

# REPORTER

VOLUME 22, ISSUE 3

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND

SPRING 1996

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## ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

SANTA FE EDITION

ST. JOHN'S AT 300.....1

CELLULOID COWBOYS AND  
THE LITERARY FUTURE.....2

THE DOUBLE LIFE OF  
NICHOLAS CAPOZZOLI.....3

CHEZ GREAT BOOKS.....5

SF BOOKSTORE.....6

ONE COLLEGE.....7

BART, DARKEY REFLECT ON  
THREE DECADES IN SF.....9

GUIDES TO THE GREAT  
BOOKS.....11

SEARCH AND RESCUE.....12

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
NEWSLETTER: PLATO IN A  
10-GALLON HAT; ELECTION  
NOTICES, AND MORE GOOD  
BOOKS:..... 13

LETTER FROM THE CZECH  
REPUBLIC.....15

SANTOS COLLECTION.....19



*Happy 25th Anniversary*  
**St. John's College - Search and Rescue**  
**1971 - 1996**

## NEWS FROM THE BELL TOWERS...

# ST. JOHN'S AT 300: HONORING THE PAST, CELEBRATING THE FUTURE

When King William's School was founded as a "free" school in 1696, the term "free" referred to the freedom that students educated in the liberal arts would experience. The new colony, an untamed land in the midst of a vast continent of opportunities, needed young people who could face the challenges of settlement and governance. Liberal education, giving students a solid foundation in all aspects of learning, was seen as the way to ensure the future of the new world. Today, with its pure vision of the liberal arts, St. John's comes full circle back to that original purpose and continues to lay firm foundations for its students to face the future as free adults. As St. John's begins its fourth century, the college will be looking back to honor its past and forward to celebrate its future.

## THE KICK-OFF: JUNE 1, 1996

St. John's will be celebrating its 300th year beginning on June 1 with a day packed full of events. The highlight will be the dedication at 2 p.m. of the new library, housed in the former Hall of Records building. The architecture and interior design of the renovation and addition meld historic preservation with daring modern elements, setting the theme for the tercentenary year.

Along with an opening ceremony, speeches, and tours of the new library, June 1 will also be the date for the first ever St. John's College Book Fair. More than 10,000 books have been donated and will be sold in Woodward Hall. Sale hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, June 1, and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on June 2. The

Book Fair is sponsored by the Friends of St. John's College, and proceeds benefit the library.

On the evening of June 1 a black-tie, invitation-only dinner will kick off the tercentenary year and celebrate the successful completion of St. John's five-year capital campaign, which raised over \$30 million for the college.

In July, the Santa Fe campus will join the celebration with a special exhibit of the Larry Frank New Mexico Santos Collection. Alumni will also have the opportunity to celebrate during Homecoming and the Summer Alumni Program.

## A YEAR OF CELEBRATING

During the 1996-97 academic year beginning in September, the college will host a number of tercentenary events. At the top of the social calendar will be "Lafayette's Ball," a costume ball held in the Great Hall of McDowell. In 1824, General Lafayette was feted in the same room during a visit to Annapolis.

On the intellectual side, a Great Issues Forum will address the future of reading in today's technological age. Annapolitans will be able to participate in small seminars to discuss the topic, under the leadership of St. John's faculty members and leading experts in the field.

Several Community Seminars will bring people from Annapolis together with St. John's faculty members to discuss topics in history, philosophy, and political science.

The Mitchell Art Gallery will feature special tercentenary exhibits, including a photo display covering 150 years of college history. Annapolis photographer Marion Warren's work will be on exhibit, as will that of famed *Life* magazine photographer Alfred Eisenstaedt.

Focusing on topics in

Maryland history, the monthly series of Tuesday lectures co-sponsored by the Anne Arundel County Trust for



Preservation and the Friends of St. John's will present programs on the history of the college.

Other activities in the works include a small-boat expo and regatta on College Creek (slated for the summer of 1996), and a national rally for liberal education to be held in Washington, D.C. with political leaders. The U.S. Postal Service will issue a special commemorative postcard featuring St. John's. A commemorative book with photos and artwork illustrating college history and a large time-line poster highlighting the intellectual history of the past 300 years also are being produced.

**ST. JOHN'S AT 300 CONT. ON PAGE 2**



# REGISTER NOW FOR SUMMER CLASSICS

The Santa Fe campus is currently accepting registrations for its 1996 Summer Classics program. Now in its sixth season, Summer Classics is a series of week-long seminars in literature, philosophy and opera.

The topics for 1996 include Plato's *Republic*; Dante's *Purgatorio*; the *Mahabharata-Bhagavad Gita*; Euripides' *Bacchae*, *Medea* and *Electra*; Rousseau's *On the Origin of Inequality*; Aristotle's *Ethics*; Shakespeare's *Othello*, *Antony and Cleopatra* and *Julius Caesar*; and the operas *Don Giovanni*, *Madama Butterfly* and *The Rake's Progress* (participants will have the opportunity to see these operas performed live at the Santa Fe Opera).

The program also includes professionally guided anthropological, archeological and geological excursions, special events and ample recreational opportunities.

Seminars are led by members of the St. John's faculty and guests from other institutions. Tuition from \$1150/week, includes accommodations and meals for six nights and seven days, excursions, receptions and extras. For information contact: Summer Classics, St. John's College, Santa Fe NM 87501-4599 / (505) 984-6104 / email:

[sjcsfpr@aol.com](mailto:sjcsfpr@aol.com).

The Reporter is published in April and October by the Public Relations Office, St. John's College, 1160 Camino Cruz Blanca, Santa Fe, NM 87501 & in July & January by the Public Relations Office, St. John's College, Box 2800, Annapolis, MD 21404.

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USPS 018-750





## CELLULOID COWBOYS & THE LITERARY FUTURE IN SANTA FE THIS SUMMER

We've sent you a brochure and we've included a few articles in *The Reporter* for you to read. But for those of you who might not have read them or still aren't convinced you want to attend, here—in a nutshell—is everything you'll be missing if you don't come back this summer:

**WHAT:** Homecoming Weekend and the Summer Alumni Program in Santa Fe.

**WHEN:** Homecoming Weekend starts July 12 and runs through July 14. And there are two Summer Alumni Program weeks—one from July 7 to July 14 and the second from July 14 to July 19.

**WHY:** Because you miss the college, the college misses you, and this is an excellent opportunity to see old friends and tutors, learn how to waltz again (for those who might have forgotten), eat good food, bask in the Santa Fe sun, hike the trails of Atalaya and Monte Sol, and take part in great seminars.

**ACTIVITIES FOR ALL ALUMNI:** Dinner on Friday night, followed by an all-alumni seminar on Descartes' "The Passions of the Soul," led by James Carey, Santa Fe tutor and soon-to-be dean, and a Coffee Shop rock

and roll party hosted by the Class of 1986. On Saturday, there will be a traditional Fiesta picnic with lots of games, followed by a story hour for children and their parents presented by Lucy Duncan, SF86, a professional storyteller and owner of The Story Monkey Bookstore in Omaha, Nebraska. There also will be a cocktail reception Saturday night, followed by the Homecoming Dinner Dance, with lots of waltzes and music. Last, but certainly not least, will be a brunch on Sunday at the home of President Agresto.

**SPECIAL ACTIVITIES FOR REUNION CLASSES (1971, 1976, 1981, 1986 and 1991):** Reunion class barbeque dinner on Friday night plus special reunion class seminars on Saturday.

**FOR GRADUATE INSTITUTE ALUMNI:** There will be a special wine and cheese reception on Friday.

**AND ABOUT THE SUMMER ALUMNI PROGRAM WEEKS:** Come a little earlier or stay a little longer and take part in one (or both) of the Summer Alumni Program weeks. The first week, July 7 through July 12, will focus on reading and how technology is shaping the art of reading for the future. Among those teaching during the first week

will be Santa Fe tutors Grant Franks and Ralph Swentzell, who will be leading a seminar on Plato's "Phaedrus," and David Starr, who will lead a seminar on Nadezhda Mandelstam's *Hope Against Hope: A Memoir*. Also teaching that week will be Peter Weis SF84, an archivist at Amherst College in Massachusetts, who will lead a tutorial on the decline of paper and print.

The second week, beginning the evening of July 14 and continuing through July 19, will examine the Western tradition and ethic in film. Seminars and tutorials will include sessions led by Annapolis' Dean Eva Brann, with the help of Jim Sorrentino A80, on *Shane*, *Red River* and *High Noon*. Tom Stern SF69 will lead a seminar on *Unforgiven*, a Clint Eastwood film on which he worked, and Krishnan Venkatesh, a Santa Fe tutor, will lead a seminar on Cormac McCarthy's *The Crossing*.

**IF YOU NEED TO KNOW MORE:** Read the brochure! And if you haven't received it yet, call or write the alumni office and we'll send you one. You can contact the alumni office in Santa Fe by calling 505-984-6103; by writing to St. John's College, Alumni Office, 1160 Camino Cruz Blanca, Santa Fe, NM 87501-4599; or by sending an e-mail message to alumni@mail.sjcsf.edu.

## ITALIAN ADVENTURE TO COMBINE CULTURE, CUISINE, AND CLASSICS

The St. John's College Travel Program will host a learning-cum-sight-seeing trip to Italy, November 7-17, 1996. Italophiles and great books fans will travel together to Rome, Florence, Assisi, Siena and Venice. Tutor Geoffrey Comber will accompany the group and lead seminars on Italian and Latin classics such as Virgil's *Aeneid*, Dante's *Divine Comedy* and Machiavelli's *The Prince*.

Six educational sessions will be available in cooperation with the University of Rome. Sessions include "The Rise and Transformation of Rome and the Roman World," "The Decline and Rebirth of Rome, from Imperial City to Christian Capital" and "Michelangelo and the Great Masters."

Before the trip, tutor Walter Sterling will offer an optional seminar in the Continuing Education/Fine Arts Program in Annapolis on Plutarch's *Lives*.

In addition to the educational elements of the trip, travelers will have plenty of time for sightseeing, shopping and enjoying "La Dolce Vita."

For further information, contact Pamela McKee, St. John's College Advancement Office, (410)626-2506.

## BIRTHDAY CRISIS MITIGATION

Alumni from the class of 1968 want to invite fellow alums to a joint 50th birthday celebration on Saturday, May 25, in the Coffee Shop on the Annapolis campus. Dorcey Rose, one of the organizers, says, "We thought it might be easier to face this important time in our lives if we were together." Along with Vicki Cone, Debbie Renaut and Joe Sachs, Dorcey is currently working at the college. The '68s will be inviting all of the tutors and other members of the St. John's community to their B-Day party. For more information, contact any of them at these Annapolis numbers: Vicki Cone, 268-0823(H), 626-2549(W), v-cone@sjca.edu; Debbie Renaut, 269-1768, d-renaut@sjca.edu; Dorcey Rose, 268-4371(H), 626-2527(W), d-rose@sjca.edu; Joe Sachs, 268-3533(H).

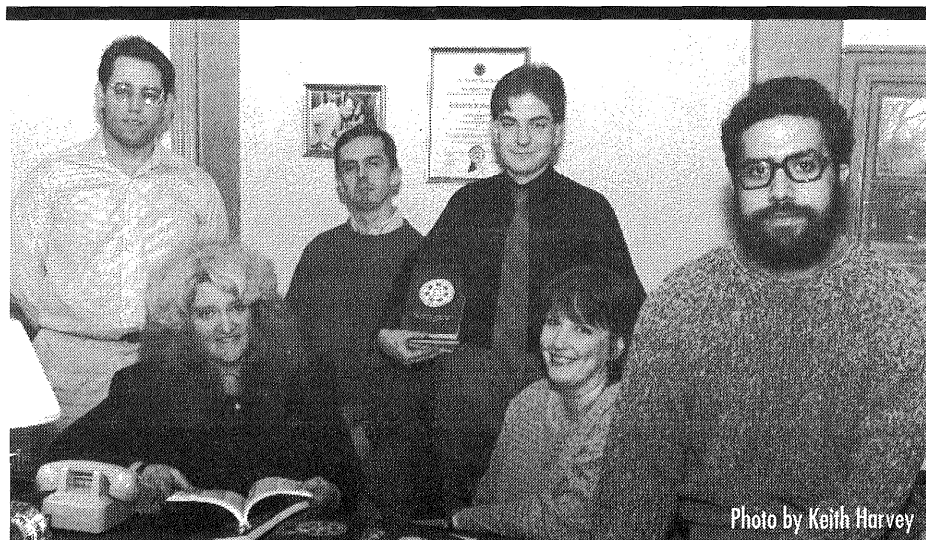


Photo by Keith Harvey

## ALUMNI REGISTER UPDATE:

The crackerjack team of *Alumni Register* experts is standing by, ready to produce the 1996 edition of the *Register*. Alumni will soon be receiving *Register* data forms in the mail. Be sure to send them in so that the new book will be the most complete ever. Shown are Annapolis

Alumni Director Betsy Blume (sitting, left); her assistant, Kim Kern (sitting, right); student aides Reynoldo Miranda (far left), Dimitry Fedotov (second from left), and Luke Trares (right); and Chris Denny, advancement records systems manager (middle).

### ST. JOHN'S AT 300 CONT. FROM PAGE 1

In Santa Fe, the college will host a major conference early next fall exploring the theme of "Tradition and Progress" in the areas of education, science and technology, art and culture, and politics. In October the Santa Fe campus will also host a major celebration which will include a booksale, a Spanish Colonial Arts exhibit, seminars for local residents, poetry readings, book signings and more.

And, of course, during the tercentenary year the college will continue its tradition of free concerts, lectures and art exhibits that are open to the public. St. John's students on both campuses will continue their tradition of volunteering in the local communities, tutoring students, working in hospitals and helping with environmental and housing projects.

## SCHOLARSHIP

# THE DOUBLE LIFE OF NICHOLAS CAPOZZOLI

BY SUSAN BORDEN

*N*icholas Capozzoli is a neurologist in Annapolis with a thriving practice and an unusual second job: he's a St. John's College tutor. Though some might imagine that such an endeavor would distract him from his medical work, Dr. Capozzoli feels that the Great Books help him. "I love the books that we read at the college and I love to be with the students," he says. "It puts my medical life in a good perspective, and it provides balance to the stresses that I feel in the practice of medicine."

Those who imagine that Dr. Capozzoli limits himself to lab class or the occasional math tutorial underestimate the broad interests of the man, and ignore the college's commitment to interdisciplinary learning. As the catalogue states:

*"In order that conversations at St. John's will not be limited to what fits neatly inside a single discipline, it is essential that St. John's tutors reeducate themselves to acquire increased understanding in those parts of the program that are outside their field of post-graduate training. For example, tutors with advanced degrees in mathematics would prepare themselves to lead language tutorials requiring translations from Sophocles or Racine."*

And it naturally follows that a medical doctor with a specialty in neurology would lead seminars in everything from Homer and Mozart to Kant and Hegel. Although St. John's leads the field in interdisciplinary study, Dr. Capozzoli could easily have invented the concept. As an undergraduate at Manhattan College, Dr. Capozzoli had to major in chemistry in order to qualify for the courses he needed to attend medical school. But, he points out, he took more credits in philosophy than in chemistry.

The college catalogue comments on the advantages of cross curriculum teaching: *"The advantage of this for students is that they are under the guidance of active learners who will not parry their far-ranging questions with the reply that these matters are handled in another department. There are no departments! The advantage of this for tutors is that they are involved with a variety of works of such richness that they are continually tempted to strive for greater comprehension of them."*

And the advantage of this for Dr.

Capozzoli is that he can continue with the mission that originally brought him to St. John's: the study of the liberal arts. In 1974, when he began his medical practice in Annapolis, he enrolled in continuing education classes at St. John's. When the school started the Graduate Institute, Dr. Capozzoli signed up, and earned his master's degree in 1981, a member of the Annapolis Graduate Institute's first graduating class.

He's been teaching at St. John's ever since, finding ample opportunity to continue his education. He's led all four years' worth of seminars, freshman and sopho-

est. "They see it as a kind of curiosity," Dr. Capozzoli says. "I was the founder of Anne Arundel General Hospital's medical ethics committee and its chairman for twelve years, so the hospital is accustomed to my dealing with issues not strictly scientific but having more to do with philosophy."

And while the medical community indulges what they might see as a quirky calling, the students at St. John's are impressed by this man who deals with the flesh-and-blood of real life, yet is devoted to joining them in what some might call their Ivory Tower. When Dr. Capozzoli began teaching at the college, students

referred to him as "the brain surgeon" even though surgery is not part of his practice.

"I suppose it was a mark of respect," recalls David Heimann, A87, a junior when Dr. Capozzoli joined the faculty. "Perhaps we wanted to heighten our differences, because it was so interesting, even flattering, to have someone from another world who wanted to join ours."

Often, those two worlds overlap. "Because of my medical background, students who have an interest in medicine will contact me. Students have made rounds with me at the hospital and attended medical ethics sessions there. I've also led preceptorials at the college in medical ethics," Dr. Capozzoli says.

Certainly Dr.

Capozzoli's work in neurology attracts students with an interest in medicine and brings a different outlook and fresh insight to his work as a tutor. But primarily, Dr. Capozzoli is not valued for his expertise, but for his willingness to explore the books with an eager and open mind. As the catalogue reminds us:

*"At St. John's the teaching members of the faculty are called tutors. The title professor is avoided to signify that it is not the chief role of the tutors to expound doctrines in their field of expertise."*

Or, as generations of Johnnies have said, the tutor is simply the most advanced student in the class. Dr. Capozzoli puts it even more modestly. "I don't consider myself the most advanced student in the class. I don't claim any special expertise in any area. I just love the books and hope that will be . . ." he says, ever the doctor, ". . . contagious."

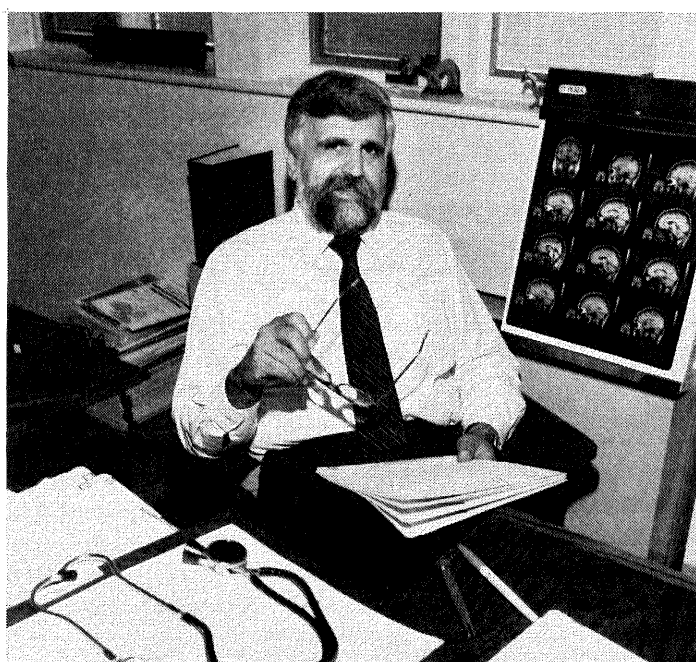


photo by John Bildahl

more math tutorials, and freshman lab. Dr. Capozzoli is now teaching himself Greek in preparation for his first language tutorials.

Though this seems like a tall order for a full-time doctor, the college catalogue is not silent on the subject of extracurricular work by its tutors:

*"Some tutors do find time to write articles and books, but their first duty is to prepare themselves to teach the St. John's program."*

Although the practice of neurology is not explicitly mentioned, it is clear that the catalogue allows for the possibility of a tutor practicing that complex art. But is the medical world equally open to one of its practitioners occasionally finding time to teach Descartes and Jane Austen to a roomful of liberal artists? Dr. Capozzoli thinks so.

Granted, his tutorship at St. John's is unusual for a doctor, but he finds the medical community accepting of his inter-

## ALUMNI CARVE PUBLISHING NICHE

BY ELIZABETH SKEWES

When Bill Donahue, A67, and Dana Densmore, A65, wanted to publish Densmore's guidebook to Newton's *Principia* — a book that would make the work more accessible by including translations, illustrations and a step-by-step reconstruction of Newton's argument — they first contracted with a large university press.

It gradually became clear, however, that despite the academic press's initial assurances, the book that was going to emerge from that publication process was not the book that Ms. Densmore had envisioned. The solution, they decided, was to publish it themselves. So, in August 1995, they launched their own publishing company, Green Lion Press. And in late October, *Newton's Principia: The Central Argument*, was being shipped to bookstores and individual scholars.

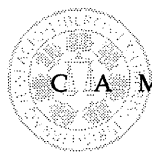
"Many scholars are not happy about the lack of control in dealing with mainstream academic publishers, and we have a niche that we're interested in and think we can do well," said Ms. Densmore, a former tutor at the college and now an independent scholar with several other guidebooks in the works.

Green Lion Press's special niche is providing access to sources in history of science. The books will be in three areas: reprints of classic texts that are out of print, first English translations of important scientific texts, and guidebooks to classic works of particular difficulty, such as Newton's *Principia*.

The fledgling company has three more publications currently forthcoming and is working with other authors who have translations or guidebooks to source texts.

"We contract out the actual printing, but we do everything else—design, layout, typesetting, proofreading, distribution, sales," Ms. Densmore said. "We're only doing books that we know and care about, books we know are worth studying. We have an interest in making these books serve the students and support the way students will need to use the books. By knowing the subject and having taught these books, we understand the pedagogical considerations in presenting the guidebooks in our series. Because of that, we can do a better job of designing and laying out the book to make it easy for students to use than a publisher who turns the design and typesetting over to people who don't know the texts or how they're used."

CONT. ON PAGE 4



## NEW LIBRARY WISH LIST

Remember that first apartment and how bare it looked even after you'd moved in? Remember that first house with the blank living room, its furniture "to come?" When the new library in Annapolis is complete, it will be beautiful, tastefully appointed and user-friendly for students and other patrons, but there will be a number of blank spots. Here's a wish list, put together by the Campus Planning Committee, to fill in the blanks. Monetary donations to be used to purchase these items would be gratefully accepted. Contact Jeff Bishop at 410-626-2505 for details.

- Several room area rugs, original oriental rugs or Karastan copies, to be used in the entry, the Reference/Great room and "Junior's office"
- Brass table lamps for all reading tables
- Halogen floor lamps
- Large plants and large terra cotta or wooden planters (for indoors)
- Floor-model wooden or brass dictionary stands

## KID VID GREATS?

Getting together a "great books" list for children is one of the fun tasks of parenthood. Starting with the littlest listeners, there's *Goodnight Moon*, Russell Hoban's Frances stories, *In the Night Kitchen* and *Where the Wild Things Are*, *Mike Mulligan and the Steam Shovel*, and many more. For today's kids, videos can also be a big part of childhood idle hours—they'll watch the same movies over and over and over. Of course no video will have the charm and value of a good book, but for sheer power to hold young attentions, videos can be useful to parents who need to cook dinner or make a phone call.

Annapolis alumna Lyn DesMarais, 83, has produced a video that would make a good addition to a children's collection. Called "Hey, That's My Hay," it chronicles life on a dairy farm and is told from the point of view of Geraldine, one of the bovine inhabitants. Children are fascinated by animals, large machines and how everyday stuff gets made—all elements of "Hay." The footage was shot on or near Ms. DesMarais's family farm in Massachusetts.

Ms. DesMarais will donate profits from the sale of "Hey, That's My Hay" to The Campaign for Our Fourth Century. The video can be ordered for \$19.95 plus shipping from Farmer Small Productions, 617/891-3689.

## TOCQUEVILLE SOCIETY TO RECOGNIZE SPECIAL GIFTS

*I must say that I have often seen Americans make great and real sacrifices to the public welfare; and I have noticed a hundred instances in which they hardly ever failed to lend faithful support to one another.*

—Alexis de Tocqueville

St. John's has enjoyed the benefits of many gifts to the college during the course of its history—in the spirit of community support noted by de Tocqueville as he studied America. Named in honor of the kind of generosity he described, the newly established Tocqueville Society will encourage those who want to think creatively about making gifts within the context of their financial and estate plans. The Campaign for Our Fourth Century spurred several donors to make major pledges to the college in the form of deferred gifts; the Tocqueville Society will continue to recognize those who wish to support St. John's in similar

ways. These "gifts for the future" help ensure the college's ability to continue its mission in the years to come. For example, the college's ability to continue offering scholarships depends on its scholarship endowment, which is largely established by deferred gifts through bequests and charitable trusts.

There are several ways such gifts can be made. Deferred gifts reserve for the donor some present financial benefit from the contributed assets while giving a future interest to St. John's. In other words, they work for the giver now and for St. John's later. Charitable trusts, charitable gift annuities, life insurance, charitable lead trusts and gifts through one's will are examples.

The advancement offices in Annapolis and Santa Fe can assist in gift planning. Contact either campus for more information.

## CONTACT THE CAMPAIGN FOR OUR FOURTH CENTURY

Santa Fe:  
John Agresto  
President  
505-984-6098

Annapolis:  
Jeff Bishop  
Vice President for Advancement  
410-626-2505

### GREEN LION CONT. FROM PAGE 3

Mr. Donahue, who also taught at St. John's, made a new translation of the central propositions of *Principia* for Densmore's guidebook and drew all the diagrams with a computer drawing program. He is currently working on a guidebook for Johannes Kepler's *New Astronomy*, a book which he translated several years ago for Cambridge University Press.

In 1981, when he and Ms. Densmore were married, he left teaching for a career as an independent scholar in history of science. Since then he has been translating important texts in history of science, researching questions in original manuscripts and writing. With funding from the National Science Foundation, he finished the translation of *New Astronomy*. Following on the success of that translation, he received grants from a number of funding agencies, including the National Endowment for the Humanities, to continue his work on Kepler.

Mr. Donahue said that cutbacks to those agencies, however, is another reason

he and Ms. Densmore started thinking about creating their own company. "Instead of getting the money up front," he said, "we'll do what we think needs to be done and go out and sell it."

Included on that list are two of the company's current projects — a translation of Kepler's *Optics*, in which Santa Fe tutor Bruce Perry is also involved, and a reprint of *Tychonis Brahe Opera Omnia*, Tycho Brahe's complete works. Green Lion decided to reprint Tycho's works because it is out of print and nearly impossible to buy. The length of the 15-volume *Tychonis Brahe Opera Omnia* means that a paper edition would be too expensive for most individual scholars, however, so Green Lion Press will be publishing the full text on CD-ROM, which will be much cheaper to

manufacture. An added bonus is that the CD-ROM text will be computer-searchable.

And it turns out that there's a common bond between Tycho Brahe and Mr. Donahue and Ms. Densmore. Brahe, an astronomer in the late 1500s, often made

his own instruments or worked closely with the instrument makers, most of whom were not educated, to ensure that the equipment served the science. It's that same attention to

serving learning that made Mr. Donahue and Ms. Densmore decide to create their company.

In fact, Ms. Densmore said the focus of the company comes out of their St. John's experiences and the love for books that they nurtured at the College.

"How do you make your life's work

*"We're helping to spread the close reading of original texts in history of science beyond the two St. John's campuses"*

continue to serve the ideals of the college and its program? This is something that we've found that we can do," Ms.

Densmore said. "Preserving and providing access to these texts makes them available not only to students and faculty at St. John's, but also makes it easier for other colleges to incorporate original texts into their programs. Other colleges have great books programs that read some of the philosophical works and literature, but these programs don't do the math and science we do because the texts are too difficult. Guidebooks that keep the text central, but provide help to get through the difficulties, make it possible for other colleges to really study the original texts."

Mr. Donahue noted that the Newton guidebook already is beginning to be used that way at several other colleges. "So we're helping to spread the close reading of original texts in history of science beyond the two St. John's campuses," he said.

More information about Green Lion Press and its forthcoming books can be found on Green Lion's Internet web page at <http://www.greenlion.com>.



# CHEZ GREAT BOOKS: THE BOOKSTORE IN ANNAPOLIS PACKS A LOT OF KNOWLEDGE INTO A SMALL SPACE

BY BARBARA GOYETTE

You could describe the Annapolis bookstore the same way you could describe the college: in terms of what it doesn't have. For the college—no departments, no majors, no semester exams, no fraternities, no intercollegiate football. For the bookstore—no cookbooks, no children's books, no GRE prep manuals, no self-help section. But, as we learn from Hegel, negativity isn't the whole story. Here's what the bookstore does have: 6,000 titles arranged in less than 800 square feet of retail space; The Wall of program books cozily tucked under the brick arches at the back of the shop; four translations of Augustine's *Confessions*; seven translations of Dante; a fiction section put together by someone who knows fiction and has zero tolerance for junk; 12 books by or about Leo Strauss; an array of Loeb Latin and Greek editions joyously clad in bright red and green; 15 shelves of science, history of science and mathematics books; a case of "used great books" at bargain prices; St. John's emblazoned t-shirts, caps, fleece and mugs; notebooks, pencils, folders; and Roberta Rusch, A78, wise and witty proprietress extraordinaire, and her assistant Taylor Waters, AGI.

"We've cultivated a reputation for not being general interest," says Ms. Rusch, by way of explaining her general philosophy of bookstore retailing. "We have very strong sections in philosophy and science, for example. For the GRE prep books and the cookbooks, though, you'll have to go down to Crown," meaning Crown Books, a chain outpost on Main Street. Continues Ms. Rusch, "We do carry fiction, essays, criticism, music, psychology, languages, a lot of Eastern stuff and mythology."

With space at a premium, the choice of what to stock is important. Ms. Rusch does a lot of homework before ordering. She studies publishers' catalogues, consults with faculty members and reads reviews. "It really is what you can do on your own gumption unless you want to deliver yourself into the hands of the sales reps," she says, adding, "I don't do sales reps."

While most of her sales are to students, tutors and the St. John's extended family, she does get some pilgrims from



Annapolis Bookstore Manager Roberta Rusch at work in her office. Pencils, she reports, are the best selling non-book items. "A lot of people at the college have writing implement fetishes," she says.

Photo by Keith Harvey

D.C. (from Catholic U., for instance) and some mail requests. Most recent is a letter from a man in Guam who just had to have a copy of tutor Stewart Umphreys' *Zetetic Skepticism*. "Commercial bookstores don't carry the more esoteric titles (often from university presses) because demand is lower than for your usual bodice ripper," explains Ms. Rusch. On the other hand, she doesn't go overboard on literary criticism—possibly the most prolific genre of scholarly works. "The criticism parade is passing us by and we're happily waving," she says.

Alumni who have stayed in academia will sometimes contact her with a special order. Michael Hendry, A75, for example, teaches classics at the University of

Alabama. He told his classes about the Greek verb chart in the St. John's bookstore and several students called to order one. ("I have tried to get the publisher to print that chart in larger type," says Rusch. "I call it the Greek eye chart—probably no one over 40 should try to use it.")

Ms. Rusch also publishes "Book Chat," a wisecracking and informative monthly newsletter on bookstore and publishing happenings. A popular campus publication, "Book Chat" has information on translations, lucid explanations of why books cost what they do, lists of recommended summer reading for great-books-stressed Johnnies, and lots more. And then there are the contests. Ms. Rusch calls them "invitationals": 50-word

reviews (for frustrated blurb artists) and haikus on favorite books or on the subject of love were the most memorable. She'll send a copy of "Book Chat" with a catalog if requested.

Ms. Rusch is always on the qui vive for helpful liberal arts items. In an atlas of historical maps, she spotted maps of ancient Greece that showed the situations described in Herodotus and Thucydides. She wrote the publisher and asked whether they could reprint those two for her to sell. The publisher responded with something along the lines of "Well, you'd have to order 1,000 and no one in his/her right mind would want that many." She wrote back that yes, she did want them. The maps are a popular item—so handy Ms. Rusch claims she keeps one in her glove compartment. Another program-related victory was convincing Dover to reprint Jacob Klein's *Greek Mathematical Thought and the Origin of Algebra*, which had been out of print for 15 years.

Descending the seven steps (symbol of the seven liberal arts?) to the basement of Humphreys, one anticipates the pleasures of the bookstore: the smell of new books, the faint crackle of an untested binding as a volume is opened, the hope that possession of a book will be the first step in understanding its contents, and—certainly not the least of the bookstore's pleasures—a few minutes in the company of Misses Rusch and Waters. They might be talking on the phone—simultaneously, into the same mouthpiece; singing a song; exhorting an effort at haiku for "Book Chat," describing the virtues of various editions of Plato for a freshman; or just pushing a current favorite book. Like other good things about St. John's, the bookstore makes sense and it works—but a lot of effort goes into making it that way. Rusch sums up her philosophy like this: "First, we try to stay close to the community and the community's needs. Second, the books are a very serious thing. It's important to me that they be handled with a light heart."

**ALUMNI, PARENTS, FRIENDS: ORDER YOUR S'**

Annapolis: Call: 410-626-2540; or write: St. John's College Bookstore, Box 2800, Annapolis, Maryland 21404

Santa Fe: cal

# HUMOR, LIGHT AND THOUSANDS OF CLASSIC TITLES GRACE SANTA FE BOOKSTORE

BY LESLI ALLISON

Interviewing Andrea D'Amato and Peggy Bechko, the longtime managers of the Santa Fe campus bookstore, is like trying to interview two stand-up comedians on stage in front of a live audience—it's virtually impossible. This boisterous, good-humored team responds playfully to almost every question.

Asked to describe the 1993 transition from the old bookstore location in the basement of Peterson Student Center to the new first floor location, Ms. D'Amato said, "It was like moles coming out into the light."

Underneath all the light-hearted bantering, however, are two highly experienced and motivated professionals who are dedicated to St. John's.

Ms. D'Amato, who also is an Olympic-style weightlifter and practicing Zen student, recently celebrated her 15th anniversary as the bookstore's manager. "I started here February 18, 1981," she said. "I know it sounds cheesy, but I love my job. I love working with my staff. I love working with books. I love selecting the stock—it's probably my favorite part of the job."

Ms. Bechko, a novelist specializing in westerns, romance and science fiction, has been with the store for the past nine out of her eleven years with the college. For Ms. Bechko, the bookstore's friendly and relaxed environment is a perfect complement to her other life as a writer. "It works very well with my writing," she said.

"I go home each night from

a very non-stress atmosphere."

Indeed, the bookstore's environment is appealing to anyone who chances in the door. In addition to a warm, knowledgeable staff, the bookstore provides a light and spacious hideaway in which to shop, browse or

store to both support and supplement the St. John's Program. With more than 9,000 titles and nearly 2,000 sideline items, including St. John's sweaters, t-shirts, a variety of logo items, and even a small art-supplies department, the bookstore meets

pus bookstore also keeps an eye on contemporary developments. "We're paying attention to what's going on in the outside world," Ms. D'Amato said. "Not only do we cater to people's needs with the program, but we try to keep up with current issues."

The bookstore also offers lighter reading, with titles by Tom Robbins and Ann Rice, for instance. According to Ms. D'Amato, these are the kinds of books students read during the holidays. "We also sell a ton of humor books—Calvin and Hobbes, Dilbert, Fox Trot," she said. "That's what kids come in and put on their charge accounts immediately at the beginning of the month."

When determining which books to stock, Ms. D'Amato said she looks for classics, even among contemporary entertainment titles.

"I think of relevance to the program," she said. "I look for a book I would want to keep reordering always. I don't just look for topical sales. A book on the O.J. Simpson trial, for example, isn't going to be considered great literature twenty years from now. I look for something with lasting value, and that's a judgment call. Or something that will assist students in their study of Greek or French. And I try to carry books that are representative of certain eras."

For alumni, the bookstore is only a phone call away, a fact that many take advantage of. For instance, one afternoon a long-distance call came in from an alumna and her Academy Award-winning husband who were vacationing in the Grand Caymans. For reasons never explained, they had an urgent need for a copy of *The Basic Works of Aristotle*. The order was shipped overnight express. Another alumna once called to request *The Peloponnesian Wars* for a cruise she was taking through the Greek Islands.

The relocation of the store also has brought expanded hours—a move that has delighted Graduate Institute students and attracted a wider range of customers from town. The bookstore now is open 8:45 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday and 1 to 7 p.m. on Saturdays.

And, while the bookstore has undergone a number of changes in the past several years, its mission has remained constant. "Our primary goal is to serve the college community," Ms. D'Amato said. "Secondarily, it is to serve the local community and thereby raise money to benefit the college. So at all times the college community comes first."



Complete with couches and a kiva fireplace, the Santa Fe campus bookstore provides a light and spacious hideaway in which to shop, browse or read. Featured above is the bookstore staff: (left to right: Jamie Spearman, Andrea D'Amato, Marie Dessomes, Stacey Kaufman and Peggy Bechko.)

read. Couches, chairs and even a kiva fireplace make visitors feel more welcome.

While the old dungeon-like space had a certain limited charm—and even, for a time, a live bat hanging in the doorway—the new location is not only inviting, but also allows the

the needs of the entire college community.

"We now have an extensive philosophy selection, including both Western and Eastern philosophy, along with large selections of religion and literature," Ms. D'Amato said.

In addition to program-related books and non-program classics, the Santa Fe cam-

**ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE BOOKSTORE CATALOGS NOW!**

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# BRIDGING MILES, TIME ZONES & FINANCES ST. JOHN'S REMAINS ONE COLLEGE

BY LESLI ALLISON

With two campuses bound in spirit like siamese twins but physically separated by 2,000 miles, St. John's College remains in constant dialogue with and about itself. One of the perennial topics of conversation is the relationship between Santa Fe and Annapolis.

From a managerial standpoint the college seems, at times, like a two-headed monster. Yet in this very structure, much like a seminar with two tutors, it also finds its strength and stability through the process of interaction. It is an unusual circumstance for any institution. It also is one that will be brought to bear on any discussion about the health or future of St. John's.

Lately, there has been much discussion in the college community about the unity of the two campuses, prompting fear among some alumni of an impending shift in the structure of the college. Both presidents and deans, however, say that despite variations between the campuses, the fundamental bond is intact and will remain so in the future.

"In the principles of instruction, the mode of instruction, the content of the curriculum and in terms of transferability, we are a unified college," Santa Fe President John Agresto said. "At the same time, we want each campus to be creative, imaginative, and to think of new ways of expanding and promoting the program, e.g. the Graduate Institute and the Eastern Classics program—so long as it doesn't affect the basic and pedagogic philosophical unity of the institution."

The recent discussion derives in large part from the "1994 Statement of Educational Policy and Program" issued by Santa Fe Dean Steve Van Luchene. In the statement, which was published in abbreviated form in the *Reporter* and also made available to alumni through the dean's office and the unofficial alumni web page, Mr. Van Luchene drew attention to some of the major financial issues currently facing the Santa Fe campus. In so doing, he raised a number of questions for discussion, among them the nature of

the relationship between the campuses.

The statement provided an overview of the college's present financial situation and pointed out several major problems with which the college must contend if it is to maintain a solid financial footing in the future. Among these are the fact that Santa Fe's endowment is significantly

smaller than that of Annapolis and that college tuition levels in the west are traditionally much lower than those in the east.

The disparity between the two endowments poses several problems, not the least of which is faculty salaries. In his statement,

Mr. Van Luchene said, "We all agree that the unity of the program in spirit, if not in all the details, is of central importance. The three practical elements we have traditionally aimed to keep the same are (1) faculty salaries, (2) tuition and financial aid, and (3) the transferability of students between campuses...."

"For the first time in many years, the faculty on the two campuses will receive salaries at different rates...While we can live with a small disparity for a long time or even a large one briefly, in the long run this will contribute greatly to unknitting the unity of the college as it creates distinctions, complicates the transfer of tutors between campuses, and strains the meaning of a single faculty on two campuses."

The second problem, the variance in tuition levels between the two recruitment markets, further complicates the matter. For the Santa Fe campus, annual tuition increases have a negative impact on enrollment while requiring the college to spend more on financial aid. Presently, almost 70% of all students in Santa Fe receive some form of financial assistance.

As Mr. Van Luchene said in his statement,

"The ironic conclusion to be drawn here is that the Santa Fe campus, the one that most needs the money, has either reached or exceeded the level of tuition that is appropriate for the Southwest, while the Annapolis campus can probably benefit further by substantial increases in tuition."

In an effort to address these concerns, Mr. Van Luchene suggested the college community explore new ways of thinking. Seeding the dialogue, he asked the college to consider a number of things, ranging from rethinking the New Program to garnering greater financial support for the college from the local community. He also suggested the college take a second look at the relationship between the campuses, changing it from that of "twins" to that of "cousins."

"It should be possible to retain a sense of the unity of our animating spirit without clinging to a moribund conception of parity in all ways," the statement read. "We are clearly moving in this direction; we should proceed thoughtfully and not merely by inertial drift."

In conclusion, he said, "I hope that this paper will serve as a springboard to further possibilities and that it will not invite merely reactionary criticism of its smaller points. None of the ideas it includes about instruction is intended as a proposal. They are all meant to illustrate possibilities and to encourage conversation about our situation."

Nevertheless, the statement did raise alarm. "It generated a lot of concern among Alumni Association board mem-

bers," Mark Middlebrook, A83, said.

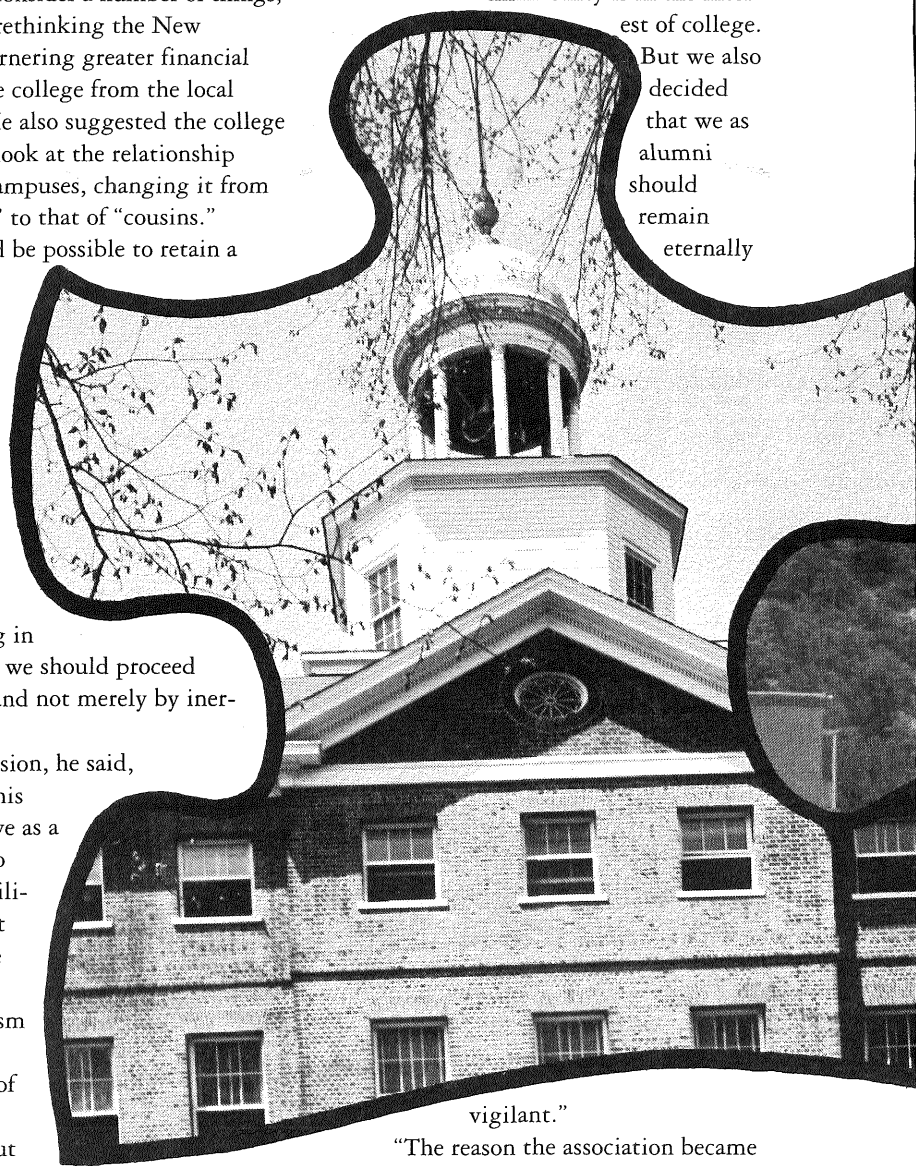
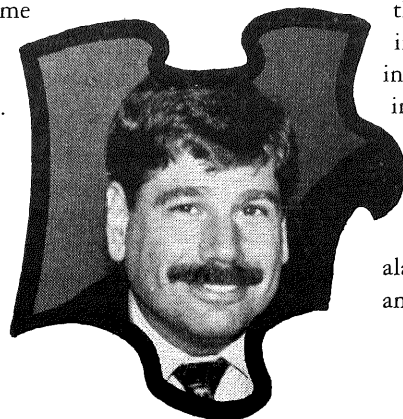
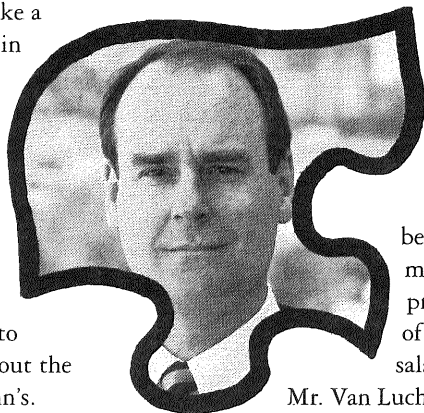
"That led to consideration on the board's part that we should look into it. We had meetings with the deans and one sort of quasi-seminar with members of the Instruction Committee, and we had special sessions among ourselves. We went through a couple of years with the college trying to convince us that there wasn't a unity problem. Although we weren't completely convinced, our fears were allayed. We did find that most people

think unity is in the interest of college.

But we also decided that we as alumni should remain eternally

vigilant."

"The reason the association became concerned about Van Luchene's statement is that the Alumni Association is firmly committed to the St. John's College program and its execution on both campuses," Sharon Bishop, A65, president of the Alumni Association said. "For us it is one college, it is one program. It is that which binds us together. As dean, Steve





Van Luchene is operating the college on a day-to-day basis. From his perspective, having a little distance wouldn't hurt. Similarly, Eva Brann felt the need for a little breathing room.

But the way it gets presented simply raises red flags with alumni. We get concerned when we hear college officials say we should become distant cousins instead of sisters.

"The conclusion I came to was that the two campuses do indeed need to have enough breathing room in order for them to stay together as one college. In the end, we on the Alumni Association Board felt, in essence, that we didn't want to beat this drum too loud, we didn't want to be Chicken Little saying the sky is falling, and so starting last year we decided we should just let it sit but remain vigilant."

Glenda Eoyang, SF76, said she was alarmed by the "1994

Statement  
of  
Educational  
Policy"

largely because it emphasized the differences between the campuses rather than the

similarities.

"It's my understanding that there are many dimensions that tie the two campuses together: finances, administrative procedures, the ability of students to move back and forth, the alumni who see the college as one institution, faculty, the

Joint Instruction Committee, all of those things are ties between the two campuses," she said. "There also are pressures from pragmatic, urgent issues that cause those ties to be looser or tighter from time to time. The campaign, the Eastern studies program, the fact that tutors are doing less exchange from one campus to another and a number of other things recently have served to underline the differences. In that context, Van Luchene's 'Statement of Educational Policy' was unfortunate. It focused just on Santa Fe, it accented differences instead of similarities, and it focused on those urgent administrative and financial concerns."

However, Ms. Eoyang said that after some investigation into the issue she is now persuaded that the college will remain intact. "I think it has been resolved with verbal commitments from the deans and presidents on both campuses that we are a single institution and that we'll resolve our problems in the context of the institution," she said. "But I do believe we need to keep a watchful eye on those urgent issues that will tend to highlight differences rather than similarities."

Just about the time the concern over unity began to subside, a new twist generated a second wave of alarm. When the college announced during the January 1996 board meeting that the Joint Instruction Committee would not hold its regular annual meeting due to temporary budget constraints in Santa Fe, it met with a strong reaction from members of the Alumni Association Board.

"It appeared to fly in the face of all the assurances we'd been getting," Mr. Middlebrook said. "It's important for tutors from the two campuses to get together for a few days and talk. It still strikes me as of concern that many of the

faculty haven't experienced the other campus at all."

Mr. Van Luchene said he was surprised by the alumni response. "The Instruction Committee meeting was delayed from March to September, essentially to move it into the next fiscal year," he said. "While we all regret not getting to see our colleagues in Annapolis, no one thought that anything serious was lost by postponing that meeting."

"What we heard was that Santa Fe did not have enough money so there would not be a meeting of the Joint Instruction Committee," Ms. Bishop said. "Initially, people got concerned. Then we heard it wasn't cancelled, it was just delayed and that it wasn't anything to get excited about."

While most eventually concluded that the postponement of the Instruction Committee was a practical and largely inconsequential move, Annapolis President Chris Nelson, SF71, said he agrees with alumni that exchange between the campuses is imperative.

"There's one thing we know from experience at St. John's, something everyone here believes is a principle of intellectual growth and human activity and it's this: Talking brings people together," he said. "Listening and talking to one another are good. They are fundamental to education and they are fundamental to governance of a common enterprise. So if people on our two campuses are struggling with each other from time to time, it usually means they need to talk, and where memos don't work, a telephone might, and where the telephone won't, a personal meeting probably will. And if we haven't always acknowledged this principle explicitly in the past, we recognize it from day to day experience. In this we agree with the Alumni Association: Tutors, associates, officers and staff on the two campuses need to see more of each other and more of each other's campuses. We simply must make this happen or we will have a hard time recognizing ourselves as a single entity in certain fundamental respects. E-mail and telephone are great ways for two to communicate. Physically being together, however, is a far sight better for recognizing those respects in which we are one."

Despite the administrative and financial challenges of managing the two campuses and a unilateral desire for more exchange between the two, there seems to be no doubt that St. John's will remain a single institution.

"There is absolutely no question about it, the college will remain unified," Mr. Agresto said. "On the other hand, it is also important to realize that unity

does not necessarily mean 'sameness.'"

Annapolis Dean Eva Brann agreed. "There is no problem with unity," she said without hesitation. "To begin with we have the 'Statement of Unity' which makes it crystal clear that we are one college. Then we have the yearly exchange of students, the result of which is that two-fifths of our students belong to both campuses. Then we have the fact that we are good friends with each other and are in constant communication. Then we have the Faculty Inter-Visitation Committee. Then we have the Joint Instruction Committee meeting, which was postponed this year because of a change of deans and money difficulties but which will resume early next fall—ahead of schedule. Then we have the fact that many people are now in e-mail communication with each other on both campuses. Then we have the fact that we now make conference calls when we need to, either between Instruction Committees or all the people who are managing the

college. Then we have the fact that everyone in Annapolis loves to visit Santa Fe and we hope that it's true the other way too."

Ms. Brann added that a recent change to the Polity which, under highly controlled conditions, allows the

two campuses to make slight changes separately from one another, will actually bring the campuses closer together by eliminating unnecessary sources of friction. She also noted that the measure was approved by a huge majority on both campuses and by the Board of Visitors and Governors.

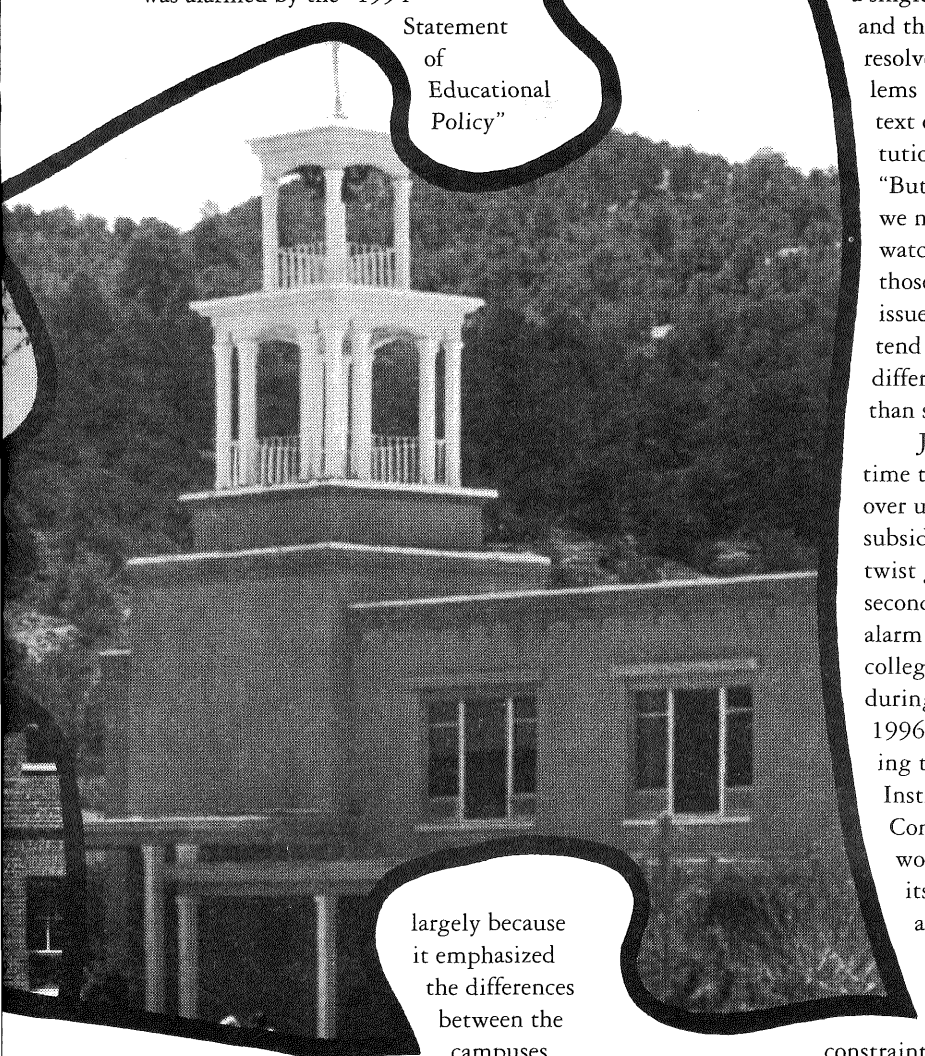
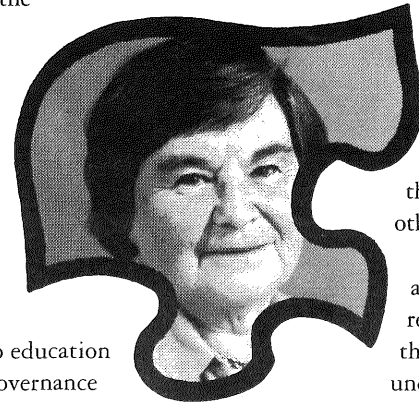
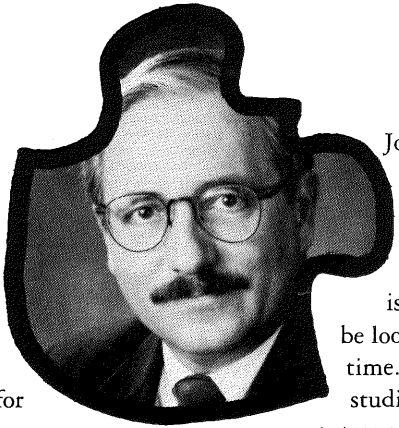
Mr. Agresto emphasized that any disparity between the campuses does not stem from philosophical differences, but from the fact that one campus is poorer than the other. And, while this causes a number of difficulties, it also has fostered new growth.

"Necessity has been the mother of invention on this campus and we really have been willing to dare," he said. "I think that's what the program ultimately tries to teach."

However, determining which things can vary between the two campuses and by how much is no easy matter.

"We recognize that too great a disparity between the two is not a great idea," Mr. Agresto said. "This is a difficult line to walk. Each campus wants to be competitive with its neighboring institutions, but we don't want to be competitive with each other."

**ONE CAMPUS CONT. ON PAGE 10**



# BART, DARKEY REFLECT ON THREE DECADES IN SANTA FE

BY ELIZABETH SKEWES

For those who haven't gone to St. John's College in Santa Fe, it is a place on a map—a dot found on the east side of town and tucked into the mountains. For those who have attended classes here, however, it is much more than that. It is a place in the heart and in the mind—a place inhabited by the friends and tutors who have shaped their lives. And for many of them, when they reflect on their days here, two faces, especially, spring to mind.

Tutors William Darkey and Robert Bart are as much a part of the foundation of St. John's as any building. Mr. Darkey, who was here when the campus opened, and Mr. Bart, who came nearly 10 years later, are both alumni of the Annapolis campus and were both long-time tutors in Annapolis before coming to Santa Fe, and both served on the committee that selected Santa Fe as the site for the second campus. They have seen St. John's through the decades and been on hand each year as the college has welcomed new students and tutors, which are, for Mr. Darkey and Mr. Bart, the very

lifeblood of St. John's.

"The faculty makes the college what it is," said Mr. Bart, who came to Santa Fe in 1975, after teaching at Annapolis for 30 years. "We spend all of our time teaching and even out of class we spend time with our students. That certainly was the case 10 or 15 years ago and it continues today, though perhaps not to as great a degree. Still, the students are often in the homes of the faculty, sometimes helping with the children or just talking. Our pleasure and delight rests in knowing our students well."

Mr. Darkey, who came from Annapolis to Santa Fe when the campus opened in 1964, said that in those first years, "there was a great feeling of newness and the excitement that goes with it. I got excited about 'building' the college. What Mr. Weigle had wanted was a bunch of old hands to come and bring the tradition of teaching and learning with them."

"We were not trying to be different," he added. "We were trying to be the same in our teaching and tradition. But, of course, we're all individuals and different people modify things in different ways."

What they modified, Mr. Bart said, was the tone of the campus. Tutors like Bob Neidorf and Michael Ossorgin have left strong impressions and warm memories in the minds of their students and colleagues.

"In a college like St. John's, which is a teaching college, the loss of a good teacher can have a great impact," Mr. Bart said. "The faculty really is the college. The deaths of Bob Neidorf and Michael Ossorgin have changed the college considerably and those changes are very different from the curricular changes. I'm very aware of who is no longer at the college, as well as who is there."

Mr. Darkey credits Istvan Fehervary, who was the first student activities director in Santa Fe, for leaving a lasting mark on the campus. "He's why we have fencing on this campus. He invented the Fasching Ball and picnics on the mountains and all sort of things that are traditions, now, in Santa Fe."

He also points to Mr. Bart as someone who has shaped not only the campus, but



John Gaw Meem and St. John's President Richard D. Weigle survey the site on which the Santa Fe campus would soon be constructed.

the curriculum as well. The introduction of the art program into the curriculum was sponsored by Mr. Bart, he said. And while neither man is a strong advocate of change in the St. John's program, they both said that the art sequence in the senior year has added more than it has taken away.

"The art program is a very valuable addition to the program and one that was imagined with the founding of the program," Mr. Bart said. "But something had to give way to make room for it and the fact is that there is less time for language and math than there was before in the senior year."

"Still, there's very little reason to change our curriculum. It wasn't designed to be contemporary and I don't think that we ought to push out authors that we currently read to make room for others who may not be any better," Mr. Bart added.

For Mr. Darkey, the importance of the curriculum rests in the way it brings together students with increasingly different educational backgrounds and molds them into a cohesive group of scholars who can learn from each other, as well as the text. Changing the curriculum to bring in more contemporary texts or opening the seminars to discussions of current world events would do far more harm than good, he said.

"During the second World War, when I was in college in Annapolis, we kept pret-

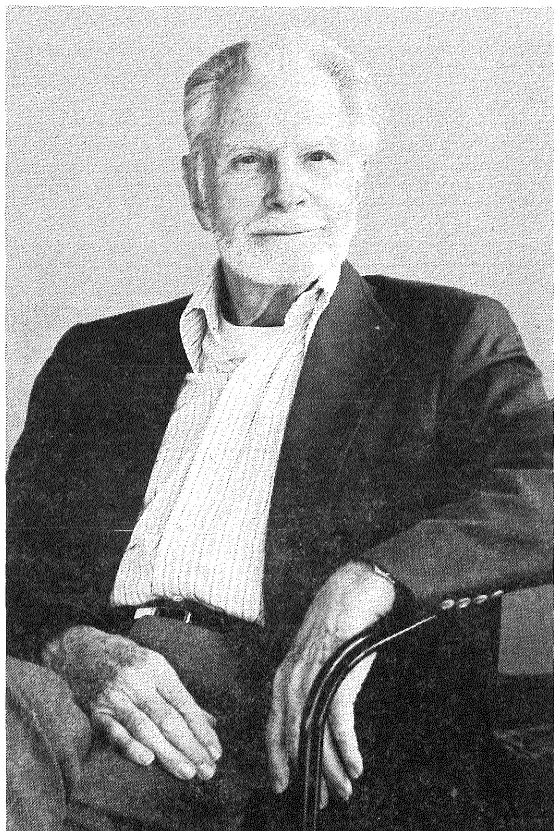
ty good track of the war, but that's different from following Dole, Forbes and Buchanan in the presidential primary," he said.

"Vietnam did touch the campus, but it didn't come much into the classroom. It seems to me that those discussions happen, but they do so extracurricularly. I don't think it's our business to teach that to undergraduates. Mr. Barr said that students ought to be out of the world for a while. I mean, why should anyone study Watergate?"

"Reading the same books — that's a fundamental tenant of the curriculum. Mr. Barr used to say that these books are the minutes of Western civilization."

The very fact that the same books have been read and examined by generations of St. John's alumni from both campuses means that the common experience — over the years and over the miles — makes the differences between campuses and between decades very minor. What matters more, both tutors said, are the similarities of a single program and an approach that encourages students to discuss their ideas.

"This is a totally talking college," Mr. Darkey said. "We talk to each other all the time and that's possible because we're all studying the same thing. It seems to be more and more the case that the students who come to us have relatively little in common educationally. It's hard to find a



Santa Fe tutor emeritus Robert Bart transferred to Santa Fe in 1975 after 30 years on the Annapolis campus.

Photo by Vivian Ronay





Santa Fe tutor emeritus William Darkey has been a part of the Santa Fe campus since its conception. Photo by Vivian Ronay

book that all of them have read. What this college does, through the program, is make a kind of culture that is unusual in most places. By the middle of the first semester, the students are beginning to have a lot of things in common — and not only horizontally among the members of their class, but vertically among students in other classes and other years because they're reading the same authors."

It's those factors — the emphasis on

learning and talking, and the common experience of the program — that give St. John's its most unique character, he said, whether it's St. John's in Santa Fe or St. John's in Annapolis. "Santa Fe may be more 'western' than Annapolis, whatever that means, but the campuses are not really very different. They're more alike than anyone might suppose."

Mr. Bart said there were more differences 30 years ago, when Santa Fe was brand new, and even when he came to Santa Fe nearly 10 years later.

"When I came out here, a lot of people thought I represented Annapolis and there were some who were concerned. But I really think we've outgrown that kind of tension," he said. "Of course, things like that don't disappear completely."

Still, the two campuses work well together, he said, because they are bound by the common program and by the students and tutors who often spend time on both campuses. The

shared experiences and shared vision are what will keep the college going strong well into the next century and beyond.

"I sincerely hope that the college in 20 years will be very similar to what it is now and I don't think any changes that will occur will be significant," Mr. Bart said. "If they read 10 other books and drop 10 that we have now, the seminar would be the same. You see, once we establish that we're interested in what the students have to say, that makes a world of difference and it's what sets us apart from other colleges." ■

#### Dedication of the Santa Fe campus, October 10, 1964



#### ONE CAMPUS CONT. FROM PAGE 8

"For instance, it's much more important to come to parity on faculty salaries than in other areas. The work is the same, the curriculum is the same, the demands on tutors are the same, and as best as possible, the salaries should be the same. When it comes to tuition, room and board there can be a bit more leeway, especially in the area of room and board. Historically, room and board has not always been equal or the same on both campuses, and this is one place where each campus really does have to situate itself within its local housing market. We want students to live on campus and be part of campus life. What may be reasonable on one campus might be too high on the other and drive students out of campus housing."

In terms of tuition, the two campuses exist in very different markets, he said. "Annapolis has only to look around the corner to find schools that are as expensive or more so. Annapolis tuition is where it needs to be to be attractive and competitive, but here in the west a tuition as high as Annapolis' means a deficit of students."

On this point, however, Santa Fe Dean Steve Van Luchene said the college needs to be cautious. "I personally like the idea of a lower tuition myself, but we have to ask where are we with respect to our competitors, we have to define our market. Then we have to ask how much of an overlap is there in the markets that Santa Fe and Annapolis serve."

According to Mr. Agresto, research on these questions which was initiated several years ago and is ongoing today will help to determine the optimum tuition level for Santa Fe.

And, while the Santa Fe campus has, over the past two years, lowered its annual tuition increases relative to Annapolis, the college is watching carefully to ensure the variation does not affect transferability.

In fact, Mr. Agresto said, when the difference in tuition between Annapolis and Santa Fe became apparent, more students went to Annapolis than transferred to Santa Fe. "We have no evidence that within certain boundaries the tuition differential harms transfer to the more expensive campus."

While a number of issues, such as differing tuition levels, continue to generate research and discussion, Mr. Nelson said these problems can be resolved.

"I believe in the idea of one college," Mr. Nelson said. "In my mind the Program is the college and the Program ought to drive other questions. It seems to me that as long as we're unified about the Program it ought not to be hard to discover the various means we will need to use to protect it."

"The questions we are talking about are the same ones our freshmen face in their second semester when they talk about sameness and otherness, and the one and the many. Beings have integrity or oneness in what they together share and we have this integrity in the Program. It requires vigilance, work to protect it, and it probably requires many different ways on our separate sites to see that this actually happens. And of course it requires a lot of talk. The exchanges that we've had on the unity theme are healthy in that they've caused us to examine ourselves out loud and to hear what is said by people that we don't see on a daily basis."

The two things, then, that everyone seems to agree on are that St. John's College should remain a single entity and that unity does not necessarily mean sameness.

"Instead of talking about unity, we should be talking about the relationship between two parts of a whole," Mr. Van Luchene said.

Mr. Agresto agreed. "Everyone assumes unity means sameness," he said. "We want to be unified in terms of the core of instruction, the transferability, and the aims of the curriculum, but if one campus looks a little different than the other in terms of its endowment, revenue stream and experiments, that's allowed too."

"We want to avoid talking it to death in this kind of generic way," Mr. Middlebrook said. "I am not sure how to do it, but I hope that in our discussions about unity we don't turn it into a mom-and-apple-pie issue, that we can continue to talk about it critically."

For Ms. Eoyang, while she said she is convinced the two campuses will remain unified, she now worries about a different kind of unity within the college—the unity of ideas.

"I think the philosophical grounding of the college is the unity of knowledge," she said. "The whole idea of studying ideas across disciplines is fundamental to what the college is. And there are ways in which I see that unity being challenged. For instance, there is a tension at the college today between the idea of expertise in a discipline and unity of ideas across disciplines. According to the way I see the college, we need to think about expertise in the context of integration rather than integration in the context of expertise."

"I think in some ways our concern about the administrative issues is a symptom of our concern about this deeper issue. I would like to see us as a community ask ourselves the question and continue to talk about the unity of ideas as embodied by the college."

And so, the dialogue continues. ■

## CAMPUS LIFE

## GUIDES TO THE GREAT BOOKS

BY SUSAN BORDEN

In the mid-eighties, an Annapolis student devised a campus tour that capitalized on St. John's diminutive stature. She'd lead a small group out to the quad where she would say: "Now . . . pivot!" End of tour.

Granted, she had hit upon an efficient way to provide sightseers with a glimpse of our historic buildings and hallowed grounds; yet she failed to do justice to a college as interesting and complex as St. John's.

Those who find themselves unsatisfied with the quick pivot tour might be tempted to present themselves at the admissions office on a Monday or Thursday afternoon when prospective students arrive for their campus visits. The campus visit is designed to give prospectives a taste of life at St. John's: they stay overnight in Campbell Hall, talk with students, eat in the dining hall, and attend seminar, tutorials and lab.

Each visit begins with a campus tour led by a student guide. In the true St. John's spirit, the guides receive little if any training for their tours. They must decide for themselves how best to interpret the college for the prospectives they introduce to the school.

Student guide Kevin Gardner describes his program-centered tour. "We begin at the library and talk about the essays. We discuss our approach, how our papers are personal rather than strictly commentary. We walk through the quad, look at the seal, go into FSK. If they have an interest in theater, we visit the auditorium. But it is in the classroom, McDowell especially, that the tour reaches a turning point," says Gardner. "We sit down, talk about the chalkboards, discuss how everyone participates. Then we go to the bookstore and talk about the books themselves. The prospectives will often talk about the program books they've read. My tour doesn't address the social life very much. We really have to sum that up because we talk mainly about the program."

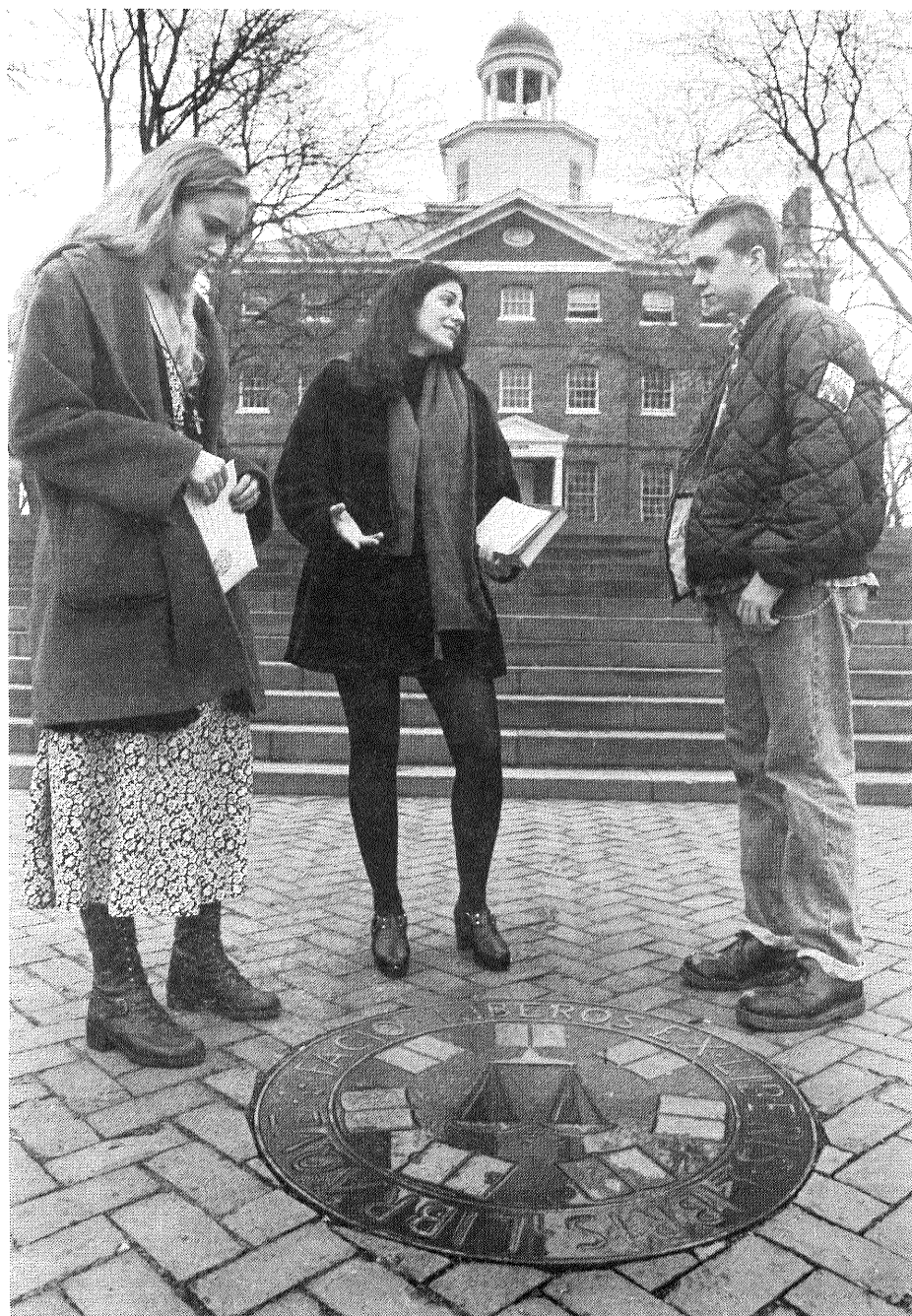
Head guide Cindy Lutz tries not to skimp when discussing the college's social life. She feels that talking about non-program issues is an important part of her tour. "A visit to the gym is a good time to talk about student activities outside the program. Prospectives are usually surprised by this. They think we spend 24 hours with our noses stuck in books. I like to stress that this is not just an academic life, but that St. John's is a community."

Director of Admissions John Christensen values the student guides' various emphases. "Part of the reason for the lengthy stay is to allow prospectives to remain on campus long enough to gain an understanding of the day-to-day life of the students. We want them to have a chance to see the community as a whole, both in its academic and its extra-curricular dimensions," Christensen says. "The tours have a dual purpose. They give the students a physical orientation to the campus, and they give them a chance to talk about what will happen while they are here, what the classes mean, and what the students' attitude is toward attending a class. The

chance to speak to a current student during an extended tour helps the classes make sense to them."

This well-rounded view of the college pays off. When the admissions office surveyed entering freshmen about the activity most helpful in making their decision to attend the college, the prospective visit was far and away cited as most important.

When asked about the quick-pivot tour, Christensen laughs and says, "The campus may be small, but the college is deep, rich and complex. It is the job of the student guides to pull away the veil of the campus and reveal the larger college to our prospective students."



Christina Papavasiliou (center), an Annapolis sophomore, explains the New Program seal to two prospective students. Photo by Keith Harvey

LETTERS  
TO THE  
EDITOR

Re: "An Open Letter to the St. John's Alumni," *Reporter*, Fall 1995, why does the College persist in tippy-toeing around this question? No, *Their Eyes Were Watching God* is not specifically a "great" book. Yes, *Frankenstein* is melodrama, and Christine de Pisan may have sophomore girls cracking gum and cracking wise in the dorms. But how does one call oneself educated without Sappho and Emily Dickinson?

Far more important, oh, philosophers, is the idea. What's Aeschylus the warrior talking about, when he says in *The Eumenides* that Athena can judge rationally because she wasn't born of woman? Who's this country boy, Aristotle, who writes without evident irony that any male fool can plainly see how irrational women are? And, yes, why does ugly old Socrates call himself a revolutionary, when he allows women to be guardians?

The proposal in "The Open Letter" is pretty well argued and reasonably presented, the proffered titles incorporated into the curriculum intelligently. But isn't all of this a little late in the day? Why doesn't the College set aside a month in the senior year, after the Freud readings, to investigate what three generations of shrinks wished Freud had asked his own mother—what does 'Woman' want? There is a reason.

To judge by what passes for philosophy in the 20th Century, we may have reached the end of what meaningful new ground philosophy can break. Precisely there, perhaps, 'Woman' is waiting. Talk about calling oneself educated...

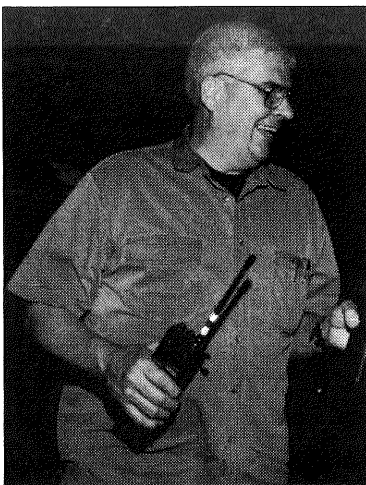
— Robert Covelli, A79

The Reporter welcomes letters on issues of interest to readers. Letters may be edited for clarity and/or length. Please address to either campus:

St. John's College  
Alumni Relations  
1160 Camino Cruz Blanca  
Santa Fe, NM 87501  
e-mail: eskewes@shadow.stjohns-nm.edu

St. John's College  
Office of Public Relations  
P.O. Box 2800  
Annapolis, MD 21404-2800  
e-mail: bgoyette@mailhost.sjca.edu





Team Founder Herb Kincey

# SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM CELEBRATES 25TH ANNIVERSARY

BY JOHN TULL

The St. John's College Search and Rescue Team will celebrate its proud heritage of twenty-five years of service to the people of Santa Fe and Northern New Mexico with a festive banquet on April 27, 1996, in the Great Hall at the Santa Fe campus. All members and supporters, past and present, are invited. The plans for the evening include remembering the past with fondness and looking to the future with confidence and optimism.

The team was founded in 1970 by Herb Kincey, Istvan Fehervary and Jim Carr. The initial concept continues unaltered after a quarter-century: encourage the St. John's College student to participate in meaningful activities while providing a vital service to the community. It is the unusual student who has not had his or her life tangibly changed through the experience received as a result of SAR participation.

From those early days, with fourteen original members, the team has grown into one of the most respected search and rescue teams in the nation. The team now

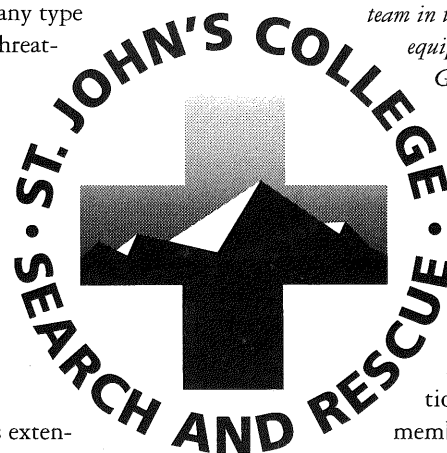
has 100 members, equally divided between St. John's College students and community members. Every member of the team is a volunteer who donates valuable time and equipment to the goals of the team.

**FACT:** The members own 42 four-wheel-drive vehicles, 16 cellular phones, 48 mountain bikes and 24 sets of snowshoes.

The team now has over 40 members trained as a Paramedic, EMT, or Wilderness First Responder, as well as three physicians. Such a wealth of medical training allows the team to respond in a proficient manner to almost any type of life-threatening emergency.

**FACT:** The team now has 18 Amateur Radio Operators, or Hams, significantly aiding in the communications efforts during missions.

The team provides extensive training for new members and continuing education for all members. The Executive Board recently enacted significant changes in training requirements. Each member is now certified on a multi-



track basis depending upon physical skills, gear required, and training completed. Ongoing efforts to enhance leadership skills have greatly improved mission safety factors. Over one-third of the members have achieved certification as Operations Leaders, Training Operations

Leaders or Team Leaders.

**FACT:** The team participates in approximately thirty-five missions per year, equally divided between rescues of injured persons and searches for lost persons.

SJCSAR is highly regarded for its diverse membership, team loyalty, high level of training, and ability to make progressive changes in policy. In response to the growing nationwide movement toward managing emergency efforts using the Incident Command System, for example, the team has become the only Search and Rescue team in New Mexico with a fully certified ICS staff.

**FACT:** Each SJCSAR ground team in the field on a mission is equipped with a GPS, or Global Positioning System unit, that allows the team to know its location at all times with electronic accuracy through satellite technology.

The team is financed by contributions from the College, member dues and contributions from benefactors and appreciative rescues. Due to the high cost of, and absolute necessity for, specialized equipment to allow us to do the job we have chosen to undertake, contributions are very important for the success of our objectives.

**FACT:** Over half the members carry digital pagers at all times to ensure a faster response time to a mission callout.

It takes an enormous amount of time and dedication to be a contributing member of the team. The training never ends. A vital piece of equipment is always desperately needed. Some people undoubtedly think that SAR personnel are all crazy: Normal people simply do not enjoy wandering around in the middle of the night in the woods in the snow carrying enormous packs. Not surprisingly, it is a shared feeling among the members that



they would not trade their experiences on the team for anything else.

As our country fades into the twenty-first century, there exist few chances to be a genuine hero, for fun rather than profit. There are equally few chances to freely give of one's time and efforts, without recompense or quest for personal glory. It is quite rare in 1996 to be part of an exciting group that undertakes some amount of personal risk for the good of one's fellow-man. St. John's College Search and Rescue Team offers those chances, and thus enriches the lives of the members while saving the lives of the victims.

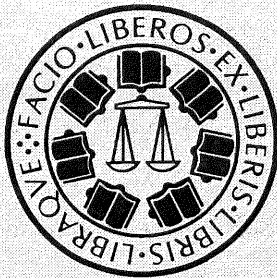
(John Tull is a Santa Fe attorney and writer. He is proud to be an Operations Leader for the team.)



# SPRING 1996

## St. John's College

MARK MIDDLEBROOK, A83, EDITOR



# ALUMNI

## Association News

THOMAS GEYER, A68,  
COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

### APRIL 1996 ELECTION NOTICE:

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS OF THE ST.  
JOHN'S COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.

*In accordance with the Article VII, Sections I and II of the ByLaws of the Alumni Association, notice is hereby given that the following alumni have been nominated to serve on the St. John's College Alumni Association Board of Directors:*

For three-year terms as Directors:



**Mary Bittner Goldstein, '58(A)**  
Doylestown, PA  
M.A. Harvard,  
Ph.D., Columbia  
University;  
Professor of  
Philosophy and  
Comparative  
Literature at the

City University of New York (The Graduate School and Research Center and Brooklyn College); author of *The Ecstasies of Roland Barthes* (Routledge, 1989); trustee of the American Society for Aesthetics (1984-87); consultant to the National Endowment for the Humanities (1979-80 and 1993-95) and the Department of Education of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (1986); Visiting Professor at the University of Paris VIII (Spring 1986); Member, St. John's College Board of Visitors and Governors (1986-92); Director, St. John's College Alumni Association Board of Directors (1986-92); Leader, alumni seminars at the Annapolis Homecoming, the New York Chapter, and The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; St. John's College Summer Alumni Programs (1990, 1995); Recipient, St. John's College Alumni Association Award of Merit (1989).



**Paul Martin, '80(S)**  
Austin, TX  
General Director,  
Martin Capital  
Management,  
1988-present;  
Chief Investment  
Officer, Lone Star

Portfolio, Texas Capital Value Funds, 1986-present; Stockbroker, Merrill Lynch/Oppenheimer & Co., 1985-88; U.S. Naval Reserve Officer, 1980-present (Commander); Executive Officer, Naval Reserve Special Warfare Team, 1994-present; Intelligence Analyst, U.S. Army Security Agency, 1973-76; Co-Founder and President, Austin Chapter, St. John's College Alumni Association, 1990-present; Vice President, New York Chapter, St. John's College Alumni Association, 1987-89; SF80 Class Leader, The Campaign for Our Fourth Century; Director, The Jung Society of Austin, 1995-present.



**Pedro Martinez-Fraga, '84(A)**  
Miami, FL  
J.D., 1987,  
Columbia  
University School  
of Law, as a  
Harlan Fiske  
Stone Scholar; litigation share-

holder with Greenberg Traurig Hoffman Lipoff Rosen & Ouentel, P.A. in Miami, FL, Greenberg Traurig is a 250-attorney firm with offices in Fort Lauderdale, Miami, New York, Orlando, Tallahassee, Washington, DC and West Palm Beach; Vice Chair, Florida Bar Code and Rules of Evidence Committee; member, Florida Bar Rules of Civil Procedure and Rules of Judicial Administration Committees.

**William Jay Friedman, '84(S)**  
Albuquerque, NM  
J.D., University of New Mexico Law School, 1989; Attorney-at-Law, William J. Friedman, Albuquerque, New Mexico; General Counsel, New Mexico Organic Commodity Commission, 1990-95; Judge, International Court of Arbitration, International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements, present; Law Clerk, Hon. Chief Judge A. Joseph Alarid, New Mexico Court of Appeals, 1990-92.



**Linda Stabler-Talty, '76(SGI)**  
New York, NY  
B.A., Scripps,  
Claremont, CA;  
M.A., St. John's  
College, 1976;  
M.E.D., Yale

School of Architecture, 1991; multimedia producer for non-profit educational agencies; site photographer for American excavation in Sicily; Visual Arts Coordinator, Department of Cultural Affairs, New Haven, CT, 1988-89; Urban Planning Consultant for project for Public Spaces; New York, NY 1993; Director, Ninth Square Public Art Project, 1993-94; Currently working as a consultant to the local library and volunteer teaching at the elementary school where her daughter attends; Director, St. John's College Alumni Association, 1980-83; 1986-92; 1994- Co-Chair, Alumni for the Liberal Arts Annual Fund Campaign, 1982-83; Editor, Alumni Association newsletter, 1986-92.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT NOMINATIONS MAYBE MADE BY PETITION:**  
Rules governing submission of nominations by petition are as follows:

1. Petitions must be signed by no fewer than thirty (30) members of the Alumni Association in good standing.
2. Petitions must be presented to the Secretary of the Alumni Association prior to the Annual Meeting at which the election is to be held.
3. The election will be held at the Annual Meeting on Saturday, September 28, 1996, at 10:00 p.m., in the Conversation Room, Mellon Hall, Annapolis Campus.
4. The candidates for Directors receiving the highest number of votes for those

Beverly Angel, SGI89, Secretary, St. John's College Alumni Association P.O. Box 2800 Annapolis, MD 21404

offices shall be declared elected. Terms will begin on January 1, 1997.

### APRIL 1996 ELECTION NOTICE:

ELECTION OF ALUMNI REPRESENTATIVES  
TO THE ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE  
BOARD OF VISITORS AND GOVERNORS

*In accordance with the Article VIII, Sections II of the By-Laws of the Alumni Association, notice is hereby given that the following alumni have been nominated by the Alumni Association Board of Directors for election to the St. John's College Board of Visitors and Governors.*



For his second three-year term:  
**S. David Krimins, M.D. '63(A)**  
Annapolis, MD  
M.A. in English,  
Johns Hopkins  
University, 1964;  
M.D.,  
Hahnemann

Medical College and Hospital, 1970; Major, U.S. Army Medical Corps, Pulmonary Disease Specialist, 1974-76; Attending Physician, Anne Arundel General Hospital, Annapolis, MD, Pulmonary and Internal Medicine, 1979- , Director of Respiratory Care Services, 1983- ; Chief, Dept. of Internal Medicine, 1989-1994; St. John's College Physician, 1988-present; Member, Governors Council for Maryland, American College of Physicians; Member, St. John's College Board of Visitors and Governors, 1995-present.



For her second term:  
**Glenda Holladay Eoyang, '76(S)**  
Minneapolis, MN  
Graduate studies in education, technical communications, computer programming, and instructional design for University of Oklahoma, East Central Oklahoma University, West Texas State University, and the University of

The Alumni Association Newsletter is published in each issue of the *Reporter*. We welcome letters, capsule book reviews, and article ideas from alumni. Send submissions and suggestions to Mark Middlebrook at 73030.1604@compuserve.com (e-mail) or call 510/547-0602.



Minnesota, 1976-82; doctoral candidate in sociology, Union Institute, Cincinnati, OH, 1995; President, Chaos Limited, a management training and consulting firm, 1993-present; President, Excel Instruction, Inc., a technical training and documentation company, 1986-present; Instructional designer and Director of Marketing, Quest Learning System, 1983-96; High school teacher of physics, mathematics, and chemistry at Casady School in Oklahoma City, OK, 1976-81. Author, *The New Manager: Chaotic Strategies for Chaotic Times*; Member, Advisory Board for the Chaos Network, Urbana, IL, 1995-; Founding president, Twin Cities Alumni Chapter, St. John's College Alumni Association; Director and Chapters Chair, St. John's College Alumni Association; Class Chair, St. John's College Campaign for Our Fourth Century, 1993-; Member, St. John's College Board of Visitors and Governors, 1995-.



For her first three-year term: **Paula G. Maynes** '77(A) Santa Fe, NM J.D., University of New Mexico, 1984; shareholder of Montgomery and Andrews,

P.A., specializing in litigation; Assistant Attorney General, 1985-1987; member, State Bar of New Mexico and the American Bar Association; President, Santa Fe Chapter, St. John's College Alumni Association, 1984-86; Director, St. John's College Alumni Association, 1984-present.

## Dallas - Fort Worth Chapter Profile or How I Wiled Away 13 Good Years in the West

BY SUZANNE G. DOREMUS, SF79,  
DALLAS - FORT WORTH CHAPTER PRESIDENT

*Editor's note: This article is part of an ongoing series profiling local alumni chapters. Our next profile will feature the Boston chapter.*

I descended into Texas from the New Mexican high plateau one 100-degree day in 1981, crossing the Panhandle, with its twin claims to cultural fame—up-ended Cadillacs and a 72-oz. steak—and heading south to the asphalt labyrinth of the MetroPlex, hundreds of miles from the nearest decent book store. As far as I knew, I might never see another copy of *Lordship and Bondage* again, nor hear the siren... "Well, it seems to me..." from any lips but my husband's. (It's true, by the way, that things are bigger in Texas. I've met several cockroaches sipping margaritas in bola ties and size-12 kicker boots; the trouble is, none of them has ever heard of Kafka.)

Near the end of our second winter, we were on the point of intellectual starvation when Sam Larcombe, an alumnus and college liaison, sent word he was coming to town. Whenever two or three are gathered together, there is a seminar, I reminded myself, but I suspected his journey, whose purpose was to found an Alumni Chapter, would be in vain.

My astonishment was genuine when in February 1983, in a room at the University of Dallas, there gathered more than half a dozen ordinary-looking MetroPlex folk, all of whom revealed themselves as disciples of the εἰδῆ. They included Khalil Ayoub (S76), Jon (A76) and Marion (A75) Hustis, Eric Salem (A77), and Karen Bent (A75).

We were cheered by one another's company. In coming to the home of J.R. Ewing and Mary Kay, we might have traded green chile for sour cream sauce, and crab cakes for biscuits and gravy, but we resolved to make the best of it.

In the spirit of our adoptive state, we petitioned the Alumni Association for permission to style ourselves the Republic of Texas Chapter (there were no other competing claims at the time). As is so often the case when Texans fall under the yoke of continental government, the Board deemed this a pompous, self-aggrandizing display of hubris, if not outright land grabbing, and fenced us into a few paltry counties.

Lawyer Jon Hustis was our Sam Houston, drawing up a charter (here again we skirmished with the Board, but Larcombe's diplomacy averted a second Battle of the Alamo and spared countless

lives on both sides) and becoming our first president. Since the chapter is governed by a sort of benign dictatorship (Plato in a 10-gallon hat), it has not seemed necessary to have more than one president since. (False modesty forbids my mentioning her name.) For the record, the change in leadership was attended by an election, fair and square, and if there was any tampering with the ballot box, it could not be detected by any of the survivors of the shoot-out and fire. (These incidents have been greatly exaggerated in the press.)

As Marion and I were both pregnant at the time of the chapter's organization, the settlement on the Trinity began to grow in numbers almost immediately. By the following year a pattern of meetings was established, with the Hustis home our most frequent gathering-place, usually on a Friday or Saturday night. Attendance falls in a range from 4 persons to perhaps 12, with readings likewise short and to the point, since many of our members have growing families that require most of their spare time. (Nobody but Georgia O'Keeffe ever came to Texas for the scenery, so it's best to have something you can stay pretty busy at.)

Texas levies no state income tax, and, well, we weren't Aggies: We could see the fiscal wisdom of this approach right away. So, with no hall to hire or newsletter to publish, the chapter collects no dues and makes no long-range plans. Each member brings refreshments to the meeting, and participants eat symposium-style, throughout the discussion. Between meetings, the Hustis' refrigerator is a United Nations of half a dozen brands of imported beer, the remnants of various six-packs left on the seminar altar.

Our selections range widely from Program books. The reading and meeting date for our next seminar are almost always determined at the close of an evening together. (By tradition, the person who suggested the reading is responsible for asking the opening question.) We meet every four to six weeks, sometimes taking a month off in summer. Each December we have a festive meal together, and hang the reading. If there is a piano at hand, we may end the evening in song. Fortunately, citizens' arrests for disturbing the peace seldom hold up in court. (We may be more *soffo voce* though, since, it's legal once again to carry a concealed handgun.)

Currently we have a mailing list of about 15 members, many of them couples, and roughly a dozen offspring between 1 and 14. Our lucky children have grown up equating the term "seminar night" with friends, computer games, videos, dress-up, goldfish crackers, grapes, cheese, juice boxes, and Oreo cookies.

Every year, it seems, a few young misfits from the area are prevailed upon to pull up stakes and enroll at St. John's, a school whose alumni don't even have the sense to buy a good football team. In our more than a decade together, the Dallas -

**ALUMNI NEWS CONT. ON PAGE 15**

## CHAPTER CONTACTS

Please call those listed below for information about alumni activities in each area.

ALBUQUERQUE: Harold M. Morgan, Jr. (505) 256-0294

ANNAPOLIS: Joel D. Lehman (410) 956-2814

AUSTIN: Paul Martin (512) 477-5855

BOSTON: Alvin Aronson (617) 566-6657

BUFFALO/ROCHESTER/TORONTO: Hank Constantine (716) 586-5393

CHICAGO: Amanda Fuller (312) 337-4105  
or Rick Lightburn (312) 667-0068

DALLAS/FORT WORTH:  
Suzanne Doremus (817) 496-8571 or Jonathan Hustis (214) 340-8442

LOS ANGELES:  
Julia Takahashi (310) 434-7624

MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL: Glenda Eoyang (612) 783-1405 or  
(612) 379-3883 (W)

NEW YORK: Justin Burke  
(212) 228-8423 or (212) 620-3955

PHILADELPHIA: Jim Schweidel  
(215) 836-7632

PORTLAND:  
Rachel Sullivan (503) 629-5838

SACRAMENTO:  
Arianne Laidlaw (916) 362-5131  
or Helen Hobart (916) 452-1082

SAN FRANCISCO/NORTHERN CALIFORNIA: Cynthia Kay Catherine  
Hobgood (415) 552-9349

SANTA FE: John Pollak (505) 983-2144 or Elizabeth Skewes (505) 984-6103

SEATTLE: Jim Doherty (206) 937-8886

WASHINGTON, D.C.: Sam Stiles (301) 424-9119  
or Bill Ross (301) 230-4594

## ALUMNI NEWS CONT. FROM PAGE 14

Fort Worth Chapter has had the pleasure of hosting a number of receptions for the Admissions Office. Prospective students (and current ones on vacation), parents and other guests are always welcome to attend any seminar. As individuals our members have counseled prospective students, stumped for the Old School at college fairs, planned Homecoming events for their classes, represented St. John's at local academic convocations, headed various college fund-raising efforts, and made themselves available in other ways to the Presidents and officers of both campuses.

Over the years we have occasionally lost members to other parts of the country. If any of you should read this, we ask you not to give in to smugness, and above all not to believe yourselves forgotten. That dog won't hunt.

## Ex Libris Alumnorum

CAPSULE REVIEWS BY ALUMNI OF  
FAVORITE BOOKS

Send your one-paragraph reviews to  
the editor of this Newsletter.

Mark Middlebrook

e-mail: 73030.1604@compuserve.com  
435 Clifton Street, Oakland, CA 94618

### THE TRINITY GENE,

by Tim Newcomb

1995, Lagumo Corporation. 330 pages.

SUBMITTED BY GLENDA EOYANG, SF76

*The Trinity Gene* is a fast moving thriller. It is a parable of spiritual renewal caught in the web of clerical, technical, and political high-jinx. Genetic engineering, passionate romance, international intrigue, and social satire are woven together in this first work of fiction from Lagumo Press (founded by Barbara Lauer, SF76, and Norman Newlon).

Fascinating characters wend their ways through a plot that lies somewhere between *Jurassic Park* and *The Gospels*. I could not put it down. Seldom does a book earn this cliché from me, but *The Trinity Gene* did. Newcomb has a gift for contrast that builds rich texture into his locales (Wyoming mountain range and plush rain forest), his characters (monks, cops, and fanatical rebels), and his dialogue (personal transformation and dirty political games). The tensions between power and purgatory build toward a computer-generated Armageddon. The conclusion is the awakening of the Baby who may live to see a different world.

*The Trinity Gene* is not widely available yet, but you can order your copy from Lagumo Corp., P.O. Box 1407, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82003, or call 1-800-448-1969.

## ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS: DUTIES TO AND VALUES IN THE NATURAL WORLD,

by Holmes Rolston, III

1988, Temple University Press. 391 pages.

SUBMITTED BY OWEN GOLDIN, SF79.

Much of the St. John's program focuses on goodness, beauty and obligation. As we were pondering these themes, many of us were of the belief that there was something terribly wrong with reckless development and destruction of the natural world in the regions of both campuses, even apart from the damage that environmental destruction works on other human beings. To some of us it seems as though the natural world itself is a good. How can we make sense of this? Do ethical categories apply, or are we merely registering our own displeasure at the changes we see? The books in the program do not address these issues directly.

There have recently been a number of attempts to carry on the great dialogue of the Western philosophical tradition to make sense of moral obligations to the natural world. As to be expected, these are of varying worth. Rolston's book is the most balanced and profound treatment I've seen. The writing is elegant and informed by current biological thought. Rolston's account is non-technical but careful. Starting from a fundamentally Aristotelian position, he argues that non-human living beings, species, and ecosystems all have moral standing, but steers clear of the sort of biological egalitarianism that, if taken seriously, would make human life unlivable.

### MEFISTOFELE,

composed by Arrigo Boito

San Francisco Opera production,

Public Media Home Vision video

(1-800-262-8600), 1989. 159 minutes.

SUBMITTED BY MARK MIDDLEBROOK, A83

Boito is better known to opera snobs as librettist to Verdi, but his own *Mefistofele* ranks first on my list of Italian operas. It has diverse musical textures, great tunes, heart-breaking duets, and some of the most powerful choral scenes this side of Beethoven. It also has drama aplenty and, for once, a duel between good and evil that's thought-provoking instead of hackneyed. This video of the San Francisco Opera production brings out all of these qualities, with excellent singing and acting and a touch of humor, especially by devil incarnate Samuel Ramey. The show's sets are breathtaking, beginning with flame-licked curtains and cherubim sculptures guarding the proscenium. Opera boxes built into the stage walls serve as homes to the Celestial Host and entry points for Faust and *Mefistofele*. *Sacro attimo fuggenti / Arrestati, sei bello!* sings Faust: "Sacred, fleeting moment / Stay, for thou art beautiful!" This video demonstrates what grand opera is all about. ■

# LETTER FROM THE CZECH REPUBLIC

BY MICHAEL GEORGE, A78

*When Michael George came to St. John's in 1974 he already had a master's degree in history, but he was so intrigued with the program he decided to enroll as an undergraduate. He stayed one year, then went on to work on a shrimp boat in South America and after that at a ranch in Wyoming. He also spent some time at a contemplative monastery. For the past three years, he has been employed by the Czech ministry of education as a teacher. He is currently living in the city of Brno teaching English and history at the State Language School.*

*Although the time he spent at the college was brief, Mr. George considers St. John's his true alma mater. "My educational experience really occurred at St. John's," he says. As a student of history, Mr. George was always fascinated by revolution; spending time in the Czech Republic has given him a chance to see "how a culture changed itself." He counts Annapolis Dean Eva Brann among his regular correspondents, and he finds that writing letters helps him keep his thoughts in order. In the following letter he talks about his fascination with Eastern Europe.*

I've been here two and a half years, and I still don't have an answer when people ask me that most frequent of all questions, "Why are you here?" I tell them about being on the Czech-German border in '68 when the Russians rolled in, and about studying Russian and German history after that. I tell them how I always regretted not having been born 200 years sooner to have seen my own country's birth. I tell them that real revolution doesn't happen in the parliament or on the battlefield but in the kitchens, trams and bedrooms. And how times of the greatest upheaval call for uncommon courage from common people, and how I wanted to be here to see it.

So that's become the stock answer, and it's all true, but even as I've listened to myself say it these past years, I knew it didn't reach down deep into the heart.

Well, talking with two friends yesterday, a Czech attorney about my age and an American slavophile in his mid-20's, I talked myself down to the truth, and it goes something like this: The four decades under Communism in Czechoslovakia was a life I couldn't imagine. My two years in Germany gave me some insight into the European mind and through reading I was able to fine-tune and expand that understanding into the peculiarities that were unique to cen-

tral and eastern Europe, especially between the wars. But then I was lost. I was cut off by a chasm that my mind couldn't leap across, couldn't even see across.

I couldn't possibly imagine living in communist Czechoslovakia—a land of no escape where people simply waited for events that turned beyond their control. In such a place, there is no distancing from the strife. There is no ocean to cross before the fighting begins. That bombed rubble is your town, that burning building is your home, those piled corpses are your family. And after it all, you shrug and turn back and try to find enough undestroyed to thread back to your roots, and if there is enough, to prepare for tomorrow.

And there was no way I could get hold of—get my mind around—what life must have been like in those eternal years of totalitarianism. I read history, fiction, newspapers, travel accounts, and still I couldn't imagine it in real time. I knew the people there were just normal people like me, but what was normal on the other side of the chasm? What did they eat? What did they think when they got up? Or talk about with their friends? What was fun for them? What would they think of my normal life? How did they love? What was their one secret wish? Could it be as mundane as mine? Was being a Communist like being a Democrat or Republican?...or more like being a Shriner or on the school board? No matter what I did, I just couldn't relate. Whenever I could stand close to someone from "over there," I was like a fawning groupie around a rock star. They were so exotic and I was speechless. I hung on every word. They could be "dissidents" or "communists," it didn't matter, I wanted to be able to see myself in their place.

I couldn't come to eastern Europe then. Oh, sure, I COULD have, but I had other lives to live, family, land, career. While now is certainly not then and I can never know the full force of what life was like under communism, there is still enough residue here that I can piece together what must have been. There are still enough landmarks that I can take back bearings and approximate the course that those lives must have taken.

CZECH CONT. ON PAGE 17



## ALUMNI NOTES...

1935

Richard Woodman writes that he has been practicing law in a small upstate New York village since 1942, with three years off during World War II. "I missed the 60th reunion that wasn't held," he says.

1937

Dr. Robert Lewis was inducted as a member into the Academy of Arts and Sciences of Puerto Rico. He lives in San Juan.

1940

The Rev. Frederick P. Davis reports that he is finishing a book on his "27 years of full-time (i.e. paid) ministry, serving ten Episcopal churches in five dioceses (including three Indian tribes on two reservations)." His wife, Rita, is studying for an AA degree at a local college after working most of the past 42 years in hospitals as a nurse or medical records technician—"and my secretary and co-missionary."

David B. Weinstein has resigned as assistant professor of pediatrics at Texas Tech Medical School. He was chief of the pediatric allergy clinic for 30 years. Dr. Weinstein will continue in private practice.

1951

"I have entered a degree program at Johns Hopkins University for a masters of liberal arts specializing in the history of ideas," reports George Wend.

1959

Amy Jobes was ordained deacon at All Saints' Episcopal Church in Paragould, Arkansas. She is now serving as deacon-in-training at Holy Cross Episcopal Church in West Memphis, Arkansas, writes her husband, James Jobes (56).

1962

Barry Fisher is Associate Professor of Surgery at the University of Nevada School of Medicine. He and his wife Karne had a son, Joshua Nathaniel, in March of 1994.

1963

Marcia Herman-Giddens writes that she received her DrPH from University School of Public Health, Department of Maternal and Child Health, in 1994. She is currently the medical director of the North Carolina State Child Fatality Prevention Team, and she also is an adjunct associate professor in maternal and child health.

1966

"I graduated with a BS in computer science in 1993—with my two daughters!" writes Constance Baring Gould (A). She has been a software engineer at Evans and Sutherland in Salt Lake City for two years and had been an electronic technician for several years at the same company. "I'm really enjoying my new job in software. Though I loved my old job, I relish the change," she says.

1967

Helen Hobart (A) reports that the Sacramento St. John's seminar group is currently focusing on women authors like Virginia Woolf and Mary Shelly. "I appreciate the recent alumni suggestions for more inclusion of women in SJC seminars—we all benefit by stretching to new possibilities," she adds.

1968

"I gave up my long-practiced bachelorhood in September, with journalist Allison Blake, late of Annapolis' own *Capital*," writes Joshua Gillelan (A). "Daughter Hannah (A96) was my 'best person' and contributed beautifully to our wedding ceremony with her declamation in Hebrew of a Song of Solomon passage."

1970

Hank Constantine (A) is now a product manager at Xerox. His latest product is the "Bookmark 35," a copier designed especially for copying books. Most of the customers for this product are libraries.

1972

Janet Nelson Berggren (A) writes, "We have moved to Washington Island, Wisconsin, a small island off the tip of the Door Peninsula on Lake Michigan. We live on a harbor directly across from Rock Island State Park and are enjoying the great outdoors in summer and winter."

1974

Wesley Sasaki Uemura (A) completed his Ph.D. at Cornell University in 1993 and was appointed in the history department of the University of Utah.

*Care of the Spitfire Grill*, a film about a young woman just out of prison who finds redemption in Maine, won the feature film Audience Award at the Sundance Festival this year. The film—directed by Lee Zlotoff (A)—was sold to Castle Rock Entertainment.

1975

Erica Udoff (A) writes from Guilford, Connecticut, that she is enjoying her antique house and her enchanting six-year-old son Oliver, "who loves reading so much maybe he'll head for SJC when the time comes." She says she met up last winter with Carol Gruenburg (A75) and Ymelda Martinez (A74) for a tiny reunion and peek at Annapolis.

1977

Frances Goodwin Vazquez (A) is living in Edgewood, Pennsylvania, two doors from Mary Hart (A80). "Mary throws a terrific Easter egg hunt every year, but her sons seem to be outgrowing the tradition and I'm afraid I'll have to step in some day," says Frances. She also says that she enjoys volunteering as a teacher's aide in her children's school.

1978

Sally Page Byers (A) married Tommy Lee Whitlock in 1992 and they are living in Reston, Virginia. She has a new job with PSI.

1979

Edward Burgess (A) and his wife Angelina had their third child, Cynthia Marie Burgess, in August 1995.

William Salter (A), vice president, Controls Advisory Service, at Salomon Brothers, writes, "Teresa and I have purchased an 1881 townhouse in Carroll Ceardas (Brooklyn) and will be renovating it for the rest of our lives."

Karen Anderson Bohrer (A) has a new position as Library Director at the Oliver Wolcott Library in Litchfield, Connecticut.

1980

Diane Lamoureux Ciba (A) is a graduate student in marketing at Youngstown State University. She is a graduate assistant in the business school and hopes to complete her MBA by 1998.

1981

Evan Canter (A), with wife Ellen, reports the birth of Talia Sophie on October 12, 1995.

1982

Laura Shach (A) just added a son, David, to her family. She and her husband, Kerry, live in Baltimore. When not changing dirty diapers, Laura is a prosecuting attorney.

1983

Sara Sanders (A) reports that she is in her second year of veterinary school at Cornell—and that "it's very exciting."

Cynthia Walton-McCawley (A) and her husband Patrick had their third child, Colin Walton McCawley, in November. They live in Columbia, South Carolina, and are all "doing great."

Darrel Moellendorf (A) has just moved to Johannesburg, South Africa, with his wife, Bonnie Firedmann, and their

ALUMNI NOTES CONT. ON PAGE 17

## POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS, ANNAPOLIS CAMPUS

A new position, Director of Student Life, has been created on the Annapolis campus, and alumni are encouraged to apply. The Director of Student life will work with undergraduate students in day-to-day matters and will be responsible for the student housing program. The Director of Student Life will report to the Assistant Dean. Administrative duties will include monitoring absences from class, deciding sanctions for absences, investigating complaints of violations of college policy, assigning disciplinary measures, and handling party permissions. Housing duties will consist of managing room assignments, changes, and inspections; and leading student residents. The position requires a B.A. degree; a St. John's degree and experience with college residence, counseling, or human services are desired qualifications. Optional residence in Reverdy Johnson is available.

The Admissions Office in Annapolis has an opening for the position of Admissions Counselor for the upcoming academic year. Alumni are encouraged to apply. Responsibilities include talking and corresponding with prospective students, on-campus interviews, and extensive travel to secondary schools and college fair programs. The position requires a B.A. degree (preferably from St. John's). Admissions counselors must be committed to liberal arts and able to articulate the structure and goals of the St. John's program to prospective students, counselors, teachers, and others.

Both positions will be available in August. Apply to the Director of Personnel at SJC, P.O. Box 2800, Annapolis, MD 21404.

### CONTACT THE ALUMNI OFFICE BY E-MAIL!

SANTA FE  
alumni@mail.sjcsf.edu

ANNAPOLIS  
74637.2660@compuserve.com

## ALUMNI NOTES CONT. FROM PAGE 16

two cats, Elwood and X. "I will be lecturing at the University of the Witwatersrand in ethics and social and political philosophy. I expect this to be quite interesting in the new South Africa," says his e-mail message. Darrel invites anyone passing through to contact him at the Philosophy Dept., University of the Witwatersrand, P.O. Wits, 2050, Republic of South Africa.

**Ann Walton Sieber (A)** writes: "After three years as an editor at the *Houston Press*, Houston's alternative weekly, I quit to begin experimenting with voluntary poverty and non-busyness (I'm not kidding!) and also work half-time editing a quirky architecture quarterly, *Cite*. I also coordinate a volunteer program called the Alternatives to Violence Project and am quite involved in the Houston Quaker meeting."

1985

**Connie Bates (A)** was married in February to James Calloway of Nashville.

"**Christopher Reichert** writes: After reading the *Reporter* for these many years, I am finally putting finger to typewriter and E-mail this hello to all and sundry.

I have been living in Sydney Australia for six years now, and have dual citizenship through some loophole. (I just filled out the forms, I suppose.) I have been working in the computer industry working primarily on behalf of radio stations addressing their IT requirements. It has allowed extensive travel throughout OZ, and by hook or by crook, I have even schemed a few trips back home. I seem to get back to the US about once a year, albeit for all too brief a time at each visit. I must apologize for my pathetic correspondence habits. I do think about people often, but I just can't seem to find the time to write. However, if others are so inclined, I will endeavor to change my manner. My address is 3 Tiley Street Cammeray NSW 2062 Australia. My Email address is webmail(~mtec.com.au). I also keep in fairly regular contact with **Edith Updike (A86)** who is in Tokyo once again writing for McGraw Hill's *Business Week* magazine. She says she is both hating (Japan) and enjoying (writing/traveling) the experience. Her address (I'm sure she won't mind me telling) is edith.updike@wiac online.com."

1987

**Barbara Hum (SF)** is a first-year medical student at Georgetown University.

**John Lavery (A)** writes that for six years he has been working in Chicago in investment and commercial banking with Continental Bank and Bank of America. He cites some interesting things he's seen recently: the marriage of **Anthony Nyberg (A89)**, the marriage of **Siofra Rucker (A91)** to a Lt. Nugent from Montana via the Naval Academy, and **Mark Eubanks (A88)** becoming a doctor. John is currently in London working for Bank America in international corporate finance.

1988

**John Bertram (A)** completed a three-year Master of Architecture program at Yale School of Architecture in 1994. He is living in Chicago and would enjoy hearing from any architects or visual artists. His address: 2318 West Augusta #3F, Chicago, IL 60622.

**Kim Paffenroth (A)** received his Ph.D. in theology this August and is teaching. He writes, "Our son, Charles, is 18 months old and is a joy to us."

**James O'Gara (A)** is halfway through a two-year sabbatical assignment advising the chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee on drug control policy. He will return to the Department of Justice in March 1997.

1989

**George Turner (A)** graduated from the University of California at Berkeley, Boalt Hall Law School in 1995. He married **Abril Bedarf**, Princeton '91, a law school classmate.

1990

**Mary Braden (A)** was married to Michael Thorp in December 1993 and they are in the process of fixing up a handsome, but dilapidated old house in the tiny town of Liberty, Indiana. Says Mary, "Beautiful Alexandra Asenath was born on April 13 and has completely changed our lives. Michael is the associate dean of admission at Earlham College, a small Quaker-affiliated liberal arts college in nearby Richmond—a very congenial place for Johnnies! I'm loving full-time motherhood and the slow pace of small-town life...friends please make contact at mathorp@halcyon.com, 317/458-7785 or 106 S. Main St., Liberty, IN 47353."

**Timothy McNicholl (A)** received his Ph.D. in math in May of 1995. He is now teaching at Ottawa University in

Ottawa, Kansas. He welcomes correspondence from classmates at: 1301 W. 24th St., Apt. 0-21, Lawrence, KS 66046.

1991

**Patrick Cho (A)** entered Temple University medical school this fall.

**Kemmer Anderson (AGI)** is taking a course in Jefferson in the political science department at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. He sends a special thanks to Mr. Kutler and Co. for the politics and society seminar in the Graduate Institute.

1992

**Boaz Roth (AGI)** is teaching ancient Greek to tenth graders at the Thomas Jefferson School in St. Louis. "Life is wonderful," he reports. "I get to read Homer, Herodotus and Plato in the morning and then manhandle my colleague, Ken Colston (AGI89) on the basketball court in the afternoon!"

1993

**Barbara Arnold (SF)** is currently a Juris Doctorate candidate at the University of Maryland School of Law. Her address is: 1206 N. Calvert St., Apt. 1A, Baltimore, Md. 21202; 410-727-6645; email: barnold@umabnet.ab.umd.edu.1994

**John Dyer Lynch (A)** is a clown for Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus.

1995

After parking cars for six months, **Craig Sirkin (A)** got a "real" job with Skye-Allend in the computer operations department. The company reports buyer satisfaction, primarily to auto companies.

**Emily Murphy (A)** has been appointed Assistant Registrar of Special Collections at the Maryland State Archives. Her favorite aspect of the job is taking care of the state's extensive photograph collection, but she also handles personal papers, maps, flags and other historical records.

**Maggie Arnold (A)** has an internship with a financial publishing firm in Alexandria, Virginia. ■

## CZECH CONT. FROM PAGE 15

Even from the beginning of my stay here, I have found myself curiously unvexed by what seems to bother most Westerners—when a five-minute task ends up eating up half a day, or a day, or even two days. Seemingly simple things like going to the post office, which you need to do to get money as there are no personal checks here, can take a great deal of time. It's happened so much, it just seems like the way things are now. I thought it strange I could be so nonchalant about it all. I've never had any patience with incompetence, and here it became institutionalized. Life here was absurd and tragic. I mean tragic in the way of deep personal tragedy times millions of people times decades. And what drives my compatriots mad—the waiting in line, the endless red tape—is just the tag end of that. And, you see, that's why I can't get angry for those (half) days lost, because they're not lost. They're exactly what I came for, they're why I wanted to live here, why I had to settle here and live as close to true a life as I, an American, could.

Just before Christmas, our teacher's trade union chartered a bus for all of us to go to Vienna for the day and take in the Christmas sights. On the way down, a colleague told me of her first trip, five years to the day before, when the border had just opened after the '89 revolution.

Czech buses are all blue and white, and almost never washed, but there was a special bus that made a round trip from Vienna twice weekly, even during the "quiet times" of "normalization" (the repression following 1968). This bus was bright yellow and always spotless and became for my friend a symbol of what life must be like across the border. She watched that magic yellow bus come and go all her life, and the week after the border opened, she stood in a queue for two hours in order to buy her ticket. Her husband couldn't understand why she needed to go. "After all, it's only 100 miles away, and just for the day...what's the point?"

And although the distance is farther and the stay longer in my case, I have had the same difficulty answering that question. In so many ways it just didn't make sense for me to be here. But now I know why. That yellow bus runs both ways. Or more to the point, maybe it was that muddy blue and white bus that I found irresistible.

Communism came to this land the year after I was born. I'm trying to make sense of the part of the world that was inaccessible to me my first 45 years. After more than two years here, I know that more Western ways are coming. Already, that raw feeling of being under totalitarian rule is wearing away. Some of the rough edges of absurdity are being rounded off. You can buy dental floss now, and next year I'll have e-mail. User-friendliness could be just around the corner. ■



## ALUMNUS HELPING TO BRING SHAKESPEARE ALIVE FOR STUDENTS

BY LESLI ALLISON

For many who attend the Graduate Institute, the day of graduation is one of mourning rather than celebration. It signifies the abrupt end of an exhilarating and life-changing experience. As countless alumni will testify, two years of the great books is just enough to whet the appetite.

Such was the case for Dustin Gish. Following graduation in 1992, Mr. Gish began looking for a way to continue his studies. What he found was the Institute for Philosophic Studies at the University of Dallas where he is currently pursuing his Ph.D. The program offers an interdisciplinary great books program similar to St. John's. He also is helping to run a University of Dallas program that takes high school students to Italy each summer to study Shakespeare.

"If there was a Ph.D. program at St. John's College, I would be there," Mr. Gish said. "The only way to find something similar was to go to a place like the University of Dallas.

In May, Mr. Gish will complete his coursework and begin his dissertation. In the meantime, he also is preparing for another summer in Italy.

"For the past three years I've been

working with the Shakespeare in Italy, a high school summer study program," he said. "I go as a chaperon along with two professors from the University of Dallas, and also teach a number of the courses. The program is designed to open up Shakespeare to high school students in a way that schools aren't allowing Shakespeare to be read. It's a lot of discussion and the main objective is to teach high school students to think critically about texts and to develop conversation skills in a seminar setting."

Mr. Gish said the reason the course is conducted in Italy is that a number of Shakespeare's plays are set there. Students visit Florence, Venice, Assisi and Rome, where the main campus is located. The program also includes discussion of art, architecture and religion. And while the University of Dallas is Catholic, the program is open to students of all backgrounds. According to Mr. Gish, tuition is \$3300, which includes accommodations, meals and travel. This year the program runs June 21 - July 11. Anyone interested in learning more can contact University of Dallas, External Programs: Rome Office 1845 East Northgate Drive, Irving, TX 75062; 214-721-5225. ■

### RICHARD BLAUL, A32

Richard Blaul died in Charleston, West Virginia, on February 3. A retired insurance broker for Independent Insurance Agency of Annapolis, he moved to West Virginia in 1988.

Mr. Blaul was born in Cumberland, Maryland. After graduating from St. John's in 1932, he attended University of Maryland Law School.

He was very active in the St. John's College Alumni Association, and his wife, Rosalie, who died in 1987, was a founding member of the Caritas Society. While living in Annapolis, he served as president of the Severn River Association, the American Field Service, the Chamber of Commerce of Greater Annapolis, the YMCA of Annapolis, and Civitan International. Mr. Blaul was also a member of St. Anne's Episcopal Church where he served on the vestry.

Surviving are his daughter, Rosalie Marshall Blaul, and a grandson, both of Charleston. Memorial contributions may be made to the Rosalie C.B. Blaul Scholarship Fund, Caritas Society, St. John's College, Annapolis.

### ISABELLE SIMPSON, SECRETARY TO PRESIDENTS

Isabelle Simpson, who served for 30 years as secretary to St. John's presidents Richard Weigle and Edward Delattre, died in Annapolis on February 12.

Before coming to St. John's, Mrs. Simpson was the personal secretary of the late Herbert R. O'Connor. She worked with

him for 23 years—when he was state's attorney, during both his terms as governor of Maryland, and when he became a U.S. senator.

Mrs. Simpson began her job as secretary to Mr. Weigle in 1955. The next two decades were crowded, as Key Auditorium and Mellon Hall were built, and Humphreys and Chase-Stone were renovated. As Mr. Weigle traveled back and forth across the country to Santa Fe, Mrs. Simpson often accompanied him to aid in the organization of the new campus.

When Mr. Delattre came in 1980, he asked Mrs. Simpson to remain on the job. When she retired in 1985, Mr. Weigle told reporters that he admired her perpetual cheerfulness. "She was always ready and willing to forget herself and to give of herself to the job," he said.

A charter member of the Annapolis Chapter of Certified Professional Secretaries, Mrs. Simpson was named its Secretary of the Year in 1958. With the exception of two years after the birth of her daughter, Mrs. Simpson was professionally employed from her graduation from Baltimore's Western High School in 1927 until her retirement in 1985. She was involved in many activities in the Annapolis community; she served on the board of directors of the Colonial Players and sang with the Woods Memorial Church choir. She was also a member of the Caritas Society.

The widow of J. Campbell Simpson, a St. John's graduate (1937), she is survived by her daughter, Janet Farrell, and a granddaughter.

### WILLIAM T. HART, A43

William T. Hart, M.D., died on October 2, 1995, in Rochester, New York, of leukemia. He is survived by his wife Cynthia Allen Hart, and two daughters, Katherine Hart and Victoria Hart, and a son William Allen Hart.

### WILLIAM COLSON SCHAAB, SG186

Following a long illness, William Schaab died at his home in Albuquerque on Tuesday, February 20. A prominent New Mexico attorney, Mr. Schaab was considered an expert in Indian, water and corporate law. Particularly of note, he helped Taos Pueblo win back its sacred Blue Lake and also won a multimillion-dollar settlement on behalf of the Navajo Nation in a landmark claims case against the United States.

Born December 28, 1927, in Wildwood, New Jersey, Mr. Schaab earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from Wesleyan University in Connecticut and his law degree in 1952 from Yale University Law School. He is survived by his wife, Judith; a son; two daughters; a stepson; a stepdaughter; and six grandchildren. ■

## PETER WEISS: ARGUING FOR A SAFER WORLD

BY BARBARA GOYETTE

When the International Court of Justice held three weeks of hearings last fall on the question of whether the use of nuclear weapons is legal, Peter Weiss, A46, a civil and human rights lawyer in New York, was on hand in The Hague. Weiss is co-president of the International Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms. The group has been working to organize a coalition of governments that oppose nuclear weapons. Along with other nuclear protest groups, they persuaded the United Nations General Assembly and the World Health Organization (WHO) to request the World Court hearings on the issue. Weiss helped draft and write arguments that were presented to the court.

Coalition member states and WHO argued that nuclear weapons should be considered illegal under current environmental

and human rights treaties. Other nations, those possessing the weapons, argued that they are essential in preserving international security, and that the court doesn't have the power to ban them. The court is an arm of the U.N. General Assembly; it can issue advisory opinions, which Weiss characterizes as "definitive pronouncements of international law." If the court decided the use of nuclear weapons to be illegal, it would not be a mandate, and the court's rulings are not self-enforcing. But, says Weiss, "it could be used by creative lawyers in a thousand different ways." And such a ruling would have international impact. For example, the new foreign minister of Canada has questioned the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's "first use" policy—that NATO reserves the right to use nuclear weapons in any situation it feels appropriate. The World Court's opinion that such use is illegal could strengthen

Canada's reluctance to back the policy.

Weiss was quoted in the *New York Times* of November 28, 1995: "It's a win-win situation. If the court says nuclear weapons are not illegal, there will be a tremendous push from nonnuclear states for a convention banning them. If the court says the weapons are illegal, many states will ignore the ruling, which would lead to perhaps an even greater effort to force the adoption of a convention." Weiss says an opinion is expected the last week of March.

Weiss credits St. John's with leading him into the law. He's quoted in the *Santa Fe Reporter* (no relation to the St. John's publication) as saying that at St. John's, "you take a text and do battle with it. And most of what you read there is about ideas of justice and what it takes to make a decent society. I learned a certain kind of hard-headed thinking there." ■

DATE DUE

THE REPORTER  
ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE  
1160 Camino Cruz Blanca  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501-4599  
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

ART...

## SANTOS COLLECTION TO HIGHLIGHT SUMMER SEASON IN SANTA FE

BY JOHN SCHROEDER

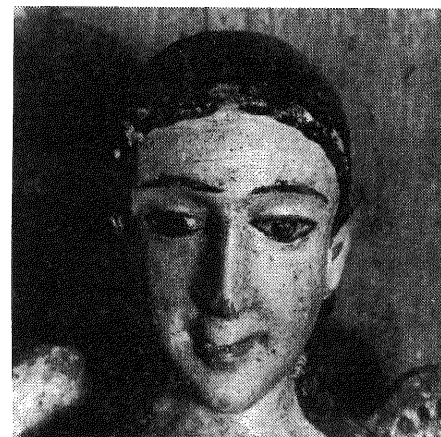
From a student art display to an exhibit of cherished New Mexico santos, the Santa Fe campus art gallery is helping bring art and education together.

This April, St. John's College students will have the opportunity to show their own work during the fourth annual Student Art Exhibit. In May, Santa Fe artist Gretchen Ballard Guard will present a collection of oil paintings. And, in June and July, the gallery will continue a tradition started earlier this year of featuring renowned private art collections with an exhibit of the Larry Frank santos collection.

Formerly the assistant art director

for *Sunset Magazine*, Gretchen Ballard Guard always knew she wanted to be an artist. "To pick up some bright paint in a brush and watch it spread out on my paper was a simple process that I found immensely gratifying and wonderful in a mysterious way" she said.

Ms. Guard attended Stanford University, where she was an art major, and studied with Nathan Oliveira and Frank Lobdell. Throughout the 70's, she worked as a freelance graphic designer, which led her to the position at *Sunset*. In 1977, she and her husband collaborated on a book based on an old Irish folk tale for which she produced more than 70 black and white illustrations. She later



chaired the art department at the Community School in Sun Valley, Idaho, where she taught art to students in seventh through twelfth grade. She has dedicated the past eight years to her own artwork.

Ms. Guard's exhibition of oil and watercolor paintings will begin with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m. on Friday, May 3 in the Fireside Lounge and will continue through May 30.

June and July will feature the private santos collection of Larry Frank. Considered to be one of the best collections of santos in the Southwest this is a rare opportunity to see centuries-old museum quality pieces.

Created by Spanish artists, and influenced by the southwestern culture, santos are carved or painted images of saints, or other religious figures. There are two different types of santos: Retablos are figures painted on flat boards, and bultos are three-dimensional carved figures. These works of art are now gaining national attention and have recently been featured in several major shows throughout America, including New York and Los Angeles.

This exhibition will begin with a lecture by Larry Frank from 6 to 7 p.m. on Friday, June 14 in the Junior Common Room, followed by a reception from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Fireside Lounge. Mr. Frank also will be autographing copies of his book *New Kingdom of the Saints* during the reception.

Future artists to exhibit in the gallery will include local sculptor Betty Martin and painter Dennis Culver. For more information on any of the exhibits or about the Library and Fine Arts Guild, please contact Ginger Roherty at 505-984-6099.



The Santa Fe staff of the *Reporter* would like to extend their gratitude and thanks to Lesli Allison, SGI94, who recently left St. John's for greener pastures in Colorado, for her hard work and dedication to St. John's College. Ms. Allison has been the director of communications and editor of the Santa Fe edition of the *Reporter* for the past five years. We wish her all the best in her future endeavors.