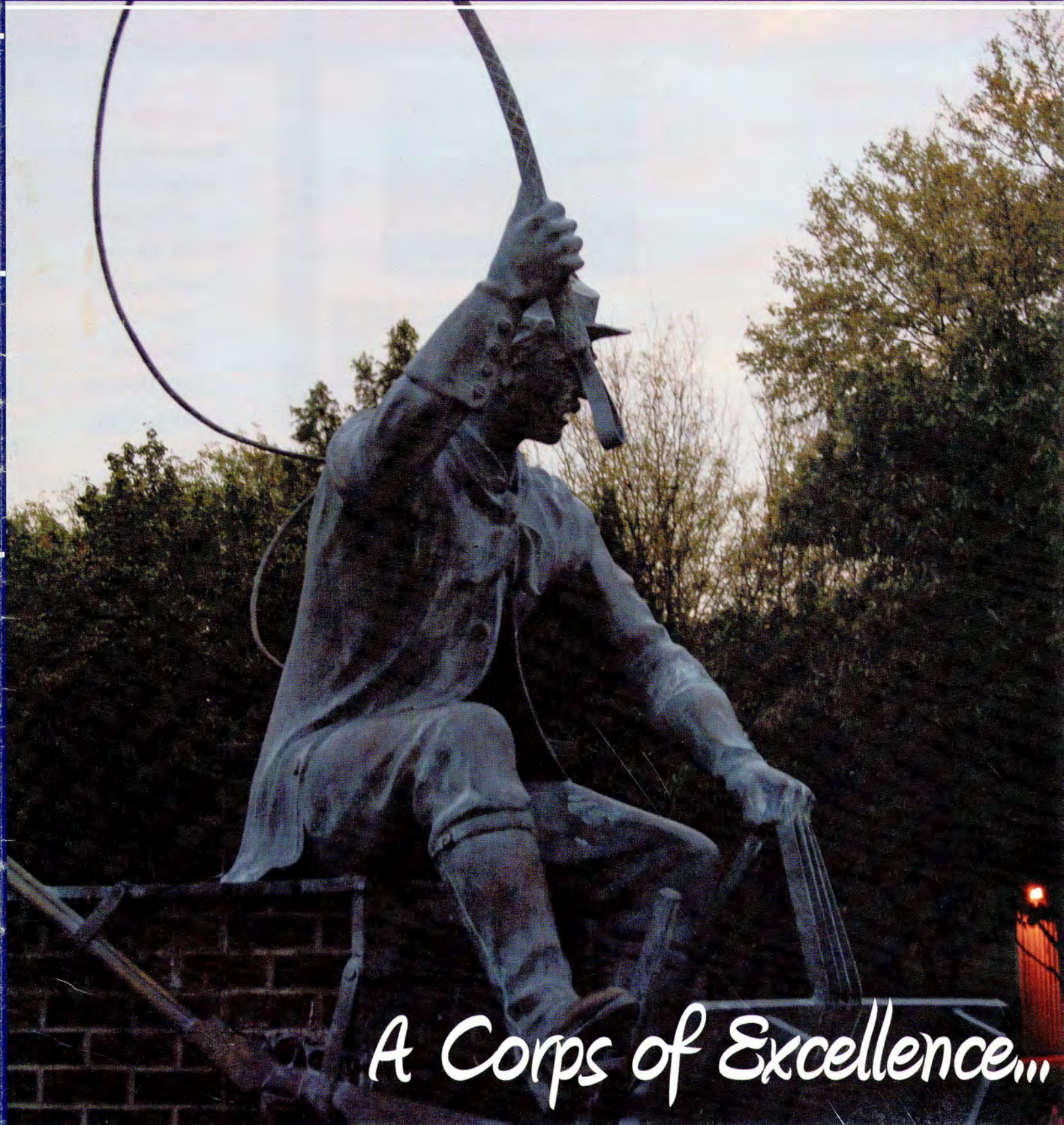


The Skirmisher

Spring 2007

Volume LXXXVIII No. 2

St. John's Military School



A Corps of Excellence...

The Skirmisher

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The Skirmisher

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President's Message

“The 119th
Corps is
above all
about being
a Corps of
Excellence.”



The start of the second semester is always a challenging time for cadets. They return to SJMS following an extended Christmas break and immediately face the adjustment of the rigorous and demanding academic and military environment.

This year, we have also been met with several weeks of the coldest and most difficult weather that I have seen since arriving. I hope each of you who reads this *Skirmisher* will realize that our Cadets are always facing challenges, yet they take them in stride and do great things.

The 119th Corps is above all about being a Corps of

Excellence. I think this issue of the *Skirmisher* will share some of this excellence with you.

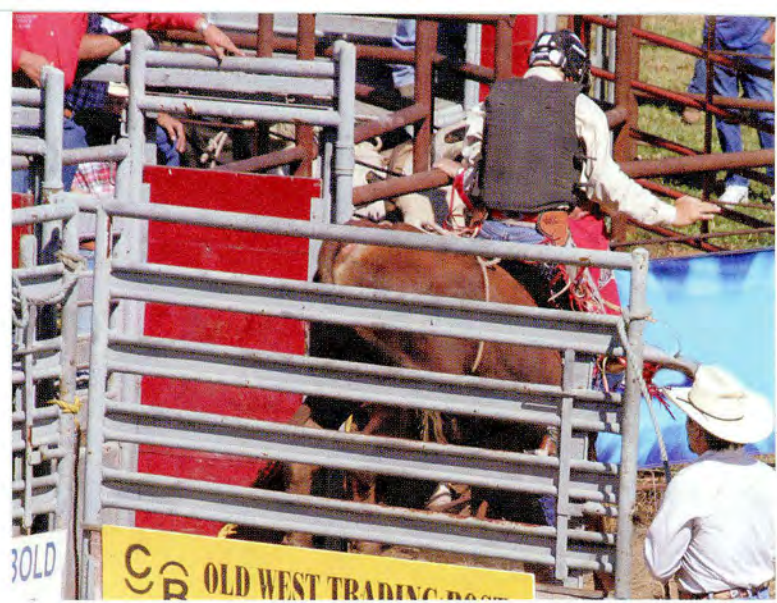
The stories in this issue of *The Skirmisher* are about a few of our current cadets, some of our Old Boys, and one of the legends of SJMS who has passed on.

All of these stories demonstrate the results of the teaching of values, the pursuit of excellence, the encouragement for each individual cadet to find his own uniqueness, and the overall vision of St. John's.

St. John's is a place where cadets can truly find themselves and discover their own unique strengths

as well as weaknesses. We as a Staff and Faculty are very purposed in our missions for these boys. It is to the great benefit of each and every cadet to discover their own potential. Although that potential is sometimes somewhat hidden when they first arrive, the structured learning environment we provide both academically and recreationally, lead to the discovery of the individual inside each and every boy.

Jack R. Fox
Col. AUS (Ret)
President, SJMS



Tu



Jared Wood, senior at SJMS, listens to his Ipod to focus on what he is supposed to do, looks into the crowd to find his parents or friends for acknowledgement, says a quick prayer, and then wraps his legs around a 1,500 lb. bull. Yes, Jared is a bullrider!

At the tender age of 14, Wood and his family moved to Colorado from Spain. Little did he realize that his new neighbor would get him involved in a sport that he grew to love. His neighbor, Alan Erickson, is a PRCA (Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association) Team Roper. On a summer evening, Erickson took him to a rodeo, and the last event was bullriding. "First bull comes out, and the

are like family, just like the family at SJMS, you watch out for each other.

Wood received a ROTC Scholarship and a Peak Achievement Scholarship, and plans on attending the University of Wyoming. The rodeo season is around the corner, and he has been working out in the weight room and staying in shape. It takes a lot of physical and mental strength to be a bullrider, and he gives it his best shot.

When asked if he ever considered bronco riding instead, he is quick in his reply, "heck no, that's dangerous!"

Wood is the son of Brent and Margo Wood of Colorado Springs, CO.

ll Ride

cowboy rode him for the full 8 seconds. The crowd went wild and the chicks were screaming. I knew right then and there that I wanted to be a bullrider." states Wood.

After talking it over with his parents, Wood participated in the Fellowship of Christian Cowboys Camp. This is a four-day camp in which you practice with real bulls, learn where to purchase your equipment and meet many new friends. He remembers not being able to sleep the night before he was to ride. He did ride the bull for 7 seconds, and from that moment on he was hooked.

The second year at the FCC Camp, Wood drew the worst bull. The bull went wild in the chute, crushing his legs against the gate. Once the gate was released, he got hung up in the ropes and was thrown to the ground. The bull, however, came down on the back of his legs. He was bruised, and had a swollen kneecap, almost ending his future in bullriding. However, like the old saying "time heals all wounds," and Wood was back up on the bulls.

Wood takes all precautions when riding as he wears a helmet, mouth piece, chest guard, along with his other accessories. His outfit easily costs \$1,600. He states, "You can't worry about the bull you draw, or the mistakes you are going to make while riding. Just get on and have fun." Wood quickly acknowledges that the true heroes are the clowns. After each ride he thanks them for helping him out. He also states that the cowboys







21st Century Renaissance man

Nicholas Cantrell might well be a renaissance man alive in the 21st Century. He has spent his time at St. John's perfecting his skills with the Bandmaster Mace, is learning to play the trumpet, is a confident and competent snare drummer, belongs to the chapel choir, is a master scuba diver, acts as a photographer for the publications department and is playing basketball during this, his senior year. He is currently Executive Officer of Bravo Company. He earned the Cozy Inn Scholarship for the 2006-2007 school year because of his contributions to the 118th Corps of Cadets.

Cantrell has provided a model for cadets in his quest for making a positive contribution to the Corps. He is small in stature but has a huge heart. He has a genuine desire to both achieve and share his talents.

Cantrell is new to photography, but has taken to it like a "fish to water." He can be seen crossing campus with a camera firmly attached to his side. He takes pictures at sporting events, special events and many activities attended by cadets away from campus. In addition, he also completes photographic projects assigned to him by Scott Wiedeman, the photography teacher. Cantrell's photo, titled "Afternoon in the Country," was selected for exhibition in the 2007 Scholastic Art Awards at the Wichita Center for the Arts.

During the Military School Band Festival held at Norwich University in Vermont in 2006, Cantrell tied for first place in the drum major competition. He is hoping this year to repeat as solo winner. He can be seen twirling the mace in good weather and bad, and never loses sight of his first obligation as Bandmaster at St. John's. The mace commands allow him to communicate with the band members without using his voice. Through the mace, Cantrell can signal forward march, roll offs, turns, the beginning and end of the drum cadence, counter columns and the halt command. Cantrell often gives up his free time to help Maj. Stein with the younger members of the band, demonstrating correct playing positions and helping with note names.

Cantrell hopes to attend college at Wentworth Military Academy in Missouri or Metro State in Colorado and study music. He has spent some time studying music theory with Maj. Stein in order to prepare for the study of music theory in college. His long term goal is to teach music at a military college. He has applied for an ROTC scholarship to help defray the cost of his higher education. Cantrell says, "Being the Bandmaster has changed my path; I originally intended to join the infantry, but decided to pursue a music degree instead."

Cantrell is the son of Pati and Steve Cantrell of Denver, CO.



graduation, was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Army through the Army ROTC program. Richards was selected to the Army's Aviation branch and was trained to fly the UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter. His first assignment was to South Korea followed by serving in the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, NC. While assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division, Richards was deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. Upon his return from Iraq, he assumed Command of a UH-60 Company. His unit was assigned to assist the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) and the U.S. Coast Guard in the Bahamas to conduct drug interdiction operations. Richards completed his command and was accepted into graduate school at Columbia University in New York. He is currently pursuing a master's degree in social-organizational psychology and will subsequently serve as a teacher, advisor, and coach (TAC) Officer to the cadets of the United States Military Academy at West Point, NY. He will be promoted to the rank of Major in March.

His decorations and schooling include the Bronze Star, the Meritorious Service Medal, three

EDUCATED AT ST. JOHN'S... LEADING IN THE NATION

After graduating from St. John's in 1993, Mark Richards attended Colorado State University. Over four and a half years he pursued a bachelor of science degree in business management and, upon

Air Medals, and the Combat Action Badge. He is Jumpmaster qualified, attended Pathfinder School, SERE (Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape) School, and is a senior rated Aviator.

Richards was married in May 2005, to Sarah Joehl who hails from Kenilworth, IL. She graduated from Northwestern University and is currently completing prerequisites to begin a master's program in occupational therapy.

"As time passes since attending St. John's, I tend to only remember the really bad days, the really good days, and the great people that I got to know while I was there. In looking back over the almost 14 years since I graduated, I would say that one of the most important life lessons that St. John's has engrained upon me is the importance of relationships. Leading Soldiers (or cadets, or coworkers, or a community) requires a genuine interest in who people are and helping them to meet their potential. My successes and achievements I directly attribute to the challenges I faced as a cadet and the empowering experiences I had at St. John's. As a cadet, my friends, the faculty and staff all taught me the importance of taking time to help those around you. That mentorship can be from your peers, superiors, and subordinates alike; and that leadership is more easily communicated through the deeds you do and not just the words you speak. These simple, yet imperative lessons have been an essential element in my life and I am grateful for those that took time out of their lives to help me grow and learn."



Photo, top right: DoD photo by Master Sgt. Steve Faulisi, U.S. Air Force. (Released)

"Intelligent. Articulate. Handsome. Diligent. The thought of Mark Richards brings these adjectives to this old English teacher's mind. What I remember most about him is what I value most about the people I know and love... his kindness. His gentlemanly manners as I watched him lead by example still make my heart smile. I remember the first time I met him. He was a New Boy with tears falling from his big brown eyes. He was homesick. Neither one of us realized his destiny was to call SJMS his home the next five years. Thank heaven; we were given the opportunity to watch him grow into such an exemplary young man."

Susie Harris, former English teacher

Blue Berets *fall semester - 2006*



Victor Fontana
Eighth Grade
Bonita Springs, FL



Brandon Santana
Eighth Grade
Centennial, CO



Gary Stone
Eighth Grade
Colorado Springs,
CO



Treylan Loftis
Freshman
Denver, CO



Benjamin Roman
Senior
Overland Park, KS



Stephan Hanna
Senior
Tahlequah, OK



Stewart J. Horejsi

Hanna Awarded the Stewart J. Horejsi Scholarship

St. John's Military School has been a springboard for many cadets over the years. They arrive on campus with dreams of being accepted into the college of their choice hoping that the education they receive at St. John's will prepare them for the future.

Cadet Stephan Hanna wanted to attend St. John's because of the many opportunities he felt would be offered to him through the small class sizes and the one-on-one attention he would receive from the staff. He researched grant possibilities and funded his junior year at St. John's through these grant monies. Hanna was awarded one of the full scholarships for his senior year funded by longtime St. John's patron, Stewart J. Horejsi.

In the time since he arrived on campus for the 118th Corps, he has accomplished a great deal. Hanna rose from the ranks of New Boy last school year to Cadet Captain. This year, he is commander of the drill team, chapel council president, and chairman of the honor board.

After starting the year as a member of the battalion staff, he has been reassigned as company commander of Headquarters Company. He also is a member of the Nichomachean society, a club sponsored by Maj. Mark Pozella, which studies ethics in human history.

Hanna applied and was accepted to Wichita State University's (WSU) Engineering Department in the fall of 2006. He was invited to apply for the Wallace Invitational Scholarship in Engineering. The test involved a leadership and reasoning lab where the students were asked to provide scenarios for problem solving exercises and a comprehensive written exam.

As a recipient of the Wallace Invitational Scholarship winner, he was awarded a \$10,000 scholarship over four years. He plans to major in computer engineering and looks forward to attending WSU.

Stephan Hanna is the son of Troy and Carla Hanna of Tahlequah, OK.

President's List

The President's List is awarded to those cadets on the Dean's Honor roll not receiving any conduct reports during the semester. This is the highest award given for grades and deportment throughout the school year and was established by Col. Jack R. Fox during the 2005-2006 school year.

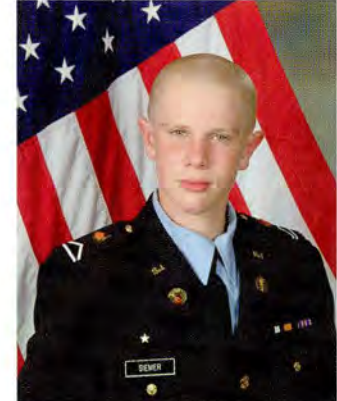
Cadets named to the President's List receive a ribbon denoting the award to be worn on their dress uniform and are invited to be guests of the President and Mrs. Fox for a special dinner.



Treylan Loftis
Freshman
Denver, CO



Stephan Hanna
Senior
Tahlequah, OK



Drew Siemer
Sophomore
Littleton, CO

Honor Rolls

The Dean's Honor Roll

1=First Quarter; 2=Second Quarter

Devon Conway (1,2)
Stephan Hanna (1,2)
Treylan Loftis (1,2)
Robert McNair (1,2)
Kyung Kyu Moon (1)
Benjamin Roman (1)
Drew Siemer (1,2)
Zackery Tebow (1,2)
Brian Wheeler (1)
Scott Wood (1)

The Honor Roll

1=First Quarter; 2=Second Quarter

Justin Billings (2)
Matthew Bollig (1,2)

Samuel Bowman (1)
Alex Broeils (1)
Joseph Darcy (1,2)
Travis Falconer (1,2)
Victor Fontana (1)
Jonathon Frank (1)
Joshua Hanson (2)
Jacob Harris (2)
Francisco Laso Castro (1,2)
Jack Lobertini (1)
Michael Manuel (1,2)
Edgar McBee (1,2)
Pierre Pressey (1)
Damien Pulscher (1)
Anthony Root (1,2)
Jonathan Root (1,2)
Brandon Santana (1,2)
Raffaele Sapio (1)

Nicholas Saullo (1)
Destyne Sayers (1)
Ian Sitarik (1,2)
David Stoppel (1)
Gary Stone (1,2)
Thomas Sweeney (1)
Enrique Tamayo Padres (1)
Chadwick Thomas (1)
Luis Toro (2)
Timothy Tribble (1)
Fernando Torres (1)
Jordan Tucker (1)
Richard Wallace (1,2)
Brian Wheeler (2)
Jared Wood (1,2)
Scott Wood (2)

Commandant's List

The Commandant's List is awarded to those cadets earning a GPA of 3.0 or higher and have an "A" in department. Lt. Col. Antonio Pino, Commandant of Cadets at St. John's, implemented this award during the 2005-2006 school year.

Cadets named to the Commandant's List receive a ribbon denoting the award to be worn on their dress uniform and are invited to be the guests of the Commandant for a pizza party or cookout!



Stephan Hanna
Senior
Tahlequah, OK



Robert Mc Nair
Senior
Florissant, CO



Brian Wheeler
Junior
San Diego, CA



Scott Wood
Junior
Colleyville, TX



Joseph Darcy
Sophomore
Littleton, CO



Drew Siemer
Sophomore
Littleton, CO



Jonathan Root
Sophomore
Redmond, OR



Matthew Bollig
Freshman
Erie, KS



Treylan Loftis
Freshman
Denver, CO



Michael Manuel
Freshman
Fort Worth, TX



Anthony Root
Seventh Grade
Redmond, OR



Kyung Kyu Moon
Freshman
Seoul, South Korea



Benjamin Roman
Senior
Overland Park, KS



Francisco Laso-Castro
Junior
Hermosillo, Sonora
Mexico



Victor Fontana
Eighth Grade
Bonita Springs, FL



Gary Stone
Eighth Grade
Colorado Springs,
CO



Jonathon Frank
Sophomore
Ardmore, OK

fall semester - 2006

Jonathon Frank:

NEW BOY ON

FIRE



Each forming of the Corps brings the arrival of New Boys on the St. John's campus, New Boys who arrive with a wide variety of talents, expectations and aspirations. The 119th Corps was no exception. Among those new boys was a young man from Ardmore, OK, named Jonathon Frank.

Frank's first impressions of St. John's evoked a variety of emotions. Initially, he thought it would be best to return home and find a different place to earn his high school degree. After much soul searching, he decided to stay and make the most of the situation.

From that moment on, Frank approached life at St. John's like he was on fire. He joined the rifle team and soon began shooting excellent scores. He headed to the chapel to join the chapel choir and soon was assigned as assistant choir master. His leadership skills blossomed as he graduated to Old Boy rising to second lieutenant, filling the position of head drill instructor for Alpha Company.

He enrolled in the band class, performing on the alto saxophone and joined the battalion drums enhancing the cadence with the addition of the quad drums.

One day in band class, Frank asked if he could play the acoustic guitar and he broke into song. His velvety smooth baritone voice was very pleasing to the ear. Maj. Stein immediately asked Frank if he would be willing to sing "The Star Spangled Banner" during basketball season, and he readily agreed. Frank also was the featured vocal soloist at a drill meet in Hutchinson. He also brought his passion for the electric guitar along with him to St. John's.

During the annual Halloween party in Stevens Center, Frank came dressed like a hippie musician complete with a wig of dreadlocks. In art class, he completed an assignment showing his head on the body of a rock and roll guitarist. For Christmas, his aunt purchased a new electric guitar for him on display at a Salina music store. Guitar just might be Frank's secret passion. He gets around the fret board with ease and his early musical training makes him a natural on the instrument. In addition to all this, Frank is a charter member of the new cadet rock band recently formed on campus that meets on Friday afternoons in the round room. He keeps the band going by providing a solid beat for the other band members to follow.

Frank aspires to graduate from The United State Navel Academy and commission as a Lieutenant Junior Grade, and become a fighter pilot. He hopes to take off and land fighter jets from the deck of an aircraft carrier.

Sounds like this young man needs to maintain that fire inside! Keep up the good work!

Jonathon Frank is the son of Lenny and Lisa Frank of Ardmore, OK.

ready

aim

FIRE!!!

target
focus
determination
accuracy
precision



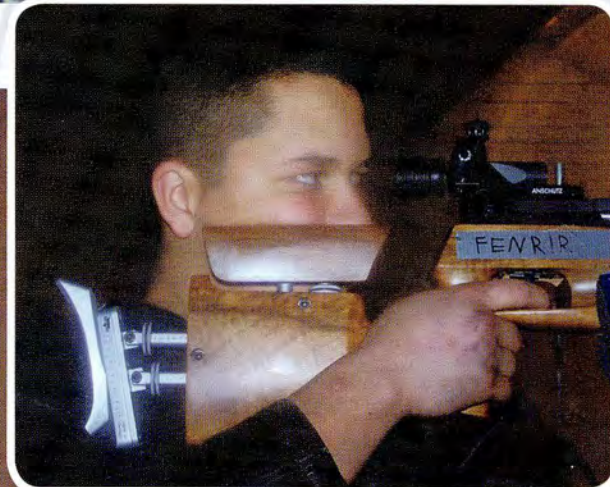
Front row: Enrique Penunuri Escalera, Scott Wood
Back Row: Nick Purdy, Coach Tony Blair, Jonathon Frank, Heath Holmes



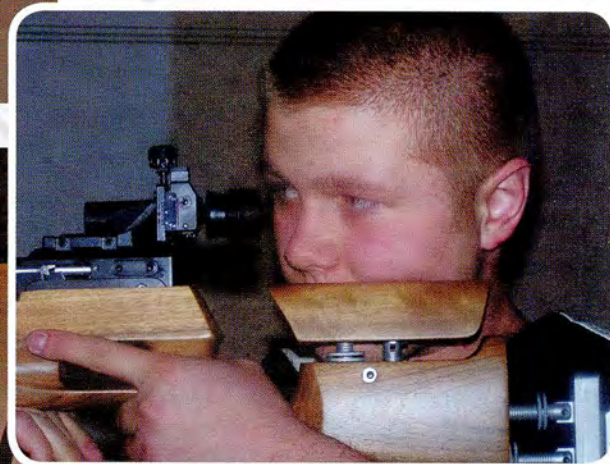
Jonathon Frank - prone position



1st Sgt. Tony Blair checking qualification targets



Nick Purdy - standing position



"Lefty" Heath Holmes - standing position

Firing for qualification

SIGHTING IN

on

Success

Rifle team competition back in the early 1990's only consisted of two big events, the Kansas State Championship in Leavenworth, KS, and the University of Nebraska Invitational. The SJMS team gained confidence by placing first at the Nebraska Invitational. During this time frame, the team purchased ten new Anschutz 1903 rifles and other equipment which greatly helped their competitiveness.

With the growth in team members, also came the competition. The Kansas State Indoor 3-Position Championship was moved to St. John's range, along with the State Junior Olympic Qualifier, NRA sectionals and the Kansas State Indoor Prone Championship. In 1998, with the addition of the indoor range in Stevens Center, St. John's has become the indoor smallbore rifle shooting capital of Kansas. 1st Sgt. Tony Blair, coach of the SJMS Rifle Team, stated "without a doubt, we have the best indoor range in the Midwest. Along with the matches listed above, our

range is the home range to all five teams in the North Central Kansas Gallery League. (NCKGL)"

From 2001-2004, the Mule-Skinners were the undisputed NCKGL champions going undefeated two of those four years. During this time period, our shooters received recognition as the NRA's Military Scholastic Smallbore Rifle National Champions.

George Norton '02, shot on the University of Missouri/Kansas City rifle team, and has since moved on to the US Army where is he assigned to the Army's Marksmanship Unit. Scott Green '04, earned the title of Kansas State Outdoor Prone Champion.

Joining the rifle team is not easy, and one of the hardest at St. John's to secure a position on. After hearing about the program, most cadets want to join, but must try out for the few open positions each year. After joining the team, a boy quickly realizes it is not all about fun and games. The team practices two hours a day, four days a week, when they are not actually competing in a match. What they are practicing is trying to hold as perfectly still as

they can. This is not an easy task for the typical teenage boy and that takes loads of self-discipline and dedication before they can take it to the next level.

Six new Anschutz 8002 air rifles have been purchased for the SJMS rifle team. This was made possible with the restructuring of the Parent Staff Organization funds. The rifles are approximately \$1,200 each.

The 2006 -2007 St. John's Rifle Team includes one returning letterman, Nick Purdy. Other teammates are Scott Wood, Jonathon Frank, Enrique Penunuri and Heath Holmes. Purdy states, "I would really like to shoot 270 this year, so far I'm in the 250 range. I really like the new rifles, they shoot so much better."

Blair and the shooting range stay busy as the JROTC classes also use the range for marksmanship qualifications. They use Army issued Daisy Model #853 to shoot. It requires patience from both the coach and the cadet, but each has their sight on success.



A Corps of Excellence...

A Corps of Service



Kansas Day Club-115th Gala Banquet

On January 27, 2007, Major and Mrs. Stelljes took nine cadets to Topeka, KS, to help open the banquet ceremonies for the Kansas Day Club. The Honorable Ben Vidricksen and Sarah Ledoux served as the co-chairs. Senator Vidricksen resides in Salina and is a retired Kansas Senator. He personally requested the cadets of St. John's take part in the celebration.

Cadets Samy Wahabrebi, Ben Roman, Sam Bowman, and Jack Lobertini helped open the dinner by escorting VIP's such as Senators Sam Brownbeck and Pat Roberts, Representative Jerry Moran and Kansas Secretary of State Ron Thornburg to their tables. The SJMS Color Guard, commanded by CSM Thomas Sweeney and made up of cadets Justin Pennington, Nicholas Purdy, Cameron Ryan and David Sorenson, posted the colors and the evening's activities were underway.

Several of the attendees complimented the cadets on how sharp they looked and how well the escorts and Color Guard performed. It was a special evening for everyone and all of the cadets did a great job.

October 6, 2006 – International students (Kyung Kyu Moon, Raul Solis-Perez, Enrique Tamayo-Padres, Enrique Penunuri-Escalera, Fernando Torres, Andres Ojeda-Calvo) participated in the 4th annual Safari Adventure Day hosted by the Rolling Hills Zoo and SHESC. Each cadet was assigned a group of students from an area school to assist throughout the day. Their main responsibility was to guide their group to various educational activities set up throughout the park. Given only a map and a short briefing of their duties, these limited English speaking students handled their assignments with ease. Surprisingly, no one became lost and everyone was on time for their activities.



December 2, 2007 – Senior cadets Wahabrebi, Scott S., Roman, Wood J., Lobertini, and Benoit teamed up with the Salina Central High School cheerleaders and drill teams to promote a Christmas Open House and Poinsettia Sale at Russell's Greenhouse. Cadets helped carry plants into the sales office and assist customers to their vehicles. During the day, cadets also had an opportunity to meet and mingle with other area high school students. Everyone was surprised by a visit from Father Christmas who listened to each student's Christmas list and handed out candy canes.

December 9, 2007 – Senior cadets Wahabrebi, McNair, Beene, Scott.S, and Lobertini assisted the Salina Central High School cheerleaders with a fundraising event at Rod's Coastal Mart. Cadets washed vehicle windows while cheerleaders pumped gas for tips. Customers were thrilled that they did not have to get out of their cars on a very cold day. All monies received helped to support the cheerleading squad with uniforms and travel expenses during the current year.

Durant Basketball Phenomenon



There is more than one Durant basketball phenomenon in the United States this year. One has been on the cover of ESPN Magazine and one is on the basketball poster for Butler Community College. Both are scoring big in each college game they play and both live, eat and breathe basketball. Kevin Durant plays for Texas and Anthony Durant plays for the Butler Grizzlies.

In high school, these brothers tore up the backboards both in points scored and in rebounds. Kevin (6'10", 220 pounds) played his high school ball at Montrose Christian in Suitland, MD, and Anthony (6'8", 225 pounds) played for the St. John's Military School Mule-Skinners in Salina, KS, under former basketball coach Roy Lawrence. While Kevin Durant averaged 20.7 points and 9.6 rebounds in high school. Anthony, his older brother, averaged 27.7 and 13 rebounds his senior year with the

Mule-Skinners leading the State of Kansas in scoring with those numbers. He accomplished 18 double-doubles and had 83 blocks in 20 games and was a first team All-State selection during his senior year at St. John's.

Durant made a big impression off the court during his three years at St. John's. He presented long time SJMS JROTC instructor, Maj. George Stelljes, a plaque honoring him for being "like a father" during his junior year at St. John's. Stelljes and his wife, Janice, routinely drive the Kansas highways to watch Durant play college ball. Susie Harris, Chris Zerger and Wendy Stein tagged along for a recent game in Concordia, KS, delighting in the chance to watch one of their favorite Old Boys shine in what matters most to him, basketball. Harris proudly displays the jersey he wore during the Kansas Barnstormers game Durant played in during his senior year at St. John's.

When asked why he presented this signed jersey to Harris, Durant explained, "During tough times, she always offered words of wisdom so I gave her the jersey as a token of appreciation for her support and for not letting me quit." The

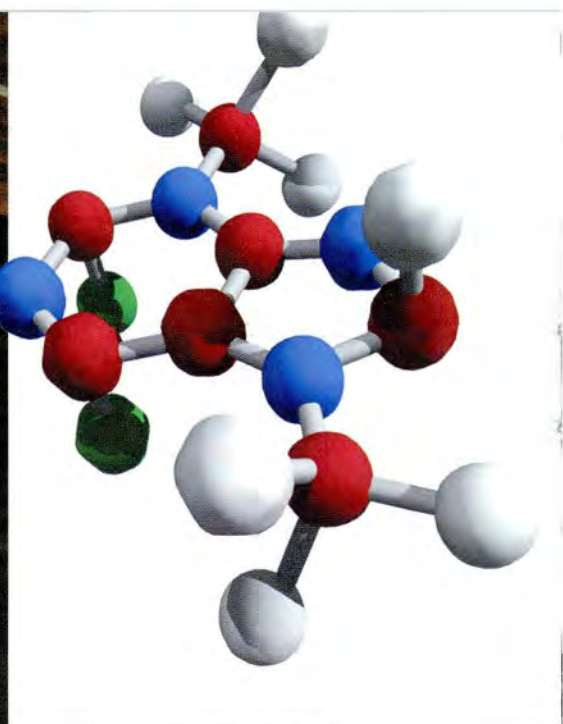
close bond he developed with some of the staff at St. John's is a testament to his engaging personality and winning smile.

Durant's contributions on the court at Butler have earned him the chance to play Division I basketball. He signed a National Letter of Intent to attend Towson University in Towson, MD, and play basketball for the Tigers.

Both the Durant brothers were home in Maryland for the Christmas holidays. Anthony explained that while growing up, they played basketball against each other everyday; now when they are together they "just chill."

Wanda and Wayne Pratt, parents of the boys, and their grandmother, Barbara Davis, share in the joy of watching their progeny tear up the basketball courts, but most certainly believe that what's most important is that the Durant brothers be good men. Mission accomplished.





C h e m i s t r y

Comes Alive in the Classroom

When Pam Kraus joined the faculty of St. John's Military School, she discovered a world somewhat foreign to her! First there was the military uniform she opted to wear and then there was the chemistry lab that had been altered to the standards of the teacher that she replaced. She was a quick study dealing with the uniform requirements and promptly created a chemistry lab that would suit her needs.

The chemistry students have benefited greatly from her arrival on campus. Kraus makes chemistry come alive by using various snacks and candies (something teenagers love) to reinforce chemistry concepts.

Kraus used milkshakes to demonstrate chemical mixtures, tootsie rolls to compare density, various candies to classify substances using size and properties to help learn the arrangement of the periodic table, and tiny colored marshmallows to help the cadets understand molecules better by seeing a visual representation that they had built themselves

Photos page 16:
Cadet Justin Billings in
the Chemistry Lab
Page 17 top left:
Chemistry teacher Pam
Kraus
Bottom left:
Cadet Kevin Broelis
builds a molecular
structure with toothpicks
and marshmallows
Right:
Cadet Zackery Tebow
conducts an experiment
using Mentos



with marshmallows and toothpicks.

Krause also used the great Mentos experiment showcased on National Public Radio that allowed the cadets to set up an experiment and test a hypothesis by putting Mentos in a two liter bottle of pop and watching the geyser that explodes when the Mentos create a chemical reaction with the pop. What fun!

Kraus is "in tune" with the most current movements in education and creates excitement for a class that has sometimes suffered from a bad reputation for being both difficult and tedious. She has developed

a curriculum that brings the real world into the classroom and allows cadets the opportunity to succeed, explore, create, identify and witness the fascinating world of chemistry. Along with all the technical knowledge that must be memorized and the famous table of elements that must be understood, Kraus' students have had the opportunity to experience chemistry as it relates to their world.

Kraus has developed a fantastic way to communicate with the parents of those cadets enrolled in chemistry by sending out a chemistry newsletter via e-mail. The newsletter describes

the various labs and the subject matter being covered in the class.

Kraus is married to Steve and they have a daughter, Amy, and son, Kevin. Kraus teaches part-time at St. John's, however, she spends many extra hours on campus tutoring cadets who need extra help with chemistry. She attends home sporting events and has been an extremely delightful addition to the St. John's faculty. Welcome Pam!



The Passing of a Legend:

Lefty Loy

The St. John's family said farewell to one of its own on Tuesday, February 29, 2007. Virgil "Lefty" Loy was laid to rest in Beverly, KS, to the poignant sound of echo taps, a fitting tribute to a man that meant so much to so many.

Immanuel Lutheran Church was filled to capacity as D. Dale Browning, Old Boy SJMS class of 1955, eulogized his friend and mentor, "Lefty." Browning hoped that he would be able to share his thoughts about "Lefty" without becoming overcome with emotion. Browning described "Lefty" as a selfless, caring and compassionate man who appreciated what he had; a man who made the most of the life he was given and left the world a better place upon his leaving. Browning only disagreed with "Lefty" about one thing in life, "Lefty" didn't believe in mulligans and Browning couldn't play golf without using a mulligan or two. This thought alone could help those who didn't know "Lefty" understand what type of man he was. He believed that you worked and practiced hard at life and took the "shot" you hit.

Browning spoke of four areas where he felt "Lefty" had achieved much success.

First and foremost was "Lefty's" dedication to family.

"Lefty" and Helen enjoyed a long and happy union because of what Browning called ... "their mutual love and respect for each other." From the many pictures on display at the service, you could see the pure joy "Lefty" derived from being with his wife, children and grandchildren. Browning described "Lefty" as a quiet man, but added that all you had to do to get "Lefty" talking was to ask him about his family.

Second was Loy's dedication to his country. Browning is confident that his dear friend was ready and willing to give his life for his country. "Lefty" served in the Marine Corps from 1943 to 1946, stationed in the Pacific.

Third, Browning remembered "Lefty's" dedication to the cadets at St. John's Military School. Loy was a coach and teacher at St. John's for 36 years. He retired in 1988 from a job that allowed him to mentor and teach hundreds of young men. Browning related that "Lefty" ... "while not aggressive, pushed the brightest students to their full potential and offered help and comfort to those average students struggling to succeed." Browning called "Lefty" "the best teacher he ever met."

Fourth, Browning recalled the impact "Lefty" had on the many friends he made during his lifetime. It was a simple statement "...if ever there was a problem, you could go to "Lefty" for help."

Browning concluded his tribute to his good friend with the reading of a poem entitled *I'm Glad You're in My Dash*. The poem speaks of the dash each of us have in our lives created by the way we list our date of birth and the date of our passing. For "Lefty," his dates were 1923-2007. Browning agreed with the author of the poem ... "the time that matters most is the dash between those years." The poem says,

"For it matters not, how much we own

The cars ... the house ... the cash

What matters is how we live and love

And how we spend our dash."

Browning concluded with the thought that those of us that knew and loved "Lefty" were in his "dash" and from now, on that he would be in ours.

Loy was born September 23, 1923, in Beverly, KS, the son of Leonard C. and Vera (Painter) Loy. He worked as a teacher and

coach at Lindsborg High School for three years and at St. John's for 36 years. He was a lifetime member of the St. John's Military School Foundation, VFW Post 1432 and the Salina Elks Lodge. He also was a member of the Mule-Skinners Club and Immanuel Lutheran Church.

He was baptized December 15, 1949, and was confirmed April 3, 1955. He married Helen Elmborg on December 20, 1952, at Bethany Church, Lindsborg, KS. He graduated from Bethany College in 1949 and received his master's degree from Emporia State in 1964. He enjoyed golfing, fishing and gardening.

Survivors include his wife, Helen, of the home; a son, Larry Loy and wife Karen of King, NC; a daughter, Kristine Kelly and

husband Tom of Centennial, CO; two brothers, Harvey Loy and wife Esther of McPherson, and Royce Loy and wife Rita of Clearwater, FL; a sister, Eileen Nelson of Salina; and five grandchildren, Dea Tovar and husband Arnold of Heidelberg, Germany, Karri and Cassidy Loy of Raligh, NC, and Karly and Jacob Loy of King, NC.

SJMS cadets served as honorary bearers at the funeral, played taps at the gravesite, and the pews were filled with SJMS Board of Trustees and current and former staff members. "Lefty" fulfilled part of his master's degree requirements by compiling a book entitled "St. John's Military School....a History" which covered the first 99 years of the school's existence. Helen Loy spent many years as Executive Secretary

to both the commandant and president at St. John's Military School. We offer our thoughts and prayers to Helen and her family in the loss of their beloved husband, father, brother-in-law, uncle and grandfather.

*Photos Left to Right:
Old Boy D. Dale Browning, Col. Jack Fox and Old Boy Col. Ransom visiting campus while in Salina to visit "Lefty" Loy during the last days of his battle with cancer.*

Old Boy Carl Rylander, Helen Loy and "Lefty" Loy enjoying a moment at the 50-year class reunion celebration held in Salina, Kansas, during Commencement Weekend 2005.

We Salute our Heroes

St. John's Military School has prepared young men for adulthood for 120 years. Many of these Old Boys have gone on to serve their country in the Armed Forces of the United States. Seven of our Old Boys have given their lives defending our country and flag. Since 1997, we have had 328 graduates. Of those graduates, 96 enlisted in the military, seven entered a military academy or military prep school, and fourteen enrolled in Senior ROTC.

This demonstration of service to our country is one example of the teaching of values that are the foundation of SJMS. We encourage our young men to develop a life that gives to others and honors their country. Our "military" education

philosophy is designed to make better students and teach values, but not encourage them necessarily to be Soldiers. It is our goal that all SJMS cadets simply be prepared to be the best they can be in any endeavor they choose to pursue.

The fact that 35 percent of our young men have chosen to serve their country these past few years is simply a testimony to the patriotism and dedication to duty that all Old Boys share. At this time, we are aware of 18 Old Boys who have served in Afghanistan or Iraq since 9-11 or who are awaiting deployment.

Each and every Old Boy should be proud of SJMS' history of selfless service and be proud that this tradition continues.

- David Smith - USMC (back from Afghanistan and now in Iraq)
- Richard Derby - Army (82nd)
- Richard Wood - Army (82nd)
- Jake Solbakken - Army
- Matthew Beynon - Army (recently returned with 101st)
- Joshua Hestehave - Air Force (crew chief in a special ops squadron that rescues downed pilots)
- Joshua Crenshaw - Army (currently training with the 3 ID and will deploy very soon)
- Patrick Toth - Army (will be deploying soon)

Richard Hardy, Matthew Webster, Travis Mulder, Scott Smith have returned

Hunter Lobertini, Steven Kutch, Daniel Diaz, Robert Tucker, Daniel Plenkovich, and Kyle Steinberg may be deploying soon with the USMC



Mule-Skinner Campaign for Excellence

The Campaign for Excellence is going strong at St. John's. Many Old Boys and friends have already taken the lead and donated to the beginning phases of the campaign.

With well over 200 donors and gifts totaling 6.5 million, the campaign is off to a great start in fulfilling the seven giving area goals.

The campaign strategy is designed to give everyone an opportunity to fund the goals of the campaign and become a Mule-Skinner. The goals are:

- Recruiting
- Leadership & Physical Fitness Education Programs
- Christian Environment
- Academic Funding
- Scholarships
- Construction & Renovation
- Annual Fund

Mule-Skinner Giving Levels

Bishop's Circle

\$25,000 and up

Chairman's Circle

\$10,000 - \$24,999

President's Circle

\$2,500 - \$9,999

Brigadier's Club

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Colonel's Club

\$500 - \$999

Major's Club

\$250 - \$499

Captain's Club

\$100 - \$249

Trooper's Club

Gifts up to \$99

Your support of the Campaign for Excellence is vital to the future of the Corps of Cadets and the growth and development of its boys. On behalf of the Staff and Faculty of St. John's, we thank you for your continued support.

Gifts-in-Kind

St. John's Military School has benefited greatly from the generosity of Old Boys, staff and faculty, patrons and friends during its storied history. Some donations are staggering in scope, others more modest. Each carries the same weight and assures the future of this great institution.

Gifts-in-kind have supplemented many of the departments in the school. Maj. Stein reports the donation of several band instruments during the last few years. Maj. Jeff Roberts, a member of the Commandant's staff, donated two cornets. Brenda McCoy, school secretary, donated a Bb Clarinet. Mr. and Mrs. Corle, parents of Cadet Sam Corle, donated a tenor trombone. Mr. and Mrs. Ezell, parents of Cadet Robert McNair, donated a tenor saxophone. This allows for the band program to grow in numbers when cadets express an interest in learning to play a band instrument.

The maintenance department received much needed equipment from Al Herron, Veteran and friend of SJMS. Herron donated a grass aerator and a leaf rake both of which make it easier for the maintenance staff to keep the campus looking so beautiful.

40th

St. John's Military School presents the

Annual

Mule-Skinner Golf Tournament

In Memory of Virgil "Lefty" Loy

Hole Sponsor Opportunities

GOLD \$250

- Sponsor sign prominently displayed on the designated tee on the course.
- Engraved plaque acknowledging support presented at the awards ceremony.
- Name on next year's entry form
- Four bonus tickets to the Chuck Wagon Buffet

SILVER \$100.00

- Sponsor sign prominently displayed on the designated tee on the course.
- Name on next year's entry form.
- Framed certificate acknowledging support presented at the awards ceremony.
- Four bonus tickets to the Chuck Wagon Buffet

BRONZE \$50.00

- Sponsor sign prominently displayed on the designated tee on the course.
- Name on next year's entry form.
- Certificate acknowledging support presented at the awards ceremony.

Friday, April 27, 2007

Elks Country Club

4-person Scramble

Tournament Schedule:

12:00 p.m.

1:00 p.m.

6:30 p.m.

Registration & Lunch
 Shotgun Start
 Social Hour
 Chuck Wagon Buffet
 Awards Ceremony

Special Thanks to the 2006 Hole Sponsors:

AmeriServe - Bob Kennedy
 APAC KS, Inc. - Vern Hopkins
 Bennett Autoplex, Inc. - Jeff Bennett
 Senator Ben Vidricksen
 Builder's Choice Concrete Company
 - Mark Blaha
 Carlos O'Kelly's - Rick Ferguson
 Clark, Mize and Linville - Pete Peterson
 Debra Stevens in Memory of
 Charles Stevens
 Fee Insurance Group - Kelly Hall

Framing Matters - Leah Schmidt
 The Golf Shop - Rick Beets
 KASA Controls - Dan Stutterheim
 Kennedy & Coe - Shannon Buchanan
 Martinelli's - Tony Dong
 Midwest Music Inc. - Blake Blakim
 SSI of Texas - Don Moore
 Sunflower Bank - Larry Britegam
 UMB Bank - Don Lamb
 Van Diest Supply Company -
 Larry Shivers

Entry Fee:

Foursome \$300

Individual \$85

Entry fee includes lunch, green fees, cart, beverage cart, gift bag, Chuck Wagon Buffet, and prizes!



Tournament Information:

Phil Kellogg
 Athletic Director
 823-7231 ext. 7764

Hole Sponsor Information:

Maj. Wendy Stein
 823-7231 ext. 7730

SJMS SUMMER CAMPS



Adventure Camp July 2-14, 2007

This is a two-week camp in which participants will develop leadership, team building, marksmanship skills, and build self-confidence. The training will begin with a team building course and progress through a leadership reaction course, obstacle course, low ropes course, and finish with a high ropes course. Additional activities will include futsal (indoor soccer), volleyball, ultimate Frisbee, and the Mule-Skinner Olympics.



Boy Scout Wilderness Survival Camp June 18-30

This is a two-week camp where participants can complete the majority of the requirements for the ranks of Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class. Participants can complete all or the majority of the requirements for the following merit badges: backpacking, camping, canoeing, climbing, cooking, fire-safety, first aid, hiking, and wilderness survival. This program offers challenges of many high adventure camps and far more requirements are met than a regular boy scout camp.



Frontier History Camp July 8-14

Every day offers a different adventure as students spend time exploring the Old West, visiting the towns and recalling the events that made the western frontier famous. Students board busses daily to visit and tour some of the most famous old west towns across Colorado and Kansas. These include Lincoln, Fort Harker, Abilene, Fort Larnard, Fort Hays, Sand Creek, Summit Springs, and the Cathedral on the Plains. Students camp out, participate in and learn about tasks such as panning for gold, rifle range and black powder pistol shooting, metal detecting, and dive into the history of some of the most famous gunfighters in frontier history.



Scuba Camp British Virgin Islands June 22-30

This is a seven-day diving and sailing excursion into some of the most pristine waters in the Caribbean. Students participate in under water research projects while diving and snorkeling. Students live on-board and crew the "Scuba Cat" catamaran. Students participate in the following: PADI, Open Water Certification, Dolphin Discovery program, swim with the dolphins, and much more.

Visit www.sjms.org or call (785) 823-7231 for more information



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