



The Skirmisher

St. John's Military School



Winter 2005

Bostick Wins Coveted General Douglas MacArthur Award

The Annual General Douglas MacArthur Award is given to a St. John's Military School senior cadet who exhibits the courageous leadership attributes ascribed to the late great General. The award winner must also have a strong academic and athletic record. 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 senior cadet at the school. This year's winner, was Travis Bostick, who hails from "Travis Bostic is truly representative of what the Mac Arthur Award means. He is a focused and determined young man who sets the example in all that he does. Travis is an outstanding athlete, student and leader. He will be a success in all that he attempts in life." -COL Jack Fox

Cody, WY and has attended St. John's for two years. He has maintained a 3.0 G.P.A. while also playing football, basketball, and baseball. He also serves as the cadet battalion training officer, responsible for the training of all the Newboys at St. John's.



"I had no clue at all that I had won the award, until I walked in and saw my family there," a

surprised Bostick proclaimed. "My folks had known for about three months," he continued. "They said it was tough to keep it secret when I was home for Christmas."

Bostick's awards include: the Academic Wreath, varsity athletic letterman, Physical Fitness Award, community service, perfect classroom

attendance, Officer Candidate School, good conduct, and parade ribbons, as well as the best company drill and honor company awards. Upon graduation, Travis plans on attending college at Black Hills State University in Spearfish, South Dakota. Travis is the son of E. K. and Holly Bostick of Cody, WY.

The award was presented by Major General Dennis E. Hardy, Commander of Fort Riley and the 24th Infantry Division. "It represents talent, number one," Hardy said of the award. "And it's got to represent hard work - hard work in his academic performance, leadership and athletic abilities."



"I never guessed that this would happen to me. When I received the award, I was reminded that it would be useful in future times. Now, as I press on and work on new challenges, I still remember its value and the way the award has helped me." -Travis Bostick

Major General Dennis E. Hardy, commander of Fort Riley and the 24th Infantry Division congratulates senior, Travis Bostick on his winning the General Douglas MacArthur Award. The award is given each year to the cadet who exhibits the leadership qualities of the late General Douglas MacArthur.

What's Inside

- Page 3 *Father Cox retires*
- Page 4 *Parents' Weekend*
- Page 6 *Students Travel to New York*
- Page 7 *Looking for Old Boys*
- Page 7 *SJMS Bulletin Board*

Coming in the April Edition

Basketball & Wrestling season wrap up

Commencement Information

LTC Pino Takes the Reins as Commandant

After 15 years at SJMS, COL Jerry Bradley retires

COL Jerry R. Bradley's retirement from SJMS comes after 15 years of dedicated service, five as Commandant of Cadets, five as Admissions Director, and five as a Senior Military Advisor. Bradley formally announced his retirement from SJMS to be effective December 1, 2004 in order to pursue personal interests and spend more time with his family. He and his wife plan to move to Missouri in order to be closer to his 8 siblings. With a smile on his face, he also mentioned spending lots of time fishing and his goal of

walking the Appalachian Trail. He also plans on traveling to visit his children in Portland, OR; Duluth, MN and Longmont, CO.

COL Jack Fox, President of St. John's announced that LTC Antonio L. Pino, Deputy Commandant of Cadets at New Mexico Military Institute in Roswell, NM has been appointed to replace COL Bradley, effective January 1, 2005.

LTC Pino spent the last ten plus years working side by side with the Commandant of Cadets at New Mexico Military Institute and brings a vast knowledge of the daily operations of the Corps of Cadets. Additionally, he has been involved

Continued on page 2



One of LTC Pino's first duties as the new commandant was to present Drill Sergeant School completion certificates and Drill Sergeant hats. Wesley Negus shakes hands with LTC Pino as he accepts his certificate.

What's News

Who's New



LTC Tony Pino
Commandant

Duane
Rutherford
Development
Director
*Duane continues
to be Admissions
Director also*



Terry
Plumberg
Alumni
Coordinator

Robert Forde
Military
Advisor



Continued from page 1

Pino new Commandant in the development of numerous programs that have enhanced the leadership training, health and welfare, safety and overall well being of the cadets at NMMI. Pino is a Vietnam War Veteran with a Silver Star, Bronze Star with a 'V' for valor, and the Purple Heart.

COL Jack Fox commented, "LTC Pino is a well respected member of the military school profession. He served as my Deputy Commandant for the past five years at New Mexico Military Institute. Tony brings a level of professionalism and experience that will assist the Corps and school as we transition from one commandant to another."



Newly appointed Commandant of Cadets, LTC Tony Pino, along with Battalion Commander Nathan Sutera prepare for Major General Hardy's February visit to campus from Ft. Riley.

A Bradley Farewell



"I leave St. John's with so many wonderful memories of all the

great and supportive people I have worked with over the past 15 years. My greatest joy has come from getting to know and work with literally 100's and 100's of cadets. When you see a boy come to St. John's who begins to progress and grow into an outstanding young man - it's just hard to beat that feeling."

-COL Jerry R. Bradley

President Fox, Board of Trustees, Staff and Faculty Establish Goals



The first semester of the 2004-2005 school year has ended, which has signaled a time of change for St. John's Military

School. Two long-time SJMS employees, Father James Cox, Chaplain and Col. Jerry Bradley, Commandant, both retired. These two men dedicated many years to helping boys mature into young men. The entire St. John's family was sad to see these fine men leave.

As we said good-bye to Father Cox and Col. Bradley, we said hello to Father Ron Longero, Chaplain and LTC Antonio Pino, Commandant. Along with many years of experience, both bring to St. John's new ideas and new ways of doing business. Like Father Cox and Col. Bradley, both care deeply about the development of our cadets. They bring new experiences and expectations. We welcome them to our family.

I have heard many rumors about change since my arrival, and yes, there will be some changes. Any and all changes will be made with the fundamental purpose of ensuring we provide a safe atmosphere in which to provide a quality education. Every area at

St. John's will be studied. We do a great job and we are a great military school, but we must always be looking for ways to be better. We will strive for excellence in all areas.

I am very thankful for the support I have received from the staff and faculty. I am especially grateful for the strong support I have received from our Board of Trustees. Recently, the staff, faculty and Board of Trustees established strategic goals for our school. I think these goals are important to our future and will provide the foundation for positive change and growth.

The established goals are:

- Establish a culture of assessment that continually measures and evaluates all areas at SJMS;
- Maintain an enrollment of 200 cadets;
- Establish a challenging college preparatory program;
- Maintain a strict military climate that emphasizes academics, honor, leadership and spiritual growth;
- Establish and maintain a formal alumni organization and program.

Goals are critical for any organization, especially one intent on growing. Our goals will allow us to map out our future and measure our successes along the

way. They will also provide us help in identifying where improvements need to be made and highlight where major changes are needed.

Our first goal establishes a culture of assessment that is critical in ensuring that we are continually measuring our performance as an academic institution. Programs must be put in place that are designed to make certain that our cadets are learning. Our assessment tools will measure and improve the effectiveness of our school programs including, but not limited to- academics, leadership, development, physical fitness and spiritual growth.

Our second goal maintains an enrollment of 200 cadets. This is a key component to our success. We must improve retention. As a means of achieving this goal, we will implement a strategic marketing plan to attract quality students to become a part of the cadet experience at St. John's. This will require improvements not only in cadet life, but in academics as well.

Goal number three establishes a challenging college preparatory program. We have to measure success by how well we are preparing our young men for the future. A key element in this mission is readiness for college.

We need to remember at all times that we are a military school and not merely a boarding school. With this in mind, our fourth goal is to

maintain a strict military climate which is at the very heart of our school. Our cadets learn through a system that provides self-discipline, leadership and character development, enhanced academic performance and fostered spiritual growth. One cannot begin to discipline others until he first learns to discipline himself.

Finally, our last goal, which must be addressed immediately, is to establish and maintain a formal alumni organization and program. Perhaps our greatest challenge is in rekindling a love of St. John's in our Old Boys. We will provide them with an organization that fosters their renewed interest in this school and provides services to keep them involved.

"The mission of St. John's Military School is to provide each cadet with the opportunity to grow spiritually, morally, intellectually and physically in a structured environment." We have structured our goals to support our mission and our vision of being the nation's finest educational institution for middle school and high school students. I hope you will help us as we work to meet our goals.

As we enter 2005, our future is bright and holds hope and promise for everyone. Marvino and I thank each of you for your support and ask you to join us and the St. John's family as we journey into the future.

What's News

Father Cox Retires as Chaplain, Longero Takes Over

By LAURA LONGERO

2004 brought changes to St. John's, and one of those changes was for the chaplain's position to change hands from Jim Cox to Ron Longero. This is not just a normal story of one person retiring and another coming in to fill his place – Cox and Longero both went to seminary at Nashotah House in Wisconsin, became friends, and graduated from the same class in 1990.

Cox started working at St. John's in July 1990 and his last day was Nov. 30, 2004. The responsibilities of a chaplain are to "provide spiritual counseling and guidance to cadets and teach religion classes," Cox said.

Cox felt that it was important for cadets to have an understanding of the place of worship in their lives. "Many cadets seemed to come to St. John's without purpose or knowledge of faith in their lives," Cox said. He said it was their job at the school to introduce cadets to the idea that they can have richer lives as a result of faith and worship.

"I always worked toward the goal of strengthening the role of the chapel in the institution for cadets and staff," Cox said. "I tried as hard as I could to get the staff involved in the faith life of the institution for the cadets."

Holy Week was Cox's favorite time of year at St. John's. "Easter seemed to be the most meaningful time of my ministry with the cadets," Cox said. "There was something very special about Easter at St. John's."

Cox enjoyed working at St. John's because it was an ever-changing atmosphere. "There was always a new set of cadets each year – a new set of challenges and opportunities, which caused St.



Father Cox, middle row center, and Father Longero, middle row far right, graduated together in 1990 from seminary in Nashotah House in Wisconsin. Fifteen years later, Longero replaces Cox as SJMS Chaplain.

John's to become a renewed institution each year," Cox said. He found it satisfying to be a part of the self-renewing cycle that took place each year.

Father Longero was living in San Antonio, working as a chaplain at Texas Military Institute, and was interested in coming to the Diocese of Western Kansas and working for Bishop Adams. He called his friend from seminary, Father Cox, to find out if there were any openings in the diocese. Cox told Longero he was retiring and asked Longero if he would be interested in his job, and Longero said that he was. He interviewed in June and moved to Salina with his wife, Mimi, and daughter Mary in August.

Longero says working at St. John's is different from working at TMI because St. John's is a military school, is a full-time boarding school and is composed of only male students. His goals for his career at St. John's include getting to know the boys at the school better and "helping to lead people at the school into a deeper

understanding of their moral and spiritual commitments to God and each other."

Longero teaches two classes: Philosophy of Ethics and a Bible literature class. In his philosophy class he wants his students to learn that there are moral laws and to "develop the kind of habits of thought and acting which will enable them to live up to those laws." Longero encourages all of his students to read, and in his literature class he wants his students to learn one important thing: to have a good understanding of the story of God working through Israel with Jesus, "so student's lives may be transformed."

Working in a school is different from working in a church because one mostly works with adults and sees people once a week working in a church, Longero said. However, in the school environment, he sees students every day and works mainly with youth.

"I like working with youth because you have an opportunity to make a greater impact on the formation of their spiritual and moral character," Longero said. "Youth have a lot of energy and it is challenging to try to match that energy."

Fr. Cox is continuing in his ministry by conducting mass every Sunday at Christ Cathedral and is the vicar of the Church of the Transfiguration in Bennington. His advice to Fr. Longero is "to be encouraged by each new opportunity and challenge. To come to each day with a renewed sense of the power of your faith and face the challenges of each day with that renewed strength."

There is one thing Fr. Longero would like each student at St. John's to get out of his experience at the school – for each cadet to "discover a deeper purpose for their life than what they came in with."

A special thanks to Laura Longero for writing this story. Laura is the daughter of Father Ron Longero.



Fathers' Cox and Longero wait for the start of chapel service during Parents' Weekend.

Message from the Commandant, LTC Tony Pino



Second semester started off with a bang and has continued at an incredibly fast pace.

C a d e t s returned from Christmas Break and immediately were thrust into a series of high visibility events. On 11 January the former Major from New York City, Mayor Giuliani was a featured speaker for the annual Salina Chamber of Commerce Banquet. Cadets from St. John's were nominated and accepted the

challenge of serving over one thousand guests. The performance of the cadets, by all accounts from guests in attendance, was absolutely admirable. Two weeks later on 24 January, St. John's was privileged to host the Commanding General of nearby Ft. Riley. Major General Hardy was on Campus to present the prestigious "General MacArthur Award" to one of our stalwart Cadets. The award is presented to a deserving cadet who has excelled in the Academic, Leadership and Athletic arenas. The recipient of the award was Travis Bostick from Cody, Wyoming. MG Hardy was

treated to a series of spectacular ceremonies by the Corps of Cadets. He even volunteered to stand in the middle of a "huddle" as the Drill team tossed rifles over his head. MG Hardy was so impressed with the "Pass in Review" and the Drill Team performance that he passed on many accolades and presented several cadets with the "Ft. Riley coin".

To continue on with fast pace, Cadets from St. John's have been requested to assist in the "Historical Global Flyer event" that will take place in the near future. Thirty Cadets will assist in providing assistance in the parking dilemma for

approximately some thirty thousand spectators.

My time thus far as the old "New Boy" on campus has been awesome. The challenge of working with the young boys who come to St. John's is something I am looking forward to for many years to come. I have been very impressed with the incredible teamwork that takes place with all the Staff and Faculty as well as the warm and supportive reception I have received from the Trustees and all the Staff and Faculty. I feel very fortunate to be part of the St. John's Team!

The Academic Side

Message from the Academic Dean, Devon Walter



As we close out February, I would like to elaborate on a few exciting events since our return from Christmas

break and inform you of some activities to come in March.

January and February has been filled with some great new faces here at St. John's Military School. We have enrolled 21 new boys all of whom seem to be adjusting well. They will endeavor six weeks of rigorous military "new boy" training before being promoted to "old boys" in a formal ceremony.

All of these young men have been excellent to work with academically. We want to welcome them and their families to St. Johns and wish them much success. On behalf of the new boy families or any others who have not done so, I would welcome you to sign up to Pro Link so you can view your cadet's current grades at any time. The SJMS web site will give you the information to sign up. If you have questions or problems with the program, contact our technology specialist, Dave Potts, at davep@sjms.org.

Our congratulations go out to Travis Bostick for being honored with the prestigious MacArthur Award given annually to a SJMS cadet. I would also like to recognize Travis Bostick, Andres

Elizondo and Joseph Voiron for being nominated to represent St. John's Military School at the annual Presidential Classroom in Washington, DC. These three individuals will spend a week in our Nation's Capitol with other top notch high school students from around the nation and the world. The week will be filled with information about the operation of our Nation's government and they will have the opportunity to see many of the historic sights of Washington DC. SJMS has sent cadets to this program for many years through the generosity of the Parent/Staff Organization (PSO).

In the Academic Center we have begun our ACT test preparation seminars after school each week. Those registered will have the

opportunity to take the ACT exam on February 12th. My thanks to those teachers involved in donating their time to assist our students in preparing for these exams. The ASVAB test will be administered the first week of February to all sophomores as well as any junior and senior who may wish to take it.

March and April is also time for the Kansas State Assessment Tests. These tests are given to different classes each spring to measure academic mastery in core subjects which is very important for the student as well as for the school. We continue to challenge our students academically as to the importance of doing well on these exams and our teachers work hard all year to prepare them for these tests.

Birthday Fun Facts

Did you know . . .

- You share your birthday with at least nine million other people.
- "Happy Birthday to You," the four line ditty was written as a classroom greeting in 1893 by two Louisville teachers, Mildred Hill, an authority on Negro spirituals, and Dr. Patty Smith Hill, professor emeritus of education at Columbia University.
- "Happy Birthday to You" was copyrighted in 1935 and renewed in 1963. The song was apparently written in 1893, but first copyrighted in 1935 after a lawsuit (reported in the New York Times of August 15, 1934, p. 19 col. 6).
- 1988, Birch Tree Group, Ltd. sold the rights of the song to Warner Communications for an estimated \$25 million (reported in Time, Jan. 2, 1989, v133 n1 p88(1)).
- In the 1980's, the song "Happy Birthday to You" was believed to generate about \$1 million in royalties annually. Along with "Auld Lang Syne" and "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow," it is among the three most popular songs in the English language (reported in Time, Jan 2, 1989 v133 n1 p88(1)).
- "Happy Birthday to You" continues to bring in approximately 2 million dollars in licensing revenue each year, at least as of 1996 according to Warner Chappell and a Forbes magazine article.

Happy Birthday to SJMS Staff:

Justin Sperry	2/19	Edward Plam	3/09
Jeffrey Roberts	2/22	Dillon Hasting	3/12
Kelly Rudolph	2/24	Mark Davis	3/17
Gene Johnson	3/04	Kyle Hughes	3/27
Garry Heath	3/26	Justin Williams	3/31
Corey Sader	3/27	Devin Parker	4/05
Thomas Issac	4/01	Ryan Nolan	4/11
Jon Wild	4/02	Will Depoliti	4/14
Robert Forde	4/05	Nathan Dixon	4/14
Johnie White	4/15	Jon Allison	4/18
Duane Rutherford	4/17	Kalen Williams	4/18
Dan Walker	4/17	Zack Ebert	4/19
Rob Cruce	4/19	Rocky Krug	4/21
Verna Hulett	4/28	Neil Sorenson	4/22
		Nicholas Cantrell	4/27
		Joshua Sibio	4/30

Happy Birthday to SJMS Cadets:

Matt Ravan	2/19
Louis Tubbesing	2/20
Bobby Boucher	2/21
Ben Patton	2/21
Tyler Nelson	3/09

Ain't the Way It's Supposed to Be

By FATHER LONGERO

Recently our cadets experienced the solemnity of the Ash Wednesday liturgy which begins the season of Lent. During the day many cadets asked, "What is Lent?" I reminded them during the sermon by telling a story used by the author Cornelius Plantinga, Jr. in his book "Not the Way It's Supposed to Be: A Breviary of Sin." He opens this fine book reminding us of a scene from the film *Grand Canyon* where an immigration attorney attempts to bypass a traffic jam. The attorney finds himself on dark deserted streets when his expensive car breaks down. He "does manage to phone for a tow truck, but before it arrives, five young street toughs surround his disabled car and threaten him with considerable bodily harm." The tow truck manages to arrive and begin hooking up the car when the toughs protest. The tow truck driver says to the leader of the group, "Man, the world ain't supposed to work like this. Maybe you don't know that, but this ain't the way it's supposed to be. I'm supposed to be able to do my job without askin' you if I can. And that dude is supposed to be able to wait with his car without you rippin' him off. Everything's supposed to be different than what it is here."

As the early spring brings about a season of tilling and planting, so the season of Lent brings about a time of all of us dealing with the reality that our lives and even life itself "ain't what it's suppose to be." Lent reminds us that as creatures of a living God we are in need of intentionally examining the thoughts, actions and habits of our own moral constitution in order that we might be reconciled to God. The season reminds us that even

though things "ain't what they're supposed to be," there is nevertheless a way through the confusion and disobedience which interfere with our ability to love God and our neighbor the way Jesus has commanded us to do.

Lent is our season of reconciliation. It is a time of year, as deliberate as the tilling and sowing which takes place in our gardens, whereby we seek to become more aware of the impediments in our relationships with God, neighbor and self. I have heard it said that Lent is more of a time to take something on. Yes and no. Traditionally we fast or give something up, as Jesus fasted in the desert, so that we might make ourselves more open to God's desires for our lives. The removal of certain favorite foods, comforts or habits makes us aware of their absence. In those moments we are reminded by ancient spiritual guides that we are able to recollect and become more aware of our need for God's presence and guidance in our lives. We might even become more aware of our need to make changes in the way we think, act and habitually live our lives so that we might become more transparent to the light of Christ which burns in us.

At St. John's we have encouraged our cadets to embrace the opportunity Lent provides. Lent, far from being a season of dread and weariness, can be as exciting as the planting of a garden. The seeds we sow during Lent have the potential, like the seeds of our garden, to produce bountiful fruit. Yes, it's true that things "ain't the way they're supposed to be," but neither is it hopeless. May you have a blessed Lent.

In and Out of the Classroom

The Lure of the Big Apple: Oh What a Wonderful Town



Left: While visiting Strawberry Fields in Central Park, SJMS students and sponsors paid tribute to ex-Beatle John Lennon. Hardly a day passes when visitors do not leave tributes of flowers and photographs or candles on the Imagine mosaic to honor his memory. Pictured left to right, Mrs. Wild, Rocky Krug, Riley Dunn, Alex DiFonzo, Robert Korody, Jesse Levin, John Rutledge, Travis Baker, Mr. Wild, Mark Sveinsson, Ms. Zerger. Top: Cadets Korody, Baker T. and Levin listen to an eyewitness and survivor of 9/11 as he retells living through the experience.

By ROBERT KORODY & JON WILD

America is often referred to as a melting pot of cultures. In smaller suburban settings, one may fail to appreciate or even see striking evidence of this diversity. Visiting New York City, the Big Apple, allows the lucky traveler to witness the sights, sounds, and smells on a level that compares with a handful of exotic destinations in the world.

Many sights await visitors in New York, including a few of those taken during this year's SJMS cultural excursion: Central Park,

Greenwich Village, the Empire State Building, Times Square, numerous Broadway theater productions, China Town, Little Italy, and the fabulous Guggenheim Museum designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. Sponsors Chris Zerger and Jon Wild remarked that the trip easily ranked as the best of any in the past three years.

Students Robert Korody, Michael Rutledge, Mark Sveinsson, Travis Baker, Jesse Levin, Riley Dunn, Alex DiFonzo, and Rocky Krug enjoyed

touring Central Park, established in 1853 as the country's first landscaped park. They strolled underneath beautiful skies beside an outdoor skating rink, rode the century-old merry-go-round, and visited the Strawberry Fields memorial to John Lennon, the ex-Beatle who tried to bring about change to the world with his music.

Students shopped for souvenirs, sampled food of every description, listened to street musicians performing, rode the subways and

buses throughout Manhattan, ogled thousand year old Aztec artifacts, and attended two outstanding Broadway shows. Mr. and Mrs. Wild, along with Ms. Zerger, even saw Billy Crystal outside of a theatre as they were walking down the street after dinner one evening. All of the members of the party thoroughly enjoyed their stay and nearly all of the expressed a desire to return. It seems that once people take a bite out of the Big Apple, their appetites only continue to grow.

World Wide Web Offers Expanded Curriculum

By WENDY STEIN

In addition to the college coursework available to cadets through Kansas State University, a few St. John's students are taking college classes and expanding SJMS's in house based curriculum through internet study. Students are guided through the enrollment process by Ginger Wooten, academic counselor. Parents are responsible for funding the courses and staff member Wendy Stein is in charge of making sure the students complete their course work in a timely fashion and remain on task during the assigned study time.

Robert Korody is currently taking two on-line courses, English Composition and Introduction to Business. These courses have textbooks and supplemental reading requirements that provide the bulk of the study material. Upon completion of each chapter Korody must take tests on-line and

wait until each test is graded before going on to the next chapter.

Neil Sorensen has been able to continue his study of German through the Center for Distance Learning (CFDL) out of the University of Missouri at Columbia. The CFDL provides course materials, textbooks and exams. Neil spends class time completing reading and listening assignments working towards the completion of German II.

Chris Reinertsen is currently enrolled in a high school psychology class through the CFDL. Chris completes daily reading assignments which prepares him to take chapter quizzes on-line.

The Academic Dean and SJMS President are committed to offering students the opportunity to expand their academic horizons through internet based study.

1st & 2nd Grading Period Blue Berets & Honor Roll

Blue Berets: Top 3 G. P. A.'s per grading quarter



Will Depoliti Middle School 1st Qtr
Ian Sitarik Middle School 1st & 2nd Qtr
Zack Tebow Middle School 1st & 2nd Qtr



Timothy Tribble Middle School 2nd Qtr
Lee Baker Upper School 2nd Qtr
Mark Davis Upper School 1st Qtr



Riley Dunn Upper School 2nd Qtr
Ben Roman Upper School 1st Qtr
Spencer Terry Upper School 1st & 2nd Qtr

1st Quarter Middle School Honor Roll: William Depoliti, Zackery Tebow, Ian Sitarik, William Brooks.

1st Quarter High School Academic Dean's

Honor Roll: Ben Roman, Spencer Terry, Mark Davis.

1st Quarter High School Honor Roll: Lee Baker, Ryan Storck, Alex DiFonzo, Robert Korody, Christopher Reinertsen, Elias Gebremeskel, Kevin Broeils, Hunter Lobertini, Joshua Monteroso, Riley Dunn, Garrett Cote, Rocky Krug, Jesse Levin, Ryan Nolan, Andres Elizondo, Jared Wood, Nathan Dixon.

2nd Quarter Middle School Academic Dean's Honor Roll: Zackery Tebow.

2nd Quarter Middle School Honor Roll: Ian Sitarik, Timothy Tribble, William Depoliti, Alex Broeils.

2nd Quarter High School Academic Dean's Honor Roll: Spencer Terry, Lee Baker, Riley Dunn, Ben Roman, Hunter Lobertini, Jared Wood, Zackaree Ebert, Christopher Reinertsen, Tyler George, Mark Davis.

2nd Quarter High School Honor Roll: Ryan Storck, Alex DiFonzo, Matt Ravan, Joshua Monteroso, Sam Corle, Robert Korody, Andrew Weiss, Rocky Krug, Kevin Broeils, Joseph Voiron, Garrett Cote, Elias Gebremeskel, Thomas Sweeney, Brandon Blake, Richard Wallace, Sam Bowman, John Adams, Tyler Pohl, Nathan Dixon, Brian Mershon, Ryan Nolan.

Cadet Life

Waiting Game

Cadets serve Chamber dinner

Barely days after returning from Christmas break, cadets quickly came back together as a Corps in order to serve over 1,500 people at the Chamber of Commerce dinner featuring guest speaker, former



A three year veteran of serving meals for the Chamber of Commerce Dinner, Nathan Dixon waits on Salinans John and Debbie Divine.

New York City mayor Rudy Guiliani. Within 25 minutes, the Corps had served prime rib and chicken dinner to all the guests.



Master SGT Garry Heath talks over the seating plan with Anthony Fortino. Cadet leaders, along with Heath surveyed the tables and talked with Bicentennial officials the day before the event.

As preparations for the event were finalized the day before, Master SGT Garry Heath mobilized his cadet leaders for a walk-through and to divvy up portions of the color-coded seating map to the four companies. Because this was the third year for SJMS cadets to help serve the dinner, the leaders were a confident group, assuring Heath that they had it under control.

Following the meal, cadets took their seats in the Bicentennial Center gallery to listen to the featured speaker.

Homecoming Celebration



On a rainy Saturday in February, cadets and the Salina community welcomed home seventy plus soldiers with the Kansas Army National Guard, C-battery, 2-130th Field Artillery Unit. The soldiers were returning from a yearlong deployment to Iraq, specifically the Baghdad area. While in Iraq, the battery performed more than 350 missions.

A handful of city and state officials joined in the welcoming ceremony held at St. John's Military School in Baner Gymnasium. SJMS

President, Col. Jack Fox thanked the soldiers "for everything they had given." Cadets formed an Honor Guard, lining the sidewalk from the returning servicemen's bus into the gym (photo shown above). The SJMS Cadet Patrol was responsible for directing traffic and helping soldiers' families and dignitaries to their seats. After introductions by Fox, the Color Guard posted the Colors. At the conclusion of the ceremony, the SJMS band played the *Army Song*.

13 Graduate from Officer Candidate School



Several outstanding SJMS cadets were selected to participate in Officer Candidate School. (OCS)

Cadets are recommended for OCS through their chain of command or their Senior Military Advisor. LTC Pino determines and approves the final list after receiving the nominations and sets the schedule for training.

OCS instruction requires the cadets complete five hours of training including saber drill instruction and principles of leadership.

Successful candidates must complete the training and pass the rigorous written exam.

LTC Pino has in place new regulations requiring that all future candidates be either a Junior or Senior and be in good standing academically.

Members of the most recent OCS class are: John Adams, Karl Baedecker (shown left with Battalion Commander Nathan Sutera), Joseph Beardsley, Nicholas Cantrell, Alex DiFonzo, Kyle Hughes, Colin Kennedy, Wesley Negus, Ben Patton, Matt Ravan, Chris Reinertsen and John Rutledge.



One of the returning Guardsmen, SSG Christopher Baker of Wichita, KS is the brother-in-law of cadet Ryan Storck.

Parent Staff Organization

Your PSO Needs YOU!

The Parent/Staff Organization is made up of patrons, parents, and friends who provide cadets with equipment and enrichment to enhance their education. Functioning much like the parent-teacher organization at your public schools, the PSO projects are financed through dues, fund-

Care Packages

Show your cadet how much you care with an SJMS Care Package! Each month your cadet will receive a theme care package filled with treats. The November Goblin' Up Goodies" package (modeled by Shane Meers) is filled with caramel corn, Chex Mix, apples, mixed nuts, beef jerky and sodas. Eliminate that dreadful trip to the post office! (Orders must be received by the 10th day of the month for delivery.) Add that "special touch" to your cadet's package with a small notecard to be enclosed with each delivery!



raising projects and donations. By joining the PSO, you will become a part of the collective effort to shape the lives of young men, as St. John's prepares them to be the leaders of the next generation. With your tax-deductible contribution, so much is possible.

Membership Categories

Life	\$1000 & up
Sustaining	\$ 100 - \$999
Active	\$ 50 - \$ 99
Participating	\$ 10 - \$ 49

Care Package Prices

Monthly Pkg.	\$80
Every other month	\$50
One time Pkg.	\$15

Please make checks payable to SJMS PSO, ATTN: Julie Fischer, Box 827, Salina, KS 67402

PSO Board Members

President

Vicky Hoobler
cres30@hotmail.com

Vice-President

Stephen Class
firstCLPlumbing@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Julie Fisher
julief@sjms.org

Secretary

Wendy Stein
wendys@sjms.org

George Stelljes

georges@sjms.org

JoAnn Class

firstCLPlumbing@hotmail.com

Tom Holmes

tom@planning4u.net

Tammy O'Neill

tammyo@sjms.org

Patty Robichaux

patty_robichaux@hotmail.com

Roni Reynolds

ronelle01@msn.com

Let Me Call You Sweetheart

The Mom's Club, under the direction of Brenda McCoy, did it again! Each club "Mom" or "Mr. Mom" provided a goody sack for their St. John's son for Valentine's Day. The Round Room was quite a sight with over 150 decorated bags lined up and ready for the anxious hungry boys to pick up. From the smile on cadet Hughes face, (shown below) he was happy with what he found inside.



Old Boys

Seeking Old Boys for Class Reunions & Updates

Jack M. Barr, Old Boy, attended '97, is planning on directing a documentary about St. John's Military School. Shooting will begin in April, and as he states, "this is one of the rare moments in time when the entire lot of us can come together as one unit to tell and record the stories in our memory that would otherwise be lost to history." The overall message of this documentary is that for the better part of 118 years, St. John's has been transforming kids into the young men who will lead into the future. If you would like to contact Jack, email him at jackirelandfilms@gmail.com or contact him at 646-963-3456.

On a personal note, Jack, who founded Jack Ireland Productions in 2002, is living in New York, and has always been a big fan of military history.

Plumberg Named New Alumni Coordinator



Terry Plumberg has been named the new Alumni Coordinator. Many probably already know her as the presidential secretary. As secretary she spent a great deal of her time working and planning with alumni. Plumberg said, "the move to Alumni Coordinator "seems to be a natural fit." You can reach Terry at toll free (866) 704-5294 or (785) 823-7231 ext. 7783. She can also be emailed at terryp@sjms.org. She is encouraging all Old Boys to contact her with updated information.

Old Boy Graduates of 1953, '54, '55, '56, & '57

**Class Reunion
May 12 - 14, 2005
Mark your calendar NOW!**

Look for more information coming soon

If you have addresses or phone numbers for the following people, please contact Barb Nitz at barbn@sjms.org

- Drummond, Albert, '54
- Helman, Phillip, '54
- Deal, Lyle, '56
- Maslin, Kirk, '56
- Paugh, Jerry, '56
- Oliver, Allen, '57

Class Reunions

Letters have been sent out to the classes of 1940-1950 and 1953 - 1957 concerning class reunions being held May 13 - 15. Fritz Schoeb, Al Ransom and D. Dale Browning are spearheading these reunions. With so many Old Boys coming back for Commencement Weekend, it is guaranteed to be a great time.

SJMS Final Rollcall



Chris Hollandsworth
December 3, 2004
Class of '68



Jay Macrum
January 26, 2005
Class of '90

SJMS Bulletin Board



Wish List

St. John's Military School would like to humbly request the donation of, or help with purchasing the following items:

\$	50.00 or under
\$\$	50.01 - 100.00
\$\$\$	100.01 - 500.00
\$\$\$\$	500.01 - 1,000.00
\$\$\$\$\$	1,000.01 and up

Classroom/Office Supplies

3 Paper Shredders	\$
10 Eight Foot Folding Tables	\$\$
6 Receptionist Chairs	\$\$\$
1 Projector	\$\$\$\$\$
1 Digital Copy Machine	\$\$\$\$\$
Library Chairs	\$\$\$\$\$
Classroom Chairs	\$\$\$\$\$

Electronics - Hardware

PlayStation II Video Games	\$
1 Combination VCR/DVD Player	\$\$\$
1 Notebook Computer	\$\$\$\$\$
Bar Code Scanner and Cash Register	\$\$\$\$\$
Small Laser Printers	\$\$\$\$\$
15 Laptops with mobile cart	\$\$\$\$\$
25 New Computers and Monitors	\$\$\$\$\$

Educational Materials

Incubation Chamber Oven	\$\$\$
-------------------------	--------

Sporting Equipment

Stop Watches	\$
Volleyball Nets & Volleyballs	\$\$
Basketballs	\$\$
Soccer Balls	\$\$
2 Canoes	\$\$\$
Scuba Equipment	\$\$\$
Softball Equipment	\$\$\$
7 Air Rifles for JROTC	\$\$\$\$\$

Music

Music for Marching Band	\$\$\$
10 Manhasset Music Stands	\$\$\$
1 Saxophone	\$\$\$\$\$
1 Trombone	\$\$\$\$\$

Other

Bulletin Boards (72" x 36")	\$
1 for each Barracks	
Barbeque Grills,	\$\$\$
1 for each Barracks	
Chain Link Fence	\$\$\$\$\$
Small Morton Building for Car Club	\$\$\$\$\$
Partitioned Storage for Basement of Linger Hall	\$\$\$\$\$
Lift Gate for Truck	\$\$\$\$\$
Auto Scrubber for New Gym Floor	\$\$\$\$\$
Battery Powered Floor Polisher for Dining Hall	\$\$\$\$\$
Stationary Sound System for Gymnasium	\$\$\$\$\$
New Carpet, Doors, and Siding for Chapel	\$\$\$\$\$

Winter Portraits & Sports Pictures Taken and are Ready for Viewing & Ordering

If your cadet missed the October school pictures, or enrolled after Christmas Vacation, his picture has been taken and is ready for you to view and order online!

Winter sports teams and individual photos have also been taken and are available online.

It's so simple to order:

1. Go to: www.previewgallery.com/monarchportraits/winter_portraits/
2. Click on the blue Portraits
3. Find your cadet's

photographs (there will be several pages of portraits you will need to view in order to find your cadet's photos).

4. View the series of photographs
5. Follow the directions for ordering directly on line.

For basketball, wrestling and rifle photos:

1. Go to: www.previewgallery.com/monarchportraits/sjwsports
2. Click on the blue Portraits
3. Find your cadet's photographs
4. View the photographs
5. Don't forget the team photo
6. Follow the directions for ordering directly on line.

Please note: All Fall 2004 photos will be removed from the Monarch website March 11, 2005!!!

For questions or concerns, please contact Bill Roenne, owner of Monarch Photography at bill@monarchportraits.com or (785) 823-6077

Available NOW on DVD or VHS

The 2004 Tattoo

\$25.00 + 5.00 s/h

Call Wendy Stein to order your copy TODAY!!

(785) 823-7231 ext. 7718

The Skirmisher

Winter 2005

The Skirmisher is published three times a year for alumni, parents, students and friends of St. John's Military School, North End of Santa Fe, P. O. Box 827, Salina, KS 67402-0827; 785-823-7231; 785-823-7236 fax; barbn@sjms.org, email; www.sjms.org, website.

Editor

Barbara Nitz

Contributing Writers

Barbara Nitz
The Salina Journal
Jack R. Fox
Devon Walter
Jerry Bradley
Wendy Stein
Jonathan Wild
Tony Pino
Tony Blair
Laura Longero

Photographers

Scott Wiedeman
Barbara Nitz
Elias Gebremeskel
Anthony Durant
Alex DiFonzo
Mitchel McCartney
Tony Blair
Monarch Portraits

Production

Arrow Printing Co.



St. John's Military School
P. O. Box 827
Salina, KS 67402-0827

www.sjms.org

Non Profic Org.
U. S. Postage
PAID
PERMIT NO. 111

Back Page Sports



Go for a Thousand

*SJMS Running Program
promotes physical fitness*

Modeled after the U.S. Army's *Run for your Life* program, the newly implemented SJMS *Go for a Thousand* running program is designed



Will Fabry receives his 25 Mile Club t-shirt from Col. Fox. Fabry is a member of Bravo Company. Every member of Bravo earned a t-shirt.

to encourage aerobic conditioning and compliment other athletic and conditioning programs already in place. Participants keep a running log with cadets having a member of the Commandant's staff initial weekly totals. Once an individual reaches one of the running benchmarks, he receives an award. The benchmarks start at 25 miles, then 50, 100, 250, 500, 750 and the ultimate 1,000 Mile club. After school and on weekends, it is a common sight to see groups of cadets running around the campus in pursuit of either their first, or second benchmark goal. The first cadet to reach the 25 Mile Club was Kyle Steinberg. "I started running because I wanted the shirt. I've kept running because it's fun. I only have three more miles to go until I reach 50 miles," Steinberg said. Bravo Company began aggressively pursuing the 25 Mile Club and it was a great day when the president awarded every member of the company a bright orange t-shirt - Senior Military Advisor (1SG Cruce) and all.

The Corps has two stalwart role models. Col. Fox and Father Longero run anywhere from 4 to 5 miles daily. Col. Fox reports that in his running career he has logged over 26,000 miles. Now that's an achievement.

Aim and Take Your Best Shot

By TONY BLAIR

By the time *The Skirmisher* goes to print, the rifle team season will be more than two thirds over for the 04-05 School Year. At least there was season this year. For awhile it was pretty "iffy." On November 6, an unfortunate accident occurred at another school's indoor range during their JROTC rifle qualifications. This caused Cadet Command to suspend all marksmanship training to include rifle team practice and competitions for all JROTC units. On January 7, the okay was given to start St. John's JROTC marksmanship program back up using air rifles only, once several prerequisites pertaining to instructor qualification and other safety issues were met. Fortunately, Coach Blair had already become certified through the National Rifle Association and the Civilian Marksmanship Program as a rifle coach and instructor. The problem lies in the fact that SJMS shoots smallbore (.22 cal) only and not air rifle. Because of this, smallbore rifle qualification have been eliminated for this

year and cadets will start qualifying in air rifle next year. That is the bad news.

Now the good news. Due to the extent that the St John's rifle program has grown over the years, the positive impact it has upon the community, and the confidence the President and the Board of Trustees of St John's has in the program, on January 13, the go ahead was



Rifle Coach, 1SG Tony Blair instructs David Cybske in the correct placement of the non-firing hand in the kneeling position.

given to continue the St John's Rifle Team program as usual with one exception. That is, the program must be a school program only, with no connections to JROTC. Coach Blair has also been approved to continue coaching the program as a school employee.

The St John's Rifle Program has a long history at St John's, but has recently, with the building of the new world class 12 point indoor rifle range in the basement of the Stevens Center in 1998, become the hub of smallbore rifle shooting in Kansas. All of the major indoor rifle matches are shot on this exceptional range, bringing shooters from, not just Kansas, but from several surrounding states as well. Several junior shooting clinics coached by the nation's best have been conducted on the range. There have been several Olympic competitors and Olympic runner ups who have coached and competed on the SJMS range, including Robert Harbison, a member of the Army Marksmanship Unit, who tied the world record in the standing position while competing in the 2002 Kansas State Indoor Rifle Championship. During League competition, teams from Abilene and Wichita use the range as their home range due to the very limited number of ranges in the area. In addition, St John's shooters usually make up over half of the junior smallbore shooters attending the Kansas State Rifle Association's intermediate shooting camp at Camp Mary Dell in Abilene Kansas. Due to all of the support St John's provides to the state of Kansas, Coach Blair was asked and accepted to serve on the board of directors of the Kansas State Rifle Association whose quarterly meetings are held on the St Johns campus.

Usually the rifle team does not receive much hoopla, nor does it make the sports highlights like the larger team sports, and for that reason many may not know what goes on under the radar. Let's face it rifle shooting is not much of a spectator sport. Be assured a member on the rifle team works very hard to be competitive, for a very long time, to get to a level where he is competitive. One problem is that many new shooters may first say, "rifle shooting...cool," and then it quickly turns into work burning that shooter out. Like any other sport only a few take it to the next level. Even though competition is yearlong in rifle sports, the St John's program is held only throughout the winter giving the boys a chance to try out for other sports or extracurricular activities. Tryouts for the team are usually over by November 1, when the team is picked and practices start. They compete in over 25 matches a year up until the April 1. Some of these matches include State Championships in both indoor and outdoor 3-position rifle shooting and prone shooting; National Rifle Association Regional and Sectional

Championships; the Junior Olympic Qualifier; the Mid America High School Championship in Quincy, Illinois; and the National Championships in Camp Perry, Ohio. Starting in January, the team competes in the North Central Kansas Gallery League against shooters



Coach Blair commented that this is one of the hardest working teams that he's ever had. Shown here at practice are: front to back: David Cybske, Robert Korody, Robert Demski, and standing is Sam Corle.

who have been, in many cases, shooting their entire life time. For the past four years the St Johns Rifle Team has won the League Championship, going undefeated for two of those years.

The delay, along with the fact that only two of our team members are returning lettermen this year, has really put the team behind the power curve. Usually there are two months of practice before the first league match. This year with only one week of practice, the team was still able to pull off a victory against Delphos. That weekend team captain Robert Korody just missed qualifying for the Junior Olympics by 10 points. On the February 3, the team was defeated by Wichita even after putting up a team score of 1045. A score of 1045 is very good and much better than could be expected for such a young team. On the February 10, the team put up two victories over Abilene firing the top score of the year with a 1052. Anyone who would like more information on the St John's Rifle Team, or would like to be kept up with their accomplishments, please contact Coach Tony Blair at 785-823-9525 Ext. 7724 or by e-mail at tonybl@sjms.org.



Rifle team member Matt Ravan, (shown front), practices shooting alongside Daniel Plenkovich (shown back).