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
Jemmings & McC
1969 color photo from the Abbey Archives, Train Station Collegeville May 1969 from SJAA, looking east
You can easily locate the humor issues of The Record on the Archives’ websites.
1940-04-01 p. 1 & 4
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/28954
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/28957
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.

1970 04 28 The Record p.1
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/34824/rec/2
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 haunted power the new play ed 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.”

1970 04 28 The Record p.2
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/34825/rec/2
1973-03-16, p.4  The Record
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/34950/rec/3
UPJOHN'S LABORATORIES
This used to be J.P. Pearls!
Go from bald bull to lion's mane in five painfree days!

“It really works!”
J.P. Pearls

The Record, May 1991
Love affair shocks community

The quick, but secret, community of Collegeville was shocked to learn of vague rumors concerning a secret relationship between Whining Paar, SDB, vice-president of annual affairs, and Fred Hooper, CISC, vice-president for illicit affairs.

News of the scandal breaks early yesterday morning when an anonymous caller to The Record said, "I saw a man running around with Paar. He mores that he didn't have anyone but me. Damn, I'm pissed!"

A crack detective reporter was on Paar's tail immediately. After being followed for an exhausting fifteen minutes or more, Paar was seen entering the Quad through the main door of the rectory at 9:30 a.m. yesterday morning. At 9:34 Hooper was seen coming out of the rectory. A中国移动 of the rectory was then put up, being kissed passionately be the monks. The door was not unlocked, except for a short lunch break and trip to the next room, until the reporter was forced to continue on page 3.

Safe sex continued on page 3.

The Record, May 1987

1987-05-14 p.1 The Record
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/36656/rec/10
Mug in SJU Archives
Timid holds Board of Rejects hostage
SJU president demands lifetime appointment

By Becky Higa

Stately Timid, SJU, was appointed president for
1988-1990 by the Board of Trustees last night at
its quarterly meeting. Timid had requested more
time to prepare for his role as SJU president, but
the Board had already decided on him.

"I am thrilled to be appointed president," Timid
said. "I will do everything in my power to
make SJU the best university in the world."

News of the appointment was not reported to
the President until Sunday afternoon. Sunday
night, a group of students gathered outside
the President's office to protest the decision.

"This decision is a travesty," a student said.
"We want a president who is actually interested
in the needs of the students."}

Campus security was notified of the protest
tenants by stubbly-haired Ted McGinley, who was
carrying a placard reading "Save SJU." McGinley
said McGinley had been a resident of a dormitory
in the past and had "a lot to say about the current
dormitory conditions." McGinley also
announced he would be running for President in
the spring.

"I am fed up with the current administration,"
McGinley said. "They don't understand the
problems we face." McGinley was accompanied
to the event by a group of supporters who
chanted "Save SJU!"

Meanwhile, in the President's office, Timid
sat at his desk, surrounded by papers and
schedules. He looked up from his work, taking a
breath before continuing to talk. "I am committed
to making this university great again," he said.
"I will work tirelessly to ensure that every student
receives a quality education."
This so-called joke in the 1977 Sagatagan did not go over well with the future archivist!

1977 Saints yearbook p.29
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/SJUArchives/id/38804/rec/57
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_

http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/36662/rec/10
...and speaking of butts, bathroom humor was often employed:

April 1982

EXCLUSIVE PHOTO

Nude jogger revealed

After seeing the hallucinations of Yvonne White and Yvonne Williams, Timmy Culp, the infamous “nude jogger of St. Vincent,” has sued to stop publications of pictures of himself in Bay B.Life.

May 1987

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 Mihkail Akhesevzyznitzkii

The SJU Al-Qais Library has announced that all SJU/SJU students wishing to study in its facility will now have to do so nude. The decision came following the publishing of a joint study, conducted by the Al-Qais and SJU's Health and Library, which revealed that nude students have performed better in exams.

"Our study has revealed that when students are in their birthday suits, they tend to have less distractions which are distracting," said Michael Carter, director of the study. "Therefore, we have instilled this new policy which will undoubtedly free students of all of these things which made for inadequate study habits."

The results of the study, which were printed in the weekly professional library publication Oodle, indicate that students who study nude find fewer distractions, which leads to better study habits. The study also revealed that students who study nude find fewer distractions, which leads to better study habits.

In addition, the study revealed that those with feelings of inadequacy were less concerned about being able to see those they felt threatened by. One of the students involved in the experiment told us that being nude in the study room 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 as those characters you see in the movies. But he's no bigger than I am. In fact, I think he's a bit shorter," she said. "I can't wait to see how this has helped me in preparing for my next exam in my English exam class."

One female participant agreed. "I always used to watch nervously in front of my fellow St. Bon's students without any concern for my self esteem. I've always been judged, "孵化处 dental. "But now I've discovered that these guys either have packed on a huge supply of extra weight. Just knowing that I can measure up to these guys and feel confident, which is very helpful in my study habits."

Carter said the library this week that the new policy has garnered mixed reviews from those in the SJU/SJU community. "The most important we've received has come from the religious community...

In the raw

continued on page 4
...and continuing into the 1990s:

May 1997

The Retort

Volume Mix, Number 21

Official Administrative Voice since May 13, 1997

1997 05 12 http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/39058/rec/19
...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 sharing the “rank” of its competitors. "It is my understanding of the matter that the campus building, one that we so purposely dedicate, artfully establishes St. John’s as the premier economically oriented, Catholic university in Central Reserve County,” he said.

The 36-square-foot facility took two weeks to build at a cost of $500 dollars. Monastic architects Willie Boehner, OSB, designed the facility to instill a lethargic feeling in the students who view it. "It is 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

continued on page 7

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 Loco

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, as 6:55 a.m. approached, the thunderous roar of jet engines blared 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 in the middle of the roadway.

The Incognito has attained these plans for St. Joseph through a source who wishes to remain anonymous (Dale Schneider). Mr. Trump has cut a deal with the city to buy Minnesota Street entirely. Plans will then get underway to create Trump Boulevard. Trump Towers II (a project which will include two sixty story towers) will rise above the area once housing Linneman's and the Midway and Herk's. Donny T's Soup and Sandwich shop will be included in the complex as well as Trumpy Sal's Night Club, Casino, Theatre, and Bar and Grill. Reactions to the controversial proposal are sure to be vocal and yet, who can stand in the way of business warlords like Donald and Dale.

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.
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 nesting in the holy halls of St. John's Abbey! "Until now, it's been one of our best kept secrets," confided Fr. Albert Inreview Tentin. "But I might as well tell you that he really fills out the base in our choir, not to mention his very large habit. Tentin chuckled.

Yes, it's hard to believe, but it's true! It seems that in 628, a priest friend of Elvis's, Presley, was living in a magical place where other men live in peace and solitude. One day, the King decided to abandon his demand and become a monk for 501. Together, they

May 1991

Weakly World

Record

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

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. Ture
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 follow parking regulations as outlined in the J-Book. Photos published in last week’s Co-dependent reveal that hundreds of students were buried in a mass grave just behind Tommy Hall.

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

As a result, Pogschick called a private meeting with Gus Kellum, Vice President of Student Affairs and Fetus Konner, one of those monk guys. After a lengthy discussion, Pogschick, Kellum and Konner decided that the only alternative they had would be to “eliminate” the troublemakers.

“I was simply fed up with all of those goddamn students who come in and want me to take back their parking tickets,” said Pogschick. “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 Lot simply because they feel like it. Something had to be done.”

The mass graves on the Tundra were quickly covered by a wing of the Sexton Commons (Photo by Sean Pencil). Many of them were disillusioned and walked about aimlessly, many of them crying for their mothers.

After several hundred of those insipid, bastard students were corralled into the hall.

Rejects vote to fill Sag, end SJU parking problems

In a move to alleviate the century old parking problem at St. John’s, the Board of Rejects unanimously voted 17-6 to fill Lake Sagatagan with the left over Amy Grant Pax Christi posters. The public response to the murders was not necessarily nice, however.

“I kind of think it’s a shame,” said Konners. “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

...and that same issue documented the execution of the Breuer 100-year plan for St. John’s.
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)
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 flasks. -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 to 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
XReorde
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 tearing chair tops by engraving the following names on them: KATHY, BATTY, JEAN, LINDA, and now recently DIANE. KATHY, 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 Reinsch used to put it, "the springtime sap really begins to move."

Dunstan, 02/27/62
UT/av
Image from Institutional Advancement’s image archive