



# THE SKIRMISHER

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



Vol. LXXXVI

No. 1

October 1997

## WELCOME 110th CORPS!



"I'm ready  
Dad. Put me  
in!" says young  
Peyton Shaw

## Cadets win one for Parents

In front of the Parents' Weekend Homecoming crowd, a one yard run prevented the game from going into overtime, a rare occurrence in 8-man football.

Trailing 30-8 late in the third quarter, Wakefield decided to get in the game and started a run of three unanswered touchdowns. With 1:14 left in the game, Ben Warren made an interception giving the Cadets the ball at the Wakefield 6 yard line. Steve Marcy's one yard run with just 12 seconds left lifted St. John's to a 36-30 victory over Wakefield.

## Who said Romance is dead ? . . . not at St. John's

Prior to the scheduled half time show, attendees were witnesses to a performance by Assistant Coach Steve Ash when he surprised his wife with a grandstand display. Cadets escorted Mrs. Ash from the stands to the front of the stadium and, with "Happy Anniversary" wishes from her husband, four cadets from the Middle School each presented Mrs. Ash with a carnation to represent their four children and grandchildren.

Following this, in single file, twenty-eight members of the football team and cadet corps, came on the field and each presented her with a rose, totaling the 28 years they have been married.



## Salina girl selected Homecoming Queen

Jaime Gustafson was crowned Homecoming Queen at the cadet dance following the Homecoming Football game on October 17. Assisting in the presentation were Cadets Nathan Bilotte and Jeffrey Paul. Nominated by Ryan Levitan, Jaime is a Sophomore attending Salina South. She is involved in several school organizations, including the debate team, tennis and forensics. She plans on attending Kansas

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## President's Message Capt. E. A. McAlexander

During a recent conversation with a visiting old boy, I said that "if St. John's were a publicly traded corporation, I would buy its stock." Although I said it lightly at the time, it is certainly true.

St. John's is a member of the Association of Military Colleges and Schools of the United States (AMCSUS). Other members are the six four-year military colleges such as The Citadel, VMI and Norwich, and six schools that have junior colleges as well as high schools, such as Kemper, Wentworth and Valley Forge. We are one of approximately thirty schools that have some combination of middle and high schools.

In the 1920's, there were over 200 military high schools in the association. The Depression and the Vietnam era caused many of the

schools to close, and several to drop their military programs. Most of the surviving schools have admitted young ladies, or enrolled a combination of day or non-military students. St. John's is one of the few remaining schools, which is "all boys, all boarding, and all military".

There are two important reasons for this fortunate situation. The first is the talent and determination that President Emeritus Keith Duckers and his predecessor Remy Clem brought to the leadership of the school. Col. Clem (1936 to 1968) and Col. Duckers (1968 to 1993) guided the school through conditions that devastated similar institutions. They deserve our greatest respect and appreciation. The second factor, I believe, is the support the school received from the residents of Salina and the alumni. This was crucial to the survival of the school in any number of situations.

We are now in an era where there is a constant demand for the service that we provide, and the school is in excellent financial condition. I firmly believe that there is an important place in our

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## Academic Dean's Message LTC Kenneth Faerber

I'm pleased to report positive academic changes to the St. John's Military School improvement plan for 1997-98. Those changes being threefold: I. New Middle School Concept; II. Modification of Block Scheduling, and III. New Course

### Offerings.

The elimination of sixth grade at St. John's Military School has afforded us additional opportunities to provide for the overall growth of Cadets by ushering in a new middle school concept. By offering the ninth grade 'core' curriculum classes (English, science, math, and social science) at Linger Middle School, St. John's is better able to balance student course distribution and maintain as low a student-teacher ratio as possible.

This new concept resulted in creating another morning block schedule that would best meet 7th, 8th and 9th grade needs, yet integrate with the current high school block schedule. The new middle school A.M. schedule consists

of two 70 minute blocks followed by a 35 minute C.A.T. (Club, Activity, Tutorial) period each day. Afternoon classes for all grades consist of two 90 minute blocks. As a reminder the tutorial periods are designed for academic purposes only. In order to help students better use the tutorial period, teachers complete a weekly tutorial roster listing students who must see them for personal assistance and/or supervision. A second listing itemizes assignments that students are able to complete without direct teacher assistance.

Meeting students' curriculum needs is an on-going process. New course offerings at St. John's is an important step in that process. Additions to this year's curriculum are:

Drivers Education\*

French II

Weight lifting\*

Environmental Ecology\*

Trigonometry\*

Anatomy\*

Statistics\*

Computer Assisted Principles of Technology/Computer Aided Drafting\*

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## Commandant's Message LTC Mike Furlo

The 100th Corps of Cadets is progressing remarkably well. We have all managed to cope with the inconveniences of construction surrounding the new Stevens Center multipurpose facility. In addition, we are grateful for the changing weather. The cooler

climate makes our dining much more pleasurable in the Baner Gym, which temporarily serves as our dining facility. Other than the occasional flood, we are operating extremely well. Our undertaking to cross level the upper school cadets and make the 110th Corps more balanced in composition, has, initially been very positive. Now, all our Cadet Companies can compete on an equal footing.

The Corps' leaders have reinforced basic fundamentals and

are doing an outstanding job of working together to achieve desired goals. Their core efforts have been directed at improving and standardizing barracks appearance; maintaining high standards of personal appearance; and obtaining the highest proficiency in the Corps drill and ceremony techniques. All of these enterprises are directed at making the 110th Corps of Cadets one of the best.

Already this year the 110th has demonstrated its ability to perform at the highest levels. Their performance in the annual Santa Fe Day parade was truly notable. Furthermore, all the activities surrounding Parents' Weekend were conducted in a truly polished and professional manner.

Congratulations to all our cadets and patrons for making the event a special occasion.

Again, as in past years, the Corps has showcased that St. John's Military School instills a sense of pride in the long heritage of the cadets who have gone before them. Keep up the good work!

## Donna Vanier heads Board of Trustees

The quarterly meeting of the SJMS Board of Directors was held in October. The new Chairperson is Donna Vanier, Brookville.

Newly elected Committee Chairmen include Karl Stutterheim, Buildings and Grounds; Larry Britegam, Development; Larry Bengtson, Policy Review and Darrell Wilson, Personnel.

## On the local scene . . .

Building pledges are still coming in. Shown below is Bob Muir, chairman of the National Rifle Association in Salina (left), handing Capt. E. A. McAlexander, president of St. John's, a check for \$1,000. This gift will be added to the \$3 million dollar campaign and used for the new rifle range located in the lower level of Stevens Center.



To date, \$2.6 million has been given or pledged for the Stevens Center project. This three-year campaign is headed by Larry Britegam, an "Old Boy" of SJMS and currently senior vice president at Sunflower Bank, Salina.

## Annual Mule-skinner Golf Tournament



The 1998 Mule-skinner campaign got underway in August with a golf tournament at the Salina Country Club and a steak feed at Vanier Center. Fourteen teams competed with "Handicap or not...It's in the Bank" taking first place. Pictured from the winning team, L to R, Don Lamb, Don Vandegrift, Steve Brown and Larry Britegam.

Don Dieckhoff still holds the record and is in the lead as "Top Gun" which is given annually to the volunteer who recruits the most Mule-skinners. Mule-skinners along with new members and whip-crackers will be recognized at a Banquet being planned for later in the Spring.

## New faces on campus

by Charles Beriault, Littleton CO

Terry Beall is the new middle school instructor and Band instructor. He received his B.A. degree from Kansas Wesleyan, and comes to St. John's with teaching experience at several area schools. His many interests includes his two Mercedes, '74 and '88 models.

SFC Ricky Jordan (pictured at left) is new to the Military Staff. He is a Cadet Advisor with night duty at Mize Hall. Jordan is from Penuelas, Puerto Rico, and retired after 21 years with the Army. When asked about his experiences he shared that he received the highest military award for heroism after taking his squad into position and neutralizing the enemy position.





*Pictures taken during Promotion Ceremony at end of Leadership Camp.*



## Promotions since beginning of school year:

SO 5-98 dated 8/29/97

Mark Christopher Davis, Gerard Joseph Gabel, Taylor Ian Johnson, Scott Alan Norris and Benjamin Michael Warren to 2LT; Joel Christopher Vance to MSG; Casey Robert Van Landingham to SGT and Austin Leigh Porzak to CPL.

SO 11-98 dated 9/8/97

Jeremiah Harold Blakeny to CPL and Jason Michael Bourell to PFC.

SO 12-98 dated 9/9/97

H. Kevin Yoon to 2LT.

SO 17-98 dated 9/12/97

Kenneth Anthony Bradley to PFC; Victor Ward Brane, Alexander Jacob Fabian, David E. Tovrea Holdcraft, Henry David Madsen, Jeffrey Matthew Paul and Jared Clayton Winer to CPL.

SO 24-98 dated 9/18/97

Mark David Triebwasser to MAJ; Steven Akio Marcy and Michael J. Rolle to CPT; James V.F. Bray, Jerry Dean Martin and Jason Eric Smith to PFC; Ryan Lewis Levitan and Jeffrey Sinclair Wagstaff to SSG.

SO 27-98 dated 9/21/97

Michael Travis Leonard to MSG; Adam Bryant Beem, James Alfred Chidester, Kelly Coggins and Ricardo Pierre Greenwood to SSG; and Christopher Anthony Pineda to SGT.

SO 32-98 dated 9/22/97

Neil Brandon Bundy to PV2.

SO 38-98 dated 9/24/97

Scott Adam Sprencz, Jeffrey Scott DeJarnett, Samuel D. Hinderliter and Stephen Edward Young to PFC; Steven Ray Parr and Matthew Wayne Watson to CPL; Nathaniel K. Wells to NB; and Stephen Edward Young to PFC.

SO 66-98 dated 10/8/97

Kenneth Anthony Bradley and Robert Daniel Kitchens to PV2; James Thomas Rutherford to SSG; Jared Clayton Winer to SGT.

SO 75-98 dated 10/14/97

Richard Charles Shield to SGT and Jason Eric Smith to CPL.

SO 82-98 dated 10/18/97

Jason Michael Bourell to CPL; Derek Van Michael, Austin Leigh Porzak, Thomas Patton Stafford, George Brian Vogler, Matthew Wayne Webster to SGT; Charles Robert Beriault, Matthew Aaron

*(Continued on page 5)*

# New Boys make Old Boy

With an opening day enrollment reflecting 65 new boys, Training Company has been a busy, busy place. This number has increased by about 30 boys since school began and is still rising. Promotion numbers rise too. Listed are those promotions pertaining to New Boy promotions since the beginning of the school year.

## **SO 22-98 dated 9/17/97**

Derek Jerome Connelly, Robert Ward Fitzgerald, Justin Walker George, Geoffrey Alan Hauptli, John Joseph Jonas, Donald LeRoy Reed, Brent Imre Sztrik, James Robert Von Normann and Ryan Phillip Woods to PV2.

## **SO 35-98 dated 9/23/97**

David Paul Celmer, Brent Eugene Ottaway and Matthew Peter Wright to PV2; Ronald R. Gray to CPL; and Daniel Phillip Seul to SGT.

## **SO 48-98 dated 9/30/97**

Matthew Peter Wright to PV1.

## **SO 49-98 dated 9/30/97**

John William Conroy, Michael Thomas Crothers, Samuel Yoshito Fujiwara, Robert Acel Gardiner, Bobby James Harris, Jason Edward Hawkins, Brandon H. Holsworth, Steven Mitchell, Alois Peter, Pedro M. Romero, Lee Aaron Strange and Eric Scott Tibbetts to PV2; Jonah Nicholas Rand to PFC.

## **SO 51-98 dated 10/1/97**

Thomas Martel Cargill and Brian Daniel McDonough to PV2; James Nicholas Bilotto to CPL; Geoffrey Boris Dynowski, Matthew Lynne Gallegos and Mark Jesse

O'Dowd to PFC.

## **SO 53-98 dated 10/2/97**

Joshua Andrew Bailey, Joseph Paul Big Eagle, Blake Anthony Bridges, James Herbert Martin, Scott Andrew Matney and Paul Notholt to PV2.

## **SO 57-98 dated 10/7/97**

Anthony Michael Alvarez to PFC; Richard Scott Crumbliss, Aaron William Holm, Brent Joseph Menendez, Derek Michael Pinkham, Michael G. Ratliff, Christopher Joseph Ryman, Nathaniel K. Wells and Peter Rica Wilcox to PV2.

## **SO 64-98 dated 10/8/97**

Regan Destry Braumberger, Bradley Hayward Hopkins, Lucas Alan Moore, Sean Michael Nash, Matthew Aron Power, Tyler Lee Schell and Daniel Dumitru Wilcox to PV2.

## **SO 69-98 dated 10/9/97**

Richard Cuba, Jason D. Edwards, John Michael Hinshaw, Ryan Norman F. Knowlton, Joshua Caleb Lane, Thomas John McAllister, Robert Allen Myers and Michael Ryan Sriver to PV2.

## **SO 73-98 dated 10/10/97**

Chad Ivan Burkhardt, Richard Eugene Detlefsen, Travis Ramsey Foster and David F. Suen to PV2.

## **SO 77-98 dated 10/15/97**

Robert F. Flynn, Jose Luis Garmendia, Jeremy David Miller and Christopher Allen Simmons to PV2.

## **SO 83-98 dated 10/17/97**

Christopher James Boesker, Tyler Paul Gilles, Ethan Alexander Noll and Eric Wilcox Schmeer to PV2.

## **SO 90-98 dated 10/22/97**

Daniel Ray Diaz, Robert Scott Hughes and Wesley Lauk Thomas to PV2.

## **SO 99-98 dated 10/29/97**

Chad Michael Landers and Kenneth Joseph Smith to PV2.

## Promotions (Continued from page 4)

Fortelka, James Hamilton Johnson, Joshua David Lett and Casey Robert Van Landingham to SSG; Shaun Michael Dumas to SFC; Evan Philip Marquez, Cameron Tyler Oertel and Justin Ray Vondrak to MSG; Joel Christopher Vance to SGM; David Michael Dickinson and Dustin James Rekow to WO1; Matthew Stuart Beynon, Mark Christopher David, Michael Edward Harris and Scott Alan Norris to 1LT.

## **SO 85-98 dated 10/18/97**

Cody Michael Welch to CPL

## **SO 89-98 dated 10/21/97**

Austin David Cox, Robert Ward Fitzgerald, Justin

Walker George, John Joseph Jonas, Donald Leroy Reed and Courtney Aaron Shaw are promoted to PFC; Michael Andrew Speelman is promoted to CPL.

## **SO 95-98 dated 10/24/97**

Brent Eugene Ottaway and Scott Adam Sprencz are promoted to PFC; Jeremiah Harold Blakney to SGT.

## **SO 98-98 dated 10/28/97**

Joshua Andrew Bailey to PV2.

## **SO 104 dated 10/30/97**

Samuel Yoshito Fujiwara, Geoffrey Alan Hauptli, Eric Scott Tibbetts and Geoffrey Boris Dynowski to PFC; Jeffrey Scott DeJarnett and Benjamin Dale Wallace to CPL.

## Blue Berets announced for first grading period

Top scholars from the Upper School, and authorized to wear the Blue Berets, were Scott Norris 97.93, Nathan Bilotte 96.76 and Eric Schmeer 95.60. Also making the Academic Dean's Honor Roll were Jonah Rand 95.24, Ivan Cunningham 94.97, Kelly Coggins 93.70, Michael Crothers 93.61 and Michael Scriver 93.58.

Top scholars from the Middle School, and also authorized to wear the Blue Berets, were Thomas Stafford 96.91, Michael Speelman 96.79 and Christopher Boesker 95.65. Others making the Honor Roll were Peter Wilcox 95.34, Rex Robichaux 94.40, Alvaro Trujillo 94.20 and Tyler McGivern 93.70.

Upper School cadets making Honorable Mention were Benjamin Warren 93.12, David Anderson 92.93, James Rutherford 92.29, Mark Triebwasser 91.98, Kevin Yoon 91.53, Matthew Webster 91.29, Nicholas Karpowich 90.87, Joe Gabel 90.70, Matthew Fortelka 90.22, Matthew Beynon 90.06, Pedro Romero 89.78, Mark David 89.70, Shaun Dumas 89.65, Bobby J. Harris 89.64, Ryan Levitan 89.59, Thomas McAllister 89.57, Joel Vance 89.51, Taylor Johnson 89.28, Kenneth Bradley 88.97, Aaron Cowdin 88.76, Brent Sztrik 88.56 and Brian McDonough 88.51.

Cadets making Honorable Mention were Kellen Beer 93.08, David Holdcraft 91.37, Richard Cuba 91.38, Jason Hawkins 90.52, Jeffrey Paul 89.27 and Daniel Wilcox 88.66.

## Memberships Announced

### Cadet Patrol

Led by Michael E. Harris, with active members Jonathan Maxwell, Justin Allison, Adam Bryant Beem, Charles Beriault, Matthew Fortelka, Dustin Rekow and James Rutherford.

### Cadet Court

Mark Triebwasser, Commander, with Jonathan Allaband, Robert Bilotte, Mark Davis, Samuel Hinderliter, Scott Norris, Benjamin Warren and Jared Winer.

### Recruiting

David Anderson, Cameron Oertel and Benjamin Warren from Upepr School and David Holdcraft and Matthew Watson from the Middle School.

## Spartan Tryouts

by C/2Lt. David R. Anderson, Westminster CO

Spartans are a group of cadets who have passed physical requirements established at the beginning of the school year. On Saturday, Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>, Maj. Stelljes and SFC Whalen held the first Spartan tryouts.

The tryouts began with twenty-five cadets participating. The four qualification events that consisted of ten pullups, 60 pushups in a minute, 60 situps in a minute and a 10km (6.2 mile) run in 55 minutes (which averages to about 8:52 a mile). After the first three events only nine candidates remained. After a brief rest, the candidates were dropped off six miles away, with frequent water stops. The run took place at about 11:00 a.m. in the heat and high humidity. But nevertheless the candidates accepted the challenge. Unfortunately, only four made the run in the required time: Brent Ottoway, Brent Menendez, Mark Triebwasser and Derek Pinkham.

Since there were a small number of Spartans, Maj. Stelljes allowed a second tryout on Saturday, Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>. The day was much nicer with about 25 cadets participating again. The only change this time was 10km run was raised to 60 minutes (which averages to about 9:40 a mile). When it came time to run there were eight cadets and all of them completed it. Three of them beat the original 55 minutes limit and all made it within two minutes of the cut-off time. Cadets: David Anderson, Derek Michael, Shaun Dumas, Benjamin Warren, Christopher Simmons, Richard Shield, David Suen and Tyler Schell. Congratulations to all the Spartans. They were selected to participate in PAINTBALL with the SJMS President and his family and friends the following weekend.

The Drill Team's first performance was during Parents' Weekend and did a great job.

## Drill Team Announced

The Drill Team Activities this year are a little different. Color Guard, Exhibition Drill and Regulation Drill all fall under the title Drill Team Activities (DTA). One of the most obvious changes is that first year cadets have been added to the Drill Team and are progressing very well. The fact is, over 60% of the team is made up of first year cadets. Twenty cadets were selected and trained in all drill team activities.

The Drill Team Commander, Michael E. Harris, makes the 21st person on the team. Cadets who qualified for DTA were placed on Color Guard, Exhibition Drill and Regulation Teams based on performance. They can earn up to two cords, two ribbons, and this year can be awarded a varsity letter to those who meet the criteria.

Members of the 1997-98 Drill Team are returning Drill Team Members: Michael E. Harris as Commander, Ryan Levitan, Eric Siskosky and Ricardo Greenwood. Returning SJMS cadets, but first year Drill Team members: Adam Beem, Charles Beriault, Ivan Cunningham, Derek Michael, Jens Petersen, Nathan Silvers, Christopher Simmons, Matthew Webster and Jared Winer. First year cadets to SJMS and the drill team are John Jonas, Jonah Rand, Pedro Romero, Casey VanLandingham, James Von Normann and H. Kevin Yoon. Coaching this year's drill team is SFC(Ret) Michael Whalen.

## See our Web Site

by Kevin Yoon, Los Angeles CA

As many cadets already know, St. John's has a web site on the World Wide Web. The web site is used to let people know about St. John's and to keep alumni, patrons and friends updated on St. John's activities. This year C/2Lt Kevin Yoon and C/Sgt. James Rutherford will be the web site managers. They will be posting the latest news and information about St. John's. The address of the site is **www.sjms.org**.



Cadet H. Kevin Yoon, who works on the Web Page, is pictured above, while helping with the SJMS Old Boy "Phone-a-thon".

## Technology Revolution

by Kelly Coggins, San Antonio, TX

The technology age is upon us and St. John's will not be left behind. This technology is present in our everyday classroom with the new TV's, VCR's, and cable hook ups that allow us to view the news and educational videos. Additional and upgraded computers have also been placed throughout Vanier Academic Center since last year.

Internet access is now available in the Computer Lab and Library so that E-mail is possible for all cadets.

**If you want to reach your Cadet by E-Mail, tell your Cadet to go to either Ms. Peterson or Mrs. Lohmann to get assistance in setting up their account.**

## Message from LTC Faerber, Academic Dean

(Continued from page 2)

(\*semester class)

We are happy to announce that Cadets have access to new computers, not only for academic work, but also with internet access to use E-mail and 'surf' the net for post secondary education opportunities and information.

St. John's open enrollment policy allows for new students until capacity is reached. Therefore, in order to maintain an equality of class size some changes may be required following the first grading period and at the end of the first semester.

## Homecoming Queen

(Continued from page 1)

State University and hopes to become a Veterinarian.

Other nominations were Angelie Renae Long of Wellington, Kansas, sister of Cadet Joshua Cantrell, and Stacy Spachek, Wichita, Kansas, nominated by Cadet Richard Shield.

DARE Officer, Sgt. Jim DuBois, of the Saline Co. Sheriff's Office, provided music for the dance.

## Media Club organized

The Media Club is assigned the responsibility of The Skirmisher and both photography assignments and video productions for the school.

Michael E. Harris, S-5, takes over the helm as Chairman of the Media Club with Kelly Coggins as Vice-Chairman. Also authorized to wear the cord are David Anderson, Adam Beem, Ivan Cunningham, Jeffrey Paul, Rex Robichaux, James Rutherford, Eric Siskosky, Jared Winer, Kevin Yoon, Charles Beriault and David Holdcraft.

The new  
web page site  
is  
**sjms.org**

**DRILL TEAM IN OKLA-  
HOMA CITY MEET 7 DEC 97**

**RIFLE TEAM TO MEET 12  
DEC WITH LEAVENWORTH  
& MMA**

# It's really not war . . . just more SJMS field trips

## Civil War Reenactment

by Dave Holdcraft,  
Castle Rock, CO

On Saturday, October 4, several cadets were selected to attend the Civil War Reenactment event with Major Doug Randolph.

Upon arrival in Emporia, Kansas, the Cadets had several hours to wander from the root beer stand to various in-camp tents, and at 1:30 p.m. the reenactment of the battle of Mine Creek began. Cannons fired and rifles rang out with shots. It was just like being on the sidelines of the real battle, a scene right out of the movies.



## Smoky Hill Bombing Range

by Casey VanLandingham, Denver CO

Cadets helped with an Open House held at the Smoky Hill Bombing Range on Saturday, October 4. On the working crew were Joe Gable, Adam Beem, Casey VanLandingham, Joshua Cantrell, James Bray, Jeff DeJarnett, Mark O'Dowd, Ivan Cunningham, Robert Fitzgerald and Daniel Seul.

Leaving campus about 8 a.m., we arrived at the Range at 8:30 a.m. We then met with Sgt. Smith, the man in charge, who gave us a quick tour and then put us right to work. We spent the morning setting up the concession stands. About noon the people began arriving and we worked the concessions throughout the air combat show. This included workouts on bombing by B-52's, F-16's, A-10's, B-1's, and also a parachute run by a chinuke loaded with 15 jumpers. Following the show we helped take down our props. There was an estimated 2,500 people in attendance.

We were rewarded with a "good job" and a firm hand shake, and all the cotton candy and pop we could eat and drink. All of the cadets seemed to really enjoy the show. We had a good time and met a lot of great people.

We headed home, with an invitation to come back again.





Pictured is a dancer portraying the "hunter".

## Rolling Hills Refuge

by Rex Robichaux, Cortez CO

On September 26, several cadets went to the Rolling Hills Refuge. For the past several years St. John's cadets have taken many field trips to the refuge. It is located roughly 7 miles west of Salina. Upon arrival the cadets were greeted by Ms. Sara Brown's husband, Bob Brown, who was our tour guide.

The owner, Mr. Charles Walker, has recently invested millions of dollars to make the refuge a very large nonprofit zoological organization. When the Zoo opens it will have approximately 120 species, most of which are endangered or extinct in the wild. The goal of Rolling Hills Refuge is to educate young students about endangered animals.

## Mexican Independence Day

by Justin Allison, Olympia, WA

On September 16, the top four cadets in Mrs. Corby's Spanish classes had the privilege of attending a party celebrating Mexico's Independence. Cadets Triebwasser, Bilotte, Warren and Allison were accompanied by Mr. Martin and Mrs. Corby to the festivities. Traditional music and dancing were exhibited at the party. Refreshments made up of various foods from the Mexican culture were truly unique. The night was fun and a learning experience for all involved.

\* \* \* \* \*

A bus full of students from Mrs. Corby's Spanish classes and Mr. Martin's geography class then attended the "Ballet Folklórico Mexicano" at the Ellsworth High School on October 8. This was put on by a dance company made up of all Mexican performers and covered traditional Mexican dances beginning with the Aztec.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (Continued from page 2)

culture for private and boarding schools that have the flexibility to innovate in education. I am happy to be associated with one, which is, by any measure, extremely successful. I would indeed buy its stock.

## Chapel Participation Announced

### Chapel Choir

Choir Master for the choir is Ricardo Greenwood. The choir participants are Justin Allison, Victor Brane, James V.F. Bray, James Chidester, David Clarke, Kelly Coggins, Ivan Cunningham, David Dickinson, Austin Porzak, Nathan Silvers and Jason Smith.

### Chapel Council Cross

The Chapel Council Officer Cross has been authorized to Mark Triebwasser as President, Nathan Bilotte as Vice President, Michael Rolle as Secretary/Treasurer, Cameron Oertel as Head Thurifer, Nathaneal Alexander as Head Acolyte, Steven Marcy as Head Usher, Michael E. Harris as Youth Group Coordinator, Ricardo Greenwood as Choir Master, Jeffrey Wagstaff as Upper School Representative, Rex Robichaux as Middle School Representative and Ryan Levitan as Chapel Sacristan.

Remaining members of the Chapel Council and authorized the Chapel Council Cross are Jonathan Allaband, David Anderson, Charles Beriault, Kellen Beer, Victor Brane, James V.F. Bray, Joshua Cantrell, Kelly Coggins, Austin Cox, Ivan Cunningham, Matthew Fortelka, David Holdcraft, Derek Michael, Austin Porzak, Nathan Silvers, Jason Smith, Michael Speelman, Thomas Stafford, Jesse Cole Studebaker, Casey Van Landingham, Joel Vance, Benjamin Warren, Matthew Watson, Nathaniel Wells, Jared Winer and H. Kevin Yoon.

## Alumni to receive *LIFETIMES* newsletter

by Tim Chapman, Director of Institutional Development

During this past summer I have outlined and made plans to begin the education process, for alumni of St. John's, to learn more about the importance of estate planning. The newsletter *Lifetimes* will be sent quarterly to all alumni that graduated in and prior to the year 1970. This newsletter will discuss various avenues of importance as it pertains to planning for the future. The topics featured in the first issue are: Are You Worth More Than You Realize?, Your Will - Think It Through, and Charitable Bequests In Your Will. A response booklet will also be available for those wanting more information. The booklet discusses, in detail, the various topics within each issue of *Lifetimes*.

I hope that this will be a successful tool for you and your family. If you are an alum or a friend of St. John's and do not fall within the targeted group to receive the *Lifetimes* newsletter, but would like to, let us know. You will be added to our list immediately.

For those who have already included St. John's in their will, I would like to congratulate you on being a part of the St. John's Heritage Society. As a member of this prestigious group, each member's name will be permanently displayed at the school in honor of their philanthropic commitment to St. John's. If you have made St. John's a beneficiary of an estate gift and have not informed the school of your plans, please do so. We want to recognize you.

One estate planning avenue that should be considered is a life income gift. It could make a lot of sense for those that have a charitable interest in helping St. John's and have a need to supplement current income streams.

WHAT TO DO  
BEFORE DRAFTING  
OR REVIEWING  
YOUR WILL

*Giving to St. John's Military School through your Will is the most common way to continue your support beyond your lifetime. When your Estate Plan is prepared, consider a gift to the Mule-skinners. At right is a brochure available upon request.*



**St. John's Military School**

Box 827

Salina, KS 67402-0827

(785) 823-7231

Fax (785) 823-7236

You can receive income from invested funds at the same or greater levels you currently do. Unlike a bequest, a life income gift offers significant tax advantages now. Some plans will offer tax free income along with an immediate tax deduction. Check with your tax adviser or call St. John's today to inquire about a charitable trust or a gift annuity.

# Class Notes

Let us hear from you on the  
Old Boy Bulletin Board  
[sjms.org](http://sjms.org)

**George F. Schreiber**  
(Class of '42)  
3575 Wright St.  
Wheat Ridge CO  
80033-5233  
303 232-3710  
George retired from  
the National Mine  
Safety & Health  
Admin. Working part  
time at local ACE  
Hardware.

Walter York  
(Class of '44)  
shares addresses of  
two classmates:

**Marvin H. Ellis**  
1644 Ironton  
Montrose CO 81401  
and  
**Garrow Wessendorff**  
E-Mail:  
[rgwess@aol.com](mailto:rgwess@aol.com)

**C. Anthony Hanson**  
(Class of '47)  
65 Northam Court  
Slidell LA 70458  
504 643-6718  
Visited campus during  
September on way to  
Omaha. Retired from  
printing business.  
First time back on  
campus since '91.

**Robert L. Miller**  
(Class of '47)  
E-mail address:

Suggested space to be  
created on SJMS Web  
Page for input from  
those alumni who care  
to comment from time  
to time.

**Al Ransom**  
(Class of '56)  
PO Box 614  
Fallbrook CA 92088

**Dr. William S. Wright**  
(Atten. '57-58)  
3150 S. Race St.  
Englewood CO 80110  
Major Bradley met  
Mrs. Wright while in  
Denver during  
October, and she asked  
that Dr. Wright be put  
back on the mailing  
list. *Good to hear  
from you again!*

**John Lang**  
(Class of '62)  
E-mail address:

rote that he had a  
great time at Com-

mencement Weekend.  
Mentioned that he  
came across an ad in  
the Sunset Magazine,  
thought the ad looked  
real good. He also  
asked about a current  
listing of known  
addresses of alumni on  
the web.

**Tom Wilson**  
(Class of '62)  
Oklahoma State Fire  
Marshall  
4545 Lincoln Blvd.,  
Suite 280  
Oklahoma City OK  
73105  
E-mail:

**George Bartley**  
(Class of '63)  
E-mail address:

Graduated from the  
Master of Social Work  
Program on May 17  
from New Mexico  
Highlands University.  
Has applied for jobs at  
UNM and some of the  
hospitals in area.

**Tim O. Jackson**  
(Class of '72)  
624 Booker St.  
Charlottesville VA  
Visited campus 5/24/  
97. Said he was the  
first black graduate at  
SJMS

**Grant LaMora**  
(Class of '75)  
E-mail address:

Grant has requested  
information concern-  
ing classmates from  
1971 to 1975. He  
would like to hear  
from any members of  
these class years.

**Timothy R. Garrett**  
(Atten '76-79)  
311 E. 11<sup>th</sup>.  
Ellsworth KS 67439  
Stopped by campus to  
get printout on  
classmates during his  
time.

**Jami Cutsforth**  
Class of '78  
e-mail address:

Writes he was a  
member of the  
graduating 90<sup>th</sup> Corps  
of Cadets. Was asking  
if there is a 20<sup>th</sup>  
reunion planned and  
wants addresses of any  
fellow alumni.

**Robert K. Logan**  
(atten '85-'88)  
8721 E. Amherst  
Drive #C  
Denver CO 80231  
Would like to hear  
from anyone, espe-  
cially Jim Rust.  
Wondering about any  
plans for reunion next  
spring from class of  
1988.

**Mario Julio Alcedo**  
(Class of '86)  
[SMTP:alcedo@sinfo.net](mailto:SMTP:alcedo@sinfo.net)  
Mario also would like  
to encourage an e-mail  
address directory for  
old boys, and would  
like to hear from  
classmates.

**Chris Mackey**  
(Class of '93)  
3020 Starlight Circle  
Colorado Springs CO  
80916

**Zack Casebolt**  
(Class of '95)  
1803 10<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Greeley CO 80631

**Daniel Robinson-  
Pitchford**  
(Class of '95)  
418 N. Meridian St.  
#4634  
Newberg OR 97132  
Phone 503 538-5996  
He is attending school,  
majoring in computer  
science & currently  
working as radio  
station manager at  
George Fox Univer-  
sity. He is getting  
married August 23 to  
Daeh Christiansen.  
Planning on attending  
Commencement '98.  
Would like to hear  
from friends, class-  
mates, teachers, etc.

**P/C Douglas C.  
Morrison**  
(Class of '97)  
Class of 2001-Band  
Company  
U.S.M.M.A.  
PO Box 484  
Steamboat Road  
Kings Point, NY  
11024-1699  
E-Mail:

## Alumni Weekend '97

The weekend of October 24-26, SJMS alumni were invited back to the school to participate in the first fall alumni weekend. Several activities were planned and most importantly it was a time to get reacquainted with old friends. Mother Nature did not cooperate with those that planned the event and decided to dump several inches, and in some areas, several feet of snow on Saturday. Due to the winter-like conditions many were unable to attend but sent their regrets to their fellow classmates.

Those that were able to make it included Larry Britegam '69, John Calhoun '95, David Elk '67, Jim Ford '48, Lou Fulton '46, Bill Hanna '74, Gary Hanna '52, Bill "Buster" Lassen '47, Robert Macauley '48, Linden "Nick" Macauley '49, Tim Soule '66, Kent Tretheway '71, Dale Browning '55.

During an open forum, the group discussed the importance of establishing a working alumni association. After further discussion, Mr. Kent Tretheway '71, was elected as the acting President. Kent will be recruiting area representative to help make contacts. "There are so many "Old Boys" scattered across the country that it is virtually impossible for one person to get the job done," Tretheway said. He went on to say, "I hope that in the coming year we can build a stronger foundation of old boys so we can have a networking system we all can benefit from."

Establishing a working Alumni Association is the first step in providing a stronger service to the SJMS constituencies. **I would encourage everyone to fill out the alumni form in the Skirmisher and return it as soon as possible.**

## Alumni

*Below, a candid of one table of alumni taken at Saturday morning's breakfast.*

## President's Notes:

I am writing this memo as the newly "elected" President of the SJMS Alumni Association. The opportunity to help strengthen a working association for St. John's will be an exciting endeavor but one that will take time and coordination from the school and the association members. Captain E. A. McAlexander, President of St. John's, and the Board of Trustees are behind the concept of finding and maintaining an association of alumni and attendees.

Soon, I believe we will have a voice with the Board of Trustees to express our concerns as we watch the school grow.

The primary purpose of the Alumni Association is to locate and network classmates as a fraternal organization. There will be some sort of dues system (probably \$5/year) to maintain the administration of the association. For your dues, you can expect a copy of the alumni database and will be added to the Skirmisher mailing list if you are not already.

Commencement has traditionally been the time for individual class reunions. Unfortunately, with all the interest centering on the celebration for Seniors, the faculty and staff feel they do not have enough time to properly entertain the alumni as well as they want to. The staff has offered to host any number of alumni and to develop activities during the annual Parent's Weekend each fall. Parents' Weekend has become the traditional "Homecoming" weekend with a home football game. The staff has agreed to include those elements we enjoy at commencement into the Parent's Weekend schedule - Alumni Reception, Flag Raising, F-Troop march, Handle Ceremony, etc.

We will expand the concept of regional representatives to search for, and maintain contact with folks in their area. Our goal is to build and maintain an accurate database of all alumni and attendees of SJMS.

I would encourage anyone that would like to help us in our efforts to contact me or Tim Chapman at St. John's.



### ALUMNI INFORMATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PLEASE PRINT  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 TELEPHONE ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 BIRTH DATES: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
 SPOUSE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CHILDREN: \_\_\_\_\_  
 OCCUPATION: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CLASS YEAR: Attended \_\_\_\_\_ Graduated \_\_\_\_\_  
 MOST RECENT VISIT TO ST. JOHN'S (Year) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Yes I would like to remain on the mailing list.

☐ Please remove my name from the mailing list.

**I am interested in more information regarding:** (Please circle)

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarships   | <input type="checkbox"/> Endowment      | <input type="checkbox"/> Charitable Trusts  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bequests   | <input type="checkbox"/> Annual Support | <input type="checkbox"/> Alumni Association |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I have already included St. John's in my estate plans. |   |   |

**Thank You for your prompt attention to this matter.  
 We will update our records immediately.**

# OBITUARIES

(Obituary information contributed by Liz Duckers)



**Larry L. Rice**, 60, died July 30, 1997 in Elgin, IL.

Mr. Rice was born July 12, 1937 in Salina. He enrolled as a seventh grader at SJMS and was graduated in 1955.

He earned a degree in Public Administration from the University of Kansas. He served as city manager in Cottage Grove, OR; Walla Walla, WA; Highland Park, IL; Lakewood CO and Elgin IL.

After retirement, Mr. Rice was working with cities overseas on behalf of USAID. He had spent time working in several countries including Poland and Romania.

Mr. Rice was the commander of the Civil Air Patrol Crack Platoon that won the national championship in Omaha in 1955. He was a member of the Crack Squad and Cadet Court, worked on the first yearbook staff with Dean Hargrove, was co-captain of the football team, was president of the S-Club and was awarded the Gordon Prize.

He frequently returned to St. John's at Commencement and gave the Commencement address in 1995. He wrote the script for the Handle Ceremony held each year for the new graduates.

He is survived by his mother, Mae Rice, an SJMS Honorary Colonel, his wife, Mabel; and children Donna and Kevin.

**Hazel I. Fonck**, 79, died August 14, 1997, Salina.

Mrs. Fonck was born Hazel Hughes on May 27, 1918 at Salina and was a lifetime area resident.

She was the administrative assistant to two heads of St. John's Military School -- Col. R. L.

Clem, 1936-1967 and Col. Keith G. Duckers, 1968 until her retirement in 1980.

Her association with SJMS spanned 50 years with 42 years as an employee. She spent her early childhood years at The School when her father was in charge of maintenance. The family lived in old St. Barnabas Hospital which had been converted to the Jr. School.

The late Colonel Clem wrote in the School History: "Hazel Hughes Fonck, whose presence in the inner circles of The School, began shortly after I took the reins in 1936 and was an invaluable person during the transition years. Hazel always had a smile on her face and a word of encouragement whether for the newest Cadet, a veteran teacher or the Bishop of the Diocese".

When Hazel retired in May of 1980 she was promoted to Colonel and was made an honorary member of all school organizations and was authorized to wear all braids of such organizations.

The final Crack Squad drill of 1979-80 was given in her honor.

Hazel was preceded in death by her husband, John H., in 1993.



**George H. Curtis**, 78, died August 10, 1997, Salina

"Old Boy", attending 1933-35

**Patricia 'Pat' Guernsey**, 85, died August 23, 1997, Salina

Ms. Guernsey was born Patricia Royse on October 12 at Salina. Her husband, Russell "Russ", was the Commandant of Cadets and science teacher at SJMS from 1950 until his retirement in May of 1988. He died a couple months later.

Mrs. Guernsey was the social director at SJMS during the 1950s and early '60s, planning many cadet parties.

Survivors include two sons, Jeff of Salina, and Mike of Topeka.

**Edward D. Wohlgemuth**, 89, died September 5, 1997 in Atchison.

Mr. Wohlgemuth was born January 27, 1908 near Parnell, KS and farmed in rural Atchison County. Mr. Wohlgemuth is the father of the President Emeritus's wife, Liz Duckers.

## MEMORIALS

have been received in persons

mentioned above.

**Thank you.**

# Football Program

In an Eisenhower League contest, Wakefield (1-5) at St. John's (2-5), the Cadets picked up its first league victory in its final home game of the season in front of an enthusiastic crowd of parents. St. John's has one road trip remaining, at St. Mary's.

## Marcy sets record

Steve Marcy, 5'4", 155 pound senior tailback, had a great season for St. John's setting the school record and holds the state record this season with Wakefield. In the game against White City, he carried the ball 28 times for 113 yards; against Emmanuel Christian, he accounted for all seven touchdowns, carrying the ball 20 times for 233 yards; against Hope, 21 carries for 147 yards; against Solomon, 35 times for 140 yards; against Wakefield, the Senior running back scored all five St. John's touchdowns, with the last yard to pay dirt giving him 206 for the night on 34 carries.

## First Year Soccer Team Does Well

SJMS fielded its first ever soccer team this year and it proved to be a very successful campaign. The season began with a 5-1 loss to the Salina Nomads and a 4-1 loss to Liberal H.S. But after that the cadets went on a roll winning four straight enroute to a 4-2-1 record. The season turned around with a 3-2 victory over Junction City H.S. The cadets displayed great determination and teamwork as they refused to quit despite falling behind early. From then on they played with great spirit and worked well together as they avenged the loss to the Salina Nomads with 4-2 and 2-1 wins. The cadets also went against the Kansas Wesleyan University women's team and prevailed 6-0. The season finale was a 2-2 tie with the Salina Aztecs.

The team was led by captains Victor Brane and Jason Smith. Team members were: attackers - Shaun Dumas, Jose Garmendia, Jake Solbakken, Steve Young, Geoffrey Dynowski, Paul Notholt, David Holdcraft; midfielders - Geoffrey Dejarnett, Samuel Fugiwara, Michael Ratliff, Justin Vondrak, Joshua Lett, Patrick O'Neal, Scott Matney, Matthew Power, Tarik Trujillo, Michael Speelman, Derek Michael; Defenders - Richard Shield, Victor Brane, Samuel Hinderliter, Michael Crothers; goalkeepers - Jason Smith, Anthony Alvarez.

**Coach Stelljes is very proud of the cadets and is already looking forward to next year, anticipating qualifying for the state tournament.**

## Coach Shaw . . .

Losing 13 seniors from his 1996 team, Coach Travis Shaw wasn't sure what he would have this year, but he did know he had Marcy. An all-Eisenhower League selection a year ago at tailback when he rushed for 1,155 yards and had nearly 1,800 all-purpose yards, Coach Shaw knew he would be the "go to" guy again, and would probably get the ball 60 to 70 percent of the time.

The Junior Varsity schedule was cancelled as all players were needed to make up the Varsity team. Even so, the bench had little depth, and Cadets typically started out with hopes, but wore down by half time.

## TEAM RECORD

Tescott	0-48
Gossel	20-34
White City	36-48
<b>Emman. Christian</b>	<b>50-28</b>
Hope	14-62
Solomon	32-60
<b>Wakefield</b>	<b>36-30</b>
Bennington	22-64
St. Mary's	

## TEAM ROSTER

Frank Horn, Gr. 9  
 Matt Webster, Gr. 9  
 Ben Warren, Gr. 11  
 Ryan Woods, Gr. 9  
 Jason Bourell, Gr. 12  
 Steve Marcy, Gr. 12  
 Brent Sztrik, Gr. 10  
 Cameron Oertel, Gr. 10  
 Michael Leonard, Gr. 10  
 Casey VanLandingham, Gr. 11  
 Nathan Bilotte, Gr. 11  
 Adam Beem, Gr. 12  
 Matt Beynon, Gr. 12  
 David Clarke, Gr. 9  
 Jim VonNormann, Gr. 9  
 Kenneth Bradley, Gr. 11  
 James Johnson, Gr. 12  
 Geoff Hauptli, Gr. 9  
 Robert Fitzgerald, Gr. 10  
 Austin Porzak, Gr. 11  
 Jeff Wagstaff, Gr. 12  
 Jens Petersen, Gr. 9

Managers: Don Reed, Derek Connelly, Ivan Cunningham.  
 Coaches: Travis Shaw, Head Coach; Steve Ash, Asst. Coach; and Tim Chapman, Dennis Ryba and Paul Brungardt, Coaches Aides.



Scene from Varsity Football



Scene from MS Football



Scene from Soccer Team

## Middle School Football

by Jeff Paul, Littleton CO

Middle School football has had its ups and downs. With a record of 0-4, it was mostly downs. Tyler McGivern was a key player on the team as the Captain. He had a touchdown in every game. In a game against the Marquette Wolverines, the score was 12-60. Cadet Brad Hopkins said "It was a sorry loss but we can do better, it's all up to the team." Cadet Alex Fabia says "The coach did a good job and if we work hard we will do better." Unfortunately, the main quarterback, Cadet Tom Stafford, was injured in a game against Hope and was out for a few weeks. He was injured in a sack and pulled a ligament. Cadet Stafford says "If we would have more time to prepare we probably would have won."

Coach Ash commented that he believed we had improved and should win one, hopefully more. "If we could have started all over we could have won half of our games." Unfortunately, seven people were lost from the team this year. Although, the win-loss record does not look good, it is good to know that it is not as bad as it seems and everyone is having fun.

### *The SKIRMISHER*

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

St. John's Military School  
PO Box 827  
Salina, KS 67402-0827  
Phone 785 823-7231  
FAX 785 823-7236

## Leadership Camp

by James Rutherford,  
Aurora CO

Leadership Camp had some minor changes this year but most of it stayed the same. Two of the changes were (1) more paintball wars, and (2) less class time indoors. In my opinion, this made the two weeks much more enjoyable.

Some of the activities didn't quite go as planned, such as the rappelling, which was cancelled because of the weather. The Quarter-master area flooded before school started. This caused a few scheduling problems but, as usual, the cadets were very resourceful and we made it through smoothly.

\* \* \* \* \*



About 60 cadets attended the two-week leadership school prior to enrollment weekend. The training schedule included such topics as physical training, personal hygiene, drill and ceremony, ethics, leader team building, leadership sabre drill, conducting inspections, leadership reaction course, problem solving, preventing heat injury, firing range, etiquette in social settings, flag, land navigation, standards of conduct and chapel procedures. (Pictured above, Marcy and Johnson face the infamous net while at Ft. Riley.)

The typical day began with first call at 0600 and ended with TAPS at 2200. The camp ended with a promotion ceremony and a picnic at Thomas Park.

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