



# THE SKIRMISHER

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



Vol. LXXXV

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April 1997

## *New Facility to be named Stevens Center*

*Surprise  
announcement  
made at Ground  
Breaking Ceremony*

Construction on the new \$3 million multifunctional facility began on Wednesday, April 22 with the demolition of Nichols Hall. By Friday afternoon, the official groundbreaking ceremony took place in front of a large hole already cleared of debris, and displaying balloons to show spectators the size of the planned building.

Following remarks by Capt. E. A. McAlexander and Mr. Charlie Stevens, Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the school, Kansas Secretary of State Ron Thornburgh was introduced as the guest speaker. His remarks included praise for the dedication of the staff and school supporters.

It was following the traditional shovel pose and the uncovering of a draped sign, when Stevens learned the new facility would be named after him. (See related pictures on page 16)



... and the  
walls came  
tumbling  
down

See related story on  
page 3, 'Chaplain's  
Chat' -

"Behold,  
I make  
all  
things  
new."





**President's  
Message**  
Captain E. A.  
McAlexander

We have just completed our formal inspection by the Army ROTC Command and, as you will read elsewhere, the 109th Corps received an outstanding grade. I wish that all of you could have been on campus to see how superbly our cadets performed in all aspects of the inspection. To hear the comments of the inspecting officers was an experience that would make anyone proud to be associated with St. John's.

While the JROTC instructors and the Commandant's Staff deserve tremendous credit for this accomplishment, I want to write a few words about the cadet leaders. It is simply impossible to give them the level of praise they deserve. I am referring not only to the Battalion Staff and the Company officers, but also the squad leaders and platoon sergeants.

At all levels of leadership in the Corps, our system asks very young men to step forward and accept responsibilities that many adults would eschew. While these cadets gain experience that will be extremely valuable later in life, that is not an easy concept for a fifteen year old to grasp. In a society that expects instant gratification, this is especially impressive.

I hope that all of you will join me in expressing appreciation to the leaders of the 109th Corps of Cadets at St. John's. Their efforts and achievements have been superb. Thank you 109th.



**Academic  
Dean's  
Message**  
LTC Kenneth  
Faerber

I'm pleased to report, from a first semester teacher and student teacher and student questionnaire about changing from the traditional to 'block' scheduling, that it has been a very smooth transition and quite successful. The teachers enjoy the ninety minute classes because it gives them more opportunity to offer different teaching methods, a variety of classroom activities, and more time to work with individuals. Students report the block schedule gives them more time to complete assignments with teacher assistance, that the alternating tutorial period affords them additional academic help, and yes, they don't have the same teachers every day. However with most change of a significant nature comes some concerns. We recognize these concerns and presently have a committee working on options that will be beneficial to all.

Next year will bring another major scheduling and curriculum change. Since the administration has decided to limit the enrollment to grades seven through twelve, we are restructuring both the upper and middle school. Linger Middle School will consist, in the A.M., of grades seven, eight and nine with a seventy minute block schedule and thirty-five minutes for tutorials. All three grades will have their core classes - English, Science, Math, and Social Studies, taught at Linger in the morning, but after lunch, the eighth and ninth grade students will have their electives in Vanier Academic Center. The rationale for this is simply two fold. (a) to distribute student enrollment as equal as possible, and (b) to reduce many overcrowded upper school classes. With more staff to help in Linger and the additional sections of many courses, we hope to accomplish

*(Continued on page 8)*



**Commandant's  
Message**  
LTC Michael  
Furlo

We are finishing this year on a high note! Our Corps of Cadets has done an extremely fine job of balancing academic requirements with the myriad of military duties related to life at St. John's Military School. This has been especially significant with all the on-going changes occurring associated with Construction of the new multifunctional facility.

The transition to using Baner Gym as our mess hall has gone splendidly. A special thanks should be given to Mr. Kevin McCoy and all the Mess Hall staff for their efforts in making the changes to our food service routine as smooth and effortless as it has been.

Additionally, we are using our new laundry facility in the basement of the old Spencer Recreation Center. This modern operation speaks volumes about the direction we are headed with our infrastructure modernization plan. I would encourage those who have the opportunity of visiting the campus during normal operating hours to visit and see for yourself the improvements that have been made.

Next year we are also beginning the process of changing the appearance of our military advisors (MA's). The most notable difference will be that for official school functions MA's will now be dressed in a school blazer instead of military uniforms. There are no scheduled changes in the appearance of our cadets. The current cadet uniforms have served us well over the past years and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future.

Again, all the military staff and I congratulate our cadets on making the 109th Corps of Cadets one of the best and setting a standard for future Corps to emulate. Good luck and all the best!

## Cadet Merton "bigger than life"



Cadet Newman Merton, while attending an event sponsored by the Youth Task Force of the Salina All-American Prevention Partnership, was chosen to pose for some pictures for possible use on posters to advertise the Youth Task Force program.

One of these pictures were selected and is now placed on bill boards and on posters distributed throughout the Salina area.

*It couldn't have happened to a more timid student, right?*

## Cadet Llorente, maybe "not so big"

The four cadets who went on the Washington, D.C. trip had a great time, including a lot of sightseeing. Sponsored by the SJMS Foundation, Cadets Doug Morrison, Steven Streeter, Paul Vieni and Rafael Llorente were the lucky ones this year.

### *The SKIRMISHER*

*The Skirmisher is the official publication of SJMS and is published bi-monthly by the Media Club Cadets, with Mrs. Sheri Becker,*

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## Chaplain's Chat

"Behold, I make all things new."

On Wednesday evening, the 26th of March 1997, the 109th Corps of Cadets, along with many SJMS faculty and staff, members of the SJMS Board of Trustees, former staff members and several invited guests from the community, gathered together to share the last meal that would be served in Nichols Hall, which had served as the SJMS "mess hall" since 1944. And I couldn't help being reminded of words found in the Book of The Revelation to John: "Behold, I make all things new."

The meal, like most meals at St. John's these days, was extremely good. We had barbecued beef, barbecued ribs, and all the appropriate trimmings that garnish such a time honored meal. For entertainment on this very special occasion, we heard from many people who had spent a good number of years at St. John's, and had eaten literally hundreds, and hundreds of meals in Nichols Hall. One of the first people we heard from was Harold Frasier, a retired longtime faculty member at St. John's, who as a young man had worked helping in the construction of the building.

We heard from now Kansas Highway Patrolman Bill Faerber, who was raised at St. John's, and from his dad, LTC Ken Faerber our Academic Dean. We heard from Trustees Mrs. Donna Vanier and "Old Boy" Larry Britegam. We heard from former Military Advisor Ben Titus and many others who shared with everyone present, their memories of regular meals, holiday meals, special occasions and special events that had become meaningful memories of Nichols Hall.

My own memories of Nichols Hall go back to 1947, when as a 13 year old teenager, I first attended what was then known as the "Episcopal Youth Convocation" which was held annually at St. John's Each summer after that for the next three or four summers, along with Episcopal youth from all over

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## 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 February Skirmisher, by order of Captain McAlexander, President.

### SO 285-97 dated 2/24/97

Andrew Flynn and Matthew Roggenkamp to PFC; Jonathan Allaband, Adam Beem, Benjamin Molk and Mark O'Dowd to CPL.

### SO 290-97 dated 2/26/97

James Cummings, Douglas Rush, Alden Stein and Scott Sprencz to Old Boy Status and to PV2.

### SO 294-97 dated 2/28/97

David Clarke, John Collins and Matthew Herrick to Old Boy Status and to PV2.

### SO 301-97 dated 3/4/97

Hojin Lim, J. Parker O'Roark, Garry Quandt, Mark SanSouci and Kevin Zimont to PFC.

### SO 395-97 dated 3/4/97

Chad Black, Samuel Hinderliter, Randy McCulloch, Joshua Padilla and Jeffrey Paul to Old Boy Status and PV2.

### SO 308-97 dated 3/7/97

Steven Parr to Old Boy Status and PV2; Stephen Streeter to 1LT.

### SO 316-97 dated 3/13/97

James Bilotto, Walter Meinzer, Kenny Musch, Brandon Runkle and Steven Young to PFC; Jeffrey Frasier, Nathan Silvers and Arian Taherzadeh to CPL; Steven Marcy and Mark Triebwasser to 1LT.

### SO 321-97 dated 3/16/97

Nathan Alexander, Justin Allison, Charles Beriault, John Childers, Kelly Coggins, Maurice Harper, James Keller, Alexander Kocher, Scott Norris and Sean Pollaro to

SGT; Justin Holton to SSG; Joel Vance to SFC and Benjamin Warren to MSG.

### SO 328-97 dated 3/19/97

Jason Hill and Robert Kitchens to Old Boy Status and PV2; Frank Horn, Laramie Jones and William Schwinn to PFC.

### SO 331-97 dated 3/24/97

Jason Bourell, David DeMarco and Michael Shaver to PFC; Stephen Carter and Jonathan Coyne to CPL.

### SO 335-97 dated 3/25/97

Daniel Blanton, Thomas Dickinson and Ethan Vinkemulder to Old Boy Status and PV2.

### SO 342-97 dated 4/7/97

Bryan Werner to WO1; Stephen Streeter to CPT; Joshua Hestehave, Rafael Llorente, Alejandro McKula, Joseph Miller and Paul Vieni to MAJ; Newman Merton to LTC; Douglas Morrison to COL.

### SO 349-97 dated 4/11/97

David Clarke and Alden Stein to PFC; Brian Hoal, James Johnson and Rodney McCurdy to SGT.

### SO 371-97 dated 4/23/97

Mark Asaad, Joel Barnes, Kellen Beer, Luke Burkard, Allen Cagle, Steven Parr and Aaron Scott to PFC; David Jend, Kris Kielhorn, Garry Quandt, Rex Robichaux, Thomas Stafford, Matthew Webster and Andrew Wert to CPL; Joshua Lett to SGT.

## Spring Prom a Formal Occasion

A dinner and dance at the Salina Country Club on Friday night made a special weekend for the Juniors and Seniors on April 11.

Forty-eight cadets attended the dinner and most took advantage of the lenient pass gate which covered most of Saturday and Sunday.



*Showing them how it's done is the Commandant of Cadets, LTC Mike Furlo.*

## Awards dinner for Galley League

The North Central Kansas Galley League awards dinner was held on April 17. The St. John's Military School Rifle Team belongs to the league and won the following awards.

In the Marksman class, Cadet Rodney McCurdy placed 7th and Cadet Rodger Shriver placed 8th. In the Sharpshooter class, Cadet James Rutherford took 1st place. Great season, Team!

In addition, the North Central Kansas Galley League presented SFC Michael Whalen the SJMS Rifle Team coach with a check to purchase a brick in the new Multi-Functional Building.

### It's a Boy Thomas Orlin

is the newest member of the SJMS  
Family  
Born April 22

to Brenda and Kevin  
McCoy

**Congratulations!**

*Kevin is the Marriott Food Service  
Director and Brenda is Secretary in the  
Middle School.*

## Third Grading Period Honors are Announced

Congratulations to the

### **BLUE BERETS**

Upper School:

**STEPHEN STREETER**

**ROBERT "NATHAN" BILOTTE**

**DAVID ANDERSON**

**JAMES KELLER**

Middle School:

**TYLER McGIVERN**

**THOMAS STAFFORD**

**REX ROBICHAUX**

### **HONOR ROLL:**

Making the Academic Dean's Honor Roll for the Third Grading Period from the Upper School are: Stephen Streeter 96.65; Robert "Nathan" Bilotte 96.34; David Anderson 96.34; James Keller 96.06; Christopher Ramias 96.03; Alejandro McKula 95.96; Scott Norris 95.93; Kelly Coggins 94.82; Hojin Lim 94.41; Sean Pollaro 94.22; Douglas Morrison 93.62 and Daniel Clark 93.59.

From the Middle School are Tyler McGivern 94.29, Thomas Stafford 94.11 and Rex Robichaux 93.72.

### **HONORABLE MENTION:**

Making Honorable Mention from the Upper School are George Vogler 93.37; Michael Leonard 93.25; John Krotz 92.97; Reagan Reese 92.88; Kevin Zimont 92.71; Mark Triebwasser 92.65; Joseph Miller 92.57; Rafael Llorente 92.41; Charles Kocher 92.16; Taylor Marshall 92.06; Newman Merton 91.76; Rodger Shriver 91.72; Joe Gabel 91.69; Paul Vieni 91.63; David Jend 91.59; Brian Droge 91.36; Bobby Bearden 91.35; Andrew Wert 91.01; Matthew Beynon 90.63; Ryan Watenpaugh 90.30; Benjamin Warren 90.26; Mark Davis 90.10; Evan Callaway 90.06; Mark Asaad 89.78; Christopher Sheard 89.73; Ryan Levita 89.52; Ronald Credelle 89.50; Christopher Donnelly 89.35; Rodney McCurdy 89.31; Brian Hoal 89.29; Shaun Dumas 89.25; Victor Brane 89.20; Jonathan Coyne 89.16; Casey Vanlandingham 89.13; Garry Quandt 89.08; Angelo Cisneros 89.05; Jeremiah Blakney 88.84; Taylor Johnson 88.73 and James Rutherford 88.59.

Honorable Mention from the Middle School are Matthew Webster 92.61; Mark SanSouci 91.47; Carlos Machado 91.18; Derek Michael 90.68; Walter 'Frank' Horn 90.53; David Holdcraft 90.23; Kellen Beer 89.34; Derek Hanlon 89.27; Michael Speelman 89.04; Joshua Lett 88.77 and Travis Hull 88.68.

*Congratulations, for a job well done!*

## **Forensics "League"**

*by Kelly Coggins, San Antonio TX*

The Forensics team went to the League tournament on Wednesday, April 9. Out of a team of 9 cadets, the team broke in 12 events. Five double broke (qualified for finals) and two qualified for single broke. Joe Gabel broke in Humorous Solo and Improvised Duet Acting. Newman Merton took Dramatic Solo and Informative.

Laramie Jones qualified for finals in Humorous Solo and Improvised Duet Acting. Joe Miller did great in Dramatic Solo and Extemporaneous speaking. Kelly Coggins performed exceedingly well in his oration and extemporaneous speaking. Osly Preston, teamed up with Joe Gabel, rocked the Improvised duet Acting scene. Richard Shield took 5th place in Improvised Duet Acting with the help of Laramie Jones.

The team would like to thank Mrs. Peterson for all her help. We could not have done it without her.

## **Cadets play the Stock Market Game**

During the past ten weeks, six teams in Mr. Keith's Economics Class have been participating in the Stock Market Game offered by Kansas State University. In the State of Kansas, 978 teams participated this spring.

The team of Jack O'Roark, Steve Carter and Jason Bourell finished 43rd out of these 978 teams. Out of the 55 teams in our region, these cadets finished 6th.

Congratulations not only to this team but to the other five teams in the class.

## ***Presenting the***



***Bobby Bearden***



***Matthew Bostwick***



***Evan Callaway***



***Erik Carlsten***



***Cortland Dunn***



***Jason Heitzman***



***Joshua Hestehave***



***Brian Hoal***



***David Jend***



***Rafael Llorente***



***Aaron Lyons***



***Reginald McGill***

## ***Senior Class of the***





*Patrick McKnight*



*Alejandro McKula*



*Newman Merton*



*Joseph Miller II*



*Douglas Morrison*



*Jarrett Nebrich*



*Christopher Ramias*



*C. Reagan Reese*



*Alex Ryan*



*Michael Stewart*



*Steven Streeter*



*F. Paul Vieni*

**109<sup>th</sup>**



*Bryan Werner*



*Richard Williams*

## Drill Team competes at US Air Force Academy

It was an exciting weekend when the Color Guard and Drill Team went to Colorado Springs for competition. Leaving campus on Friday morning, April 18, they arrived in time for their evening meal, be assigned to a sleeping area and locate their cots. They played some basketball for a couple of hours in the gym, practiced their routine a couple times, and spent the remainder of the evening getting their uniforms and equipment ready for exhibition.

Because of the crowd and noise, and in particular the Marines 4 A.M. routine, it was a quick night. It didn't help that the mess hall ran out of breakfast, but someone found some bananas for our Cadets.

Finally, it was time, and they performed their regulation drill (without rifles) followed by the exhibition drill at 12:15 P.M.

The afternoon was free where some Cadets went to the Olive Garden along with some of the parents. Parents attending were those of Cadets Harris, Williams, Vieni, Heitzman, Coleman and Greenwood.

An award ceremony was held at 6 P.M. that evening with the top three teams announced. It was quite a parade when 600 cadets making up 35 teams, performed the Massing of the Corps.

Following Sunday's breakfast they return to Salina, giving an unscheduled performance at a gas station in Colby for a bus load of girls on their way home from Breckenridge.

The Cadets are anxiously awaiting news as to how they finished. They are pictured above with the West Point Drill Team with whom they became great friends.



## Academic Dean's Message

*(Continued from page 2)*

our goals. These changes have been explained to the students during their pre-enrollment and hopefully we have answered all of their questions.

You may also like to know of the curriculum changes planned for next school year. Linger will offer, in the P.M. to it's seventh and eighth graders, Environmental Studies, Aerospace Technology, World History, Band, Computer Aided Principles of Technology, Study Skills, Writing Skills, Computer Aided Social Studies and Math Skills, Computer Creative Writing, and Bell Choir. Some new upper school courses will be Drivers Education (based on KS requirements--which may be different than other states), Ecology, Anatomy, Calculus, Trigonometry, Statistics, Weight lifting, Computer Aided Principles of Technology, Computer Aided Drafting, and French II. We believe these new courses will continue to improve the quality of education.

In closing, I wish to remind parents that with the final grades will be a letter from Mr. Hensley, the counselor, that explains current and future academic status. If you have questions or concerns pertaining to any of this academic information, please feel free to contact either of us.

## Chaplain's Chat

*(Continued from page 3)*

Western Kansas, I spent time and built memories at St. John's. Little did I know in those carefree days, that some 42 years later, the formal reception celebrating my Ordination to the Sacred Order of Priests, would be held in that same Nichols Dining Hall.

Like so many things in life, that final meal in what so many people remembered as "the new mess hall", (now more than a half a century old) was filled with nostalgia and fond memories, but at the same time, filled with the expectation of even better times and new memories ahead. For we were all aware that part of our purpose, as we bid a fond farewell to Nichols Hall, was to initiate the beginning of what we now know will be Stevens Center, a "state of the art" building, that the experts in such things tell us will be a 100 year building.

The evening was concluded with a prayer and benediction which recalled and gave thanks to Almighty God for the life and ministry of such men as The Rt. Rev. Shirley Hall Nichols, and Col. The Rev. Remy Clem, who's vision and commitment had made Nichols Hall a reality for our use and enjoyment for the past half century. A building which had provided the site for many precious memories in the lives of not only those of us who were privileged to participate in this occasion, but in the lives of literally hundreds of St. John's "Old Boys" through the years.

With the coming of Stevens Center, we can see the words of Scripture, through the vision and commitment of a new generation of leadership, again at work in this venerable institution: "Behold, I make all things new."



# At the top, Baby!

School keeps 595 out of 600 pts., one of the highest scores ever received in a JROTC Inspection.

From the time they arrived on campus until they were preparing to leave, the ROTC inspection team was impressed with the 109th Corps. "It's obvious the Corps did not accomplish what I witnessed today by preparing in just the last 24-48 hours," said Colonel Robert Cooch of the Fort Carson, Colorado inspection team. During the Formal Inspection on Tuesday, April 29, the cadets were at their best, and the team was quite impressed with the caliber of our young men, with the senior staff and with the total program, beginning with their entrance at the front gate.

The day began with the Honor Guard greeting the Inspection Team, accompanied by the Battalion Staff. After the formal greeting, the Battalion Staff escorted the Inspection Team to the patio of Vanier Academic Center to meet the faculty and staff members present. The staff then began the inspection process by conducting a staff briefing for the Inspection Team in the Battalion Assembly room. Each staff member explained his individual duties and responsibilities.

After a brief tour of the campus, the Inspection Team conducted an in-ranks inspection on Perkins Field. Following lunch, the final phases of the inspection included the Formal Pass-in-Review, the Color Guard presentation and the Drill Team performance.

The 109th was up to the challenge. The Corps received excellent scores, believed to be one of the highest score ever received by a JROTC program.

During the Formal Inspection, cadets are not only asked about their uniform and their military life, but are asked many other questions- in categories such as chain of command, customs and courtesy, first aid/drug abuse, map reading, weapon marksmanship and drill and ceremony. Considering all of this, look at how they did.

The Corps was scored in ten areas. Following is a list showing the cadets score (in parenthesis is the total possible points awarded):

- Cadet Staff Briefing, 98 (100)**
- Cadet Attendance and Participation, 50 (50)**
- In Rank Inspection, 99 (100)**
- Curriculum Knowledge, 48 (50)**
- Drill and Ceremony, 50 (50)**
- Color Guard, 50 (50)**
- Supply Room, 50 (50)**
- Records and Administration, 50 (50)**
- Training and Management, 50 (50)**
- Public Affairs, 50 (50)**

**Out of a possible 600 points, the 109th received a score of 595.** The results of this year's annual test was a day of which our Cadets can be very proud.



## Chapman comes in on high

### Capital Campaign

Change is a word that not only reflects upon the coming seasons but is relevant to the structural look of the campus. The wrecking ball prepares to swing into action and make room for the new multifunctional facility.

As you know, we began raising funds in January for this project. The 25,000 square foot building will replace Nichols Hall and serve the Corps of Cadets in various ways. To date \$2.2 million has been committed toward the 3 million dollar goal. We would encourage all the Old Boys to consider purchasing a brick that will be placed in the brick courtyard (\$250). Names will be inscribed in the brick in honor of all those that have invested in this effort. We are shooting for 100% class participation. Give your classmates a call and encourage them to take part. Gifts and pledges can be paid over a three year period.

### Learning from "Old Boys"

The past six months, as Director of Institutional Advancement, has been a time of travel, conversation, update, and education. From Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri, Colorado, to the Nebraska borders, the stories of time spent at St. John's have all had a underlying link that pulls each towards one conclusion. There is emotion and passion in each voice, a look that sees through the fog of a time long ago, a story of vision and clarity in describing what it has meant to be a Mule-skinner.

From Tom Orton, Colorado, and his views of economic change, to Charlie Morrison, Missouri, and his historic military past, to Bill Gillespie, Oklahoma, and his entrepreneurial abilities in engineering and design, to Bob Price and the best Water Sports of Northwest Arkansas Store in Springdale, the theme of leadership and



*At top, Tom Orton and Tim Chapman meet in the Denver Marriott. Center, Bill Gillespie shows an electric car he designed. Bottom, Morrisons in their home in K.C.*



for educational pieces, regarding estate planning, tax advice, avenues to supplement retirement income, to be sent to various groups of alumni. A Fall phonathon is planned. This will enable Cadets to talk with Old Boys and give us the opportunity to

guidance and what both meant in their young life remains very evident to this day. The conclusion? Respect and a love for the mission of St. John's.

### Future plans

The coming year will be an exciting one with preparation beginning

update our records. Also planned for the Fall is a weekend for class reunions, tours, football, etc. Dates will be established later.

I look forward to my upcoming travels across the country and encourage you all to stay in touch and inform us how we may better serve you. For those with e-mail addresses be sure and pass a note along. My address is [timc@informatics.net](mailto:timc@informatics.net).

## Robert Philbrook - My Classmate, a Cadet Officer and my friend

*written by Louis Fulton and presented by Fred Schoeb, Classmates.*



When I got the Class of 1946 together for our 40th reunion here at St. John's, my wife asked Bob "what did this school really mean to you?"

He said it saved my life - my Dad was Dean of the Episcopal Cathedral in Davenport, Iowa and I was not a model son by any means. I was headed the wrong way: poor grades, played hookey, shot pool, etc.

Father Nale, the school Chaplain at SJMS, came through Davenport and happened by the Cathedral. He visited with Dad and Dad liked him. Dad told him about me and three hours later I was on my way to St. John's.

I knew I would hate it and run away. BUT GUESS WHAT!

I loved it. I liked all the guys and just look at them now. They are all the same, only better. Everyone of them is a gentleman and my brother.

St. John's gave all of us the guidance and direction necessary for the rest of our lives. Here are some of the things they taught us.

1. Tell the truth.
2. When to stand up
3. When to shut up and listen
4. Strengthened our belief in God

## TAPS

**Rex DeRusseau**

Clyde, Kansas

Died April 9, 1997

Former SJMS Instructor

**Robert R. Philbrook**

Jacksonville, Florida

Died March 7, 1997

"Old Boy", Class of '46  
(related story on this page)

**M/SGT Dwight O. Woodall,  
USAF (Ret)**

Salina, Kansas

Died March 14, 1997

Former SJMS Military Advisor  
(related story on page 13)

5. Taught us manners and how to be a gentleman
6. How to communicate
7. To be clean, neat and sharp all the time.

I can tell you, my wife Catherine, was impressed by what he said and she loves to see the Cadets on the campus when we visit.

You know, Bob, I feel the same way about St. John's. It is your home and it is mine. I, like you, will have my ashes interred in the Chapel; because only then will we be truly home. Here to hear the bugle, the cannon at retreat, the Drum Corps, Cadets singing in the Chapel, plus the din of the Cadets across the campus. Yes, we will be home once again.

Bob, all you are really doing is reporting in to Colonel Clem; who was our mentor. He was the head of the school and to a great many, he was a real father-like image: fair, just and godly.

You are the second in our Class of 1946 to cross the bar since our 40th reunion in 1986 and our first to be interred here in the Chapel.

A big "Well done" is owed you and thanks for leading the way.

One last favor. I want you and Colonel Clem to keep your eye open for me and the rest of the Class of 1946.

## Fred "Fritz" Schoeb returns for Burial Service

Due to the death of Mr. Fulton's brother-in-law, Lou was not able to attend the service at the last minute. Classmate Fred 'Fritz' Schoeb drove to Wichita to pick up Bob's son and "Old Boy" Jim Philbrook, class of '73, who flew in from Florida with Bob's ashes.

Upon his return home to Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, Fritz wrote to his classmates referring to his trip as a great refresher course in the spirit of St. John's Military School.

He shared information about events during his visit in Salina, about the burial service, and those persons in attendance. He completes his letter with the following paragraph.

"Considering the reason we were there, it was a great trip for both Jim and me. It rekindles many fond memories of the school and each of you. The true spirit of St. John's lives on! For us St. John's was more than a school. It was our home, our family and the place we learned to live our lives with grace, honor and responsibility. By the time you receive this letter there will be no evidence of the buildings we knew in 1946, but the spirit and purpose of the school are very much alive and well."

"Thank you for your kind words, Fritz."

Please put in a good word for us as we will need all the help we can get in order to get in.

Farewell my friend, farewell, and I can tell you we will drink a Toast to you at our next reunion and everyone thereafter. We will miss you, your golf swing, smile and ready wit.

Yes, the Class of 1946 will never forget you Robert Philbrook.



## Isis Potentate an "Old Boy"

The SJMS Drill Team and the Color Guard performed for one of their own when Marvin H. Schmidt, Hoisington, Kansas, was honored to the office of Potentate of the Isis Temple at the Potentate's Ball held in Salina on March 22.

An "Old Boy" from the class of '49, Marvin was born in Great Bend, Kansas and attended schools in Susank and Hoisington before graduating from St. John's. After graduation, he attended Brown Mackie School of Business in Salina, the National School of Meat Cutting in Toledo, Ohio and Kansas University, Salina.

He is a veteran of the Korean War, having served in the Army from 1951 through 1954. He was involved in the restaurant business in Colorado and Wholesale Grocery and Meat Sales in Florida, retiring in 1991 as a Meat Inspector for the State of Florida in order to return to Kansas.

The Isis Temple covers 43 counties in Kansas with 24 Shrine Clubs scattered throughout Isis jurisdiction and has 3,000 members.

*We are proud you are one of us, Marvin!*

## Two Seniors to U.S. Academics

### Streeter to Coast Guard

Cadet Captain Steve Streeter has been accepted to the United States Coast Guard Academy, New London, Connecticut. He will report on 7 July to begin his orientation. Steve plans to major in Marine and Environmental Ecology. Congratulations, Steve!

### Merton to Military Academy

Cadet Captain Newman Merton has been accepted at the U.S. Military Academy at Ft. Monmouth, New Jersey. He will report on 18 July to begin the Preparatory School program.



### Attention Gun Collectors:

***A gun auction will be held on the SJMS Campus on Saturday, May 31.***

***Proceeds will go toward the Capital Fund Drive.***

*For more information, contact Tim Chapman, Director of Institutional Advancement (913) 823-7231, Ext. 7716.*

## Tom Wilson named State Fire Marshall

A native Oklahoman who has been chief of fire departments in Louisiana, Alabama and California has been selected Oklahoma State Fire Marshal. Tom P. Wilson, "Old Boy" Class of '62, assumed his duty on February 3.

Wilson, a native of Miami, said he is "thrilled and deeply honored" to be returning to Oklahoma. "I am looking forward to facing the challenges of this position and working with the department team members in addressing the fire problems of the state."

Wilson served as chief of the Caddo Parish Fire Department in Greenwood, LA, Manhattan Beach and Needles, CA and was interim fire chief in Cullman, AL; was a captain for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection for San Bernardino County; and had five years experience as a police officer and nine years as an arson bomb investigator in California.

*"Congratulations, Tom."*

## David Elk, Class of '67 writes

He writes:

"1996 turned out to be a highly pivotal and challenging year for me and my family. By commencement of last year my Dad had been in the hospital with pneumonia on top of taking custody of my younger daughter Meghan (17) a couple of months previous. On 13 July, she was in a car accident which killed her instantly, south of Claremore, OK.

Meghan was driving but waiting at a non-controlled intersection two feet back off the road siding, preparing to cross Route 66 when a vehicle ran off the road and broadsided on her side going near 60 m.p.h. She had been going to a 2-week session at a church camp. Readjustment to the situation has been slow but am gradually rebuilding my life. I've started tutoring a few students of varying grades.

Swimming was less intense than '95 with a total of 512 miles for the year. But it will take a long time to fill this hole.

"Meghan was on the St. John's campus one Saturday in June to take the ACT. She looked for my class which she thought was 1966. I never had a son who could attend where I went to school, but for if only a couple of hours, perhaps it could be said my daughter did, although I don't believe any of the staff administered the test. She would have been Class of '97.

"I fully intend to be there for commencement weekend unless my brother and wife come to visit from California.

"Best of luck to the best of effort to the St. John's Class of 1997."

David has telephoned the office recently and still hopes to be in Salina for Commencement Weekend. He is hoping some of his classmates will be here so they can celebrate their 30th reunion..

## Woodall Memorial Service held

Dwight Woodall, a former Military Advisor at St. John's Military School, died on March 14 at the age of 78. His funeral service was held at the Chapel of St. John the Evangelist on the campus with the Revs. Keith Whitmore and Canon James Cox officiating.

Burial was in Roselawn Memorial Park with military rites by McConnell Air Force Base, Wichita.

Mr. Woodall was a master sergeant in the U.S. Air Force, retiring in 1962 after 29 years of service, and then was assistant commandant at St. John's for 17 years. He was also an Honorary Colonel at St. John's.

His son, Jeffrey, of Overland Park, "Old Boy", Class of '69, gave the Eulogy.

Along with Memorials to the school in Dwight's name, the family has started a scholarship fund and is donating an Air Force sabre to be used by the Corp's master sergeant each year.



## Henrici visits campus

Mr. and Mrs. William C. Henrici, from Bella Vista, Arkansas, visited the campus a few weeks ago and are shown viewing the sabre displayed in the Business Office in Vanier Academic Center.

The sabre has special meaning to them because Mr. Henrici mailed and donated the sabre to the school in March of 1990. It had belonged to his father, Herbert S. Henrici, who was a member of the Class of 1913.

## Varsity Track has good start

### Wakefield Invitational

The St. John's cadets traveled to Wakefield on April 18 to participate in a nine team invitational. Coming off of a fourth place win at the Solomon Track Meet one week earlier, the Cadets finished sixth in which several personal bests were obtained.

Medaling for the Skinners included:

Credelle, Shriver, Bearden and Bostwick, 4x800 relay, 2nd  
Mike Valdez, 400 M dash, 1st  
Bobby Bearden, 800 M dash, 3rd  
Reggie McGill, 200 M dash, 1st

Scoring points for the team included:

Mark Davis, 100 M dash, 6th and Long Jump, 4th.  
Joe Miller, 300 Hurdles, 6th  
Steven Streeter, Discus, 6th  
Miller, Bearden, Credelle and Valdez, 4x400 relay, 5th

Setting Recent SJMS Records,

Nathan Bilotte, Triple Jump, 34' 7 1/2"

Both Coach Keith and Walker want to commend the team on their hard work and continued success.

### Wilson Invitational

The Varsity Track Squad recently competed in the Wilson invitational on April 25. Out of seven teams competing, the cadets finished a close fourth behind Ell-Saline and ahead of Waconda East, Lucas Luray and Lincoln.

Cadets earning points for the team but not medaling include the following:

Rodger Shriver, High Jump, 5th  
Jeff Wagstaff, 110 Hurdles, 4th  
Reggie McGill, 100 M Dash, 5th  
Joe Miller, 300 Hurdles, 6th

Cadets who earned points while also lettering include the following:

Reggie McGill, 110 Hurdles, 2nd  
Valdez, Cummings, McGill and Wagstaff, 4x100 Relay, 3rd  
Credelle, Miller, Bostwick and Bearden, 4x800 Relay, 2nd

Mike Valdez, 400 M. Dash, 2nd  
Bobby Bearden, 800 M Run, 3rd  
Reggie McGill, 200 M Dash, 2nd  
Miller, Bearden, Sheard and Valdez, 4x400 Relay, 3rd

The coaches want to congratulate the squad on a job well done. The cadets will next be in action at the Lucas Luray invitational on May 2.

## Faculty/Staff not all just talk

In March, the Faculty and staff took on the M.S. and the U.S. in softball games. The final scores were unquestionably in favor of the adults.

He middle school cadets played just east of Linger against a team organized by Mrs. O'Neill and MSG Lawrence. The upper school cadets played at the east end of the football field against a team organized by Ms. Peterson and Major Stelljes.



*Speilman awaits the pitch; Robichaux looks for the long one; and Ash and Shaw both come in on one that gets through.*



## PLAY BALL

*by Joseph Miller,  
Phoenix, AZ*

The cadets have a new ball team and are doing great. At this time there are no games scheduled but we are hoping that a team will want to take us on and lose. We would like to especially send a big thank you out to Cadet Fairchild's father for buying a new \$1,800 pitching machine that the cadets can use in practice. There are twelve cadets who are playing right now with TSGT Werber as the coach of the Skinners. Cadets have practice three times a week and any other time they think they can get away with playing. The cadets are looking for a game and as the old saying goes, "Any time, any where." For now though, the Cadets are just happy that we finally have a team and hope that in the near future we can compete in a league and play lots of games.





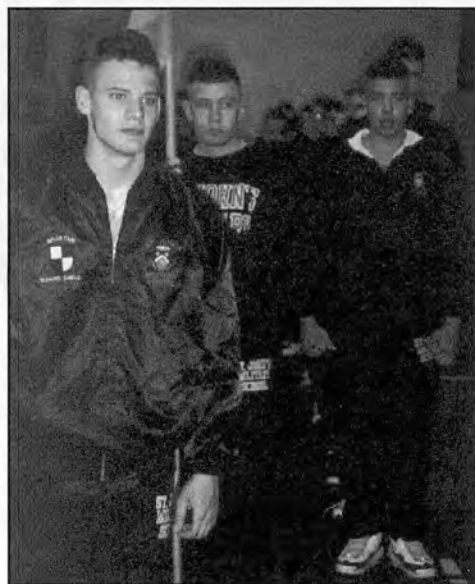
## Bravo takes Honors

### Cadet Challenge Held

With faculty and military staff assisting, classroom time was turned over to the Military Department for the Cadet Challenge events on Friday morning, April 25.

To begin the Challenge, the Corps assembled in the gym where they were given a briefing along with a demonstration of each event. Faculty and military staff assisted with the scoring of events which included the Curl Ups, Shuttle Run, Standing Long Jump, Pull Ups and the One Mile Run.

Scores were then tallied to determine the winner, and the Cadet Challenge Company of the Year went to Bravo.



# Scenes from Ground-Breaking



Secretary of State, Ron Thornburgh



Tim Chapman with "Old Boy" Floyd Lotker and his wife Dorothea, Oberlin, Kansas. Floyd is from the class of '40.



Pictured are members of the Board of Trustees who were in attendance during the Ceremony. From left: Donna Vanier, Stewart Horejsi, Bob Kastner, Larry Britegam, Karl Stutterheim, Larry Bengtson, Charlie Stevens, Darrell Wilson, (Secretary of State Ron Thornburgh,) Lawton Nuss, Ron Green and Bruce Stainbrook.

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