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.
Also had spoofs about Adolf Hitler...not so funny in retrospect.
Skipping way ahead, to April 1970:

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 cockles of any middle aged businessman's heart.

Students' use of humor ultimately prevails; work begins on a new athletics complex, i.e. the Warner Palaestra

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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 flaunted power the new ploy 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 Minnesotan colleges.”

President Colman’s crewcut

The Record
April 1970
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 quiet, but secure, community of Collingville was shocked to learn of a new romance concerning a county relationship between Whining Faur, SDB, vice-president of annual affairs, and Lisa Hooker, CISC, vice-president for illicit affairs.

News of the scandal broke early yesterday morning when an anonymous caller to The Record, a local newspaper, told of the couple's affair.专项 is currently running around with Lisa. He reports that he didn't have anyone but me. Does, I'm pleased.

A crack detective reporter was on Faur's tail immediately. After being followed for an exhausting fifteen minutes or more, Faur was seen meeting the Quad through the main door of the rectory at 9:30 a.m. yesterday morning. At 9:34 Hooker was seen walking out the same door. A number of the rectory's windows were broken, but no one was seen leaving.

The doorknob was seized, but for a short while Hooker and Faur were able to escape. The rectory was turned over to the police, and an investigation is underway.

Safe sex

The Record, May 1987

Mug in SJU Archives
Timid holds Board of Rejects hostage
SJU president demands lifetime appointment

By Becky Higa

Hilary Timid, SJU's vice president for student affairs, announced Monday that he will not allow any new students to enroll at the university for the next six months.

The move was made to force the Board of Trustees to approve a proposal by the president, which would allow him to remain in his post for life.

"The best thing about being president is that I can pass my own laws without asking questions," Timid said. "This is the only way I can get a good job.

News of the proposal spread quickly, and students at SJU were shocked. "I can't believe they're going to do this," one student said.

Campus security was notified of the situation by SJU president Ken McGraw, who was presenting a planned session on the subject of freedom of speech at the meeting. "I clipped it out because I knew they were going to do something like this," he said.

In the meantime, Timid has begun a campaign to keep his job, and has already begun setting goals for his new position.

Study-free dormitory offered

By Mike Arak

SJU students flock to the Campus Full of Life Office this week to grab a spot in the newly announced Study-Free dormitory.

The dormitory was proposed by the Alumni Association and approved by the Board of Trustees. It will open on Sept. 1.

"I figured if students weren't interested in living in a dorm and didn't need dorm life, they should get what they want," McGraw said. "I think it's a great idea for the students.

According to McGraw's proposal, students who live in the dormitory are "freed from engaging in any of the activities which could, in any way, be counterproductive. Each activity"

1988-05-12, The Record p.1
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchNews/id/37240/rec/11
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*

A young and virile John Gagnoparty celebrates at the news of archivist Woody Hayes' death this spring.

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 Alksnevitski

The SJU Al Oke Library has announced that all SJU/CSB students wishing to study in its facility will now have to do so nude. The measurement was following the publishing of a joint study, conducted by the Al Oke and CSB's Alumnae Library, which revealed that nude students showed pronounced positive effects on their student's ability to concentrate.

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

The results of the study, which were printed in the weekly professional library publication Boodle, Boodle, and many more Boodle showed that those students participating in the experiment claimed that the distraction of their clothing was no longer a distraction.

In addition, the study revealed that those with feelings of inadequacy were less concerned after being able to see those they felt threatened by. One of those students involved in the experiment told her boyfriend that 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 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," he said. "I can't tell you for sure if this has helped me in my concentration, but it's a start on my theology term papers."

One female participant agreed. "I always used to watch nervously as none of my fellow SJU/CSB students walked around campuses in those tight shirts with no buttons. I've always been jealous," she concluded. "But now I've discovered that these guys either have puffed fans or a huge supply of toilet paper. Just knowing that I can now wear a shirt and not my old cotton, which is very helpful in my study habits."

Carmon told the Recluse this week that the new policy has garnered mixed reviews from those in the SJU/CSB community. "The most surprising we've received has come from the romantic community."

In the raw

continued on page 4

May 1988
...and continuing into the 1990s:

May 1997

The Retort

SJS takes over St. John's

ROT C storms Life Safety weapons vault

By Angela A. Sherr

Staff Writer

The tensions between the last two weeks have resulted in an increase in the number of people attending St. John's University. The student body has been divided between those who support the university and those who oppose it. The Student Organization for Student Affairs (SOSA) was formed to address these issues. The SOSA is a group of students who are interested in improving the campus experience for all students.

SOSA's goal is to create a more welcoming and inclusive environment on campus. They have been working to increase the number of student activities and events, improve campus security, and address concerns about discrimination and marginalization. SOSA's efforts have been met with mixed reactions from students, staff, and faculty.

SOSA's most recent initiative has been the creation of a new student center. The center will be a space for students to gather, study, and socialize. It will also serve as a hub for student organizations and events.

In addition to the student center, SOSA has been working to improve campus facilities and amenities. They have been working with the university administration to address issues such as housing, dining, and transportation.

SOSA's dedication to improving the campus experience has been met with some resistance from the university administration. Some administrators have expressed concerns about the cost of these initiatives and the potential impact on the university's budget.

Despite these challenges, SOSA remains committed to its mission. They believe that by working together, students can create a more vibrant and inclusive campus community.
...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 Rehine.

Timid told a crowd of about four students and twenty-four monks that SJU was now wearing the “rank of its competitors.” In my understanding of the matter that this elegant building, one that we unpromptedly dedicate, articulately 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 architect Willie Boletting, 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 bite 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 Leso

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 6:35 a.m. approached, the thunderous roar 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.

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 Herb'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.

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

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 Bowalist

Last week, students, parents, and alums were shocked to learn of a mass “extermination” of unruly SJU students who have consistently refused to observe 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 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 Gap Kellems, Vice President of Student Affairs and Fetus Konner, one of those dumb guys. After a lengthy discussion, Pogoschick, Kellems 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 us 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 Lot simply because they feel like it. Something had to be done.”

“As a result of these moronic, bastard students were corralled into the hall...”

Reveals 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

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 in silence, many of them crying for their mothers. Public response to the murders was not necessary nice, however.

“I 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
[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 Patrick Egan

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

Dunstan, O.S.B.

D/T/me
Image from Institutional Advancement’s image archive