

The Skirmisher

Spring 2006

Volume LXXXVII No. 2

St. John's Military School

Cadets Earn

The President's Award

The President's Award
Inaugural Class

The President's Award is presented to cadets on the Dean's honor roll with no conduct reports on their record.

C/CPT Matthew Ravan is in his second year at St. John's and plans to attend either Arizona State University or Illinois Institute of Technology majoring in Aerospace Engineering. Matt points to his earning the D.Dale Browning Scholarship, which provided a full scholarship for his Senior year at St. John's, as his proudest accomplishment. LTC Anthony Pino, Commandant of Cadets, believes that "Matthew has displayed mature leadership skills and an excellent attitude throughout the school year."

C/CPT Christopher Reinertsen has attended St. John's for three years. He intends to attend Illinois Institute of Technology and pursue a degree Chemical Engineering. Pino says that "Christopher has done an outstanding job leading the cadets in Headquarters Company with understanding and a firm hand."

C/1SG Thomas Sweeney is attending St. John's for the second year. The only Junior in this category, MAJ Roy Lawrence says "Thomas showed great leadership throughout the year and is very deserving of the award."

C/CPT Spencer Terry has attended St. John's for four years. In addition to his duties as the S5, Terry is the Drill Team Commander and has been assisting MAJ Stein with the production of the yearbook. Stein says that "Spencer is enjoying his work with the yearbook and is doing a great job." He plans to attend Montana State University, majoring in Mechanical Engineering. Terry believes coming to St. John's made it possible for him to graduate from high school.



C/CPT Matthew David Ravan
Battalion S4 - Senior
Grand Junction, Colorado



C/CPT Christopher Tavis Reinertsen
Co Commander HHC - Senior
Grand Junction, Colorado



C/1SG Thomas A. Sweeney
1SG Alpha Company
Denver, Colorado



C/CPT Spencer Patrick Terry
Battalion S5
Grand Junction, Colorado



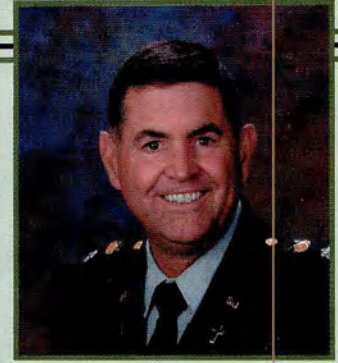
President Jack Fox
Physical Fitness



Commandant Tony Pino
Leadership Development



Dean Devon Walter
Academic Excellence



Chaplain Ron Longero
Spiritual Development

St. John's President Jack Fox has four things in mind when he considers the opportunities offered young men at St. John's Military School ; 1) Academic Excellence 2.) Leadership Development 3.) Physical Fitness and 4.) Spiritual Growth (ALPS) The administrative team, made up of the President, the Commandant, the Academic Dean and the Chaplain is charged with challenging everyone in their departments to see that the Corps of Cadets reach its potential in each category.

This Skirmisher issue is dedicated to the individual efforts and accomplishments within the membership of the 118th Corps of Cadets and the positive way the corps has responded to the opportunities they have been given. The 118th corps has distinguished themselves in the classroom, on the playing field, in the barracks, on field trips and as a part of the greater Salina community, participating in many community activities.

NHS National Honor Society

The St. John's Chapter of The National Honor Society was formed February 15th, 1944.



The cadets of the 118th corps proudly carry on National Honor Society traditions. The chapter selects cadets who demonstrate outstanding performance in the four criteria; scholarship, leadership, service and character. Major Ginger Wooten serves as faculty sponsor.



Mark Davis
President



Chris Reinertsen
Vice-President



Hunter Lobertini
Secretary



Spencer Terry
Treasurer



Raymond Parker
Reporter/PR



Garrett Cote



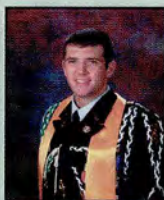
Alex DiFonzo



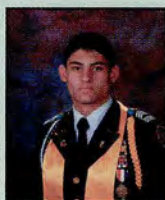
Jesse Levin



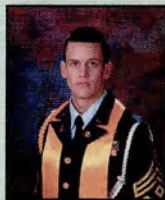
Tyler Pohl



Matthew Ravan



Ben Roman



Thomas Sweeney

EB Blue Beret

Blue Berets have been part of the St. John's Military School uniform for many years. This beret signifies academic excellence and is only worn by the top three cadets in the middle school and upper school each quarter.

Once a cadet has earned the right to wear the Blue Beret he must maintain his grade point average for the next quarter. If a cadet achieves this honor four quarters in a row he is awarded a lifetime Blue Beret award.

Blue Beret members are given a movie pass to the central mall cinemas for the quarter that they earn the Blue Beret. The chance to wear the Blue Beret has been an honored tradition at St. John's and continues to encourage the cadets to achieve academic excellence.

AA Academic Achievers

Academic Achievers are rewarded for sheer determination and effort in the classroom. The faculty has the opportunity to nominate those cadets that give a consistent effort in the classroom even though they don't have the grades necessary to make the honor roll. These young men show great promise, display sincere interest in doing their best work and provide the rest of the corps with an example of what it means to have a good work ethic.

Academic Excellence

Blue Beret

First Quarter Upper School

Second Quarter Upper School



Calvin Bruch

Chris Reinertsen

Matthew Ravan

Calvin Bruch

Kyle Hughes

Ben Roman

First Quarter Middle School

Second Quarter Middle School



Michael Manuel

Edgar McBee

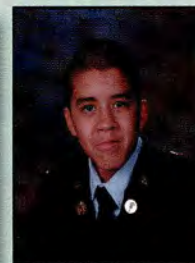
Brandon Santana

Brandon Santana

First Quarter Upper School

Academic Achievers

First Quarter Middle School



Croix Dussault

Erik Schmidt

Shane Scott

Isiah Moreno

Steven Soza

Dylan Trujillo-Early

Second Quarter Upper School

Second Quarter Middle School



Joshua Hanson

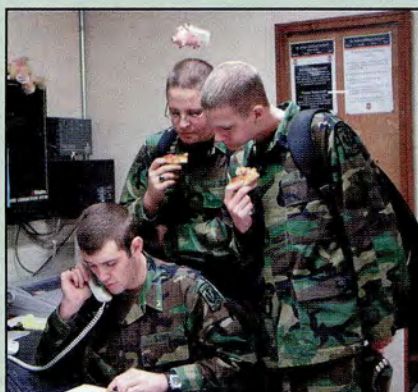
Roland Harrington

Brian Wheeler

Riley Knox

Kaleb Persinger

Destyne Sayers



Left: Matthew Ravan steps in for school secretary, Brenda Mc Coy by reading the daily announcements. Christopher Reinertsen and Alex DiFonzo make sure he doesn't miss a name while enjoying a slice of pizza provided by Chris Zerger as a reward for good classroom work! Right: Kevin Broeils, Nathan Dixon, Ben Roman and Camillo Chapa discuss a question during a Quiz Bowl meet at Marion High School. The SJMS Quiz Bowl team participated in four meets, reaching the semi-finals at Tescott. Brian Mershon and Remington Smith also participated in Quiz Bowl. Quiz Bowl gives the academically motivated cadets a chance to test their skills against other students in the league. Ms. Terri Nicholson, science teacher is the Quiz Bowl sponsor.

Physical Fitness

The Twenty Thousand Mile Journey

Last year, St. John's Military School initiated the "Go for a Thousand" running program. The purpose of this program is to encourage the cadets, staff and faculty to incorporate running into their physical fitness routine and to encourage them to adopt a physically active and healthier lifestyle.

Each participant in the program maintains a running log and records every mile that they run. SFC Rob Cruce manages the program and tracks each participants program. Individuals are awarded for their accomplishments at various milestones throughout the program. Awards are given at the 25, 50, 100, 250, 500 and 1,000 mile benchmarks. Tee shirts, long sleeve tee shirts, polo shirts and jackets are presented as these levels of running are accomplished.

The program has grown in popularity and the participants in the corps of cadets have logged over 16,000 miles as of February 2006. The staff and faculty have run over 3,900 miles. Daniel Clive was the first middle school cadet to go over 100 miles. Father Ron Longero was the first individual at St. John's to reach the one thousand mile goal.



Father Ron Longero
1,000



Daniel Clive
100 +

16,000 *Miles*
and counting!



Alexander Prouse
646 miles run



Jesse Levin
441 miles run



Steven Brandt
440 miles run



Ray Parker
421 miles run



Phillip King
387 miles run



Samy Wahabrebi
368 miles run



Edward Plam
354 miles run

Cadets Joseph Beardsley, Vance Beene, Sam Bowman, William Brooks, Francisco Castro, Nicholas Corredor, Mark Davis, Alex DiFonzo, Riley Dunn, Ryan Kubowicz, Stephen Kutch, Hunter Lobertini, Max Mazy, Matthew Ravan, Ben Roman, Shane Scott, Thomas Sweeney, Robert Tucker and Brian Wheeler all have over 100 miles.

The "Go for a Thousand" program is filling an important role in the conditioning program at St. John's. We are proud of the progress that our cadets have made and now we are well on the trail to reach 20,000 miles.

*COL Jack R. Fox
AUS (Ret)*

Ray Parker Signs With Butler

In the spring of 2003 Raymond Parker entered SJMS looking for direction as many young men do. I had the opportunity to talk with Raymond a short time explaining that joining sports at SJMS would make his transition to the school easier. Cadet Parker agreed to return in the fall to play football.

His sophomore season he put 100% effort into becoming the starting tailback. As I watched Raymond play, it was apparent that he was a special football player, and that he had the talent to play at the college level. Parker decided to attend a few football camps during the summer in Nashville and Kansas City to improve his game. At both camps he earned awards and became serious about becoming a high school athlete.

2 During his junior season Raymond

was eager to show what he had learned. With the help of his team mates Raymond was able to accumulate 1650 yards, and scored twenty touchdowns. He was invited to several prestigious combines to display his talent, and also received an invitation to the All American Combine in San Antonio, Texas. All through the spring colleges such as Kansas, Colorado State, Auburn, Dodge City, and others contacted SJMS coaches about Raymond's talent and abilities.

Raymond was excited to repeat his performance from the previous year during his senior season at St. John's. Unfortunately he sprained his ankle in the second game placing him on the sideline for three games. After he returned, Parker went on a mission to reach the thousand yard mark. Raymond achieved his goal

ending the season with 1240 yards and 12 touchdowns. Colleges once again started calling, and Cadet Parker started taking visits to decide where he would begin his college football career.

On February 3, 2006 Raymond signed his letter of intent to play for the Butler Community College Grizzlies. He chose this school to continue shooting for his dream of playing for a division one school. Butler has been a three time national champion since 1999, and has a well established program to send players to division one teams.

Raymond and his teammates helped put SJMS on the map as he worked toward his goal.

Best of Luck Ray and thanks for the memories!

Coach Mike Reid

Spiritual Growth



Joshua Sibio and Remington Smith follow along in the prayer book.

Of the four peaks of our ALPS, Spiritual Growth is perhaps the most difficult to quantify. One can measure academic excellence. One can measure increased physical fitness in an individual. One can even observe good leadership development. So how do we know when a cadet has achieved spiritual growth and how does it come about? Is spiritual growth tangible?

Because St. John's is a school with deep roots in the Christianity as lived through the Anglican tradition we must, as a matter of faith begin with Jesus the messiah. So we naturally look to Holy Scripture to give us some guidance. First, when Jesus was asked which commandment was the greatest he replied, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself." The besetting sin discussed again and again in the Bible was Israel's failure to be faithful to God and in the worship of God. The Bible presents us with the revelation that God has revealed Himself to Abraham and his seed as the One and only God. There were no others. Therefore Israel's and our only option is to love and worship God who has created, mercifully dealt with an unfaithful people, and delivered them from oppression time and time again. It is why Jews constantly remind themselves of God's mercy in the Exodus and why we as Christians continue to celebrate the greatest revelation of all, God's self revelation in Jesus his messiah.

Spiritual growth depends then upon our growing relationship with God. Spiritual growth is directly proportional to one's own growth in relationship and thanksgiving to God. It also comes about through one's increasing knowledge and need for dependence upon God to save and to heal. The Apostle Paul instructs us in his first letter to the Corinthians (3:6), "I planted, Apollos watered, but God caused the growth." Therefore at the root of spiritual growth is God's action in causing growth. What we do here at St. John's is in the plainest sense to till, plant and water the soil of our cadet's souls.

In order to make possible the spiritual growth of a cadet toward God and his neighbor St. John's does several things through the ministry of the chaplain. The first is daily chapel. Each day we come together to pray the prayers of the Church and to make time available for personal prayer. William Temple once Archbishop of Canterbury said of people in worship, "As they thus serve Him, they leaven society..." So through worship we hope to find people who will leaven society. And so, it is through the repetition of the prayers, the Psalms and the lessons that cadets are challenged and comforted with the reality of God who is merciful to those who follow him. In time most cadets will memorize the regular prayers. It is also through the daily routine that they come to learn the story of God and of His Son Jesus who has come to save us from our own selves. As we head into the future, cadets will be not only hearing the great Biblical stories, but will also have teaching to accompany those stories so that they will be more equipped to incorporate them into their own lives if they choose. Plans are also being made for our cadets to have more voluntary options to grow spiritually. Another is for the chaplain to be able to have more time to build one to one relationships with the cadets.

So is spiritual growth tangible? The apostle, Paul, writes, "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness,

gentleness, self-control." It is these characteristics which become more evident in a human that bear witness to spiritual growth. Spiritual growth is tangible in this sense. So, while spiritual growth is dependent upon God's action we have a part to play through good teaching and worship, our cadet's also have a part to play. They have to be willing participants. My faith though, is in the Lord that the Lord will do his part as our cadets participate in the various activities which help open them to spiritual growth.

There is another aspect to spiritual growth which bears evidence. That is the moral growth that comes with spiritual growth. While not directly connected to our life of worship, prayer and study of God through the Anglican tradition, CHARACTER COUNTS! certainly intersects with what we are trying to do. Beginning next fall we will be fully participating as a whole school community the values and principles of CHARACTER COUNTS! a national coalition of schools communities and organizations dedicated to the character education of youth. Currently an implementation team is being trained in the "Six Pillars of Character" as well as the "Ethical Decision Making" process. As a school community we will be applying these principles not only to cadets but to ourselves as well.

The reality is that here at SJMS we are doing more than classroom educating. We are training the whole person for a life of service in this world in which we live. What we hope is that when our cadets leave here they too can be a bit of leaven in society.

Father Ron Longero



The corps of cadets lines up for chapel.

Leadership Development

Upon arriving at St John's as the Commandant of Cadets I decided that for the first year I would spend the majority of my time observing and learning about life at SJMS. My main focus was on learning about Cadets and the many challenges they face every day. It was intriguing to see that these young boys, some as young as 12 years of age, quickly adapt to this demanding way of life. Their daily schedule poses challenges and demands that most adults would have a difficult time managing; yet these young warriors go about their daily routine with relative ease. From the time they wake up at 0600 hours in the morning until lights out and "TAPS" is sounded they have very little time to relax and find time to do what most boys the same age are enjoying in the public sector.

With that brief introduction I will get to explaining why I have made some changes aimed at recognizing the achievements of the majority of the SJMS Cadets! One of my first observations was that we spend a tremendous amount of time and energy counseling and disciplining the cadet who perhaps does have a difficult time adjusting to the rigorous and demanding schedule he is faced with as he arrives on campus. Ranging from restricting a cadet from going on "Pass Gate" to marching the dreaded punishment tours, countless hours are spent monitoring and accounting for compliance with these activities. Unfortunately while all this is going on the cadet who did follow the rules, learned about traditions and excelled in the classroom is virtually forgotten. This situation becomes more critical when statistics show that the majority of cadets fit into the latter group.

With the total support and advice from the President and other members of the Staff and Faculty I went about exploring possibilities to reward cadets who meet and in most cases surpass the standard at SJMS. While cadets enjoy promotions in rank and decorations for their achievements I was searching for immediate recognition and rewards that would send the message that following the rules and doing well in academics is very important.

The first step was developing training sessions that

would prepare cadet leaders for their mission in training "New Boys". To this end, with the help of 1SG Blair, We developed a "Squad Leader Course" and a "Platoon Leader Course". These two courses of instruction are designed to teach Cadet Leaders how to properly use their leadership skills. The instruction also addresses counseling techniques, methodology in motivating young people, and describes the different styles of leadership and when to use a particular style. Cadets who exhibit potential for the formidable task of leading and training cadets are selected to attend these courses and are rewarded with certificates, ribbons and appropriate positions and ranks within the Corps of Cadets.

Secondly, I developed a way of recognizing cadets who go about their daily schedule and perform admirably in the Leadership and Academic Arenas.

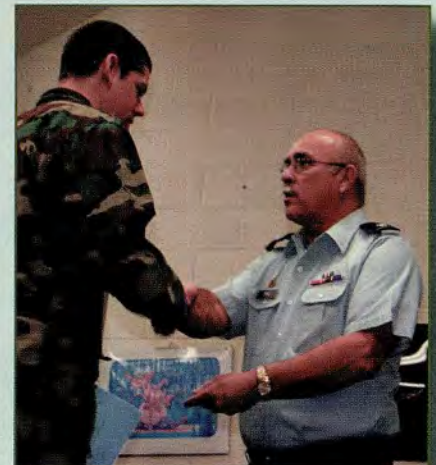
These young men not only meet the standard but in effect raise the bar to a new and higher level. These hard chargers are the standard bearers for SJMS and are glowing examples to be emulated by the other cadets. Their immediate reward is a Certificate of Achievement recognizing them in front of their peers, a special meal in their honor and an additional remain overnight pass (RON). This award is called the "Cadet of the Quarter" and their pictures are proudly displayed in a window case outside of Vanier Hall.

Finally the 118th Corps led by the Battalion Commander has re-instituted the Honor Code. The majority of the work is being done by the Battalion Staff with MAJ Mark Polzella providing guidance and assistance. It was a very proud moment when the entire Corps of Cadets stood up and loudly recited the honor code oath prior to departing for Christmas Break. The 118th Corps in unison proclaimed "A Cadet Will Not Lie, Cheat or Steal, Nor Will They Tolerate Those That Do". The work continues to insure that the Honor Code is fully implemented and orchestrated by the cadets. This is a major step for the Corps.

*LTC Tony Pino
Commandant of Cadets*



Brandon Santana and Kaleb Persinger receive their Cadet of the Quarter Certificates from LTC Tony Pino while standing in front of the 118th Corps of Cadets.



Cadet Matthew Kurtze accepts congratulations from LTC Pino as he accepts his award for being named Cadet of the Quarter.

Award Recipients

Cadets of the First Quarter



Jonathan Dinsmoor



Luis Gonzalez



Brandon Holmes



Brandon Jerome



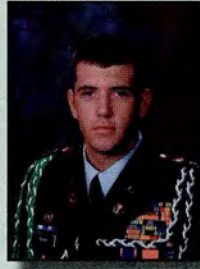
Matthew Kurtze



Edgar McBee



Brian Mershon



Matthew Ravan



Christopher Reinertsen



Brandon Santana



Ian Sitarik



Dylan Trujillo-Early

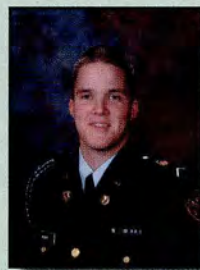
Cadets of the Second Quarter



Brandon Jerome



Edgar McBee



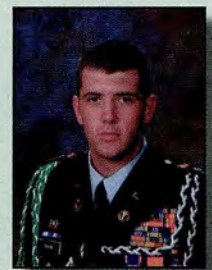
Glen McNair



Damien Pulscher



Nicholas Purdy



Matthew Ravan



Christopher Reinertsen



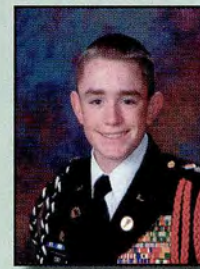
Brandon Santana



Destyne Sayers



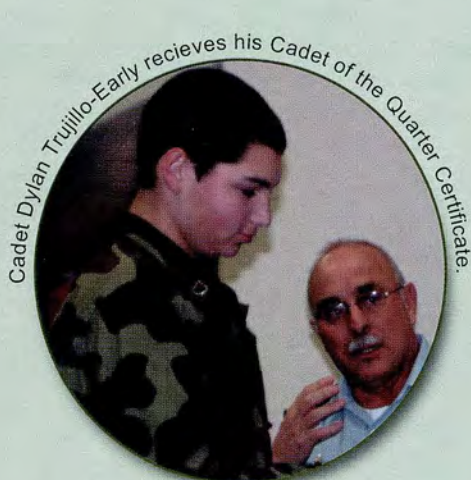
Thomas Sweeney



Spencer Terry



Brian Wheeler



Focus on The Alumni

Leaving the cold February winter in Kansas to the warm (90 degrees) sunny days in California was a special treat for Terry Plumberg as she traveled to Anaheim to meet with alumni and Old Boys in the area. This was a very special trip, because President Emeritus COL Keith and Mrs. Duckers were able to join her. A reception, hosted by SJMS on February 8, 2006, brought together "Old Boys" Tom P. Wilson '62; Roy Knight '74; Bill Hanna '75; Rex Wenzel '73; Tom Carmody '63 and Bill Bunting, retired SJMS Military Advisor and Official Muleskinner. Also in attendance for the evening was Kyle Duckers, son of Col. & Mrs. Duckers. The evening was filled with laughter and stories while looking through the yearbooks and reminiscing about the past.

Tom Wilson was presented his Wall of Fame plaque by COL Duckers. After the presentation, Roy Knight personally thanked 1SGT Bunting and COL Duckers for their belief in him. He stated, "You gave me the direction and guidance that I needed, and I will always be thankful for that."

The following night Al Ransom '56 was presented his Wall of Fame plaque from COL Duckers. In attendance that evening was Jeff Greenough, who attended SJMS in the early 70's.



COL Duckers visits with Tom Wilson at the reception.



COL AI Ransom shares a laugh with COL Duckers while proudly displaying his Wall of Fame Plaque.



Liz Duckers and Terry Plumberg spend a moment together during the California reception.



PFC Kevin Kerns stationed in Korea was home on leave during the month of February 2006. He visited St. John's dressed in his digital army fatigues and watched the Parent/Family weekend activities.

Kevin has remained active with his music while in the army by mentoring with a young boy scout troop on base (pictured above Kevin is on the back row left) and by playing the drums at a church.

Kerns is working as a large engine mechanic and says "he stays busy and has enjoyed seeing other parts of Korea and learning about the Korean culture and food."

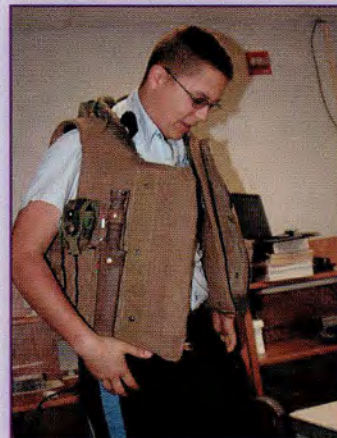


Kerns says that St. John's Military School prepared him well for everything the Army has "thrown at him."

Shown above in his barracks dressed in full protection gear, Kerns explains that "the camaraderie among the members of his company has made his time in Korea enjoyable."

Following his deployment to Korea, Kerns is scheduled to be stationed at Fort Sill near Oklahoma City for his next duty station.

LCP David Smith Class of 2004 returned to campus in



late February 2006 to visit campus, greet old friends and speak to the JROTC classes. Smith spoke about his experiences in Afghanistan while serving as a Marine. He showed a power point presentation to the classes and displayed his protective vest and mask that he wore while on duty. MAJ Stelljes, ROTC Instructor said "David did an outstanding job with his presentation and the cadets were very impressed." David relayed a story



about adopting a local wild stray dog which ended up being David's personal early warning system when Afghan soldiers natives would be in the area.

MAJ Wendy Stein, band instructor at SJMS thought "that David matured beyond his young years since leaving St. John's and it was great that he took the time to come back to share his stories with the cadets of the 118th Corps of Cadets."

Nicholas Purdy tried on the 75 pound protective vest and thought "it would be difficult to carry this around all day."

Smith is scheduled to return to Hawaii where he is currently stationed.

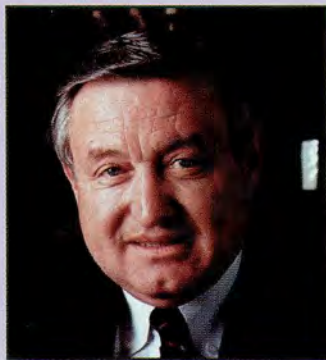
Old Boys Assure the Future of St. John's!

Scholarships have been available at St. John's Military School because of the strategic planning of both the administration and the endowment board. Each year the money in the endowment fund generates enough interest to provide scholarships to deserving young men whose families most need the financial help.

Old Boy Al Ransom, class of 56 tells the story of the anonymous donor that made it possible for him to graduate from St. John's even though his mother was not able to afford the tuition.

People who believe in the mission of St. John's Military School have through the years come forward with money to add to the endowment fund for scholarships. The Muleskinner Club provides thousands of dollars each year through the Muleskinner fund drive. Several of the Muleskinners have held memberships in the club for many, many years and feel strongly that their financial support is essential to the success of St. John's.

The scholarship program received an incredible boost during the last weeks of 2005. Col. Jack R. Fox, President of St. John's announced that "Old Boys"



D. Dale Browning class of 1954 and Tim Soule, class of 1966 gave \$100,000.00 each for the specific purpose of creating a financial aid program and taking it to a level that would allow the admissions team to fill up the school.

Celebration from every corner of the St. John's family followed the announcement of this incredible gift. The donation allows the money from the endowment fund to be used for old boys and gives admissions the unprecedented chance to offer financial aid to eligible new boys as an added incentive for young men to take advantage of all the opportunities St. John's has to offer.

How do you thank someone for such generosity? You thank these two men, affectionately called "Old Boys" by working diligently to continue the tradition of educating young men with discipline and encouraging each cadet to reach their full potential. Browning and Soule have created a legacy of giving that should encourage "Old Boys" all across the nation to give back to the school that inspires their devotion.

SJMS forever!



Anonymous Donor to Fund New Barracks

One of our very own Old Boys, who wishes to remain anonymous, has stepped forward to fund the building of a new barracks at St. John's Military School. This anonymous donor is leading the way in fulfilling our vision of Academic Excellence, Leadership Development, Physical Fitness, and Spiritual Growth. The new barracks will help to provide opportunities for every boy at SJMS to benefit from this vision.

With the ground-breaking planned for graduation this year, the new barracks will be a state-of-the-art facility and will be a tremendous addition to the beautiful campus. The new barracks will increase the capacity of the school by 20 cadets.

The magnificent gift of the new barracks will greatly enhance the quality of life for our cadets and will compliment our outstanding academic facilities. "This gift also signifies that the future of SJMS is strong and cements our position as the finest military school in the nation," said COL Jack Fox, SJMS President.

These are exciting times at SJMS. There are many new, exciting things planned, and we will be providing you with more details in the next Skirmisher.

Future Barracks



ST. JOHN'S MILITARY SCHOOL



The Ground Breaking Ceremony will take place during Commencement Weekend 2006.

Battalion Commander Earns Coveted Award

Hunter Lobertini, Warner Robins, Georgia, had a very eventful weekend at St. John's Military School during the annual second semester Parent/Family Weekend.

On Friday afternoon he was promoted to Cadet Col. in front of the 118th corps of cadets and the many parents on campus for parent/family weekend. Thunderous applause from his peers and the audience on hand were a fitting tribute to his leadership skills as Battalion Commander of the 118th corps. LTC Tony Pino who is responsible for cadet promotions exclaimed "Hunter's professionalism and leadership has been exemplary and absolutely top notch which warranted his early promotion to full C/COL. Typically this promotion would have occurred after the annual formal inspection held on the St. John's campus in late April."

Saturday morning during the new boy promotion ceremony, Hunter was awarded the prestigious MacArthur Award by COL



Lee Staub, the Assistant Division Commander for support, 24th Infantry Division, Ft. Riley, Kansas.

The Annual General Douglas MacArthur Award is given to the St. John's Military School Cadet who exhibits attributes ascribed to the late General. The award which consists of an attractive uniform medallion, MacArthur's autobiography, *Memoirs* as well as a check to the recipient from the General Douglas MacArthur Foundation is a coveted recognition of a cadet at St. John's.

Each year the General Douglas Mac Arthur Foundation presents the Mac Arthur Cadet Awards in recognition of the outstanding cadets of the Association of Military Colleges and Schools.

Hunter joins a distinguished list of St. John's cadets to be awarded the MacArthur Award. C/COL Lobertini's father, Mike Lobertini and his paternal grandparents Don and Dottie Lobertini were on hand to see Hunter receive the award and witness his promotion.

C/COL Lobertini is enrolled in the delayed entry program with the United States Marine Corps and plans to report for duty in May of 2006 after graduating from St. John's Military School.

Commencement Speaker Named

Lieutenant General (Retired) Robert D. Beckel has been named Commencement speaker for the 2006 graduation exercises.

Lieutenant General (Retired) Robert D. Beckel was born January 2, 1937 in Walla Walla, Washington. He earned a BA from the Air Force Academy as a member of it's first class and a MS degree in international affairs from George Washington University in 1971. He completed the Naval Command and Staff Course in 1971 and the National War College in 1975.

General Beckel was commissioned a 2nd Lt. upon graduation from the Air Force Academy and received his pilot's wings in June of 1960.

He was a member of the U.S. Air force Aerial Demonstration team, the Thunderbirds, from 1965 to 1967. He was selected to fly the solo position in demonstrations throughout the world. Beckel served as a flight commander of the 614th Tactical Fighter Wing in Vietnam where he flew 313 combat missions.

Beckel served in numerous critical positions throughout his distinguished military career to include Chief Aide to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Commander

of the 100th Combat Support Group, Commander of the 410th Bombardment Wing, Commander of the 7th Air Division SAC, Commander of the Air Force Academy, Director of Operations for the Deputy Chief of Operations for the U.S. Air Force, Chief of Staff Headquarters Strategic Air Command, Deputy Chairman NATO Military Committee and Commander Fiftieth Air Force.

The General is a command pilot with more than 4,400 flying hours. His awards include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star, Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf cluster, Distinguished Flying Cross with four Oak Leaf clusters, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal and Air Medal with 15 Oak Leaf clusters. He was named to the Helm All-American basketball team in 1959.

Upon retirement, Beckel served three years as Vice President of a specialty chemical company and eight years as Superintendent of New Mexico Military Institute.

He is married to the former Donna Lee McAdams of Walla Walla, Washington and they have two children.

Commencement Weekend Information

••••A special note for Senior Parents••••

- The Senior diplomas must be picked up following commencement in the Vanier Academic Center!
- Accounts must be paid in full prior to receiving the diploma. See the Business Office for your account balance!
- You should have received your graduation announcement materials either by mail or during the February parent/family weekend. If you need any additional announcement materials please contact:
Randy Johnson
Josten's Representative
785.823.3984

Bill Roenne
of Monarch Portraits
will be taking Family Photos
at the Military Ball
No appointment necessary!
Pictures will be taken
during the dance portion
of the evening!

Helpful Hints for enjoying Commencement Weekend!

- Make your reservations early for hotels and graduation parties. A list of hotels and restaurants can be found on the website www.salinakansas.org/visit
- Prepare for very warm weather; bring sunscreen and dress accordingly.
- Make sure your vehicle has plenty of room for your cadets' belongings for the trip back home.
- Bring your camera and plenty of film for the many photo opportunities during the weekend.

Commencement Weekend Schedule 2006

This Schedule is subject to change

Friday, May 12, 2006

8:00am
Flag Raising Ceremony
SJMS Teardrop

8:10am
Final Roll Call
SJMS Teardrop

8:20am
Pass in Review
SJMS Teardrop

9:00am
PSO Board Meeting
Board Room

10:30am
Academic/Military
Scholarship
Awards Presentation
Banes Gymnasium

12:00pm
Pass gate opens for
Cadets
with their Patrons only
Mess for remainder of the
Corps only
Stevens Center

1:30 pm - 3:00 pm
Parent/Teacher
Conferences
by Appointment

2:00 pm
Eighth Grade Graduation
Eighth Grade Cadets and
their Patrons
Linger Hall

3:00 pm
Armed Drill Team
Performance
In front of Stevens Center

6:30 pm
Commandant's Ball
Bicentennial Center
Senior Receiving Line
Junior Ring Ceremony

10:30pm
All Cadets Return to
Campus Pass Gate Closed



Saturday, May 13, 2006

8:30am
Senior Eucharist for Seniors
and their Patrons
SJMS Chapel

10:00am
Freedom Tree Ceremony
SJMS Teardrop

10:30am
Commencement of the
Class of 2006
Final Pass in Review
Perkins' Field

11:30am
President & Mrs. Fox's
Reception for Seniors
and their Patrons
President's home

Graduating Class of 2006

John Adams
Joseph Beardsley
Joseph Berkey
Michael Scott Class
Garrett Cote
Mark Davis
Alexander DiFonzo
Christopher Hoobler
Christopher "Kyle" Hughes
Phillip King
Jacob Kopesky
Stephen Kutch
Jesse Levin
Hunter Lobertini
Max Mazy
Joseph Pantera
Raymond Parker
Ben Patton
Edward Plam
Tyler Pohl
Alexander Prouse
Matthew Ravan
Christopher Reinertsen
Brian Schraeder
Zachary Stone
Spencer Terry
Robert Tucker
Mikael Wendel
Justin Willimas
Cameron Wright

All requirements must be
met in order to graduate!

Flag Raising Ceremony on the Tear
Drop Commencement Weekend, 2005.

Military School Band Festival

Four cadets participated in the 30th annual military school band festival held at Norwich University in Burlington Vermont February 24, 25 & 26. Nicholas Cantrell, William Brooks, Glen McNair and Kevin Broeils were the 2006 St. John's Military School participants. Glen McNair and Kevin Broeils were members of the elite concert band and Nicholas Cantrell and William Brooks competed in the Drum Major competition.



The festival brings members of several military schools and colleges together for a three



day event which culminates in a concert on the last day. The concert band numbered 60 cadets from 20 different military schools. Tryouts for section leader and chair placement were held on Friday morning after registration.

The band was conducted by LTC James Bennett, Norwich University Director of Music.

The drum majors received instruction from Master Chief Jeff Meyers USN, Drum Major of The United States Navy Band Ceremonial Unit in Washington D.C.

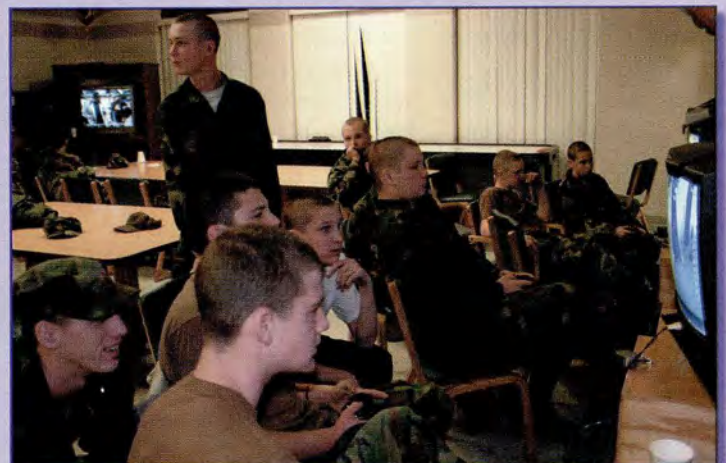


Each drum major was expected to perfect mace moves and communicate with the marching unit through the use of the mace. The drum major competition was held Saturday night. Nicholas Cantrell and William Brooks each performed very well in competition.

Cantrell received second place missing first place by just one point.

MAJ Wendy Stein, Band Director at SJMS, looks forward to attending the band festival each year and the chance to travel to other military schools. The festival provides the cadets a chance to meet other musicians and build friendships that will last a lifetime.

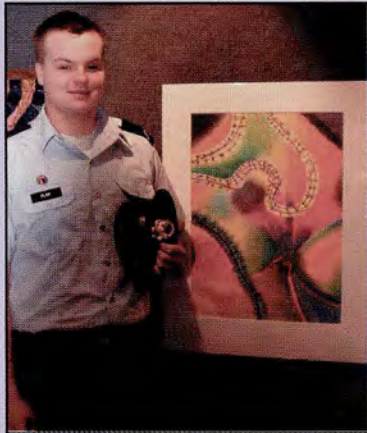
Cadets enjoy the Super Bowl Party in The Stevens Center Recreation Room *Left*; Alex DiFonzo, Ryan Klam, Nicholas Beinlich, Travis Vindelov, BARRY Frank, Thomas Mersman, Zachary Stone, Destyne Sayers and Luke Saunders play video games while the Super Bowl game is being shown on the TV in the background! Go Steelers!



Art for Art's Sake

During the second hour of the academic day, two seniors quietly go about the business of creating art. Edward Plam and Ben Patton have taken advantage of the tutelage of art teacher Scott Wiedeman, to make their high school art career memorable.

Plam and Patton have taken the study of art to a level of great accomplishment. Patton earned best in show during the Congressional Art Show hosted at St. John's Military School during the 2004-2005 school. His entry white pencil on black paper self-portrait was also featured



in "The Scholastic Art Awards 2006' at the Wichita Center for the Arts.

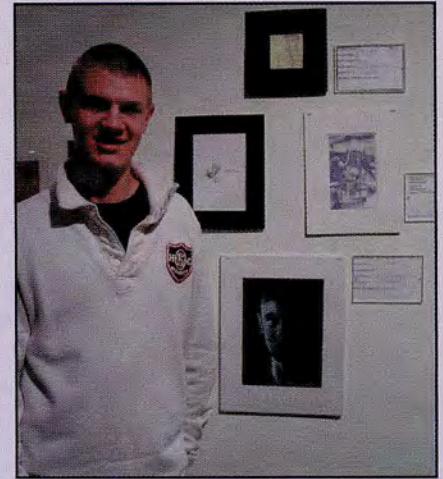
Each of these young men has created pastel water colors, mosaics, clay sculpture and are currently working on clay hand building projects.

Patton plans to take some type of Art course in college and Plam stated that his art career will "pretty much be limited to what he has achieved with Mr. Wiedeman's help."

Mr. Wiedeman says that "this has been a unique year at St. John's Military School when an advanced art class was appropriate. These young men have been self-directed and have set their own course goals and curriculum. They have been self-motivated and have chosen their own projects. It's been nice to see what they have been able to accomplish."

Both Plam and Patton entered art work in the Kansas Wesleyan High School Art Show. Both earned a blue ribbon for their entries. Patton entered his mosaic piece, entitled *Anxiety* and Plam entered his watercolor piece entitled *Still Life*.

Mr. Wiedeman encourages each of his students to become familiar with the artistic process. Knowing how to draw or paint is not a prerequisite for a St. John's cadet to be enrolled in art. The art curriculum presented by Wiedeman teaches students what to look for and how to craft a work of art out of their own



Top left: Edward Plam and Ben Patton work on their mosaic projects during second hour advanced art class. The tile they worked with had to be broken and fit into just the right shapes in order to create just the right effect. Top: Patton is shown standing by his self-portrait at the Wichita Art Show. Far Left; Patton with his mosaic at the Kansas Wesleyan High School Art Show. Left; Plam with his watercolor entry in the Kansas Wesleyan High School Art Show.

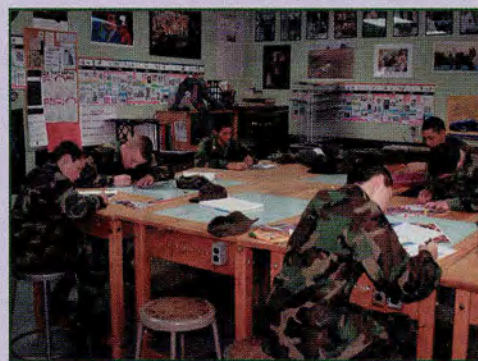
imagination. Art students are challenged to dig deep to find the artist inside, to meet deadlines and create something that displays individuality.

The showcases and bulletin boards outside the art room reflect the many assignments that the students in art have completed. Art students have the chance to work with ceramics, computer aided design, paper mache, wood cuts, pencil drawings and photography. Art history is part of the curriculum and the art room itself displays the many ways man has expressed himself through art since the beginning of time.

Next time you are on campus, visit the art room and enjoy the student art projects on display. You'll be glad you did!

MIDDLE SCHOOL ART

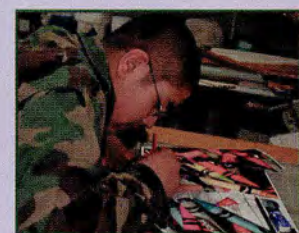
Here's one for you trivia buffs. What is "tromp l'oeil" and what is my middle school cadet doing with it? Tromp l'oeil means 'trick of the eye' in French. The images you see pictured below shows the technique being mastered by the middle school art students. The technique involves taking an image and cutting the image into pieces. The artist must then rebuild the image by creating an illusion with shading. The cadets studied the work of photo realists; Chuck Close, Audrey Fleck, and Duane Hanson before attempting to duplicate the process.



Devon Conway, Luke Saunders, Brian Emde, Edgar McBee, Tyler Potts and Franz Zelenka stay busy being creative in the art classroom.



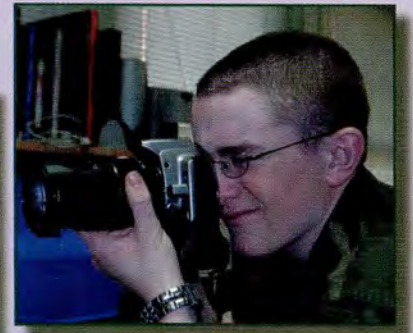
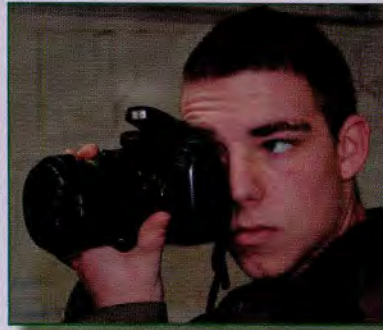
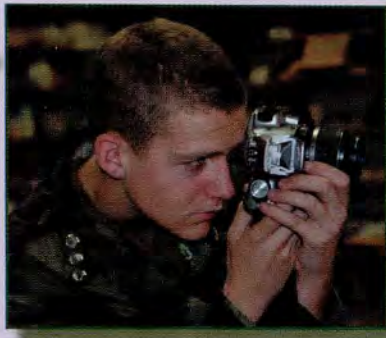
Edgar McBee concentrates on 'tricking the eye'.



Isaiah Moreno works on his tromp l'oeil art project.



Shooting Stars



Carrying a camera around campus and traveling to out of town events might be a burden to some...but not for our fearless shooting stars. Alex DiFonzo, Phillip King and Spencer Terry have been busy documenting the activities of the 118th Corps through their camera lenses since the day the corps was formed.

Their pictures will grace the pages of the St. John's Military School Yearbook, The Sound-Off and have filled The Skirmisher with images worth 1000 words.

Scott Wiedeman, photography teacher, teaches photography techniques and sees that cameras are checked out and taken to the many school events that need to be covered.

When asked, Phillip King explains "the many events that need to be covered makes it difficult for a small staff of three photographers to catch every photo opportunity". I enjoy taking pictures and feel that my skills have improved during the school year."

Photography is not for everyone, the time commitment and the expectations of Mr. Wiedeman make it a demanding activity. Without our 'shooting stars' the yearbook and *The Skirmisher* would be just words on a page.

Don't forget to "take the camera"!

SHOOTING

Stars

Of Another Kind!



Cameron Wright



Brian Mershon



Team with Coach Blair



Jonathon Dinsmoor



Nicholas Purdy

1SGT Tony Blair touts the efforts of the Rifle Team's achievements every chance he gets. After each match, the staff receives the results via e-mail.

Small bore shooting is a national and Olympic sport with many accomplished marksman in the central Kansas area.

The cadets on the rifle team have the opportunity to compete locally and nationally and have in Tony Blair, a dedicated and hard working coach.

The St. John's rifle team has the opportunity to win medals and participate in many competitions throughout the season which includes both league shoulder to shoulder matches and national postal matches. The results of what is called a "postal match" are mailed in with scores being measured against other marksman in the country. This allows the cadets to compete without having to travel long distances. The team competes in over twenty five matches throughout the season from the first of November, when the team is selected, through the first of April, culminating in the Kansas State Prone and 3-Position Championships.

The rifle range in the basement of The Steven's Center is considered to be a world class facility. The ready room stands opposite the shooting range and showcases

the many individual and team awards earned by St. John's riflemen.

The rifle team must learn many safety rules, become accustomed to shooting in the prone, standing, and kneeling positions and engage in a rigorous dose of self-discipline.

There are no screaming crowds to cheer the rifle team on, in fact, part of the gear demands that the cadets wear ear plugs to prevent hearing loss. The rifle team members must be content with the personal satisfaction that comes from individual effort. Sometimes the individual scores are combined to give the cadets a chance to compete as either a two or four person team.

The team competes in both air and .22 cal rifle matches. Most of the rifles and gear used by the rifle team are the property of St. John's Military School and should not be confused with the JROTC marksmanship qualification program which uses Army issued air rifles only.

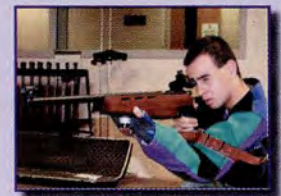
Joining the rifle team is not easy and one of the hardest at St. John's to secure a position on. Most cadets, after hearing about the program, want to join but must try out for the few open positions each year. This year, all eight positions have been filled by first year shooters. After joining the team



Angelo Hutcheson-Tipton



Joshua Hanson



Vance Beene

they quickly realize it is not all about fun and games. The team practices two hours a day, four days a week. What they are practicing, is trying to hold as perfectly still as they can. Not an easy task for the typical teenage boy. For those who persevere, the skills learned allow the team members to become competitive in their chosen sport.

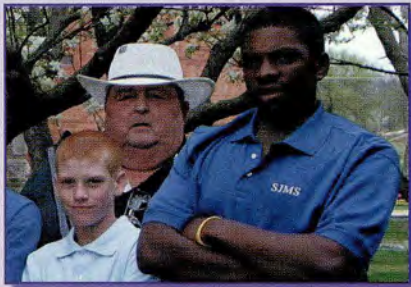
The 2005-2006 St. John's Rifle Team includes Team Captain and Senior Cameron Wright along with Brian Mershon, Nick Purdy, Jon Dinsmoor, Josh Hanson, Angelo Hutcheson-Tipton, and Vance Beene. The team members have improved immensely since being selected for the team.

“Taps”

Beryl John “Papa” Reichardt
December 24, 1939 - October 20, 2005

Saying goodbye to a good friend, colleague, teacher, mentor, coach and treasured St. John’s employee is always a difficult task. The day of Beryl Reichardt’s memorial service will be in my memory for a very long time. I

remember the first day I met Sgt. Reichardt. I was the ‘new girl’ on campus and had little experience with military traditions and etiquette. Sgt. Reichardt made sure he always looked out for me, especially when some of the ‘tac’



officers saw a chance for some good old fashioned teasing about St. John’s traditions. Sgt. Reichardt had a twinkle in his eye and a spring in his step. He was a devoted husband, father and grandfather, fiercely loyal to St. John’s and a man of great honor and achievement. He was a 30 year decorated veteran of several conflicts and wore his uniform proudly.



Golf was one of his passions. He was loved as a golf coach and was a popular member of any foursome. He is pictured with the SJMS golf team flanked by Brain Wheeler and Justin Williams and with Tom Braddy, Mike Reid and Stephen Young during the annual Muleskinner Golf Tournament.

Cadets lucky enough to have him as a coach and military advisor remember him with great fondness and were better men because of the time they spent under his leadership.

God Bless you Sgt. Reichardt. Until we meet again.

Wendy Stein

David Cowie Old Boy Class of 1966 Wichita, KS	Phillip A Hendren Old Boy Class of 1958 Albuquerque, NM	Chris Hollandsworth Old Boy Class of 1969 Grand Junction, CO December 2004	Jack A. Jansen Old Boy Class of 1944 Vera Beach, FL August 21, 2005
Robert Lee Old Boy Class of 2004 Parker, CO July 3, 2005	Bill McDermith Old Boy Class of 1954 Creed, CO February 5, 2006	James McDowell Jr. Old Boy Class of 1939 Evans, CO May 5, 2005	Woodrow Newalla Old Boy Class of 1937 Miller, MO November 11, 2005
Jason Price Old Boy Class of 1991 Fort Worth, TX February 23, 2006	For any other “Old Boy” unknown to us who has left this earth.		

Boy Scout Troop 1

St. John’s Military School is the home of the longest running Boy Scout Troop in the Nation. The Troop 1 flag stands in the board room as a reminder to all that Boy Scouting is an important part of cadet life at St. John’s and an important part of youth enrichment throughout the country.

The middle school cadets make up the current membership of Troop 1. Their leader, Gary Shoemaker, conducts meetings with the troop on Friday afternoons in Linger Hall. The cadets work on badges during class time with the help of Tammy O’Neill and LTC Doug Randolph. The troop is currently working on the “Rain Gutter Regalia” building boats that can be raced in rain gutters. They will be working on building soap box derby cars during the month of April.

A few of the upper school cadets participate in the Adventure Group which has taken some overnight camping trips during the current school year.



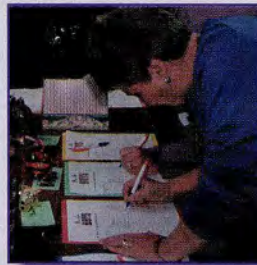
Jeffrey Adams represented Troop 1 during a ceremony held to award St. John’s Military School with the Whitney M. Young Service Award. Whitney M. Young was a civil rights leader recognized by the Boy Scouts of America for his work

with urban youth. Organizations receiving this award have made a commitment to developing scouting opportunities for youth.



PSO “For the Boys” Auction

Many parents and staff members gathered in the Vanier Academic Center Library for the Silent Auction. There were many items of great interest that inspired furious bidding. Patty Robichaux is seen here bidding on the item garnering the highest



bid in the room! Wendy Stein donated a paperweight made by Megan Stelljes, daughter of George and Janice Stelljes. MAJ Stelljes was hoping to be the highest bidder because he did not own one of Megan’s hand blown paperweights. Early on it was apparent that he wouldn’t be the winner. Janet Terry was determined to purchase this item after finding out that

George had stopped bidding. After an ferocious bidding war, Janet was victorious. The next morning, Janet presented MAJ Stelljes with the paperweight thanking him for all he does for the cadets at St. John’s. Way to go, Janet!

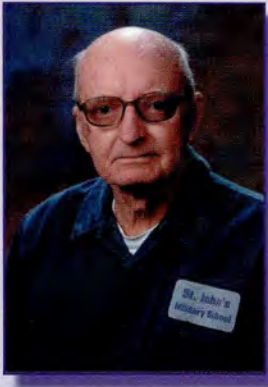
The live auction followed in the Stevens Center. Many items were donated by parents, old boys, staff members and friends of St. John’s. “Old Boy” Jefferson Baker sent a beautiful set of cultured pearls and a man’s watch from Page-Parsons Jewelers, Stephen and JoAnn Class brought a handmade porch swing, Danny and Vicky Hoobler donated a seven-day cruise, Patty and Val Robichaux donated a hand painted plate with the St. John’s Crest. Parents and staff opened their wallets to insure that the auction was a success. Early financial reports indicated that the auction raised over \$15,000.00 “For the Boys”

Thanks to all who contributed to our success!

Employee of the Semester

St. John's Military School Announces Employees of the Semester

These employees through exemplary service during the Fall Semester 2005 successfully aided in fulfilling the school's mission to provide the best opportunities for each cadet to grow spiritually, morally, intellectually and physically in the school's structured environment and furthered the school's vision to become the premier military school in the country.



Gene Johnson

Maintenance Department

Gene has been an employee with St. John's Military School for 24 years. Prior to moving into maintenance he was an outstanding math teacher. He does a variety of jobs around campus.



Paula Lambert

Military Department

Paula has been an employee with St. John's Military Department for 13 years. She is the Administrative Assistant to the Commandant and does a variety of jobs for the Military Department.



Scott Wiedeman

Faculty Department

Scott has been an employee with St. John's Military School for nine years. He is the Art and Photography Teacher and also the scuba instructor.

To Cell or Not to Cell

Anyone who has spent any time in the barracks at St. John's Military School or in a dormitory at a private school knows that the hallways can be quite noisy. Most boarding schools put the phones in the hallways and sharing phone lines and dealing with the noise just becomes an accepted part of life.

The leadership of the 118th cops of cadets thought that it might be time to suggest that cell phones be allowed as a reward. A cell phone proposal was given to LTC Tony Pino, Commandant of Cadets by Garrett Cote, Spencer Terry and Hunter Lobertini.

Pino decided that the proposal should be brought to President Fox for his approval.

The rest is history! The cadet leadership now has the opportunity to communicate with each other concerning company business and the cadets can feel a little bit like a regular American teenager with a cell phone attached to their ear.

Hunter Lobertini said "so far, we have had no problems with the cell phones and the cadets authorized to have cell phones have followed the policy."

Can You Hear Me Now?

Below is the policy as stated by Pino and distributed to the cadets.

1. The Battalion Commander and the Battalion Staff living in the Stevens Center have been authorized to have Cell Phones in their rooms. They must abide by the following rules.
 - a. The cadets must maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.0 or higher
 - b. The Cadets must maintain an "A" in department
 - c. The cellular phone is not to leave their living area under any circumstances other than for use on pass gate or otherwise authorized by the Commandant
 - d. The cell phones are not to be brought into the academic building or any other area of instruction for any reason whatsoever.
 - e. Cell phones will not be brought to intramurals, athletic events, drill and ceremony or to other activities on campus.
 - f. Cadets may take their cell phones on activities off campus if requested by the sponsor of the activity and authorized by the Commandant.
 - g. Cadets may not lend their cell phones to other cadets for their personal use.
2. Company Commanders will be authorized cell phones under the same parameters/rules as outlined above for the Battalion Commander and his Staff.
3. Cell phones are a privilege and not a right and may be confiscated if cadets do not comply with the guidance as stated in paragraph 1 of this MFR.

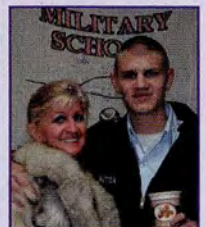
4. Cell phones may be confiscated by any member of the SJMS staff and faculty if they observe any deviation from the above stated rules.
5. Confiscated phones will be turned in to the Commandant or Deputy Commandant.
6. Retention is our business and placing trust and confidence in cadet leaders goes a long way in making this Institution a great place for learning both in the Academic arena as well as in the leadership arena. My expectations of cadet leaders is that they will do the right thing and will carry on the proud traditions of SJMS.

Antonio L. Pino



Derek Wolfe tours Vanier with his parents.

Parent/Family Weekend Candids



Ben Patton meets with his Mom over a cup of Java.



Francisco Laso- Castro with his Mom and sister in Vanier during conferences.

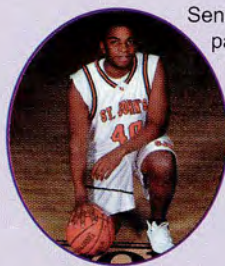
Basketball

Basketball season started before the semester break and has continued through the start of second semester. Banes gymnasium isn't famous like Allen Fieldhouse at Kansas University but the noise level cheering on the basketball Muleskinners can be deafening when the score is close.

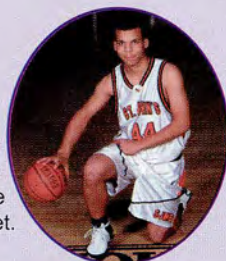
The varsity basketball team has played some close games into the fourth quarter several times. Both the Varsity and Junior Varsity teams have tasted victory. Area league schools have more depth on their benches, but St. John's has fought to stay competitive.

Coach Chuck Speilman says "we were competitive every game but we couldn't finish strong because we lacked depth. The cadets played hard all season."

Senior Mikeal Wendel was the leading scorer in the area and with a PPG of 26.6 and will most likely be picked for all area team honors. Senior Kyle Hughes was 5th in the area with an average of 9.4 rebounds per game.



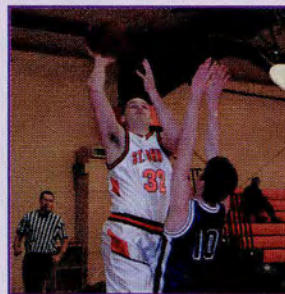
Senior Justin Williams' parents were able to attend many of the basketball games during his career as a basketball Muleskinner.



Christopher 'Kyle' Hughes worked hard during the season to give the Muleskinners the advantage under the basket.

Senior Justin Williams, Junior Shane Scott, Sophomore Ryan Klamm, and Freshman Kyle Taylor rounded out the starting line up for the varsity squad.

Amit Chanda and Kendell Camp joined the team after winter break adding some much needed depth to the team. Coach Mark Ramsey assisted Coach Speilman throughout the season as assistant coach. Glen McNair and Croix Dussault were the team managers and Omar Ochia ran the video camera during the games.



Mikeal Wendel goes up for a shot against a staunch defender.



Coach Ramsey, Kyle Taylor, Kyle Hughes, Justin Williams, Mikeal Wendel, Shane Scott listen to Coach Speilman during a time-out.

The entire varsity team lettered for the 2005-2006 basketball Season!

Wrestling

Jeremy Vath and Tom Zachary coached the 2006 St. John's Military School Wrestling Team.

Wrestling, while a team sport, gives each member a chance to set personal goals and have the discipline to make weight each week.

The Varsity Team members participating and lettering in wrestling for the 2006 season were, Joe Berkey, Kevin Broeils and Jacob Kopesky. Lettering as managers were, John Adams and Brandon Blake.



Coach Vath, Kevin Broeils, Jacob Kopesky, Joe Berkey and manager, John Adams.

The Skirmisher

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Editor

MAJ Wendy Stein

Consultants

Liz Duckers
Scott Wiedeman

Contributing Writers

Tony Blair
Jack Fox
Ron Longero
Tony Pino
Terry Plumberg
Dave Potts
Mike Reid
Wendy Stein
Scott Wiedeman

Photographers

Alex DiFonzo
Phillip King
Terry Plumberg
Wendy Stein
Spencer Terry
1SGT Amon Tidmore
Scott Wiedeman



St. John's Military School
P.O. Box 5020
Salina, KS 67402-5020