

REPORTER

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ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

SANTA FE EDITION

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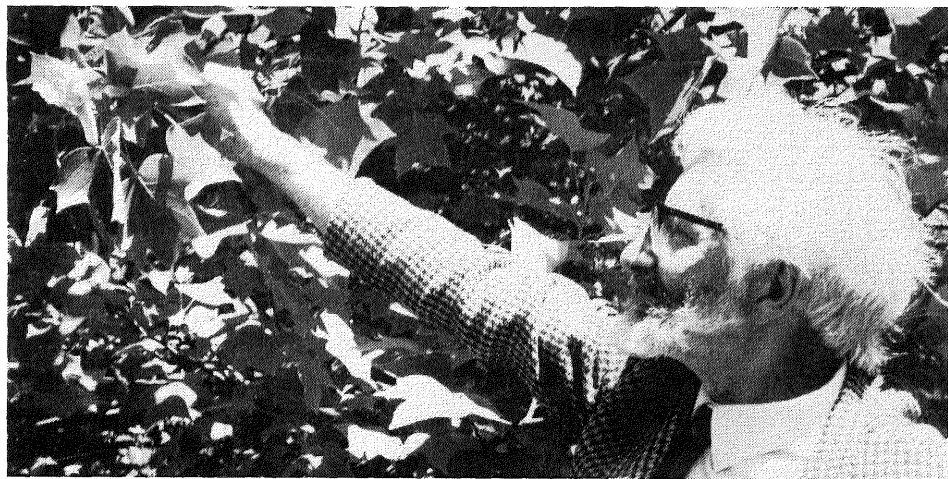
NEWS FROM THE BELL TOWERS...

AGRESTO ADDRESSES CULTURAL FUNDING ISSUES



Santa Fe campus President John Agresto recently participated in a major symposium on the impact of federal funding on American culture. Sponsored by the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas, Austin, the symposium was entitled, "Government's Stake in American Culture."

Mr. Agresto was joined by William D. Ford, former congressman; Sheldon Hackney, chairman, National Endowment for the Humanities; Harold Williams, president and C.E.O., J. Paul Getty Trust; Daniel Boorstin, librarian of Congress emeritus; and Jack Valenti, president, Motion Picture Society of America, among others. ■



Mr. James Keesing, Royal Botanic Gardens, points to a blossom on Liberty Tree offspring.

SON OF LIBERTY ALIVE AND WELL

Must-see stops in London include: Poets Corner at Westminster, the Tower, the bookshops on Charing Cross Road, the Rosetta Stone at the British Museum, the son of the Liberty Tree at the Royal Botanic Gardens in Kew. The son of the Liberty Tree? Yes, a Liberty Tree seedling was given to the garden

as part of the 1976 Bicentennial celebration, and, according to recent visitor Joy Shaver, the baby is now a teenager and doing quite well.

Mrs. Shaver, a friend of St. John's who just completed four years as president of the Caritas Society, made a pilgrimage to visit the tree on a recent visit to England. She met with James Keesing, whose title at the Botanic Gardens is scientific liaison, living collections. "The specimen of *Liriodendron tulipifera* is on the edge of the newly planted Azalea Garden and quite close to our largest Tulip Tree," he said. At the time of Mrs. Shaver's visit the tree was in flower and thriving, a bit of the New World carrying on in the Old. ■

WORLD WAR I MONUMENT RESTORED, TO BE REDEDICATED

The World War I monument that stands on front campus in Annapolis, a sometimes-forgotten piece of St. John's history, will be remembered more clearly in the future, thanks to its restoration. A ceremony to rededicate the monument will take place on November 11, Veterans' Day, at 10 a.m.

Last year, the Annapolis chapter of the Alumni Association took on the cleaning and restoration of the monument as a project.

Evidently, the monument had not been cleaned since being erected in 1920. The Maryland Military Monuments Commission, a state commission, gave a \$500 grant to get the project underway, and this was matched by a \$500 gift from the St. John's Alumni Association. The Annapolis chapter raised the remainder of the money necessary for the restoration, which was carried out by Nicholas Veloz, a fellow of the American Institute for the Conservation of Historic and

Artistic Works. Mr. Veloz used the most advanced conservation techniques to clean the monument, including spraying the bronze plaque with ground walnut shells and waxing it with carnauba and micro-crystalline waxes.

The monument, which commemorates the St. John's students who died in the Great War, is the work of Baltimore sculptor Hans Schuler. A bronze plaque lists the names of 24 men.

The rededication ceremony will include remarks by President Christopher Nelson, choral and instrumental music selections, remarks by Admiral Robert Long (a former member of the St. John's Board of Visitors and Governors who served on the President's Commission on downsizing the military), the presentation of swords by the Knights of Columbus, three volleys, and the playing of taps. ■

GRANT FUNDS CONFERENCE ON TRADITION

As St. John's College prepares to celebrate its tricentennial, the question may be fairly asked why anyone should care that an institution is 300 years old. Through a series of lectures and events marking the anniversary, the Santa Fe campus will explore the value of

tradition in American society.

One of the primary events in this series will be a national conference funded by a major grant from the Bradley Foundation. The three-day conference, scheduled for the fall of 1996, will address the question of tradition and progress in four areas: education, science and technology, art and culture, and American politics.

"In all of our plans, our aim is to make this celebration of St. John's 300th year one that is reflective of what we are and what we have to offer, not only to our students, but to a larger public and to the nation as a whole," Santa Fe President John Agresto said. ■

FRESHMEN BOND, PAINT, WEED

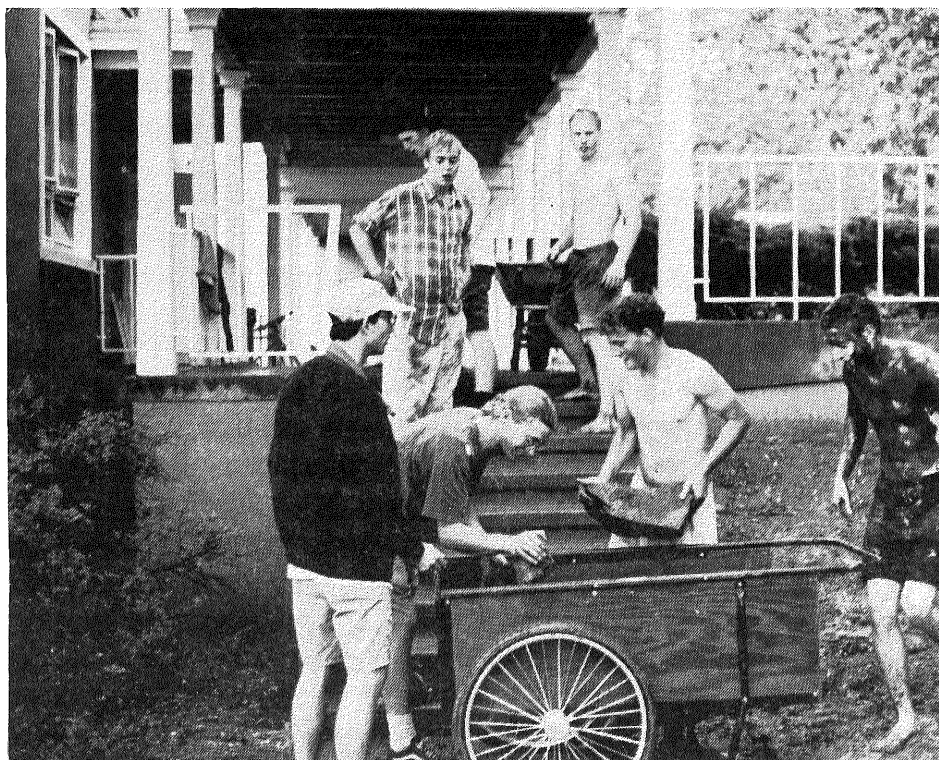
BY LESLI ALLISON

Freshmen orientation took a new turn this year in Santa Fe as

dozens of students and faculty members gave some parts of campus a face-lift. Community Day, organized by senior Andrew Van Luchene, replaced traditional orientation activities such as camping and off-campus community service.

"We were going to other places to do community service when there was plenty to be done right here," Van Luchene said. "This also was a way for freshmen to bond to each other and to upperclassmen and faculty."

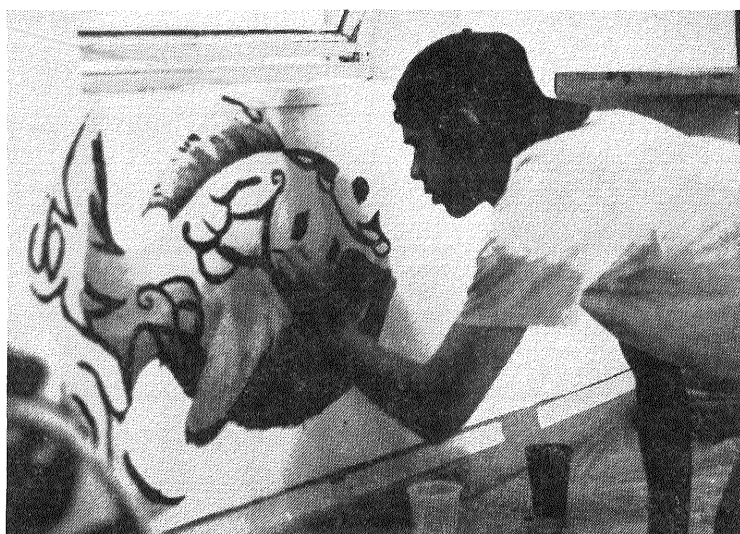
Community Day took place on Saturday, five days after freshmen arrived on campus. Participation



50 people tackled the mural project, and each other.

In the end, three quarters of the upper commons room and about as many of the students were covered in paint.

In the meantime, others were weeding, trimming



was optional, but attendance was high. The two major projects for the day were the creation of a mural in the upper commons room and landscaping in the upper dorms area.

With "mis-tinted" paints purchased at a discount, approximately

trees and installing 12 tons worth of rock terraces. "It rained the whole day and it didn't interfere,"



Van Luchene said. "People worked in the mud. We had to drain out places where we were working and keep going."

As a result of the landscaping, the area now has a more finished look, Van Luchene said. "Before it was just grasses and weeds. Now we have a lot of terraces we can plant."

To keep spirits high, a barbecue grill was kept going all day and a dance party was held in the commons room later that evening.

Van Luchene said he hopes Community Day will help to instill a greater sense of ownership among students. "It gives people a sense that the place is theirs. It encourages them to respect it."

ST. JOHN'S 101: AN INTRODUCTION FOR FRESHMEN

Like most of the extra-curricular activities on the Annapolis campus, the freshman orientation program is student-organized and student-run. "Last spring we decided who would be in charge for the coming fall, and students volunteered to work on freshman orientation," said co-organizer Lynette Dowty, A97. "We ended up with 28 volunteers. We worked some over the summer on it, and then the weekend before school started it was just crazy."

Freshman orientation ran like a well-oiled machine, or as well-oiled as a machine could be after a summer spent pursuing the almighty dollar or lolling in the sun reading non-program books—the usual occupations of Johnnies in the off-season. Small groups of five freshmen were assigned to an advisor or pair of advisors, who led their charges through an academic workshop (what's a don rag, how to get to know tutors, how to get help with Greek), a social life symposium (restaurants in Annapolis, how to learn to waltz, how to get to D.C., smoking and sexual harassment policies, all about parties), and an introduction to St. John's intramurals with Mr. Pickens (followed by dodge ball and pizza).

Freshman orientation advisors, identified by their special tee shirts (Know thyself...and others, in Greek), were enthusiastic about helping out the newcomers. "The atmosphere is very casual," said co-organizer Malinda Campbell, A97. "The freshmen ask us questions and we try to tell them what St. John's is really like."

M A R K Y O U R C A L E N D A R S

PARENTS WEEKEND IN SANTA FE FEBRUARY 16, 17, 18

Visit your son or daughter, attend a seminar, meet other parents, ski Santa Fe. A detailed program and registration form will be mailed soon. For further information or to make early hotel reservations, please contact Liz Skewes at 505-984-6103 or by e-mail at alumni@mail.sjcsf.edu.

COMMUNITY NOTES...

SKEWES TO HEAD ALUMNI RELATIONS IN SANTA FE

She's done laundry for such Hollywood stars as Steve McQueen and George Hamilton, interviewed a cannibal and crafted the alumni magazine at Dickinson College. At last her varied path has carried her here, to St. John's College. Meet Liz Skewes, the new alumni relations director for the Santa Fe campus.

Ms. Skewes replaces Cindy Jokela who recently moved to Minnesota but continues her involvement in the Alumni Division of The Campaign for Our Fourth Century.

After a childhood spent moving every three or four years due to her father's military service career, Ms. Skewes attended high school in Palm Springs, California, where she lived with an aunt and uncle. The couple owned a laundry, the clientele of which included many a Hollywood star. "I've fluffed and folded for all of them," she said.

Following high school, Ms.

Skewes attended UCLA, receiving her B.A. in political science. She continued on to Ohio State where she received her Master of Arts in journalism.

Three years later, while working as an investigative reporter in Huntington, West Virginia, she stumbled across an astonishing story of two serial killers.

"That started a year of my life talking to truly sick and disgusting people," she said. "It was quite a wild ride. Among other things, I went down to Florida and spent two days in jail talking to a guy who told me how he ate people."

After several years as a reporter in Huntington and later in Tampa, Florida, Ms. Skewes took a position in the public relations department of Dickinson College in Pennsylvania. She spent the next six years there, writing articles and helping to reshape Dickinson's alumni magazine.

In joining the St. John's staff,

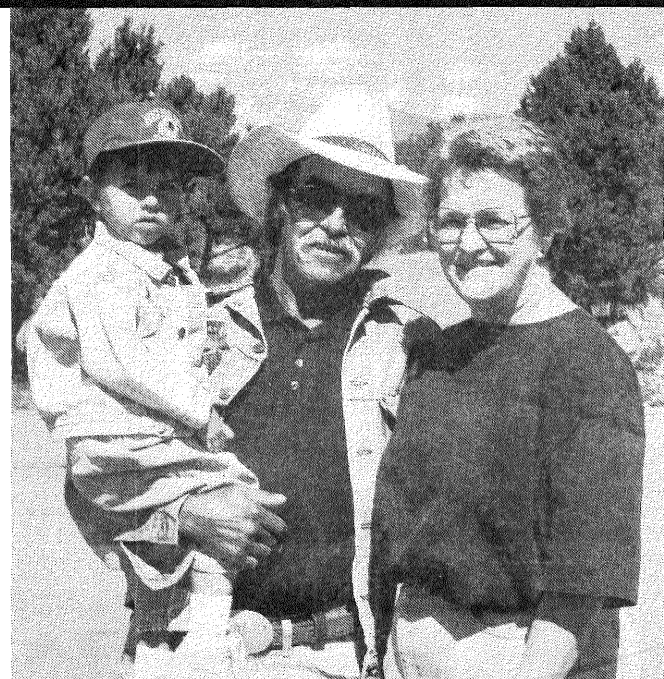
Ms. Skewes said she hopes to bring some fresh ideas to the alumni relations program while at the same time strengthening many of the efforts currently underway.

"One thing I'd like to do is to build on some of the chapter activities and to try to encourage more people

to come out for those events," she said. "I'd also like to find out what kinds of services the college might be able to provide to its alumni."

Ms. Skewes welcomes ideas, suggestions—and even complaints—from alumni. She can be reached at the Office of Alumni Relations, St. John's College, Santa Fe, NM 87501-4599; 505-984-6103; alumni@mail.sjcsf.edu

DIANE MARTINEZ (FORMERLY DIANE TRUDELL) poses with her new husband John Martinez and his grandson Joshua. John and Diane were married August 6 near Abiquiu, New Mexico. Diane worked for St. John's from 1981-84 and returned in her present position as registrar in 1986.



NINETY HOURS TO PARIS

BY SUSAN BORDEN

Two from Annapolis conquer one of the bicycling world's great challenges

Congratulations to Annapolis Vice President Jeff Bishop and Athletic Director Leo Pickens, who this August completed the Paris-

Brest-Paris Randonnee, a French bicycle race that requires cyclists to finish its 760-mile course in 90 hours. Along with John Lawrence, a

friend of Jeff Bishop, the two had trained and participated in qualifying events for two years before the race.

The test of endurance was almost too much, even for the well-trained Pickens. "My low point came at the beginning of the second day," he says. "I had ridden for 24 hours straight and gone 40 hours without sleep. I found myself abandoned by my riding partners. I got off my bike, grabbed a peanut butter and jelly sandwich and some water, trying to force fuel into my body. I lay down in a cornfield and a voice said to me: 'Leo, just surrender to sleep, sweet sleep.' Sleep was the most important thing in my life just then. I almost did surrender..."

Bishop was grateful to the people of France for their role in the race.

"The thing that keeps you going are the thousands of villagers who line this course and come out at three or four or five o'clock in the morning to cheer you on, give you food, point you in the right direction, and yell 'bon courage.' Whenever you heard 'bon courage,' there was no way you were going to quit," he says.

Bishop reached the finish line after 81 and 1/2 hours. Pickens got there at the 85-hour mark. He recalls the thrill of the final miles: "The race ended in St. Quentin en Yveline, a modern planned city with beautiful wide streets and new high-rise office

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Still smiling after more than three days in the saddle, the three Annapolis participants in the Paris-Brest-Paris race pose for a victory pic. Left to right: John Lawrence, Leo Pickens, and Jeff Bishop; Julie Lawrence is holding the SJC banner.



MORGAN RESIGNS IN SANTA FE

After seven years of dedicated service to St. John's College, Jeff Morgan, vice president for advancement in Santa Fe, resigned his position on October 1. During his tenure, Mr. Morgan increased annual giving levels to the Santa Fe campus by more than 300% and played a leading role in the most successful capital campaign in the college's 300-year history.

"Jeff has helped to make this college and this campus more secure than ever in its history," Santa Fe President John Agresto said. "And I will personally miss a friend who helped to show me what is possible as well as where the pitfalls were. He's even saved me from walking into some of them."

Mr. Morgan will assume the position of chief advancement officer for the new Native American Preparatory School in Pecos, New Mexico.

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NEW FACULTY ON CAMPUS

FOUR JOIN SANTA FE FACULTY

The Santa Fe campus welcomed four new faculty members this fall. Maren Ormseth Cohn is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Chicago's Committee on Social Thought. Her dissertation is titled "T.E. Lawrence and Odysseus: A Study of Selfhood and Heroism in Ancient and Modern Times." Mrs. Cohn received her B.A. from Stanford University with Distinction and Honors in Humanities Special Programs, with a concentration in modern thought and literature. She is married to Jim Cohn, also a tutor in Santa Fe.

Samuel B. Johnson holds a J.D. in law from Yale Law School and a Ph.D. in mathematics from Duke University. Mr. Johnson has served both as an acting attorney and as an associate professor at Guilford College. He has studied and has basic mastery of ten languages and has instructed in Japanese and German.

Alice Parker Behnegar received her Ph.D. from the University of Chicago's Committee on Social Thought, her J.D. from Stanford University and her A.B. from Smith College. Her dissertation for The Committee on Social Thought was titled "Feminism and Liberalism: The Problem of Equality." She also was a junior fellow with the John M. Olin Center for Inquiry into the Theory and Practice of Democracy, and a Carthage post-doctoral fellow in The Symposium on Science, Reason, and Modern Democracy, and visiting assistant professor in political science at Michigan State University.

Leonard W. Ortmann received his Ph.D. in philosophy with a minor in classical Greek from Pennsylvania State University. His dissertation was titled "Art and

Science: Nietzsche's Image of a Socrates Who Practices Music." He received his B.A. from Yale. In addition to having received an NEH grant, the DAAD scholarship, and a Fulbright award, he has served as assistant professor of philosophy at Conception Seminary College, and as an English and German instructor at several institutions.

SIX JOIN ANNAPOLIS FACULTY

Six new tutors have been appointed to the faculty at the Annapolis campus.

Jonathan Badger comes from Fordham University in New York, where he has been teaching political theory. While pursuing his Ph.D. and teaching, Mr. Badger was an H.B. Earhart Fellow. His dissertation is on Nietzsche and Plato. Mr. Badger's B.S. is from the University of South Carolina in Columbia, S.C., with a major in computer science. His M.A. is from North Carolina State University in Raleigh, N.C., where he concentrated in political philosophy, European intellectual history, and music.

William Braithwaite, a lawyer, has been associate professor at the Loyola School of Law in Chicago since 1979. He was a partner in the firm of Mayer, Brown & Platt in Chicago from 1973 to 1979. His law degree is from Washington and Lee University. Mr. Braithwaite co-authored a book, *Law and Philosophy: The Practice of Theory*, and has written a number of articles on the relationship of law to philosophy and on modern legal practice. Two of his sons attend St. John's in Annapolis.

Robert Alan Goldberg was most recently assistant professor of political science at Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio. He is a graduate of Harvard University in classics and government, received his M.A. from

the University of Toronto, and is currently working on his Ph.D. dissertation at Toronto on democracy and justice in Aristotle's *Politics*. Mr. Goldberg attended St. John's College from 1977 to 1979. His publications include articles on ancient democratic theory. He has taught political science courses covering the topics of culture and multi-culturalism, gender and the family, and American government and political thought.

Katherine Heines is a graduate of St. John's College in Santa Fe, and has been pursuing post-graduate studies at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. Her field of interest is ancient philosophy. She has taught at The Catholic University and at Marquette University. Her doctoral dissertation topic is Plato's *Symposium*.

Oksana Lassowsky has a Ph.D. in mathematics from Pennsylvania State University. Her B.A. is also in mathematics, from Clarion State College in Pennsylvania. Since 1990, she has been an assistant professor of mathematics at Albright College. Ms. Lassowsky is a concert pianist who was a semi-finalist in the Stravinsky Awards International Piano Competition in 1989 and has given numerous solo and chamber music recitals. She is also author of a prize-winning children's story.

George Russell has an M.A. and a Ph.D. in philosophy from The Catholic University of America and a B.A. in philosophy from St. Francis College, New York. His areas of specialization are the philosophy of David Hume, political philosophy, and moral philosophy. Since 1991, he has been assistant professor at Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he taught courses in ethics, theory of knowledge, and political theory. Prior to that he taught at Albertus Magnus College in New Haven, C.T. and at St. Patrick's Academy in Washington, D.C., where he was dean of students.



GOAL IN SIGHT, CAMPAIGN FOCUSES ON ALUMNI

Efforts will center on raising money for the Santa Fe student activities center and for financial aid

With participation from alumni, friends, parents, and board members, the campaign has reached \$29,200,000 in gifts and pledges as of October 1. With the June close of the campaign just eight months away, the \$30 million goal set three years ago is within reach.

According to Jeff Bishop, vice president for advancement in Annapolis, alumni participation will be the focus of the final push of the campaign. So far, alumni have given or pledged a total of \$15,625,000—with increasing participation from classes in every decade.

"Our goal for the alumni division is for all classes to reach at least

50% participation in The Campaign for Our Fourth Century," said Bishop. "Many classes are close to that goal, and some have exceeded it." Almost half of alumni from the 1940's, for example, have made a pledge. Some individual classes are posting gifts from over 50% of their members: 1935, 1942, 1950, 1984. The percentage of alumni who contribute is as important as the amount contributed because it shows that those who know St. John's best—the alumni—support its mission.

During the last months of the campaign, said Bishop, efforts with alumni will center on raising money

for the student activities center in Santa Fe and for financial aid funding for both campuses. Class leaders will be giving all fellow alumni the opportunity to participate in the campaign to raise much-needed dollars that will ensure the college's future. "Every pledge makes a difference," said Bishop.

Other notable gifts include donations and pledges from members of the Board of Visitors and Governors of more than \$12 million. And the campaign has received from a variety of donors gifts of \$100,000 or more—58 of them. This is significant because the feasibility study commissioned

before the campaign started predicted no more than ten gifts of that magnitude.

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

NEW LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Putting round walls in square holes



For most of the summer, the library project to renovate the Hall of Records building looked like a \$6.8 million disaster zone—piles of lumber and cement block, a jumble of steel beams, mounds of dirt, heaps of old brick were scattered inside the fence, and a seven-story-high crane pulled hunks of the building's core out through the roof. But now the addition is taking shape—the shape of an ellipse. Early in the school year, the wham of what sounded like sledgehammers slung by giants interrupted normally silent afternoons when students were reading for seminar or engrossed in lab experiments. With a spray of sparks from the welder's torch, workers were attaching corrugated metal plates to form the roof of the addition.

Inside the existing building, which was built in 1934, contractors discovered that the central core had provided support for the



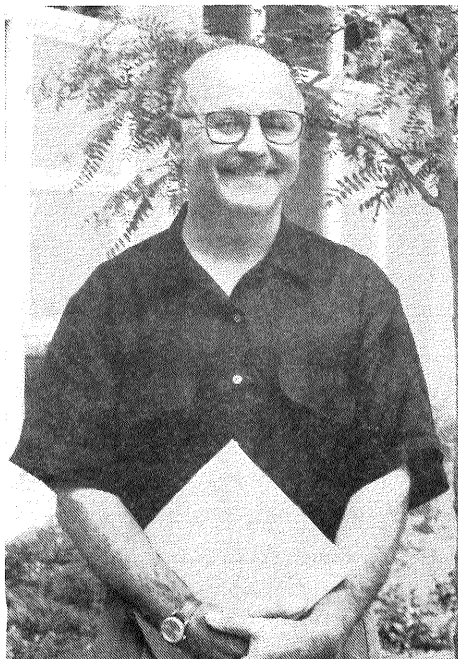
Photos by John Bildahl

entire structure. When the core was removed, steel beams were added. Its outlines traced by steel geometry, a staircase whose curves echo the shape of the addition will connect the three levels of the building.

According to Annapolis Treasurer Bud Billups, crews are now putting in duct work, an elevator, wiring, and cables. The project is on schedule and on budget and should be complete by the May 1, 1996, deadline.

LOCAL DEVELOPER BEAUTIFIES SANTA FE CAMPUS

BY LESLI ALLISON



Santa Fe developer Joe Schepps recently took an active interest in the college's landscaping efforts, funding the master landscaping plan. One of the first projects was the renovation of a patio on Peterson Center's south side. Dedicated in July, the garden was named after his parents. "Any sensitivities for building that I have, I got from my mother, and I was really pleased to have something named for her," he said.

make it a place the St. John's community can enjoy rather than avoid.

Moreover, the Phil and Emilie Schepps Garden, named after Mr. Schepps' parents, is only one aspect of a much larger campus landscaping plan Mr. Schepps is funding for the college.

"Joe has really done a wonderful thing for the college," Santa Fe President John Agresto said. "His work will have a lasting effect here, both in the way others perceive our campus and in the way we ourselves feel about the college."

The relationship between Mr. Schepps and St. John's had its origin a number of years ago when



Mr. Schepps and his wife, Kathy, first hired a St. John's student to baby-sit their infant son. When that student moved on, another was hired, and later another.

"We've had about five different people over the last decade become close to our family," Mr. Schepps said. "That's how I first became attached to the school."

It was also through a student that Mr. Schepps first was introduced to President Agresto. "I found him really responsive and nice and it was then my friendship with him began," Mr. Schepps said.

In addition to the work Mr. Schepps has done for the college, he also is a member of the board of nearby Rio Grande Elementary School and recently helped to negotiate the lease of a small triangular patch of college land to help the school expand its classroom space.

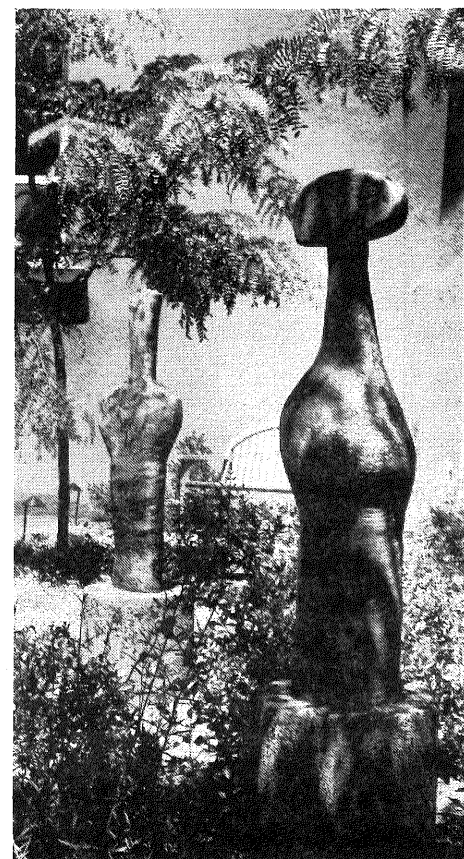
Members of the Board of Visitors and Governors gathered for the dedication of the Schepps Garden. Also dedicated during the same ceremony were a memorial plaque by Santa Fe artist Glenna Goodacre honoring the late Jim Connor, and a gift of sculpture by Santa Fe artist Nita Schwartz and friends.

Until recently, the patio on the south side of Santa Fe's Peterson Student Center stood in sore need of attention. Isolated from the rest of campus behind a large stone wall, and lost among the many pressing needs of the college, the patio had fallen into a dilapidated state. The old fountain had long been silent, its pool filled with leaves and bits of paper. Passersby moved quickly across its walkways, always enroute to other places.

Today, however, thanks to Santa Fe developer Joe Schepps, the fountain is bubbling, the pool is full and covered in the summer with water lilies, and the bulky stone wall is gone. Brick walkways, gardens and statuary



Nancy Connor addresses guests and board members at the dedication of the James Connor memorial plaque.



Ancient Man and Ancient Woman keep sentinel in the new Schepps Garden. The two works were donated to the college by the artist, Nita Schwartz, and friends.

ON GRADUATION DAY, EAST MEETS WEST

The inaugural year of The Graduate Program in Eastern Classics concluded this summer in Santa Fe as 20 candidates received the degree of Master of Arts in Eastern Classics. Side by side with them were 22 recipients of the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies.

Rod Gammon, a graduate of the Eastern classics program, provided bagpipe accompaniment to the procession. The Santa Fe Brass ensemble also accompanied the ceremonies.

In his commencement address, Santa Fe tutor Marty Cohen spoke of Socrates and Hwang-Ti, Aristotle and Patanjali, but primarily, he spoke of "primordial virtue" and wisdom.

"Sometimes, when I find myself respecting those human qualities that defy idealization, I posit a realm, primordial virtue, of which primordial courage is one part," he said. "I try to envision the physiognomy of primordial compassion, primordial

humility, primordial humor—the whole set of analogues to primordial courage. These are not simply deficient modes of another kind of virtue, to which they are clearly subordinated; they have their own light and dignity that both Eastern and Western texts have prompted me to consider."

Through anecdotes and passages from a variety of Eastern and

Western works, Mr. Cohen also addressed a kind of wisdom best understood as "not knowing."

"Not-knowing is not a mannerism to be adopted, as it is for Apollodorus, nor a credo that should be used to oppose anyone who feels sure of anything; finding the invigoration of not knowing, discovering how what was taken for the whole is only a part, is an achievement that must be honestly won," he said. "I know of nowhere in world literature where the discovery of what remains to be learned is more difficult, elusive, fascinating and crucial than in regard to certain Eastern notions of enlightenment, which I believe

issue not from arrogance but from profound realization. My own attempts to cope with these matters have been helped immeasurably by my years at St. John's of trying to understand what

a question is."

In conclusion, he said, "I hope and trust that your time at St. John's leaves you more able to receive from others the unceremonious blessings and challenges of ordinary life, and that when you reciprocate, the liquor you offer will be redolent with the powers of insight, inquiry, and not knowing that have aged during your time at St. John's."



Judith Hughes-Vassar with her grandson and Annapolis Graduate Institute Director Tom May. Photo by Keith Harvey.

GI COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER: "TAKE ST. JOHN'S WITH YOU"

BY BARBARA GOYETTE

"The unlive life is not worth examining," said Professor Alan Hornstein, causing a murmur of surprise to ripple through the audience of Graduate Institute master's degree candidates and their friends and families. In turning Plato on his head, Mr. Hornstein hoped to point out to those gathered for summer commencement that our active, public lives and our private, reflective lives should be grounded in the same values.

Fourteen students received the Master of Liberal Arts degree at the commencement exercises on August 11 in Annapolis. Tutor and Graduate Institute Director Tom May welcomed the graduates, and Betsy Blume, alumni director in Annapolis, awarded a prize on behalf of the Alumni Association to James Robert Van Dyke, S.J., for best tutorial essay. President Christopher Nelson conferred the degrees.

Mr. Hornstein, a professor of law at the University of Maryland School of Law, received his degree

from the Graduate Institute in 1986 and has served as a visiting tutor. In his address, he called on his experience as a teacher of law to discuss how our professional lives should not become divorced from our private lives. He cited Atticus Finch, the lawyer-hero of Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, as a man who "is not bound by different sets of values as a family man, a lawyer, and a public man. He is the same man, living out the same values."

While enmeshed in the life of a graduate student at St. John's, Mr. Hornstein said, reflection and inquiry become important. "I urge you not to neglect the world outside," he said. And, once gone from the close community of learning that the Graduate Institute becomes in the summer, students need "to take moments from everyday life to reflect and take stock. By both living life—and by examining it—you will not be leaving St. John's, you will be taking it with you," he said in conclusion.

S.F. HOMECOMING 1995

BY LIZ SKEWES

*S*anta Fe — For the nearly 200 alumni who came to Santa Fe for Homecoming on July 21, 22 and 23, the weekend provided the chance to take part in seminars led by some of their favorite tutors, the time to visit with old friends, and the luxury — thanks to a team of baby-sitters — of dancing the night away at the Homecoming dinner.

While the focus was on the reunion classes — with special events for those who graduated in '70, '75, '80, '85 and '90 — there was plenty for alumni of all ages, including an all-alumni seminar on Friday night on *The Bear*, led by Santa Fe tutor Bill Darkey, and a Saturday afternoon picnic for alumni and their families.

There also were tributes and honors. Former tutors David Jones and Michael Ossorgin were remembered on Saturday afternoon at the annual meeting of the college's Alumni Association with talks by former colleagues, students and family members.

Jones, a 1959 Annapolis graduate and a tutor at St. John's from 1964 to 1990, was remembered by Santa Fe tutor Ted Skinner, who said that Jones "lives on very much in this institution and in our teaching." Harvey Goldstein, A59, also talked about Jones, saying that his former classmate, a "tall, skinny kid in cowboy boots," was a man of extraordinary talents in the arts and sciences. "Anything he put his hand to he did well," Goldstein said. "He may well have been the only genius I've ever known."

Michael Ossorgin, a tutor at the college for 30 years until his death in 1986, was remembered as fondly by one of his students,



Waltzing has become a tradition at the Santa Fe Homecoming Dinner and Dance Party.

Michael Mechau, A59, and by his daughter, Lydia, who graduated from the Santa Fe campus in 1977.

Mechau recalled Ossorgin as "a mysterious figure ... in the course of the year, he scarcely uttered more than very thoughtful opening seminar questions. Yet his presence was so expressive of intense concentration and deep seriousness that we could not help but be fascinated and influenced by it."

Lydia Ossorgin's memories of her father were of a man who, when she was a small child sitting at a table full of tutors, deans and others, would wink at her to let her know she was a part of the group. Her family helped open the Santa Fe campus, she said, and her father's contacts in the music world helped bring international talents to play in Santa Fe. "These concerts were always highlights of St. John's community life.... But for my brothers and me, who grew up being cajoled

into eating pablum for Uncle Tchaikovsky or Uncle Rachmaninoff, and later paid a quarter by my father if we didn't guess — but knew — the composer, the artist, and the key of the music he played, this time of our lives was profoundly rich.

"To say that my father's life was dedicated to his family and

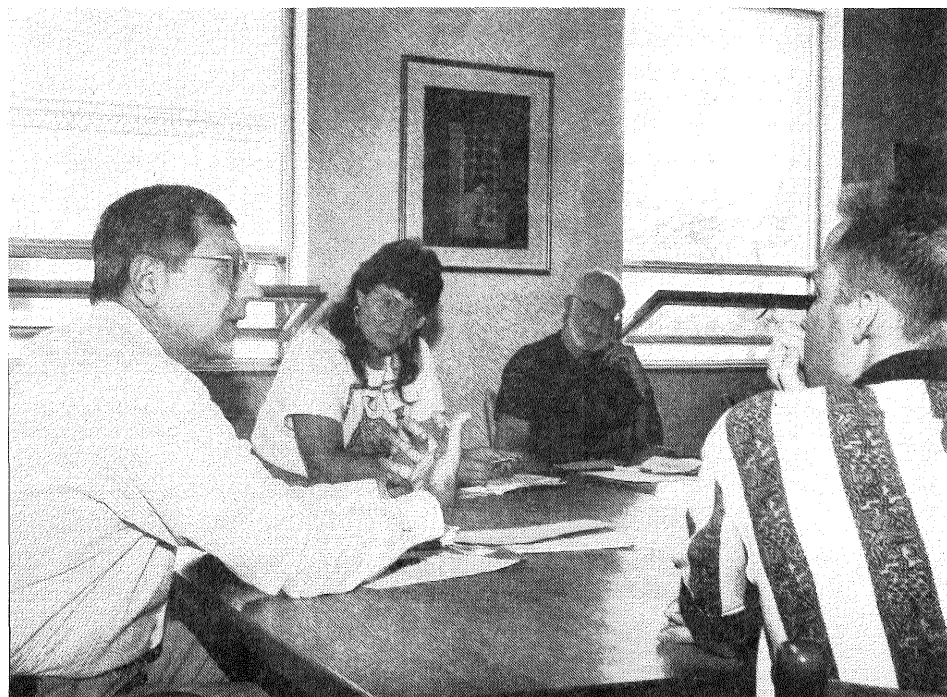
church, or to the study and writing of music, or to the reading of Dostoyevsky, or to his dedication to the great works and the college, is to limit it," she said. "He never separated these loves in his life. My father's presence included each of us — precisely in the moment where

we stood — so that doors opened to infinite possibilities and to the most simple, sublime and direct answers."

At the dinner on Saturday night, tutors Timothy Miller and Ralph Swentzell were made honorary alumni and graduates Gerald Peters, SF70, and Rina Swentzell, SGI70, were given awards of merit. Christopher Nelson, SF70, currently the president of the Annapolis campus, also was given an award of merit, but received that award at the Annapolis homecoming in September.

After an evening of waltzing in the Great Hall, alumni were treated on Sunday morning to a leisurely brunch at the home of John Agresto, Santa Fe's president.

Those who weren't staying for the second week of the summer alumni program then turned in their dorm room keys and headed back to their homes — but hopefully only until July 12, 13 and 14, when Homecoming 1996 will give alumni a chance to come back to campus once again.



Brookings Institution Scholar Thomas Mann conducts a seminar during Alumni Program week in Santa Fe.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR...

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE ST. JOHN'S ALUMNI

In the spring, the Johnny List on the Internet began a discussion about various aspects of gender. As part of this discussion, many alumnae related their experiences as female students at the college. I felt that the next step was to re-open a discussion that has occupied many students over the years, i.e., women authors on the program. So, I drew up a version of the proposal printed below. At first, people were quiet, but when I asked for opinions a second time, the subscribers seriously took up the issue. The impetus for this proposal is my belief that the dialogue on gender at St. John's although never silenced, has been quiet and tentative. One way of opening that dialogue is to add more great works by women.

One of the criticisms I have encountered is that additions to the program cannot be made on the basis of the sex of the author. They are not proposed on that basis. They are proposed because they are great works. If they were once overlooked, it may have been because of the sex of the authors. So, we now ask that they now be considered. Another problem that arises concerns the deletion of other works on the program. Each work will have to be considered separately. When a single work is considered for seminar, something will have to be taken off the list. This is a long process undertaken by the Instruction Committee. They will make the final decision, as they have always done when they decide to add a work or shift things around.

Many of the alumni I have contacted support this proposal and almost none are against it. If you want to add your name to the list before I present it to the faculties of the two campuses please send me a note. If you just want to voice your opinion or suggest other works to add to my list, please do. I want to know what the alumni think.

My address:
c/o Lew & Gina McMurran

6724 SW Virginia Ave
Portland, OR 97219

Thanks,
Mary Helen McMurran SF '87

THE PROPOSAL

As former St. John's students interested in the quality of education at the college, we address the tutors and administration on the subject of women authors in the curriculum. We believe that the St. John's program should consider a broader range of great works by women for potential inclusion in the program. We do not here present reasons for including more works by women authors because arguments must be made for each work as an individual case. Instead, we point out two important benefits of implementing our proposal. 1) Because great works by women represent central voices in the philosophical, political, and artistic dialogue that constitutes the Western tradition, including more of these works on the St. John's program is a means of recognizing the contributions of women to the Western canon. 2) Since many works written by men included in the program engage in a discussion of women and femininity, works which portray the experiences of women and record their thoughts will allow for a real dialogue on gender to take place in the classroom, as it did in the historical tradition. The following is a list of suggested works:

FRESHMAN YEAR:

Sappho. Poems. (language tutorial)

SOPHOMORE YEAR:

Love Letters of Abelard and Heloise.
(seminar)

Christine de Pisan. *The Book of the City of Ladies.* (seminar)

JUNIOR YEAR:

Hildegard von Bingen.
(music tutorial)

*Eliot, George. *Middlemarch.* (seminar)

Graffigny, Francoise. *Letters from a Peruvian Woman.* (excerpts - language tutorial)

**de Lafayette, Marie Madeleine. *La Princesse de Clèves.*

Shelley, Mary. *Frankenstein.* (seminar)

Wollstonecraft, Mary. *Vindication of the Rights of Women.* de Gouges, Olympe. *Rights of Women.* (together in seminar)

SENIOR YEAR:

de Beauvoir, Simone. *The Second Sex.* (excerpts- seminar)

Dickinson, Emily. Poems.
(language tutorial)

Hurston, Zora Neale. *Their Eyes Were Watching God.* (seminar)

Sand, George. *The Haunted Pool.*
(language tutorial)

Stanton, Elizabeth Cady. *Seneca Falls Speech.* (seminar)

Woolf, Virginia. *A Room of One's Own.* (seminar)

* Already included in Annapolis program; proposed for Santa Fe only. ** Already included in Santa Fe program; proposed for Annapolis only.

A LIST OF ALUMNI WHO SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL:

Rachel Shroeder Andreyev SF88
Ines Azcarate A91
Lexey Bartlett A94
Marie Benedict A84
Tequila Brooks A91
Sheri Brown A76
Frances Burns A69
Debra Burkett
Roberta Carnevale SF
Sarah Coburn SF94
Amelia Crawford SF87
Christopher (C.J.) Dallett SF88
Melissa Johnson Dallett SF88

Karen Delahunty SF87
Sharon Dinitz A95
Sophie Romano Ehrhardt SF89
Bill Fant A79
Dan Fassett SF84
Martha Franks SF78
Charlotte Glover SF87
Rich Green SF87
Alan Haffa A87
Sarah Harwell SF84
Nathan Hey SF87
Barbara Hum SF87
Laura Hunt SF93
Christopher Johnson SF91
Leslie Kay SF83
Amber Keyser SF94
Andrew Krivak, S.J. A86
Janet Kolsky SF93
Chris Leydon A93
Breta Malcolm (friend of the college)
Heather Malcolm SF94
Nancy Marcus
Mary Helen McMurran SF87
Jennifer Miller A84
Matthew Miller SF87
Joanne Murray A70
Jeff North SF87
Laura O'Keefe SF92
Cate Parish A76
Margaret Parish A86
Valerie Pawlewicz A89
Sue Price A84
John Riley SFGI87
Barb Ritter SF86
Yolanda Rivera A86
J'laine Robnolt A86
Melissa Sedlis A73
Nadine Shea SF91
Raoul Slavin SF94
Barb Smalley A84
Anne Marie Streeter A86
Mary Ruth Strzeszewski SF89
Julia Takahashi SF74
Mary Tarail SF72
Margo Hobbs Thompson A85
Daniel Vona A67
David Wallace SF75
Elizabeth Wallace SF88
Professor Jennifer Wicke SF72
Emily Wilson SF89

SEE PAGE 14 FOR MORE
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TUTORS SPEAK ON EASTERN CLASSICS

BY SCOTT A. ANDERSON

In the opinion of those involved with its implementation, the Eastern classics program has been a clear success.

The class discussions in seminars, precepts, and language tutorials were lively and rich, as important dialogues are meant to be. Socrates urges us to follow an argument wherever it leads. For some of us, after completing the undergraduate or liberal arts graduate programs, we have found ourselves following arguments east, east beyond the Euphrates river, east outside the Ural mountains. The Eastern classics program offers alumni the perfect forum to examine ideas both familiar and foreign to those raised by the material of the established curriculum.

Several tutors were asked to relate their impressions of the Eastern classics program to the St. John's experience:

JAMES CAREY

We call ourselves and encourage others to call us "the great books school." Now there are great books in the Eastern tradition, so we should be trying to read them too, unless we're content to call ourselves "the great books of the West school." We made the right decision not to include Eastern classics in the undergraduate program. It's already overcrowded and they would make only a token appearance there.

I taught the Sanskrit tutorial last year and was impressed how much discipline and intelligence the students brought to the study of the language. They accomplished a lot more than we expected. I remember only one occasion when a student had not managed to translate all the assigned sentences in the grammar we were working through last fall, and he had a legitimate excuse.

I don't see this venture as opening doors here [at St. John's] to the study of

all so-called "cultures," since most of these don't have written traditions of great antiquity, and many don't have written traditions at all. A written tradition allows for great minds to address other minds across centuries, and is in my opinion a necessary condition for the emergence of a "classic."

The study of Eastern classics is intrinsically rewarding. But it also gives us at St. John's a broader perspective from which to consider the Western intellectual tradition. On the other hand, there can hardly be a better preparation for studying Eastern classics than the kind of familiarity with the Western intellectual tradition that we aim at in our other programs. So I think alumni would particularly benefit from the Eastern classics program.

CARY STICKNEY

What has emerged from this program is not different than what you might expect. We discover we can learn a great deal from a Homer, someone far removed from us, nonetheless speaking to enduring human concerns. This is the case of Kalidasa, or the Mahabharata. It should be no surprise to us, who successfully overlook historicism to learn from Homer, that we can do the same thing with these other authors.

There clearly is a tradition in the East, where one sees human thought examining itself, following and varying certain themes through the centuries. The books converse in a way similar to that of the Western books.

Some alumni of the undergraduate program really hit their stride in the Eastern classics in a way they hadn't before. They come to full fruition as speakers, readers, and writers. Finding a whole other set of great books, they can bring their experience to this project which is both new and familiar. It makes

me think of those seniors who say "now, I could do freshman year justice." This is a way in which seniors become freshmen again.

RALPH SWENTZELL

The density of these great works is enormous. If you took all of the great books found in a literary tradition, India and China would far exceed Europe, yet we condense them into one year. The weightiness of the Eastern classics seminar reading list is weighty indeed.

Freshmen are being forced into the strange world of Greeks, and sophomores the Bible. There is this same strangeness to the Eastern works. Not just any old strangeness, but a strangeness with quality.

About these readings—instead of knowledge, these books are about wisdom...how to be wise...sagely, like the works of freshman and sophomore year. They approach how best to live one's life, and so they have an impact on the whole person, not just the cerebral cortex. When I look at it, a year's work in terms of reading these "wisdom" books, it's no exaggeration that this seminar list is denser than any other.

The Sanskrit and Chinese studies are accomplishing what I assume to be the goal of St. John's. We've come closer to the ideal than any Greek class I've seen. That ideal is to have people use their knowledge of language to see through into deeper meaning behind the great texts. It is all too common to hear students at the end of sophomore year say, "Thank god I'll never see Greek again." These graduate students don't do that. My impression is that many of the masters' essays closely examined translations, looking at Chinese and Sanskrit terms.

I'm seeing ideas being struggled with seriously in the Eastern classics, so I think it's one of the best things St. John's

has going in its program.

KRISHNAN VENKATESH

One thing I love to remember—a student said to me, "Before I started this program, I thought I was open to Eastern thought."

It's a good thing for it to exist. It reminds Johnnies that there are other books out there, that other people think, too. We might fall into a bad habit, to understand ourselves to be the only ones. So I think its very existence is a healthy reminder that other books exist.

An understanding of this whole project is getting to overhear, or participate in, another conversation about the same questions. An analogy would be carrying your own discussion out of seminar, and then wondering what people were talking about in other seminars. Nietzsche and Chuang Tzu, for example, initiated different questions about the same thing. Thucydides and Ssu-Ma Chien, too. Starting with the same phenomena, they can arrive at different thoughts.

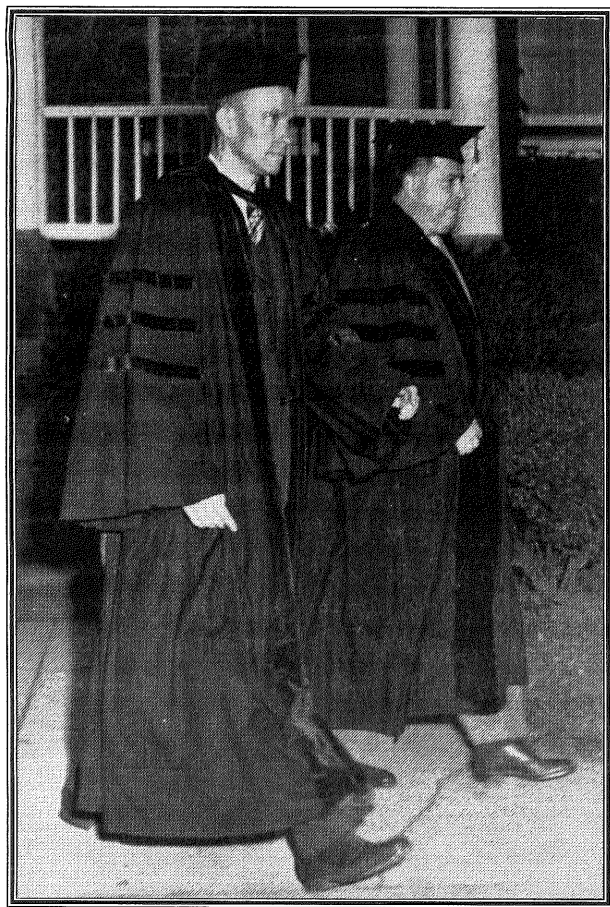
Classical Chinese is a completely different language from Greek. For one thing, it lacks morphology. As a result of this, texts can be bafflingly terse, bewilderingly ambiguous, much more so than even pre-Socratic fragments. The study of Chinese may help us to rethink Aristotelian approaches to language. What kind of a medium for rational thought is this language if it lacks the capacity for precise connections that we expect from philosophical thinking? For tutors of the undergraduate curriculum, an acquaintance with Chinese may deepen discussions concerning the possibilities of language. It seems natural for us to assume that Greek is paradigmatic of all languages. But what if Chinese were the more paradigmatic?

IMAGES FROM THE ATTIC

BY BARBARA GOYETTE

Old photographs from the St. John's archives in Annapolis provide a glimpse of life in the past

Today, we take photographs of everything—pets and flowers, babies at birth and children at graduation, the Grand Canyon and Chartres Cathedral. Photographs illustrate who we are on our drivers' licenses; photos scanned into the World Wide Web tell strangers about St. John's. Some photos are snapshots that record a special or even an everyday event. Some photographs are works of art, their lighting and composition carefully considered.



Mr. Weigle (left) and Mr. Klein (right) at commencement. No date, photographer unknown.

Others serve as documentation—news photos of the war in Bosnia, for example.

Ephemeral bits of reality held forever in the guise of paper treated with chemicals, photographs not only record our present lives, they

can connect us to the past. Take the photo of the class of 1889, photographer unknown. Twelve men stand stiffly in front of an ivy-covered building. Dressed in caped topcoats, with fresh collars, waistcoats, and cravats, their heads topped with nearly identical round bowlers, their right hands—gloved, in most cases—clutching walking sticks, these St. John's students stare into the camera's lens. Some appear dapper and self-confident; others have the tentative air of the too-young in an adult setting. Despite the

image's otherworldly air, we realize that these people are the same age as today's students sitting on the quad, and that their costumes are as au courant as grunge shoes and baggy jeans. These students probably left home for the first time to come to St.

John's, just like today's students, just like alumni from every era. They endured, or enjoyed as the case may be, several years of enforced study at the college and are now ready to enter the craggy terrain of adulthood. The camera's lens focussed, the shutter fell shut, and they remain for us today as they were on that far-distant afternoon.

This is the kind of thing we hope to find when rummaging in the attic—a bit of the past held forever. St. John's has its own attic. It's a tiny "archive" room in the library, presided over by Kitty Kinzer, the librarian. Old yearbooks on shelves and in piles are hidden by boxes and boxes of photographs, which are

hidden by more boxes of old magazines. For years the photographs have been stored in file drawers and moving boxes. Now they are finally seeing the light of day, being studied, cataloged, and preserved.

Mrs. Kinzer, with the help of Emily

Murphy, A95, is putting this particular corner of the attic in order, and wonderful bits of the past are being discovered.

HOW OLD PHOTOGRAPHS WILL BE PRESERVED

Mrs. Kinzer gave Emily the task of cataloging the library's photo collection as a campus work-study job last year. In order to find out the best way to catalog and preserve the pictures, an expert was consulted—Mame Warren of the Maryland State Archives. Ms. Warren is the photo archivist for the state, and she also has written several books based on the collections of her father, famed photographer Marion Warren (he photographed students, tutors, and campus activities from the 1950's to the 1970's and many of his images are in the St. John's collection).

Ms. Warren suggested conserving the photographs by putting them in acid free mylar sleeves and then into binders. Information



Humphreys began in 1835 as a dormitory, but when this photo was taken by E. H. Pickering in the 1920's it served as the science building.

about the photos should be entered in a data base, she said, and then the images should be scanned in, so that anyone wanting to look at an image will be able to find it listed in the data base and then look at the scanned image. The photo itself need never be touched—a boon to preservation.

Emily has been working on implementing these suggestions. She has gone through hundreds of pictures, studied them, and cataloged pertinent data in a computer program. "I devised a system with seven fields, including photographer, date, building, person, activity, locality (i.e., coffee shop, back campus, etc.). I'm also working on a processing manual so that the next person to have my job can continue the project," she says. Scanning in the images will be the next phase of the project.

"Every time I think I'm done, somebody finds another box of photographs," she says. Emily estimates that the St. John's collection contains about 2200 photos of Annapolis. So far, she's looked at about 1900 pictures.

Included in the collection are many old photos from the 1880's to the 1940's. For example, the Alfred Eisenstadt photos that were taken for the Life magazine article of 1940 are at the college. Images other than those that appeared in the article are also a part of the collection; some of these were used in the 1940 yearbook.

IMAGES AS PART OF THE COLLECTIVE CONSCIOUSNESS

Marion Warren's photographs from the 1950's on represent an important era at St. John's. A photographer who came to Annapolis following World War II, Warren documented many aspects of the town's life, including the sailing craft at the dock, farmers in the outlying regions, business leaders and building projects, and St. John's. His images are part of the collective consciousness of the college—many were used in the admissions catalogs of the 1960's and early 1970's. These photos of tutors—Jacob Klein, Hugh McGrath, Simon Kaplan, Winfree Smith—and of students in seminar and other classes were a window into the life of the college for prospective students who studied the catalogues for clues about what St. John's was really like.

According to Emily, the earliest images in the St. John's collection

are from the 1880's. The majority of the "old" photos date from the turn of the century—buildings, groups of students in their military training uniforms, portraits. "One that I particularly like is labeled 'Fun' and it shows all the belongings of one student piled in a corner of a room. It dates from the 1920's," says Emily. Another interesting image, also from about 1920, is a panoramic. The print is about six inches by six feet and it shows the campus from McDowell all the way around to the houses across College Avenue. The view includes the entire student brigade, all in the uniforms of the then-military college, in addition to the campus band.

Emily enjoys working with the older photographs. She hopes to pursue a career as a museum curator and is particularly interested in photos and objects from the Civil War era. "Now our society has the attitude dictated by TV that everything is handed to us. We don't use our imagination as much," she says, comparing modern-day photos with those from the era of black and white. "A black and white photo is more arty... You have to fill in the colors, or maybe you just think of that world as black and white, with a little bit of yellow mixed in.

"From a historic standpoint, this [photo collection] is a record of a time," notes Emily. Before the invention of the camera, we could have a verbal description of an event or a scene—one person's view. A camera makes an image that is universally available, able to be interpreted by



Wine, song, but where are the women? As this photo shows, students in 1903 knew the pleasures (vices?) of college life. Photographer unknown.

whoever looks at it. Emily even thinks that photographs can induce a personal experience: "You can read about the Civil War, but until you see the Mathew Brady photographs of Antietam, you don't realize how horrible it was. It makes it much more real." That kind of connection is why she enjoys working with the St. John's collection. Preserving the images of the college will help us all remember, will help us recognize the traditions and history that are part and parcel of this 300-year-old institution.

Mrs. Kinzer and Emily, after considering the extent of the collection and thinking about the history of the Annapolis campus, thought that a book would best showcase the photo preservation project. They envision a 300th birthday volume that would include old images and

excerpts of speeches, yearbook entries, essays, interviews, and correspondence—a book that would help tell the story of the campus and bind readers from today with the past.

The book project will be sponsored by the Friends of St. John's, an Annapolis group that supports events at the college. Emily will be working over the course of the next year to choose photos and unearth speeches and correspondence to use in the text.

Meanwhile, Mrs. Kinzer is pleased that the photograph collection is finally getting its due. The new library will have more room for records. The photograph files will be organized and accessible on computer. "There will be a hospitable area for people to come and use our old records," she says. "As soon as the indexes are available, they will be on the public terminals in the library."



ALUMNI—do you have photographs from your

days at St. John's tucked in some corner of your attic or stuffed in a box under a bed? If you think they may be of some interest and would like them to be part of the St. John's collection, please send them to Mrs. Kinzer at the library. "There are many gaps in our collection," says Mrs. Kinzer. "Years when there were no yearbooks are not well represented, for example. If there is a notation on the back of the photograph about when it was taken and who or what the subject is, that would be most welcome."



Students from the class of 1889. Photographer unknown.

LETTERS CONT. FROM PAGE 9

WHAT'S ON THE LIST

I gather that there is some agitation for the addition of books written by women. Women on the St. John's campuses may, indeed, feel swamped by the books and since they were written by men they may feel swamped by men. However, I certainly as a man did and still do feel swamped by the books. Indeed, I went to Dean Buchanan one day and confessed/complained that I was so confused I didn't know which end was up—that if someone pointed to a dog and said, "What is it?" that I wouldn't say, "It's a dog" because I wouldn't be able to answer if someone asked how I knew it was a dog. I asked the dean how long I would be so confused and he answered, "Certainly as long as you're here." Yes, I was swamped by the books.

Scott Buchanan, primarily, chose the books for the reading list. He chose those books, I maintain, which he knew would swamp every serious student. In my view that was his primary objective—to con-

fuse students and cause them to suffer and to cause them to learn. As I see it, Scott Buchanan was a Greek in the highest sense of the word. The one student in my tutorials who despised the Greeks also thought Dean Buchanan to be the Devil and, I venture, for the same reason—they likewise confused him (some people don't want to be confused) causing him to suffer. This student rebelled by never coming back. The concept that learning is suffering was and is, I say, at the core of Scott Buchanan's concept for St. John's. If a book is provocatively swampable and intrinsically important to Western civilization, then it would be within his range to be considered for the St. John's list.

Quality, merit, provocative swampability, and intrinsic importance to Western civilization should, in Scott Buchanan's concept, I offer, determine the books in the St. John's list—nothing else.

—George Cayley, A45 and SGI78

MORE ON SEMINAR STYLES

I must respond to Dana Netherton's letter "Thoughts on Seminar Styles" in the Summer '95 *Reporter*, taking in particular the quotation from Beth Kuper concerning freshman seminar as a starting point—"a free-for-all, with the most aggressive students dominating, and the quieter students sitting back, unable to contribute." The description is apt; I recognize my freshman seminar. But, hey, that is the stuff out of which the seminar is made. Indeed it is volatile, indeed it is frustrating, but no way should that conflict be avoided, no way!

The seminar is not, forgive me, a croquet game. The best seminars I remember have elements more akin to surfing—the great wave of an idea comes along, and it may begin with the still, small voice of someone who has been "unable to contribute" for a long time. Contribution isn't the point; understanding is. And it is an important measure of understanding to value the

dynamics of the seminar as they progress from rough to rougher to—not smooth, but exciting, invigorating, empowering.

The best example of this I can think of occurs at the beginning of *The Republic*. Everyone is together in the home of a genteel old man—he would indeed consider a croquet-type seminar to be the optimum form of dialogue. But then comes Thrasymachus—"hunched up like a wild beast, he flung himself at us as if to tear us to pieces." (Bloom translation) What is happening here to the dialogue? And why does Socrates finish Book I of *The Republic* calling Thrasymachus "blessed"? I think he truly means it.

Exciting things are possible in seminar. I extend praise to all of my wise tutors who let the seminar be, as I cherish memories of the diversity of "characters" in whose company I answered the seminar bell.

—Dianne Bentley, A62

SETTING THE RECORDS STRAIGHT

BY LESLI ALLISON

If you received this copy of the St. John's *Reporter* in the mail, chances are that at some point in the past you have received duplicate mailings from the college, the mailings you received were sporadic, or you haven't received mailings at all...that is until now.

On its face, the Alumni Database Cleanup Project may not seem like something to write home about. However, the project will have a significant impact on the college's ability to communicate with alumni, parents, friends and others.

The project dates back to 1992 when the Alumni Relations Committee of the St. John's College Board of Visitors and Governors began to take a serious interest in the accuracy of alumni records on both campuses. Part of this interest was long-standing; the alumni lists held by each campus had been known to be highly inaccurate for a number of years. The interest also was motivated by a desire to assist the capital campaign. Finally, the Alumni Relations Committee and the Alumni Association Board had acquired for the first time a generation of computer-literate members

who began to raise questions about the adequacy of the technology that supported the alumni list on both campuses.

"The Alumni Association and the Alumni Relations Committee were unhappy—and rightly so—with the discrepancies between the two campuses in terms of alumni information, class year, campus designation, and the problem of duplicate mailings," said Nick Giacona, Santa Fe's director of prospect research and chairman of the Inter-campus Computer Committee. "Some people were getting triplicate mailings, and some were get-

ting no mail at all."

In response, a computer summit meeting was held last January in Annapolis with representatives from both campuses present. The discussion was moderated by board member and alumnus Bill Tilles, A59. By the end of the meeting, the two campuses had agreed to develop a common alumni database policy for class year and campus designation, create an inter-campus committee made up of staff from each campus, and, with the help of funding from the Alumni Association Board, hire aides and create computer work stations to facilitate data entry.

"In the past, we haven't had the time or the resources to attack it," Mr. Giacona said. "This has been a project that has been more than 200

CONT. ON PAGE 17

Luke Trares and Pia Thadhani, both juniors, spent the summer cleaning and testing equipment for the junior laboratory classes. Photo by John Bildahl.



HOW TO "WIN" JUNIOR LAB

BY SUSAN BORDEN

If junior year is the Boston Marathon of the St. John's program, then lab is the Heartbreak Hill of junior year. Although many students hope just to finish the race, others plan to rise and conquer, to understand, to "win" junior lab. Junior lab assistants cite this as the key benefit of their job. They see the responsibility that comes with the position as a path to understanding. They say that attending twice as many classes gives them a double-dose of thought time. This year in Annapolis, two juniors will get a triple-dose.

Luke Trares and Pia Thadhani are the first archons of Annapolis' new junior lab archon internship. The pair spent the summer cleaning electrometers, testing spectrometers and cataloging galvanometers. They worked with Director of Laboratories Mark Daly to learn the experiments and equipment of junior lab.

Now that the school year has begun, they meet with Daly regularly to keep ahead of the experiments, and they meet weekly with their fellow lab assistants to teach them the experiments. Daly hopes that having students teach the experiments will lead to more interaction and interest among the lab assistants. "We're trying to encourage students to get together after hours, work with the equipment, and talk about challenges with class-

work and with the experiments," he says. "With Pia and Luke as archons, the students will have someone they can talk to 24 hours a day."

Santa Fe Dean Stephen Van Luchene brought up the idea at a meeting in Annapolis where he described the role of the lab archons in Santa Fe. Annapolis tutor Anita Kronsberg notes that "the lab programs are different and administered differently so we can't do something identical. But we thought we'd use what they were doing as a point of departure."

Although Kronsberg is already pleased with the quality of the lab program, she sees clear advantages to the internship. "The more we can get the lab assistants working together, the more they're likely to infuse the labs with an even greater enthusiasm." Kronsberg particularly likes the idea of students being able to talk to other students when they run into difficult lab readings, as they do regularly in their other classes. "It makes them aware that they can do something when they get confused, something that's not tutor-dependent. Students prefer to figure things out among themselves. They do not like to rely too much on their tutors," she points out.

Dean Eva Brann has high hopes for the program. "We will now have an extra layer of help for everyone—tutors as well as students," she says. ■

MC DOWELL PRINT AVAILABLE



Annapolis alumni have fond memories of McDowell Hall. Seminars, waltz parties, the coffee shop, the Dean's Office (pre-1989)—these and other memories mark the days spent in and around this lovely old building.

To help alumni remember their time at St. John's, Bruce Preston, A65, a Washington, D.C., architect, has produced a black and white drawing of McDowell Hall. The 11 by 17-inch print is matted and ready for framing. For a limited time, this drawing is

being offered to St. John's alumni for \$25. All profits from the sale of the print will be donated to The Campaign for Our Fourth Century.

The print can be ordered by mail (add \$3.00 for postage) from: Advancement Office, St. John's College, Box 2800, Annapolis, MD 21404.

—submitted by Grace (Logerfo) Bateman, Jessica (Hoffmann) Davis, and Jethro (Mark) Eisenstein, class of 1965 ■

JAZZ ECHOES IN THE HALL

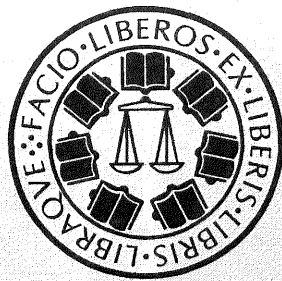
Thanks to alumnus Michael MacDonald, SF76, Grammy-nominated pianist Fred Hersch was on the Santa Fe campus recently in a solo performance benefitting St. John's College. A Grammy award-winning sound engineer himself, MacDonald sponsored the event as a gift to the college. More than 200 students, faculty and local residents attended the stellar performance in the Great Hall. Hersch also gave a smaller, private performance to honor benefactors of the college. ■



FALL 1995

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

MARK MIDDLEBROOK, A83, EDITOR



ALUMNI

ASSOCIATION NEWS

THOMAS GEYER, A68,
COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

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.

AUSTIN RENEGADES GET "SIVILIZED," CONSENT TO REAL CHAPTER-HOOD

by Larry Davis,
SGI87

Austin Chapter Vice President

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

The Austin chapter had its unofficial beginning in December 1989 with a reading of *Those Who Walk Away from Omelas*, a short story about a utopia except for one small detail. Among those in attendance was Jill Wilkinson, benefactor of several Austin area alumni and a former member of the Board of Visitors and Governors. This unofficial group continued for about two years, meeting at the homes of members for seminars, with the reading selected and the discussion led by the host. The "founding mother" of this unchartered group was Bev Angel, SGI89, advised and assisted by Larry Davis, SGI87. Impetus for becoming an official, chartered chapter was provided by Paul Martin, SF80, upon his arrival from New York, where he had been the chapter Vice President, and by Joe Reynolds, SF69, of Austin. (It seems that Yankees are always coming down to Texas and instigating something.)

The Austin chapter was chartered

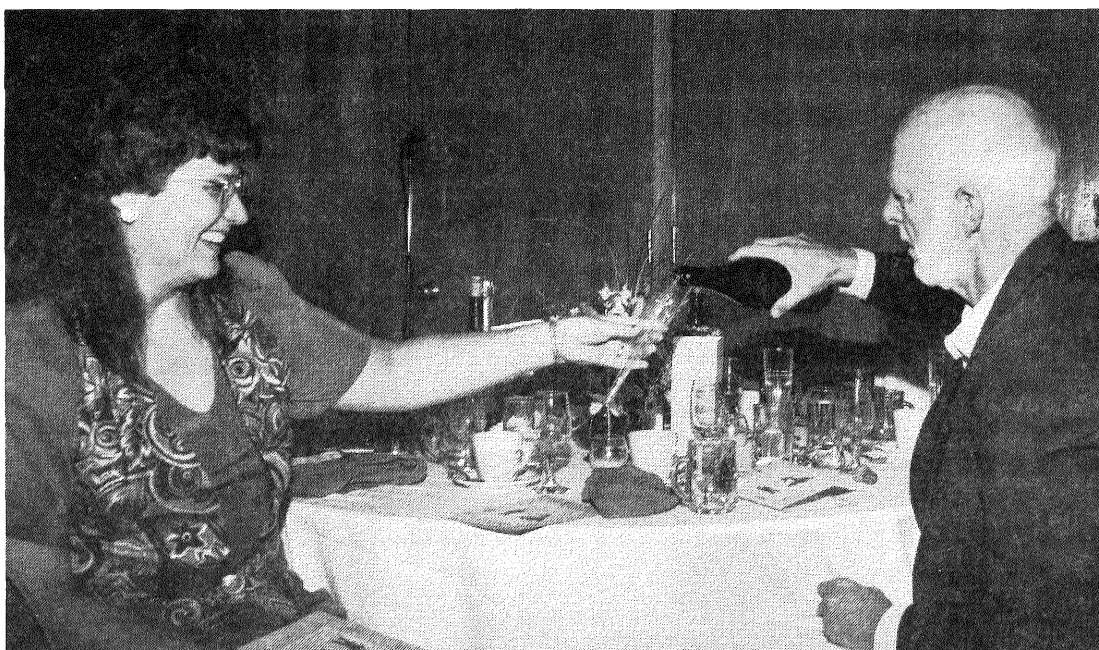
in July 1991 at a gala affair at the Hyatt featuring a reading of Euripedes's *Iphigenia at Aulis* led by Santa Fe tutor and native Texan (very important) Tim Miller. The first officers were President Bev Angel (currently the Secretary of the Alumni Association Board), Vice President Joe Reynolds, and Secretary-Treasurer Larry Davis. The above individuals, plus Paul Martin, have held almost all of the officer positions of the chapter since its chartering. This cabal is not intended to be a de facto self-perpetuating "board": We hope (and pray!) that other chapter members will step forward and serve as officers.

The chapter's primary, indeed almost exclusive, activities have been monthly seminars which, in view of the relatively small size of the chapter, have been well attended. The discussions are almost always quite good. Exceptions were those readings involving the arts. We encourage non-alumni to attend our seminars, and there are usually several such "friends", as we call them (as opposed to, say, bubbas), in attendance. Our readings are selected by

meeting. The tutor visits are always very well attended, and we would invite tutors more often if the college would financially support more visits. We have always had a pot-luck dinner in conjunction with tutor visits. The dinners seem to promote a convivial atmosphere.

The chapter decided to try having our monthly seminar meetings on a given date of each month (the 13th, for good luck) instead of, say, the third Thursday. This arrangement allows everyone the opportunity to make most of the meetings. Since the day of the week will vary from month to month, no one is precluded from attending every meeting because of another obligation on that particular day of the week.

A number of our members are graduate students at The University of Texas (Hook 'em Horns! [editor's translation: "We hope fervently that our heavily-padded Neanderthals are able to triumph over your heavily-padded Neanderthals in contests employing an inflated ellipsoidal porcine hide"]), and we have had a difficult time getting them to forego their studies for the



Beverly Angel, SGI89, and Douglas Gosnell, SGI89, pour a toast at the Alumni Homecoming Dinner in Santa Fe.

more important activity of chapter meetings. St. John's seems to have instilled in them some sort of study habits. What is the world coming to?!

ALUMNI ADD INCLUSION CLAUSE TO ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS

Peterson Hall's Senior Common Room in Santa Fe was bursting at the doorways for this year's Alumni Association Annual Meeting, which was held on July 22nd during Homecoming. No doubt most alumni came to hear the heart-full, joyous, and often humorous encomia to tutors David Jones and Michael Ossorgin.

Nonetheless, there was also business to be transacted, which the numerous alumni present dispatched expeditiously. Three amendments to the Alumni Association By-Laws passed unanimously, including the addition of a clause expressing inclusiveness in Association membership. Article II, Membership, Section I, Regular Members originally read:

"All who have ever been alumni shall continue to be."

To this life sentence without appeal was added:

"The Association is inclusive of all alumni and does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, sexual orientation, age, national or ethnic origin, or against the handicapped."

ON-LINE ALUMNI MAKE A HOME ON THE WEB

The band of intrepid alumni who first forged a path through the Internet thicket is at it again. Previous issues of the Alumni Newsletter described the Internet alumni discussion group, which has been going strong for the past year and a half thanks to the Internet mailing list established by Rich Green, SF87. In August, members of the on-line discussion group, led by Bill Fant, A79, and Mr. Green, reaffirmed their technological cachet by establishing a home page on the World-Wide Web.

For those whose knowledge of the World-Wide Web derives from either the sputterings of prim Senators or the adulation of techno-fetishists,

here's a more moderate précis. The Internet is a vast network of computer networks, through which people with computers and modems exchange e-mail messages and files and search for information. The Internet's immensity is both a blessing and a curse: The resources are endless, but so is the time you can waste typing cryptic UNIX commands while trying to locate something of value. The World-Wide Web has evolved as a more civilized means of organizing and navigating data on the Internet.

The Web is organized as a huge number of home pages, which are akin to electronic greeting rooms. Schools, businesses, government institutions, and individuals create home pages on computers called Web servers, which are spread around the globe. Home pages (and everything else on the Web) employ a graphical user interface, whereby plain text is dressed up with different fonts and pictures, and your mouse clicks serve to maneuver within and among Web pages. "Behind" home page are usually other, more detailed offerings, just as a greeting room offers access to rooms for other functions. You walk (or crawl, depending on the speed of your modem) to these other rooms by picking highlighted words with your mouse.

The most interesting characteristic of the Web is that the links to other pages aren't limited to a single Web server. Those who create web pages can include highlighted words that cause you to "jump" to other home pages on other servers anywhere on the Internet. For example, the Santa Fe campus' Web pages include a "hypertexted reading list" organized by year. Picking James Joyce's "The Dead" connects you to a server across the pond and transfers the text of the story to your computer, whence you might search for all occurrences of the word "snow". Whether doing so would result in better senior seminars or essays is another question.

Of course one must start all this aimless exploration somewhere. Every home page has an address, which Internet-savvy folks call its URL, or uni-

form resource locator. URLs are perplexing aggregations of letters, slashes, and other symbols, and as with e-mail addresses, you must type everything accurately in order to accomplish anything. Before you can mis-type anything, though, you'll need a connection to the Internet that supports World-Wide Web access, plus a piece of communications software called a Web browser. Both of these necessities can be had from commercial Internet service providers or from traditional on-line services like CompuServe and America On-line.

The URL for the unofficial alumni home page is:
<http://www.leland.stanford.edu/~redcloud/johnny.html>



Ted Skinner addresses the Alumni Association in honor of David Jones.

and it currently includes:

- + An on-line directory of alumni who ask to be listed. You can find e-mail and "real" addresses for some alumni, send e-mail directly to listed alumni, and connect to the home pages of alumni who have them.
- + A Transcript of Santa Fe Dean Steve Van Luchene's controversial

October 1994 "Statement of Educational Policy and Program" (introductory paragraphs of which were published in the Spring 1995 Reporter).

- + Connections to the official home pages for both campuses (<http://sjc.stjohns-nm.edu/> for Santa Fe and <http://www.sjca.edu/> for Annapolis).

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: Joe Reynolds (512) 867-8461

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

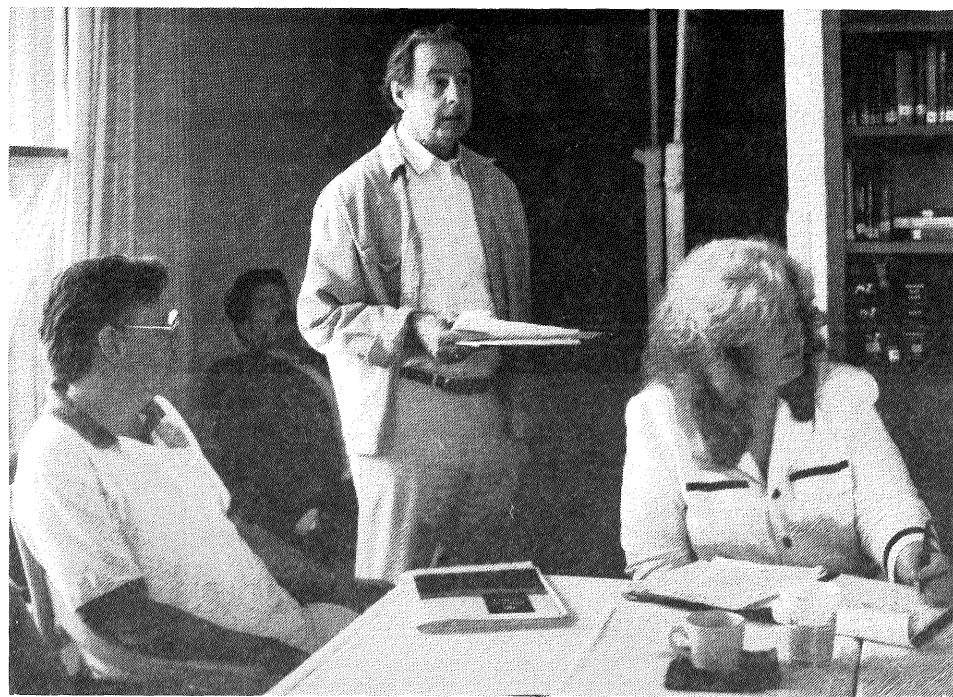
SAN FRANCISCO/NORTHERN CALIFORNIA: Cynthia Kay Catherine Hobgood (415) 552-9349

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 ASSOCIATION NEWS...



Warren Winiarski, AS2, Chairman of the Alumni Division of The Campaign for Our Fourth Century, addresses the Alumni Association in Santa Fe.

+ Some drolleries that will elicit either laughter or groans, depending on your mood and what you're paying for Internet connect time.

+ Information about the alumni Internet mailing list discussion group and how to participate in it.

Like the alumni mailing list discussion group, the unofficial alumni home page is an independent creation of individual alumni. It was dubbed "unofficial" in order to distinguish it from the College's Web home pages and from a possible future home page for the Alumni Association.

EX LIBRIS ALUMNORUM CAPSULE REVIEWS BY ALUMNI OF FAVORITE BOOKS

"Law One of the Discriminating Reader: 'Devour everything you can swallow with relish, indiscriminately. Test texts as I recommended before, but give everything a try.'"

- Annapolis Dean Eva Brann, in her 1991 lecture "What is a Book?" (published on pp. 75 ff. in Volume XII, number one, of The St. John's Review)

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

The Gift of Stones, by Jim Crace 1988, Collier Books. 170 pages. Submitted by Mark Middlebrook, A83.

This sculpted story positively radiates through its simple but shapely prose. A village of stoneworkers labors smugly as their way of life begins to crumble from the intrusion of the Bronze Age. One among them

sees and tells the truth, a man who lacks one lower arm. Unable to work stone, he takes on the craft of storytelling and feeds it with wanderlust. His tales create laughter but also foreboding in the villagers, who, like us, are made to confront love and work and "the slavery of skill."

Louis Armstrong: Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man, 1923-1934, 1994, Columbia/Legacy. 4 CD's and a 77 page booklet. Submitted by Mark Middlebrook, A83

OK, so this one isn't exactly a *liber* and the title is pretentiously hoky. Nonetheless, it's a superb collection of early Louis Armstrong, from his days with King Oliver's Creole Jazz Band to his own Hot Five and Hot Seven. Many of Armstrong's later recordings muted his raw power with big bands and lush arrangements, but not these early cuts. Among the many highlights are two versions of "St. Louis Blues": a stately, bluesy 1925 recording with Armstrong on cornet accompanying Bessie Smith, and a 1929 rollicking rhumba version on which Armstrong's smoking trumpet is supported by his 10 piece orchestra.

TRAVEL PROGRAM TO DISCOVER TWAIN'S MISSISSIPPI

"Persons attempting to find a motive in this narrative will be prosecuted; persons attempting to find a moral in it will be banished; persons attempting to find a plot in it will be shot."

So goes Mark Twain's famous warning to those who read *Huckleberry Finn*. Travelers interested in the St. John's Travel Program's second voyage—down the Mississippi River from Memphis to New Orleans aboard the "American Queen"—will have to disregard Twain's words. Reading and discussion on the cruise, led by St. John's president Christopher Nelson, will focus on *Huckleberry Finn*.

Dates for the trip are March 1-

7, 1996. All alumni and friends of St. John's are invited to participate in the travel program. The "American Queen" is a replica steam-powered paddlewheeler, the largest in the world. The ship is outfitted in the elegant style of old, but is modern in all creature comforts (including elevators, an athletic club, a swimming pool, a movie theater, a library, and a sun deck).

The river journey will include ports of call to Francisville's Rosedown Plantation, Natchez, Vicksburg, and Magnolia Mound, a working plantation in Baton Rouge.

Annapolis Travel Service is serving as the agent for the trip and will make arrangements for air trans-

portation at competitive rates. They will also help with arrangements in Memphis and New Orleans for travelers wishing to extend either the beginning or the end of the trip.

For information on the cruise "Discover Mark Twain's America" contact Pamela McKee in the Annapolis Advancement Office at 410-626-2506.

RECORDS CONT. FROM PAGE 13 years in the making. There are more than 14,000 alumni to date."

Last summer, the efforts of the summit began to pay off. Darien Large, SF95, and Luke Trares, A97, worked tirelessly to reconcile records on both campuses.

"Thanks to Bill Tilles, Betsy Blume, Chris Denny, Kim Kern, and several others, we really are about to complete this project," Mr. Giacona said. "And, we've already begun seeing positive results."

The last phase, currently under-

way, involves developing an electronic method of automatically importing and exporting alumni information between the campuses.

"One benefit of this project is that the data going into the next alumni register is going to be as clean as it can be from our data," Mr. Giacona said.

"I'd also just like to apologize to the alums for the unacceptable level of inaccurate and inconsistent information on our databases in the past. We're really trying to correct that in the future. Bear with us as we work out the wrinkles."

CONTACT THE ALUMNI OFFICE BY E-MAIL!

SANTA FE
alumni@mail.sjcsf.edu

ANNAPOLIS
74637.2660@compuserve.com

ALUMNI NOTES...

1937

The Reverend Dr. Harold A. Milstead (A) writes that he is finishing 55 years as a pastor under the uninterrupted appointment of the bishop. He is living in Indian Head, MD.

1950

Jack Ladd Carr (A) was interviewed on National Public Radio's "All Things Considered." The occasion for the interview was the 50th anniversary of the Japanese surrender marking the end of World War II. Mr. Carr discussed how the G.I. Bill enabled him to attend St. John's — The first in his family to go to college. He told Linda Wertheimer: "Many people were going off to trade schools and getting degrees so that they could get on with their lives. I did the impossible thing - went to this college that taught the great books."

1972

The Baltimore Salon of Leslie Starr (A) and her husband, Joe Turner, was the scene in August of an informal get-together. Traditional refreshments were served. Present were Ezra Harris (A), currently residing in Jerusalem, Israel; David and Susan Kiralis Shipman (A) of China, ME.; their daughter, Johanna, a freshman at Barnard College; their son, Ezra, of Madison, N.H., his wife, Leigh Le Clair, and their one-year-old son, Jacob. News of the past 25 years was exchanged and pleasant memories revisited. The reunion theme continued as the Shipmans went on to spend a week with McKee and Ilene Pregler Lee (A) and their daughter, Mollie, a freshman at Simon's Rock College, and friends from many years in Chapel Hill, N.C.

1976

Judith Paine Harris (SF) and her five children are "having a home schooling experience" and live in Bloomfield, New Mexico, according to William B. Malloy, SF 77, who learned about her from her sister Nun Susanna (Joan Paine, SF73).

1977

William B. Malloy (SF) writes: "I have recently resolved to write a half serious-half comedic memoir of my four years as a friar in the '60s. (I flew the coop the weekend of Woodstock; but no, I did not attend.) The working title is 'The House of Perfect Observance,' and it will delve into both the ideals and imperfections of such a house. This combines both my interest and my recognized talent, since as Don Cook once put it at the beginning of a fourth year seminar, 'I direct this question to our resident expert on Original Sin.' Any publishers reading this?"

Susan Otto (SF) was one of the federal public defenders assigned to Oklahoma City bombing suspect Timothy McVeigh, but she was removed from the case.

Miriam Marcus-Smith (SF) writes: "After three years of combining graduate school, family and work, I'm pleased to report that on June 10, I received my Master of Health Administration degree from the University of Washington. However, I couldn't bear to leave the UW, so I'm staying on for at least the next two years as a research coordinator (a.k.a. project manager) for a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation-funded grant looking at the behavioral and utilization effects of physician compensation methods. By the way, it is a small world: Last fall I was surprised to see a SJC diploma on the wall in our program office and learned that it belongs to Tatiana Masters (a much more recent alumna than me [SF90]), who works in the International Health Program in the Department of Health Services.

"My kids are now 7 and 5, both growing and developing fast, so we're getting more into activities like soccer and swimming. Our home address and phone haven't changed from 21906 3rd Dr. SE, Bothell, WA 98021; 206-486-0572. My new work phone is 206-616-4922."

1978

Dr. Peter Faulhaber (SF) reports that he was married to Lynne Jaskulek last year, and that they now have a son, Justin, born in April. After finishing his residency (the last

year as chief resident) at University Hospitals of Cleveland-Case Western Reserve, Peter is now a Fellow in Nuclear Medicine at Case Western.

1980

Didi Schancke (A) has moved back to the U.S. after eight years in Africa and the Middle East, where she worked as a reporter. She is married, has two daughters, and is living in southern Maryland.

1981

According to William Malloy (SF77), Margaret Krebe Jespersen (SF) owns and operates a wilderness outfitting and guide business called South Mountain Tours, in Edgewood, N.M.

Daniel Van Doren (A) has a son, Benjamin, who is 15 months old.

Elizabeth Bowser (A) is currently serving as the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Watsonstown, Pennsylvania. Elizabeth went on from St. John's to earn a Master of Divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary and served as an ordained pastor in two Presbyterian churches in the Philadelphia area prior to coming to her current parish in central Pennsylvania. She is married to Eric Affsprung, a psychologist at Bucknell University. They have two sons, Joseph (age 3) and Daniel (age 1). Her address is 220 S. 15th St., Lewisburg, PA 17837.

1984

Melissa (Kullberg) Ryan (SF) and Michael Ryan (SF86) had a baby girl: Chloe Elise Ryan on July 24.

1985

Kelly Cowling (SF) has just finished her master's degree in nurse-midwifery at the University of Texas Medical Branch and passed the national certifying exam in nurse-midwifery.

"I expect to defend my dissertation on the connection between aesthetics and morality in Kant in August," writes Jeffrey L. Wilson (A). "In September I begin as assistant professor of philosophy at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. Ancient philosophy, ethics, aes-

thetics, and German philosophy are among my responsibilities there. I occasionally write book reviews (in German) for the Philosophischer Literaturanzeiger, published in Aachen. During the past nine months, I've had the pleasure several times of attending, leading, or hosting alumni seminars in the L.A. area."

1986

Al Haffa (A) has received a Newcombe Fellowship for work on his Ph.D. dissertation at the University of Wisconsin in the departments of classics and comparative literature. His proposed dissertation title is "The Poetics of Supplication in Homer, Virgil, and Tasso."

John Newell (A) writes with some good news: Last summer the status of his health was upgraded to 'cured' with respect to the rather advanced cancer he had developed (*Si mori hunc vis, tibi hic necandus est!*). He is currently working towards a Ph.D. in ancient Greek and Roman literature, philosophy, and science through the classics department at the University of Pittsburgh (*Cum doctus sit titulus, tamen homo erit, etiam, ignarus*). Lastly, he is engaged (*Omnes, praeter unam, nubiles laxatae et gaudentes expirant!*) though a date has not yet been set. For translations of the Latin here, or for other reasons, you may contact him by e-mail at JFNST4@PITT.EDU or at the address given in the register.

1988

Scott Vineberg (A) was married to Lisa Bush in 1989; they have two children, Grace, who is 4, and Kalli, who is 2.

Jean Campbell (A) will be starting chiropractic school in the fall.

Spyros Ritsinias (A) earned his law degree from George Mason University and is now in private practice.

Kim Wistrand LaFave (A) graduated from George Mason University this year in English. With husband Greg, she has a daughter Emily, 4, and two stepsons, 10 and 12.

Dariusz and Lisa Liske-Doorandish (88 and 90, A) report that they have a daughter, Miriam, born on July 4, 1994.

ALUMNI NOTES...

1989

Sara Wetherson (A) has finished her master's thesis and now has an MA in women's studies and public policy from George Washington University. She's looking for a job.

Susan Petrone (A) will begin work on an M.A. in English with a concentration in creative writing at Cleveland State University in the fall. She returned to the U.S. in 1994 after working in the Netherlands for two years. "Among the things I brought home was a dutch husband, Jan-Arend Bult," she writes. "I realize now how small a city Cleveland really is, because I keep running into Marty Gelfand, A89."

1990

"My new position beginning in mid-June is assistant director of Post-graduate and Continuing Education at Northwestern College of Chiropractic in Minneapolis," reports **Kelly Koepke (SF)**. "It is nice to be going back to academia and to start applying what I have been learning in my MBA program at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul. If any alums find themselves in the Twin Cities, look me up!"

Liz Mogford (SF) is in the Peace Corps in Cameroon (Africa). She is working at a post in Meme, a village near Mora in Extreme North Cameroon. Much of her work has focused on the funding and completion of a hospital in Meme.

Her father, **James Mogford**, writes: "The building had remained unfinished—no roof, no floor, incomplete interior, open to the elements...—for quite some time. Unfinished projects are common because graft and thievery will often exhaust the funds while workers use paid-for time and materials for their own purposes. Liz was aware of such practices so she controlled money, materials and workers very carefully—a ticklish task because it had to be done without subverting local authority, without upsetting traditions, and without creating resentment among those involved.

"During the last week of May the

completed hospital was dedicated. Liz said that the dedication turned out to be much more elaborate than she had anticipated: attendance comprised Chiefs, local Governors, various officials and dignitaries, and many appreciative people; there were numerous speeches including one delivered in French (in the village she uses Mandara and Fufuldi); the celebration lasted more than one day—it was a big deal! The surprise came at the end when the actual dedication occurred and the hospital was named after Liz—Hospital Liz Mogford. I can't speak for Liz, but I can say that I was thrilled that she was so honored."

Liz's term in the Peace Corp will end in December and she has no firm plans yet. In the meantime, she welcomes correspondence at the following address: Liz Mogford, Centre de Sante de Meme, B.P. 15, Mora, L'Extreme Nord, Cameroun, Africa.

Michelle Baker (SF) recently had a month-long exhibit of black and white photographs at the Open Eye Gallery on Orcas Island, East Sound, Washington.

1991

Jeanen McAmis (A) writes that she has finally discovered her true vocation: "lounging in a hammock sipping coconut milk by the sea. Of course, this entails teaching English, which I've found I really love and have some talent for—plus it enables me to travel—a nice combination if you have to work for a living. I finished my coursework for a master's in teaching English as a second/foreign language at the School for International Training in Vermont (cold!), did a couple of internships teaching adults and kids in Costa Rica (paradise) and Mexico (hot and dusty). Now I'm writing my thesis and living with my sister in Knoxville, Tennessee (none too exotic). Next year probably Japan to pay off all these student loans, then who knows? As one of my ESL students put it, "The world is my clam!" Jeanen would like to hear from fellow Johnnies as well as alumni involved with ESL past/present. She's at 202 Twelfth St., #27, Knoxville, TN 37916.

Ramona Denk (A) will be traveling to Davao City in the Philippines to start a birth center that will provide maternity care to poor women.

Teddi Ann Galligan (SFGI/AGI) and **David Diggs (AGI)** married on September 1 in Washington, D.C. They are living and learning in Haiti. Their address is c/o Lynx Air, P.O. Box 407139, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33340.

Lake Perriguet (SF), formerly known as James Perriguet, began his legal studies at Northwestern School of Law of Lewis and Clark College this fall. He may be reached at: 2210 N.W. Everett #115 Portland, OR 97210-5510; 503-224-2429.

1992

Jim Michel (SF) and **Jenna Palmer (SF93)** were married in August in San Francisco. Jim is a third year law student at Golden Gate University and worked this summer with the San Francisco public defender. Jenna will begin a master's program in English literature at S.F. State in the fall. Their address is 1591 Page St. #302, San Francisco, CA 94117. Jmichel@ggu.edu.

C. William Cox (A) writes that he is now married to Deena A. Kuchinsky of Yorktown Heights, NY. After leaving St. John's, he attended Hampden-Sydney College in Virginia, then transferred to Fordham University. He is currently employed as a typesetter/graphic designer/pre-press person/troubleshooter at Alphagraphics in Greenwich, Connecticut. He'd like to hear from friends, and notes that e-mail virtually guarantees a response. stronghelm@aol.com.

Michael Zinanti (SF) and **Susan Svetich (SF92)** were married September 1 in Denver, Colorado.

1993

"I am home after two short years on Palan, a small island in the Pacific, where I taught at a local Catholic high school," writes **William J. McMahon (A)**. "I plan to be in the Chicago area for the next year and would love to hear from anyone."

A sprightly notice arrived in the *Reporter's* box announcing the marriage of **Julie R. Girone (A)** and **Eric Marc Martin** in August at the Brooklyn Botanical Gardens.

1994

Phoebe Merrin (SF) recently completed her master's degree in library science at Simmons College in Boston. She currently is looking for reference work in an academic library, preferably in the west. Her address is 234 Owl Creek Road, Boulder, Colorado 80302. ■

TO PARIS CONT. FROM PAGE 3 buildings. After riding through countryside for three and a half days, I found myself in Friday lunch-time traffic. Once I smelled the finish line, I sprinted the last several miles, running red lights and weaving in and out of traffic, doing some of my best 'traffic jamming,' as they say in bike riding parlance, as I sped to the finish line. We finished at the Gymnasium of the Rights of Man. A crowd of hundreds cheered as we crossed the line. It was hard to believe that I'd done it, it was over: Two years of training and preparation were now finished."

Finished is a key word for both Pickens and Bishop. Neither plans to ride the Randonnee again. "I love bicycling, and will continue to use it as part of my fitness regimen and to tour. Travelling by bicycle is the best way to see the country. But what I've learned from endurance racing is that the best distance is no more than 75 miles a day. That's the maximum humane amount of bicycling," says Pickens.

Bishop's finish was even more final. He plans to give up cycling entirely. "It was not about biking for me, it was about the challenge. I enjoyed biking but it could never come close to being as memorable and as pleasurable as the conclusion of this race. Therefore, I guess I'll quit while I'm on top."

Bishop does, however, have plans for a new challenge: "Once the feeling returns to my fingers which are still numb from the race I will start taking piano lessons," he says. But how will he top his bicycling accomplishments? Will he aim to play Carnegie Hall? "Probably not Carnegie Hall," he says. "I'll be happy with the lounge at the Holiday Inn on the Pennsylvania Turnpike." ■

A JOURNEY OF LIGHT

BY LIZ SKEWES

After more than 25 years of working as a lighting specialist in films and more than a decade of being at the top of the industry — working on movies that include “Unforgiven”, “French Kiss” and the currently running “Dangerous Minds”, starring Michele Pfeiffer — Tom Stern, SF69, says the key for him still is “the issue of trying to get to the first principles, which is one of the main points of the St. John’s experience.”

It’s an experience that led him from building houses in Santa Fe to graduate school at Stanford University to working on documentary films and, eventually, to lighting major feature films.

“I’ve always been rather mechanically inclined,” Stern says. His first introduction into film work came shortly after graduation when one of his classmates, Kirk Cheyfitz, was working on a shoestring documentary on New Mexico’s land ownership.

“He was intrigued with the idea that if all the land in 1800 was owned by the Hispanics, how come it wasn’t anymore. I helped out on the project along with a few other people.”

From there, Stern made his way into the graduate program in communications at Stanford. He worked as a teaching assistant and a residence assistant, but says he still wasn’t planning on a film career. “There weren’t a whole lot of people who were planning much of anything in the ’60s,” he says.

Still, the master’s degree from Stanford and his thesis project on neonatal care and premature babies put Stern in contact with a number of doctors who then hired him to make medical documentaries about devices they were developing and new surgical techniques. It meant spending a lot of time in operating rooms and finessing the surgical nurses to avoid having to sterilize every last lens cap that might find its way near the operating room.

“Then I branched out into technical films. It was where the money was, plus

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TILTING AT THE WINDMILLS OF ACADEMIA

BY SUSAN BORDEN

Annapolis tutor Henry Higuera’s book, *Eros and Empire*, was published this summer, but Higuera is only marginally excited. Higuera completed the book, his doctoral dissertation for the University of Toronto’s department of political philosophy, in 1982. What happened in the intervening thirteen years tells a story about academic publishing and the ins and outs of scholarship’s fashions.

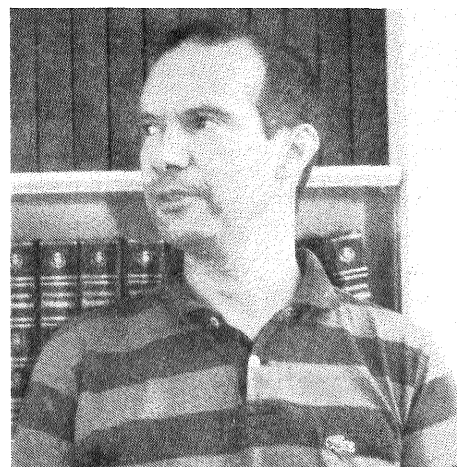
“Don’t do it.” That was the advice for which Henry Higuera self-mockingly thanks Clifford Orwin, a professor at the University of Toronto, in the preface to *Eros and Empire*. Orwin offered this advice in 1977 when Higuera decided to write his political science dissertation on Cervantes’ *Don Quixote*. When Higuera asked him to elaborate on his suggestion, Orwin did not mince words. “If you write on *Don Quixote* you will be forever branded as the worst kind of Straussian obscurantist. And you’ll never, ever get a job,” he said.

Though Higuera was disturbed by Orwin’s prediction, his teacher and mentor, Allan Bloom, encouraged him to disregard the advice and write his dissertation, a political reading of *Don Quixote*. Higuera was a student of Bloom’s (author of *The Closing of the American Mind* and student of Leo Strauss, a guest lecturer and close friend of St. John’s) when Bloom was teaching at the University of Toronto. When Bloom began teaching at the University of Chicago in 1979, Higuera chose an advisor from Toronto, but Bloom remained his teacher in the truest sense.

In his dissertation, Higuera traced the notion of love of God from the *Symposium*, through the neo-Platonists, St. Augustine, Thomas Aquinas (via Aristotle), Dante, and the Spanish mystics, using sexual love as a way to understand what love of God means. He explored the schools of thought of Cervantes’ con-

temporaries on the function of natural law and its relationship to Christianity, and focused on the question of whether the *Bible* alone, or the *Bible* as understood through the traditions of scholasticism, justified the political structures in effect at the time.

Higuera argued that Cervantes, through *Don Quixote*, “tries to grapple with what is great and what is insane about Spanish imperialism. More dif-



Annapolis tutor, Henry Higuera

ficult yet, he grapples with the complicated religion that helped inspire and justify that imperialism. In so doing he delves very deeply indeed: Eventually the novel explores issues crucial to Christian love, to any religion that tries to cope with politics, and to revealed religion as such.”

Although Higuera’s work was well received by his committee, his subject matter and approach made publication difficult. When publishers sent out his manuscript for peer review, it kept hitting the same walls.

“Political theorists were not interested in a political interpretation of *Don Quixote* because no one thought it was about politics. Hispanists hated it because it portrays Cervantes as writing a critique of Christianity,” Higuera explains. “People weren’t interested in imperialism, in Spain, in Roman Catholicism—they think those are all dead issues.”

Finally, Higuera cites resistance

to the Straussian notion of esoteric interpretation, the idea that an author will imbue a message in a text intended for a perceptive few, and contrary to its surface meaning. Higuera’s suggestion that Cervantes wrote *Don Quixote* as a critique of Christianity and the Spanish empire at the height of the Spanish Inquisition demands some notion of hidden meanings. Higuera was not the first to come to this conclusion. “*Don Quixote* has a long tradition of esoteric interpretations, because the book is so crazy, it makes no sense, it’s so obviously enigmatic, it’s such a puzzle. Unfortunately all those interpretations were written by total nuts, the worst kind of obscurantists, although not Straussians,” he says.

Not only was Higuera’s book not published, but Orwin’s prophecy about not finding a job almost came true. “I had trouble getting jobs at political science departments. I remember vividly a couple of interviews where I’d give my presentation and people would say ‘Well, what’s this got to do with politics?’”

“Finally Bloom told me about St. John’s. All the turf wars and disciplinary narrowness that made political scientists think I was a nut didn’t bother St. John’s at all.”

In his first years at St. John’s, Higuera rewrote his dissertation, with a view to making it more appealing to publishers. “I really did try to pitch it to literary critics,” he says. “Every chapter started out with a little summary of what Professor X and Critic Y thought on this topic, and then I would develop my point in contrast to them.”

Even with this rewrite, Higuera says, literary critics hated it. A comment from one finally persuaded him to abandon his quest for publication. “He said that the shoddiness of my scholarship was revealed glaringly by the fact that I hadn’t read this Italian guy from the 1500s who I have never heard of. I thought to myself: Not

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STERN CONT. FROM PAGE 20

I really have an interest in scientific things," Stern says. His early projects were films with \$5,000 budgets, but since then he's worked on films with budgets of more than \$60 million. Despite the big budgets, though, Stern has avoided the infighting that sometimes characterizes Hollywood sets.

"I made a very conscious choice to specialize in lighting," Stern says. "It leaves you out of the political path. In film, you often get judged by very subjective criteria. The area I chose is more objective. It's simply a matter of how good it looks. I enjoy working in film because it's a good blend of the mechanical stuff and the creative aspects of a project."

More recently, though, Stern has started looking outside of film and is working on developing his own businesses, which specialize in developing lighting equipment and lighting techniques. The time on a film, he says, means too much time away from his four children—ages 12, 11 and 6-year-old twin sons. "I just missed a lot of birthdays and back to school nights," he says.

The career in film also has seemed at odds, sometimes, with Stern's own lifestyle choices. He only recently

installed cable at his home—and then only so his girlfriend, a French native, could watch the news from Paris. "I'm like a vegetarian working at a hotdog factory," he says. "A huge problem that confronts me sometimes is the inexorable shift from participation to spectatorship in our culture. If you go back in time to the morality plays in the 1500s, there was a lot more participation by the audience. I think as a result of that shift, there's sort of a glamour attached to film that's a little unsettling to me personally."

But it's also been a lot of fun sometimes. His skill and talent with lighting has enabled him to work on films such as "Reynaldo and Clara" with Bob Dylan and "Bird," which starred Forrest Whitaker and was directed by Clint Eastwood. "That was probably the best work I've done," Stern says.

Apparently Eastwood also liked his work. Stern became part of a small group of about seven people who worked with Eastwood on several projects including "Unforgiven" which won an Oscar for best film.

Despite the closeness of the group and the collaborative environment, Stern has found himself moving away

from film and into the more scientific aspects of lighting. It's a path that's taking him back to some of tenets he learned at St. John's.

"The hardest thing I found is learning to exercise restraint," he says. "I could say that's universally true—not just with lighting. What we're doing when we're lighting for a film is constantly flipping all the way around, unlike in the theater where they're only lighting the stage. It brings me back to Euclid, Newton and the pool table in the commons room—one really needs to understand the geometry of that stuff to be able to do this. You need to understand the inverse square law to see the way light falls off over a distance and to know Newton's law about the angle of incidence being equal to the angle of reflection."

In his venture with the business and art of lighting, through his two companies—Sequoia Illumination in California and Mirage Illumination in Canada—Stern hopes to move into producing and "realizing interesting literary work into film. I'm an avid reader and I've got scads of stuff that would provide for engaging, interesting and challenging stories." ■

ACADEMIA CONT. FROM PAGE 20

only have I never read him, I've never heard of him, and I never want to read him. If that's what it's going to take to get this book published, I give up."

Higuera's book spent five years in a corner of his office; he gave his full attention to teaching at St. John's. He received tenure in 1989. In the meantime, changing fashions in the world of scholarship were quietly making the academic world more receptive to his book.

"There were always little stirrings, not so much in mainstream political science or among Hispanics, but in academic nooks and crannies; there was always some interest in political readings of novels," Higuera explains. "Two years ago it got really big partly because of University of Virginia professor Richard Rorty—a MacArthur fellow, a certified genius. During his MacArthur year he wrote

a long interpretation of *Lolita* as a bedrock of liberalism."

Without realizing the effect Rorty's work would have on his dissertation's acceptability, Higuera agreed to speak about *Don Quixote* as part of a panel on politics and literature in memory of Allan Bloom (who had died in October 1992) at the 1993 American Political Science Association Convention in Washington, D.C. Higuera's panel drew an overflow crowd.

His fellow panelists told him his topic was "really hot." They suggested he send his book to Rowman & Littlefield, a Maryland press that has published books by St. John's Dean Eva Brann and tutor Mera Flaumenhaft.

Before accepting his work, Rowman & Littlefield sent it to two political scientists, one of whom commented on the introductions Higuera had so tediously crafted to

please literary theorists. "All of this obsequiousness, it's so boring," he wrote. "Every single chapter starts with a bunch of points that turn out to be utterly wrong. Higuera just doesn't agree with any of them. It's so mealy-mouthed. Couldn't you get him to cut out all this stuff?"

Higuera cheerfully removed the offending passages as he prepared the manuscript for publication.

In the end, Higuera's approach to *Don Quixote*, which made it so hard for him to find a job in a political science department, paid off. So did his long road to publishing. Joining the St. John's community has enabled him to teach and learn in a satisfying way. "If I'd been somewhere else all this time, I certainly would have published more. But it would have been written in a hurry, sort of cooked up. *Eros and Empire*, at least, was not cooked up. I really believe in it," he says. ■

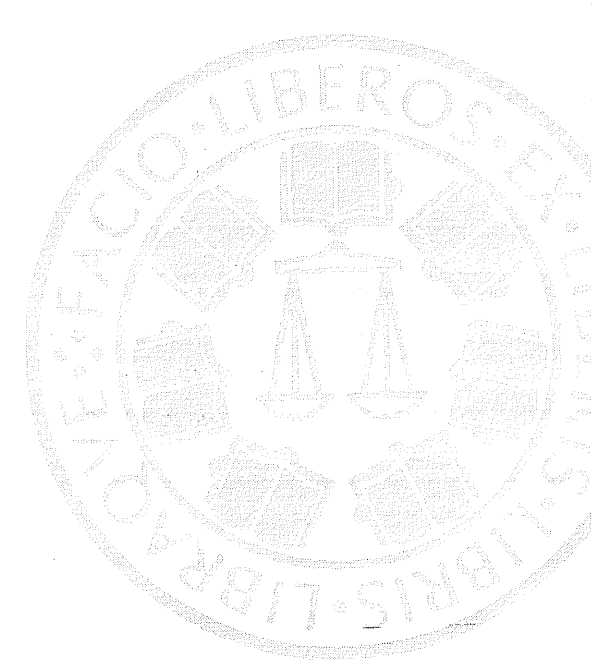
GUILD CONT. FROM PAGE 23

To finish off the year in grand style, November will bring selections from the Charles and Janice Rosenak American Folk Art Collection. This will be the first public exhibition of this collection in New Mexico. The Rosenaks first started collecting folk art in 1973 after a visit to the Whitney Museum in New York. Since that time, they have traveled widely, collecting folk art and visiting and documenting folk artists through photographs and taped interviews. This collection of interviews is believed to be one of the most complete documentations of 20th-century folk artists available. Because of this extensive collection of documentations, they were commissioned by the Museum of American Folk Art in New York to write the highly-regarded *Museum of American Folk Art Encyclopedia of Twentieth Century American Folk Arts and Artists*.

Their collection of American folk art, which has grown from that first piece they bought at the Whitney Museum in 1973, now includes more than 5,000 pieces.

The first public exhibition of this collection in New Mexico will open with a reception from 3-5 p.m. Sunday, November 5 in the Fireside Lounge at the college and will continue through November.

The Fine Arts Guild is currently conducting its first membership drive. For more information on the exhibits, or on the Fine Arts Guild, please contact Ginger Roherty at (505) 984-6099. ■



OBITUARIES AND MEMORIAM...

HENRY R. FREEMAN, A44

Henry R. "Hal" Freeman, who was in the class of 1944, died of a heart attack at his home in Denver, Colorado, on July 16, 1995. He served in the U.S. Armed Forces during World War II in Greenland as a weatherman before returning to St. John's College.

After graduation, he spent two years in Paris, where he studied at a film school. He worked as a film editor in New York City, Hollywood, and Denver. Mr. Freeman's St. John's roommate, Vernon Derr, writes, "His friends remember his integrity and good humor and his love of films and music."

ELMER M. JACKSON, JR., A27

Elmer M. Jackson, Jr., who figured prominently in the life of Annapolis, died from complications of a stroke in July. A native of Hagerstown, Mr. Jackson graduated from St. John's in 1927. He was an alderman in the city of Annapolis from 1932 to 1936 and a member of the Maryland House of Delegates from 1937 to 1941. He served in Naval Intelligence as a commander from 1941 to 1947.

Mr. Jackson was perhaps best known in Annapolis as the editor and general manager of *The Evening Capital*, the city's newspaper, from 1947 to 1969. After the paper was sold in 1968, Mr. Jackson became owner and editor of a weekly newspaper, the *Anne Arundel Times*, which he sold in the early 1980's.

Mr. Jackson served as president of the Anne Arundel County Library Board of Trustees for 35 years, during which time the system grew from one library to eight branches. He also was a member of the Annapolis Civitan Club, the Annapolis Elks Club, the Annapolitan Club, and the Annapolis Yacht Club. He was chairman of the Anne Arundel Economic Development Commission and the State Planning Commission, among other activities.

He is survived by his wife, two children, three stepchildren, and grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

DAVID JOHN SMITHKA, A78

David John Smithka, A78, died suddenly on July 5. While at St. John's, he was active in theater and performed in "King Lear" and directed a production of "Night of the Iguana." He started with the class of 1978 but took sophomore year off and then graduated with the class of 1979.

Mr. Smithka did a variety of things for paying jobs, but eventually he went to Hollywood where he obtained a screen credit in the movie "Beast Master" for the carpentry work he did.

He was in the Army from 1983 to 1988, spending the majority of his time at the U.S. Army Field Station in Augsburg, West Germany. A Russian linguist, he also had special assignments in Berlin and Turkey. He received three Army Achievement medals for his work.

After the Army, Mr. Smithka attended Georgetown University where he obtained an M.A. in Russian area studies. When he died, he was working for a joint venture (with Russian partners) international consulting firm in Silver Spring, The Parvus Company. He also did translations of technical work and literature. He published his translation of "On the Eve" by Turgenev and was working on more.

He leaves his wife, Katherine Buck, A79, and two children, Iliya and Valeriya Smithka.

WALTER RUSSELL CHANCE, A38

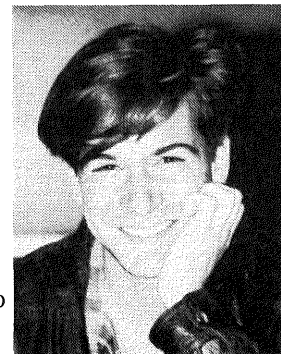
Walter Russell Chance, a naval architect, died May 29 in Lusby, Maryland. Mr. Chance was born in Annapolis and graduated from St. John's in 1938. He did post-graduate work in naval architecture and marine engineering at the University of Michigan.

Before joining the Department of the Navy in 1970, he had a private practice, Chance and Associates, in naval architecture and marine engineering in Falls Church, Va., and Waldorf, Md. Mr. Chance retired from the Department of the Navy in 1982.

He is survived by his wife, three children, and three grandchildren.

DALE EDWARD HELEINE, SF94

Dale Edward Heleine was killed on September 14, 1995, while vacationing with friends near Jackson Hole, Wyoming. Dale, 24, was well known to many



Johnnies in Santa Fe as an expert mechanic who could fix anything, and it was while working on a friend's car that his death accidentally occurred. His death was particularly tragic in light of his miraculous recovery from a near-fatal motorcycle accident in the summer of 1994.

Dale was a well-known personality on the Santa Fe campus, universally liked and respected for his intelligence, ready wit, devilish sense of humor and facility with all things practical. He matriculated in 1990 and was in the process of finishing his senior essay at the time of his death. He is survived by Fred and Joan Heleine and a brother, Gregory, of Phoenix, Arizona, as well as two grandmothers and several aunts, uncles, and cousins. A memorial service was held in the Great Hall at St. John's College on October 3, which was attended by his parents and nearly one hundred friends.

Cards or letters may be sent to his parents at 11 Cutter Drive, Ocean, New Jersey. 07712

Submitted by
Bill Kowalski SF94

NOTED...

Robert C. Lynch, A32, died on June 22, 1995.

Max F. Hausmann, A29, died in the summer of 1995.

Peter Ringland, A45, died on September 4, 1995.

The Rev. Paul M. Cassen, A20, died on October 24, 1994.

The Rev. Scott Broadbent, A32, died on October 3, 1994.

Sara Jane Dean, SGI88, died on August 1, 1995.

J.I. STALEY

A current member and former chairman of St. John's College Board of Visitors and Governors died of heart failure on Saturday, June 24 at his home in Wichita Falls, Texas. Mr. Staley joined the St. John's College board in 1965 and, at the time of his death, had the longest record of service of any living member of the board.

Mr. Staley was president of Staley Oil and divided his time between Wichita Falls and Santa Fe. In addition to his generous contributions to St. John's College, he was a benefactor of the Santa Fe Opera and the Santa Fe Institute, among others. He was remembered by the Board of Visitors and Governors in July for his loyalty, his moral support, his generosity, his wit and his gaiety.

BRUCE VENABLE

Santa Fe Tutor Bruce Venable died peacefully at his home in Santa Fe on September 27.

Mr. Venable served as a member of the faculty in Santa Fe since 1973. He contributed greatly to the life of the college in many ways. He wrote the Greek primer currently being used by the freshman class. He played a large part in shaping the music program on the Santa Fe campus, and wrote the Gregorian Chant in the current sophomore music manual.

For the past several years, Mr. Venable put up a valiant fight against the effects of the AIDS infection to which he finally succumbed. His courage and dignity in facing immense odds have been a continuing inspiration to the St. John's Community.

Mr. Venable is survived by his partner Bob Homrich, his sister Barbara Venable of Seattle, and his brother Thomas Venable also of Seattle.

ART...

DATE DUE

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

MITCHELL GALLERY OPENS SEASON WITH JAPANESE PRINTS

A year of exhibits that can be characterized by that charged word "diversity" opens at the Mitchell Gallery in Annapolis with a show that features images of Kabuki actors and courtesans. "Japanese Woodblock Prints: The Ukiyo-e Tradition," an exhibit of 67 works, will be on display at the Mitchell Gallery from August 30 until October 22. The prints depict the

daily life and environment of 17th through 19th century Japan during the Edo period (1615-1867). The prints are from the collection of the Dayton Art Institute.

Dynamic in composition as well as vibrantly colored, the woodblock prints are part of the ukiyo-e ("pictures of the floating world") tradition. In addition to courtesans and popular actors, ships, warriors, and musicians became the subjects of art during this period of relative tranquility in Japanese history. Ukiyo-e or "the floating world" had previously referred to the Buddhist notion of the transient nature of life on earth, but with the rise of the merchant class, a more secular meaning evolved. Ukiyo-e came to represent the pursuit of physical pleasure and an enjoyment of the arts. Woodblock prints focused on the lifestyle of the plebeian class as opposed to the traditional courtly art of the aristocracy.

The startling images and rich colors of the ukiyo-e prints are achieved in a variety of ways, from single impressions to multiple layers of as many as 20 colors. Some prints are embellished with black lacquer or silver or gold dust. Woodblock prints produced during the nineteenth century became tremendously popular in the West as well as in Japan.

Other exhibits this year will feature oil paintings of the White Mountains, abstract expressionist paintings of Herman Maril, and maps and cartographic images from China and the west. ■

IN SEARCH OF THE FINER THINGS: MITCHELL GALLERY AUCTION

A golfing weekend in Ireland, a case of rare wine, and a specially commissioned painting—these are some of the luxury items that will be offered at the Mitchell Gallery Auction scheduled for April 26-27, 1996, in Annapolis.

Author Peter Mayle (*A Year in Provence, Acquired Tastes*), archon of the high life, will preside over a reservations-only black-tie dinner and auction of the "Best of the Best" on Friday evening, April 26. Saturday the 27th begins with a

brunch at the college Boathouse and continues with an auction of a hundred of "The Finer Things" that will be offered to the highest bidders. All proceeds will benefit the Mitchell Gallery.

The Mitchell Gallery Committee would welcome donations of art, quality merchandise, artifacts, antiques, services, or unique experiences to auction in April. To discuss possible donations, please call Kathy Dulisse at 410-626-2530. ■

GUILD BOOSTS SANTA FE GALLERY

BY JOHN SCHROEDER

With the newly created Fine Arts Guild in place, the Santa Fe campus art gallery is in the midst of one its most exciting years ever. Initiated in 1994, the guild is made up of local artists, gallery owners and friends of the college. According to gallery director Ginger Roherty, the guild has increased the caliber of the artists who are exhibiting at the college and has allowed the college greater outreach to the art community in Santa Fe.

The gallery started this school year with an exhibit by local artist Lisa Bemis, who displayed paintings of her "favorite places."

"No photograph can capture the sense of smell, sounds, temperature, changing light and the myriad of other things that place its personality," she said. The personality of a certain location also includes the little interruptions, such as ants crawling across the paper and dogs drink-

ing her painting water.

Following Lisa Bemis' exhibit, the gallery moved on to a joint exhibition, along with the Zaplin-Lampert Gallery, of paintings by artist Alyce Frank. This show was arranged as a benefit for the guild by Richard Lampert, a member of the guild's board. A portion of the sales at both locations went to support the gallery. Ms. Frank's work, which has become nationally recognized in recent years, consists in large part of landscapes painted in an abstract, expressionist style.

Under the direction of the guild, the month of October also saw the first Spanish Colonial Arts Market and Exhibition at St. John's. Nine of New Mexico's finest Spanish artists gathered in the Meem Library to exhibit and sell their works. Among the artists who took part, several have exhibited or have permanent pieces in the Smithsonian Institution. They also include winners of the coveted Governor's Award, and the Grand Prize and First Prize awards at Santa Fe's Traditional Spanish Market. A silent auction also was held, the proceeds of which benefited the library and the art gallery. It is hoped that this will become an annual event.

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