



# ST. JOHN'S MILITARY SCHOOL

Home of *The MULESKINNERS*

# SKIRMISHER



Vol. LXXIII

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May, 1988

## FIRST 100 YEARS NEARS GRAND FINALE 1887-88 — 1987-88

### "The 1812 Overture" To Signal The End

"The 1812 Overture" played by the 1st Infantry Division band with the five-cannon artillery will conclude the graduation of the 100th Corps and herald the end of the year-long celebration of the founding of St. John's Military School.

The traditional schedule, special events, and perhaps a few surprises will keep Cadets, parents, alumni, former staff, current staff, and former faculty children busy during the May 20-22 weekend.

Registration will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday, May 20. Parent-Teacher / staff conferences are scheduled from 1-4 p.m., Friday.

The Time-Capsule ceremony will be at 4:30 p.m. A lead-box of memorabilia will be placed in the base of the Mule-skinner bronze. Items for the capsule must be received by May 15.

Following the ceremony, a social hour will be held on the Vanier Academic Center east lawn. The function will end with the retreat parade by the 100th Corps at 6:15 p.m.

Events set for the evening are the Alumni Reception at the Days Inn and the Blue Beret banquet.

#### Flags To Fly

The 100 Centennial flags will be raised in a special ceremonies at 8 a.m., Saturday, May 21. A continental breakfast for old boys, flag donors and flag raisers will be held in the back yard of the Duckers home.

After placing a wreath at the Veterans Memorial, the site of the Centennial Arboretum will be dedicated and blessed by the Rt. Rev. John's Ashby, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Kansas.

#### Old Boys To March

The "old boy" platoon, commanded by Bob Crooks, will kick-off Military Field Day at 9:30 a.m.

The Foundation luncheon will be at 12 noon at the Holiday Inn Holidome, 1616 W. Crawford. Advance reservations for the \$7.25 lunch are required.

The Honors Convocation is set for 3 p.m. in the Wiley T. Banes gymnasium.

The Senior Ball featuring the Senior Receiving line, Grand March and Crack Squad Change of Command will be at 7 p.m. in Heritage Hall of the Bicentennial Center.

Commencement Sunday begins with the Senior Eucharist at 8 a.m. in Armstrong Chapel to be followed by the last Salute to the Freedom Tree.

The 1st Infantry Division Band, Ft. Riley, will play a concert at 9:30 a.m. to be followed by Commencement at 10 a.m. The final retreat parade and the dismissal of the 100th Corps "forever" will be on Perkins Field.

### SJMS Ring Ceremony

All Junior Cadets who have indicated they will return for the 1988-89 school year will be presented with the official St. John's School ring on Saturday evening, May 21.

This impressive ceremony will be a part of the Military Ball to be held at 7:00 p.m. in Heritage Hall of the Bicentennial Center.

The rings are being given by the St. John's Foundation with the understanding that the recipient must uphold the standards of St. John's in his adult life. The ring may be recalled if it is felt the wearer is not worthy.

### Remarks To Be Commencement Presentation

Remarks by several people will be given during Commencement ceremonies in lieu of the traditional speech or address. D. Dale Browning, Centennial chairman and "old boy", is coordinating the presentation.

Speaking will be Col., the Rev. R.L. Clem, past Rector; Jim "Fat" Elmborg, former faculty member; Hazel Fonck, former bursar; Col. Keith Duckers, SJ President; Lt. Col. R.L. Guernsey, current faculty; Lt. Col. Paul Kellogg, former Commandant; the Rt. Rev. William Davidson, former Episcopal Bishop of Western Kansas; Robert Kastner, Senior member of the SJMS Trustees, Robert Crooks, Class of '28; Col. Al Ransom, Class of '56, and Kevin Smith, the Commander of the 100th Corps.

Each speaker has been asked to limit their remarks to three minutes.

Browning said, "Hopefully, the remarks will represent a broad range of views regarding the role that St. John's has played in the life of the presenter. Through their comments they will share the different ways in which we have all been touched by the School and all those associated with it."

#### Board To Meet

The Board of Directors of the SJMS Foundation will meet at 5 p.m. Friday, May 21 in the Conference Room of the Vanier Academic Center. Edgar Smith, Boulder, Colo., is the president.

### "The Moving Wall" To Be Displayed

"The Moving Wall," a 250-foot long replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., will stand on the campus of the school, May 17-23. The opening ceremonies will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 17.

The display was scheduled to enhance the final event of the SJMS Centennial year, which will include its largest alumni reunion and the entombing of a Time-Capsule within the Mule-skinner statue.

The monument is usually displayed in large metropolitan areas and not in towns as small as Salina.

"Prior to Salina it is appearing in Vancouver, Canada, and after it leaves Salina it goes to Houston next," according to Lt. Col. Thomas P. Martin, Vice President, who is in charge of the project. "From those two stops you can see we were very fortunate to get it."

The Moving Wall is a half-scale replica listing all the names of the dead or missing-in-action Americans whose names, 58,022 of them-cover the wall of the actual memorial.

The Moving Wall contains the name of at least one SJMS "old boy", Fred Schram, '57. The name of Dennis Pugh, a Salinan, who was missing in action in Vietnam is on the wall. The Freedom Tree was given in his memory.

The name of the brother of Carol Pack, the new Commandant's wife is also listed. He was John Muir who died Aug. 1, 1969 while serving as a Navy gunboat crewman.

Vietnam veteran John Devitt built the portable wall and since

October of 1981 has been hauling it around the country to show it to people who might not get to Washington. The wall took two years and \$38,000 to build.

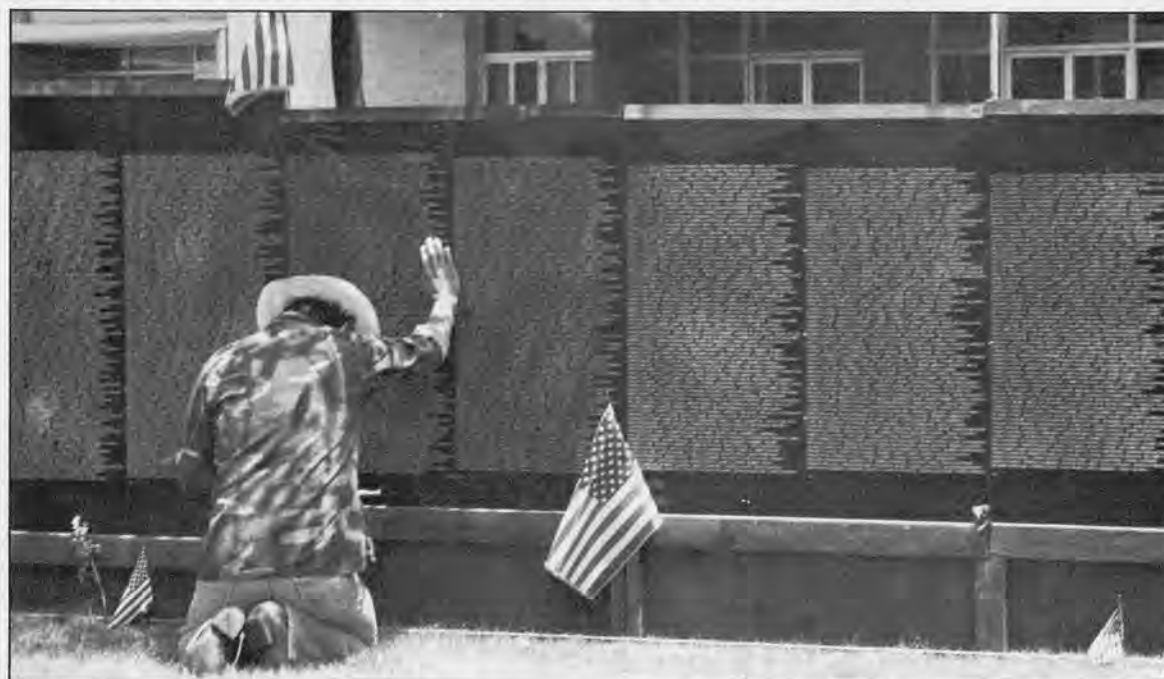
#### Cadets will help guard the wall.

It was completed with the help of photo negatives and blueprints used in the building of the actual granite monument. The San Jose City Council, Devitt's hometown, also contributed \$16,000 towards its construction and agreed to display it permanently in the City Rose Garden after the tour is completed.

Between 80,000 and 100,000 people visited the monument when it appeared in Wichita in June last year, according to Lt. Jack Gallagher of the Salina Police Department, who is co-chairman of the SJMS wall display.

Workers will spend May 15-16 setting up the wall. School officials have selected four sites on campus where the display might be set up, but the final selection will be left to officials who travel with it.

The wall, constructed of black plexiglass, will be lighted and open 24 hours a day. Cadets will guard the wall, along with other volunteers.



SOMEONE REMEMBERS AT THE MOVING WALL





# NEWS

## ... from the past

As a monthly feature during the Centennial celebration from Commencement 1987 to Commencement 1988, news from **The Skirmisher's** of past years will be appearing on this page.

### COMMENCEMENT--1938

Discouraged when several thousand of his pet fish died from exposure to the cold, Mr. Tolbert, the school bursar, turned from the hobby of raising fish to that of taking pictures . . . Within the past month a hundred trees have been planted on the campus. They are all American elms. A few of the beautiful old trees have died and others indicate they are about to die. The trees at St. John's have contributed much towards making the school one of the beauty spots of Salina. They were planted by cadets back in 1888. On Arbor Day, the first chaplain got his boys to set out one or more trees according to a design he had worked out. The boys marked their trees with their names, and took a particular interest in their growth.

### COMMENCEMENT--1947

The athletic field day and senior dance were held on Saturday. Sunday activities featured Holy Communion at 8 a.m.; Baccalaureate at 10:30 a.m. at Christ Cathedral; Military Field Day at 2:30 p.m.; final retreat parade and presentation of commissions at 5:15 p.m.; buffet supper at 6 p.m. and Commencement with presentation of diplomas, honors and awards at 8 p.m. Last formation, presentation of warrants and lowering of colors was at 8 a.m. Monday.

### COMMENCEMENT--1958

Charles F.W. Setiz, who enrolled as a Cadet in the fall of 1888, was honored during Commencement activities . . . Construction has begun on the new science laboratory (now part of Clem-Ferris Hall).

### COMMENCEMENT--1968

St. John's Military School bid farewell to Col. Remey Leland Clem, Rector and Superintendent for 32 years, during Commencement exercises. Colonel and Mrs. Clem were presented with a \$2500 travel certificate from the School's faculty and staff, alumni, Foundation members and past and present trustees . . . Steve Erb, Class of '64, a graduating senior at the U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, was the Baccalaureate speaker.

### COMMENCEMENT--1978

The "Old Boy" dinner festivities and the Bill Meidell-produced television show will be May 27 in Nichols Hall. Meidell, Class of '54, and Kirk Weilepp, Class of '66, will be arriving in Salina May 25 to begin filming the TV show of the decade . . . It was another less-than-perfect day to hold a track meet, but Coach Dale Pierson and his athletes didn't notice the cold and wind after they won their first Eisenhower West League championship in athletics by edging Downs for the track and field title . . . Construction of a new gymnasium to replace the old structure will begin this summer on the SJMS campus. Demolition of the old gym has started.

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### Rust To Run Registration

Registration of alumni and parents will be held on the porch of the Vanier Academic Center. Managing the program will be Linda Rust, mother of graduating senior Jim Rust.

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## Marshall Leads 5th Honors List

John Marshall was the leader on the fifth grading period honor roll in the Upper School. He was named to the Blue Berets as were Stephen Walters and Harold Laughlin.

Others named to the honor roll were Kipp Ertl, Ed Clementson, Sid Pemberton, Joseph Cotter, Tom Wilson, Jason Morgan, Mickey Haver, Frank Churchill, Eduardo Cory and Robert Taylor.

Earning honorable mention were Gil Thompson, Pat Scheidecker, Hans Krogh-Hansen, Robert Brown, Darren Johnson, Ben Speaker, Brent Jones, Ed Price, Maxwell Brooks, Francisco Lanz-Duret, Michael Nields, Dustin Robinson, Barry Rubin, Brian Sweeney, Bradley Heinrich, Joe Richards, Jason White, Jim Rust, Richard Jenkins, Cameron Miles, Gregory Humphrey, Spencer Krzyzek, Russell Lyons, Roger Hernandez, Chad Calvaresi, Michael Noah, Peter Hastings and Jeff Heronen.

## Schneider Heads 5th Honor Roll

Scott Schneider was the leader on the fifth grading period honor roll in the Middle School. Named to the Blue Berets were Schneider, David Hale and J.P. Rigg.

Others named to the honor roll were Chris Coleman, James Moran, Todd Probasco and David Greathouse.

Earning honorable mention were Brandon Fithian, Michael Kerry, Jon Treadway, Al Farley, Chris Nicola, Michael Dopps, Gary Johnson, Jimmy Rocco, Patrick Foley, Jeff Winter and Lorenzo Rubio.

## Hale Heads Mid-School Honor Roll

David Hale was the leader on the fourth grading period Honor Roll in the Middle School. There were also four Blue Berets in the Middle school as two tied for third place.

The Berets are Hale, Scott Schneider, Christopher Coleman and J.P. Rigg.

James Moran and Michael Kerry were also named to the honor roll.

Earning honorable mention were Buzz Fithian, David Greathouse, Lorenzo Rubio, Chris Nicola, Al Farley, Todd Probasco, Jon Treadway, Gary Johnson, Patrick Foley, Michael Dopps and Charles Steinert.

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## ★ OLD BOYS CORNER ★

**Attended 1930's . . .** Returning for the Reunion will be **Woodrow Newalla** and the **Maker brothers**.

**Class of 1943 . . .** **Edward Lehman**, chairman of the board of Lehman Communications Corporation, Longmont, Colo., was awarded the prestigious John Evans Award, highest honor given by the University of Denver Alumni Association. It is given to alums of the private university who have demonstrated achievement in their profession, community service and service to the University. Lehman will be returning for the 100th anniversary. He wrote, "I recently had a long telephone conversation with **Jim Dennett**, a fellow cadet and we both were agreeing that it should be a most interesting event to be with you in May."

**Class of 1961 . . .** Col. Keith Duckers, President, recently received a letter from **Raul Olivo**. Olivo wrote: "Today I received **The Skirmisher**, March '88, and came to my memory the great years at SJMS 27 years ago. I saw the picture when in February 1961 my friends at St. John's visited Ed Sullivan at his show in New York (I did not go). I still remember the faces . . . Jones, Cunningham, Poage, Lobaugh, Mattix, White Kaine, Oxford, etc."

Olivo still lives in Caracas, Venezuela where he is the president of several companies, all related to the construction industry in Venezuela. He is the father of two sons and two daughters, also two granddaughters. He said, "I am a proud and "old" grandfather. I'm only 43."

**Attended 1970-72 . . .** **Thomas W. Fiske** is the Lower School coordinator at the Brunn School in Santa Fe, N.M. He wrote President Duckers: "As I am proctoring the E.R.B. test today I have found a few minutes to get a quick note off to you. The kids, mostly boys, are busy, happy and doing well. Even that blonde kid I must put in the front of the room. Could I have been him 20 years ago?"

"In the spring I am flooded with memories. Some are melancholy, yet so many are happy memories. I would love to return to see the 100th Corps of Cadets toss their hats to the wind and run home. I, however, must stay with my students to share their pride, share their glee and become, as you have become to me, a fond, fond, memory."

"Every graduation I am reminded that St. John's has never left me. Every graduation I am reminded that I have not failed St. John's. Jimmy Croke is still my best friend. Colonel Kellogg helped me find my drive. The Rev. Feallock showed I had love, a disciplined, understanding compassion I endeavor to show my students, has its roots in my learning from you."

"SJMS forever (my) praise shall always be. On May 22, when my seniors graduate, I will toss my hat to the wind and run home to another year in the classroom."

(**The Skirmisher Editor**, Liz Duckers, teaching a religion class, recalls that it was Fiske who explained the Commandment, "Thou shalt not commit adultery" as "stay out of motels.")

## Bill Bunting Recovering

F/Sgt. Bill Bunting has returned to campus to recover from a heart-attack he suffered April 6.

Bunting had reported for duty that morning when he became ill and was taken to Asbury-Salina Regional Medical Center. He later was transferred to St. Francis Hospital, Wichita, for treatment and tests.

## It's A Girl

Lt. Col. Thomas P. Martin, Vice President, and his wife, Teresa, became the parents of a girl born April 13. The eight-pound, five-ounce girl has been named Molly Marie.

Amnesty in honor of the event was declared for the Cadets in the 100th Corps.

Molly has two brothers, Aaron and Nathan.

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# Honorary Colonel Designees Announced

Six "old boys", a retiring faculty member and a representative mother of an "old boy" will be commissioned as Honorary Colonels of SJMS during the alumni farewell luncheon. The luncheon will follow Commencement ceremonies on Sunday, May 22, at the Days Inn in downtown Salina.

The "old boys" are Robert Crooks and Horace "Pete" Holmes, both of the Class of 1928; Ed Lehman, Class of 1943; Louis Fulton, Class of 1946; William Meidell, Class of 1954, and Al Ransom, Class of 1956.

Maj. Gerald Woody, retiring Middle School leader, will also be commissioned.

The name of the representative mother will be announced at the noon lunch.

Honorary Colonels are individuals who have made a unique contribution to the school in long-term service, support, loyalty and have been successful in their fields of endeavor.



**Robert Crooks**

Crooks was a graduate of the Class of 1928. He has actively promoted the Grand Reunion of 1988, 60 years after graduating as Battalion Commander. He headed many St. John's organizations during his eight-year career in the Corps.

As the commander of the Old Boy Platoon, he shaped the "old boys" into a crack marching unit for the Centennial parade in 1987.

For 40 years he has been the owner and operator of a Realty company and is a past president of the San Diego Board of Realtors.



**Horace "Pete" Holmes**

Holmes is also a graduate in the Class of '28. Together with former roommate and pal, Bob Crooks, he has helped organize the Reunion. A distinguished Kansas banker, Holmes served as the senior vice president and trust officer of Home Bank and

Trust, Eureka, Ks., from 1928 until his retirement in 1978.

Holmes is remembered as a great football player at St. John's in the 1920's. He also served his country during World War II.



**Ed Lehman**

Lehman, Class of 1943, has been a faithful supporter of SJMS, attending Commencement events and being a Brigadier of the School.

For 30 years, Lehman has been operating one of the sturdiest publishing concerns in the West. He is currently Chairman of the Board and chief executive officer of Lehman Communications Corporation which publishes three Colorado daily newspapers - The Longmont Times-Call, The Loveland Daily Reporter-Herald, and The Canon City Daily Record.

Before joining the Times-Call, Lehman was a partner in the law firm of Burnett, Lehman and Lehman.

Lehman credits St. John's with teaching him to set goals.



**Louis Fulton**

Fulton, Class of 1946, was a star basketball player and was the first big post man for SJMS. He may even have introduced the slam-dunk.

Fulton recently established the Fulton Trust for Athletics at St. John's "to see that the Muleskinners athletic teams are always dressed in first class uniforms".

Fulton attended Rice Institute and Houston University. Currently he serves as vice president of sales for Workload, Inc.

with offices in Miami, Dallas, Jacksonville, Mobile, San Francisco and New Orleans, his home.



**Bill Meidell**

Orange blood runs deep in Meidell's veins. A graduate in the Class of 1954, Meidell has spearheaded several reunions of the classes of the mid-50's complete with skits and video presentations.

His love for St. John's has kept him coming back on a regular basis for more than 30 years.

Meidell may become the SJMS poet laureate for he frequently expresses his memories of the School in poetry. His son, Chris, is a member of the 100th Corps.



**Col. Al Ransom**

Ransom was the SJMS Battalion commander, Crack Platoon C.O., the Crack Squad commander and football quarterback in the Class of 1956. "Big Al" remains one of St. John's best known alumni more than

three decades after commanding the 68th corps.

An "all state football player", Ransom earned a scholarship to the University of Colorado.

An outstanding leader whose brilliant career in the Marine Corps has distinguished Ransom as one of St. John's most famous sons. His Commencement address last year will long be remembered by those attending.

Serving as Public Affairs Officer at Camp Pendleton the past year, Ransom will retire from the Marine Corps in June. He also had a son who was a Cadet.



**Maj. Gerald Woody**

## Cadets March In Denver

A number of Cadets participated in the St. Patrick's Day Parade held in Denver March 12. This is the second largest parade in the U.S. The extremely cold weather prevented many Cadets who would have been in the parade from marching.

The Cadets participating were Kevin Smith, Kipp Ertl, James Rust, Jon Cunningham, Cameron Miles, Peter Hastings, Jeffrey Herronen, Robert Holman, Brian Painter, John Zelem, Scott Schneider, Adam Baker and Brian Foley.

## KSU Stock Market Game Being Played By Cadets

The Stock Market Game, sponsored by Kansas State University, is underway again at St. John's according to Capt. Doug Randolph, game sponsor.

Competing in this spring's games are 50 Cadets on 21 teams in both the Middle and Upper School.

Randolph said it appears that the team of Brad Heinrich and Chris Moran seem to have a first place regional finish locked up as well as finishing among the top 10 in the state.

Three other teams have a chance of second and third place finishes depending on the market.

Maj. Gerald Woody has served 52 years in the classroom, a record. This includes 13 devoted years to SJMS. (A story of Woody's career appeared in the April Skirmisher).

His boys not only learned the three R's but fishing, camping and ghost stories. Many future outdoorsmen got their first taste of sportsmanship under "Woody's" tutelage.

Lt. Col. R.L. Guernsey and Lt. Col. V.B. Loy, who are also retiring, were previously commissioned Honorary Colonels.



**Mother Honoree**

## Former Faculty Kids To Return

Several children of faculty members, who grew up on the campus, will be returning to Salina for the Grand Reunion.

Melanie Nuss, Wichita, and Lawton Nuss, Salina, children of the late H.E. Nuss and Erma Lee Nuss plan to attend.

Jeff Guernsey, son of Lt. Col. and Mrs. R.L. Guernsey and an "old boy" will be present.

The children of Lt. Col. and Mrs. V.B. Loy - Kirstin Loy Kelly, Denver, and Larry Loy, Winston-Salem, N.C. will be here for the weekend.

Also planning to return are Ed Duckers and his wife, Katherine and Kyle Duckers, all of Alexandria, Va., and Sarah Duckers, Houston, Tex. They are the children of Lt. Col. Keith Duckers, President, and Mrs. Duckers.

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## Old Boy Class Meeting To Be Held May 21

The classes of '52, '53, '54, and '55 are invited to a reunion on Saturday afternoon, May 21, for the "old boys" and their families at 4:30 p.m. at the Days Inn.

Pizza and talk are the order of the afternoon meeting according to Bill Salmon. The activity will dismiss in time for the Senior Receiving line before the Senior Ball.

The early 50's class reunion is the request of the Class of '53. Class representatives Joe

Soukup and Salmon reported an interest had been expressed during telephone conversations with classmates. Salmon indicated, "Several of the calls I made, asked about friends from other years. The suggestion was made to have an early 50's reunion. It seemed an appropriate thing to do."

Specific information concerning the place of the class reunion will be available during the 100th Celebration Friday.

## Decades of Fun and Folly Set For 100th Party

An evening program is planned that will make "old boys" cry for joy as well as for the nostalgia involved. The program is a series of skits to be produced on the spot by the Old Boys, at the Days Inn, Friday, May 20, as a part of the Alumni Reception.

The reception will feature a video presentation produced by Bill Meidell, '54. The skits will be under the direction of Bill Salmon, '53.

Salmon reports that the skit night will touch many of the emotions. It will feature a roll-call of "old boys" and skits produced by representatives of each decade.

Salmon will MC the event and promises a poem and a RAP (a musical monologue) as his contributions. He said, "I've written a lot of former Cadets asking for good ideas for the RAP and the poem, but I'll take all the material I can get. Anybody out there who remembers a popular saying of their era, particular incidents that marked their years at SJMS, favorite stories about faculty and administration, or old marching chants, should send them to Helen Loy. If its clean, Helen will send your contributions to me!"

## Band Cord Issued

Members of the Cadet Band have been authorized to wear the Blue Band cord.

They are Kyle Brazzel, Jonathan Carper, Jon Davis, Alfred Dodson, Charles Evans, Patrick Foley, Darren Johnson, Thomas Keefe, John Kilpatrick, Gerald Miller, Joe Mitchell, Macario Maldonado, Steven Myers, Michael Noah, Sid Pemberton, Barry Rubin, James Rust, Benjamin Speaker, Dan Stabler, Pat Weidmann and Glenn Wiedenbeck.

Evans, Johnson, Keefe, Miller, Myers, Noah, Pemberton, Rust and Stabler were also authorized to wear the lyre.

## Adventure Ribbons Given

The adventure training ribbons have been awarded.

Earning the ribbon with bronze lamp, second award, were Chad Calvaresi, Aaron Calhoun, Kipp Ertl, Richard Jenkins, Thomas Keefe and Kevin Smith, Spartan commander.

Earning the first award ribbon were Adam Baker, Kelly Cochran, Mickey Haver, William Heath, Michael Kerry, John Kilpatrick, John Marshall, James Rigg and Patrick Scheidecker.

## Osage Tribal Chief To Give Invocation

George Tallchief, chief of the Osage Nation and St. John's "old boy" will give the invocation to start the Commencement proceedings. Tallchief, who appeared last year, will be dressed in his ceremonial regalia.

### Old Boys To Be Hosts

Two members of the Class of 1928 will be the hosts for the hospitality room and alumni headquarters at the Days Inn. They are Bob Crooks and Pete Holmes. Donna Vanier, Foundation Secretary, will be in charge of arrangements.

### "SJMS Forever" To Be Sung At Luncheon

The old alma mater, "SJMS Forever," will be sung to conclude the Alumni Farewell luncheon, Sunday, May 22. Leading the singing will be the Rt. Rev. Robert Mize Jr., an "old boy". A limited number of the old sheet music is available for sale.

### Crosses Authorized

Michael Kerry and James Moran have been authorized to wear the Chapel Council Cross.

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