



# THE SKIRMISHER

ST. JOHN'S MILITARY SCHOOL  
Home of The MULESKINNERS



Vol. LXXXV

No. 2

December 1996

## As the fog sets in over St. John's campus . . .

*Photo taken by Josh Hestehave,  
member of Yearbook staff.*



## President hands out grade card

As I write this, we are completing a semester and our dedicated teachers and military advisors are preparing grade cards. In that ambiance let me give you my perspective on the current status of St. John's in the form of a grade card.

**109th Corps. A good solid A.** The corps is doing very well. I have never had more compliments from the community about our cadets. They have impressed many people with their participation in events in Salina. They are learning to work together and the leadership is excellent. Watching them mature as individuals and a group is a great pleasure.

## Christmas at St. John's

Christmas was celebrated on campus four days before Christmas Break. Events included Morning Chapel, the Christmas dinner and program, and later in the day, Lessons and Carols.

The cadets got to hear a great performance by both the hand bell choir and the Chapel Choir. And, of course, Santa made his annual appearance.

**The St. John's family wishes  
all our families a great 1997!**



**The Board of Trustees. A+.** We are blessed with a superb Board of Trustees. Chairman Charlie Stevens and the other board members are a dynamic group who truly care about the cadets and the school. They give of their time and resources to make St. John's better in every way. I cannot imagine a better team to provide the policy guidance to take this school into the next century.  
*(Continued on page 6)*



## Academic Dean's Message LTC Kenneth Faerber

### 'FEELIN GOOD'

I'm quite sure most cadets, especially new boys, would agree that it really feels good to complete their initial military training!! Making that rapid adjustment to barracks living, new rules/regulations, knowing how to properly wear many different uniforms, making your bed, cleaning the room, getting to designated areas "on time", and learning the military terminology, should be reason for feelin good.

Going to school (on time) with proper books, assign-

ments, and a positive attitude, making adjustments to a block class schedule instead of the traditional schedule, being actively involved in the lessons and understanding their objectives, taking advantage of tutorial periods and teachers extra academic assistance, and realizing that all of this is designed to motivate each student to achieve his maximum potential-- hopefully makes students proud of their accomplishments.

Cadets attending morning prayer, Wednesday and

Sunday chapel services, may consider these new religious experiences thought provoking and a meaningful part of their everyday lives. Many cadets assist with services and have become active members of the church cadet counsel.

The JROTC instructors and athletic coaches interact with the cadets on different levels, but each have a lasting and positive effect on their lives.

I would be remiss not to mention the valuable St. John's "Family" of people who daily impact cadet lives. The food service, responsible for meals, and cadets waiters who work with the mess hall personnel. The Quartermaster helps cadets

with allowance, uniforms, educational supplies, health articles and many personal requests. Nurses dispensing daily medications and arrange doctor appointments. The maintenance staff (responsible for repairs) may see cadets in somewhat of a different light, yet are understanding and supportive. The administration, business office personnel, and clerical staffs make time to be involved in many cadet activities.

So what does this mean? Simply that the entire St. John's "family" of faculty and staff goes that extra mile to improve the quality of life for all the cadets --- to make each 'FEEL GOOD' about himself.



## Commandant's Message LTC Michael Furlo

The 109th Corps of Cadets continues to do a fine job of combining academic excellence with the historical military school traditions of structure and leadership. St. John's has been blessed this year with both a very motivated group of "New Boys," as well as, a core nucleus of cadet leaders who want to do well. This effort has been spearheaded by the 109th Corps Battalion Staff. This team has been under the direction of the Battalion Commander, C/LTC Doug

Morrison, and ably assisted by C/MAJ Newman Merton, C/CPT's Paul Vieni, Josh Hestahave, Alex McKula, and Ralph Llorente, C/ILT Joe Miller and C/CSM Pat McKnight. All of these young men have done an outstanding job and provided excellent guidance of the Corps.

In line with our school mission statement of developing a well-rounded young man, there have been some new programs added to our after-school activity's list. First, and foremost, we now offer regularly scheduled paintball games. Over the summer break we were

fortunate to acquire our own paintball equipment so that we are no longer dependent on outside resources. When the weather turns too cold for paintball we now offer a weekend floor hockey league. Both of these activities have been well managed due to the outstanding efforts of our Senior Army Instructor, Major George Stelljes, USA (Ret).

Additionally, we have also increased the number of student memberships at the local YMCA and make regularly planned visits to this state-of-the-art facility. Another program we are very excited about offering is the possibility of starting a

fencing program at St. John's. We are fortunate to have a world-class fencer and coach in the Salina area who has expressed a willingness to get this great sporting activity started at our school. Prior to our Christmas Break we had members of the local Coyote Fencing Club put on a demonstration. The cadets were very enthusiastic, especially when members of the Corps were allowed to face off against one another! Hopefully, we will be able to develop a solid program at our school.

Our goal, as always, is to expand horizons and give our cadets the opportunities they deserve.

## Introducing Tim Chapman



## Director of Institutional Advancement

After joining the staff at St. John's on November 1, memories of my youth overwhelmed me. No, I didn't attend St. John's as a student, but came

to the campus weekly as a young drummer under the watchful eye of Capt. Jim Bell. Nichols Hall, built in 1944, seemed ominous to me as a young boy. As I walk through the building now, the smells, sounds, and feel of a time long ago have not changed much. Capt. Bell always had a cigarette in his hand. The smoke added a haze to the already dark ambiance to the basement where we practiced. Nichols Hall, Capt. Bell ... it all

seemed a bit scary then, but now I can look back and smile. Those times gave me the opportunity to play in front of many crowds giving me an ease with people that I continue to enjoy to this day.

Coming full circle, I now have the opportunity to be a part of the team that will replace Nichols Hall with a state of the art facility.

Memories of those times spent in Nichols won't be diminished with this new facility, but will only grow in time as all stories do.

The job that is before me, is to work with the alumni, friends and various constituents of St. John's in helping increase awareness regarding the many needs of the school. I have worked for ten years, the past eight with Kansas Wesleyan University, in the field of estate planning and fund development. I look forward to meeting the alumni and friends of St. John's Military School across the country.

Education continues to play a big part in all our lives. The world of computers and "The Net" have taken us all to a level not many would have believed just a short time ago. So it is in the world of philanthropy. Tax laws seem to change daily. Trusts (revocable and irrevocable), wills, charitable remainder trusts, annuities, life estates, are part of a process few know about. I hope to help you regarding the benefits of many of these areas. You, your family, and any special interest you have could benefit greatly.

As we move forward in an effort to secure the necessary support for the new facility, feel free to call and say hello. The gift guidelines that are shown on the back page of the Skirmisher represent areas of recognition for each level of investment. To date, 88% of the faculty and staff and 100% of the Board of Trustees have indicated support at levels that will place them in the Brick Court Yard. Each brick will be inscribed with the name(s) of the investor. We are encouraging everyone to consider this option.

Although an old friend, Nichols Hall, is giving way to a new facility, remember St. John's and what it has meant to so many in the past and what it will mean to those in the future. Local, statewide, and national solicitations are currently underway and a phone-a-thon is planned in the coming year.

Serving patrons across the state and nation is a big task. If you have an immediate interest in visiting with me about the new facility and the benefits of charitable giving, i.e., tax saving, supplemental income, please call.

### *The SKIRMISHER*

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*Bell Choir, from left: Matthew Webster, Travis Hull, Michael George, Alex Fabian, Phillip Davis, Chad Fourhorn and Tyler McGivern.*



## SPECIAL ORDERS -Promotions

Special Orders from the Military Department are a daily occurrence by Commandant LTC Furlo, and following are Special Orders reference promotions, issued since the October Skirmisher, by order of Captain McAlexander, President.

### SO 94-97 dated 10/21/96

Mark Triebwasser to SSG

### SO 96-97 dated 10/22/96

Shane Brooks and Jesse Waugaman to PV2; Christopher Ramias to PV1.

### SO 102-97 dated 10/25/96

John Carrillo and Taylor Marshall to PV2.

### SO 107-97 dated 10/29/96

Newman Merton to MAJ; Douglas Morrison to LTC.

### SO 112-97 dated 10/30/96

Joshua Hestehave, Rafael Llorente, Alejandro McKula and Paul Vieni to CPT; Brandon Thomas to Specialist SSG in Band with permanent rank of SGT.

### SO 113-97 dated 10/30/96

George Gile and Christopher Ramias to PV2; Marcel Leichle and Richard Shield to PFC; David Dickinson and Jason Smith to CPL.

### SO 115-97 dated 10/31/96

Daniel Clark, Jonathan Coyne, Steven Goodwin, Alexander Kocher, James Johnson, Aaron Lyons, Rodney McCurdy, Damien Parson, Wade Pickard, Christopher Pineda, Randy Swisher, Michael Valdez and Casey VanLandingham to PFC.

### SO 116-97 dated 11/1/96

David Anderson, Bobby Bearden, Matthew Beynon, Erik Carlsten, Joseph Miller and C. Reagan Reese to 1LT; Michael Stewart to WO2.

### SO 118-97 dated 11/4/96

Cody Welch to PV1.

### SO 123-97 dated 11/5/96

Nathan Alexander, Luis Hernandez, Joshua Lett, Derek Michael, Kenny Musch, Scott Norris, Sean Pollaro, Dustin Rekow, Rex Robichaux and Alvaro Trujillo to PFC; Traevion Harvey to CPL; Joel Vance to SSG.

### SO 124-97 dated 11/5/96

Chad Fairchild to PV2.

### SO 131-97 dated 11/7/96

Justin Allison, Charles Beriault, Angelo Cisneros, Blake Fleming, Jeffrey

Frasier, Maurice Harper, James Johnson, James Keller, Austin Porzak, George Vogler and Jared Wright to PFC; Jonathan Aaker, John Coleman, Austin Preston, Ty Tatman and David Walker to SGT; Taylor Johnson to SSG; Benjamin Warren to SFC; Patrick McKnight to CSM.

### SO 132-97 dated 11/7/96

Shane Brooks, Tyler Brown, James Chidester and Clayton Doan to PFC; Robert Cefarelli to PV2; Jarrett Nebrich to SGT.

### SO 136-97 dated 11/8/96

Mark Triebwasser to SFC.

### SO 137-97 dated 11/11/96

Jesse Waugaman to PV1; Cody Welch to PV2.

### SO 140-97 dated 11/12/96

Geyermo Barnes and Adam Spexarth to PFC; Victor Brane and Taylor Marshall to PV2.

### SO 146-97 dated 11/15/96

Ronald Credelle, Christopher Donnelly, Brian Hoal, Travis Hull, Martin Penn, Wade Pickard, Roger Roe, Jesse Studebaker, Jacob Walker, Matthew Webster and Jared Winer to PFC; Carlos Machado to CPL.

### SO 147-97 dated 11/15/96

James Bennett and John Carrillo to PFC; Robert Blase, Marcel Leichle and Richard Shield to CPL; Aaron Cowdin to PV2; Todd Devlin to PV1.

### SO 148-97 dated 11/18/96

Terry Hodgdon, Austin Cox and Matthew Watson to PV1.

### SO 151-97 dated 11/20/96

Jeremiah Blakney to PFC.

### SO 156-97 dated 11/22/96

John Childers, Brian Droge and Mark O'Dowd to PFC; Brandon Ash to CPL; Jesse Waugaman to PV2.

### SO 160-97 dated 12/2/96

Kris Kielhorn to PV1.

### SO 163-97 dated 12/3/96

Robert Cefarelli, Austin Cox, Terry Hodgdon, Leland Price, Michael

## New Boys Make Old Boy Status

Special Orders were issued for those cadets earning Old Boy status and promoted to PV2, as follows:

William Winters, Brian Droge, Roger Roe, Nathan Silvers, Tommy McBride, Jesse Osborn, Mark SanSouci, Darrell Steward, Patrick O'Neal, Adam Beem, Fred Davis, Andrew Flynn, Crag Hayes, Mark Asaad, Michael Bednar, Christopher Sartori, Jeremy Becker, Matthew Roggenkamp, Parker O'Roark, Charles Pittack, Joshua Kinison, Arian Taherzadeh, Andrew Wert, Strahan Branower and Derek Hanlon.

Speelman and Matt Watson to PV2; Jason Heitzman to SFC; Taylor Marshall to PFC; Jarrett Nebrich and Rodger Shriver to SSG.

### SO 164-97 dated 12/3/96

Jonathan Allaband, Alexander Fabian, Henry Madsen, Tyler McGivern, Mark SanSouci and Nathan Silvers to PFC; David Jend to CPL.

### SO 173-97 dated 12/6/96

Cortland Dunn to SFC.

### SO 176-97 dated 12/10/96

Aaron Cowdin, James Martling and Christopher Pineda to PFC; Clayton Doan to PV2; Brent Jones to CPL.

### SO 180-97 dated 12/13/96

Ricardo Greenwood, Matthew Fortelka, G. Joseph Gabel, Justin Holton, Jerry Martin, Eric Siskosky and Brian Werner to SGT; Michael Leonard, Cameron Oertel, Brandon Thomas, Justin Vondrak and Jeffrey Wagstaff to SSG; Steven Marcy to MSG.

### SO 183-97 dated 12/13/96

Chad Fourhorn to PFC; Kris Kielhorn and James Chidester to PV2.

### SO 185-97 dated 12/16/96

Ivan Cunningham, Chad Fairchild, Andrew Flynn, George Gile, Jens Petersen, Jamie Roberts, Cody Welch and William Winters to PFC; Steven Goodwin to CPL; Geyermo Barnes to PV1; Jonathan Coyne and Matthew Gallegos to PV2.

### SO 189-97 dated 12/18/96

Eric Carlsten and Bobby Bearden to 1LT.

## Renounce Him!

by Kelly Coggins, San Antonio, Texas

This year's play production was God's Favorite, a comedy by Neil Simon. The play was directed by Mrs. Chris Peterson and C/MAJ Newman Merton. The play is a parody of the book of Job in the Bible.

Joe Benjamin (the main character) is put through one trial after another, but remains steadfast in his refusal to renounce God. The set was provided by Central Showroom.

The production was given to the Middle School on November 20 with the Understudies playing the two leads. It was presented to the Upper School on November 22.

### The Cast

Joe Benjamin - Erik Carlsten  
 Ben Benjamin - Justin Vondrak  
 Sarah Benjamin - Kelly Coggins  
 Rose Benjamin - Matthew Beynon  
 David Benjamin - Newman Merton  
 Osly Preston, Understudy  
 Mady - Gerald Gabel  
 Morris - Ben Warren  
 Sidney Lipton - Joe Miller  
 James Bray, Understudy  
 Lighting - Ryan Levitan and John Carillo  
 Sound - Justin Allison  
 Set Design - Marcel Leichle

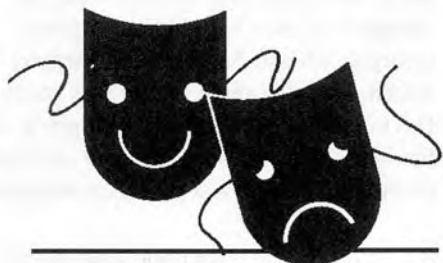


*Words can't  
explain it.*

## Upper School .5 Club

Many cadets made the criteria to be in the Point 5 Club following the first grading period. To qualify a cadet either has to raise his grade point .5 or if an "A" student, has to maintain the same GPA. (There is similar criteria for "B" students). The .5 Club pizza lunch was held in November.

Fifty-seven upper school students and nineteen middle school students enjoyed the occasion, a program sponsored by the Foundation/Your PTA.





**Candid  
from  
Halloween  
Howl**

## President's Message (Continued from Page 1)

**Facilities. B+** (and improving rapidly). We have made great progress in the past five years and I see nothing but good things in the future. All of the cadet rooms are air-conditioned, the gym has been refurbished with new bleachers and a new floor, the wrestling annex has given us much more flexibility in our athletic programs, and the new organ and other improvements in the chapel have made it a wonderful place to worship.

**Building Program. A+.** In April we will break ground for our new Multi-Functional Facility. The Board of Trustees, our Architects (Jones-Gillam), and the staff have spent countless hours

of study and made dozens of decisions with the goal of designing and building a facility that will vastly few old boys for assistance in contacting foundations and other support for our fund drive. Their support has been outstanding.

**Technology. B+.** Thanks to the gifts from Mrs. Given and ADM we have made great strides in making technology available to the cadets and the staff. Our two computer labs are being well used and we have good availability of computers in the classrooms and the library. The last major step will be to wire the dormitories so that we can have a computer network available in the cadets' rooms. With the rapid advance of technology I am not sure a grade of A is ever possible, but we will try.

**Chapel Programs. A+.** This is a wonderful year for our chapel programs. The choir sings beautifully and the new organ is wonderful. Our relationship with Christ Cathedral is superb with several of our cadets active in the youth group. There are frequent visits between the congregations. Bishop Strickland serves on the Policy Committee of our Board of Trustees and Dean Whitmore is on the Building and Grounds Committee. Most of the leaders in the Corps are on the Chapel Council and it is active and enthusiastic.

There are several other areas where grades could be assigned, but I will defer these for a later date. There will always be areas of which we can be very proud, and areas in which we can improve. With your support we will make SJMS a little better each day and much better each year.

## Cadet Profile

### Evan Callaway, Grade 12 Honolulu Hawaii

Evan Callaway never meets a stranger. Born into a military family, he has really had a life on the move, having lived in numerous places, and attending several different schools.

His father, a Navy Captain with the Supply Corps, was stationed in Seattle, Washington when Callaway was born. Not too long afterward, they moved to



the San Diego area and were there approximately three years. He attended Kindergarten in Mechanisburg, Pennsylvania; he attended 1st thru 3rd grade in Atlanta, Georgia; 4th and 5th grades in Virginia Beach, Virginia; three grades was spent in Dayton, Ohio. He attended 10th grade while his father was stationed in Japan and lived on Honshu Island. His parents remained in

(Continued on page 11)



## Ashmore interviewed Middle School Field

by Osly A.P.

Summit County, Colorado

Danny Ashmore was born in Memphis, Tennessee on July 31, 1945, to Mr. and Mrs. MSG Jesse Ashmore. The Ashmore family lived in Memphis for three years before moving to a small town in southeast Kansas, where Danny grew up.

His reasons for enlisting was motivated by the feeling of obligation to his country. Ashmore enlisted in the Army in Atlanta, Georgia, where he was living and working at an insurance company.

MSG Ashmore served in the military from August 16, 1965 to October 31, 1985 for a total of twenty years. He began work at St. John's Military School in 1989 as a Military Advisor for A Company.

Ashmore (pictured at right) said he plans to retire in four years.

## Trips

Frankie Hyatt, Grade 7  
Vancouver, Washington

A lot of the Middle Schoolers have been going on field trips lately. Two of the big ones and those most fun were the State Bowling tournament and the Rolling Hills Refuge. At Rolling Hills Refuge, the cadets got to look at some cool animals and watch and learn what they do.



## Veterans' Day celebrated at St. John's

by Phillip Davis  
Riverside, California

On Monday, November 11, the cadets performed a Pass in Review in honor of the Veterans on campus, including those on staff and the members the Tri-Rivers Chapter of the Marine Corps League.

A special presentation was made at Mess and a roll call identifying each veteran in attendance and their years of military service. At the completion of the program, the youngest cadet, Rex Robichaux, assisted in cutting the Marine Corps birthday cake along with the oldest Marine in attendance.

The Corps enjoyed a relaxing activity day for the remainder of the afternoon.

## Mule-skinner Express

Frankie Hyatt  
Train Club Member

About six years ago MSG Danny Ashmore started getting involved in trains. He was looking for a hobby. For the past three years he has been in charge of St. John's Train Club, called the Mule-skinner Express. He said "it gives a cadet an opportunity to get involved in a hobby". One way the Club earns money is a game they use at the Winter Carnival.

MSG Ashmore said he was always involved with trains. He likes the sound of the whistle. He buys, sells, and trades. He has over 80 engines and 400 pieces of rolling stock of various gages. The Train Club is always looking for new members and donations. Donations to the Train Club should be directed to MSG Ashmore, PO Box 827, Salina KS 67402. Happy Railroading!



**Mark your calendar for "Good Morning America", Wednesday morning, March 5. The Cadet officers from St. John's will be giving the welcome.**

The Cadet officers have been accepted as an audience for "FACES", that group of individuals who have a few seconds to yell "Good Morning America". To be taped in late February, the Cadets are scheduled for the March 5 segment of "Good Morning America."

## Three Cadets participate in Barbershop Chorus

A barbershop chorus, organized at the end of August, and meeting weekly on the SJMS campus, made their first public appearance on Tuesday, December 10, performing at three Salina nursing homes. The 20-member Salina Coronado Chorus, includes three cadets, Cortland Dunn, Grant Haun and Richardo Greenwood. The singers finished the evening with a chili supper at the home of Bob and Kathleen Frisbie.

The chorus is affiliated with the National Society for Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America.

Frisbie and Joe Figg share in the direction of the choir. Randy Duncan, serving as President, said that the choir is open to any male singer interested in barbership harmony.

## Scholarship Announced

### Morrison recognized by Moose International

Douglas C. Morrison was one of two Indiana Moose Association winners of a R. Robert Dale Scholarship, provided by Moose International this year. This was possible through his excellent academic record and the membership of his father. The \$1,000 award may be used for tuition, fees and books at any accredited institution of his choice.

A certificate will be presented to Morrison by the Moose at the school's senior honors program during Commencement Weekend.

## Cadets meet Misty

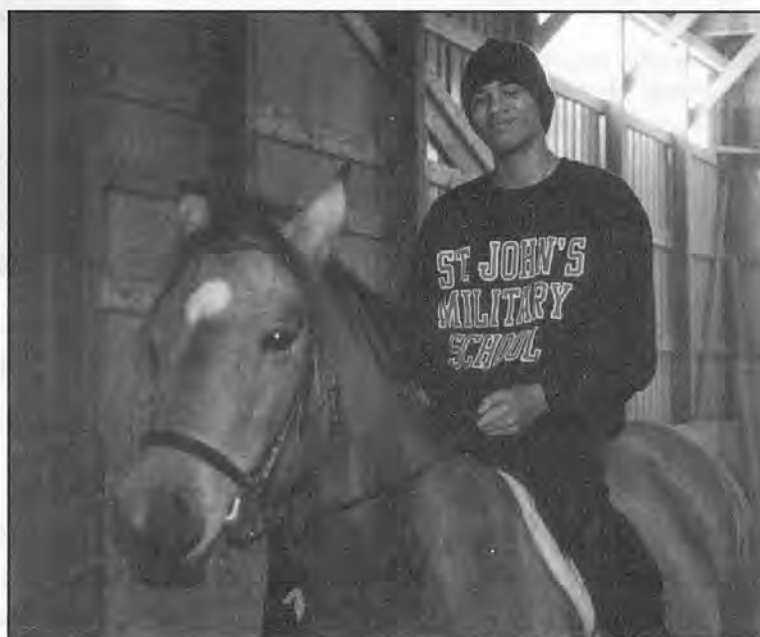
During Thanksgiving break, like several employees, Major George Stelljes had five cadets as guests for the day. Not only did his cadets get a Thanksgiving dinner at his home, but they also visited Cedar Row Farms where Misty, a 14-year old buck skin, is stabled.

She used to be a school horse in Kentucky, teaching inexperienced riders how to ride. When the school went out of business, Misty was

brought to Kansas and the Stelljes family (wife, Janice and daughters, Khristen, Leslie and Mega) purchased her.

She's very gentle with people, trained to follow, and responds to both English and western riding style.

When asked, Stelljes said David Anderson appeared to be the most comfortable in the saddle, but Ricardo Greenwood and John Carrillo also appeared to have had some experience.



*Pictured above, the CITY SLICKERS: John Carrillo, Aaron Lyons, Michael Valdez, Ricardo Greenwood and David Anderson. Below: Greenwood on Misty.*



## First Grading Period Honors are Announced

Congratulations to the

### BLUE BERETS

Upper School:

**STEPHEN STREETER**

**DOUGLAS MORRISON**

**ALEJANDRO McKULA**

Middle School:

**TYLER McGIVERN**

**ANDRE AMARO**

**PHILLIP DAVIS**

### HONOR ROLL:

Making the Academic Dean's Honor Roll for the First Grading Period from the Upper School are Stephen Streeter 97.87; Douglas Morrison 96.96; Alejandro McKula 96.88; Christopher Ramias 96.00; Anthony Brooks 95.85; David Anderson 95.71; Nathan Bilotte 95.42; Scott Norris 95.28; Sean Pollaro 85.14; Bobby Bearden 94.85; Fred Davis 94.71; Reagan Reese 94.57; Joseph Miller 94.25; James Bray 93.85; Erik Carlsten 93.57 and Kelly Coggins 93.57. Making the Middle School Honor Roll are Tyler McGivern 94.29; Andre Amaro 94.06; Phillip Davis 93.68 and Kenneth Musch 93.48.

### HONORABLE MENTION:

Making Honorable Mention from the Upper School are Paul Vieni 93.28; Ryan Watenpaugh 93.28; Rodger Shriver 93.28; Christopher Rettagliata 93.14; Matthew Beynon 93.14; Rafael Llorente 92.897;

John Krotz 92.85; Matthew Richardson 92.71; Newman Merton 92.57; Daniel Clark 92.28; Michael Harris 92.14; Michael Leonard 92.14; Marcel Leichle 92.00; Evan Callaway 91.85; Leland Price 91.42; Ronald Credelle 91.42; Matthew Fortelka 91.14; Rodney McCurdy 90.85; Joe Gabel 90.85; Benjamin Warren 90.85; James Rutherford 90.71; Nathan Silvers 90.71; Jason Heitzman 90.57; Steven Goodwin 90.57; Evan Marquez 90.57; Jacob Thomas 90.28; Justin Vondrak 89.71; Charles Kocher 89.57; Adam Beem 89.42; Reginald McGill 89.14; Angelo Cisneros 89.14; Matthew Buckles 89.14; Taylor Johnson 89.00; Mark Triebwasser 89.00; Matthew Bostwick 89.00; David Jend 88.71; David Dickinson 88.71.

From the Middle School are

Matthew Webster 93.29; Derek Michael 91.61; Alexander Fabian 91.47; Rex Robichaux 90.33; Travis Hull 90.20; Hunter Cole 90.01; Alexander Buck 88.67 and Paul Baur 88.50.



## TAPS

### Daniel Flanigan

Colorado Springs, Colorado  
9/20/96 at the age of 69  
"Old Boy" Class of '44

### Horace A. "Pete" Holmes

Eureka, Kansas  
Died 3/22/96 at the age of 87  
"Old Boy" Class of '28

### James C. Shortt

Belvue, Kansas  
Died 10/1/96 at the age of 91  
"Old Boy" Class of '23

## School loses oldest "Old Boy"

At the school's 100th year celebration, it was determined that James C. Shortt might have been the "oldest living" Old Boy.

From alumni records and a phone conversation with Shortt's son, James, we learned that his grandfather, Harry Giltner Shortt, a farmer in the Belvue area, was an Old Boy in the class of 1895. He decided his sons, too, would attend St. John's because it was such a prestigious school. W. Giltner Shortt attended 1924-26; James C. Shortt was a member of the Class of 1923 and Phillip E. Shortt was a member of the class of 1927. All are now deceased.

## Pete Holmes a "legend"

Horace "Pete" Holmes was probably the most dedicated "Old Boy" when it came to never missing a Commencement Weekend. A resident of Eureka, KS, you could always count on Pete making an appearance. He loved the school and loved visiting with the cadets. His grand-nephew, Chris Holmes was a member of the Class of 1990 making his visits during that time really special.

Over the years he had a very close relationship with one of his "Old Boy" classmates, Bob Crooks (who resides in San Diego). They both were here for the 1994 Commencement festivities, but this was Pete's last visit on campus due to poor health. *We will miss you, Pete!*

## "Old Boy" comes through 'Big Time'

Robert deAlminana III  
Attended 1959-61  
2521 Manchester Dr.  
Oklahoma City OK 73120  
405 755-8399  
and  
John S. Wilson  
Class of 1960  
2209 South 6th St.  
Omaha NE 68108-1212

On the Wednesday morning before Thanksgiving, Bob deAlminana's wife, along with their son, two daughters, and two grandchildren, were traveling to Bob's wife's parents' home in North Dakota, when they were in an automobile accident near Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Bob got a phone call from the hospital about the accident, but he couldn't get any information about their condition, etc., from either the hospital personnel or the Highway Patrol. Feeling helpless being so far away, he frantically searched his mind for anyone he might know who could help him. He remembered his old friend from St. John's, John S. Wilson, '60.

He called SJMS and the receptionist, Nancy Anderson, was able to help confirm that school records showed John was a retired police officer who lived in Omaha and owned a tavern in Council Bluffs. Obtaining John's phone number, Bob called and told him the situation. John immediately asked "What can I do?"

John not only make a trip to the hospital to check on their condition, but he remained there until all but Bob's wife was released. He then took the five to his home, provided them with all their needs, including beds for the night, then shared his family's Thanksgiving Dinner the next day.

The whole family is home now, including Bob's wife, and she is doing great. As a truck driver, Bob said he has occasion to check on former "Old Boys" while traveling, but he hadn't seen John for 38 years. *"John, you're quite a guy!"*

## A bit of "Old Boy" and Chapel History

*shared by Charles Morrison,  
Class of '41  
(See related information  
under address listings)*

Morrison made a career in the military and is now retired. During WWII he served with the 80th Infantry Division. Following the war he transferred to the Army Air Corps which became the USAF in 1947. He said that George Evans and he managed to keep in touch until his death a few years ago.

During the war George became a chaplain in the Navy. In February, 1945, he wrote that he went ashore with the Marines during the Iwo Jima campaign and one of the men he found dying on the beach was Bob Austin, a cadet who had also been a new boy in 1936. Charles writes "that February was not kind to any of us as I was also wounded as we spearheaded into Germany."

During the war years there was an Army base outside Salina named Camp Phillips. The 80th Infantry Division was assigned there in 1943. Little did I know when they shipped out that I would catch up with them in Luxembourg. If I recall correctly, the Armstrong chapel was moved from Camp Phillips. Perhaps you would be interested to know of the men assigned to the 80th, who may have worshipped in your chapel, 3500 were killed in action and 12,042 were wounded. An infantry division had an authorized strength of 17,000 men. Our battle strength however was much less.

Charles advised that Lt. Evans would never have let him carry on about the Army without interrupting me to expound about his Jarheads.

*Thanks for sharing  
this with us.*

# Where are they now . . .

## Howard Goodfellow, Attended '35-37

100 Aspen Way, Unit F

Butte MT 59701-3962

A career with the railroad and now retired, Howard recently came across some St. John's material which he decided to share with the school's archives. *Thanks, we love getting these old brochures, etc.!*

## Son of Leon Goldberg who attended '38-40

Richard Goldberg

709 E. Euclid

McPherson KS 67460

Individual framed pictures of twelve of Leon's classmates were sent to the school by his son, with personal notes written on the folders. These were dated '40 and it is assumed Leon was a Junior. The photos are of "Old Boys" Eugene Butcher, James Cook '41, Hall Goode, Jr., H. W. Irelan '40, Erwin Leichter, Floyd Lotker '40, Deems Marshall, John F. Moore, John Pearson '41, Paul Riley '41, Henry Ruby and John Rush '41. *Thanks Richard, for sharing these with our archives.*

## James Manard, D.C., Class of '41

3070 South 42nd Street

Omaha NE 68105-3379

Dr. Menard wrote Capt. McAlexander a thank you for the sweatshirts sent to he and his wife, and went on to refer to his fifty year friendship with "Old Boy" Jim Dennett. He also said that they really enjoyed visiting with Hazel Fonck during Commencement Weekend and look forward to more reunions.

## Charles Morrison, Class of '44

12200 East 58th Place

Kansas City MO 64133

Charles wrote a thank you to Father Cox for remembering him in his prayers on September 27. He went on to reminisce about his two lifelong chaplain friends from St. John's. They were Lt. George Evans who was Commandant during his first year (1936), then on to seminary in 1940.

Also, Fr. Richard Nale, who was also his English teacher.  
(See related article on preceding page)

## Louis Fulton, Class of '46

(new address)

234 Grand Canyon Drive

Vacaville CA 95687

Louis has recently retired from Workload, Inc., New Orleans. He and Catherine have moved to California where they live close to their daughter and her family. Lou is not only an Honorary member of the SJMS Board of Trustees, but established the school's Athletic Scholarship Fund. He is a member of the Mom's Club, and leader for the class of '46, which celebrated their 50th Reunion in Salina last May. *Lou, we couldn't do without you.*

## Robert D. Guimarin, Attended '46

17222 Jeanese Dr.

Jamestown CA 95327

Robert sent an E-Mail to the school asking for the address of Roy Gerber. They attended St. John's at the same time, and then when Robert returned from the Navy they worked together. *Roy, are you out there?*

## James Turner, Attended '73

3127 W. Anarld

Marshfield WI 54449

Visited campus for first time since attending as an 11th grade student.

## Mike Cox, Class of '80

E-Mail address:

104110.624@compuserve.com

Sent a big hello to Coach Rudolph.

Would like to hear from old classmates.

## Troy Erwin, Class of '86

244 Calle De Madera

Encinitas CA 92024

Phone 619 944-3743

E-Mail address:

SMTP:TDuke68@aol.com

Troy sent an E-Mail to the school, asking for "Old Boy" news and also to be put back on the Skirmisher mailing.

## Tom Welsh, Attended '95

801 North 49th Ave.

Omaha NE 68132

Received an E-Mail from Tom who said he is attending Omaha Christian Academy and is a happy senior. He sent his greetings to Sgt. Ashmore, Mrs. Harris and Mr. Keith.

## Liz and Keith Duckers, President

Emeritus, E-Mail address:

Duckers@MidUSA.net

## Bishop Davidson sees St. John's exhibit

St. John's had an exhibit at the Convention of The Diocese of Colorado during the last weekend in October. It was well attended and the exhibit drew a lot of interest.

One person who noticed the exhibit was retired Episcopal Bishop, the Rt. Rev. William Davidson.

Capt. McAlexander received a letter from Bishop Davidson shortly after the convention, relating that he visited the booth and found it very attractive and drawing a fair amount of attention from the delegates and visitors. "I believe it is well to keep before as many people as possible the School and its excellent educational standards and offerings," wrote the Bishop.

## Callaway (Continued from page 4)

Japan another year while Callaway attended St. John's during his 11th grade. He spent his summer with his parents in Honolulu, where they now reside, and returned to St. John's for his Senior year.

Callaway said he lived on the American military base while in Japan so the school wasn't really different. He said although he was pretty young in several of the locations he has lived, he has had the opportunity to do a lot of sight-seeing and seen lots of places. Japan was an especially fun experience.

When asked where he thought he might like to live permanently he couldn't answer, doubting if he would ever be content in one place for long.



## Rifle Team Selected

The members of the team are: James Rutherford, team captain; James Johnson, James Bray, Jacob Walker, Victor Brane, Rodney McCurdy and Rodger Shriver.

### Six equipment bags donated

A special thanks to Steve Dodd from the Rifle Team. Steve recently purchased six equipment bags for the team. They really help a lot.

## Ready, Aim, Fire!!

by James Bray, Concordia, KS

The Rifle Team is looking forward to an excellent season after a great start. Beginning the first week in November, practices were held every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 4 - 5:45 P.M. Our first match was Thursday, December 5 against Manhattan. The following afternoon four of the team members departed for Colorado Springs to compete in the state match on Saturday. This match was held on the firing range in the Jr. Olympic Athletic Center.

### Cadets excited about planning for new Range

by James Bray

The new Multi-functional facility (MFF) mentioned in last month's Skirmisher will house a new 12-lane range with a spectator room enclosed behind a pane of sound proof glass.

This new range, with its extensive storage space, will be a welcome change for the team from the cramped quarters of the present range.

Cadets are anxiously anticipating the completion of the new rifle range next year. The spectators room will give cadets and family members a chance to observe the team in action.

## Cadets compete with Colorado teams

On December 6, at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs there were 21 teams from the state of Colorado plus the Cadets.

The Rifle Team consisted of seven cadets. The cadets who traveled to Colorado had to qualify in practice routines to make the Traveling Team. They were James Rutherford, Victor Brane, Jacob Walker and Rodney McCurdy (*pictured below*).



The cadets did well in the overall competition. From the 22 total teams, there were approximately 85 shooters. Rutherford placed in the top ten shooters and Walker was in the top 20. Walker, McCurdy and Brane were first year shooters.

The cadets had a good time and the trip was a great experience.



### REMAINING MATCH SCHEDULE

1/17	Missouri Military
1/23	Wichita (Here)
1/30	Delphos
2/6	Abilene (Here)
2/8	Junior Olympics - Leavenworth
2/22	3-Pos. Sectional - Leavenworth
3/1	State Championship (Here)
3/8	4-Pos. Sectional - Leavenworth

## Wrestling Starts Strong

by Joseph Miller II  
Phoenix, AZ

The SJMS Wrestling team this year is small but promising. The cadets have about 10 wrestlers. The squad is led by senior Joe Miller and juniors Matt Beynon, Kris Keilhorn and Mike Harris. The program for the year has some promising recruits in cadets Ortel, Leonard, Young, Marshall and Reese. On December 7 the cadets attended the Lincoln round-robin wrestling tournament. The cadets finished fourth out of five teams but placed all but two wrestlers. The cadets medaling were:

112 - Ben Molk - 3rd  
119 - Cameron Ortel - 2nd  
130 - Joe Miller - 3rd  
135 - Ryan Levitan - 3rd  
140 - Mike Leonard - 3rd  
152 - Taylor Marshall - 3rd  
160 - Kris Keilhorn - 1st  
171 - Matt Beynon - 2nd

### REMAINING WRESTLING SCHEDULE

1/17	Halstead Tourn.
1/18	Halstead Tourn.
1/21	S/E Saline & Haven (Here)
1/30	JV Salina South (Here)
2/8	S/E Saline Tourn.
2/15	FR/SO Chapman
2/21	Regional
2/28	State

## Football Varsity ends with 5-4 Season

### Academy Bowl new Finale to Season

by Andre Amaro  
Wichita, Kansas

On November 8, St. John's Varsity football team played probably their most intense game against St. Mary's Academy. For two weeks the team did nothing but concentrate for the big game. This was the first year of what should become another great tradition. A traveling trophy will be presented to the winner of this game.

The winner of the first game, St. Mary's, was presented a 2 1/2 foot trophy by Athletic Director Doug Randolph. Hopefully it will be ours next year.

The cadets got a little more respect after having their best season since 1991.

## Speilman returns to Basketball

### After five-year hiatus

Chuck Speilman is back and so are several members of last season's basketball squad. Speilman, who coached St. John's for six years before stepping down after the 1990-91 season, returns as head coach of the Varsity program.

Speilman takes over a team that returns four starters and three additional letter winners, unusually good for a program with a high turnover rate.

"The biggest strength that we have this year is that everyone is pretty much familiar with how the other guys play," Speilman said. "While we're not as big as I would like, we're not real small either. I'm not sure how quick we are and this could cause some problems on defense."

The Mule-skinners bring back a pair of swing players in seniors Paul Vieni and Rick Williams. Both play at guard and forward, with Vieni being the team's top returning scorer from a year ago. Steve Marcy is one of several players switching sports after helping the football team to its best record in several years. Juniors Jake Solbakken and Jeff Wagstaff bring depth to the inside game, while senior letter winner Alex Ryan provides help at guard.

"With the number of returning starters and lettermen we should be able to compete fairly well with the teams in our league," Speilman said. "I'm hoping that there are three or four newcomers that will be able to help us, once they learn the system."

## Two Mule-skinners earn all-league honors

Two members of the SJMS football program were named first-team All-Eisenhower League squad, as selected by the league coaches.

Senior offensive guard Doug Morrison and junior running back Steve Marcy were both first-team selections after helping St. John's to a tie for second in the final league standings.

The Mule-skinners also had three seniors earn second-team defense honors - end Paul Vieni, linebacker Eric Carlsten and defensive back Reggie McGill.

## Hunter Safety Course Completed

Cadets completing the Hunter Safety Course are Charles Beriault, John Krotz, Tim O'Brien, Adam Spexarth, Patrick O'Neal, Craig Hayes, Joe Gabel, Marcel Leichle, Justin Allison, Ben Molk, Osly Preston and Luis Hernandez.

The course was instructed by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and cadets attended a total of 10 hours to get their certificates.

## Cadets loses opener to Enterprise

St. John's never recovered from a shaky first quarter as the Cadets lost their season opener to Enterprise Academy, 58-42. Enterprise opened up a 20-7 lead after the first quarter and never looked back.

"We were real tentative .. we had a bad first quarter, but I was pleased with our teamwork," said Speilman.

The Cadets were paced by a balanced scoring attack as Blake Fleming had nine points and Jeff Wagstaff, Paul Vieni and Jake Solbakken scored eight points each.

## St. John's goes into Xmas Break with 2-4 record

Following their first home game loss to Enterprise, St. John's hosted a tournament with Emmanuel Christian,

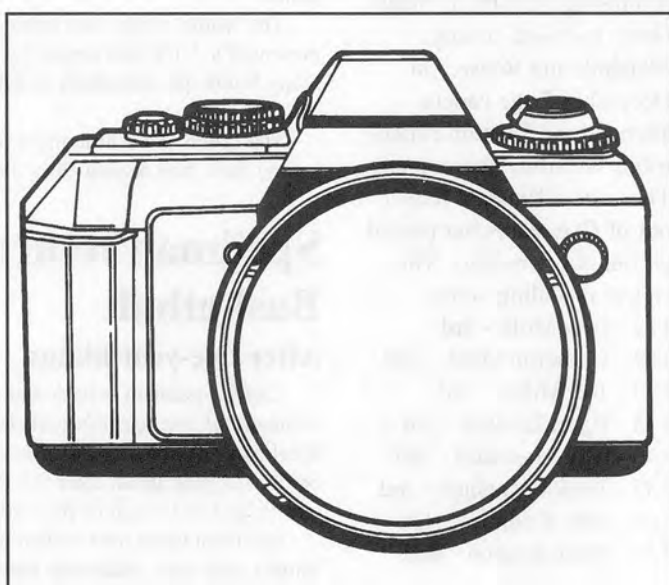


Vieni goes to the net.

St. Mary's Academy and Elyria Christian. They won their first game 50-20 but lost in the Championship game, 47-64.

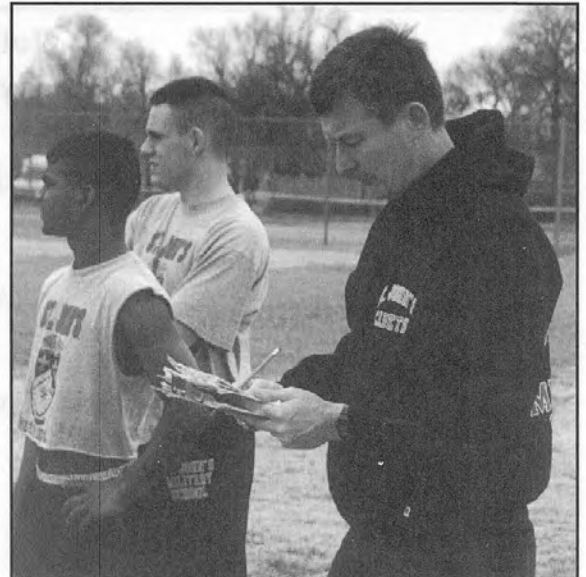
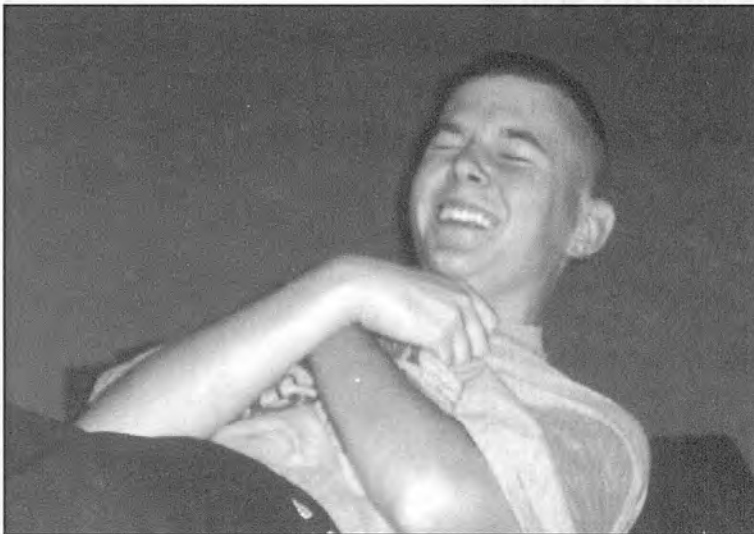
Their December 10 game against Flint Hills Christian was a win of 44-42.

Emmanuel Christian jumped to a big first-half lead on December 17 and held off a St. John's rally to claim a 46-43 victory over the Mule-skinners. For St. John's, Maurice Harper led the way with 17 points.



Starting at top, left to right:  
 "I just can't take it anymore." "Five bucks says this picture makes  
 front page."  
 "What is that?" Who cares, cut!"  
 The Battalion Commander takes on the Commandant.

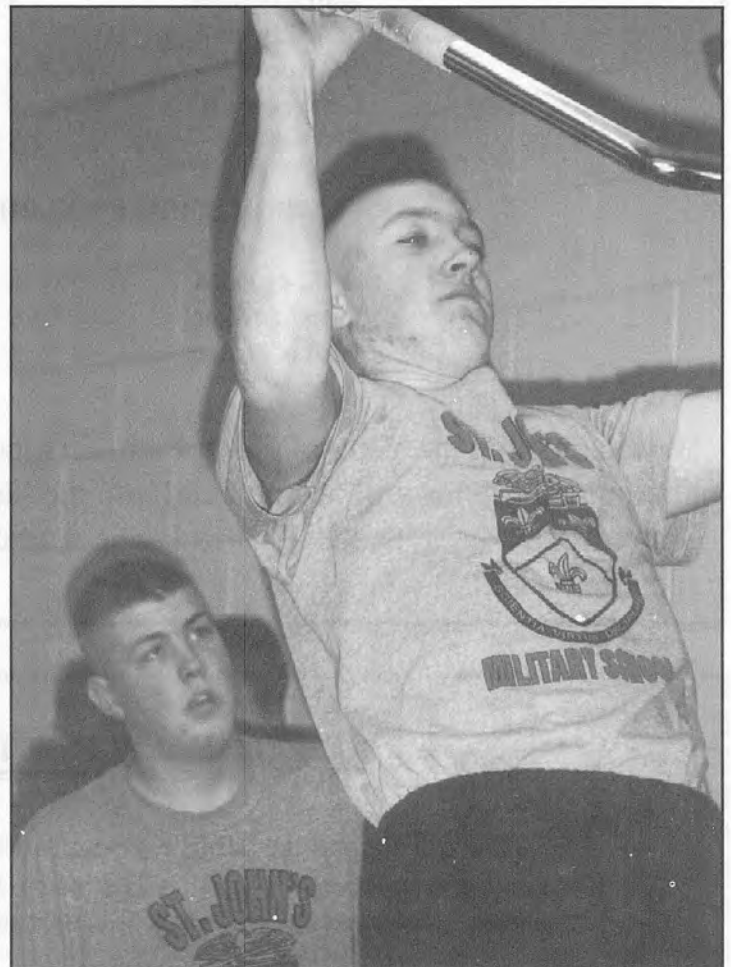




## Spartan tryouts in full-swing



*"I'm not a criminal."*



*"I swear I  
can type  
fast, just  
give me an  
hour."*

### St. John's Military School Gift Guidelines / All Purpose Center

These are the guidelines for the naming of the facility and individual areas in the building.

**Naming :**

All Purpose Center	\$450,000
Dining Hall	\$100,000
Conference RM.	\$ 15,000
Commandant's Complex	\$ 75,000
Rifle Range	\$ 75,000
Ready Room	\$ 15,000
Club Room	\$ 15,000
Infirmery	\$ 50,000
Kitchen	\$ 50,000
Staff Complex	\$ 50,000
Staff Rooms X 8	\$ 2,500
BC Room	\$ 5,000
Conference Rm.	\$ 7,500
Recreational Center	\$ 40,000

#### BRICK COURT YARD

Walk of Faith	\$ 250
Path of Honor	\$ 500
Wall of Honor	\$ 1,500

By establishing the Walk of Faith, Path of Honor, and the Wall of Honor, the names of alumni and friends will be engraved into the history of St. John's Military School. With each investment, at the designated levels, a brick with your name(s) will be placed in a specified area.

## SJMS MULTI-FUNCTIONAL FACILITY CAMPAIGN

☐ **Yes**, I/we will support the SJMS campaign with a gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

First payment will be \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_. The pledge will be paid by \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_.

(Please send a reminder January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December)

☐ **No**, I/we cannot help at this time. Please contact us during the Mule-skinner Campaign.

Please send additional information regarding: ☐ Bequest ☐ Life Income ☐ Scholarships ☐ Trusts.

Signature\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_