

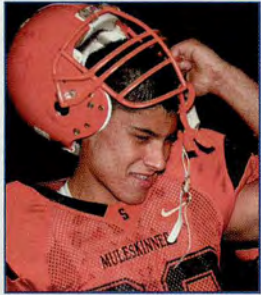
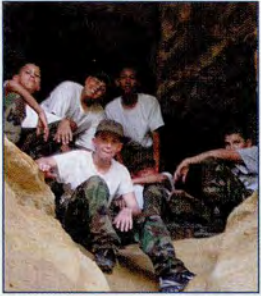
The Skirmisher

Fall 2005

VOLUME LXXXVII No. 1

ST. JOHN'S MILITARY SCHOOL

Cadets Shine During POW/MIA Ceremony





The "New Skirmisher"

In the past you have received messages from the President of St. John's and other staff members updating you on events at St. John's.

In the future the staff will provide this information via the First Call. The Skirmisher will focus on the Cadet Corps, providing information on various SJMS staff members, alumni news and updates.

We hope you will enjoy this new format and Skirmisher mission.

Jack Fox
Retired Army Col.
President St. John's Military School

Skirmisher



On The Cover

Middle School Escapades

Visiting Horse Thief Canyon
Brandon Santana, Isaiah Moreno,
Riley Knox, Edgar Mc Bee,
Colin Granger and Dylan Trujillo-Early.

Football

Ben Roman removes his helmet
as he exists the playing field.

October is National Book Month

Capt. Barb Nitz, English Teacher
is promoting her focus on books.

Parent's Weekend

Hunter Lobertinini assists Joe's
parents, Mike Panter and
Leslie Pantera during promotions.

POW/MIA Ceremony

The Battalion Staff, Garrett Cote, Ben Patton,
Michael Class, Karl Baedecker, Hunter
Lobertini, Mark Davis, Joe Pantera,
Matt Ravan and Spencer Terry.

On the Flag

Reviewing the Cadets as they Pass-in-Review
Retired Army Col. Jack Fox, President of St.
John's Military School, Dale Pugh and son Phillip,
Lee Alley and Retired Army Lt. Gen. Richard J.
Seitz.

Gloved Hands belong to C/WO2 Nicholas
Cantrell and playing the cymbals, C/PVT
Alex Broeils.

The Skirmisher

is published three times a year

For, alumni, parents,
Cadets and friends of
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Jostens



Max Mazy entertains some fair maidens at the Renaissance Festival.



The Battalion Staff leads the 118th Corps on the march for the Santa Fe Days Parade.



Cadets Sweeney, Beardsley, Prouse and Sitarik build bridges in the Technology Building.

School Secretary Brenda Mc Coy

Brenda Mc Coy arrived on campus as the wife of the food service manager. Kevin Mc Coy was transferred to Salina as General Manager with Sodexo-Marriot Corporation in 1991. During her early years at St. John's Kevin and Brenda had one son three year old Jacob who referred to President Emeritus Keith Duckers and former first lady of St. John's Elizabeth Duckers as Grandpa and Grandma. Brenda worked at Braums Ice Cream Store at night and worked part-time at Dickenson Theatres. She also helped husband Kevin with catering events on campus. Little Jacob grew during the 1990's while his folks built a life living and working on the St. John's campus.

About the time Jacob was ready for pre-school long time academic dean SJMS Col. Ken Faerber mentioned to Kevin that he was looking for a Middle School Secretary. Faerber encouraged Kevin to have his wife Brenda apply for the position. With little previous secretarial experience Brenda thinks she was hired because "of my bubbly personality and because Col. Faerber knew I enjoyed working with kids."

During her early years on campus Brenda could be found answering phones, organizing grade cards and keeping the Linger Hall activity room filled with games, puzzles and movies that kept our youngest cadets entertained.

Second son Tommy arrived in 1997 and in 1998 husband Kevin was transferred to Bethany College in Lindsborg, Kansas. The Mc Coys moved to Lindsborg where Jacob is now a senior at Smoky Valley High School and seven year old Tommy attends Soderstrom Grade School. Kevin is currently General Manager for Sodexo Food Service at Bethany College and Kevin and Brenda have been married for twenty-three years. The family also includes their family pet dog named Lady.

Brenda became school secretary when the secretarial staff was recently reorganized. Mrs. Shivers moved into the president's office and Terry Plumberg moved into the Alumni office. She divides her time between Linger

Spotlight on the Staff



Hall and the Vanier Academic Center ensuring that cadet accountability is kept hourly throughout the day and cadets keep daily medical appointments. She is also assistant to the athletic director providing game programs and years ago assumed the responsibility of coordinating Mom's Club activities including the treat bags for Valentine's Day and the annual Halloween Party. She is assisted this year with Mom's club by Terry Nicholson.

Brenda keeps her office running smoothly by being the queen of multi-tasking. She answers what she affectionately calls the "bat phone" which rings constantly with questions from teachers, the school phone with questions from parents and gingerly deals with all the little problems that pop up during the academic day. Brenda is referred to as "my right hand girl" by Academic Dean Devon Walters and she greets each person that passes through her office with a smile and handles life with humor and a positive attitude. Thanks Brenda for making our day brighter and our work load lighter!

Maj. Jeff Coverdale



Maj. Jeff Coverdale, Director of Admissions, came to St. John's from Fort Riley where he was employed as Community Relations Officer. Coverdale brings a wide variety of experience to his position as Director of Admissions. He moves comfortably between counseling new boys finding it difficult to adjust to life at St. John's to recruiting and screening prospective new cadets and their families.

Coverdale brings with him over ten years experience in the education field as both a teacher and an administrator and coached high school football, basketball and track.

His wife, Lucille is a guidance counselor at Ft. Riley Middle School and they have two sons, Seneca 24 and Jeff II a senior at The United States Air Force Academy.

We welcome Coverdale to St. John's and look forward to benefitting from his positive attitude and his energetic work ethic.

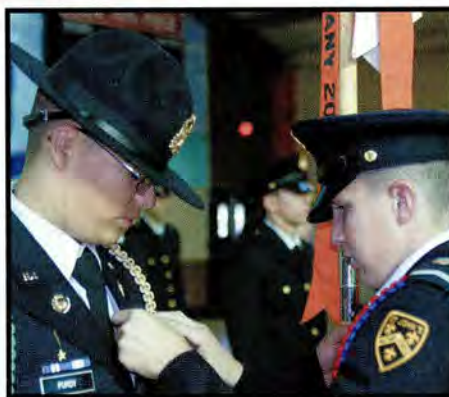


Deborah Webb, office assistant and receptionist, is many times the first contact for people interested in St. John's. For those of you who call St. John's you can now put a face with that friendly voice you hear on the other end of the phone line!

Parents/Family Weekend

Parent's/Family Weekend was held October 7th, 8th and 9th 2005. Parent's Weekend gives the Cadets a chance to share their St. John's experiences with their families.

The weekend is a flourish of activities built around St. John's traditions and ceremonies.



Trevor Vindalov makes an adjustment to Nicholas Purdy's uniform prior to the In Ranks Inspection.



C/CPT Chris Reinertsen is followed by Trevor Vindalov, guidon bearer as the Corps of Cadets Pass-in-Review at the Retreat Ceremony during Parent's Weekend.



118th Corps prepares for In-Ranks Inspection.

NHS Induction Ceremony

On Friday, October 8, seven cadets were inducted into the St. John's Military School chapter of the National Honor Society. National Honor Society members are chosen based on their scholarship, leadership, service and character. Those inducted were seniors Garrett Cote, Alex DiFonzo, Jesse Levin, Tyler Pohl, Matthew Ravan and Thomas Sweeney, and Junior Ben Roman.

The scholarship requirement is set by the National Council and is based on a student's cumulative grade point average. The minimum grade point allowable is 85%.

The leadership criterion includes perceived resourcefulness, exemplifying a positive attitude and exercising positive influence, maintaining a loyal school attitude, inspiring positive behaviors in others, and demonstrating academic initiative.

Service is generally considered to be those actions undertaken by the students which are done with or on behalf of others without any direct financial or material compensation to the individual performing the service.

The character criterion includes the individual demonstrating respect, responsibility, trustworthiness, fairness, caring and citizenship.

Returning National Honor Society members and officers for the 2005-2006 school year are: Mark Davis, President; Chris Reinertsen, Vice-President; Hunter Lobertini, Secretary; Spencer Terry, Treasurer; and Raymond Parker, Reporter/Public Relations Officer.

Those faculty members serving on the St. John's Military School chapter's faculty advisory committee for the 2005-2006 school year are: Mrs. Susie Harris, Ms. Chris Zerger, Cpt. Ruth Cox, Mr. Eric Winters, and Mr. Gerald Martin.

Col. Tony Pino, Commandant of Cadets is a consultant to the faculty advisory committee and Maj. Ginger Wooten, school counselor is the National Honor Society sponsor.



Thomas Sweeney, Ben Roman, Matt Ravan, Tyler Pohl, Jesse Levin, Alex Di Fonzo and Garrett Cote.



Spencer Terry, Drill Team Commander observes Joe Pantera drilling with his rifle.



Tyler Pohl and his parents visit after he is inducted into the National Honor Society.



Joe Pantera's parents, Leslie and Mike Pantera, help pin on his new rank during the promotion ceremony in Banes Gymnasium.



Cadet LeAndre Sanford enjoys a moment with his Mom.



Cadet Alex Di Fonzo spends time with Emily Foster a friend from home.



Cadet Matthew Kurtze is all smiles as he spends time with his parents.

Pictures Worth 1000 words



Cadet Camilo Chapa is assisted by his parents as he becomes an Old Boy.



Cadet Sean White renders his first salute as an Old Boy.



Cadet Daniel Culkin becomes an Old Boy with his parents and Battalion Commander Hunter Lobertini, assisting.

New Boys Become Old Boys
For the past 118 years many young men have arrived at St. John's with no connection to one another..... when they leave they belong to the band of brothers we call Old Boys.



Matt Ravan is being promoted to C/CPT with the assistance of his Dad.



Jeffrey Adams is promoted with his Mom assisting.



Michael Class assists Max Mazy with his new rank. Max was promoted to C/CPT.



Mrs. Marlene Beene, Marvine Fox's twin Sister and Grandmother of Cadet Vance Beene visit in the barracks.



Cadet Francisco Castro waits for his room inspection with his parents.

POW/MIA Ceremony

September 17, 2005 was a special day for members of the armed forces, the St. John's Military School family and Salina city leaders as they gathered at St. John's Military School, in Salina, for a ceremony honoring a home town hero.

Standing at attention on the bricks of the Tear Drop at the school, were the Cadets of the 118th corps, spit-shined and ready to render honors against the backdrop of four U.S. flags under a blue Kansas sky.

Also in attendance were Salina Mayor Deborah Devine, Col. Fred Peck, Chief of Staff Kansas National Guard, Col. Dana Pittard, Assistant Division Commander (Maneuver), Fort Riley, veterans still able to wear the uniform with pride, and key military leaders representing the Kansas Army National Guard, and Fort Riley.

The ceremony was held to unveil one of the panels of the Vietnam Memorial "Moving Wall," which travels around the countryside from city to city. The panel, which carries the name of one of Salina's hometown heroes, Dennis Pugh, has now found a permanent home affixed to the front wall of the Vanier Academic Building on the St. John's campus.

Pugh was listed as killed in action in Vietnam many years ago, although neither his body, nor any remains have ever been returned to the U.S.

Retired Army Col., and President of St. John's, Jack Fox said the ceremony was about remembering, remembering heroes, fallen soldiers and those POW/MIAs still waiting to be returned to American soil.

Traditions shaped the festivities as Fox introduced the honored guests and speakers. Following the introductions he asked veterans of WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Shield, Desert Storm and Iraqi Freedom to stand, many veterans of each war were in attendance that day.

The speeches that followed brought tears to the eyes of some and gave each in attendance insight into the emotional toll that wars take on human life, both for those that fight and those that wait for loved ones to return home.

Guest speaker, and decorated Vietnam War veteran Lee Alley spoke about the struggles he faced upon returning home. He spoke about the feelings of guilt, the emptiness inside and the effort to fit into a society that had betrayed the men and women who had answered the call of duty.

Alley spoke of personal struggles which led him to put away everything concerning his time in Vietnam. He stored those memories for many years, just recently reconnecting with both the memories of a cruel war and friendships that had been formed in the rice paddies of Southeast Asia.

Alley was in Salina at the urging of Jim Deister who had served with him in Vietnam. These two men, one from Wyoming, and the other from Salina, share a common bond that was keenly evident as one spoke from the podium and the other sat and listened.

Alley's message was clear. Returning to America and creating a life might have been the single most difficult part of the Vietnam conflict, but could never take away the feeling of pride each Soldier secretly held deep inside, of their individual accomplishments.

Alley's speech was followed by a vocal rendition of America sung by "The Nightingales" a vocal group from Sacred Heart High School.

The keynote speaker, retired Army Lt. Gen. Richard J. Seitz, followed Alley's speech and encouraged all in attendance to hold patriotism close to their hearts, now and in the future. He emphasized the important role that schools like St. John's Military School play in the development of disciplined young men who might one day be ready to serve.

Seitz declared, "We can only protect the future of our great country and the memories of those lost in battle if we remain committed as a nation to preparing future generations to continue the fight to preserve



Dale Pugh, brother of fallen hero, Dennis Pugh, speaks to the crowd.



The 118th corps stands at attention during the ceremony in perfect alignment and soldierly bearing.



A member of the Purple Heart is caught in a display of remembrance following the unveiling.

Commandant Seeks to Improve Cadet Life



Nathan Dixon prepares to watch a little TV



Travis Falconer needs a snack.



Jack Hudgins and Robert Fleishman work the foosball table.

It's easy to see the improvements to campus since Col. Tony Pino, Commandant of Cadets arrived late during the 2004-2005 school year. Upon his arrival he became an advocate for the cadets concerning himself with improving the facilities used for cadet leisure time and for creating an expanded intramural program for those cadets not involved in organized athletic teams.

Pino surveyed the facilities and determined that the campus needed some modifications both in new construction and in prioritizing the use of the facilities already available. The recreation center had gradually become a meeting place for faculty and staff and was also being utilized for cadet training. He insisted that the recreation center become a place where the Cadets could relax and

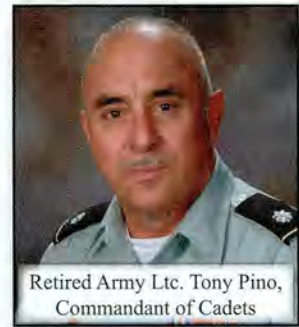
enjoy their free time. The recreation center is now used exclusively for the enrichment of cadet life. New vending machines are in place that provide for both hot and cold snacks. A new foosball table, an additional TV and new video games were acquired with a donation from the Parent Staff Organization.

In order to expand the intramural program Pino looked to the board of trustees Cadet life committee for financial assistance. The budget for the 2005-2006 school year had long before been assigned and there was little room for extras. Tim Soule, Old Boy and member of the Board of Trustees came forward with a cash donation of \$5,000.00 to provide funding for an outdoor beach volleyball court and several items of fitness equipment needed

for other outdoor sports.

Pino believes that the cadets need to be busy and active in order to lead a healthy life. Pino's partnership with Col. Jack Fox, President of St. John's and the newly implemented running program will undoubtedly improve the overall condition of the corps.

The Commandant is committed to being an advocate for the Cadets and continues to look for ways to enhance Cadet life.



Retired Army Lt. Tony Pino, Commandant of Cadets

POW/MIA Continued

freedom." His parting words to the audience were "God Bless America." This closing phrase was followed with everyone singing "God Bless America."

Dale Pugh, brother of fallen hero Dennis Pugh, returned to his hometown of Salina to unveil the portion of the Vietnam wall bearing his brother's name. For a moment during his speech it was clear that losing a brother so many years ago still hurts very deeply.

Dale expressed his thanks to the organizations and persons responsible for finding a permanent home for the wall panel. He also thanked The Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #809, St. John's, Jim Cole and Jim Deister. As the panel was unveiled the corps of cadets was called to attention and present arms as buglers Remington Smith and Daniel Ragan sounded echo taps.

The events of the morning concluded with a Tear Drop pass-in-review in honor of all the veterans in attendance, POWs and MIAs.



The SJMS Band stands ready to offer musical support for the ceremony; Remington Smith, Zach Tebow, Sam Bowman, Daniel Ragen, Kyle Taylor, Travis Falconer, Kyle Steinberg and William Brooks.



Larry Britegam Old Boy and SJMS Trustee wrote about the ceremony:

"I have been a student, volunteer, board member, etc. for 40 years at St. John's Military School.

If you missed the ceremony Saturday, you missed one of the most impressive events I've ever been a part of.

I told my wife that I wished all three of our kids were there to see and hear about the sacrifices so many people have made for us to be able to live the kind of life style we have.

Jack, you and your staff are to be highly commended for a job well done. It was beyond anything I've ever been a part of.

General Dick Seitz was most complimentary of the event and St. John's. I have a tremendous amount of respect for Dick and believe me, he doesn't throw around compliments very often.

Thank you for making it a very special day for me and those that were there."



The 118th corps listens to the inspiring speeches from the tear drop.



The Dale Pugh family, son Richard, wife Debra Austin and younger son, Phillip listen as Dale speaks.

Father Ron Longero



Armstrong Chapel

A Place for Cadets to Grow Spiritually

The history of St. John's Military School is deeply rooted in the tradition of the Episcopal Church. Founding father, The Right Reverend Elisha Smith Thomas, Bishop Coadjutor of the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas during the late 1800's envisioned a school for boys that would serve to educate young men and fill their spiritual needs as well.

Over the past 117 years the Episcopal Church has served as the spiritual core of the school. Armstrong Chapel is a familiar and revered spot on campus welcoming cadets for morning prayers and serving as a house of prayer for all seeking the comfort and direction of God.

A long line of distinguished priests has served as chaplain to the young men of St. John's. From the time long ago of The Right Reverend Robert H. Mize, through the tenure of the Rev. Canon James Cox Chaplain Emeritus to our current chaplain Father Ron Longero the Gospel of Jesus has been woven deeply into the very fiber of the school.

A visit to campus on opening day gives visitors a glimpse into the importance the church plays in the lives of young men. Following the forming of the 118th corps on August 29, 2005 the cadets moved directly into Armstrong Chapel for the Blessing of the Corps.

Through the school year the cadets will spend many hours reflecting on God's desire to be in a covenant relationship with them. Many cadets will be baptized in the church. Many will sing in the chapel choir and many will assist the chaplain as servers at the altar.



The Battalion Staff sits at the front of Chapel leading by example!

Justin Sperry

The war in Iraq is far away from the plains of Kansas yet it has had a direct impact on the campus of St. John's. Computer teacher, Justin Sperry was deployed on September 5, 2005 as a member of the 414th Military Police Company based in Joplin, MO. He is scheduled to be in Iraq for 12 to 18 months performing combat support missions with the 414th.

Members of the St. John's family are standing in for Justin in his absence. Fulfilling his teaching duties is Capt. Barb Nitz, she is handling sections of Desktop Publishing I and II and sections of Computer Literacy I and II. Art teacher, Scott Weideman is assisting Dave Potts with the St. John's website.

Nitz and Maj. Wendy Stein, band



teacher, have willingly offered assistance to Justin's wife, Katie, by babysitting with their young son Raichle. Katie teaches music in the Ell-Saline school system located just a few miles west of Salina.

Mr. Sperry willingly answered the call to active duty explaining that he knew when he joined the Army Reserve that there was a real possibility that he would some day be asked to serve.

The 414th MP Company spent nearly two months in New Jersey conducting theater specific training before departing for Iraq. Justin stays in touch with friends through e-mail and has a cell phone to stay in close touch with his wife and son while

still stateside. When reached recently, Justin described his transition as, "going smoothly. As always, the most difficult part about being deployed at this stage in my life is being away from my very young son for such a long period of time. Fortunately, I have a very, very supportive wife and family and my St. John's family has been absolutely outstanding in their support of me and my family." It's difficult for his wife Katie to work and raise their young son alone, but she says "she has a great support system through her church, friends and family."

We wish Justin a safe and speedy return to American soil and are proud to have a St. John's faculty member helping to build a democracy in the Middle East and a better country for the Iraqi people.

President Emeritus Keith Duckers and Liz Duckers Former First Lady

Honoring the Legacy

His bust sits in the middle of the tear drop and her garden flourishes under the watchful eye of Lance Werber and his staff. SJMS Col. Keith G. Duckers, President Emeritus of St. John's Military School started the yearbook in 1955 and since that time he and his wife Elizabeth have appeared in many school publications. Many of the traditions passed from corps to corps were initiated during their tenure. Keith and Elizabeth Duckers are synonymous with the St. John's name and remain an indelible part of St. John's history.

Since Duckers retirement Liz and Keith have traveled, remained active in the Salina community and have enjoyed watching their family grow with the addition of seven grandchildren. Over the past few years the Duckers have been on campus for special ceremonies and can be seen driving through campus checking up on the home they dedicated a lifetime to.

Col. and Mrs. Duckers remain an important part of the St. John's family giving sage advice to the current administration and staying connected to the young men at St. John's. Presidential Liaison C/WO John Adams is charged with escorting the Duckers whenever they are on campus.

Mrs. Duckers is currently a consultant to publications and alumni relations. Keith had a fall recently and is recuperating in a local nursing facility.

We want to wish Col. Duckers a speedy recovery and welcome Mrs. Duckers back in her role as a consultant.



The Berkleys- Ester and Joe "Friends of St. John's"

Joe and Ester Berkley didn't have children of their own, yet the basement of their home was filled with chairs made for little ones. They kept their extended family close hosting cousins, nieces, nephews and siblings for many Berkley family gatherings. Ester and Joe were a perfect fit. Ester could be spotted around town dressed to a "T" in a coordinated suit, hat and gloves. Joe, ever the gentleman in a suit and tie was always at her side looking out for her.

They are perhaps best known as successful bankers, but their real success in life may best be measured by what they gave to family and friends. With both Ester and Joe were gracious and friendly, they believed in hard work and were demanding employers. Attention to detail was a way of life, a life that produced wealth, both financially and the number of people they could count as friends.

St. John's Military School held a special place in the hearts and minds of Joe and Ester. During the last half of the 20th century, our youngest cadets would be invited to swimming parties at the Berkley home. After an invigorating swim, plenty of food and drink was offered. It was like being at Grandpa and Grandma's house for many of our youngest Muleskinners.

Joe and Ester contributed for many years to the Muleskinners scholarship fund drive, helping to insure that young boys could attend St. John's in spite of financial constraints.

The St. John's family benefited a great deal from their association with Joe and Ester. When Mr. Berkley left this earth, Ester carried on. Ever sharp mind until her frail body gave out, Ester remained a true Muleskinners. Their final gift to St. John's came in the form of a contribution to the endowment fund. Over four-hundred thousand dollars of the Berkley estate was awarded to St. John's in order to help insure the financial future of a place that was near and dear to their hearts.

I'll never forget Joe and Ester and the spirit with which they approached life- God Bless you dear friends, and thank you for believing in the mission of this military school on the plains.....Wendy Stein

Dave Potts Creates A Technology Explosion



Dave Potts, Technology Director, at St. John's had a busy summer. Potts is charged with managing the computers on campus, maintaining the network and training the staff and faculty to efficiently utilize the computer equipment and software.

This summer he ordered and set up a mobile laptop computer lab to be used in the classrooms. These laptops can be used anywhere in the building due to wireless technology. Several teachers have taken advantage of the mobile lab using it both for student assignments and instruction. The lab consisting of 15 laptops is stored in the Remy Clem Library and administered by Capt. Ruth Cox, librarian. The teaching staff must reserve the lab through Cox and can take the lab to their classrooms or use the laptops in the library.

At the present time there are over 113 computers on campus available for Cadet and staff use. Each of the academic buildings has a computer lab and each member of the administration, faculty and staff either has a school owned computer of their own or has access to one. Scott Wiedeman, art teacher has seven computers in the art classroom allowing for graphic design capabilities, computer aided art projects and elaborate student photography projects.

The Vanier Academic Center now has five classrooms equipped with overhead LCD projectors to aid in teacher presentations. These projectors are capable of showing computer applications to every student in the room at the same time. In addition, these projectors allow the staff to access educational programs from the internet. Eric Winter, history teacher, has a *interwrite tablet* that allows him to write notes on a virtual white board and wirelessly control his computer during lectures.

The technology building, also known as shop class in the public schools, was fitted with six Windows based XP computers for use with AutoCAD programs.

Potts repairs or corrects computer problems each day and when asked about his job he explained that "it's easy if you take it one day at a time."

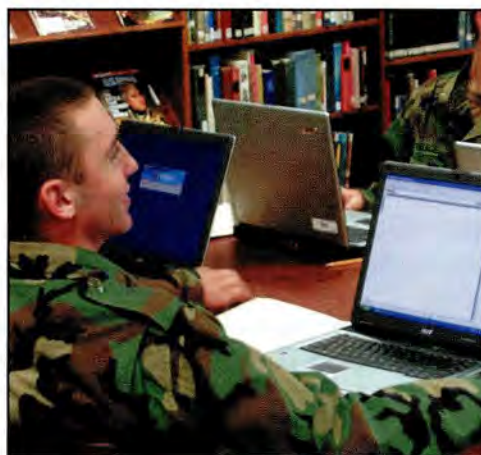
He and his wife Jennifer are parents of an infant daughter, Makayla, and Jennifer works at the Salina Supply Company.

VISIT

www.sjms.org/courses/technology
for more information



Capt. Barb Nitz lectures to her Desktop Publishing Class held in the High School Computer Lab.



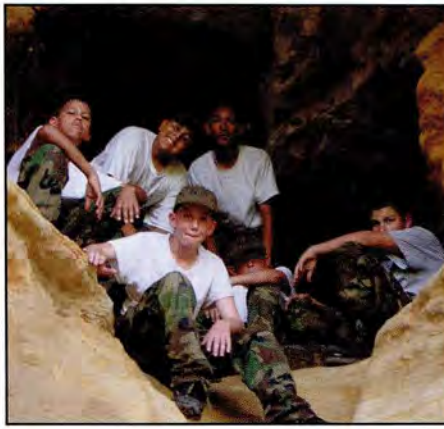
Cadet Brandon Holmes sits at the tables in The Remy Clem Library during English class utilizing the mobile lap top lab.



Middle School Cadets use the computer lab in Linger Hall; Isaiah Moreno, Edgar Mc Bee, Dylan Trujillo-Early and Michael Manuel.



Deborah Pino, wife of Col. Tony Pino Commandant, Cadets Jeffrey Adams, Max Mazy, Brandon Santana, Michael Manuel and Marvine Fox, wife of Col. Fox take a break at the State Fair.



Middle School Cadets Brandon Santana, Isaiah Moreno, Riley Knox, Edgar Mc Bee and Dylan Trujillo-Early hang out in a cave in Horse Thief Canyon.



Middle School Cadets Isaiah Moreno, Michael Manuel, Dylan Trujillo-Early and Daniel Clive climb and explore the rock formations at Mushroom State Park.

Middle School Escapades

The Middle School Cadets have enjoyed a variety of activities and field trips thanks to the efforts of SJMS Lt. Col. Doug Randolph, Middle School Academic Dean and SJMS Maj. Tammy O'Neill Middle School Teacher.

The 7th and 8th grade Cadets along with Seniors Matt Ravan and Ben Patton took a trip to the State Fair in Hutchinson, Kansas on September, 15. Sponsors making the trip with the Middle School Cadets were Deborah Pino, Marvine Fox, SJMS Maj. Roy Lawrence, O'Neill and Randolph. The Cadets joined the estimated 324,705 persons visiting the Kansas State Fair during it's September run.

During the afternoon of September 17, 2005 Randolph took several of the Middle School Cadets to Horse Thief Canyon. Horse Thief Canyon a part of Kansas' first state park featuring sandstone

bluffs and caves. The canyon offers over 26 miles of trails for hikers, horseback riders and bicyclists and provided a great adventure for the Cadets. After hiking the canyon the group ended the day with a hot dog and marshmallow roast.

On September 29, 2005 Randolph took High School Cadet Ian Sitarik and the Middle School Cadets to Mushroom State Park. These rock formations are part of the Dakota Sandstone Formations of the Smoky Hill Region in central Kansas.

In addition to their travels the Middle School Cadets have participated in intramural volleyball games on Thursday afternoons and on Mondays after school Cadets Colin Granger, Riley Knox, Michael Manuel, Adgar Mc Bee, Iasiah Moreno and Brandon Santana participate in the Young American Bowling Alliance league.

Randolph and O'Neill encourage the Cadets to strive for excellence in the classroom and rewarded the Middle Schoolers achieving grades of C's or better with a movie/root beer float night in Linger Hall.



Middle School Cadet Brandon Blacktin studies in Linger Hall.



Middle School Cadets spend some quiet time with their books! Cadet Colin Granger demonstrates some left arm technique as he reads, Cadet Riley Knox looks like he might be napping, but it's just an optical illusion because his book is in his lap and Cadet Brandon Santana dives deep into the pages of his book.

focus on ALUMNI

Wall of Fame

Purpose

The SJMS Hall of Fame committee shall induct those who have a strong commitment to duty, honor, pride, loyalty and achievement. The Hall of Fame is divided into five categories: Professional Endeavors Award; Distinguished Lifetime Service

to SJMS; Military Valor/Service to Country; Outstanding Coach/Educator/Athlete/Cadet, and Special Category.

Members of the Hall of Fame Committee will meet in March to determine additions to the Wall of Fame.



Derek Barth, Old Boy, Class of 1989 stopped in for a visit. He is a member of the alumni board and will be back Nov. 11 for their meeting.



Recently, the Wall of Fame took on a new look. The photos and biographies were all neatly placed under a matted frame and hung in categories. It is an impressive sight to see such distinguished alums and supporters honoring our hallway. It is our hope that a selection committee will be able to honor more supporters of SJMS, which will add to our Wall of Fame. If you know of someone that you would like to honor, please send their name, address and criteria for the nomination to Terry Plumberg via e-mail terry@sjms.org



Old Boys Matt Webster and Travis Mulder Class of 2001 celebrate a safe return to American soil after three deployments in Iraq! Welcome Home and Sempre Fi!

Old Boy David Smith, Class of 2004 is currently serving in Iraq. Smith left for Camp Pendleton four days after graduating from St. John's.



F2005
Troop



A visit from Old Boys Class of 95; Sasha Reece, wife of Ryan Reese, Edwin Mc Clendon, Maj. Wendy Stein and Chris Nicola met in the hallway of Vanier Academic Center during Commencement weekend 2005.



Look for the Alumni of the Month on the WEB

www.sjms.org/alumni

If you would like to nominate someone

Contact: Terry Plumberg at terryp@sjms.org

Please include a photo and short biography to be used on our website.

Alum of the Month are chosen at random.

Calling All Old Boys in Uniform

Please send the following information

☆☆☆ Where you are stationed ☆☆☆

Branch of service - Rank

How many years served!

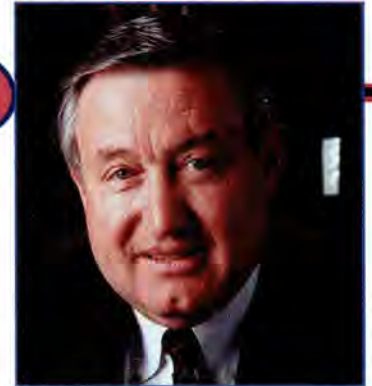
terryp@sjms.org



Tim Soule, Old Boy Class of 1970 and Retired Army Col. Jack Fox President of St. John's Military School.

Alumni Give Back

D. Dale Browning, Old Boy, Class of 1955.



One Man's Surplus...

Old Boy Tim Soule, Class of 1970 and long standing member of The St. John's Military School Board of Trustees, thinks of his Alma mater often. His dedication can be measured by his time spent on the board and by the many times he has visited campus in the past. He recently purchased an office building to use for his own business ventures and found a treasure chest full of office equipment that he could not use. St. John's immediately came to mind. Dave Potts technology director and Scott Wiedeman art teacher made a trip to Denver during this past summer to pick up this treasure. Some of this equipment benefits the St. John's staff and makes their job easier. One particularly popular item is a machine that will fold, stuff and seal envelopes at the speed of light making mass mailings a breeze. Video

conferencing will soon be a reality for the staff to utilize and conference calls are now possible with the arrival of a *polycom* sound station. The music department received microphones, amplifiers and speakers which are scheduled to be placed in Banes Gymnasium as a permanent sound system for sporting events and military ceremonies.

The total amount in dollars and cents plus the over 175 individual items donated will impact each staff member associated with St. John's for many years to come. We find new uses for items each and every work day and look forward to finding a home for each piece of equipment as the school year unfolds.

Our thanks to you, Mr. Soule for thinking of St. John's and for remembering that one man's *surplus* is another man's treasure!

Wearing the Army Green

Where do I put the rank? Where is my cover? These questions and more have been uttered frequently during the first few weeks of school.

During the 2004-2005 school year Col. Jack Fox, President of St. John's Military School put out a survey asking faculty and staff members if they would be willing to wear the Army uniform. Several faculty and staff members answered in the affirmative.

Thanks to a donation from Old Boy D. Dale Browning, Class of 1955, and longtime member of the Board of Trustees those staff members who volunteered to be in uniform were given a clothing allowance. Retired Army Lt. Col. Antonio Pino, Commandant of St. John's Military School, offered assistance with obtaining the uniform items at nearby Fort Riley. A trip to the clothing store on base offered many challenges but was made simple through the kind efforts of both the store staff and Pino. While those in uniform may look like army officers

from a distance at close range it is plain to see that the uniform belongs to St. John's staffers.

Rank structure was determined by the administration and awarded according to level of education and years of service. The cadets have been instructed to address the staff by rank and last name and render honors to staff members in uniform by saluting as they pass each other on campus. Msg. Paula Lambert, Administrative Assistant to the Commandant has been a big help to the female staff members insuring that the uniform and hat are worn properly. Pino continues to correct any slight problems with rank placement and any adjustments needed with the hat.

The cadets have been accepting of the new look for some of the staff. When asked about how he feels about the teachers being in uniform, 8th grader Jeffrey Adams exclaimed that "I think it's cool, it's easier to relate to the staff in uniform because all the Cadets are in uniform."

Go
Online
Today
at

www.sjms.org/qm

It's not
too early
to shop
for
Christmas!

Quartermaster Store

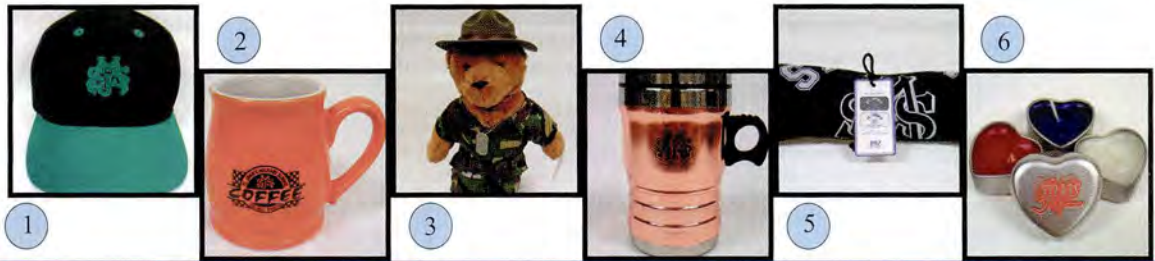
The Quartermaster Store at St. John's provides everything from uniforms to personal hygiene items to school supplies and much, much more. Quartermaster Judy Casstevens and her assistant Wanda Radke have created an atmosphere where the Cadets can relax buy much needed supplies and just stop by for a visit.

Many parents, faculty and staff shop in the Quartermaster store. Maj. Wendy Stein says "I buy my Uncle Walt a new St. John's hat every year for his birthday, and he says they are his favorite." During Parents Weekend and Commencement each year Ms. Casstevens opens the "QM" for extended hours to allow visitors the chance to buy St. John's merchandise.



Cadet Justin Williams shares a laugh with Judy Casstevens during inprocessing August 2005.

- 1 - SJMS Ball Cap
- 2 - SJMS Coffee Mug
- 3 - Soldier Bear
- 4 - SJMS Copper Travel Mug
- 5 - SJMS Blanket
- 6 - SJMS Assorted Votive Candles



Jesse Gives Again!

St. John's benefactor, Jesse Givens purchased a yellow school bus for St. John's during the 2004-2005 school year. Maj. George Stelljes, Senior Army Officer and 1Sgt. Amon Tidmore, Drill Team Sponsor and ROTC instructor picked up the bus in Alabama and drove it back to St. John's. Since the bus arrived on campus it has been painted and fitted with the St. John's logo and has been on many trips since being made road worthy. Tidmore is one of the few faculty or staff members qualified to drive this bus, however, other staffers are planning to take the necessary steps to become certified to drive this vehicle.

Thank You, Mrs. Givens!



Classroom/Office Supplies

- 10 Eight Foot Folding Tables
- 6 Receptionist Chairs
- 1 Projector
- Library Chairs
- Classroom Chairs
- New Desk/Work Area

Electronics – Hardware

- Bar Code Scanner and Cash Register
- Small Laser Printers
- Computers or laptops – capable of running Windows XP
- 17" Flat Panel Computer Monitors
- Computer Lab Chairs with Wheels
- LCD Projectors for Computers
- E-mail server and spam/virus firewall

Educational Materials

- 3 Audio Books (CD or cassette)
(Harry Potter & the Prisoner of Azkaban, Ender's Game, Hatchet)
- Incubation Chamber Oven

Sporting Equipment

- 2 Canoes
- Scuba Equipment
- Weight Room Equipment
(barbells, dumb bells, new universal type machine)

Music

- Saxophone, Trombone & Baritone (new or used)

Other

- Garage
- Lift Gate for Truck
- Bulletin Boards (72" x 36") 1 for each room
- Gym Lockers
- Rec Room Furniture (Couch, Chairs)
- Staff Cube Furniture

Wish List!

Reading....it's a good thing!

Capt. Barb Nitz, Freshman English and Desktop Publishing teacher jumped at the chance to focus on books during the month of October. Books are an important part of the English Curriculum, lend a voice to human expression and give Cadets a way to personalize their own education through recreational reading.

Lt. Col. Doug Randolph, Middle School Academic Dean issued a challenge to the English teachers to decorate their classroom doors with a theme to promote National Book month with the winner receiving \$100.00 to spend on books for their rooms. Nitz and Maj. Tammy O'Neill, Middle School teacher set about to create something that would become the winning design.

Both gave the project their best effort. Nitz was awarded first prize and O'Neill second.

In conjunction with National Book Month, Randolph hosted the annual book fair in Linger Hall. The Cadets are given the opportunity to purchase reading materials educational games and posters. The book fair proceeds support the activities of the Junior National Honor Society.



Book Fair set up in Linger Hall is a popular event with the Cadets.

Stock Market Game

The web-site for the Stock Market Game describes it as "a ten-week simulation of Wall Street trading that provides a framework for teaching about the stock market, business, economic principles and the free enterprise system. This Internet-based program provides an opportunity to integrate economics and technology with language arts, math, current events and many other subjects. Approximately 5,500 students play The Kansas Stock Market Game each year. Teams of 3-5 students are given a hypothetical \$100,000 to invest in common stock on the New York, American, and NASDAQ stock exchanges. Students are responsible for

researching stocks, making decisions as a team, and executing their team's trades online. Students compete against students in their own grade levels across the state of Kansas. It is the only stock market simulation supported by the New York Stock Exchange and the NASDAQ Stock Market. The Kansas Council on Economic Education is the exclusive provider of The Stock Market Game in Kansas."

The 7th and 8th graders make up two teams and Alex Di Fonzo, Riley Dunn, Tyler Pohl, Trevor Vindalov and Brian Wheeler make up the high school team. These SJMS teams are competing with almost 300 teams across Kansas.

Testing Takes Hold at SJMS



On October 22, 2005, Robert Haynes, PhD., Founder & Creator of College Power-Prep presented an ACT! PowerPrep workshop to cadets who had signed up for the workshop. The workshop was scheduled in response to requests from parents that their sons receive additional standardized test preparation. The condensed two-hour version of the test is intended to give students a chance to receive feedback on their test results and give them an idea about what areas to focus on in order to achieve college entrance goals. Maj. Ginger Wooten, school counselor, administered a shortened version of the ACT prior to the workshop. Dr. Haynes scored the tests and provided the Cadets with individual guidance on improving ACT performance.

All Juniors took the PSAT/NMSQT (National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) on Wednesday, October 12 on the St. John's campus. The ACT is offered at St. John on October 22, 2005 and again on February 11, 2006. The SAT is offered to cadets at Salina South High School on November 5, 2005 and on January 28, 2006. Cadets can register online or for the ACT and SAT or they may register using the traditional paper packets available in Major Wooten's office. Both the ACT and the SAT are college entrance exams.

All sophomores will take the (ASVAB) Armed Services Vocational and Aptitude Battery on February 2, 2006. The ASVAB is a multi-aptitude test battery consisting of eight short individual tests that combine into three career exploration scores: Verbal Skills, Math Skills, and Science and Technical Skills. This testing opportunity is offered to any interested Cadet.

Art Students Decorate Pumpkins



Football: Fighting the Good Fight!



Cameron Wright gives thumbs up prior to a home football game



Coach Chuck Speilman gives the team a pregame pep talk.

This fall there is only one sport being practiced and played on the campus of St. John's. The competition is tough and the effort being displayed during daily practices remains great. Football is alive and well at St. John's. The scores don't reflect the real story taking place on the practice field or on the playing field.

The St. John's football Muleskinners load the bus each week with great hope that the plays will click and the almost unimaginable task of being competitive in the world of rural Kansas football will be realized. Each week there have been improvements, but each week they have suffered defeat. Cadets finish the games sore and tired and most likely their spirit is deflated. Coaches scratch their heads wondering what new plays they can develop for their tough opponents. Injuries plague the offensive line and the cadets watching in the stands find ways to support their team in defeat. In spite of all this, Retired Army Col. Jack Fox, President of St. John's Military School expresses his pride in the way the football team doesn't quit. Teachers and military staff members offer words of encouragement to the players and coaches after each game and the team members wear their game jerseys on game days with pride. Senior Matt Ravan offers some insight into the situation explaining that "the teams we play against have been playing together since they were little. We at St. John's start each year with new faces and even though we realize this we still come out and practice hard."

So, if winning is all that matters in the world of sports we at St. John's don't run with the status quo. We believe that building teamwork and individual strength is important in the development of young men and that the final score is only a partial reflection of the game. Sports teaches many lessons and we feel confident that the lessons learned in defeat are just as important as those learned in victory.

Of course we look forward to a win and the feeling that will come over each team member and coach when that win is achieved, but we realize that the season is measured by more than just numbers and stats. Go Muleskinners!.....Wendy Stein

Scuba Gets Going!

The following cadets have completed their SCUBA Basic Open Water Certification: Joe Beardsley, Daniel Culkin, Collin Granger, Brandon Santana and Dylan Trujillo.

Training was coordinated by Jeff Kelsey, diving instructor of Pro Ski & Scuba of Wichita, KS, and cadets were responsible for reading all course materials and completed all testing online. After passing their exams with 100%, cadets then completed pool training sessions, having to demonstrate proficiency in a series of Scuba skills related to equipment assembly, underwater breathing and swimming, including safety techniques and problem solving procedures.

Open Water certification, completed at Beaver Lake, Arkansas, required the cadets to demonstrate the same skills in an open-water environment. All cadets met the requirements for certification on October 16, 2005. Sponsors were Scott Wiedeman and Craig Wiedeman.

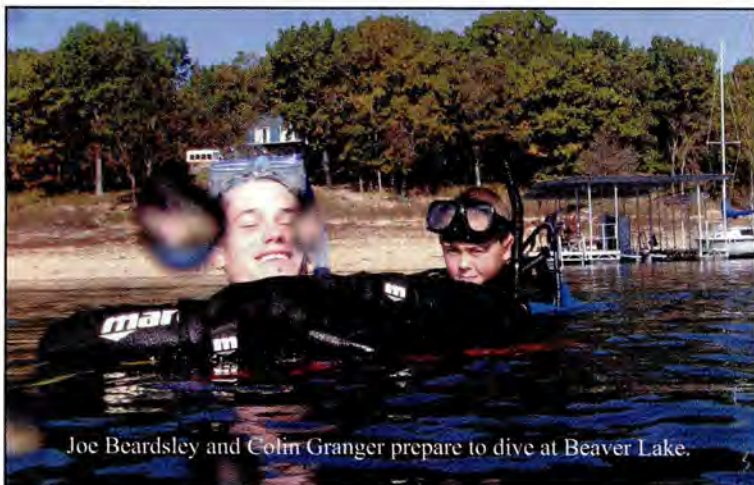
The following cadets have completed their Advanced Open Water Certification: Robert Tucker, Remington Smith and Damien

Pulscher. Cadets completed bookwork and testing pertaining to five SCUBA Adventure Dives, including Deep Diving, Night Diving, Underwater Navigation, Boat Diving, and Search and Recovery.

Cadets then completed these dives October 16, 2005, at Beaver Lake, Arkansas, under the instruction of Jeff Kelsey of Pro Ski & Scuba, Wichita, KS. Sponsors were Scott Wiedeman and Craig Wiedeman.

Nicholas Cantrell also participated in the Beaver Lake Dive trip, logging his 50th dive, as he works toward meeting the requirements of Master Scuba Diver certification.

Story by Scott Wiedeman



Joe Beardsley and Colin Granger prepare to dive at Beaver Lake.



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