



## ST. JOHN'S MILITARY SCHOOL Home of The MULESKINNERS

# SKIRMISHER



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## Retired Navy Officer Assumes SJ Command

Retired Naval Capt. Elroy A. "Skip" McAlexander started work as the President of St. John's Military School June 1.

McAlexander started his first day as President more than a year after the School announced he would replace long-time President Keith Duckers.

In an interview with the Salina Journal, McAlexander said he had no "radical ideas" to set in motion at the military institution.

He continued: "Keith has done marvelous work in getting St. John's to where it is today. I want to continue that, to carry on everything he has done. The School needs to move to another level, but that level is not well defined."

In the interview, McAlexander said, "I wanted to come back to Kansas." His parents live north of Topeka at Mayetta and his move to Kansas after his May 1, 1992 retirement meant he was "coming home." Before coming to Salina, McAlexander and his wife, Pat, lived in Leavenworth.

For three years in the early 1970's, he was a company officer at the U.S. Naval Academy, a post similar to a St. John's tactical officer, who sees after the Cadets' studies and personal development.

Besides his stint at the Academy, both as a faculty member and midshipman, where he received a bachelor's degree in Naval Science and History, he studied in Brazil as a Fulbright Scholar.

Other posts included being a commanding officer of the Naval Recruiting district, Miami; a senior fellow of the Atlantic Council of the U.S.; a logistics planner for Naval Operations staff and a Naval attache to Brazil.

"The idea of working with

kids and young men has always been attractive to me," he said of the St. John's position.

Although he has no immediate plans for the School, he has established a personal goal: unpack and throw away the suitcases.

### ★ ★ ★ BULLETIN

St. John's Military School earned the Honor School with Distinction rating based on the Regional Formal Inspection held April 26.

The designation means that the School finished the Inspection within the top 20 percent of the Fourth HSRUTC Region High School programs.

SJMS received 987.3 of 1000 points for the Inspection.

Secondary school programs are now being called high school units rather than the previous "Junior" designation.

The Chief inspector was Capt. Shawn Daughery from the Fourth ROTC Region headquarters. He was assisted by several ROTC instructors from Kansas State University.

Maj. Michael Miller, Commandant/Senior Army Instructor, said, "Without the School's support and the outstanding Cadet leadership displayed during the year and the Inspection, we could not have attained this ranking."

The Cadets can wear the gold star on their uniforms for the next two years. Formal inspections are now held every other year rather than annually.

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### AN HONORARY COLONEL

Sen. Bob Dole accepts his Honorary Colonel plaque from Keith G. Duckers, President of SJMS, during Commencement ceremonies.

## Sen. Bob Dole Salutes Col. Keith G. Duckers

Sen. Bob Dole was the speaker during Commencement exercises, May 16, on Perkins Field.

Dole bestowed some honors on retiring President, Col. Keith G. Duckers.

He said, "I'm proud to have been here to help honor Colonel Duckers' 43 years of outstanding service, the impact he's had on thousands of men over the years and what that has meant to their state and their nation. He has taught the students here more than just science and math."

"Duckers' leadership has shown them the value of 'duty, honor and country'," Dole said.

Dole told the 31 graduating seniors to remember life doesn't always go as planned.

"The one thing I've learned over the years is that the only sure thing in life is change," Dole said.

His plans changed while a freshman in college, where he hoped to study to become a doctor. Then Pearl Harbor was bombed and the country was pulled into World War II.

"Instead of holding a scalpel, I spent a few years under the scalpel," Dole said. "I learned a lot, and one thing I learned that is when something is taken away from you something else takes its place."

He followed the advice of a librarian and enrolled in law school. In the 1950's, his association with St. John's and Duckers began when Dole--then Russell County attorney--asked Duckers if some Cadets from the School could provide a program for his Kiwanis Club.

Since then, Dole said he's also learned "the more visible you become, the more flack you take."

## Senator Dole Commissioned Honorary Colonel

Sen. Bob Dole (Rep-Ks.) was promoted during Commencement ceremonies, Sunday, May 16. He is now a Colonel.

Dole, an Army lieutenant from Russell injured during World War II, was made an Honorary Colonel of St. John's Military School by the School's President Keith G. Duckers.

Honorary Colonels of the School are individuals or couples who have made significant contributions to the Salina institution.

"He's never forgotten his Kansas roots or his loyalty and his support for St. John's," Duckers said.

The inscription on the plaque reads: "Recognized as one of America's towering political figures. . .has a distinguished record of public service that spans four decades. . .made one of his first Congressional campaign stops at SJMS where he traded a lecture to the American Government class for a free lunch in the mess hall . . .has never forgotten his Kansas roots."

The award was made in recognition of that support of St. John's and the ideals for which the School has stood for 105 years.

## Radway Heads Fourth Honor Roll

Sean Radway was the leader on the Upper School Academic Honor Roll for the fourth grading period.

He was named to the Blue Berets as were Christopher Mackey and Jamie Exon.

Others named to the honor roll were Chad Kellogg, Mark Richards, Daniel Davidson, Nicholas Dell, Geoffrey Hansen, R.J. Christensen, and Nicholas Knepper-Zoth.

Earning honorable mention were Tory Merriman, Adam Kaye, Timothy Henry, Mickey Woolhether, Rodney Webb, Andrew Cole, Ranjan Ray, Lee O'Guin, Paul Palombo, James Kirk, Michael Seeney, Jerry Webb, Jacob Williams, Joshua Cole, Travis Potter, Corey Mitchell, Christopher Clark, Jeremy Williams, Adrian Gonzales, Ryan Munich, Christopher Allen, Chad Mathis, Jonathan Luttwak, Luis Medrano, Kevin McNamara, Jaime Guerrero, Kevin Munro, Christopher Bauck, Alejandro Guerrero, Daniel Reagan, Colin Eddington, Blaine Moller and Richard Taylor.



### THE CHANGE OF COMMAND

Chad Mathis receives the Hardy Sabre, symbol of command, from Col. Keith G. Duckers, retiring President of the School. He received the Colors and Sabre from retiring commander, Chris Mackey. Mathis will command the 106th Corps to be formed next fall. Looking on are Chad Kellogg, Mrs. Duckers, and Mathis' parents.





# NEWS

## ... from the past

### COMMENCEMENT--1923

A memorable feature of the commencement exercises was the alumni luncheon held in the gym at noon on Monday. Three hundred and forty alumni, guests and cadets assembled for the last event before the final lowering of the flag. Bishop Mize presented the Sage Memorial medal to the cadet who, in the opinion of the faculty, had made the greatest improvement during the school year.

### COMMENCEMENT--1953

Commencement draws near. Large crowd expected here over weekend. Ten seniors set for graduation . . . The second floor of the new barracks will be completed by next September.

### COMMENCEMENT--1973

Capt. Kenneth Faerber, Admissions officer at SJMS for the past three years, will fill the newly combined position of Director of Admissions/Studies beginning June 1 . . . The announcement of a bequest, the awarding of the Gordon Prize to a junior Cadet and the naming of a new Battalion commander were the highlights of Commencement weekend. The rain held off long enough Saturday and Sunday to permit events to be held as scheduled. The public announcement of a bequest from the late Wiley T. Baner, Albuquerque, N.M. was made at the Foundation luncheon.

### COMMENCEMENT--1983

St. John's Military School, for the 15th consecutive year, received the Honor Unit Award with Distinction "in recognition of exceptional performance in all areas of the Junior ROTC program" . . . The fifth annual Benefit Auction made approximately \$20,000 . . . M/Sgt. Dwight Woodall (USAF-Ret) tactical officer, was retired during Commencement ceremonies after serving at SJMS for 17 years.

## Message From The President

**St. John's**  
**MILITARY**  
**SCHOOL**  
SALINA, KS 67402-0827

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

### President's Message:

In my first column for the Skirmisher I want to thank all of the people who have made me feel welcome at St. John's. Since the first day I spent with some of you over a year ago, I have felt at home. After 27 years of being on the move, this is extremely important.

I would specifically like to thank Keith and Liz for the time they have spent with me. I have a much richer knowledge of the traditions associated with St. John's because of their patience and willingness to share their thoughts about their years of experience.

With Keith's retirement and Liz's departure as editor of this publication, we will be looking at new ways to communicate with patrons, "old boys", and friends. I would appreciate comments from any reader on what should remain the same and what, if any, new ideas we could try. It will be difficult to live up to the professional standards that Liz has established, but perhaps she will assist us if needed.

My wife Pat and I are looking forward to getting to know all of you better. Please keep us in your prayers as we begin this important task.

Trying to do God's work,

*E. A. McAlexander*  
E. A. McAlexander  
Captain USN(Ret.)



## Large Group At Foundation Luncheon

A near capacity crowd attended the St. John's Military School Foundation luncheon at the Bicentennial Center, Saturday, May 15.

Presiding at the meeting was Dr. William Ditto, Foundation President, Wamego, Ks.

The Rev. James R. Cox, School Chaplain, gave the invocation and benediction.

Foundation membership certificates were presented to the Class of 1993. Graduates are given a five-year membership to the foundation.

A painting of highlights of Col. Keith G. Duckers' life was given to him. The painting was done by former Trustee, Dean Groves.

## ★ OLD BOYS CORNER ★

**Class of 1963 . . .** A note was received recently from **George Bartley** who has been missed from the mailing lists for several years. He wrote: "Thirty years later I find myself alive, clean and sober and a senior at the University of New Mexico. I'm also a member of Psi Chi National Honor Society in psychology." His address is 9508 Academy Hills Dr., Albuquerque, N.M. 87111. Bartley was the donor of the Hardy Sabre given in memory of the late Col. A.Y. Hardy.

**Attended 1967-68 . . .** **Michael A. Cunningham** and his wife visited the School recently. He is a printer in Wichita, Kas.

**Class of 1971 . . .** **Frank Hazzard** is the branch manager of Penske truck leasing in Wichita. He visited the School recently.

**Class of 1991 . . .** **Scott Ryan** is now living in Kingman, Ks.

### DEATHS

**Craig A. Coburn**, attended 1967-71, was killed in an accident a year ago. The School was recently notified of his death.

**Gerald Miller**, Class of 1991, died from a gunshot wound at his home in Phoenix, Ariz., June 16. A roommate was charged with his murder. Gerald's brother, **John Miller**, also attended St. John's, Class of 1989.

### FORMER STAFF

The Rev. Donald Davidson, former chaplain, has been admitted to the Doctor of Ministry in Preaching program through the Association of Chicago Theological Schools. For the next three years, he will be participating in the process toward obtaining that degree. The process will include a three-week residency at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago each of the next three summers. Fr. Davidson is the rector of Christ Episcopal Church, Beatrice, Neb. and also serves St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Wymore, Neb.

## A FAREWELL

It is with a heavy heart that I write this my final **Skirmisher**. Regretfully, I do not fit into Capt. E.A. McAlexander's plans for future Skirmishers.

Many of you perhaps haven't been aware that I have been closely involved with the publication of the paper for more than 34 years. After all, I do have a B.S. degree in journalism from the University of Kansas and was a reporter and columnist for **The Salina Journal**. My name seldom appears except in the agate type telling about the sponsorship.

It has been a labor of love.

**The Skirmisher** has been a long-standing tradition at the School. The first paper I have in my files was published Jan. 26, 1918. It was a project of the late Col. Waldorf Garmsle who started so many of the School traditions. Perhaps we should have celebrated the 75th anniversary this year.

**The Skirmisher** has been printed every year. Copies have been collected for every year--thanks to the "old boys" who have returned memorabilia to the School and also those who found old copies among papers when their parents died. There is only one paper for 1943. Maybe that was the only one printed. Charles Morrison, '43, and an anonymous old boy brought copies from the mid-forties at Commencement. The papers are in good condition due to the quality of the printing stock.

I have done it myself some years. Other years I have had dependable Cadets who assisted. They helped sell advertising in the years when we had advertisers.

I began writing at home to help Keith, who was the paper adviser and also started the yearbook, as he began to assume more administrative duties. Eventually, I wrote, edited, read proof, made the paper up and then read the page proofs.

Sometime during those years we began mailing **The Skirmisher** to all "old boys" for whom we had good addresses. This was the first communication with them other than frequent requests for money. The alums have become more responsive in their interest in the School as they knew "what was happening".

A few years ago, I also undertook mailing the paper, as the office staff did not have the time to do it. I started on the old addressograph machine using plates. We converted to the computer to print the labels. What a joy! Now we just place labels on the nearly 2200 that are mailed. We have a press run of about 2800. Changes in addresses can be made in seconds keeping the list up-to-date. Thanks to Terri Hunnacutt and Sheri Becker for their help.

The paper is mailed to almost every state--I don't think we have any patrons, alums, grandparents, etc. in the states of Maine or West Virginia. We mail about 75 overseas.

Some other changes have been from printing eight papers a year to six with a larger six-page paper published in June containing the commencement activities and awards.

Oh, incidentally, I always wrote at home until I finally was given access, part-time, to an office in Vanier Academic Center last October.

A writer doesn't need much more than a typewriter, some paper and a few good books on the Usage of the English language, and of course, an up-to-date dictionary.

I'll continue to write about SJMS. Keith and I may collaborate to write a book about living life on a boys boarding school campus. We may, that is, if he doesn't mind my editing out all his flowery language.

**SJMS FOREVER!**

ELIZABETH A. "LIZ" DUCKERS  
Public Information Officer

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## Trustees Elected

Five men have been elected to the St. John's Military School Board of Trustees. Their three-year terms will begin in July.

They are Bob Miller, President of Busboom & Rauh Construction company; Richard Morrison, President of Thermo-Flex, Inc.; Charles Stevens, President of Stevens Contractors and Andy Tompkins, Superintendent of Salina USD 305, all of Salina. Also elected was Tim Soule, a contractor in Lakewood, Colo., and a graduate of the Class of 1966.

They replace outgoing Trustees Bill Graves, Secretary of State, Topeka; Robert H. Kastner, City Plumbing Company, Salina; Senator Ben Vidricksen, Salina; and Sheriff Darrell Wilson, Salina. The vacant position created with the resignation of Lt. Gen. Richard Seitz a year ago was also filled.

G.W. "Bill" Nicholson, McPherson, was re-elected to the Board.

Carry-over Trustees are L.O. Bengtson, Larry Britegam, Harold Eagleton, Ron L. Green, The Very Rev. M. Richard Hatfield, Stewart Horejsi, all of Salina, and Mrs. Donna Vanier, Brookville.

Two vacancies remain on the Board with the death of Floyd Fairleigh and the resignation of Alfred Schwan.

Honorary Trustees are D. Dale Browning, Denver, Colo., Mrs. Nelda Linger, Loveland, Colo., and Donald W. Leach, Colorado Springs, Colo.

The Board will reorganize at the July meeting.





### A FINAL SALUTE

Col. Keith G. Duckers, retiring President, gives a final salute to the Corps, "old boys" and members of the faculty and staff as he finished his "Hail and Farewell" remarks on Commencement Sunday.

### Retiring Leader Duckers Learned Many Lessons

Col. Keith G. Duckers, retiring School President, said in his "Hail & Farewell" remarks that he had learned many lessons during his 43 years at the School.

- "I've learned that:
- Life challenges us with the fact that everything can be done better.
- Enthusiasm is caught-not taught.
- Cadets don't like broccoli any better than George Bush did.
- That you can do something in an instant that will give you a heartache for a lifetime.
- That if you pursue happiness, it will elude you. But if you focus on your family, the needs of others, your work, meeting new people, and doing the best you can, happiness will

find you.

-- You can't judge how a Cadet will finish his career here by the way he looks and acts on the day he arrives.

-- I've learned that it is impossible to teach without learning something yourself.

-- That leaders are like eagles--they don't flock--you find them one at a time.

-- The more a Cadet feels valued, the better his values will be."

Duckers said, "My farewell is quite simple. As my late friend Russ Guernsey said on the occasion of his retirement--'You've been saluting me for a lot of years, Now, I salute you.'"

"So now I make a similar statement, Thank you, Sirs! Thanks for the memories!"

### Course Awards Given

Certificates for having the highest average in each course of study at the School were given during the Academic Awards convocation, Saturday, May 15, at the Salina Bicentennial Center.

Sean Radway had the high average in six courses of study. Winning four awards was Chad Kellogg.

Winning three awards were Jamie Exon and Ranjan Ray.

Those winning two awards were Aaron Branjord, Andrew Cole, Geoffrey Hansen, Christopher Mackey, Christopher Nicola, Lee O'Guin, Travis Potter and Jacob Williams.

### Superior Cadet Medals Given

The Superior Cadet medal is awarded to the outstanding Cadet in each military class.

Earning the awards were Christopher Mackey, Level 4, (second award); Chad Mathis, Level 3; Nicolas Dell, Level 2; and Richard Taylor, Level 1.

### Choir Awards Authorized

Thomas Benne and Royce Henderson were authorized to wear the choir cord and ribbon.

Authorized to wear the ribbon were Trey Guinn, Colin Guinn, Sean Radway, Shawn Hensel, Michael Reed, Jason Merrifield, Ryan Levitan, Jonathan Hollon, Daniel McDowell, Robert Lambert, Laverne Stika, Don Zimmerman, James Francis and Dustin Hiebert.

### Trustee F.L. Fairleigh Died, May 17

Floyd L. Fairleigh, 62, a SJMS Trustee, died Monday, May 17 at Rochester, Minn. He was from Scott City, Kas.

Fairleigh had completed a year of a three-year term. He had previously served two terms. He was an Honorary Colonel of the School.

He owned and operated the Fairleigh Feed yards, Scott-Pro and L&M Service Station in addition to farming and ranching.

He was active in the Episcopal Church and various livestock associations.

Survivors include his wife, Eva Marie of Scott City; a son, John of Scott City; and a daughter, Lisa of Denton, Texas.

The funeral was May 21 at the First United Methodist Church, Scott City.

Representing the School were Cadets Chris Bauck and Keith Sedille, Col. and Mrs. Keith G. Duckers, and the Rev. James Cox, Chaplain.

The family suggested memorials to St. John's Military School.

### Brigadiers Receive Medallions

The 1992-93 Brigadiers were given their medallions by G.W. "Bill" Nicholson, Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

Brigadiers are individuals, couples or institutions that contribute a thousand dollars or more to the School during the fiscal year.

They are Mr. and Mrs. C. Floyd Anderson, Kansas City, Mo.; Nancy Becker, Lakewood, Colo.; Mr. and Mrs. J.D. Berkley, Bennington, Ks.; the late Floyd Fairleigh, Scott City, Ks.; Louis B. Fulton, New Orleans, La.; Richard Gaven, Lisle, Ill.; Mrs. Jessie Given, Foley, Ala.; H.D. Hale, Shawnee Mission, Ks.; M. Dean Hargrove, Los Angeles, Calif.; Mr. and Mrs. Ray Kraft, Tulsa, Okla.; KSAJ-KABI radio station, Abilene, Ks.; Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lehman, Longmont, Colo.; Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Lewis, Dodge City, Ks.; Carlos M. Machado, Mexico City, Mexico; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Nicola, Chickasha, Okla.; Fernando J. Poo, Mexico City, Mexico; Cloyd Pugh, Topeka, Ks.; Mrs. Mert Schwensen, Clay Center, Ks.; Mr. and Mrs. David Toombs, Springfield, Mo.; Mr. and Mrs. Jack Vanier, Brookville, Ks., and Wardens and Vestry, Trinity Episcopal Church, Atchison, Ks.

Brigadiers from Salina are Col. and Mrs. Keith G. Duckers, First Bank, Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Horejsi, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kastner, KINA radio station, KSAL-KY Country radio station, Maj. Mike Miller, National Bank of America, Alfred Schwan, Milton Stiefel and Sunflower Bank.



### The Handle Ceremony

Christopher Mackey, Commander of the 105th Corps of Cadets, hands the Handle from Vail Hall to Jon Cunningham, Commander of the 102nd Corps during a special ceremony held during Commencement ceremonies. Looking on is "old boy" Chris Holmes.

### Commencement Day Was Beautiful!

Commencement morning was bright and sunny with just enough wind to furl the flags on Perkins Field.

Music for Commencement was provided by the U.S. Army First Infantry Division Band, Ft. Riley, Ks. The band played a 30-minute concert prior to the Commencement procession.

Lt. Col. Joel W. Looney, SJMS Vice President, was the master of ceremonies.

Edward C. Duckers, Washington, D.C., son of Col. and Mrs. Keith G. Duckers, introduced the speaker U.S. Senator Bob Dole, (R-Ks).

Dole's remarks will appear in a separate story.

The 31 seniors were given their diplomas by G.W. "Bill" Nicholson, Vice Chairman of the Board; Colonel Duckers, Lt. Col. Kenneth C. Faerber, Academic Dean and the Rt. Rev. John Ashby, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Kansas. Senator Dole shook the hand of each graduating Cadet.

Col. Christopher Mackey, Commander of the 105th Corps, gave the Corps Commander's

farewell battling the tears. Quoting the late General Douglas MacArthur, Mackey said his thoughts would always be "of the Corps, the Corps and the Corps."

The Handle Ceremony was conducted by Larry Rice, Class of 1955, City Manager of Elgin, Ill.

The Handle was salvaged from Vail Hall after the 1978 fire by "old boy" Jack Vanier. The Handle is passed to alums attending and the new graduates of the School.

The invocation was given by The Rt. Rev. Robert H. Mize Jr., Sometime Bishop of Damaraland, S.W. Africa, and the Rt. Rev. William Davidson, Sometime Bishop of Western Kansas.

Colonel Duckers was the reviewing officer for the final pass-in-review.

Following "Taps", the 105th Corps was dismissed forever.

### HAVE WE MISSED YOU?

All St. John's Military School alumni were recently notified of the upcoming new Alumni Directory and asked for their input. If you have not already done so, please return your questionnaire today. This will ensure that your personal information will be accurately included in this new reference book.

Within two to three months the verification phase of this project will begin. Alumni will be receiving a telephone call from Harris Publishing Company, the publisher. Please give the representative who calls you a few moments of your time to verify your listing. To place a reservation for a copy of the St. John's Military School Directory, please advise the Harris representative during the conversation, since this will be the only opportunity alumni will have to order the book.

Scheduled for release in March/April 1994, the St. John's Military School Alumni Directory promises to be the definitive reference of over 1,150 alumni.

### THE SKIRMISHER

Published six times during the year by St. John's Military School and its Cadets under the financial and legal sponsorship of St. John's Military School, Salina, Kansas 67401, a non-profit corporation.



## Leadership Recognized By Military Awards

Leadership and excellence in the HSROTC program were recognized during the Military Awards Assembly on Perkins Field, Saturday morning, May 15.

It was announced that Chad Kellogg had been awarded a three-year ROTC scholarship to attend college.

Douglas Morrison was awarded the Association of Military Colleges and Schools of the United States medal. It is given to an eighth grade Cadet who best exhibits potential to become an outstanding ROTC Cadet.

Casey Underwood earned the Daughters of Founders and Patriots of America award as the sophomore in the upper ten percent of ROTC and of good character, military discipline, patriotism and understanding of our American Heritage.

Chris Mackey earned several awards. They were the ROTC Distinguished award for scholastic excellence; American Legion medal for high qualities of citizenship; and the National Society of the Sons of American Revolution for the Cadet best displaying excellence in leadership and soldierly bearing.

Mark Richards also received several awards. They were a certificate for his high qualities of citizenship; Amvets award for his diligence to duty; the D.A.R. medal for being in the upper 25 percent in ROTC and all academic subjects and the ROTC Cadet citizen of the year for excellence in academic

leadership and athletic performance.

The Retired Officers Association medal was awarded to Chad Mathis for his exceptional potential for military leadership.

Sean Radway earned the U.S. Army Recruiting Command award in recognition for being in the top 25 percent in academic standing, leadership and participation in extra curricular activities.

The Association of the U.S. Army medal was awarded to Jamie Exon for excellence in military history.

Chad Kellogg earned the National Scholar Athlete award in recognition of his excellence in Academics and Athletics.

The National Sojourner ROTC medal was presented to Adam Kaye in recognition of his high attributes of Americanism and support of the country.

The U.S. Marine Corps Distinguished Athlete award was awarded to Thaddeus Alexander for his display of courage, poise and self-confidence as a high school athlete.

Roscoe Teagues earned the same award as the Middle School athlete.

Tory Merriman earned the Reserve Officers Association award for his outstanding competence in the arts and sciences of National defense.

### Earn Science Awards

Christopher Mackey earned the Dean's award from Kansas State University Department of Engineering as the outstanding student in mathematics and science.

Sean Radway earned the Honorary Science award.

## Chapel Service Recognized

Service to the Chapel Program was recognized during the Academic Awards convocation.

Chad Kellogg received the Bishop's award as the Cadet giving the greatest service to the program and the Chaplain during the year.

The Litchman Scholarship award was given to David Godin. This award is given annually to the Cadet, an active member of the Episcopal Church, who has been of continual and outstanding service to the Chaplain and Bishop during the school year.

Arthur Cannon received the Rev. Remey L. Clem award for his service as Cadet Chaplain and Chapel Council president. The award is a leather-bound Book of Common Prayer with the name embossed with gold.

Christopher Allen received the Kennedy-Holifield award as the Cadet who has exerted the most positive Christian, spiritual and moral influence on the Corps during the year.

## Middle School Cadets Honored

Cadets in the Middle School were honored with major awards during the Academic Honors Convocation.

Roscoe Teagues was awarded the Middle School Athletic medal as the Cadet rendering the greatest service in the promotion of athletics. He also earned the Effort medal.

Matthew Post was awarded the Middle School Citizenship medal as the Cadet making the greatest effort throughout the year.

Albert "Trey" Guinn III earned the Middle School Athletic Scholarship medal as the Cadet earning a letter in athletics and with the highest academic standing.

Stephen McClure received the Middle School Progress medal and the D.A.R.E. award.

Post also received the Middle School medal as the Cadet with the most satisfactory record during the year.

## Faculty Merit Awards Made

Several members of the faculty gave certificates of merit to Cadets.

Sarah Brown, Middle School teacher, gave awards to Steven Moore for his good attitude, thoughtfulness and polite, supportive behavior, and to John Love for his consistent effort to improve his grades.

Clay Urbanek, Art teacher, presented an award to Josh Cole for his intense concentration and the excellent work he has done as a young artist.

Gerald Martin, Government teacher and track coach, gave awards to Zachary Flora for his dedication to long distance running and to Dan Sterk for his superior chess playing in the Chess club.

The Rev. Jim Cox, Chaplain, gave several awards to Cadets for outstanding contribution to the Chapel program. They were Albert "Trey" Guinn III, Colin Guinn, Thad Alexander, Jamie Exon, Dan McDowell and Jon Hollon.

Wendy Stein, Band director and Music teacher, gave an award to Carlos Bejarano for his positive attitude and determination to be the best he can.

Stein commended several students for their love of music and contributions to the band. They were Trey Guinn, Jonathan Luttwak and Jason Merrifield.

## Golden Eagle Awards Made

The Golden Eagle awards were presented at the Military Ball on Saturday evening, May 15.

The awards are given to a junior Cadet and a senior Cadet who have surmounted the greatest personal odds and maintained the highest personal standards of fellowship among their contemporaries.

## Major Awards Presented At Academic Convocation

Major awards for effort, progress and excellence were given at the Saturday afternoon convocation at the Salina Bicentennial Center.

Mark Richards earned two awards. He received the "I Dare You" award as the senior who had shown the greatest development physically, mentally, socially and religiously and the Russell L. Guernsey Legend award as the Cadet best combining the qualities of rigid adherence to the Cadet code of conduct.

Sean Radway was awarded the Mark Delane Lewis Memorial scholarship. It is given to a junior Cadet who has overcome the greatest odds and made the most significant progress.

The John Pribble Memorial award was given to Jason Merrifield. It is awarded to the Cadet who best demonstrates potential in salesmanship.

Ryan Munich earned the Rotary medal as the senior with the longest service at the School. He was a Cadet for five years.

Nicholas Dell received the Sage Memorial medal as the Cadet showing the greatest development during the year. It is traditionally awarded to a senior who is not a new boy.

Chad Mathis received the Effort medal.

Chad Kellogg was given the Tinsley C. Fry athletic medal as the Cadet rendering the greatest service in the promotion of athletics. He also earned the Upper School Athletic Scholarship medal.

Tyson Farmer received the Kastner medal as the new boy

with the most satisfactory record.

The Activity Leadership medal was given to Victor Wu for promoting a new activity at the School.

Christopher Mackey was awarded the Wilson Loyalty medal as the Cadet showing a distinctly loyal spirit in supporting the ideal for which SJMS stands.

Jamie Exon earned the Ninninger award as the Cadet making the most of his God-given ability.

The Heaton trophy was given to Tory Merriman for the development of the new boy training company.

William Fisher was presented the Jerry Lee Mirth award as the Cadet who exemplifies all the qualities of leadership plus a sense of humor.

Adam Kaye received the C. Lyndon Lippincott Memorial award given to the varsity athlete who demonstrates exceptional effort, performance and sportsmanship.

Chris Nicola was presented the Lyman G. Linger award as the Cadet showing the greatest respect and has the greatest love for God's great out-of-doors in the tradition of St. John's old boy, Lyman G. Linger, Class of 1926.

### Shop Awards Given

The Ferris awards are given for outstanding performance in the shop classes. Earning the awards were Sean Radway, Shop I; Tyson Farmer, Shop II; Ryan Munich, Advanced Shop; Justin Klumpe, Middle School Advanced Shop, first semester, and Robert Nylen, Middle School Advanced Shop, second semester.

## Music Awards Presented

Awards for outstanding performance in the Cadet Band were presented during the Academic Honors Convocation, Saturday afternoon, May 15.

Timothy Henry earned the Louis Memorial award as the best all around bandsman.

Other awards were given to Kevin Munro, best bandsman; Michael Figuero and Douglas Morrison, most improved bandsmen; Timothy Lanham, Michael Seeney, Roscoe Teagues, Rannan Ray, Mark Triebwasser and Shaun Bertrand, Battalion drummer awards and Shawn Hensel, Battalion bugler award.

### Band Awards Given

Adrian Acon and Trey Guinn were authorized to wear the band lyre.

Authorized to wear the band cord, tab and ribbon were James Kirk, Jonathan Luttwak, James Callahan and Daniel McDowell.

## Charlie Is Honor Company

C Company, commanded by Chad Mathis, was the Honor Company for the school year.

The Honor Company is selected through competition in personal and barracks inspections, drill, academic standing and overall conduct by unit members.

Members of the Company authorized to wear a special ribbon were Blaine Asher, Joel Barr, Michael Boyles, Adam Burton, James Callahan, John Cropp, Mitchel Daniels, Russell Davis, James Dishon, Charles Estes, Michael Figueroa, Michael Gambone, Christopher Glasscock, Albert "Trey" Guinn, Royce Henderson, Garrett Hensing, Joshua Hestehave, Dustin Hiebert, Justin Klumpe, Timothy Lanham, Diego Machado, Kevin McNamara, Joseph Miller, Steven Moore, Doug Morrison, Chris Muhr, Efen Murrieta, Robert Nylen, Rodrigo Poo, Matthew Post, William Pretty, Michael Reed, Neil Roberts, Marcus Rodriguez, Jared Stansfield, Roscoe Teagues, William Tyler, Joshua Van Sickle, Paul Vieni, Kevin Voth, Ryan Watenpaugh, Jerry Webb, Joshua Wiest, Mickey Woolhether, James York and Tyler Yost.

Bryan Marvins and Keith Sedille were platoon leaders.





THE GORDON PRIZE WINNERS

There were two Gordon Prize winners for the 1992-93 school year for the first time in the history of the School. The winners were Christopher Mackey, Battalion Commander, and Mark Richards, the Corps Executive Officer. Both were outstanding leaders and scholars. Putting on the ribbons is Col. Al Ransom, (U.S. Marine Corps-Ret.) a former Gordon Prize winner in 1956, and now the sponsor of the award. The names of the winners are inscribed on a marble plaque in Vanier Academic Center. It is not given every year.

## Diocese Honors SJMS

St. John's Military School Appreciation Sunday was celebrated in all Churches in the Episcopal Diocese of Western Kansas, May 16.

A special bulletin cover was supplied to all the congregations. The Rev. James Cox, Chaplain, said the day was arranged to make Episcopalians in Western Kansas aware of the School as a Diocesan Institution.

The uncommitted plate offerings in each congregation will be donated to the School.

Quotes from Col. The Rev. Remey L. Clem, Rector and Superintendent from 1936-68, and Col. Keith G. Duckers, President-emeritus and a life-long member of the Episcopal church appear on the back cover.

The Collect for SJMS is printed inside.

It reads:

"Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who has committed to your Holy Church the care and nurture of your children, look with gracious favor, we pray, upon St. John's Military School, that knowledge may be increased and all good learning flourish. Bless all who teach and all who learn there, and grant that in humility of heart they may ever look to you who are the fountain of all wisdom, through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen"

### Earn Ribbons

Timothy Henry, Jamie Exon and Joshua Cole were issued the proficiency ribbon.

## Allen Named Corps Chaplain

Christopher Allen has been named the Cadet Chaplain and Chapel Council president for the 106th Corps of Cadets. The appointment was made by the Rev. Jim Cox, SJMS Chaplain.

Allen, a confirmed Episcopalian, has been active in the Chapel Council for the past three years. He is an experienced acolyte and lay reader and was licensed by the Rt. Rev. John Ashby, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Kansas, as a chalice bearer for the 105th Corps.

Allen will be responsible for many aspects of the Chapel operation, including the training and scheduling of Cadet Chapel assistants.

## ROTC Academic Wreaths Given

Academic wreaths are awarded to Cadets in the top ten percent of each HSROTC class.

Christopher Mackey earned the award for Level 4.

Chad Mathis earned the award for Level 3.

Earning the award for Level 2 were Ranjan Ray, Paul Palombo, Nicolas Dell and Travis Potter.

Earning the award for Level 1 were R.J. Christensen, Michael Seeney, Casey Underwood and Geoffrey Hansen.

## Bunting Reviews Field Day Parade

F/Sgt. Bill Bunting, (U.S. Army-Ret.), was the reviewing officer for the Military Awards convocation and parade. Bunting retired after 22 years at SJMS as a tactical officer.

Bunting started at St. John's as an ROTC instructor, where he served for 14 years. He served as tactical officer and was an expert on military ceremonies.

## ★ PROMOTIONS ★

The following promotions have been made since the May issue of *The Skirmisher*.

Promoted to:

**COLONEL** — Christopher Mackey.

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL** — Adam Kaye, Mark Richards.

**MAJOR** — Arthur Cannon, William Fisher.

**CAPTAIN** — Bryan Atkins, Nicholas Dell.

**FIRST LIEUTENANT** — Ryan Munich, Travis Potter, Andrew Cole, Jerry Webb.

**SECOND LIEUTENANT** — Douglas Dvorak, Daniel Moran, Jamie Exon.

**WO2** — Sean Radway.

**MASTER SERGEANT** designated FIRST SERGEANT — Michael Boyles.

**MASTER SERGEANT** — Thad Alexander, Daniel Davidson, Zachary Flora, Shawn Hensel, Edwin McClendon.

**SERGEANT FIRST CLASS** — Ben Dozier, Tyson Farmer, Nicholas Kneupper, Christopher Muhr.

**STAFF SERGEANT** — Jeff Bachlund, Jaime Guerrero, James Schultz, Richard Taylor, Erick Torrico, Casey Underwood, Mickey Woolhether.

**SERGEANT** — Blaine Asher, Gordon Brown, John Calhoun, R.J. Christensen, John Cropp, Mitchel Daniels, Timothy Lanham, Paul Palombo, Richard Schmidt, Daniel Sterk, Kevin Munro, Matthew Post, Aaron Branjord, Jeb Hugler, Cassidy Landman.

**CORPORAL** — Robert Nylan, Carlos Bejarano, Chris Borland, Christopher Columbus, Oscar LeLeon, David Eberts, Adrian Gonzalez, Garrett Hensing, Joshua Hestehave, James Kirk, Jonathan Luttwak, Luis Medrano, Tuan Nguyen, Marcus Rodriguez, Michael Seeney, William Silver, Ryan Smith, William Tyler, David Uribe, Joshua Van Sickle, Paul Vieni, David Winsor, Marc Anderson, Paul Gorsline, Matthew Hensley, Gustavo Olivo, William Pretty, Phillip Speed, Troy Tramba, Don Zimmerman, Geoff Hansen.

**PRIVATE FIRST CLASS** — Robert Lambert, Jeremy Williams, Michael Nelson, Craig Drouhard, Damian Beckwith, Thomas Benne, James Bennett, Justin Boren, Jonathan Harris, Gary Hughes, John Irish, Brandon Kuhn, Joseph Sellers, Ender Vera, Michael Reed, Russell Davis, Michael Gambone, Jerry Wilson, Kevin Bundy, Gavin Combs, Andreas Farr, Chris Glasscock, Ryan Levitan, Raul Olivo, Daniel Reagan, Tony Salazar, Mark Triebwasser, Joshua Wiest and Jean Farrell.

**PRIVATE OLD BOY** — Jeremy Figueroa, Alejandro Guerrero, Alex Hernandez, Greg Jahnke, Mark Shenouda, Derek Whitehead, William Wilson, Gavin Combs, Tyler Hallock, Michael Nelson, James Kirk, James Callahan, Juan Garcia, Clint Bradley, Adrian Acon, Nathan Black, Adam Kramer.

## Three Join Staff

Three new teachers will join the staff next fall.

Mrs. Karalee Huck, Ellsworth, will teach junior and senior English and college prep English. She earned her B.S. degree in Secondary Education from Kansas State University. She taught undergraduate English at KSU for a year and has been a substitute teacher in Ellsworth.

Her husband is a veterinarian at the Ellsworth Animal Hospital and they have two children.

Mike Keith will teach American History, World History, Economics and Contemporary Issues. He replaces Alan Opat who has resigned.

Keith earned his degree from Kansas State University and has teaching experience in Salina, Manhattan and Wellington. He will also be the track coach.

He was married in June and will live in Salina.

Dan Walker will teach Chemistry, Geometry and other math classes. He replaces Lois Trump who retired this year.

He earned a B.S. degree in Feed Science and Management from Kansas State University. He completed work for teacher certification at Ft. Hays State University and also earned a M.S. in Education and a certificate of Administration from the same school.

He has taught at Victoria and Dodge City and managed a family ranch of 3,000 acres.

## SJMS Team Wins Stock Market Game

The SJMS team placed first out of 857 teams in the Southeast-Northwest Junior High School region of the Kansas State University's spring Stock Market Game.

The students completed the game with a portfolio equity of \$105,306. The Cadets received medals as a prize for their accomplishments.

Team members were Roscoe Teagues, Robert Nylan, Charles Estes and Trey Guinn. The faculty advisor was Doug Randolph, Middle School director.

The Center for Economic education, a part of K-State's College of Education, offers the Stock Market Game each fall and spring semester. Teams begin with an imaginary \$100,000 to invest in common stocks. Game rules allow teams to borrow an additional imaginary \$100,000 on margin.

The intent of the game is to involve students in a "real life" simulation of investment in the financial system, by facilitating the teaching of an understanding of the American economic system and the role of the securities industry.

## Foundation Gives Awards

The SJMS Foundation awards are given to a Cadet in the Middle School and a Cadet in each of the four classes in the Upper School. Excluded are commissioned officers, for the best combined rating for characteristics other than academic.

Considered are class attitude, application to duties, courtesy and manners, appearance, leadership and deportment.

The winners were Douglas Morrison, Middle School; Tyler Yost, freshman; Geoffrey Hansen, sophomore; Tyson Farmer, junior; and Chris Clark, senior.

## N.H.S. Gives Scholarships

The National Honor Society gives two scholarships. The money is raised at the Book Fairs it holds during the year.

Chad Kellogg and Chris Mackey shared the college scholarship.

Christopher Bauck earned the textbook scholarship for the next year at SJMS.

Mackey was named the Scholar-of-the-year.

## Speakers Earn State "Ones"

Three Cadets earned "ones" in the State Forensics competition, May 8, at Kansas Wesleyan University, Salina.

DeAndre Grassity and Edwin McClendon won in duet acting.

Grassity won in prose interpretation.

Dan Moran earned ones in both extemporaneous speaking and oration.

The Cadets had to earn one ratings at the regional event to qualify for state.

Moran had placed first in extemp and oration at the Ell-Saline Invitational Festival and first at the Beloit Tournament.

Members of the squad were Andy Cole, Doug Dvorak, Jamie Exon, David Godin, DeAndre Grassity, Robert Illing, Seth Jucker, Kevin McNamara, Lee O'Guin, Mike Seeney, Troy Tramba, Mickey Woolhether, and Jonathan Luttwak.

Susan Harris is the speech teacher and coach.

## Two Rooms Honor Former Teachers

Two rooms in Linger Hall, SJMS Middle School classroom building, were named after two former teachers.

The computer lab was named in honor of long-time teacher and coach, Harold Fraizer.

The activity room was named in honor of former Middle School director for many years, Gerald Woody.

The two former staffers visited Linger Hall and were guests of the 105th Corps in Nichols dining hall for lunch. Also attending were their wives and friends.



## Meet The Trustees

... Introducing Ben Vidricksen

Ben Vidricksen is completing his second three-year term on the St. John's Board of Trustees.

Vidricksen was elected to the Kansas State Senate for the 24th District in 1979 and has been re-elected in each election.

Vidricksen has been very helpful to the School in dealing with state agencies in Topeka. Col. Keith G. Duckers, President-emeritus, said: "If we had a problem with SRS or any other agency, I could just pick up the phone and call Ben. He would tackle it immediately and the problem was resolved."

He has served on many legislative committees and also chaired some of them. He is currently the assistant majority leader in the Senate.

Vidricksen was in the U.S. Navy during World War II and was a commissioned officer in the Army Reserves.

A Salinan, Vidricksen is the owner of a 900-seat complex including restaurant, meeting rooms and a catering business.

He has earned many honors and was named Legislator of



Ben Vidricksen

the Year in 1991.

Involvements in Salina included serving on the Salina Airport Authority, Area Chamber of Commerce, County Republican Central Committee, Salvation Army Advisory Board and the Convention and Tourism Bureau.

He attended Salina High School and earned an AB degree from Kansas Wesleyan University.

He has five children and 13 grandchildren.

## J. Guerrero Just Misses Golf Title

Jamie Guerrero played steady golf for eight of the final nine holes at the Class 4A State Golf Tournament, May 24, at the Rolling Meadows Golf Club, Junction City.

After playing the first nine holes in 1-over-par 37, the SJMS star golfer, parred each of the eight holes after making the turn and figured as a contender for medalist honors.

"I wanted to make pars and challenge (for the title)," Guerrero said.

But the senior Cadet encountered trouble on the final hole that dashed his title aspirations.

Guerrero's drive landed right of a cart path and his 4-iron approach settled a half-foot left from the base of the tree. With an unplayable lie, the Tijuana, Mexico native took a drop, hit onto the green than narrowly missed a four-foot par putt and finished with a bogey-6.

As a result, Guerrero was grouped with two other players just one stroke back of the medalist.

Guerrero, who had won five of his seven previous matches, finished third. His bid for second ended when he bogeyed the par-4 third playoff hole.

"I think I played real good," he said. Guerrero finished second at the Class 4A California state tournament a year ago.

Guerrero started the day impressively, recording an eagle-3 on the par 5 tenth hole. After booming his driver 300 yards, he put his 5-iron within five feet of the pin then holed his putt.

Guerrero plans to play golf collegiately at either UNLV or Kansas and will spend the summer playing in San Diego.

Guerrero qualified for the state tournament by finishing as the No. 3 medalist at the Class 4A regional tournament.

He fired a four-over-par 71 at Terradyne Country Club, Andover, May 17.

★ ★ ★

Guerrero was one of the finalists for the Saline County Athlete of the year. He was nominated for his third place finish in the Class 4A state golf tournament, one stroke out of first place, and he also placed third in regionals and finished first at five regular season tournaments.

## Cadet Patrol Items Issued

Jamie Exon was authorized to wear the figure four as commander of the Cadet Patrol.

Authorized to wear the maroon beret, white gloves, cord and ribbon were Adrian Acon, Robert Lambert, Timothy Lanham, Kevin Munro, Adam Burton, Blaine Moller, William Silver, Ryan Smith, David Uribe and Christopher Columbus.

## Chaplain's Chat

The summer months at St. John's are a "mixed blessing". It's a very pleasant place, and a very pleasant time. The campus is at its most spectacular, green and lucious, the grounds all tailored and filled with beautiful sounds, and smells. Summer allows time for some much coveted, and much needed, staff and faculty "R and R"; and summer allows time for planning in anticipation of another great year for the SJMS Corps of Cadets. But the center of all our lives is missing! The Corps! We all miss the members of the Corps! Even my small cocker spaniel sits at the front door at 7 a.m. every morning, staring out the glass storm door, watching with anticipation, for the morning formation of "The Corps".

This summer, however, is different for all of us. As everyone connected with St. John's Military School is aware, we have a new "C.O.". This past week, a number of the staff had our first opportunity to get to know our new "Skipper", Capt. E.A. "Skip" Alexander, and his wife, Pat. We were impressed. As our former "Skipper", Col. Duckers, told us all on his departure, "It's time for someone to take St. John's to another level". I am persuaded that Captain "Skip" is the man to do just that. His vision for St. John's future is matched, both by his enthusiasm for the school and its cadets, as well as his management skills and administrative ability. His vision encompasses a spectrum for Cadets that includes **enhanced academic development, spiritual enrichment, and social growth**. In those areas of the school's operations where it should be "business as usual", it will be. And in those areas where improvement is both possible and practical, there will be improvement. Always, but always, to improve the life and quality of "The Corps"!

To Cadets, "old boys", patrons, and friends, have a blessed and refreshing summer as we all prepare for a great new beginning with the 106th Corps of Cadets!

Father Jim +



Fr. Cox

... Introducing Darrell Wilson

Darrell Wilson is also completing his second three-year term on the Board of Trustees. He has also served as a member of the Board's finance committee and the executive committee.

Wilson has had a positive impact on the relationship of the community with the Cadets. He introduced the D.A.R.E. drug awareness program at the School several years ago. The program was among the first in the county.

Wilson was elected sheriff of Saline County in November 1983 and has been re-elected (usually by a landslide) in each election.

He served on the Salina Police Department for 22 years as a patrolman, detective, lieutenant and assistant chief.

Wilson is a graduate of the National Academy of Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Law Enforcement Executive Development seminars also sponsored by the FBI.

He has attended numerous other law enforcement related schools and seminars and has extensive education and experience in criminal investigations.



Darrell Wilson

Wilson is a member of various boards in Saline County including the County Community Corrections Board, Kansas Workers Risk Cooperative for Counties, Domestic Violence Association of Central Kansas and Crimestoppers.

He has earned many commendations and awards for his excellence in law enforcement.

Wilson and his wife, Carol, have two sons and three grandchildren.

## Firing Awards Given

Awards for outstanding marksmanship were given during the Military Awards assembly.

Lee O'Guin earned the Hardy Rifleman award as the rifle team member with the highest academic standing for the year.

The Cheney Marksmanship medal was awarded to Aaron Branjord for making the highest

aggregate score in rifle marksmanship during team competition.

Tory Merriman earned the Upper School Marksmanship medal for having the highest qualifying score during rifle marksmanship training. Justin Klumpe earned the award for the Middle School.

## Tennis Team Wins Match

The tennis team placed first in a quadramgular match at Chapman. Other schools competing were Chapman, Belleville and Alma.

All members of the varsity team won a medal.

Andrew Cole and Shawn Hensel placed second in the first doubles.

Garett Hensing and Kevin Munro placed first in second doubles.

Casey Underwood placed second in the first singles and Mike Boyles placed second in the second singles.

Members of the junior varsity were Cassidy Clark-Landman, Victor Wu, David Shore, Erick Torrico, Richard Taylor and Dan Robinson.

## Named Jr. Spartans

Four Middle School Cadets were named to the Junior Spartans. They were Joshua Brittain, Charles Estes, Roscoe Teagues and Jared Stansfield.

## Cadets Named To Mid-School Honor Roll

Five Cadets were named to the Middle School Honor Roll and all were awarded Blue Beret status. They are Charles Estes, Albert "Trey" Guinn, Matthew Post, Mark Triebwasser and Douglas Morrison.

Earning honorable mention were Michael Harris, Keenon Babcock, Christopher Borland, Robert Nylen, Joseph Miller II, Sean Hoover, Stephen McClure, Steven Moore, Justin Boren, Justin Klumpe, Shane Wentling and Ryan Levitan.

## Summer Recruiting Begins

The Admissions department is moving at a swift pace in the enrollment of new Cadets and "old boys", according to Maj. Joe Stratton, Director of Admissions. Enrollment is up about five percent and is projected to hold at this level, according to Stratton.

Stratton stated a record number of 124 new boys entered during the 1992-93 school term.

The final enrollment in the 105th Corps was 203 Cadets.

Representatives from the School will be contacting "old boys" and prospective students during the summer. Stratton will direct the operations from the campus. The Rev. James Cox, Chaplain, will travel in Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas. C/Sgt. Maj. Jerry Bradley will work the Rocky Mountain empire.

Another addition to the admissions staff is Mrs. Maaike del Villar, Mexico City, who will act as ambassador to the Mexican patrons and families interested in the School. At this time she has enrolled five new students and appears close to enrolling two others.

Receptions will be held in Phoenix, Ariz., July 19; Denver, Colo., July 30; Houston, Tex., Aug. 8; and Dallas, Tex., Aug. 9. Times and places will be announced later.

Stratton urged patrons to contact the School if they know of a prospective student.



# The Tributes

Among the gifts presented to President Emeritus Col. Keith Duckers at his retirement was a leather scrapbook with many letters of congratulations.

Among the comments made:

"... Your years of service have required both personal and professional sacrifice, but the results of your efforts will be everlasting. God bless you and Liz. . ."

Ronald Reagan

"...I think his legacy lies with the thousands of young boys he has helped . . . and watched as they went out to make their own marks in the world."

Bob Hansmann  
Fellow Kiwanian for 38 years

"Kansans can certainly take pride in your work and your dedication to St. John's over the past 43 years"

Bob Dole

"After all, President Keith, the best thing you ever did for St. John's was to marry Liz. God bless you both. And may your days of retirement be days of renewed activity without strenuous responsibility. And close at all times to Christ and his Church. Blessings."

The Rt. Rev. Bob Mize +  
St. John's "Old Boy"  
Founder St. Francis Boys Home

"We have much to thank you for and much to count with you as our common experiences along life's way. We are grateful for the contributions each of you has made to our lives, to the community, and society of which we are a part, and to the Church and Christian Faith . . ."

The Rt. Rev. William and Mary Davidson  
Retired Episcopal Bishop of Western Kansas

"Col. "D" and Liz, my heartfelt appreciation for the best five years of my life."

The Rev. MAJ. Don Davidson  
Former Chaplain at SJMS

"You have sacrificed so very much, and you have contributed so very much to the School, its students, and its staff."

D. Dale Browning, '55  
President Plus System  
Member, Board of Trustees

"I have very much enjoyed our association the past 25 years."

Bob Kastner  
SJMS Chairman of the Board

"Over four decades, your commitment to education has helped nurture the minds of thousands of young men, and to convey the discipline and skills of our Nation's long military tradition. I commend you for your dedicated service."

George Bush

"... No formula could begin to determine the lives you've touched and guided in the course of your career. Tenure at St. John's has always been a family affair, and I know you both will follow its progress with pride and affection."

Nancy Landon Kassebaum  
United States Senator

"... Thanks for the memories and your treasured friendship all these years."

Hazel Hughes Fonck  
Retired Administrative  
Assistant to the President

"... Keith, we want you to know how proud we are of you and all that you have accomplished. . ."

Honald Leach  
Member, Board of Trustees

"... Ken and I thank you for giving us the opportunity at St. John's, and for your faith and trust in us. . ."

Lillian Faerber  
SJMS Quartermaster

"... Your being here made a difference. . . Keith and Liz, you are special blessings."

The Rev. Bill Salmon, '54

"... What you have done for St. John's over the years is nothing short of miraculous . . . Back in 1955 when our class graduated, we somehow knew that we were leaving a time and place in our lives that was very unique. And we all came to appreciate the leadership and guidance you gave to so many of us

over the years. You helped and encouraged me in ways that have been invaluable and for that I will always be grateful."

Dean Hargrove, '55  
Producer of "Matlock",  
"Father Dowling Mysteries"  
and many others.  
Universal Studios

"... St. John's is losing a great leader, teacher and friend. . ."

David Musgrove, '59

"... I send my best to you and your lovely wife, Liz. Thank you for 43 years of leadership to my school. . ."

Jim Bannon, '44

"Simply put, under the leadership of Col. Keith Duckers, St. John's Military School has been synonymous with quality education and guidance to young men. Your contributions have been documented from Salina to Washington and are truly deserved."

Pat Roberts  
U.S. Congressman

"Keith Duckers is to be commended that St. John's has been able to maintain a strong academic program and enrollment without compromising on any of the principles upon which the school was founded and maintained." . . . "I appointed Capt. E.A. McAlexander to the Naval Academy about 30 years ago. I am confident he will undertake to emulate the career of Keith Duckers."

Former Gov. Bill Avery  
Former SJMS Trustee

"... In your years of service, you have brought proficiency and expertise to your challenging assignments and have certainly been a tremendous asset to our future leaders of Kansas."

Joan Finney  
Governor of Kansas

"... A lot of water under the bridge! I think of Kiwanis, the City Commission, your Mayorship, the Republican party and all the other leadership positions you've held. Your role as the "Colonel" at St. John's was remarkable . . ."

Ben Vidricksen  
Kansas State Senator

"... When I think of all you have done and how little you have asked in return, I am reminded of Matthew 23:11-12: "But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant, and whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted."

The Rev. Canon Phillip J. Rapp  
President, St. Francis Academy

"... Thank you, Keith and Liz, for continuing to be our friends. . ."

Peter Wooley  
Art Director  
"Up the Academy"  
Warner Brothers

"... It is sad to see you go after so many years at the helm. I feel you are the Spirit of St. John's - Scientia, Virtus, Disciplina. . . Goodbye, Mr. Chips and God Bless!"

Ernesto J. Anaya, '75  
One of four brothers from Ponce, Puerto Rico  
and graduate from SJMS  
(Two sets of identical twins)

"... We want to join the many other grateful parents who should express their appreciation to both you and Liz for the outstanding contribution of improving and upgrading the lives of countless numbers of boys who were fortunate to attend St. John's. . . the enclosed contribution to the School's foundation is given in your honor . . ."

Dave and Jean Toombs  
Parents of Bob Toombs, '70

"... "St. John's and Colonel Duckers have deserved each other all these many years . . . Thank you, Liz, for being there all the way for St. John's and Keith."

Cloyd Pugh  
Donor of the Freedom Tree, art work,  
and the Pugh Memorial Room in the Library

"... Our visit to St. John's every summer for 20 years shows the wonderful influence that Keith and Liz have had on the school's advancement."

Elanor and Julian Jackson  
J.J. Jackson Agency  
who handles SJMS National advertising



## THE BRONZE

Col. Keith G. Duckers, President-emeritus, and Mrs. Duckers admire the bronze likeness following the unveiling on Friday, May 14. The bronze was created by Richard Bergen, Salina sculptor.

## Bronze Bust, Garden Blessed

The bronze likeness of Col. Keith G. Duckers, President, and a garden in honor of Elizabeth A. "Liz" Duckers were dedicated and blessed Friday afternoon, May 14, in the teardrop area in front of the Vanier Academic Center.

The prayers of dedication and blessings, given by the Rev. Jim Cox, Chaplain, and comments made by Sarah Duckers, Houston, Tex., daughter of the Duckers', follow.

My mother has provided roots to 37 years of SJMS cadets --she has provided them with the foundation on which to build a life, she has nurtured and allowed them to bloom through teaching classes, emphasizing that you never quit learning, publicizing their achievements and giving love and attention. My mother has also given wings to those many thousands of boys that have passed through the front gates, by fostering in them the belief that they can achieve, and allowing them the freedom to soar. More than that, she has also been the ever-present wind beneath my father's wings.

And so, it is only appropriate that we dedicate a garden in the name of Elizabeth Ann Duckers - not only because she is known far and wide for her gardens at the President's house -- but also because it is a tangible memento of how she served as wife, mother and first lady of St. John's.

The roots of the flowers hold tightly to the earth, while the blooms raise up to the wings of the birds and butterflies that hover above.

Lord God, of all creation, source of all grace and holiness; look kindly, we pray on the work of this school; bless all who labor here, both those who learn and those who teach; guide and direct the efforts of our Board of Trustees, Administrators, Staff and Benefactors.

And this day we especially invoke your blessing upon all persons connected with the raising of this likeness of your servant, Col. Keith G. Duckers, who's

Continued on Pg. 8



Blessings continued from Pg. 7

leadership and service to St. John's have inspired countless numbers to higher achievement. May he continue to be for us your witness to a life of faith, self-discipline, and honor, and may this likeness stand as a tribute to his contributions to the formation and development of generations of St. John's Cadets, prepared and eager to contribute to society and to serve their God and their Country.

And now O'Lord, by whose word all things are sanctified; pour your blessings upon this likeness of your servant, Keith G. Duckers, educator, leader, and man of God; and grant that whosoever shall see it, shall remember and rejoice in the contributions of his life, to God, to this school, to this community, and to the many hundreds of lives he has touched.

And now in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, we dedicate this bronze likeness of your servant, Keith G. Duckers.

Amen.

Almighty and everlasting God, you have provided for the beauty of this world in your gifts to us of decorative plants and flowers; we ask your blessing upon this beautiful garden which we dedicate today in the name of your servant, Elizabeth A. Duckers. We pray that you will protect it from the ravages of drought, flood, and pestilence, that it may be maintained always, as monument to the beauty of these grounds, and the beauty of soul, and spirit "Liz" has provided to this school.

And now in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, we dedicate this garden as "Liz's Garden" to Elizabeth A. Duckers.

Amen.

#### Commendation Awards Given

Commendation ribbons were given to Geoffrey Hansen, Timothy Henry, Robert Illing, Daniel Robinson, Casey Underwood and Mickey Woolhether.

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## More Tributes

"... I want to add my personal thanks for all you have done for our country and the students of St. John's during your 43 years of service at the school... Your dedication and hard work will long be remembered..."

Gordon R. Sullivan  
General, United States Army Chief of Staff  
Washington, D.C.

"... Words are inadequate to express the feelings of admiration, affection and appreciation that Virginia and I have for Keith and Liz since it has been our privilege to know them these past 18 years. They have generously shared their friendship, expertise, and comradeship with us from the very first day we met..."

Col. Beano Headley  
Retired President, New York Military Academy  
Cornwall on the Hudson

"... I have seen Keith Duckers, supported by his able and devoted wife, Liz, make his mark as one of the true giants of his profession. He served with great credit as President of the Association of Military Colleges and Schools of the United States, and through the years has emerged as one of the most respected Military School headmasters in the country."

Lanning Risher  
Headmaster, Camden Military Academy

"... When I joined AMCSUS, you were already a legend. Now you take your rightful place in the ranks of giants of the industry."

Thomas S. Merritt  
Superintendent, Howe Military School

"... Carol and I thank you for a life of service to American youth..."

MAJ GEN. Russell Todd  
President Emeritus  
Norwich University

"... Under your dedication and leadership, St. John's has grown to a position recognized by many as the paramount military school in America... Your contributions to the Army, by you directly in your contacts with the Senior Army leadership and your efforts as a member of the Board of Governors of Association of the United States Army have been significant and warrants commendation. You have been a tremendous supporter of Fort Riley and the total Army."

Richard J. Seitz  
Lt. Gen. (Ret.) USA  
Former Member, SJMS Board of Trustees  
St. John's Honorary Colonel

"... St. John's is not only a survivor, but also a national leader as a result of your devotion."

Steve Ryan  
Mayor of Salina

"... They've been great years, old friends!"

Merrill Wertz  
Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army

"... dear Liz; she helped Keith make St. John's an international institution, grace the Mayor's chair, and give a shove to the city on the move. The pair of them were a gift to Salina, to the Church and to the world beyond."

Whitley Austin  
Former Editor and Publisher,  
The Salina Journal

"... Keith, every great institution is only a larger shadow of the inspiration and leadership of one person. That observation perfectly describes your role in St. John's. You and Liz can take pride as you see St. John's march forward."

Edward Lehman, '43  
President, Lehman Publications  
Longmont Times-Call, Loveland Daily Reporter-Herald,  
Canon City Daily Record

"... I admire your capability for getting along with people, and you and Liz's genuine warmth and sincere, enthusiastic quality of being hospitable. You and Liz excel in making people feel welcome and wanted."

Marvin Webb  
Former President, St. John's Foundation  
Former Member, Board of Trustees

"Keith did a fantastic job for St. John's..."

Bob Houston, '43



## FLAGS AND BALLOON GO UP

The 105 flags were raised in a special ceremony on Saturday morning, May 15. A tethered hot air balloon was an added feature this year.

"St. John's would not have survived without your leadership and drive..."

Lou Fulton, '46  
Donor of Fulton Athletic Scholarship

"... This matter with Lyman to 'Love me, love my SJMS'. Well, that was easy. I fell in love with all of you - the Faculty, the Board of Trustees, a dear loyal friend named Dale Browning; the darling Cadets, and most of all at the time I noted the education, moral disciplinary approach to your building of character as well as academics. My faith in you and the school has never faltered... It is good to know that you shall continue to be in touch with the School and be in a capacity to help continue its growth and all the qualities previously mentioned."

Nelda Linger

"... I remembered our first meeting... September, 1963... 1963... I counted on my fingers and toes... that's 30 years ago! You probably won't remember that first meeting. Teacher and student... 'Stability, values and ethics.'... you are a good teacher. To this day I live by what I was taught at St. John's."

Tim Soule, '66  
Former Battalion C.O.  
Newly elected Member, Board of Trustees

"... The Salina community will always be indebted to you for your remarkable leadership..."

Gene B. Penland  
District Judge

"... your leadership and dedication has been an inspiration to many, many people. It was an honor to attend St. John's and to have been associated with you."

Mike Ekiss, '59  
Victoria, Australia  
Former Crack Squad C.O.

"... Colonel, our chats last summer only reinforced my respect for your talents that have been so generously used on behalf of St. John's for so long. St. John's "Alive and Well" is testimony to your superlative vision and leadership."

Alfred C. Palmer, '59  
Professor  
Delaware Institute of Science

"... You both have guided this institution through bad times, good times, ugly and beautiful times and, of course, extremely sad and joyous times. You are able now to walk away and know that St. John's is physically, financially and psychologically in the best shape ever..."

Donna Vanier  
Former SJMS Director of Development  
Member, Board of Trustees

#### NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATORY POLICY AS TO STUDENTS

St. John's Military School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.