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## Saint John's Football - in 1952

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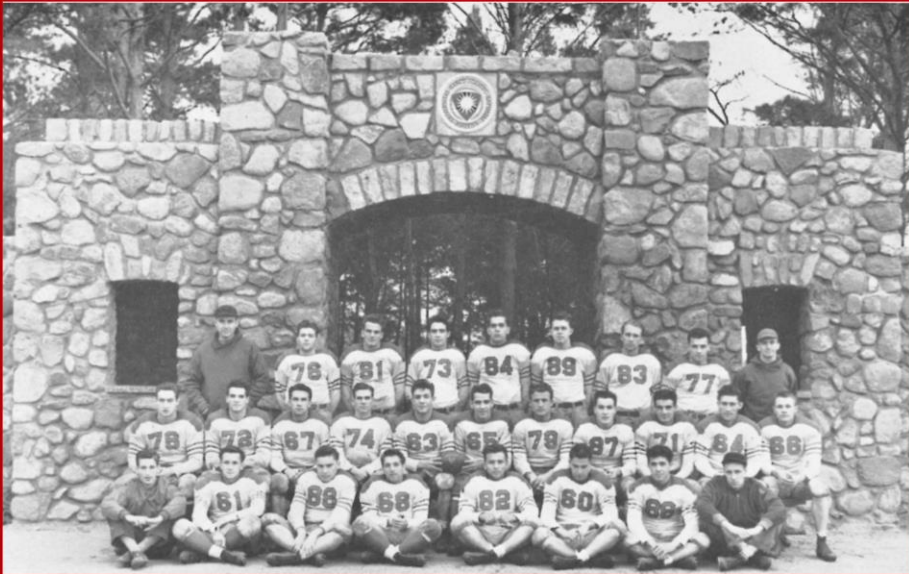
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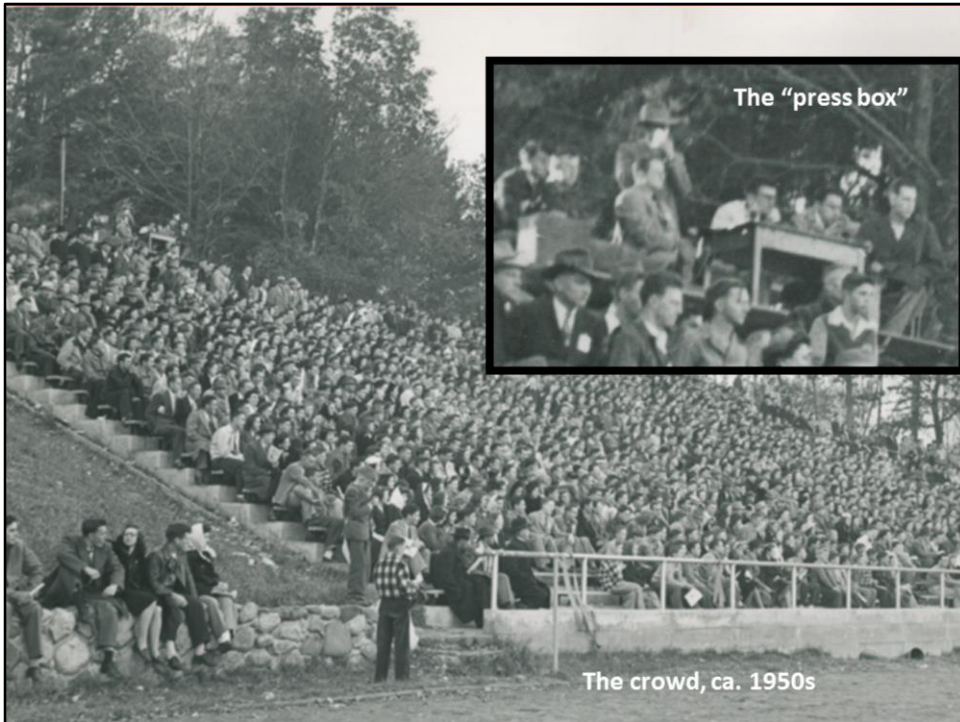
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Football at St. John's – Revisiting 1952



1939 SJU Football Team by Stone Gate entrance to the field

1939 Football Team by Stone Gate to field, in the 1940 *Sagatagan*, p.66  
<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/cdm/ref/collection/SJUArchives/id/28475> (p. 34 of the pdf)



1950s FB Crowd, in the SJU Archives (PC03 FB v.1 p.37)

**The Record** Homecoming planning

NEWSPAPER OF ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY AND ORGAN OF THE ALUMNI

COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1952 NUMBER 14

## Council Points For Homecoming Gits Named General Chairman; Prizes Offered For Decorations

By Dave McMahon

●St. John's Student Council acted swiftly this week to lay plans for welcoming Johnny alumni to the earliest fall Homecoming in nearly twenty years.

The football struggle with St. Olaf here on October 4 was designated as the Homecoming game.

Senior Gordon Gits, English major from Slayton, was named general chairman of the celebration by the Council.

Responsibility for campus decorations will again fall on campus clubs under the general direction of decorations chairman Bob Southers, Eau Claire. Each club will be assigned an area for decoration, and the Council will offer a \$20 prize for the best display. Prizes will also be given for window decorations in St. Mary's Hall.

**CALENDAR**

Sept. 27 St. John's vs. Duluth at Duluth (night)

Oct. 3 Homecoming Eve

7:00 Parade

7:15 Bonfire and Pepfest

8:15 Variety Show.

Oct. 4 Homecoming Day

Morning: Registration

2:30 Football game

4:30 Reception in Gym

Variety Talent Rehearses Show

●High brow, low brow, and Joe

1952 09 26 p.1 The Record

<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/cdm/ref/collection/CSBArchNews/id/31362>

## Homecoming: A big deal for students

Others appointed to assist Gits included Jack Hillenbrand, Mahanomen, chairman for bonfire and pep-fest arrangements; Bob Shafer, Amery, Wis., and Dick Christopherson, Austin, publicity and slogans; and Paul Doherty, Indianapolis, Ind., and Mark Hughes, Hudson, Wis., Homecoming buttons.

The variety show on Homecoming eve will be under the joint direction of Fran Voelker, Thorp, Wis., and Lou Filia-trault, Duluth. Both men urged students with talent to appear for tryouts. They promised the usual packed house for the one-night stand.

Selection of the early date for Homecoming this year will also permit Mother Nature to take a hand in decorating the campus in autumn colors. The woods are usually at their peak on the first weekend in October.

- Bonfire
- Pep-fest
- Publicity
- Slogans
- Buttons
- Variety show

“The woods are usually at their peak on the first weekend in October”



1952 09 26 p.1 The Record

<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/cdm/ref/collection/CSBArchNews/id/31362>

1952 09 26 p.2 The Record

<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/cdm/ref/collection/CSBArchNews/id/31363>



The 1952 Homecoming Game Program – elaborate for its time

1952 10 04 Homecoming Game Program cover, in the SJU Archives - 097/3 (Box 9:4)



The programs included features on the coach...



JOHN "BLOOD" McNALLY, Head Coach

Making his debut as head St. John's coach two years ago, alumnus Johnny (Blood) McNally, the fabulous "saphoed halfback" of professional football, brought into the college coaching ranks an almost incredible record of athletic achievement.

Still holding the professional football longevity mark with 13 colorful years of playing time, the former Green Bay Packer and Pittsburgh Steeler ace now begins a new phase of his life on the campus at which his brilliant career began 30 years ago.

After three years at St. John's, McNally transferred to Notre Dame in the fall of 1924, was soon lured away from the South Bend institution over weekends to play with the professional E. 26th St. Liberties in Minneapolis. To protect his college eligibility, he adopted the surname "Blood," which stuck throughout his professional career.

Leaving Notre Dame after one semester, McNally prepared for full time professional duty. The following fall he started playing for the Milwaukee Badgers. After one year he returned to

Observing one of the many Frank Merriwell-type, game-saving stunts which marked McNally's career, Packer coach E. L. (Curly) Lambeau once said, "Johnny Blood is the most colorful player who ever wore cleated shoes."

McNally continued his spectacular play with Green Bay until 1927 when he went to Pittsburgh as playing coach of the Steelers.

With the outbreak of World War II, the vagabond halfback put aside his cleated shoes and enlisted in the air force, serving as a cryptographer in the C.B.I. for three years.

Discharged after VJ day, McNally returned to Green Bay, signed as Curly Lambeau's assistant and, at 42, played his last game of football. That, quite coincidentally, was against his old team, Pittsburgh.

After 26 years absence, McNally returned to St. John's in 1949 to complete the required course for study for a B.A. in philosophy. Graduating in June of 1949, he returned three months later as freshman football coach, pulling the yearlings



JOHN "BLOOD" McNALLY, Head Coach

1952 10 04 Program p.2 McNally, in the SJU Archives

...and:

**GEORGE J. DURENBERGER, Athletic Director**

George Durenberger has been associated with St. John's athletics continuously since the fall of 1924 when he enrolled as a college freshman. For three seasons he was selected as All-State College Conference center, but also displayed more than a little versatility by performing at tackle and in the backfield.

Upon graduation in 1928, George was appointed Johnny Prep coach; in 1950 he was made Athletic Director and has served in that capacity to the present time without interruption. When the late Joe Benda moved to Notre Dame in the fall of 1937, George dropped his Prep coaching reins to become the college mentor for the next four years. His 1938 gridders copped the last conference bunting won by a St. John's University eleven.

Durenberger's tenure in the Athletic Director's post has seen tremendous development and expansion in the physical education department and in intramural sports participation. "Big George" is taking time out from his other duties to handle the Johnny varsity linemen.



**REV. WALTER REGER, O.S.B.**

Father Walter Reger, O.S.B., whose warm hand has been greeting alumni for the past twenty-five years is as much a part of St. John's to many former Johnnies as any integral part of the institution.

Starting out with his ordination in 1921 his subsequent years are filled with many varied activities. In 1922 he became a member of the administrative body here at the university and has been affiliated with some phase of administration ever since. From 1924 through 1928 he served his college apprenticeship as Dean of the High School.

Throughout his life he has been a friend of athletics and has always advocated healthy sports for all young men as an aid in gaining a sound mind and a sound body. Early in the '20's he became a faculty representative of St. John's in the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and remains in that position today.

In 1943 he became Alumni Secretary and every alumnus knows his postcards, letters, and Records that so frequently bring ex-Johnnies back to the campus.

Through the years he has been a professor of history and has served terms as Dean of Men. Presently he is chairman of the Athletic Board here at the University.

1952 10 04 Program p.5 Durenberger, Rieger, Hiller, in the SJU Archives



...and:



NAUMICK CHEVALIER Co-Captain  
M.L. CHRISTOPHERSON Co-Captain

**ALMA MATER**

High above the Sagstagen,  
Tow'ring o'er the oak and pine,  
Proudly stands our Alma Mater—  
Ever let her banner shine.  
Light our high bar torch of bearing;  
With her prisms fill the sky,  
Fill the azure vault of heaven,  
Never will her glory die.

**Refrain:**

Alma Mater, we'll be loyal—  
Ever here and prouder thy name,  
Hail, all hail, St. John's, our mother,  
We thy honor will proclaim.

**FIGHT SONG**

Fight, you Johnnies! Fight, you Johnnies!  
Stand and fight like men for old St. John's.  
Fight, you Johnnies! Fight, you Johnnies!  
You are Alma Mater's own true sons.  
Show the world what S.J.U. can do—  
The fighting Johnny spirit will win them,  
Make the vic'ry greater!  
For your dear old Alma Mater  
And the Cardinal and Blue,  
Rah! Rah! Rah, Rah, Rah,  
U-Rah! St. John's,  
Rah! Rah! Rah, Rah, Rah,  
U-Rah! St. John's.



**1952 HOME  
FOOTBALL SCHEDULE**

- Sept. 20—Hamline, 2:30
- Oct. 4—St. Olaf, 2:30 (Homecoming)
- Oct. 11—Augsburg, 2:30
- Oct. 25—St. Thomas, 2:30

**1952 - 53  
BASKETBALL SCHEDULE**

NOV. 20—EAU CLAIRE Y. C.	HOME
DEC. 1—ST. J. DISTRICT	AWAY
DEC. 6—ST. PETER'S Y. C.	HOME
DEC. 6—ST. CLAUD Y. C.	AWAY
DEC. 6—GUSTAVUS	HOME
DEC. 14—ST. THOMAS	HOME
DEC. 14—CONCORDIA	AWAY
DEC. 20—NORTH DAKOTA STATE INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT AT AUGUSTA COLLEGE, MINN.	
JAN. 4—ST. CLAUD Y. C.	HOME
JAN. 10—HAMLINE	HOME
JAN. 10—DULUTH BRANCH	HOME
JAN. 10—GUSTAVUS	AWAY
JAN. 10—AUGSBURG	AWAY
JAN. 10—ST. MARY'S	AWAY
FEB. 1—ST. THOMAS	AWAY
FEB. 1—DIXON FALLS Y. C.	HOME
FEB. 1—HAMLINE	AWAY
FEB. 1—MACALESTER	AWAY
FEB. 14—DULUTH BRANCH	AWAY
FEB. 14—AUGSBURG	AWAY
FEB. 21—ST. MARY'S	HOME
FEB. 21—MACALESTER	AWAY
FEB. 21—CONCORDIA	AWAY

1952 10 04 Program p.6 co-cpts, song lyrics, in the SJU Archives  
 1952 10 04 Program p.7 photo, schedules, in the SJU Archives

...and:

### ST. JOHN'S FOOTBALL ROSTER 1952

No.	Name	Home	Pos.	Wt.	Ht.	Year
*20	Julian Gasperlin	Albany	QB	162	5'10"	Sen.
*21	Tom White	Lakeville	QB	160	5'10"	So.
22	Jim Lehman	Brooksville	QB	161	6'	Fr.
23	Jim McCord	Underwood, N. D.	RB	161	5'7"	So.
24	Jim Bass	Sloopy Eye	RB	157	5'9"	Jun.
*25	Ardel Vlasovic	Grand Forks, N. D.	QB	161	5'9"	Jun.
26	James Vick	Crookston	C	165	5'11"	Jr.
27	Dou Westbrook	Sauk Centre	LB	162	6'	So.
28	Tom O'Brien	Rockford, Ill.	RB	177	5'10"	Sen.
*29	Monroe Chevrolet (Co-captain)	Green Isle	C	166	6'1"	Sen.
*30	Bill Brown	Melrose	RE	178	6'	Jun.
31	Ray Schmitz	Peabody	FB	172	5'11"	So.
32	Bob Forester	Fairbank	RG	190	6'	Jun.
*33	Jerry Meyersburg	St. Paul	RB	165	5'11"	Jun.
34	Don Stogdink	Marquette, Wis.	LB	165	5'9"	Fr.
35	Bob Larson	Edina	C	198	6'2"	Jun.
*36	Jerry Horvy	St. Paul	RG	210	5'10"	Sen.
37	Charles Hyde	Wahpeton, N. D.	RE	181	6'	So.
*38	Jim Sexton	St. Cloud	LT	197	6'2"	So.
39	John Gahbarli	St. Cloud	LG	191	5'10"	So.
40	Ed Lennister	Glenwood	FB	207	6'1"	Fr.
41	Charles Miller	Waverille	C	182	5'11"	So.
*42	Bill Christopherson (Co-captain)	Austin	LE	198	6'1"	Sen.
*43	Pat Lewis	Duluth	LT	198	6'2"	Sen.
44	Mike O'Brien	Belle Plaine	FB	194	6'	Fr.
*45	Clay Schoenbauer	New Prague	RT	207	5'11"	Jun.
46	Bill Thomsen	Angora	LT	200	6'	So.
*47	John Vachnka	Jackson	RE	198	6'2"	Jun.
48	Jack Norton	Hutchinson	LT	185	6'	Fr.
49	Lester Lilly	Duluth	LE	195	6'1"	So.
50	Earl Williams	St. Paul	LT	190	6'	Fr.
*51	Dink Coy	Diavers	RT	225	6'2"	So.
52	Bob Hinton	Sauk Centre	RE	197	6'1"	Sen.
49	Tony Hoffmann	Albany	C	176	5'11"	Fr.
53	Dink Hoffman	Pigeonome	RE	176	5'11"	Fr.
52	Scott Francis	Wabano	LT	227	5'10"	Fr.
*53	John Schwab	Lafayette	FB	187	6'1"	Jun.
44	Bob Kaufman	Redwood Falls	RG	200	6'	So.
*55	Harry Christian	Le Centre	FB	175	5'11"	Jun.

\* denotes letterman

#### ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY

PROBABLE STARTING LINEUP

LE	LT	LG	LB	RB	RT	RE
Christopherson	Hyde	Anderson	Larson	Norton	Wick	Vachnka
42	38	41	35	27	34	47

LE	LT	LG	LB	RB	RT	RE
White	Wick	Miller	Westbrook	Hoffmann	Wick	Vachnka
31	26	33	27	34	34	47

\* INQUIRY LIST \*

26	Julian Gasperlin	QB	162	5'10"	Sen.	
21	Tom White	QB	160	5'10"	So.	
22	Jim Lehman	QB	161	6'	Fr.	
23	Jim McCord	RB	161	5'7"	So.	
24	Jim Bass	RB	157	5'9"	Jun.	
25	Ardel Vlasovic	QB	161	5'9"	Jun.	
26	James Vick	C	165	5'11"	Jr.	
27	Dou Westbrook	LB	162	6'	So.	
28	Tom O'Brien	RB	177	5'10"	Sen.	
29	Monroe Chevrolet	C	166	6'1"	Sen.	
30	Bill Brown	RE	178	6'	Jun.	
31	Ray Schmitz	FB	172	5'11"	So.	
32	Bob Forester	RG	190	6'	Jun.	
33	Jerry Meyersburg	RB	165	5'11"	Jun.	
34	Don Stogdink	LB	165	5'9"	Fr.	
35	Bob Larson	C	198	6'2"	Jun.	
36	Jerry Horvy	RG	210	5'10"	Sen.	
37	Charles Hyde	RE	181	6'	So.	
38	Jim Sexton	LT	197	6'2"	So.	
39	John Gahbarli	LG	191	5'10"	So.	
40	Ed Lennister	FB	207	6'1"	Fr.	
41	Charles Miller	C	182	5'11"	So.	
42	Bill Christopherson	LE	198	6'1"	Sen.	
43	Pat Lewis	LT	198	6'2"	Sen.	
44	Mike O'Brien	FB	194	6'	Fr.	
45	Clay Schoenbauer	RT	207	5'11"	Jun.	
46	Bill Thomsen	LT	200	6'	So.	
47	John Vachnka	RE	198	6'2"	Jun.	
48	Jack Norton	LT	185	6'	Fr.	
49	Lester Lilly	Duluth	LE	195	6'1"	So.
50	Earl Williams	St. Paul	LT	190	6'	Fr.
51	Dink Coy	Diavers	RT	225	6'2"	So.
52	Bob Hinton	Sauk Centre	RE	197	6'1"	Sen.
53	Tony Hoffmann	Albany	C	176	5'11"	Fr.
54	Dink Hoffman	Pigeonome	RE	176	5'11"	Fr.
55	Scott Francis	Wabano	LT	227	5'10"	Fr.
56	John Schwab	Lafayette	FB	187	6'1"	Jun.
57	Bob Kaufman	Redwood Falls	RG	200	6'	So.
58	Harry Christian	Le Centre	FB	175	5'11"	Jun.

SCORE	1	2	3	4	TOTAL

#### ST. OLAF COLLEGE

PROBABLE STARTING LINEUP

LE	LT	LG	LB	RB	RT	RE
Verheid	Otto	Wick	Wick	Wick	Wick	Wick
21	21	21	21	21	21	21

LE	LT	LG	LB	RB	RT	RE
Verheid	Otto	Wick	Wick	Wick	Wick	Wick
21	21	21	21	21	21	21

\* INQUIRY LIST \*

18	Earl Williams	B	190	6'	Fr.
19	Clay Schoenbauer	B	207	5'11"	Jun.
20	Bill Thomsen	B	200	6'	So.
21	John Vachnka	B	198	6'2"	Jun.
22	Jack Norton	B	185	6'	Fr.
23	Lester Lilly	B	195	6'1"	So.
24	Earl Williams	B	190	6'	Fr.
25	Dink Coy	B	225	6'2"	So.
26	Bob Hinton	B	197	6'1"	Sen.
27	Tony Hoffmann	B	176	5'11"	Fr.
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30	John Schwab	B	187	6'1"	Jun.
31	Bob Kaufman	B	200	6'	So.
32	Harry Christian	B	175	5'11"	Jun.

\* INQUIRY LIST \*

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19	Clay Schoenbauer	B	207	5'11"	Jun.
20	Bill Thomsen	B	200	6'	So.
21	John Vachnka	B	198	6'2"	Jun.
22	Jack Norton	B	185	6'	Fr.
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28	Dink Hoffman	B	176	5'11"	Fr.
29	Scott Francis	B	227	5'10"	Fr.
30	John Schwab	B	187	6'1"	Jun.
31	Bob Kaufman	B	200	6'	So.
32	Harry Christian	B	175	5'11"	Jun.

1952 10 04 Program p.24 Roster, in the SJU Archives  
 1952 10 04 Program p.15 lineups signals Coke ad, in the SJU Archives

...and the dorm that opened a year earlier:



St. Mary's Hall

### Football at St. John's

Football at St. John's began in 1900, when the Johnnies lost their entire schedule (two games) to "St. Cloud High School." Both games ended in 5-0 scores. John O'Leary was the student coach, captain, and star fullback.

For the next ten years, the grid sport flourished at SJU, although the Johnnies took on very few college teams. During the first world war, the sport was discontinued, and was resumed again in 1920. Except for the war years of 1943 and 1944, football teams have represented St. John's every year since.

George Durnberger, present athletic director, was the first Johnny gridder to receive all-state honors. He was named on the mythical team in 1925, and repeated three times.

Joe Benda was on his second year at the Johnny helm when the Bluejays came up with their first championship team. Under Benda, the Johnnies also tied for the crown in 1935 and 1936. Durnberger was coaching when the Johnnies took top honors in 1938.

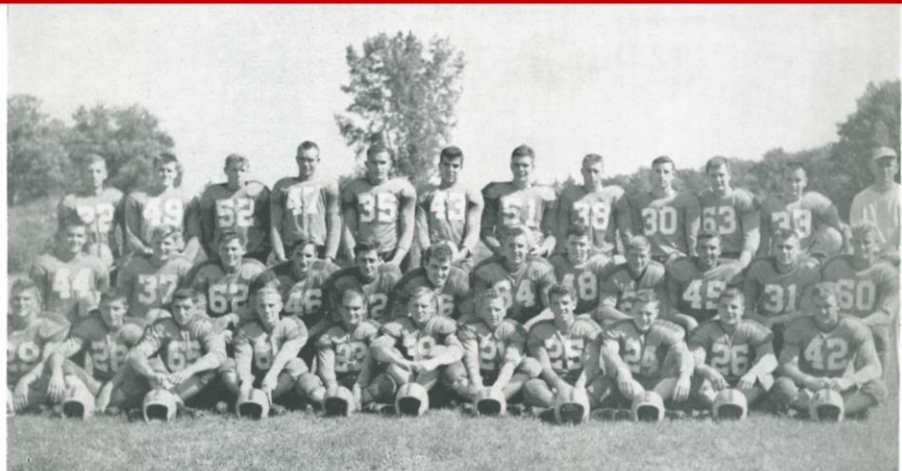
Since the war, Johnny teams have usually finished in the upper division, although they haven't seen a championship in recent years. The 1945 all-civilian crew won only one out of seven. In 1946 they won five and lost three. The 1947 team won three out of five. In 1948 the J men were beaten twice while winning six games, and in 1949 they won six and lost two also. In 1950 the Johnnies won six

### Homecoming History

1925—Hamline 14	St. John's 7
1927—Augsburg 21	St. John's 6
1929—Hamline 24	St. John's 0
1931—Macalaster 14	St. John's 13
1933—St. John's 0	Hamline 0
1934—St. John's 12	Macalaster 0
1935—St. John's 19	St. Mary's 0
1936—St. John's 13	Concordia 0
1937—St. John's 25	Concordia 7
1938—St. John's 6	Gustavus 0
1939—St. John's 25	Concordia 0
1940—St. Mary's 21	St. John's 7
1941—St. Thomas 20	St. John's 6
1942—St. John's 20	Macalaster 0
1943—War, no football	
1944—War, no football	
1945—St. Olaf 20	St. John's 6
1946—St. John's 26	Macalaster 0
1947—St. John's 19	Hamline 12
1948—St. John's 20	Augsburg 7
1949—St. John's 27	Augsburg 12
1950—St. John's 27	Augsburg 12

1952 10 04 Program p.26 FB history, Mary Hall photo, in the SJU Archives

...and of course the team photo:



First Row - left to right—Maurice Chevalier, Tom O'Mera, Harry Christian, Dick Halloran, Jim McCord, John Gebhardt, Tom White, Ardel Vilandre, Jim Haas, Roger Vannelli, Bill Christopherson.  
Second row - left to right—Mike O'Brien, Charles Hyde, Scott Franta, Bill Theisen, Bob Forester, Jerry Hovey, Bob Aufenthic, John Norton, Don Westbrook, Clem Schoenbauer, Ray Schmits, Tony Hofman.  
Third row - left to right—Jim Lehman, Jim Lilly, Bob Sintzen, John Vachuska, Bob Larson, Pat Lewis, Dick Coy, Jim Sexton, Bill Braun, John Schwob, Jerry Meysenbourg, Coach John McNally.

1952 10 04 Program Team photo on back cover, in the SJU Archives

# Oles vs. Johnnies; Jays Up For Homecoming

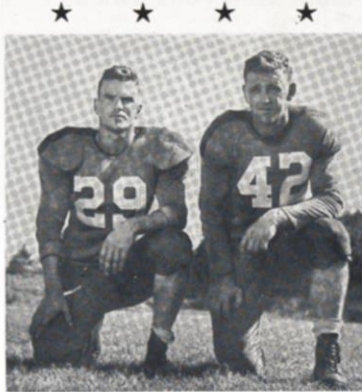
## Loose Ends by Dick Christopherson

Without a doubt this is the worst season for injuries in the history of football at St. John's. Since the Johnnies put their pads on they have been plagued with injuries. Curly Gasperin was the first on the ever-growing list when he aggravated an old knee injury which sidelined this potential star permanently.

Everything went along peacefully until the second quarter of the St. Cloud TO game—then the roof fell in! At times it looked as though John McNally had set up two way traffic to the bench as the gridgers were running in one minute and being helped off the next. A tally of the night's operations consisted of: two broken noses, one cut eye, two twisted knees, two boys dazed and a twisted ankle.

You don't have to be big to play football, and where can we find better proof of this than right here at St. John's. Take a look at Tom White. There is 160 pounds of fighting fury all wrapped up in a 5' 8" form ready to play rock-sock-sock football with the best of them.

White, a nickname picked up at SJU, has the nimbleness of



CO-CAPTAINS of the Johnny football team which meets St. Olaf here in the Homecoming game October 4 are Maurice Chevalier, battling captain from Oles, and Bill Christopherson, do-or-die past member from Austin.

## McNallymen Humble Teachers; Unleash Power In 19-7 Triumph

## Duluth Hosts Johns Tomorrow; Ademen Threaten Gala Event

St. Olaf, a former affiliate of the MIAA, will renew its rivalry with St. John's on the gridiron October 4 in an afternoon game as a climax to the Johnny homecoming activities. Although the Oles finished one place behind the Jays last year, they have been given recognition as the team to beat in the Midwest Conference.

In past years, these two teams have been fairly well matched as to material and have emerged with six victories apiece.

Twenty-four lettermen bolster Ade Christenson's squad and should provide him with experience in every position.

The Oles' backfield works with plenty of know how. Quarterback Clint Sathrum, the Oles' passing ace, will run the T formation offense, with probable starters Paul Johnson at fullback, Captain Runkel at right half and Dick Werdahl, one of the top ten scoring threats last year as a frosh, at left half.

St. John's will probably be at near full strength for the Homecoming tussle, barring more injuries at Duluth Saturday night. Casey Vilandre and Tom White, the "patched-up" quarterbacks, will work as long as the trainer can keep putting them back together. With either of these two stars in the lineup, the Jays are sure to open up with a passing attack which until the closing minutes of the Hamline game lay dormant. Jim Sexton, out with an ankle injury, may not get in against Duluth but should be ready for St. Olaf.

Meanwhile, UMD, who has already battled a strong Superior State team to a 6-6 tie, will play host to the Jays tomorrow evening in a conference tilt. This will be the sixth meeting of these two teams and


Using the single wing and T-formations as their tools, the Hamline Pipers tipped St. John's 21-19 Saturday, September 20. The Jays, tallying in the last three periods as compared to the Pipers scoring which came in the first three cantos, drove 75 yards in the fourth quarter only to have all important time run out with the ball resting on the Hamline seven-yard line and four tries to tuck in the decisive points.

## Toussaint, Pipers Surprise Jays, 21-19

By Mike Ruddy

1952 09 26 p.3 The Record

<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/cdm/ref/collection/CSBArchNews/id/31364>



CO-CAPTAINS of the Johnny football team which meets St. Olaf here in the Homecoming game October 4 are Maurice Chevalier, battling center from Green Isle, and Bill Christopherson, do-or-die pass-grabber from Austin.

## McNallymen Humble Teachers; Unleash Power In 19-7 Triumph

By Tom Whalen

● A spirited St. John's football eleven opened the 1952 season in fine form by defeating their oldest non-conference rival, St. Cloud TC, 19-7, on the Huskies field, Sept. 13.

The Teachers were expected to repeat their victory of last year,

but once play began it was very obvious that the Jays were anything but the underdogs.

The Johnnies first scoring drive came in the early minutes of the opening quarter when they took a Huskie punt on their own 22-yard line and went all the way without losing possession of the ball. Ardell Vilandre did the honors as he carried the ball into pay dirt from the five-yard line. Curly

**Intramurals**

1952 09 26 p.3 The Record

<http://cdm.csbsju.edu/cdm/ref/collection/CSBArchNews/id/31364>





CO-CAPTAINS of the Johnny football team which meets St. Olaf here in the Homecoming game October 4 are Maurice Chevalier, battling center from Green Isle, and Bill Christopherson, do-or-die pass-grabber from Austin.

## McNallymen Humble Teachers; Unleash Power In 19-7 Triumph

By Tom Whalen

● A spirited St. John's football eleven opened the 1952 season in fine form by defeating their oldest non-conference rival, St. Cloud TC, 19-7, on the Huskies field, Sept. 13.

The Teachers were expected to repeat their victory of last year,

but once play began it was very obvious that the Jays were anything but the underdogs.

The Johnnies first scoring drive came in the early minutes of the opening quarter when they took a Huskie punt on their own 22-yard line and went all the way without losing possession of the ball. Ardell Vilandre did the honors as he carried the ball into pay dirt from the five-yard line. Curly

dirt from the five-yard line. Curly Gasperlin's conversion was good and the Jays took a 7-0 lead.

The Huskies threatened to score in the fading minutes of the first half as they had the ball on the Jay two-yard line and four downs to make it. On their first attempt quarterback Borgert threw a pass into the end zone intended for Miller, but Harry Christian intercepted it and was brought down in the end zone for a touch back.

The half ended with the Johnnies still on the long end of the 7-0 score.

The McNally men opened the second half with just as much strength as they did the first quarter, taking the kick-off on their own 20 and going all the way to pay dirt without relinquishing the ball once.

Intramurals

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Harry Christian

Tom White

Tommy White carried the ball over from the five-yard line to give the Johnnies their second marker of the game. Gasperlin missed the uprights with his kick and the score stood at 13-0.

A pass interception by Harry Christian on his own 25 set up the Jays' third and final score of the game.

Vilandre took off on the longest run of the game, carrying the ball from his own 33-yard line to the Huskies' 17. From there speedster Jimmy Haas ran around end to score. Gasperlin missed his kick and the final score stood at 19-7.

Ardell Vilandre

Jim Haas

Don Westbrook

But as we shall see, the interception was really made by number 27, Don Westbrook!

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1952 10 04 Program p.23 White photo, in the SJU Archives

1952 10 04 Program p.16 Haas photo, in the SJU Archives

Other photos from Team photo in program, back cover

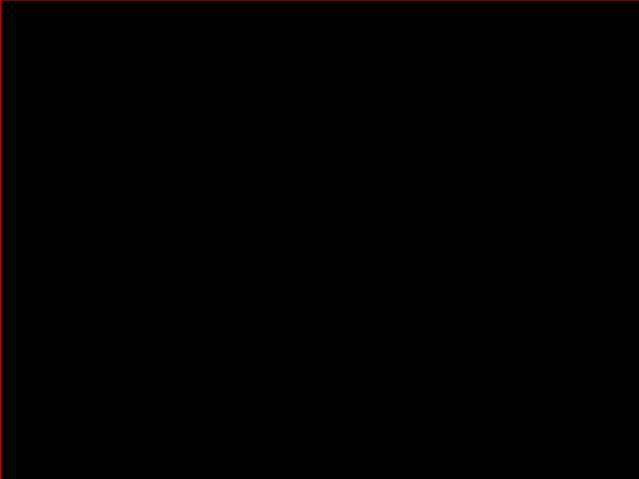
21 White: QB in program, HB in yearbook

65 Christian: FB in program, HB in yearbook

25 Vilandre: QB in program, QB in yearbook

24 Haas: RH in program, HB in yearbook

27 Westbrook: LH in program, HB in yearbook



**25** Ardell Vilandre  
**24** Jim Haas  
**65** Harry Christian?  
**27** Don Westbrook

(Edited from <http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/ref/collection/stc/id/8266>)

Three SJU vs. SCSU games are online: **1952, 1956, and 1962**

NOTE: *Film footage provided courtesy of the Archives at St. Cloud State University*

Edited from *Minnesota Reflections* SCSU films of the game, Part 2:

<http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/ref/collection/stc/id/8266>; thanks to SCSU Archives and archivist Tom Steman.

This clip shows the longest run of the game by quarterback Ardell Vilandre, a touchdown run by running back Jim Haas, an interception by Don Westbrook (though the *Record* article attributes it to Harry Christian), and the teams mingling at the end of the game.

Watch them in Minnesota Digital Libraries' *Minnesota Reflections*,  
a database of digitized original materials shared by cultural heritage organizations

<http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/>

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Minnesota Reflections website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'Home', 'Browse All', 'Favorites', and 'Help'. A search bar is prominently displayed, containing the text 'john's university football' and a search button. Below the search bar, there are three main content areas: 'Browse by Topic' (showing a woman reading), 'Browse by Contributor' (showing a historical scene), and 'Browse by Format' (showing a colorful illustration). The footer contains logos for partner organizations: Clean Water Land & Legacy Amendment, Minnesota Historical Society, Minitex, Minnesota Digital Libraries, and DPLA. A small text block in the center provides information about the funding and partners of the Minnesota Digital Library (MDL).

<http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/>

Minnesota Digital Libraries' *Minnesota Reflections*, a database of digitized original materials shared by cultural heritage organizations in MN

As of Sept. 2015, three games between SCSU (then SCTC) vs. SJU are online:  
9/20/1952, 9/15/1956, and 9/15/1962

THE OFFICIAL ATHLETICS SITE OF SAINT JOHN'S UNIVERSITY

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**FIRST GARY FASCHING SHOW, TAPE-DELAYED GAME BROADCAST AIRS TONIGHT ON ...**

COLLEGEVILLE, Minn. – The first "Gary Fasching Coaches' Show," and tape-delayed game broadcast of Saint John's 45-9 win over Dubuque (Iowa) Sept. 5, is scheduled to air at 7 p.m. tonight on KOOL-TV. [KOOL-TV](#)  
[Full Story](#)

VIEW STORY ARCHIVE

SJU « • » 13 GOLF UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA INVITATIONAL JOHNNIES JOHNNIE GOLF FINISHES 16TH A

Compiled in September 2015 from resources in the Saint John's University Archives and Minnesota Digital Libraries' *Minnesota Reflections* by Peggy Landwehr Roske, CSB/SJU Archivist.  
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<http://www.gojohnnies.com/index.aspx?path=football> Sept. 16, 2015