



Even Gabriel Had to Learn, But . . .

New Buglers Face Big Job Of Keeping Everyone Happy

By Albert Drummond
SKIRMISHER STAFF WRITER

When Gabriel blew his horn out came a clear and beautiful note, but when one of the five new St. John's buglers "toots" out comes a platoon of notes of a quite different variation. Even Gabriel had to learn, though.

Ask any N. C. O. about the pains of breaking in a new bugler. It's really quite a task. When a bugler is late or blows the wrong call, it is the non-com that must pay the consequences, not the bugler.

All joking aside, compliments are in order for the new buglers. They are putting forth every effort possible. In fact, Tom Mathers, Denver, was so bent on being a top bugler that while having a nightmare about bugling he got up and blew first call at 0530 in the morning. He didn't lose any friends or make any enemies but he did excite a few tempers and create a topic of conversation for that day.

The life of a bugler is far from rosy. He must get up early to blow and has to maintain a constant watch of time. Every bad note he sounds is accompanied by jeers and teasings.

The rewards that come with bugling are a merit for every day he blows without being hooked and a special pass every two weeks.

The five new buglers are Mathers, J. W. Cole, Lawrence, Kenny Gehlbach, Denver, Jim Sullivan, Pueblo and Don Pelky, Clayton, Kans.

Telephone Executive To Address Cadets

Paul Meyers of the Bell Telephone Company will speak at an all-School assembly Friday morning, Feb. 19.

Meyers will give a description of micro-wave transmission and also demonstrate a coaxial cable such as that used to transmit network television programs from the East to Station KTVH in Hutchinson.

HONESTY PAYS!

Harry Michael Gets Five Bucks Found in Chicago

Honesty always pays!

At least that's the opinion of Tom Thompsonski, manager of a large chain drug store in Chicago. Cadet Harry Michael, a fifth grade student at St. John's Military School from Wakefield, Kans., thinks so too.

Young Michael and his mother spent Christmas vacation in pendition Harry spied a five dollar bill on the floor of the Chicago. During a shopping excursion.

Thinking it might have been lost "by some poor old person who had gone to the store to buy medicine", Harry promptly reported to the manager with the bill and told him to keep it until the loss was reported.

Harry returned to St. John's following the furlough without the five dollars, but feeling "pretty good" because he had done the right thing.

Three weeks ago the young St. John's Cadet received a five dollar money order along with a letter from the store manager commending him on his honesty.

Harry plans to use the money for a birthday gift for his mother.

T. Allen Heads J. S. Honor Roll

Tom Allen, seventh grader from Des Moines, Ia., again headed the St. John's Junior School Honor Roll.

Others on the Honor Roll that ended the first semester are Bob Pester, Rapid City, S. D., Charles Fletcher, Wichita, Kans., and R. A. Bloxsom, Dodge City, Kans.

The four cadets receiving Honorable Mention from the Junior School were Allen Bass, Oklahoma City, Okla., Al Palmer, Santa Fe, N. M., Phil Ivaldy, Lincoln, Nebr., and Larry Lane, Canon City, Colo.

New Shop Building To Be Constructed

Walton C. Ferris Gives Funds to Erect Manual Training Building; Construction Soon

Ely Tops List of Honor Students

Heading the Rector's Honor Roll for the last grading period in the first semester was Gene Ely, a Salt Lake City senior.

Also on the Honor Roll were cadets Mike Vasey, Mancos, Colo., Phil Bibb, Cubero, N. M., and Phillip Helman, Grand Junction, Colo.

The nine cadets that made Honorable Mention were Roger Bacon, El Dorado, Kans., Darryl Seybert, Venetie, Alaska, Colby Johnson, Rawlins, Wyo., Whit Masten, Denver, Colo., Dean Hargrove, Wichita, Kans., Dale Browning, Pueblo, Colo., Roger Bigler, Cortez, Colo., John Keso, Junction City, Kans., and Terry Cupps, Mount Hope, Kans.

Cadet Mechanics Rebuild Motors For Two Cars

"Oh! What a mess," exclaimed Capt. James L. Cole, Truman Webber, and Ronald Fifield in unison as they looked at their automobile motors, scattered out on a table.

The boys started overhauling their motors about three weeks ago. They removed the motors from the cars in back of the barracks and transferred them to the basement.

Truman's motor is put back together and Jim's is nearly finished. However, the big job is not yet started of replacing the motors back into the cars.

The boys hope to be finished sometime this month.

Photo, Radio Shops Keep Busy Schedule

The photo radio shops maintain a constant schedule for those who put in time in either one of these extra curricular activities. Both are voluntary extras.

The photo shop and studio, run by Gail Eilebrecht, Gunnison, Colo., and Truman Webber, Lincoln, Nebr., are directly connected with the SKIRMISHER. Among other projects they also supply a source of individual pictures for the corps.

The radio shop is administered by Doug Bridges, Miles City, Mont. His assistant is Michael Vasey, Mancos, Colo.

Radio and photography are just two of the many extra-curricular activities offered at St. John's.

Picture Post Card Of School Available

A new picture post card of life at St. John's went on sale this week in the Q. M. and the P. I. O.'s office. Cost is 25 cents and they may be purchased by voucher.

The post card contains a historical description of St. John's, ten pictures of life at the School with underlines, and is ready to be mailed.

FACULTY OFFICER RESIGNS

Lt. Leonard Shute, Librarian and Social Science instructor, resigned following the end of the second semester in January to continue studying.

Mrs. H. E. Nuss has been employed as Librarian.

Another dream has been realized at St. John's Military School.

Plans to construct a new single story Manual Training building on the campus were announced this week by Col. R. L. Clem, Rector of the school.

Funds to construct the building were donated by Walton C. Ferris, manufacturer from Lincoln, Nebr. Ferris' son is a cadet at St. John's.

To Be of Brick

The building, of brick construction, will be 60 feet long and 40 feet wide. It will be built in the area between the gymnasium and the west exit of the high school barracks.

Preliminary plans for the building have been approved by the Board of Trustees and as soon as final plans are drawn, construction will commence.

Equipment Funds Sought

Available funds for the new shop building do not cover equipment. Funds are now being sought to equip the building.

It is expected that the building will be completed by Commencement in late May.

The new building and the added facilities it will provide will permit the addition of several new courses to the curriculum at St. John's next year.

"S" Club Room Is Redecorated

The "S" Club combined lounge and club room is receiving a face lifting.

New paint on the walls, a re-finished floor and new draperies will make an attractive lounge out of the lettermen's quarters in the west end of the gymnasium.

The color scheme is green. The ceiling and upper half of the walls are done in chartreuse and the windows are trimmed in dark green set behind draperies also of dark green. The floor and bottom half of the walls have been sanded and re-varnished along with the door.

Recently new furniture was purchased with "S" Club funds.

Tom Mathers Loses Appendix

Cadet Thomas Mathers, a junior, from Denver, was operated on Tuesday evening, February 3, for appendicitis.

Cadet Mathers became ill early Tuesday morning and reported to the infirmary, where Captain Cole took care of him. Later in the evening he was taken to St. John's hospital in Salina.

He has now returned to school and is nearly completely recovered.

Student Directories Placed on Sale

Student directories for the current school year went on sale this week in the Q. M. They also are on sale in the P. I. O.'s office. Cost is ten cents.

The directories list very cadet who has been enrolled in St. John's this year. Listings are broken down into states and cities. Faculty and staff members are also listed with the position they hold at St. John's.



GETTING THE "WORD" from the Commandant, Maj. R. L. Guernsey, are three newly enrolled St. John's Cadets. They are (L to R) Jerry Dillard, junior from Tulsa, Mike Wherritt, freshman from Pueblo, Colo., Jim Miller, seventh grader, from Wichita, Ralph LeHew, eighth grade Cadet from Salt Lake City, and Guernsey.

St. John's Military School
SKIRMISHER
FEBRUARY, 1954

Managing Editor Gary Conard, Dodge City, Kans.
Associate Editor Phil Helman, Grand Junction, Colo.
Reporter Ron Fifield, Whitewater, Colo.
Reporter Earle Fox, Pueblo, Colo.
Reporter John Keso, Junction City, Kans.
Photographer Gail Eilebrecht, Gunnison, Colo.
Photographer Truman Webber, Lincoln, Nebr.
Circulation Manager Al Drummond, Pueblo, Colo.
Faculty Advisor Capt. Keith G. Duckers

EDITORIALS

SCHOOL SPIRIT

By Gary Conard
SKIRMISHER STAFF WRITER

There has been much discussion around St. John's this year, (as there probably was in years past), about the Corps' lack of what is known as "School Spirit."

Most old cadets will tell you that—in general—spirit has improved this year over the past, but it still could be better.

If you were to set out to help solve this problem, one of the first things you would have to do is thoroughly understand just what is meant by "school spirit."

School spirit can be found at all athletic events. For instance, at a basketball game, it is easy to see school spirit in action when the game is close and perhaps the home club is a few points ahead. On the other hand, when we are losing the game and the team rally needs the support from the sidelines the most, Cadet basketball fans seem to slack off instead of keeping up or even increasing the cheering and yelling.

Every one likes to gripe once in a while, but it seems as we do more than our share. Quite a few times during the school year a situation will come up when the Rector or Commandant will have to put limitations on the things that we like to do. Does it do any good to gripe about this sort of thing? Of course it doesn't. It merely lowers school spirit more. We may think that we are getting a raw deal out of their conclusions, but if we are sincerely honest with ourselves we will realize that these limitations are being put on us to help us in the long run.

One thing that lowers the school spirit is the lack of free time that a cadet has. Especially on pass days where you really have to rush around in order to get signed out, catch the bus, hurry to the show or your girl's house, and then rush back to the school so you won't be late. This same routine gets tiresome to most of us so we start griping about it. The thing that we don't stop to realize is that we are under a very complex schedule. With all of our academic studies, military training, and extra curricular activities, we are doing well to have as much free time as we do.

As we previously mentioned, our school spirit has improved a lot this year over previous years. But it can be improved even more if we will just accept what comes and take time to analyze the situation. Even the roughest duties, the strictest limitations and the tightest schedules can be pleasant if you convince yourself that by doing these things—by tolerating these inconveniences—St. John's will have a stronger Cadet Corps and in the years of your life after leaving St. John's you, the individual, will reap the benefits.

COURTESY

By Albert Drummond
SKIRMISHER STAFF WRITER

Everyone at St. John's, especially those who are most conscientious about courtesy, is aware that there is a courtesy problem on the campus and downtown.

The problem isn't new, and won't be solved without some thought and the setting of a good example by those Cadets who are interested in solving the problem.

One thing that would do considerable to alleviate the situation would be the use of more courtesy by the Cadets in the Guard Room.

If everyone would wait his turn when signing out or signing in, all would finish sooner. Also since there is only one phone available for the Cadets use, more courtesy should be practiced here, too. When someone is waiting to make a call limit your talk to five minutes. And it's certainly not courteous to have someone save a place for you in the telephone line. The same applies in the laundry and dry-cleaning lines and when picking up your allowance.

Another time your good behavior is on exhibit is when you are on pass. A Cadet must remember that his actions, while off campus, are not his alone but speak for the entire school. He must realize that he makes St. John's what it is.

For the most part, St. John's Cadets always conduct themselves as gentlemen when on pass. Therefore, the problem of courtesy is not as serious as it might be but should be recognized by all Cadets. One encouraging fact about the problem is that it can be easily improved if all Cadets are aware of its importance.

Therefore the Cadet Corps should practice the ABC's of



ENJOYING THE SPRING-LIKE WEATHER, is Cadet Allen Bass from Oklahoma City, February's New Boy of the Month. A fifth grader, Bass has been on the Honor Roll or Honorable Mention since the start of school. (Photo by Webber.)

courtesy. Always be Courteous.

Another problem at St. John's is the care of school property. This problem does not deal only in taking care of what belongs to St. John's but also taking pride in the appearance of the campus.

There have been too many marks found on the walls and too much defacing of desks, seats in the Visual Education room, and benches in the smokers. The care of text books has been somewhat abusive. Cadets are also defacing rooms by using too many nails in attaching decorations to the walls. This is not necessary.

The appearance of the campus has not been up to par. Only recently the entire corps lost pass time and squad credit in order that the campus be policed. It doesn't take any more work to put papers and pop bottles where they belong than it does to throw them out the window.

We are sure that the Cadet Corps did not enjoy policing the campus. Hence every boy at St. John's should remember and practice the ABC's of caring for school property. Always be Conservative.

**Cadet Allen Bass Chosen
For Skirmisher New Boy Honor**

By John R. Keso,
SKIRMISHER STAFF WRITER
Cadet Allen Bass has been named as NEW BOY for the month by the SKIRMISHER staff.

**Squad Credit
Harder to Get**

Squad boys have found that it is harder to earn their credit from the N. C. O. in recent weeks.

It has been warm enough during the day time for the boys to walk the bull ring or to do other outdoor jobs. In the evening the detail has moved to the gym for calisthenics several times in the past few weeks.

**Three More Cadets
Pass Old Boy Tests**

Three more Cadets have appeared before the Cadet Court and have successfully passed the Old-Boy test.

The Cadets are Pfc. Bruce Cuddeback, Denver; Mike Bird, Wichita, and Charles Fletcher, Wichita.

The boys appeared before the Court on Feb. 7.

Bass, a fifth grader from Oklahoma City, has been on the Junior School Honor Roll or the honorable mention list every month of the current school year.

Cadet Bass's favorite sport is baseball, even though he may be a little on the "husky" side, but to him that doesn't make any difference, just as long as he can play.

St. John's food must agree with Bass because he is one of the "rolly-poly" boys of the Junior School. "Foghorn" Winslow of the movie world has nothing on young Bass as far as voices are concerned. His deep bass voice (no pun intended) is the cause of much amusement in the Junior School.

The SKIRMISHER staff offers congratulations to Cadet Allen Bass for being selected as New Boy of the month.

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"They're Looking Pretty Sharp" . . .

Commandant Puts Cadets Through Extensive Training

Valentine Dance Saturday Night In Rec Hall

The "S" Club is sponsoring a
Valentine Dance on the campus
on Saturday night, Feb. 13.

It will be in the Rec. Hall and
will start at 8:00 PM Larry Rice
and Dean Hargrove will supply
the entertainment during inter-
mission.

This will be the last dance
before the Lenten season be-
cause during the 40 days of Lent
no school parties or dances are
permitted.

Lt. Richard King To Rejoin Staff Next September

Col. R. L. Clem has announc-
ed that Lt. Richard King will
rejoin the Staff at St. John's
with the opening of School next
September.

Lt. King served on the Ju-
nior School staff for a year and
a half before being called to
the Army in December of 1952.

It has not yet been decided
what subjects he will teach or
whether he will teach in the
Upper or Junior High School.

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By Albert Drummond
SKIRMISHER STAFF WRITER

"They're looking pretty sharp,"
stated Major R. J. Guernsey,
Commandant, while watching
the Cadet Corps going through
their paces one day recently.
But Major Guernsey was quick
to point out that there is much
room for improvement.

With spring furlough only
four weeks distant and Com-
mencement 18 weeks off, an ex-
tensive training and practice
program in military tactics and
science is now progress.

Taught Care Of Rifle

Cadets are being taught the
correct usage and care of the
rifle. This phase of training
covers everything from care and
cleaning of the weapon to cor-
rect sight picture and trigger
squeeze.

Already most Cadets have
fired the .22 calibre for record
at a bull's eye the size of the
end of a pencil on a target 50
feet down range. This is done in
preparation for the spring fir-
ing of the 30-06 at ten inch
bulls 200 yards distance.

Close Order Drill

Immediately following the
completion of training with the
rifle extensive practice at close
order drill will be undertaken
to take advantage of the warm-
er weather.

After that is satisfactorily
done, small unit tactics will
commence.

The final military project of
the year will be the perform-
ances of various units in close-
order drill at Commencement
time. Several weeks of prepara-
tion are used to get ready for
these exhibitions which are al-
ways one of the highlights of the
week end.

On The Firing Line

By Ron Fifield
ARMORY OFFICER

April is about here and for
the Cadets that means firing
the big rifles on the outdoor
range. Cadets will receive ex-
perience in handling the big ri-
fles as well as learning about
running of the targets and grad-
ing them in the "pits".

This program will run for
two full days. Whether sun, rain
or snow, it will still continue.
The cadets of last year felt the
strong winds and rain of a small
cyclone which was brewing near
by.

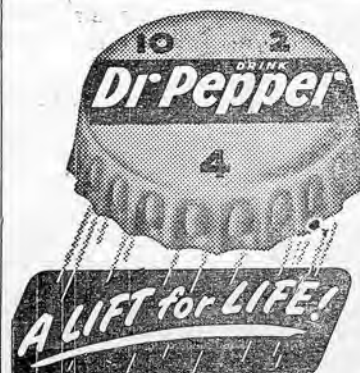
Before encountering this ac-
tivity the Cadets have to receive
special training concerning this
such as firing positions, trigger
squeeze, and range rules and
regulations concerning firing.
Some of the Cadets may just
neglect this training but my ad-
vice to them is to take in all
the advice you can, because you
are going to need it when it
comes to firing.

The Procedure of fire is very
simple, but yet it must be learn-
ed and practiced. There are
rules pertaining to the firing
lines and in the target pits. The
Cadets must recognize these and
obey them for their own safety.
There will be safety precautions
taken by the Cadets and by the
Range Officers, such as ambu-
lance and loud speakers, and
very strict rules concerning tra-
veling to and from the pits.

The main thing the Cadet
must learn is to respect his ri-
fle and others around him, even
though he may think it is not
loaded. Lots of men have been
shot by unloaded rifles.

Even though the rifle does
kick a little, some cadets have
returned to school with sore lips
and shoulders just because they
did not take in the training giv-
en to them during drill.

So take my advice, and dur-
ing these drill periods take
heed to every thing that is
said and done, and practice
them, because what you learn
and don't learn in drill comes
out on the firing range.



Cadet Cagers Dump Assaria

Gain Revenge for Early Season Defeat

St. John's basketball quintet dropped five of their last six games in the second round of Saline County League play.

The only win was over Assaria in a game played at the Cadets home gym by a score of 48-46 in a thriller.

In the other five games the Cadets lost to Solomon, January 15, 68-48, Brookville, January 22, 48-33, Enterprise, January 29, 41-39, Kipp, February 1, 71-44, and Bavaria, February 5, 49-41.

J. L. Cole, Amarillo, has paced the Cadets in the final round, with 25 points against Kipp, 15 against Solomon, and 13 against Assaria. McMurray was high point man against Bavaria with 15 counters.

National Honor Society To Meet Sunday

The St. John's chapter of National Honor Society will meet on Sunday, Feb. 14, for the purpose of electing new members. They will also elect officers at the Valentine's Day meeting.

Qualities required for membership in National Honor Society are Scholarship, Leadership, and Citizenship. Members must be Sophomores or above.

Capt. R. N. Moffat, Senior Master, is the faculty advisor for the organization.

FORMER CADET HONORED

Floyd L. Lotker, a graduate of the class of 1938, has been awarded a Kansas State Bankers Association citation for soil conservation.

Mr. Lotker, who now resides at Oberlin, Kans., was picked as one of the five best farmers in Kansas.

School Holidays Popular For Entire Cadet Corps

J. S. Cage Team In 10 Game Schedule

The St. John's Junior School has played seven basketball games and they have three more games scheduled.

Teams from Falun, Smolan, Brookville, Bavaria and the Methodist church team have been the opponents of the Junior School.

The team has not yet won a game, but in all but two of their games so far, they have been ahead in the third quarter only to lose out in the last quarter.

Besides the three games scheduled for the next two weeks they may enter a tournament.

Eighth Grade Honor Roll Announced

The Rector's Honor Roll for the last grading period in the first semester contained the names of four eighth grade cadets.

Heading the eighth grade Honor Roll was John McAllister, Denver, Colo., Others on the Honor Roll were Ed Stone, Topeka, Kans., Garry Leet, Denver, Colo., and Ron Turner, Hutchinson, Kans.

Those receiving Honorable Mention were Kilby Lightner, Wichita, Kans., Thomas Brand, Lawrence, Kans., Roy Hovey, Encampment, Wyo., and Fred Ferris, Lincoln Nebr.

BETTER FORMATION AREA
A recently completed project is the adding of more gravel to the formation area.

The task, under the direction of Ed Kleim, was done by squad boys who received double time for their work.



"WELL, WHAT DO YA' KNOW", seems to be the expression on Cadet Whit Matson's face as the Denver freshman tries to figure out how to get the bolt back in his rifle during a recent drill period. The Commandant must have had his back turned when this bit of "horse-play" was going on. (Photo by Eilebrecht.)

Dividing Curtains Added in Rec Hall

A "new look" was added to the Rec Hall on Saturday, Feb. 6, by the addition of dividing curtains.

The project of dividing the Rec Hall into separate parts was accomplished by the hanging of large red curtains between the Snack Bar and the booths.

The material used for the project was formerly two tow targets used by the Air Force for anti-aircraft firing practice.

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K. W. U. Coach Speaker Here

"Swede" Backstrom, basketball coach of the Kansas Wesleyan University Coyotes, spoke at an all-school assembly, Friday, Feb. 5. He gave the cadets pointers on sports compared with everyday life.

Coach Backstrom compared his method of coaching basketball to the strict discipline at St. John's. He told of the procedures that the boys had to go through to get on his team.

In his talk, the coach emphasized the importance of fundamentals in sports as compared with life.

He coached football, baseball, as well as basketball, and played professional baseball in the New York Yankee system prior to coming to the Salina university last September.

History Students Present Assembly On Lincoln's Birthday

Three American History students gave a discussion on the life of Abraham Lincoln at an all-school assembly in the Armstrong Chapel on Lincoln's birthday, Feb. 12th.

The three students were Lt. Gene Ely, senior from Salt Lake City, Utah, Lt. Gary Conard, senior from Dodge City, Kansas, and Pvt. Rod Ellison, a junior from Syracuse, Kans.

Among the things the history students discussed were Lincoln's love life, his life in the Army as a Captain, his political career and his assassination by John Wilkes Booth.

The three cadets pointed out a lot of rare facts that are seldom mentioned in discussing Abraham Lincoln's life.

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Eighty Cadets Get Merit Awards

Eighty Cadets at St. John's were authorized to wear the merit bar and silver, gold, and blue stars on the bar at the end of the first semester.

The merit bar is earned when a Cadet has acquired forty or more merits. A silver star is worn when 80 merits are accumulated, a gold star at 120 merits, and a blue star at 160 merits.

Capt. J. L. Cole, Amarillo, holds the most merits with five blue stars on his merit bars.

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