

LEADING BATTERS		SCORES		Opponents	
		SJU			
Klein	.397	4	Carleton	3	
Shea	.342	3	Morris	4	
O'Connell	.303	5	St. Cloud State	2	
Coleman	.272	1	St. Thomas	3	
Outten	.255	1	Augsburg	2	
Growchowski	.250	2	St. Mary's	5	
Haskins	.250	3	St. Mary's	2	
Balestri	.218	3	St. Thomas	2	
Simons	.204	11	Macalester	8	
Stuhldreher	.207	3	Macalester	4	
Froelich	.206	7	Augsburg	2	
Supalla	.202	3	Gustavus	0	
Mohs	.200	7	Gustavus	2	
Coach—Kohorst		1	Concordia	3	
Co-captains—O'Connell, Stuhldreher		0	Concordia	3	

— 1968 —

The appearance of Fr. Dunstan Tucker on the baseball coaching staff in 1968 came as a complete surprise both to himself and to his assistant coach Thomas Hamm, a former Georgetown University baseball player and member of the Detroit baseball chain. Fr. Dunstan had retired from coaching in 1950 and devoted the next eighteen years exclusively to university academic duties. Following his retirement as academic dean in 1967 and his return from Europe six months later, he was approached to coach the college baseball team until a new arrangement might be made to settle a problem that had arisen in the University-Prep School athletic relations.

Following the resignation of Ed Hasbrouck in 1964, Elmer Kohorst, at that time the Prep School baseball coach, was appointed to the position of college baseball coach while he was still a full-time member of the Prep School faculty. It was an arrangement which the headmaster of the Prep School, Fr. Gregory Soukup, O.S.B., did not approve. He asked that Mr. Kohorst take over the Prep School baseball team and that the college should provide for its own coach.

The 1968 team inherited by the new coaches was well disciplined and capable. Holdovers from 1967 were two sterling pitchers, Dennis Coleman and Terrence Schmitz, Mike Shea at third base, James Mohs at shortstop, and converted outfielder Tom Klein at first base. "Jay" Simons starred in centerfield and was flanked by Virgil Meyer and Dave Haskins, with back-up support from Mike Donovan and several promising freshmen: James Burrows, Thomas Breen, Michael Backes, Douglas Nachbar, and Roy Glover. Sidney Outten, a catcher with great potential, had not yet reached his peak. Gary Wehrwein, also a catcher, had occasional arm trouble to handicap his best efforts. Lee Harren, a southpaw pitcher, was exceptionally promising, but being

uncertain of his educational objectives, he entered the armed services, to return to complete his college work only in 1972.

The overall record for 1968 was ten victories and six losses. The Jays ended the conference season in second place with eight wins and four losses. The conference standings were the following:

LINE-UP		PITCHERS' RECORDS		
		W	L	
Bernard Bartholomew	Fr. p	Coleman	5 3	
Thomas Breen	Fr. 2b	Schmitz	3 2	
James Burrows	Fr. ss, of	Harren	2 1	
Dennis Coleman	Jr. p	CONFERENCE STANDING		
Michael Donovan	So. of	St. Mary's	8-2	
Roy Glover	Fr. 2b	St. John's	8-4	
Lee Harren	Fr. p	Augsburg	7-4	
Dave Haskins	Jr. of	Hamline	6-6	
Thomas Klein	Jr. 1b	Concordia	2-3	
Virgil Meyer	So. of	St. Thomas	4-6	
Douglas Nachbar	Fr. p, of	Macalester	3-7	
Sidney Outten	Jr. c	Gustavus	2-8	
Terry Schmitz	Jr. p	SCORES		
Michael Shea	Jr. 3b	SJU	Opponents	
Jerome "Jay" Simons	So. of	5	Morris	7
Gary Wehrwein	Jr. c	6	Morris	1
Michael Backes	Fr. of	3	Augsburg	6
James Mohs	Sr. ss	13	Hamline	12
Coach—Fr. Dunstan Tucker		2	St. Cloud State	4
Assistant—Thomas Hamm		9	Carleton	6
Captain—Dennis Coleman		0	St. Mary's	9
RECORD		1	Macalester	2
Overall: 10 wins 6 losses		4	Macalester	0
Conference: 8 wins 4 losses		1	St. Thomas	0
Conference—2nd place		3	Gustavus	0
		8	Gustavus	6
		3	Hamline	1
		2	St. Thomas	1
		0	St. Thomas	5
		2	St. Mary's	1

— 1969 —

Despite two pre-conference losses to Morris, the 1969 MIAC race opened with bright hopes for the conference championship. The squad numbered six seniors, five juniors, five sophomores, and five promising freshman candidates. Once the selections for positions had been made, the team blossomed out into a well-balanced organization that eventually captured the MIAC title with a record of eleven wins and three losses.

Highlights of the season, strangely enough, were the final two victories over St. Mary's at Winona by scores of 5-3 and 2-0. St. Mary's had played almost faultless baseball the entire season and any misplay on the part of the Jays could throw the championship to the Redmen.

The two games were pitched by veteran seniors Denny Coleman and Terry Schmitz, with Sidney Outten catching the best games of

his college career. Over and above the pitchers and catcher, the outstanding players were Michael Shea, third base; Tom Klein, captain and first baseman; and Thomas Breen, second base. In the first St. Mary's game the two teams were tied from the fourth inning to the ninth, when St. John's pulled ahead with a four-run rally, only to have St. Mary's retaliate with two runs. The Jays survived and won 5-3—the winning pitcher was Dennis Coleman.

The second game was still more suspenseful. Terry Schmitz shut out the Redmen 2-0 but got into trouble in the seventh inning by a streak of wildness when he walked two batters and found himself facing a situation with men on first and second and none out. In a brilliant play, catcher Outten threw to second and caught the runner off base for the first out. Then followed a pop-up to the second baseman Breen and a routine ground-out, shortstop to second, for the third out and the championship, the first since 1958.

Dennis Coleman, Terry Schmitz and Tom Klein were named to the 1969 all-conference baseball team.

LINE-UP			SCORES	
			SJU	Opponents
Michael Backes	Fr.	if	1	Morris 5
Thomas Breen	Fr.	2b	1	Morris 3
Dennis Coleman	Sr.	p	7	Gustavus 1
Jim Burrows	So.	cf	3	Gustavus 1
Reese Doffing	So. ss,	2b	10	Carleton 3
Roy Glover	Sr.	2b	6	Augsburg 7
Dave Haskins	Sr.	rf	6	Augsburg 7
Bruce Hentges	Fr.	of	10	Concordia 5
Thomas Klein	Sr.	1b	0	Concordia 4
John Linnemann	Sr.	ss	3	Macalester 5
Virgil Meyer	Jr.	of	7	Macalester 0
Victor Moore	Fr.	p	6	St. Thomas 3
Tom Muchlinski	Fr.	p	5	St. Thomas 3
Douglas Nachbar	Fr.	of	3	Hamline 1
Sidney Outten	Sr.	c	6	Hamline 4
David Schafer	Fr.	p	5	St. Mary's 3
Terry Schmitz	Sr.	p	2	St. Mary's 0
Michael Shea	Sr.	3b	Conference—championship	
"Jay" Simons	Jr.	ss		
James Taddei	Fr.	of		
Gary Wehrwein	Sr.	c		
James Winkels	Fr.	c		

Coach—Fr. Dunstan Tucker
 Assistant—Thomas Hamm
 Captain—Klein

PITCHERS' RECORDS

	W	L
Coleman	6	1
Schmitz	3	2
Muchlinski	2	0
Moore	2	1

LEADING BATTERS

	Ave.	RBI
Outten	.400	10
Shea	.355	19
Simons	.288	4
Klein	.237	11
Meyer	.333	4
Mike Backes	.323	6
Burrows	.213	7

RECORD

Overall: 13 wins, 4 losses
 Conference: 11 wins, 3 losses

— 1970 —

The 1970 baseball season was essentially a rebuilding period. Lost from the 1969 championship team were all-conference seniors Mike Shea and Terry Schmitz, plus equally deserving stars Dennis Coleman, Sidney Outten, and Tom Klein, all of them key factors in winning the 1969 championship. The 1970 outfield was equal to that of 1969 since it was made up of the 1969 trio: Haskins, Burrows and Virgil Meyer. But in the infield the catching, pitching, first and third base positions had to be filled with two juniors, Douglas Nachbar and Michael Backes, and inexperienced freshmen and sophomores.

The spring tryouts were rendered practically impossible because of bad weather conditions, and hence the Jays dropped the first two conference games to a St. Mary's team that was fresh from an extended training tour in the warm South. The team shaped up quickly, however, and won nine of the next twelve games to take second place in the MIAC behind St. Mary's with a record of eight wins and six losses.

The team's batting for 1970 was deficient both in averages and in timeliness, .238. Jimmy Burrows, star centerfielder both in 1969 and 1970, batted for an average of .319. Larry Reuter in a limited number of times at bat hit for an average of .450. Burrows was awarded a position on the all-conference squad in the outfield.

LINE-UP			SCORES	
			SJU	Opponents
Daniel Abbott	Fr.	3b	5	Morris 8
Mike Backes	Jr.	3b	5	Morris 7
Wm. Baumann	Sr.	p	3	St. Mary's 7
Thomas Breen	Jr.	2b	5	St. Mary's 9
Jim Burrows	Jr.	cf	3	Gustavus 6
Don Carlini	Fr.	1b	1	Augsburg 3
Kevin Cashman	Fr.	of	4	Augsburg 1
Steven Dooley	Fr. ss,	2b	5	Carleton 3
Reese Doffing	Jr.	ss	5	Macalester 1
David Haskins	Sr.	of	2	Macalester 0
John Linnemann	Sr. ss,	2b	4	St. Thomas 3
Virgil Meyer	Sr.	of	0	St. Thomas 1
Victor Moore	So.	p	1	Concordia 0
Tom Muchlinski	So.	p	6	Concordia 2
Douglas Nachbar	Jr. p,	1b	14	Hamline 2
Don Nierengarten	Fr.	p	4	Hamline 9
Robert Ohnsorg	Fr.	of		
Bernard Reimer	Fr.	2b		
Larry Reuter	Fr. p,	1b		
David Schafer	So.	p		
"Jay" Simons	Sr.	ss		
Mark Sovell	Fr.	of		
Robert Stoy	Fr.	2b		
James Taddei	So.	rf		
James Winkels	So.	c		
Joseph Dirkson	Fr.	p		
Coach—Fr. Dunstan Tucker				
Assistant—Michael Shea				
Captain—Simons				

RECORD

Overall: 9 wins, 7 losses
 Conference: 8 wins, 6 losses

PITCHERS' RECORDS

	W	L
Moore	3	3
Muchlinski	2	2
Schafer	2	1
Nachbar	2	0
Nierengarten	0	1

— 1971 —

Fr. Dunstan planned to give up coaching at the end of the 1970 baseball season but was deterred by the failure to find a qualified successor who would coach the team for one only season, approximately three months. It was with reluctance that he took over the team in 1971, and especially after a disastrous four-day training trip into Iowa which could have been spent more profitably at St. John's than traveling on a bus.

His fears were amply justified when some of the key members of the team sustained injuries that proved to be crippling. Jim Burrows, star centerfielder, hurt his arm and was unable to throw from his position for the entire season. Reese Doffing, shortstop, also developed a case of tendonitis in his throwing arm and dropped off the team early in the season. The coach was thoroughly dissatisfied with his own handling of the team, and since none would fire him as they would in professional ball, he fired himself by resigning (like writing one's own obituary). He asked Athletic Director George Durenberger to arrange if possible a transfer of Elmer Kohorst from the Prep School baseball team to the college team. Coach Kohorst rallied the squad in the last four games remaining on the schedule to end the season with two losses and two victories. The illness of Terry Haws, from which he died in 1973, opened up a full-time place on the college athletic staff to which Coach Kohorst was appointed in 1972.

The overall record of the 1971 team was four wins and thirteen losses; the conference record was three wins against eleven losses, exclusive of the training trip.

— 1972 —

The 1972 baseball season must be passed over with the briefest of comment. The 1972 scorebook has been lost or misplaced and the *Record* contains only a preliminary article regarding the prospects for the coming season. The only information regarding the outcome of the 1972 season available is the preview for the year 1973.

From the preview of the 1973 season we learn that the year 1972 ended with an overall record of eight wins and eight losses and a conference record of six victories and eight defeats. The team's final MIAC standing was probably fourth place, according to the usual outcomes at this level in previous years.

The 1972 pitching staff, composed of Lee Harren, Thomas Muchlinski, Brian Vucinovich, John McDonald and Donald Nierengarten, compiled an excellent earned run average of .253 that was counter-balanced by an anemic team batting average of .219—which accounts for the disappointing won-loss record of the season.

Outfielder James Fier hit for an average of .270 and led the squad in the number of runs batted in. Fier was placed on the MIAC all-conference baseball team for 1972. Other members of the squad mentioned in the preview were Dick Humphrey, catcher, Don Carlini, first base, Steve Ward, shortstop, Philip Johnson, second base, and Donald Abbott, third base.

— 1973 —

The 1973 team commenced spring training with high hopes for the MIAC championship. Though they did not attain their coveted goal, the general quality of play was a decided improvement over that of 1972, mainly through the addition to the squad of a freshman pitcher, Charles "Chuck" Viskocil. Viskocil proved to be the outstanding pitcher of the year with three wins and three losses and a healthy earned run average of 2.59. The overall record for the year was ten wins and thirteen losses, the conference record seven games won and nine lost.

Offensive stars in 1973 were all veterans of 1972: James Fier, Dick Humphrey, Paul Schmit, Donald Geng, Steve Ward, Daniel Abbott, followed closely by freshman Jerry Haugen and Chuck Viskocil, pitcher, who himself carried a batting average of .272. There was no particular reason why the team did not do better in the won-lost column because the batting was above average and the team spirit was high. Coach Elmer Kohorst shortly before the last two games on the schedule expressed his disappointment: "We haven't been able to put things together this season. Our hitting has been better this year, but our pitching has suffered." Though the team had failed to realize its full potential, he nevertheless commended it for its continued effort: "They never threw in the towel. They were never content just to play out the schedule."

LINE-UP		David Schirber		Fr.	ss
Daniel Abbott	Jr. 3b, ss	Paul Schmit	Jr.	of	
Donald Carlini	Jr. 1b	Doug Spanton	So.	c	
H. Foehrenbacher	Fr. 2b	Charles Viskocil	Fr.	p	
James Fier	Jr. of	Steve Ward	So. ss,	3b	
Donald Geng	So. of, dh	Thomas Witt	Fr.	p	
Gary Greenheck	Jr. p	Coach—Elmer Kohorst			
John Grunst	Fr. c	LEADING BATTERS			
Jerome Haugen	Fr. of		Ave.	RBI	
Lee Harren	Jr. p	Fier	.347	9	
Dick Humphrey	Sr. c	Ward	.326	10	
Charles Johnson	Fr. 1b	Schmit	.292	10	
Phil Johnson	So. ss, 2b	Humphrey	.292	8	
Bob Kaczowski	Jr. p	Viskocil	.273	2	
John McDonald	Jr. p, of	Geng	.250	3	
Craig Mauer	Jr. 3b	Abbott	.239	7	
Don Nierengarten	Sr. p				

SCORES		9	Macalester	0
SJU	Opponents	2	Macalester	3
4	Morris	3	Gustavus	15
0	Morris	7	Gustavus	3
2	Moorhead	0	Concordia	1
4	Moorhead	4	Concordia	0
2	St. Cloud State	PITCHERS' RECORDS		
4	St. Thomas	12		
7	St. Thomas	4	W	L
2	Carleton	3	Viskocil	3 3
7	Carleton	5	Vucinovich	1 0
26	Hamline	1	Nierengarten	1 3
7	Hamline	0	Harren	1 2
3	Duluth	4	Kaczrowski	0 1
4	Duluth	0	McDonald	1 1
3	Augsburg	4	Conference—5th place	
3	Augsburg	8	Overall: 10 wins, 13 losses	
4	St. Mary's	12	Conference: 7 wins, 9 losses	
0	St. Mary's	3		

— 1974 —

In 1974 Coach Elmer Kohorst had his banner year, the MIAC baseball championship. It was a great year for the Jays, with tight pitching and clutch hitting climaxed at the end of the season by the play-off games for the NAIA national championship. The Kohorst teams had been gradually growing stronger over a three-year period through the addition each year of new blood and the retention of the core of players of the previous seasons. Finally, by 1974 he had the best balanced team of his coaching career up to this time—seven seniors, eight juniors and eight sophomores. The 1974 team was ready for its great moment with superior pitching and catching, a strong infield and outfield defense, and a strong running attack that had been developed in the new Warner Palaestra. Leading hitters were Steve Ward, .360; Jerry Haugen, .344; and Henry Foehrenbacher, .333.

The Jays came to the play-offs after building up a conference record of twelve wins and two losses with four well-established pitchers: Chuck Viskocil (5-0), Lee Harren (5-0), Bob Kaczrowski (2-1) and Tom Witt (2-1). St. John's won the first of the play-off games with Viskocil limiting Marshall Southwest State University to one run on five hits to St. John's two runs on six hits. The following two games were close with the teams tied 0-0 until the seventh inning. The seventh inning of the second game the Southwesterners won to score a run on a single, a stolen base that put a man on second, and another hit that scored him. It was Harren's first loss of the year. The third game was won by Southwest in the seventh inning on a two-base hit followed by an infield error that permitted the runner to score from second with the winning run, 1-0. It was a cold, drizzly day that added no cheer to the disappointment of the Jays.

Coach Elmer Kohorst praised his tri-captains, Jim Fier, Paul Schmit and Steve Ward, for the high spirit and never-say-die attitude that animated their teammates throughout the season. Though the team worked as a unit and each player contributed his share to the success of the year, the overall star was Chuck Viskocil, who rang up an imposing record for a total of seven wins and one loss. When not pitching he was generally the designated hitter. He batted a solid .265 and drove in five runs. John Grunst and Brian Vucinovich, catchers, must rank among the top five or six fine catchers of St. John's history.

The 1974 season added four Jays to the all-conference list at the end of the season: Charles Viskocil and Lee Harren, pitchers; Donald Geng, outfield; and Steve Ward, third base.

LINE-UP			SCORES	
Steven Feneis	Fr.	3b	SJU	Opponents
James Fier	Sr.	rf	6	Winona State 8
H. Foehrenbacher	So.	2b	0	Winona State 8
Donald Geng	Jr. of,	dh	4	Concordia 0
Gary Greenheck	Sr.	p	3	Concordia 2
John Grunst	Fr.	c	2	St. Cloud State 3
Lee Harren	Sr.	p	3	St. Thomas 1
Jerry Haugen	Jr.	of	1	St. Thomas 0
Mark Hollenhorst	Fr.	of	4	St. Olaf 2
Robert Jajtner	Jr.		3	St. Olaf 2
Charles Johnson	So.	1b	5	Hamline 1
Phil Johnson	Jr.	ss	9	Hamline 1
John McDonald	Sr. of,	if	4	Duluth 2
Craig Mauer	Sr.	1b	0	Duluth 4
Michael Murn	Sr.	p	3	Augsburg 0
Paul Schmit	Sr.	lf	6	Augsburg 2
Douglas Spanton	Jr.	c	3	St. Mary's 0
Charles Viskocil	So.	p	2	St. Mary's 4
Brian Vucinovich	Sr.	c	4	Macalester 1
Steven Ward	Jr.	3b	7	Macalester 0
Thomas Witt	So.	p	Conference—championship	
Coach—Kohorst			NAIA PLAY-OFFS	
Tri-captains—Fier, Schmit,			2	Southwest State 1
Vucinovich			0	Southwest State 1
			0	Southwest State 1

PITCHERS' RECORDS		
	W	L
Kaczrowski	2	1
Viskocil	5	0
Witt	2	1
Harren	3	0

LEADING BATTERS		
	Ave.	RBI
Geng	.417	5
Ward	.357	5
C. Johnson	.333	4
Schmit	.310	6
Viskocil	.265	5
Haugen	.255	6
Foehrenbacher	.269	4

— 1975 —

The unfortunate and unlooked for resignation of Coach Elmer Kohorst left the Director of Athletics with the task of finding his successor. After making several inquiries without success, it was de-

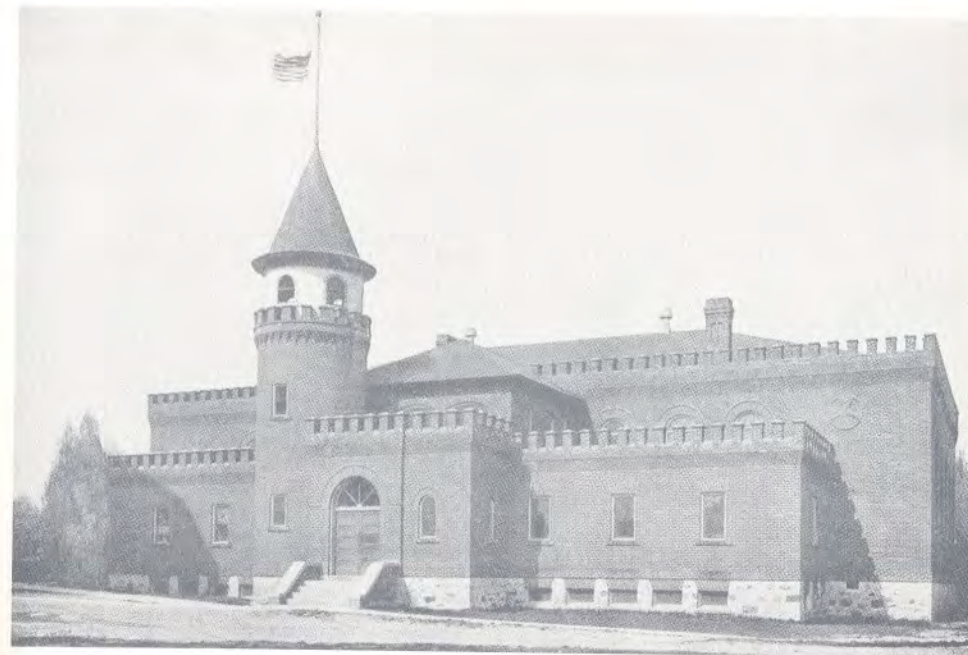
cided to transfer the Prep School coach, Jerry Marlow, to the college position. The new coach found himself confronted with the problem of a team greatly depleted by the graduation of eight key members from the 1974 championship aggregation. The problem was made more acute by the failure of Chuck Viskocil, the 1974 ace, to return to St. John's.

On the other hand, there were seven lettermen who had returned, and Coach Marlow was assured of veterans on which to build a representative infield. In the outfield he still had Donald Geng and Jerry Haugen, together with Steve Ward (third base)—three all-conference selections from the previous year. Ace of the pitching staff was Tom Witt who had pitched creditably the year before with a record of two wins and one loss. New candidates for the pitcher vacancies were sophomores Rich Laba and Michael Murn, and senior Matthew Williams.

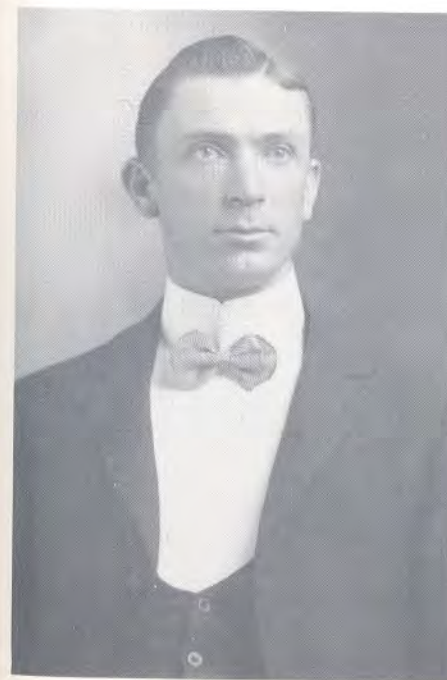
With the opening of the conference the Johnnies managed to split even with St. Mary's, Concordia and Augsburg, after which they lost six games to St. Olaf, Duluth, Gustavus, and Hamline, while winning only three. At the end of the conference season the team had lost nine games to six won and an MIAC rating, according to the *Record* reporter, "somewhere below fifth place."

Disappointing as the season was to those who expected a better showing following a championship season, an examination of the scores shows that five of the games were lost by one run and four by two runs, any one of which could have been won by a timely single here or there. Seen more objectively, 1975 was a rebuilding year.

LINE-UP			PITCHERS' RECORDS		
Michael Carr	So.	lf	Murn	W	L
H. Foehrenbacher	Jr.	2b	Lab	2	2
Donald Geng	Sr.	rf	Lab	2	2
John Grunst	So.	c	Williams	1	2
Dave Hartmann	Jr.	c	Witt	1	3
Jerry Haugen	Sr.	cf			
Mark Hollenhorst	So.	lf	SCORES		
Charles Johnson	Jr.	1b	SJU	Opponents	
Phil Johnson	Sr.	ss	0	St. Mary's	9
Mark Kosiek	So.	ss	6	St. Mary's	0
Richard Laba	So.	p	1	Concordia	3
Kelly Murn	So.	p	5	Concordia	3
Jeffrey Norman	Fr.	dh	7	Augsburg	6
Timothy Talbot	So.	1b	3	Augsburg	9
Steve Ward	Sr.	3b	6	St. Olaf	15
Thomas Witt	Jr.	p	4	Duluth	6
Jeff Fadness	Fr.	1b	0	Duluth	2
			1	St. Thomas	0
Coach—Jerry Marlow			3	St. Thomas	1
Conference: 6 wins	9 losses		2	Gustavus	3
RECORD			1	Gustavus	2
Conference—"below fifth place"			8	Hamline	9
			4	Hamline	1



The Gymnasium, 1901



St. John's first coach,
Peter Boquel, 1903-05



The second coach,
Harry Comeau, 1905-07



St. John's first football team, 1901. Identifiable with certainty, front row: 3rd from left, John O'Leary, student coach; 4th from left with football, William Malloy, captain and quarterback; sixth, Ignatius O'Shaughnessey, the future multimillionaire and patron of Catholic colleges and universities. Top row, extreme right: Fr. Louis Trauffer, moderator of athletics.



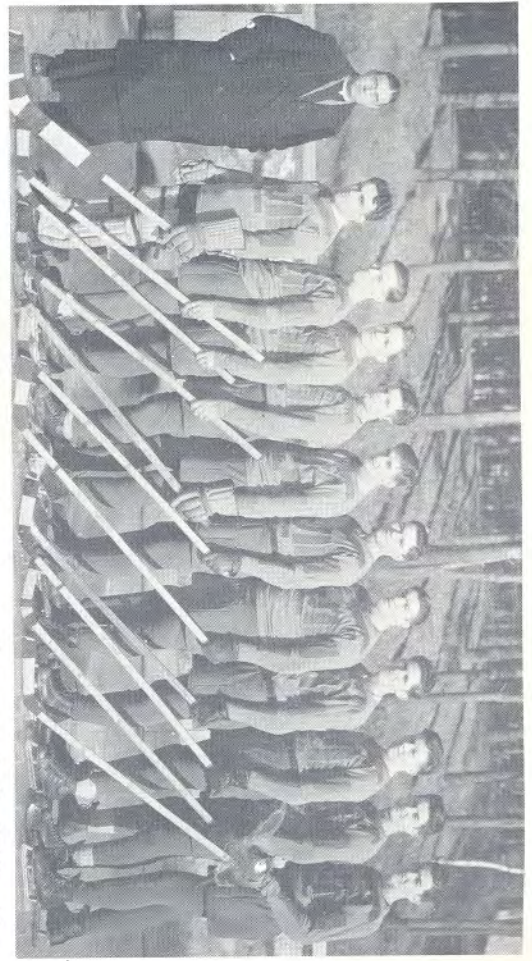
First basketball championship, 1916, in the Minnesota-Dakota Intercollegiate Conference. Left to right: Coach Edward Flynn, Louis Mohs, Bernard Karels (Fr.), Frank Kettler, William Tew, Michael Goblirsch, Albert Flannigan, James (Jake) Schroeder, Urban Knaeble.



St. John's first intercollegiate baseball championship, 1919 (Minnesota-Dakota Intercollegiate Conference). From left, seated: John Daleiden (Fr. Charles, O.S.B.), Leo Witzleben, Matthew Barry (captain), Leonard Kapsner (Fr. Oliver, O.S.B.), August Kapsner (Fr. Roland, O.S.B.). Standing, from left: William (Bart) Rooney, John Cullen, Mathias Weber, Coach Edward Flynn, George Reuter, Francis (Hans) Wagner, Leo Reger.



Northwestern Gymnastics Society Championship, 1918. Seated from left: Roy Barzan and Joseph Jarvis. Standing, from left: Bernard Barzan, Joseph Kaliher, Coach Flynn, Eugene Tracy, Robert Schoenbechler (Fr. Roger, O.S.B.), Matthew Hall. Missing from picture, John Daleiden (Fr. Charles, O.S.B.). Trophies: The Spalding Trophy and the Northfield Club Trophy.



First championship hockey team, 1935. From left: Fr. Damian Baker, coach, Carl Priley (Rev. Priley), Frank Henriksen, George Esterly, Elmer Madsen, John O'Malley, Milton Lydell, Si Ryan, Allen Ross, Robert Kyle, John Devny, Eugene McCarthy.



Basketball team, 1922. From left, seated: Marcel Haines, Melvin McDonald, John Decker, Gordon Tierney, Joseph McGovern. First row, standing: Leo Leisen (Fr. Marcelus, O.S.B.), Maurice Noack, Donald Ryan, Anthony Gornick, Raymond Stein, Coach Cahill. 3rd row, rear: Ernest Koepf, Andrew Wahl, Hugh Connor, John McNally (Johnny Blood).



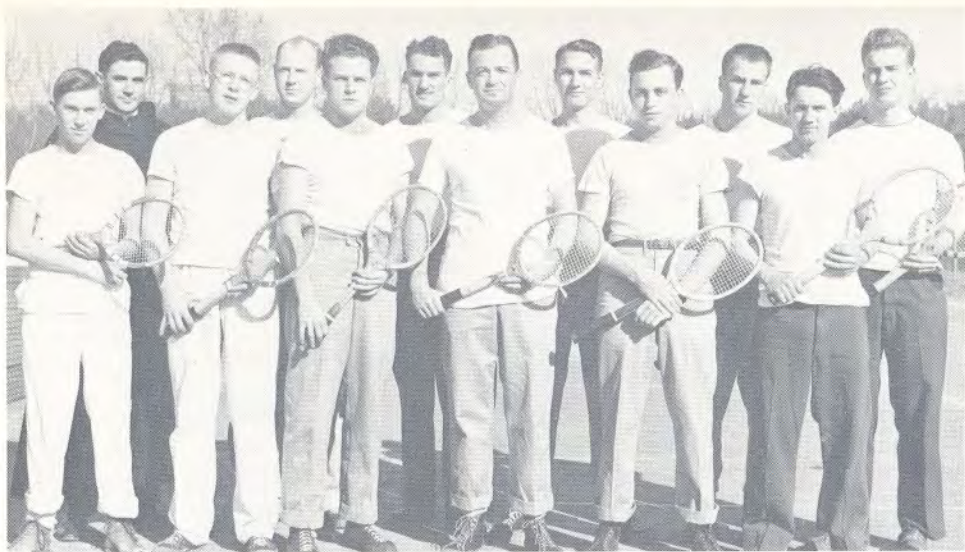
Joe Benda's 1936 championship football team. First row from left: Guido Sartori, John Callahan, Charles "Chuck" Carlin, Francis Johnston, Phil Raths, Lyle Hartman, Clarence LaSelle, Vernon McGree. Middle row: Coach Joe Benda, Avitus "Vedie" Himsl, Maurice "Tiger" Hynes, Quirren Klasen, Charles Trudelle, Lane Scofield (co-captain), Edward Callahan, Frank O'Keefe, John Van Hoof, John Murphy, assistant coach Jim Dincolo. Back row: Adrian Born, Alois Liepold, John Van Buren, Eldred Arth, Frank "Fritz" Schneider, Henry Uberecken, Alvin Tandberg, Austin McCarthy, Syl (Si) Burke, Eugene Stenglein. Missing from the picture are Rudy Prickril and Anthony Schultheis (co-captain) because of injuries.



Joe Benda is an unforgettable figure in the memories of Johnnies from 1930 until his untimely death in 1949 at the age of forty-five years. Here he was met by a photographer when returning to the gym after an afternoon on the football practice field. Joe Benda was a star at end on the Knute Rockne Notre Dame teams of the 1925-29 vintage. He left behind him a record at St. John's of three championships, 55 games won, 32 lost and 8 tied in fourteen seasons. The J-Club originated with the establishment by St. John's lettermen of a Joe Benda memorial scholarship fund for future generations of St. John's students.



1940 Baseball Team. 1st row, from left: Verne Neer, James Chyba, Thomas Paul, John (Jack) O'Connell, Donald Coome, John (Jud) Boerner. Middle row: Robert (Bob) Johnson, Lloyd Perron, Francis (Hack) Nierengarten, Charles Tamborrino, John Heideman, T. Gerald Sheehy, Jerome German. Top row: James Hogan (Fr.), Frank Liewer, Patrick Freuen, Edward Claussen, Ray Schultzenberg, Norbert Vos, Vernon (Chubby) Ebnet, Fr. Dunstan, coach.



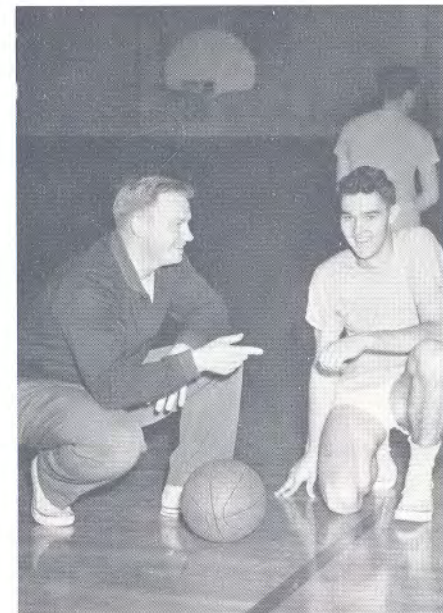
Tennis, 1947. From left: Richard Endres, Fr. Bernardo Martinez, coach, Charles Kohnke, James Griffin, —?—, Co-captain Ken Schoener, Co-captain Joseph McCarthy, William Henry, —?—, —?—, Robert Fleming.



Fr. Joachim Watrin's deer Jubilee (born in Jubilee year, St. John's 100th anniversary) attends football practice and inspects the football.



Halfback Jim Lehman, reversing field, takes off on one of his dazzling runs into opponents' territory.



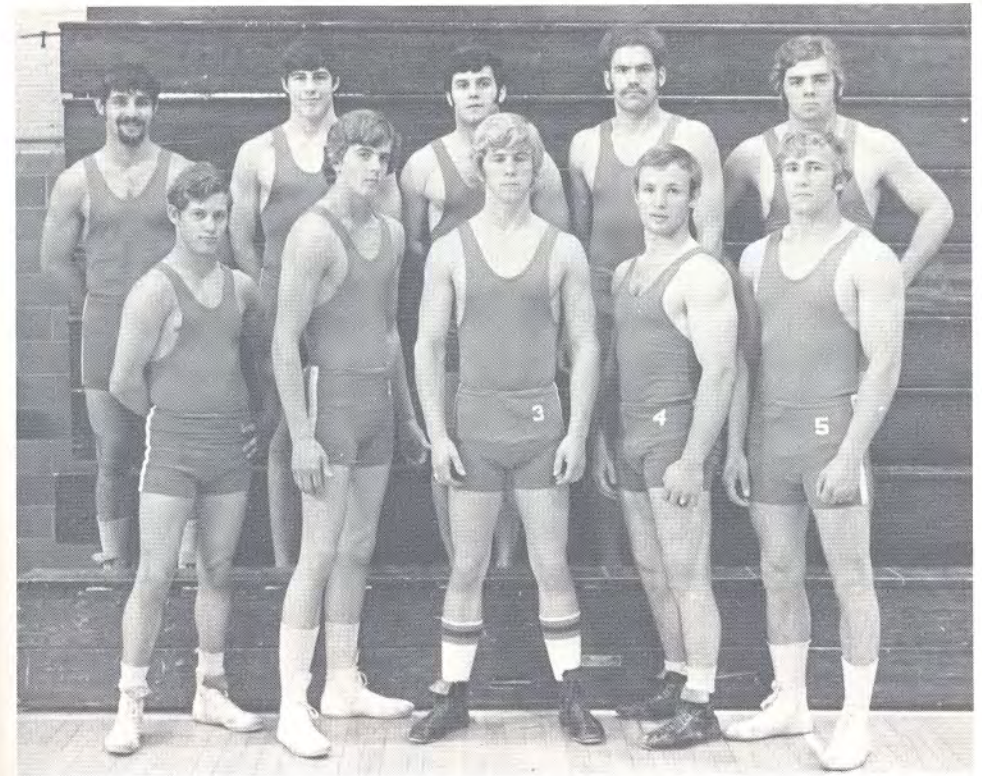
John "Buster" Hiller, basketball coach 1949-53, baseball 1950-63.



Bill Osborne, basketball and baseball coach, 1954-59.



Trophy of St. John's first NAIA National Football championship, won over Prairie View College, Texas, in the Camellia Bowl, Sacramento, California, 1963. The trophy is being carried (from the left) by Craig Muyres, quarterback, John McDowell, tackle, David Honer, guard, and Kenneth Roering, end.



St. John's MIAC wrestling champions, 1971. Lower row, left to right: Terry Elfering, Thomas Svendsen, Gary Svendsen, Anthony Fike, Maury Meyer. Upper row: Dennis Legatt, Jerry Workman, Larry Ackerman, Thomas Miller, Gary Eustice.

At right:
Head Football Coach
John Gagliardi



At right: Terry Haws, coach at St. John's 1967-73, enjoyed a phenomenal career as wrestling coach. He suffered a series of heart attacks while at the peak of his profession and passed away in 1973 while with his team in Cleveland, Ohio, participating in the National Catholic Invitational Tournament.

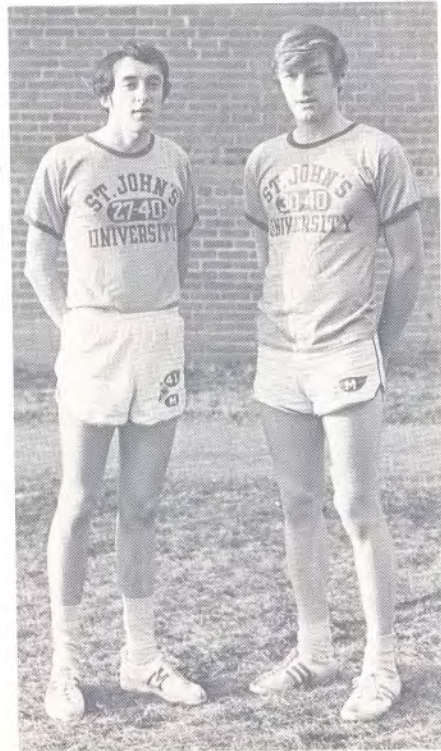




1970 cross-country champions. First row from left: Norbert Schneider, Jon Kallman, John Cragg, Chuck Ceronisky, Joseph Skaja, Jeffrey Brain. 2nd row: Michael Kremer, Kurt Wegleitner, Daniel Metzler, Fran Crain, Chris Crum. 3rd row: Pat Altman, Wayne Rausch, Christopher Rose, Edward Kosiba, Brian Racetti, Coach Smith. 4th row: Joseph Alwes, James Roehlke, Larry York.



Above: Joe Skaja, marathon runner.



Right: John Cragg, distance runner in track and cross-country. Donald Kluck, star hurdler, track.



George Durenberger, St. John's Director of Athletics, 1931-1972



The George Durenberger All Sports Award. Following Big George's resignation from his position as Athletic Director, the J-Club Board of Directors commissioned Fr. Hugh Witzmann, O.S.B., to design an All-Sports trophy to express the Club's recognition of his over forty years of dedication to the promotion of sports on the Johnny campus, especially of those that carry over into adult life. The trophy passes from college to college according to who wins the Conference All-Sports Award conducted annually by the St. Paul Pioneer Press.



National NCAA Champions. Jubilation following the 1976 victory over Towson State, Maryland. The team is still on the field, begrimed and sweaty, holding up the NCAA trophy just won in a blazing, brilliant last 3-second finish.

Forefront: kneeling and holding the trophy, from left, Co-captain Joe Wentzell, no. 74, and Mark Griffin. Standing: James Roeder, co-captain, no. 22, Coach John Gagliardi, Chris Boyd and Tim Fristrom, no. 81. Third row: Dave Grovum, Mike Grant, no. 83. In the rear from the left: Tom Young, Rick Vanlith, James Simons, Rick Weber, Joe Swanson, and Terry Sexton.



1977-78 Johnnie basketball team—NAIA District 13 and MIAC champions. Front, from left: John Barta (trainer), Mike Koshmrl, Pablo Montanez, Gary Putz (co-captain), Pat McKenzie. Middle, from left: Scott Erickson, Mark Lenss, Dan Smith, Ted Nowak, Frank Wachlarowicz (co-captain). Rear, from left: Tom Pflapson, George Chovancek, Brian Silbernick, Paul Wotta, John Patterson, Jeff Kramer, John Harvey.



Coach Jim Smith



Paul Bernabei, '69, captain of 1969 champions

— 1976 —

Coach Dennis Lorsung's first year as head baseball coach at St. John's was in every way a success. His job was to rebuild the team in player personnel and to restore the usual confidence and fighting spirit of what he hoped would be a championship team. His policy was exactly what was needed, the release of tension and the playing of baseball for fun and enjoyment. He did not win the championship, it is true, but he succeeded in creating a "hustlin', hollerin'" team of self-confident ball players.

The 1976 year presented its problems in the course of the season, one of which was the failure to beat off the challenge of Gustavus in the last series of the year. As Tom Kozlak, the *Record* reporter, wrote: "The thoroughbred Johnnie baseball team started fast out of the gate this year, ran neck and neck with St. Olaf most of the way, but like many a long shot, faded in the home stretch to finish 'show' behind the Oles and St. Thomas." In the last week or so of the season the Johnnies met head-on with St. Thomas and Gustavus, two of the powerhouses in the conference. In the first game of the St. Thomas double-header, the Tommies shelled the Johnnies 12-4. The second game, however, was a classic victory (5-2) for Rich Laba, Cleveland Benedictine Prep School's gift to St. John's. The game was highlighted by rightfielder Hollenhorst's homer and a double and triple by centerfielder Jerry Haugen.

St. John's would still have been a contender for the title except that they next faced the surging Gustavus nine and dropped both games of a double-header that landed the Johnnies in third place behind St. Olaf and St. Thomas. Coach Lorsung was disappointed with the ending of the season, but he was also happy to know that the team spirit had been brightened in the way he had planned. He could now look forward to 1977, fairly certain that his team would be among the favorites for the conference title.

LINE-UP

		Ave.
Jerry Haugen	cf	.254
H. Foehrenbacher	2b	.258
Jeff Norman	dh	.436
Mark Kosiek	ss	.157
John Grunst	c	.235
Jeff Fadness	1b	.241
Mark Hollenhorst	rf	.377
Mike Hejny	3b	.227
Mike Carr	lf	.280
Frank Foster	22	.111
Scott Becker	of	.250
John Mee	3b	.000
Joe Schleper	1b	.111
Joe Pfannenstien	c	.000

Tim Fristrom	dh	.333
Brad Weydert	dh	.300

PITCHERS' RECORDS

	W	L
Tom Witt	4	3
Rick Laba	3	2
Kevin Hamilton	1	0
Bob Vorisek	1	1
Tom Jensen	1	0
Tom Nimmo	0	2
Keith Kerfeld	0	0
Dan Bergner	0	1

RECORD

Overall:	12 wins	10 losses
Conference	11 wins	7 losses



The sensational 1979 MIAC and NAIA District 13 champions. St. John's advanced to the NAIA National Tournament and finished the season with an overall record of 27 wins and three losses, no losses in the conference. Front, from left: Mike Burnett, Tom Pflapson, Pat McKenzie, Tim Kosiek, Dundee Kelbel, Pablo Montanez, Chuck Stevens, manager Tom Taylor. Back, from left: assistant coach Sharon Storr, John Russett, Frank Wachlarowicz, Paul Wotta, Dan Smith, John Eisenschenk, Ted Nowak, Steve Fuller, John Patterson, Jeff Kramer, John Harvey, John Davis, coach Jim Smith.



Right: Co-captains Frank Wachlarowicz and Pat McKenzie. Wachlarowicz won four all-conference awards and received All-American honors twice—3rd team in 1978, first team in 1979. He holds the Minnesota college record of 2,537 points in four years of competition. Pat McKenzie was named to the 1979 All-American 2nd team in college basketball.

SCORES					
SJU	Opponents				
3	Morris	2	3	Concordia	0
8	Morris	13	8	Concordia	6
3	Hamline	1	2	St. Olaf	4
6	Hamline	3	1	St. Olaf	2
0	Mankato State	8	13	Duluth	14
4	Mankato State	13	10	Duluth	7
4	Augsburg	7	4	St. Thomas	14
7	Augsburg	4	5	St. Thomas	2
6	St. Mary's	5	8	Gustavus	14
3	St. Mary's	1	3	Gustavus	7
			1	Macalester (forfeit)	0
			1	Macalester (forfeit)	0

Conference—3rd place

— 1977 —

Coach Dennis Lorsung in his second year at St. John's had a great team, both temperamentally and physically. He won not only the MIAC championship but also the coach-of-the-year award. The story of the 1977 season is one of extraordinary happenings—of superb pitching and batting heroics—Pat Christopherson (son of Bill '53) won the conference batting championship; a freshman catcher, John King, who handled pitchers as would a crafty World Series veteran; a pitching staff that kept the opponents' bats silent when occasionally the Johnnie bats were also silent. Then there was the time when, wearied by some thirty games in a period of a month and a half, both the batters and the pitchers began to show the signs of the wear and tear of the season, the team leaders, independently of their coach, then led the hurlers and sluggers to the Warner Palaestra and the batting cage where they solved their problems by practice.

The Johnnies swept the crucial final double-header against Concordia with 21 hits and 44 bases. In the first game the team collected five homeruns: three by Jeff Norman, one by Christopherson, and one by Scott Becker. In the second game, with St. John's trailing 5-3, Kosiek, not ordinarily a slugger, belted a four-bagger. Then Christopherson unloaded another with two men on base for the clinching run and the undisputed championship.

The winning of the championship was a personal victory for Coach Lorsung, and for the players the reward of a united team effort. The season had been a struggle from the beginning. The training trip through Kansas and Arkansas was an ordeal that ended in three wins and nine losses. The games were an example of unequal competition between a northern team just out-of-doors for the first games of the year, and southern teams that had already been playing for a month or more. But once back in Minnesota the Johnnies ran through a schedule of twenty games, fourteen of which were conference contests. They won the championship with only three losses, 11-3, only one

game ahead of runner-up St. Olaf. It was a season of superb pitching as well as extra base hitting. Rich Laba pitched two no-hit games; freshman sensation Randy Sieve hurled one no-hitter and one one-hitter.

In the NAIA play-offs between St. John's and Winona State, champion of the Northern Intercollegiate Conference, to determine which team would represent District 13 in the national tournament, St. John's was not so fortunate. In the first game, pitcher Rich Laba injured his arm and lasted only four innings, to lose 7-0. In the second game, with Randy Sieve on the mound, St. John's won 4-3. The third game was lost by a score of 11-1. Coach Lorsung accepted the decision of fate: "In the last game we just ran out of pitchers."

LINE-UP		Ave.	SCORES*		
			SJU	Opponents	
Jeff Norman	1b	.330	6	Morris	2
Pat Christopherson	lf	.356	1	Morris	6
Michael Hejny	3b	.297	0	Mankato State	5
Tom Foehebnbacher	2b	.250	1	Mankato State	3
Mark Kosiek	ss	.279	2	St. Cloud State	5
John King	c	.190	10	St. Cloud State	5
Scott Becker	rf	.240	7	St. Thomas	0
Michael Carr	lf	.111	12	St. Thomas	0
Tim Fristrom	dh	.400	3	Gustavus	0
Bradley Weydert	dh	.161	2	Gustavus	0
Frank Foster	if	.115	5	St. Mary's	6
Greg Wilkinson	of	.259	7	St. Mary's	6
John Hanowski	c	.182	1	Augsburg	2
Joe Schleper	1b	.111	2	Augsburg	0
John Dziura	ss	.125	12	Macalester	0
Scott Dressen	3b	.000	8	Macalester	3
Charles Degenaar	of	.000	2	Hamline	0
Chris Braun	of	1.000	16	Hamline	0
			14	Concordia	2
			7	Concordia	5

PITCHERS' RECORDS

	W	L
Randy Sieve	4	3
Bob Vorisek	3	3
Rich Laba	4	1
Kevin Hamilton	2	3
Frank Fairbanks	2	1
Dave Rockers	5	1
Tom Jensen	0	2
Tom Petron	1	1
Rod Bailey	0	0
Keith Kerfeld	0	1

* Exclusive of training trip in Kansas and Arkansas

RECORD

Conference: 11 wins 2 losses
Conference—championship

— 1978 —

At the conclusion of the 1978 baseball season Coach Lorsung resigned and accepted the baseball coaching position at his alma mater, St. Cloud State University. It was with regret that his players and many friends learned of his departure. He had earned the respect and friendship of all on the St. John's campus. He was succeeded by Jerry Haugen, '76, a four-year football and baseball star who had played