Humor in The Record (and elsewhere)

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Humor in *The Record*
(and elsewhere)

The first few St. John's yearbooks were full of sports, ads, inside jokes, cartoons, and bad puns – and only that. No academics, no faculty, no student portraits – except for the football players and other athletes.

From 1920 *Sagatagan*, p. 82
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/SJUArchives/id/17097/rec/3
Left image from p. 79
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/SJUArchives/id/17095/rec/3
Bottom joke from p. 58
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/SJUArchives/id/17085/rec/3
Image on right from p. 89
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/SJUArchives/id/17100/rec/3
From 1920 Sagatagan, p. 82
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/SJUArchives/id/17097/rec/3
Left image from p. 79
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/SJUArchives/id/17095/rec/3
Bottom joke from p. 58
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/SJUArchives/id/17085/rec/3
Image on right from p. 89
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/SJUArchives/id/17100/rec/3
Image from 1929 *Sagatagan*, p. 149
1917 black & white photo from the SJU Archives, *PC061880-1930s* p.53 1917 *Jemmings & McC*
Image from 1929 *Sagatagan*, p. 149

1917 black & white photo from the SJU Archives, *PC061880-1930s p.53 1917 Jemnings & McC*

1969 color photo from the Abbey Archives, *Train Station Collegeville May 1969 from SJAA, looking east*
Also had spoofs about Adolf Hitler...not so funny in retrospect.
In their turn, members of the Associate Board of Trustees were inspired by the new student activism, and voted on Friday, April 24, to begin work on the new physical education complex. Prior to their arrival, the campus was transformed with the signs of student sentiment. These signs bore a variety of slogans from Let's Build a Better Rats' Nest and This Building is Condemned (hanging from the roof of the old gym) to Nice Library, What About Our Bodies? Fuel enough, certainly, to warm the coxcombs of any middle aged businessman’s heart.

Idealism Pays Off

The students of St. John’s have finally been mobilized! Moratorium didn’t do it; even the rhetoric of Earth Day—if you’re not part of the solution you’re part of pollution—didn’t do it. But fire up, buddies, we’re having a campaign to build a new gym. Damn, we’ve been waiting a long time.

Students’ use of humor ultimately prevails; work begins on a new athletics complex, i.e. the Warner Palaestra
Poking fun at administrators is perennially popular

Community Voices Dissent; Continued Growth Imperative

The new gym is not the only issue which has caused a furor among students here. A concerned group, who wish to remain anonymous in the near future in order to facilitate the success of their mission, has decreed that "In light of the much flaunted power the new play complex will have in attracting certain kinds of students, we feel that Colman Barry's crewcut is no longer necessary."

The committee anticipates popular support for their proposal that "Colman Barry's hair shall be increased to a length of not less than four inches at its shortest strand," but they realize it will probably have a less enthusiastic following than the new gym movement. After all, as they explained it, it's easier to hang a sign saying "this building is condemned" on the old gym than it is to put any label at all on Father Colman.

"Seeing Father Aidan in an Afro is too much to expect," he added, "but research into photos of Father Colman from the liberal middle 1960's period shows definite possibilities for tonsorial advancement."

Our success is even more imperative, however, if we are to remain head and shoulders above other Minnesota colleges."

President Colman's crewcut

The Record
April 1970

1970 04 28 The Record p.2
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/34825/rec/2
Love affair shocks community

The quiet, but popular, community of Collegeville was shocked to learn of a recent revelation concerning a romantic relationship between Winona Paur, SDB, vice-president of annual affairs, and Norm Hooker, CISC, vice-president for illicit affairs.

News of the scandal broke early yesterday morning when an emergency call to the Collegeville Public Safety Office indicated that the main door of the eventuniversity was being ransacked. The students reported seeing Paur and Hooker running around with a camera. He later admitted that he didn’t have anyone but me. Does, I’m pleased.

A campus authority reporter was on Paur’s tail immediately. After being followed for an exhausting fifteen minutes or more, Paur was seen entering the Quad through the main door of the eventuniversity at 9 a.m. yesterday morning. At 9:30 Hooker was also seen entering the same entrance. A rustle of the entrance was heard, followed by a loud blast, causing the door to open. The door was soon opened, except for a short lunch break and trip to the rest rooms, until the reporter was forced.

Safe sex continued on page 3.
Timid holds Board of Rejects hostage
SJU president demands lifetime appointment

By Becky Higgins

Hilary Timid, SJU, was appointed president of SJU after winning the Board of Revolu-
tionary Action (BRA) candidate contest. During a recent meeting of the Board, BRA
President, Dr. Jillian Demuth, presented a petition signed by 100 students demanding
lifetime appointments for all SJU administrators.

The Board of Trustees responded with a 23-0 vote, blaming BRA for the student unrest.

"This isn't about politics," said Timid. "It's about ensuring the stability of our institution.
We can't afford to have any uncertainty about our leaders' future." 

News of the hostage situation was met with mixed reactions. Some students felt
threatened by the Board's actions, while others were relieved that the crisis was
resolved.

Campus security was notified of the hostage situation by SJU President Hilary Timid,
who was attending a meeting at the time. A police officer entered the Board room
and arrested one of the Board members.

"That's not going to work," said Timid. "We need to find a solution that
respects everyone's rights." 

The hostage situation lasted for four hours before a compromise was reached. The
Board members agreed to a new policy that would allow for lifetime appointments
but would also include provisions for removing administrators under certain
conditions.

Study-free dormitory offered

By Mike An

SJU students have long been clamoring for a study-free dormitory, and
finally, the university has agreed to their demands. The new dormitory
will be located in the basement of the campus library and will provide
a quiet, distraction-free environment for students who need to
study.

Students have been divided on the issue, with some arguing
that it will create an atmosphere of isolation, while others believe it
will improve their academic performance.

"I'm excited about this," said student Julia Smith. "I can finally study
without being disturbed by my roommate." 

According to the university's proposal, students who live in the
dormitory will be subject to special regulations, such as
prohibiting visitors and limiting noise levels.

"We want to create an environment that's conducive to studying," said
Dean of Students, Dr. John Doe. "We hope this will improve student
performance and satisfaction." 

The new dormitory is expected to open in the fall of 1988.
This so-called joke in the 1977 _Sagatagan_ did not go over well with the future archivist!
The Registrar’s Office may not have been too keen on this one, either:

**BUY A GRADE!**

If you have an F or an I and don’t know Gags, this deal is for you. *The Registrar’s office is now selling grades, exemptions and altered transcripts.* Degrees will soon be available! Contact Dave or Jane at the Registrar’s Office at 2511.

Football coach John Gagliardi was often the butt of jokes (pun intended)...

*The Record, May 1987*

1987-05-14 p.7

http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/36662/rec/10
1982-04-30, “The Reeker” p.1
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/36301/rec/7
1987-05-14 p.1 The Record
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/36656/rec/10
Library institutes nude study policy

By Mikhail Aleskeyevich

The SJU Al-Quds Library has announced that all SJU/CBU students wishing to study in its facility will now have to go nude. The decision was made following the publishing of a joint study, conducted by the Al-Quds and CSB's Lochness Library, which revealed that nude participants performed better and felt less embarrassed, which in turn led to improved productivity and concentration.

"Our study has revealed that when students are in their birthday suits, they tend to have less distractions which are distracting," said Michael Caten, director of Lochness. "Therefore, we have instituted this new policy which will undoubtedly free students of all of those things which make for inept study habits."

The results of the study, which were printed in the weekly professional library publication Doosti, Funido, and many more books, showed that those who studied nude were more focused and had higher levels of concentration. The study participants were divided into two groups: those who studied clothed and those who studied nude.

In addition, the study revealed that those with feelings of inadequacy were less concerned after being able to see them they felt threatened by. One of those students, speaking in the experiment, could be heard to say his girlfriend's former boyfriend was "at least two or three times larger than I am, but he's not."

"It's amazing! I always thought the guy was so huge, these characters you see in the movies. But he's no bigger than I am. In fact, I think he's a bit shorter," he said. "I can't tell you how much this has helped me in trying to concentrate on my theology term paper."

One female participant agreed. "I was used to watching nervously as some of my fellow St. Burn students walked around campus in these tight shirts with no bra. I've always been jealous," she said. "But now I've discovered that these guys either have pushed some or a big supply of t-shirts. Just knowing that I can remove my shirt and pretend I'm not seen, which is very helpful to my study habits."

Caten said the Recluse this week that the new policy has given mixed reviews from those in the EXCSA community. "The most as we've received has come from the romantic community."

In the raw

continued on page 4

May 1988

1988-05-12, The Recluse p.1
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/37240/rec/11
...and continuing into the 1990s:

May 1997

The Retort

SJS takes over St. John's ROTC storms Life Safety weapons vault

BY ANGELA V. "SHOE" HART-WHITTEM

The tumultuous events of the last week have resulted in a heated and
unsurprising event to JKB. It started with the taking of KTB
by Community members. Mshie Korbel, a senior and a
member of the executive staff at KKB was shocked to find out that
there would be a "sharing of pro-
\y" at the station next year. He
claimed that this was the final strum.
"First we allowed the incinergy
group, then we allowed the
and now this," Korbel commented.

Korbel's was being forced to help and I

The Student Activist Bill gives the
SJS the power to see ROTC forces
leave campus. This wasn't enough
for the students to end. This is why senator Korbel im-
\med the Student Activist Bill in an
emergency session of the SJS.

The Student Activist Bill gives the
SJS the power to see ROTC forces
leave campus. This wasn't enough
for the students to end. This is why
Senator Korbel put the Student
Activist Bill to an emergency
session of the SJS.

Students protest signs which have caused a campus disruption. (Photo by A. Tippy)
...sometimes overwhelming the other, more clever humor:

THE Roadkill

New Campus Center opens

By Geoffrey Sauer
Staff Writer

The long-awaited opening of the campus center took place last Friday and was formally presented to the student body by SJU president Hilary Timid, OSB, and the SJU Board of Referee.

Timid told a crowd of about four students and twenty-four monks that SJU was now wearing the ranks of its competitors. "It is in understanding of the matter that this elegant building, one that we so purposely dedicate, artfully establishes St. John's as the premiere economically-oriented, Catholic university in Central Mercer County," he said.

The 36 square foot facility took two weeks to build at a cost of $500 dollars. Monument architect Willie Boulevard, OSB, designed the facility to instill a lethargic feeling in the students who view it. "It's a little bit of the old, and a little bit of the new," he said.

The structure houses the management department, and features suites for each professor, spacious break and conference rooms, and a underground monument.

A crowd of about four students and twenty-four monks burst into an enthusiastic round of applause as SJU president Hilary Timid, OSB, dedicated the new campus center. The $500 structure took two weeks to build and was pronounced by Timid as a "monument to the gracious support we receive from our alumni." (Photo by Robin Petersen, OSB)

May 1989

http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/37405/rec/12
1989-05-22, p.1 The Record
Donald Trump Comes to St. Joe

by Idyllic Leno

An unprecedented event in the history of St. Joseph took place last week in our little town. The visit of one of the wealthiest men in the world was kept under tight wraps from most of the world press, yet the Incognito was there. Donald Trump, multi-billionaire maverick of the business world, paid a visit to our fair city. Unofficial plans are now being laid for rebuilding St. Joseph into the next Atlantic City.

On the morning of March 29th, few people realized that as Stearns County Sheriff’s officers blocked off County Road 121 that the cause was anything other than the reported leaking gas main. However, at 6:55 a.m. approached, the thundershowd of jet engines blasted their way across the open fields. It was obvious that either the gas company had made a critical error or that a plane was landing on the middle of the roadway.

According to the 1990 spoof issue at CSB, St. Joe even had a visit from Donald Trump, who dropped in on the owner of Sal’s.

April 1990 Independent (CSB paper)
And then there was the National Enquirer-like issue claiming Elvis was here...

Elvis is alive and well—
He's a monk in St. John's monastery!

“My idol! He’s alive and right under my nose. Thank Almighty God in Heaven!”—Tim Chinn

The King of Rock’n’Roll has been sighted wearing the holy habits of St. John’s Abbey! “Until now, it’s been one of our best kept secrets,” confessed NJO Abbot Eimorv Transte. “But I might as well tell you that he really fills out the boots in our choir, not to mention his very large habit.” Transte chuckled.

Yes, it’s hard to believe, but it’s true! It seems that in 1988, a priest friend of his, Presley,”

Weakly World
Record

Cops clock utility pole at 45 m.p.h.

May 1991

1991 05 17 p.7
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/38502/rec/15
...and the rumor that the tundra hid mass graves of parking violators.

May 14, 1993

Parking violators executed

By B.G. Turek
Erected Bowelist

Last week, students, parents, and alums were shocked to learn of a mass “extermination” of unruly SJU students who have consistently refused to obey parking regulations as outlined in the J-Book. Photos published in last week’s Co-dependent, revealed that hundreds of students were buried in a mass grave just behind Tommy Hall.

Apparently, the murders took place two weeks ago after Carin Pogoschick, Life Safety dispatcher, became fed up with students and their blatant disregard for SJU parking policies.

As a result, Pogoschick called a private meeting with Cap Kollem, Vice President of Student Affairs and Fetus Konner, one of these monk guys. After a lengthy discussion, Pogoschick, Kollem and Konner decided that the only alternative they had would be to “eliminate” the wrongdoers.

“I was simply fed up with all of those goddamn students who come in and want me to take back their parking tickets,” said Pogoschick. “I’m not going to take them back. They deserve those parking tickets. All of the policies are clearly outlined in the J-Book. Students have to realize that they can’t park in Mary Set simply because they feel like it. Something had to be done.”

Public response to the murders was not necessarily nice, however.

“In kind of think it’s a shame,” said Konner. “I almost wish I didn’t agree with it. How-

1993 05 14 p.6 “The Erected”
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/38391/rec/16
Inset: 1994 05 13 p.7
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/38286/rec/17
There was the “take off” [pun intended] on the 1990 *Ex Corde Ecclesiae* document on Catholic colleges and universities from John Paul II...

[Note: in 2000, the Concorde was still flying across the Atlantic - until 2003]

2000 xx xx

http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/40214/rec/21

*Ex Corde Ecclesiae, On Catholic Universities, John Paul II, Apostolic Constitution (15 August 1990)*

an apostolic constitution issued by Pope John Paul II regarding Catholic colleges and universities.
Breuer 100-year plan enacted; Quad reduced to rubble

By Susan E. Van

Most students might be unaware of the fact that we owe thanks to Marcel Breuer for the Abbey Church (aka, administration building), the bell tower (aka, supreme court building), Alvis Library (aka, nuclear bunker), Tuda dorms (aka, more nuclear bunkers), and various other campus buildings. As Breuer said of his buildings, they are not like buildings; they are like buildings. The only buildings are those that look like buildings. They are not like buildings; they are like buildings.

The buildings that you may have seen and not seen are simply the result of a long-term plan. About 50 years ago, the Albert Anthony Fund was established to provide funding for the construction of the major buildings on campus. The fund was named after the late donor, a major figure in the world. The only money that he had was money from the sale of his paintings. These paintings were sold for the second phase of Breuer’s blueprint. Breuer is the proud owner of the post World War II Weimar era. This school of architecture stems from one concept: form follows function. They believe that anything worth building must be built, be whatever is put into the building must serve the purpose of that building. This is the reason why our campus appears to be one large conglomerated concept:

ALL FALL DOWN the Quadrangle was imploded on Thursday to make room for more square concrete academic buildings in accordance with the 100-year plan of architect Marcel Breuer.

...and that same issue documented the execution of the Breuer 100-year plan for St. John’s.

2000 04 01 p.3
Always amusing are the cartoons of the Johnny Rat, which are sometimes part of the regular Record formatting, e.g. “Briefs” in 1984

...or mocked in the humor issue, e.g. “Boxers” in 2000

Briefs: 1984 11 15 p.2
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/36239
Boxers: 2000 04 01 p.2
1997 05 12 p. 6, 7, 2, 5
p.6 http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/39063/rec/19 (opinion page/soapbox)
p.7 http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/39064/rec/19 (opinion page replies)
p.2 http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/39059/rec/19 (shorts)
p.5 http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/39062/rec/19 (no shorts)
1994 05 13 p.7
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/38286/rec/17 (top hat)
And then there’s Johnnie Rat on his soapbox gracing the page for letters to the editor – front, and back... ... with or without his boxers!

Briefs: 1984 11 15 p.2
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/36239
Boxers: 2000 04 01 p.2
1997 05 12 p. 6, 7, 2, 5
p.6 http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/39063/rec/19 (opinion page/soapbox)
p.7 http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/39064/rec/19 (opinion page replies)
p.2 http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/39059/rec/19 (shorts)
p.5 http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/39062/rec/19 (no shorts)
1994 05 13 p.7
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/38286/rec/17 (top hat)
Library to feature social hour

In a ploy to up the attendance the Alcuin library has added a "happy hour" on Fridays to compete with the bars and BWP. A spokesperson for the library listed some of the newly added features hoped to spark an interest in hanging out at the library on the weekend - Two for one book check-outs - Librarians will flip books in "Cocktail-like" fashion when checking them out - You only need one ID to get served - Free Internet access (i.e. "it's porn time") - Hot pants at help desk - For this hour you can talk quietly instead of having to whisper - Plenty of seating - The magnet detectors don't beep for hip flask - The newly invented Dewy Dismal blood alcohol system makes it hard to get drunk - Private "study" rooms - ASS copies are free.

With all these new additions the line will be around the corner to get in predicts the head librarian "with the book store closing at 4:00 where else will kids get there hands on books for their weekend entertainment?"

One of the "Briefs" – er, "Boxers" – was about Social Hour in the library, featuring:

- "Happy Hour" to compete with the bars and BWP
- Two for One book check-outs
- Talking allowed
- Plenty of seating

I think we do a better job of promoting social lives and social media in the libraries nowadays!
And then there’s the creativity students show in their pseudonyms for "The Record":

The Wrecker
The Reeker
The Rectum
The Recluse
The Roadkill
The Wreckage
The Erected
1997 05 12 http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/39058/rec/19
The Retort
XRecorde
The Requium
So far there have been seven issues named “The Rumored” beginning with 2008’s, all published at the end of the fall semester.
February 27, 1962

MEMO TO ALL FACULTY MEMBERS:

We have been trying for some time to apprehend the student who has been earring chair tops by engraving the following names on them: KEVIN, DAVY, JUDY, LILY, and now recently DIANE. KEVIN, however, appears to be the one who has most permanently captivated his fancy and inspired his pencil. The engraver can be identified by the "K" in the carving.

Will professors therefore please give me or Father Daniel the names of persons they observe doodling on classroom chairs. It has become quite a problem. This individual has already damaged over forty chairs and lately has been stepping up activities. We have no idea of what the limits will be when, as Father Holiford used to put it, "the springtime sap really begins to move."

Dunstan, O.S.B.

UT/Av
Image from Institutional Advancement’s image archive