for a new user is filled out, you will have information access to all Old Boys. Please check your profile information, as it is important to have current address/email on your data.

Connect – Join – Stay in touch!!!
Terry Plumberg
Alumni Director



Clizabeth "Liz" Duckers will always be thought of as "First Lady of St. John's Military School by the countless Notes from Liz!

"Old Boys," faculty and staff that were on campus during the Duckers' years. Those of us fortunate to have worked under the Duckers administration believe that those were indeed the 'good of' days.' The many stories etched in Duckers mind about St. John's are a valuable

connection to the history that unveiled itself

drawing from the numerous diaries she kept over the years. She has agreed to share some of those stories with Skirmisher readers over the next few years.

in the daily happenings on campus. Duckers

is planning to one day write her memoirs

We'll call her column Notes from Liz! ENJOY!

For recent patrons of the School, I moved into an apartment on the third floor of Vail Hall as a 21-year old bride in 1956 when I married Keith Duckers. We lived on campus, ate in the mess hall, went to Chapel and the school was our life until we retired in June of 1993. I wrote The Skirmisher. handled publicity, taught, improved the campus appearance and anything else no one else could be found to do. Also raised three children on campus.

Early in my chapter on Commandants in the Memoirs I am writing, I wrote we had a number of Commandants, some were good, some not so good and two that became legends. I kept journals, notes and files.

The legends were Russell L. Guernsey and Paul H. Kellogg. Not only were they military men but were also teachers. Kellogg was hired to teach English after he retired from the Marine Corps.

Guernsey taught the science classes. The barracks were supervised by teachers and other staff. We did not have such a thing as a tactical officer or whatever they are called today.

This column is about the snake hunts to Oklahoma. . Each spring, Guernsey would take a group of Cadets and staff that were brave enough to go. Primarily they were hunting for rattlers. If the St. John' group did not find any, they could be purchased in the town.

After the Lettermen's dinner one year, faculty and wives came to our house. Our house was the one just inside the gate that we built in 1957 and lived there until we moved up the drive in 1967. It was the only building on the

east side of the campus.

Guernsey went to the science lab and brought three rattlers in a heavy crate with mesh windows to the party. The crate was locked. After viewing, the snakes were set out on the front stoop. Every time anyone moved in the house, the rattlers would rattle.

Before the end of the school year, Guernsey would kill and butcher the rattlers in his classroom. The "good" snakes, if there is such a thing as a good snake, went home with Cadets much to their mothers surprise.

Guernsey would take the snake meat to the kitchen where he would talk someone into cooking it. I understand fried rattler is not bad to eat. Usually a Cadet would take the skin and cure it for making a belt.

This was the procedure for many years. But one year, The Salina Journal, wrote a story about the slaughter with a picture on the front page. The next day we looked out the office window of Vanier to see cars arriving. Lead by a very upset matron, a group from the Humane Society marched across the porch and into the academic area heading straight to the Science lab protesting the killing of the snakes.

Guernsey was charming and got them settled down. I think we still had snake hunts but I don't think I even wrote anything about it in The Skirmisher.

For further information, contact retired academic dean. Kenneth Faerber who made a few trips with the group.

A note about the houses. The house we lived in is now called the Commandant's house. As I mentioned we built that house. Then in 1959 the next house was built and a year later the duplex and the president's house. Prior to that time faculty and staff lived in quarters all over Vail Hall, back of the Chapel, and even the old gym. Good staff left because they did not want to live that way.

After we moved "up the drive", the Kelloggs moved into that house. We needed a Commandant; so Keith named him to that position. They sold their house in Salina and moved on campus where they would stay for the next 20 years. This was an unusual experience for them as they were used to moving about every three years in the military. If you want to "know the rest of the story" about SJMS History send me an e-mail at duckers@windstream.net

Duke:

When we lived in the house just inside the main gate, we were in the midst of an overgrown field of weeds. I have mentioned there was the remains of the Welcome to Salina sign that was in the southeast corner of the campus.

I noticed one day that the school children cutting across campus were cleaning their shoes on some object. Investigating, I discovered a small tombstone with the name "Duke" engraved on it. I loaded it into Ed's little red wagon and placed it in our backvard.

Duke had been a mascot. We didn't know whether it was a bear or a dog. Anyway we determined that it was a dog. The bear the School had at one time was called "Isis" after the Shrine.

When we moved to the President's house, I got the red wagon and moved it into my new backyard.

I was intrigued that a group of boys would think enough of an

animal to buy a grave marker.

I found a story about Duke in an old Skirmisher.

In 1916, he was found sleeping comfortably in one of the Cadet's bed. He stayed in the barracks with the Cadets for four years becoming the mascot and a friend.

Legend says that Duke had lived with a number of families but would never stay for long in any home where there were no boys. During his life at St. John's he would stay on campus only when students were here. When vacation came. Duke would usually decide to take a vacation of his own. He would disappear and return the next fall.

Duke lived among the Cadets until one sad day in May of 1920. He died as a result of a rattlesnake bite during the annual encampment on a farm near Salina.

Research I conducted, suggested hat Duke was buried under a tree in the front campus.

One spring at the Board meeting, a special retreat formation was held to honor the former mascot.

The tombstone was returned to the general vicinity of the original burial site under a maple tree, we had planted, just inside the front gate where it remains today. It has yellowed over the years .

The tombstone was loaded on the Commandant's golf cart and moved down the drive. Accompanying the stone was a certified mortician, Mert Schwenson, who was a Trustee of the School.

When a staff member wants to know something from the past, I get an e-mail from Terry Plumberg or Wendy. They call me the SJMS encyclopedia.



Director of Admissions

Max Brooks became a member of the St. John's Board of Trustees in July of 2007. Joining the ranks of other "Old Boys" returning to SJMS to help sustain and promulgate the mission of the school. After spending time on campus for quarterly board meetings Brooks expressed an interest in working at St. John's. The administration felt the time was right to offer Brooks the position of Director of Admissions and Marketing. Brooks is currently working from Denver with plans to move his family to the St. John's campus sometime during the summer of 2009.





Brooks Family

John Marshall, Gilbert Thompson Jr., Brian Sweeney, Kevin Smith, Hans Krogh-Hansen, Francisco Lanz-Duret and Max Brooks. Back in the day!

Stein: What is your fondest memory of the time you spent at St. John's as a cadet?

Brooks: In my second year, as a junior, I was promoted to the first grade of officer (2nd Lieutenant). Almost like it was yesterday, I remember calling my family to give them the news. This was years before cell phones, so all calls were made as a collect call. I asked the operator to place a collect call to the Brooks family from Lieutenant Brooks. When my father answered the phone the operator said "Collect call to Mr. Brooks from Lieutenant Brooks" and, immediately, my father started cheering. It was the perfect way to pass along the news that I had made Lieutenant and it stands, to this day, as one of the proudest days of my life.

Stein: How have you sustained your connection to St. John's through the years since you graduated?

Brooks: Though it is so easy to become busy building a life and a career, Old Boys still manage to maintain such a strong connection to St. John's. I visited campus many times as I passed through Salina on road trips, kept in touch with classmates, read "The Skirmisher," and attended summer receptions in the Denver area. Knowing a large percentage of the St. John's cadet corps hail from Colorado, I wanted to create an advertising campaign for the school. 6 When I moved from my position at KOA

radio as Producer/Engineer for Colorado Rockies Baseball to accept a position as Account Executive in the radio advertising department, I immediately went to work putting that campaign into place. To this day, St. John's advertises to the Denver/Boulder market on KOA radio.

Stein: What prompted you to become a member of the St. John's board of trustees?

Brooks: I was called upon to serve the school and, quite frankly, felt incredibly honored and lucky to be able to dedicate my time and service. It was a chance to give back to the school and help guide, through the Board, the direction in which St. John's would grow and move.

Stein: Why, at this time in your life, did you decide to join the administrative staff of St. John's?

Brooks: It is at this point in my life that I have the most to offer St. John's. I have reached a point where my professional experiences can be of great benefit to St. John's, and I still have three decades of service to dedicate. My sons are all still fairly young, so I anticipate the transition to Salina to be much easier than if we made the move when they were older. I believe they will benefit from growing up in the St. John's family environment as well.

Stein: What part of your professional development do you believe prepared you to lead the Admissions and Marketing department at St. John's?

Brooks: My marketing experience will benefit St. John's as we look to continue our positioning as a premiere military school within the upper echelon of private education, and my business and management experience will aid in the administration, goal setting, vision and growth of the department and the school.

My personal development as a graduate of St. John's is of utmost importance as well. I can speak from personal experience on the impact St. John's can have on a young man, giving him the personal belief and pride necessary for success.

Stein: What direction do you feel your department needs to travel in order to meet the challenges of the current economic state of our nation?

Brooks: The current economic environment is very difficult and, of course, very concerning. Parents are faced with tough choices, but decisions regarding the personal growth, education and development of their sons is far beyond any economic factor. We will, as a school, continue to offer the finest private education available, continue to aid in the

Enrollment Incentives



Re-enroll Your Cadet for the 123rd Corps and Beyond Receive a \$4000.00 Discount AND

a Tuition Freeze* * Offer Good Through the End of Commencement Weekend!

Referral Incentives



For Any Referral That Results In a Signed Contract* \$1,000.00 Cash Payment OR \$1,500.00 Scholarship Given in The Name of Your Choice

*Referral Money is in Addition to Any Early Re-enrollment Money!

moral, spiritual, intellectual and physical development of young men, and continue to work with parents on financing alternatives and solutions that will allow them to provide this incredible opportunity and experience to their sons.

Stein: What can the administration, faculty, staff, patrons and alumni do to assist you in meeting these challenges?

Brooks: Realize that despite a tough economy, many young men are in need of St. Johns' unique services; perhaps even more so than ever. Also realize that a parent can help their own family and cadet by becoming involved in the referring of young men to St. John's. I have recently unveiled a new referral incentive plan I believe is exciting and very rewarding. The basics are: For every referral resulting in a signed contract, \$1,000 can either be paid in cash or you can apply \$1,500.00 in the form of a named scholarship. That means a parent of a current cadet that refers a new cadet to St. John's can give a \$1,000 scholarship back to their own son on Commencement. St. John's administration, faculty, staff, patrons and alumni possess the most important requisites for referring new cadets: Knowledge of, and passion for, the school.

Stein: Due to the generous donations of the Vanier Family, the Tim Soule Family and D. Dale Browning the St. John's Military School physical plant has been transformed into a premier facility. How will this help in your efforts to market the school and fill the barracks to capacity?

Brooks: While our track record of over 120 years of developing respectful, disciplined and successful young men is a continued key to St. Johns' success, the world class facilities are certainly inspiring and at the forefront of our efforts. Prospective parents will be encouraged, as they always have, to tour the campus and walk through the finely appointed Jack Vanier Hall, as well as Stevens and Vanier Academic building. Video tours will soon be available on our web site, highlighting the new facilities on campus and the offerings only St. John's can bring to young men.

Referrals from family and Old Boys, to give exposure of our updated campus, will be very important.

Stein: Where do you see the future of St. John's progressing during the 21st century?

Brooks: From a marketing standpoint, we will embrace traditional and emerging

technologies such as social networking and online video, utilizing their unique power to bring new faces to St. John's. While the school now has the rooming capacity for a much larger cadet corps, the first and foremost goal of St. John's will never change - highly individualized attention to students from their teachers. As the cadet corps grows, our learning facilities also will grow. St. John's will always keep with the tradition of developing tomorrow's leaders, one cadet at a time. Notwithstanding new technology and the fast changing world around us, the core of our mission remains the same and our steady attention to consistently teaching and enabling productive young men will never waiver, whether in the 21st or 22nd century.

SJMS Forever!

If you have referalls or questions, Contact. **Max Brooks**, **Dirctor of Admissions** maxbrooks@sjms.org

Blue Beret

Dean's Honor Roll



Enoch Lau
Albuquerque, NM
Son of
Lilly & Edly Lau

The Blue Beret is awarded to the top three grade point earners each grading period. Cadets earning **Blue Beret** awards wear the coveted **Blue Beret and** receive movie passes. Cadets earning Blue Beret status are members of the Dean's



Ian Brands

Colorado Springs, CO

Son of

Kristine & Robert

Brands



Timothy Crawford

Evergreen, CO

Son of

David & Sandra

Crawford



Roman Michka

Broken Arrow, OK

Son of

Galina & Vitaly Michka



Baek Je Lim

Korea

Son of

Yoonkap Lim &

Kim Sung Hee



Jason Nguyen

Wichita, KS

Son of

Tram & Vinh-k

Nguyen



Gary Stone
Colorado Springs, CO
Son of
Robert Stone &
Mary Ellen Hinkle

To qualify for the Dean's Honor Roll the cadet must have a 93.5000 or above. Failures and incompletes disqualifies eligibility.

Honor Roll.



Eduardo
Velasco-Santoscoy
Mexico
Son of
Maria Martha Del La
Santoscoy-Tovar &
Eduardo Velasco-Sanchez
M.D.



Sergio Cois
Saratoga, CA
Son of
Francesca &
Sebastian Cois

Honor Roll

To qualify for the Dean's Honor Roll the cadet must have a 88.5000 or above. Failures and incompletes disqualifies eligibility.

Jonathan Gray Wilmore, KS Son of Tammy Gray & Dwight Unruh





Patrick Harden
Edmond, OK
Son of
Martha Harden &
Thomas Harden



Jeffrey Provenzo
Overland Park, KS
Son of
Geraldine &
Thomas Mitchell



Elliot Wood

Colleyville, TX

Son of

Darlene & Jeffrey

Wood



Eric Aquilar-Soler
Brussels
Son of
Eulalia Soler-Casas
& Mark Zimmerman



Kang Woo Lee Korea Son of Hu Hyun Chung & Deok Ah Kim



Hao Zong Huang
China
Son of
Shaofeng Huong
& Hong Yan Xu



Devon Conway Sugar Land, TX Son of Frances & John Conway



Tyler Wunderlich

Lakewood, CO

Son of

Bryan & Colleen

Wunderlich



Guy Chadwick
Cave Creek, AZ
Son of
Eva & Paul
Chadwick



Gregory Saville

Andover, KS

Son of

Brad & Tiffany

Saville



Joseph Casey Littleton, CO Son of Clara & Joe Casey



Ryan David Centennial, CO Son of Kevin David



Phillip Abernathy
Castle Rock, CO
Son of
Fred & Karen
Abernathy



Ryan Quintana Centennial, CO Son of Louella & Scott Toney



Tyler Schneider
Golden, CO
Son of
Vicki
Clark-Schneider

A Passion for Teaching

What do you get when you combine teenagers with a demanding teacher? Results! Just ask any cadet that was fortunate enough to be in any one of Chris Zerger's English classes and they will surely tell you that her class was the best and at the same time; the worst class they've ever taken. There is no time for idle talking, no time for excuses only time for an incredibly fast paced learning curve. When you sit down in room seven in the Vanier Academic Center you had better be prepared to focus and pay attention. The rules of English are many and the plethora of literature that must be covered in high school English classes fuels the fire inside Zerger's mind to push her students beyond their comfort zone. Even the pace at which she walks the halls is a good indication of a woman on a mission.

She is extremely organized and demands the same of her young charges. Directions for each assignment are given with a preciseness that assures each student the chance for academic success. On any given day there is evidence of brain overload on the faces of the cadets in the middle of an

English assignment. During the 45 minutes allocated for each class period the cadets in Zerger's English classes work at a feverish pace. Zerger moves around the room encouraging her students to use every minute of class time wisely. When lecturing, she demands the cadets be in a listening mode and take plenty of notes. Her delivery is clear and succinct and comes from deep within her very thoughtful and scholarly mind.

"Old Boys" admit that her demanding syllabus prepared them well for the rigors of college academia. Immeasurable cadets count Zerger among the most feared and revered teachers of their high school experience. What higher compliment could be paid a teacher? None!

Zerger contributes a great deal to the cadets at St. John's. She sponsors the annual New York City cultural trip, takes tickets for sporting events, sponsors the National Honor Society, organizes the annual spelling bee, organizes and proctors the ACT test given on the St. John's campus twice a year and chairs the English department. She is often the first person to arrive at

school in the morning and spends a portion of her lunch hour preparing for class.

Zerger must prepare lesson plans for four different sections of English. Her teaching load consists of three hours of English 10, one hour each of English 11 and 12, one hour of Honors English 11 and College English. She also assists students taking English classes on line. One facet of her job as chair of the English department requires that she organize and plan for the annual Kansas State Assessments given annually in the month of April.

She is Mom to sons, Todd (wife Amanda) and Matt and known as grandma to Trey (9), Taylor (6) and Taj (4). Her favorite pastime during school holidays is to visit her family. She studies YOGA and practices the art of feng shui. Her dream is to someday walk the El Camino del Santiago in Spain. Each summer she treats herself to a week in Cape Cod clearing her mind with the luscious sea air and walking the soft white sandy beaches to invigorate her soul. Her classroom walls are covered with inspirational photographs, Playbills from

Chris Zerger



the many Broadway shows she has seen and posters that evoke images of calm. She explains the many quotes on her walls as being there to "keep her sane," and help her through the day.

She has spent 18 years teaching at St. John's and doesn't anticipate leaving anytime soon. She finds her career fulfilling and remembers with great fondness the many bright and motivated young men she has had the privilege of working with over the years.

When a cadet enrolls at St. John's he can be assured that the entire faculty and staff have his best interest at heart. When the cadets find themselves in Zerger's English class they had better be ready for a demanding class that is sure to prepare them for the future.

A Passion for Photography



Scott Wiedeman









and Justin Sperry ventured to the fields of Wind Turbines west of Salina, for a photo shoot. Wow!

ART AWARDS

Kansas Wesleyan

Kansas Wesleyan University is hosting their annual Invitational High School Art Exhibit. The overlapping schedules gave students the tough

choice of deciding in which show to participate. Area high

schools were invited to submit 10 of there best works for the school. Cadets chosen this year include Brandon Santana

(photography), Joshua Batchelor (photography),

Guy Chadwick (color pencil), Spencer Gunn (photography), Ryan

David (color pencil), Wiley Parrish (charcoal), and Austin Thompson (oil pastel). The show ran from January 18 through February 13, at Sam's Hall of Fine Arts, on the KWU Campus. An opening reception was held from 5-7 pm, February 5, as part of the communitywide "First Thursday" Art rush, held each month.





Wichita Center for The Arts

Joshua Batchelor

SJMS students are busy this spring with a fresh new season of high school art shows. The first such exhibition that we prepare for is the Scholastic Art Awards show. The regional exhibit, held annually in



Wichita, receives over a thousand entries from 70 Kansas counties, and this year selected 300 of those works for the juried show. Earning that prestigious acceptance from SJMS this year were cadets Ryan Quintana and Ian Brands. Both works coincidently were from

> Story and photos by Scott Weideman

the same Positive and Negative shape project completed in Art Class. Quintana's work was also awarded a Gold Key, the highest distinction awarded among the accepted entries, and earns Ryan the privilege of competing with other Gold Key winners for selection into the National Scholastic Show. The Wichita exhibition runs from January 28 through February 22. The Awards ceremony was held February 7 at 2 p.m. at the Wichita Center for the Arts, 9112 E. Central.



PARENTS'

Weekend

- 1. The Battalion Staff forms an arch for the "New Boys" to pass through as they prepare to become "Old Boys."
- 2. The "New Boys" line up to receive their "Old Boy" certificates.
- 3. The Color Guard presents the Colors as the ceremony begins.
- 4. The Parents' Association enjoys Brookville Chicken and an inspiring message from "Old Boy" David Dumler, Class of 1987.
- 5. Justin Ferraro, sits with his parents during a conference with Mrs. Wilton.
- 6. Mr. Alverado explains Erick Eakin's Spanish Grade to Grandpa, Old Boy"

Bob Eakin.

- 7. The SJMS Drill Team under the command of Andre Cardoso performs during half time of the basketball game.
- 8. Jonathan Frank receives the Mac

Arthur Award from George Stelljes, Commandant of Cadets.

9. The Browning Drum and Bugle Corps performs prelude music.







New Boy Graduation





Parents' Association Meeting





Parent-teacher Conferences



Drill Team Performance









Mac Arthur Award

Service

A Time for Everything
There is a time for everything,
and a season for every activity under heaven:
a time to be born and a time to die.
a time to plant and a time to uproot,
a time to kill and a time to heal,
a time to tear down and a time to build







Ecclesiastes 3:1:-15

Being involved in community service is second nature when you are a cadet at St John's. It has become a part of their lives, from working with the Big Brother Big Sister program, to tying pink ribbons to light poles on Santa Fe for breast cancer awareness, to cleaning up yards, to helping hang Christmas lights in downtown Salina, to collecting food for the food bank on Souper Bowl Sunday or even just raking leaves on campus. Each month our cadets are called upon to serve the community, and each month they proudly shine.

Community Service is an excellent way to teach responsibility, commitment, the benefits of sacrifice, tolerance, job skills and the idea that one person can make a difference by donating their time. Being involved can strengthen the community and family as it's simply, a good thing to do.

While the connection to serve is made early on in the life of a cadet, the teachings are often carried through a lifetime of commitment. After SJMS, the "Old Boys" often continue with a variety of volunteerism. They have stepped up to the plate, and work tirelessly for the good of their community. Some of the services "Old Boys" are involved in:

Service to Community: Service Above Self!

Gary Hanna, 1952, and Jeff Baker, 1986, are heavily involved with the Lions Club in their prospective community. Baker being Vice President of the organization is also on the Board of Directors for Western Slope Honor Flight Vets to DC and a board member of the Old Boys Association Board (OBA). The Lions Club of Grand Junction, Colorado has raised monies that went back into the community and help with projects such as hospice and Wounded Warriors.

Richard Retrum, 1963, also recognizes the roll of being a volunteer by joining the Kansas City Rotary Club. Retrum states, "I have not sat on the sidelines. When I made the commitment to join, I wanted to be an active member." The Club has raised hundred of thousands of dollars each year to support the Rotary Youth Camp at Lake Jacomo, Missouri. The camp provides a two week camping session all spring and summer months for disadvantaged and handicap youth from all over the KC metro area at no charge. Retrum, along with serving on the Old Boy Association Board, (OBA) was selected to serve on the Centennial Committee.

Parker, Colorado is the home of Max Brooks, 1988, newly assigned Director of Admissions at SJMS. He is currently president of the Castlewood Ranch Homeowners Association, member of the Planning Commission and Athletic Director of Ave Maria Catholic School.

Dean Blanck, 1970, volunteers for the Grand Valley Training Club as treasurer and NRA Training Counselor. He is the Chief Range Safety officer and editor of the newsletter. He is also a programmer for KAFM Radio; "Going Up Yonder" airs every other Sunday morning where he has the delight of playing bluegrass and A Cappella gospel music.

Service to Country: To help other people at all times

William Tippett 1965 is Scoutmaster to 92 great young boys and is the community Neighborhood Watch Coordinator for the Village of Gurnee, Illinois. Tippett also is the Veterans Liaison to the Secretary of Veterans' affairs for the state of Illinois, and if that doesn't keep him busy enough, he speaks to local schools about the different aspects of the Vietnam War. Tony Hernandez, 1963, was the bugler while at SJMS, and started bugling Taps for the veteran's funerals. His services don't stop there, and he was proud to serve on the Board of Directors for the United Way in Carlsbad.

Fred Pate, 1942, is a proud Marine. Pate has been very active in the Marine Corps League, where their membership is over 70,000. He is part of the four man "Firing Detail" which is to attend any serviceman's burials and fire a three round volley to honor the former serviceman, who served bravely for our country. Bayless Mauger, 1944, helps his city as a San Diego Police Department Senior Volunteer Patrol, and that includes some days of working as an Ambassador in the famous and beautiful Balboa Park.

Service to Humanity: Saving the abused and abandoned! Doberman Rescue of Colorado is a non-profit/humane organization founded by Chuck Vaile, 1985, and staffed by volunteers that take in lost, abandoned, unwanted

and neglected Doberman Pinschers, as well as those from families who can no longer take care of them. Vaile works tirelessly for these animals.

Pastor Bill Salmon, 1953, Old Boy Association Board, and participates in the Saline and Ellsworth County Correctional Facilities with ministries. He soon will be publishing a book, "Conversations in Jail: for the prisoner in all of us." Peter Pappas, 1967, has a license in social work, and with his guidance, he has helped people find and receive social services. He is active in the Mayor's coalition against drugs in Meridain, Idaho and has started several anti-drug fairs at the high school. Gabe Boyle 1992, and Chuck Robertson 1992, have volunteered to have their heads shaved for cancer research. Boyle and Robertson raised awareness to St. Baldricks Foundation, which is a non-profit organization, with their mission to raise awareness and funds to cure kids' cancer.

From every walk in life, our cadets and Old Boys are making this a better world by lending their talents and interests. Thank you!!

Parents' Association

The SJMS Parents' Association (SJMSPA) hosted a lovely luncheon for their members during parents weekend and it was a huge success! Former Cadet and current Board of Trustee member, David Dummler, engaged the 100 members in the audience. He talked about his time at SJMS and the benefits he received.

The Parents' Association also awarded D. Dale Browning an Honorary Lifetime Membership in the Association for his countless contributions to the school. To date, the Parents' Association has over 40 commemorative bricks ordered by parents, extended family members and staff, that will be prominently displayed. These bricks will be presented at Commencement Weekend outside the Jack Vanier barracks.

Forms to purchase bricks for the 2009/2010 school year will be available soon for SJMSPA members.

The Parents' Association would like to encour-

age the parents and sponsors of all Cadets to

join the Association to recognize the many benefits it offers. The Parents' Association has many plans for our boys including a Lifetime 101 class in an attempt to prepare them for life after SJMS. This class will include

a drivers education segment with the Alive at 25 program. This is being organized in conjunction with the Colorado State Trooper Director and the Kansas State Troopers Association.

Additionally we will be providing this years Juniors with their class rings, sponsoring quarterly pizza parties for all Cadets that have raised their GPA over the last grading period (the percentage is yet to be determined), and continue to work with the community of Salina to obtain specials and discounts from merchants that the boys frequent.

An example of this is the St. John's Special Meal Deals from Domino's:

SJ1 - one large, one topping pizza, eight pieces of cheese bread, and a two liter Coke product for just \$16.00

SJ2 - one large, one topping pizza, ten chicken wings, and a two liter Coke product for just \$18.00

Just call Domino's at 785-825-7788 and provide either of the above codes.

Please feel free to contact any one of the Board Members for additional information or support:

Steve Class	303-912-9810	steveclass@qwestoffice.net
Tammy Ashe	303-933-5769	tashe@phillong.com
Kevin David	303-522-6189	kdavid@farmersagent.com
Colleen Wunderlich	303-445-8793	colleenw15@comcast.net

785-825-7788 2100 S. Ninth St. Ste. J Salina, KS 67401

Hours:

Sunday - Thursday 11 am-1 am Friday - Saturday 11 am-2 am

ORDER ONLINE AT WWW.DOMINOS.COM
ORDENE SU PIZZA DE DOMINOS EN WWW.DOMINOS.COM O LLAMENOS AL
1-888-DOMINOS

555 Deal

Three or More Medium
1- Topping Brooklyn
Pizzas

\$5 each

Must order 3 or more pizzas. Specialty crust extra. Not available online.



Delivery charge may apply. Limited delivery areas. Only at participating stores. Cash value 1/20¢. Prices may vary. Tax not included. @2008 Domino's IP Holder LLC. Not valid with any other offer. Valid with coupon only. Minimum purchase required.

Expires 5/31/09

Weekend Special 1

One Large One Topping Pizza, 8 Piece Bread, & 2 Liter Coke™ Product.

\$16.00



Delivery charge may apply. Deep Dish extra. Limited delivery areas. Only at participating stores. Cash value 1/20¢. Prices may vary. Tax not included. ©2008 Domino's IP Holder LLC. Not valid with any other offer. Valid with coupon only. Minimum purchase required.

Expires 5/31/09

Brought to you by SJMS Parent Association

Weekend Special 2

One Large One Topping Pizza, 10 Piece Wings, & 2 Liter Coke™ Product.

\$18.00



Delivery charge may apply. Deep Dish extra. Limited delivery areas. Only at participating stores. Cash value 1/20¢. Prices may vary. Tax not included. ©2008 Domino's IP Holder LLC. Not valid with any other offer. Valid with coupon only. Minimum purchase required.

Expires 5/31/09

BusinessWeek



Business Week Magazine Names the Top-Performing High Schools in America!

New York, NY, January 15, 2009—Business Week today announced its first-ever Best High Schools in America rankings. Working in conjunction with San-Francisco-based nonprofit Great Schools, Business Week has identified Centralia High School in Centralia as the Best Overall School in Kansas and Lyons High School in Lyons as the Best Low Income School and St. John's Military School in Salina as Parents Choice for private school.

BusinessWeek and Great Schools have determined the three topperforming high schools in these categories in all 50 states, as well as the parents' top choices for the best public and private schools. "This is traditionally a time of year when families start thinking about where their children will be going to school in the next year," says Business Week's Charles Dubow, who edited the project. "Do you stay where you are? Do you move? Finding the right school for your children is so important that even in this economy parents may be willing to move-or stay put. We want to help them make the bestinformed decision."

To compile the Best High Schools in America list, Business Week and Great Schools, an organization that rates schools and provides

an online community for parents, identified the best overall public high school in terms of test scores, the best public high school with an economicallydisadvantaged population, and the most-improved public high school. In addition, Business Week offers the top public and private school in each state

THE TOP FIVE SCHOOLS IN KANSAS

Best Overall Academic Performance Centralia High School - Centralia

Best Low-Income

Lyons High School - Lyons

Parents' Choice (public)

Blue Valley West High School - Overland Park

CHOICE

Parents' Choice (private)

ST. JOHN'S MILITARY SCHOOL - SALINA

Excerpts from the testimonials

St. John's saved my son's life and our relationship. No parent wants to send their child away from home; however, sometimes their behavior or choices makes staying at home painful and/or a battlefield. St. John's provided the leadership, support and love....yes love to my son that gave him the confidence and stability needed when his parents were going through an arduous drawn out divorce. As far as the curriculum, my son is at VMI majoring in Civil Engineering so indeed it provides college preparation if that is what the student so chooses. The faculty and staff take every child at face value and I found the support for both my son and myself to be phenomenal. In some respects, the outcome of one's life can be summed up in two words --opportunity and choices. St. John's provides both and an environment that fosters self respect and respect for all others.

SJMS saved my son's life. He was encouraged to do his personal best academically as well as develop his self-esteem and leadership skills applied by the military structured discipline system. The teacher / pupil ratio ideally allowed the highly skilled teachers to help each

child with their individual academic and personal needs. The Commandant and his assistant knew each child's name. My son often thanks me for his experience at SJMS as an upstanding soldier in the Army Marksmanship Unit.

that parents rated the highest on the GreatSchools.net Web site.

I enrolled into St. John's as a junior in H.S., after two very unsuccessful years of public H.S. in Colorado. My GPA going into SJMS was a 1.5 and I had little to no motivation for improvement. I am now a Gold Star student at The Citadel. SJMS turned a young man, a very stubborn and angry young man, into a mature and well endowed student of civil and academic duty. It is a place where a child will be confronted with the prospect of having to deal with life; where ones parents are not present, for the most part. Most young men fight this for their entire time at SJMS, constantly calling their parents to save them from the atrocious responsibility of being held accountable for one's actions. Others will see a change, and suddenly find they can do more than they'd ever imagined, which makes all the difference.

Special Note: Parents and patrons who would like to send a review about their positive experience should go to www.greatschools.net



"Old Boys' and "New Boys" spent a beautiful afternoon on the paint ball course. CPT Brian Bell and Mr. Daniel Leech helped lead the charge!

Computer Gift Jessie Given

Jessie Given's knows exactly what is important to her and knows exactly what areas she wishes to benefit the cadets at St. John's Military School. A visit to the Remy Clem Library reveals 12 desktop computers net worked to a printer that serve as work stations for cadets in English classes to complete term papers and writing assignments. Roy Lawrence remembers the times he wished that he had more computer equipment; all he had to do was "call Jessie and explain what was needed."

In 2007 one of the classrooms in the Vanier Academic Center was re-named the Moran Computer Lab in honor of Jessie's grandson, "Old Boy," Dan Moran. The computer lab houses 15 additional desktop computers net worked to printers and loaded with software necessary for computer class curriculum needs. Mrs. Deb Feil, part-time computer instructor, guides the cadets through several areas of computer applications, including spreadsheets, database management, power point presentations and word processing programs.

The newest addition to the computer inventory was provided by yet another very generous donation by Given last fall. The almost twenty-thousand dollars was used to purchase a laptop lab.

The new mobile lab consists of:

MacBook 13-inch (White) 2.4 GH Core 2 Duo Processor 2GB of Memory 160GB Harddrive Superdrive (Optical Drive)

An Airport Extreme Base Station (wireless point) Bretford Cart for Storage Extended Warranty Plans



Given, 97 years old, of Atlanta, Georgia stays in close contact with former SJMS President CPT "Skip" E. A. Mc Alexander and former Commandant of Cadets, CSM Jerry Bradley. She considers, Lance Werber, Maintenance Supervisor and Father James Cox, SJMS Chaplain as her favorites among current SJMS staff members. Her devotion to the school remains strong through the ties she keeps with these staff members and the association she first developed when her grandson attended St. John's.

Given attended many St. John's commencements when she was able to travel. Many staff members remember her fierce love of the school and the spark in her eye and the urgency in her step. When the phone rings and Given is on the other end of the line, whomever answers the phone better be listening carefully and be ready to act upon her request. Given has no time for folderol and no time for small talk. She is a woman who knows what she wants and how things should be done.

Armstrong Chapel is another project near and dear to Given's heart. The new siding, refurbished pews, the brilliant new front door and carpeting throughout transformed the sanctuary into a elegant place for cadets to worship.

Every institution needs a Jessie Given to see a need and then provide the necessary funding. Every institution needs someone fiercely loyal to helping facilitate the growth and development of the physical plant, meeting instructional needs and to enhancing cadet life.

St. John's Military School is fortunate to be blessed with many such benefactors. The evidence is clear throughout the campus and the names of those responsible are a gleaming reminder of the generosity in the hearts and minds of many friends of St. John's. There is Sage Hall, Mize Hall, Clem Ferris Hall, The Stevens Center, Linger Hall, The Browning Room, The Remy Clem Library, the Vanier Academic Center, "Jack" Vanier Hall the Banes Gymnasium and if I had the resources there would be a Stein Fine Arts Complex! Many thanks to Jessie for her most recent donation. Wendy Stein

John Sun, Harrison Farr, Joshua Kidd, Andre Popovic and Tyler Schneider use the computers form the new lab to complete their English Assessment testing in the Remy Clem Libarary.

Commencement Weekend May 7, 8, & 9 2009

	TITLE	SDAY	/ TA /E A	3.7 m
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8:00-11:30 am	Registration
8:00-11:15 am	Parent/Teacher Conferences
11:30 am	Pass-in-Review - Tear Drop
12:00-1:30 pm	Lunch for Cadets and Families – Stevens Center
1:30-3:30 pm	Academic/Military Awards Ceremony – Banes Gymnasium
3:30-10:30 pm	Pass Gate for all cadets not attending Junior/Senior Prom
6:30-8:30 pm	Reception-Parents, Faculty and Staff - Linger Hall
6:00-11:00 pm	Junior/Senior Prom Salina Country Club Parents of Juniors and Seniors may join their cadets at the Country Club from

6:00-6:30 pm for a reception and photo opportunity. Pass Gate Closed for All Cadets attending Junior/Senior Prom

8:00 am

Continental Breakfast for Parents/Families-President's Home Lawn 8:45 am

Breakfast for Cadets-Stevens Center 8:45 am

1:15-1:45 p.m. Dedication of the Browning Parade Field Pass-in-Review Browning Parade Field 1:45-2:30 p.m.

Bicentennial Center.

7:00 pm

Remarks by Alumni

10:30 pm

SATURDAY MAY 9

7:00 am Breakfast for Cadets Only-Stevens Center

8:30 am Senior Eucharist, Parents and Cadets Welcome- Armstrong Chapel

10:00 am Freedom Tree Ceremony – Teardrop

Graduation- Class of 2009 - FORMATION AREA JACK VANIER 10:30 am

Final Pass-in-Review - BROWNING PARADE FIELD Noon

First Division Band

ALL EVENTS MANDATORY FOR CADETS

Office Hours:

Admissions Office - Thursday and Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm Saturday 8:00 - 10:00 am PLEASE SEE ADMISSIONS STAFF FOR RE-ENROLLMENT

Business Office - Thursday and Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm Saturday 8:00 - 10:00 am Quartermaster - Thursday and Friday 7:30am - 5:00pm Saturday 7:30 - 10:00 am

Suggested Attire:

Thursday,

Friday and Saturday Daytime Events

Business Casual

(jackets not required)

Friday Evening Event

DISCOURAGED

President's Recognition Ceremony **JACKET & TIE REQUIRED**

SHORTS, JEANS, AND SHIRTS WITHOUT COLLARS STRONGLY

Schedule Subject to Change

FRIDAY MAY 8

Flag Raising Ceremony-Tear Drop

Pass-in-Review -Tear Drop 8:20 am

1:00 am

10:00 am Academic/Military Awards & Wall of Fame Induction-Banes Gymnasium

11:30 Mess for Corps and Families-Stevens Center

11:30 Parents' Foundation Luncheon and Meeting – Reception Room Stevens Center

Formation of Cadets Corps 1:00 pm

3:00-4:00 pm Military Tattoo Ceremony-Banes Gymnasium

4:00 pm Pass Gate Opens for Cadets with family for dinner and to transport to the

Mess for Cadets without Parents-Stevens Center 5:30 pm

President's Recognition Ceremony- Bicentennial Center

Ring Ceremony Class of 2010

Farewell Class of 2009 Battalion Staff

Pass Gate Closes for All Cadets

Rent Coppers

Futsall

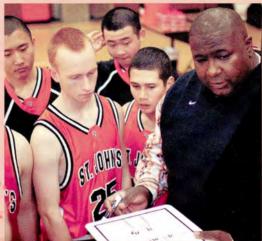


Enoch Lau, Eduardo Velasco, Baek Lim, Carlos Leahy and Nicholas Foster line up for a team picture!



Enoch Lau protects the goal while Eduardo Velasco attempts to assist!

Basketball



Coach Roy Lawrence diagrams the next play for Yechi Ma, Patrick Harden, Nuoya Wu and Carlos Leahy.

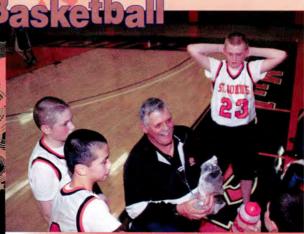


Thomas Alexander attempts a three point shot!

Middle School



Harrison (14) Farr, John (22) Swenson, Conner (24) Dempsey and Tyler (20) Files set up the play! 18



Coach Lance Werber gives encouragement to Jason Nguyen, Tyler Files, Ovid Morpew and Jacob Nash during a time-out!

Sean Mc Coy is introduced prior to a game. Mc Coy typically scores in double digits!

Basketball, rifle, futsal and wrestling keep the cadets busy during the cold winter months. Each sport brings opportunity for individual achievement and helps build esprit de corps!



Austin Strecker, Spencer Gunn, Coach TonyBlair, Jonathan Frank and Jacob Wilcox-Haskett.

SJMS Manhattan Wichita Abilene Delphos

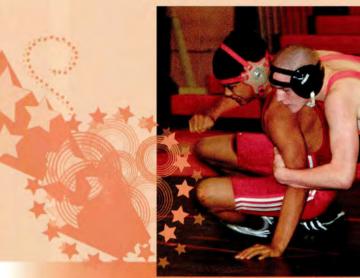
4 wins - 1 loss

4 wins - 1 loss

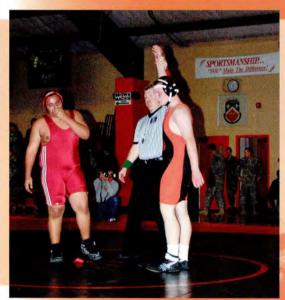
3 wins - 2 losses

2 wins - 3 losses

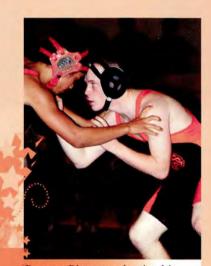
0 wins - 5 losses



John Taylor attempts to pin his opponent



The referee raises Gary Stone's arm signalling victory while the cadet corps looks on.



Preston Pitterman begins his match against a tough opponent.

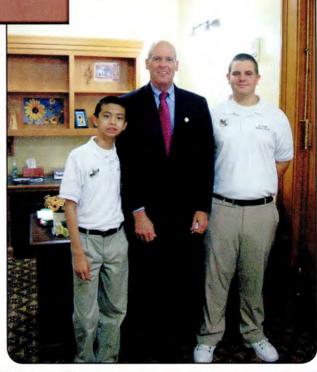




Dakota Strawn almost has his man pinned.

At the Capitol





Jason Nguyen and Jonathan Gray, both from the State of Kansas, traveled to the state capitol with Mrs. Kathy Lysell to participate in the program that allows young students a chance to deliver messages between legislators and participate in the daily legislative session. Jason and Jonathan are pictured with Republican Senator Pete Brungardt from the 24th District which includes Salina.

St. John's Military School Box 5020 Salina, Kan 67402-5020

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