

The Microfly

The St. John's College Student Weekly
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LETTERS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanks for the Laundry

Dear *Gadfly*:

Today I did my laundry. I had no time to get my clothes out of the dryer before class, and so they were left there for quite some time. When I returned at last, I found that they had been taken out and set on top of the dryer. This is, of course, common practice when clothes are left too long. To my immense surprise, however, I found that they had been folded. My astonishment and wonder knew no bounds! This was an experience I had never had before. In order to thank my benefactor, and at the same time succumb to the inexplicable urge I've had lately to write a haiku, I present this Haiku of Gratitude to the Anonymous Clothing Folder of Chase-Stone:

Clothes on the dryer
Folded neatly upon it
Shirts now wrinkleless

Nathan Sherrard, '98

Alcohol, 16 Years Ago

Dear Editors,

I just finished my first visit to the *Gadfly* Online. On the one hand, I enjoy the easy access to College life from a point of view other than "The St. John's Reporter". On the other hand, it is a little discouraging to hear that alcohol abuse at the College is as intractable a problem as it was 20 years ago.

In the past 20 years, the State of Maryland has raised its drinking age and the College has suffered tragic losses from alcohol abuse. Perhaps it is naive of me to hope that things would improve in such a short time, given how long the grape and the grain have been with us. Perhaps I should not take a letter from one student (Matt

Carter) so seriously, but his letter brought back so many unpleasant memories of the alcoholic life at SJC: lives wrecked, property destroyed, things better left unsaid.

Many of the friends I've made since graduating from the College have told me that while they envy my education, they believe that the Program is a hopelessly optimistic endeavor, primarily because the students are too young and inexperienced to properly appreciate it. Of course, I always argue against this. The Program gives people of all ages a tremendous opportunity to grow and gain wisdom and experience, in a setting that provides structure without undue restriction on the youthful virtues of intuition and spontaneity. But when I hear of SJC's disastrous encounters with excessive drinking, I wonder if my friends are right in questioning the ability of the students to master the challenges of the Great Books, when they can not master themselves.

Jim Sorrentino, A'80

Letters Policy: Letters of 200 words or less have a better chance of being published than those longer. Letters will not be edited for grammar, punctuation, or spelling, and will be printed exactly as submitted. The Gadfly does not print anonymous submissions, except under special circumstances.

Student-Run USNA/SJC Joint Seminar to be Held

Already underway are a pair of joint seminars of the Naval Academy and St. John's. A second set, these student run, will be held in November.

On November 12, at St. John's, the reading will be Thucydides' "Melian Dialogue." On November 19, at the Naval Academy, the reading will be Melville's *Billy Budd*.

Spaces are limited, so those interested should sign up quickly. To do so, simply send me, Derek Alexander, a note through Campus Mail.

Political Forum Solicits Archon, Council for Spring

The Fall Semester schedule of the Political Forum is now fully in place and successfully underway, and the Spring Semester schedule is taking shape. Now it is time to find an Archon for next Semester. This requires two groups of people:

First, those who would like to choose the Archon should express their interest in serving on the Political Forum Council in writing to me (which is all it takes to become a member). The Political Forum Council may take part in determining the activities of the Forum, but must at least elect an Archon.

Second, those who would like to serve as Archon should contact me. I would like to have any or all potential Archon(s) to gain familiarity with the workings of the Political Forum before taking office. Again, anyone who would even consider serving the college community in this way should see me as soon as possible.

The Political Forum is a valued asset of the community and deserves to be run well in the years ahead. Those who help it run—the Political Forum Council and Archon—find themselves in a special position to both cause and receive benefit.

Of course, if you are interested neither in serving on the Political Forum Council nor in serving as Archon, your comments and suggestions are nonetheless welcome.

Derek Alexander, Archon

Dawn on the Quad

The Furtive Retreat
Of shades that weave in the night
Wearing last night's clothes

Stanley Hai-Kubric

a.d. notes

This just in from the SJC Fencing Union's Scribe: "At the Hopkins fencing meet October 5, our foil and sabre representatives performed well, but it was **Kelly O'Malley who took the gold**, placing first in the epee event. This weekend, we host a sabre competition, so I'll be sure to inform you of the results in the next publication. Remember, the team meets Tuesdays 7-9pm and Saturdays 9am to noon."

(This late breaking update from the Fencing Union's coach: "We had a fine showing on Sunday morning by our sabre squad. There were good sustained performances by **Goree and Hendrix**, a surprise showing by foilist **Joe Richardson** masquerading as a sabreur, and good debuts from **Blake and Kellin**. We have an epee and foil meet on November 3rd here in the Temple.")

The St. John's Sailing School is hosting **Wednesday night races** out on the Severn in front of the President's Yacht's Club. The active sailors have been all women! They are: **Miss Surer, Miss Lutz, and Miss Falcone**. Miss Falcone is in first in the race standings, with Miss Surer in second and Miss Lutz in third. **It's still not too late** to get some good sailing in before it gets too cold, so anyone interested should contact me or one of the stewards.

Upcoming Events

Friday, 10/25, Annapolis Tree Committee's Pot Luck Party. Dinner and a tree exhibit. 5:30 P.M.. The Chesapeake Bay Foundation, 33 East Street. Call to reserve your plate, ext. 254.

Saturday, 10/26, London Town archaeological dig. 9:30 A.M. — 1:30 P.M. Call to reserve your spot, ext. 254.

Saturday, 10/26, Canoeing. 9:30 A.M. — 12:30 P.M. Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, Edgewater, Md. Co-sponsored by the Outdoors Club. Call to reserve your spot, ext. 254.

Saturday, 11/9, campus bulb planting. 10 A.M. — 12 P.M.

Saturday, 11/9, "Harmony and Heartbreak". 8 P.M. Tickets are \$10.

The Guardian football team continues its impressive roll toward defending its championship title. Impressive in last week's mauling of the Waves were: **Potter, Linton, Temple, Kosens and Israel**. Mr. Israel was particularly impressive, going high in the air on one play to make an interception, and then quickly throwing a deft pass for a touchdown. For his great play and hustle, **Mr. Israel is named Athlete of the Week**.

The Kuvai got in a whole lotta soccer action this week. First they had one of their annual intra squad rumbles, the Old Dogs (Juniors and Seniors) taking on the Pups (Frosh and Sophs). **Misses Schiff and Sears** played particularly well for the Pups, but **Miss Glassman and Spidle** and company were just a little too much for the young dogs, and the Old Gals went on to win 2-1. For their great efforts, **Misses Glassman and Spidle** shared the **Most Valuable Player Gourd and Athlete of the Week** honors.

In the second intercollegiate game of the year, the Dirt Dogs played a division III varsity squad, Hood College. Even though they went down to defeat, 4-1, the St. John's women played Hood even throughout the game. **Miss Fay and Coonce and Lynch and Catania** played extremely well in the face of a rugged opponent. But the **Most Valuable Player Gourd** went to **Miss Fremont** for her superb play as right full-

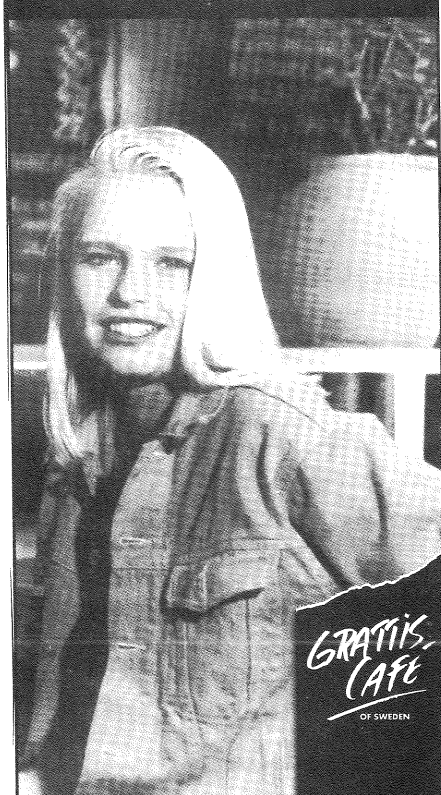
back.

Mr. Erskine was the only one to score in the hard-fought Spartans-Druids game, which the Druids won 1-0, keeping their their lead in soccer.

What about dem Guardians? They're breathing down the Druids necks. They handily defeated the Waves this past week. **Great play** was shown by **Linton, Smoll, Pursely, Potter, Polgreen, Berney, Swann, Miss Levy, Her Hugeness, and the redoubtable Lou-Lou**.

Trivia Quiz Question: can you name the Johnnies who participate in the triple crown of sports? They row, fence, and play on their intramural team. First one to me with the answer goes to the bookstore on me.

Oven Roasted Baked Potatoes



47 State Circle • Suite 100
(410) 267-0902

The SJC Film Club Presents:

Psycho

October 26-27 at 8:15 P.M. in the FSK Auditorium.
Tickets are \$3.

\$1.00 off any potato
Good until December 15, 1996



The Microfly

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The Microfly

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Yearly subscriptions are available for \$35.00. Tax-deductible contributions are greatly appreciated. Please make checks payable to *The Microfly*.

For display advertisement prices and information, call 263-2371, ext. 320.

Deadline: Friday at midnight. Submissions may be submitted in any Macintosh or RTF format on a 3 1/2" floppy disk along with a typed copy. Typed submissions are no longer acceptable.

The SJC Budo Club

or "I got the funny pajamas, now when do I learn to kick some ass?"

This is a short article about Japanese Martial Arts here at St. John's. The Aikido Club has become the Budo Club. Budo refers to Japanese Martial Arts in general - the change is due to two new Martial Arts now being offered, namely Jodo and Iaido. You may have seen the posters about them, or seen us practicing in the gym. What follows is a brief description each of the arts we practice, and an invitation to a very special event.

Aikido is an art of harmony. It overcomes the opponent by blending with the attack, unbalancing the attacker, and throwing. It also incorporates wrist and arm locks, and submission pins. Attackers are defeated not with opposing force, but by the very energy with which they attacked.

Jodo is a 400 year old dueling art which teaches the use of the short staff, or jo, against a sword. Qualified teachers of this rare and difficult art are hard to find, and we are fortunate to have one to instruct us. Within Jodo are various other weapon arts, such as Kenjutsu (the sword), Kusarigamajutsu (the sickle and chain), Juttejutsu (the truncheon), Tanjojutsu

(the walking stick), and rarest of all, Hojojutsu (tying up the opponent).

Iaido is the art of drawing and cutting with a sword. It was developed as a sort of self defense for samurai; your opponent has his sword out and is attacking, and you must draw and defend yourself. Iaido is performed with a steel blade. All of the movements are done solo - it is an extremely precise art, requiring much concentration. It has been called "moving meditation."

Anyone interested in any of these arts is encouraged to come and practice with us - Aikido Tuesday evenings beginning at 7:00, and Jodo and Iaido Wednesday evenings also at 7:00.

Now, the event. Next week, some Jodo teachers (sensei) will be arriving here (yes, here at St. John's!) from Japan. They will be instructing what is called a gashuku, a practice session taking place over several days. The highest ranking among them, Kaminoda Sensei, is an Imperial Living National Treasure, an honor bestowed upon him for his skill and knowledge in this rare art.

Although the gashuku is not open

to the general community, there will be a demonstration to which the polity is invited and encouraged to attend; this will be a once-in-a-lifetime chance to see martial elegance and mastery.

A few final words about the gashuku itself: It will be held in the gymnasium, Sat. Oct 26—Mon. Oct. 28 (8:30am - 6:00pm each day). During these three days the Budo Club asks that the gym floor, the punching bags, the ping-pong table, and the running track not be used. If you are going to the weight room, the dance studios, the locker rooms, etc., **please, do not cut across the floor!** Please, please walk around the edge. Failure to do so would not only be considered extremely rude, but could result in serious injury (this is a room full of people swinging four foot staves around, after all).

Thank you for your cooperation, and we hope to see you at the demonstration. If you have any questions about the club or the gashuku, please contact us.

Corey Comstock, Budo Club Archon
Nathan Sherrard, Budo Club Secretary