

approach of winter and the occasional thaws during the winter deprived the team of practice time, either for defense or a strong, aggressive offensive type of play. The fact that the Jays suffered four shut-outs over the season proves conclusively that the 1971 Johnnies were not a high scoring team. What is surprising, however, is that Timothy Broback received all-conference honors despite the weak St. John's attack.

It must be added that the student attitude during the season was indifferent, an attitude shared by the editors of the *Record*, who failed to report the final outcome of the season in terms of conference standings. It was a low finish, for Gustavus was champion, followed by St. Mary's, Concordia, Augsburg, and Hamline in that order.

The team: Timothy Broback, Charles Belland, David Blaylock, Ronald Brown, Don Carlini, Thomas Carlsen, Todd Clark, Tom Colaizy, Barry Dixon, Paul Fontaine, Charles Hippe, David Igo, Patrick Kernan, Jeffrey Milbert, Daniel Moudry, James Petry, Mark Polles, Leonard Przybylski, Michael Rizzi, William Russ, David Van De Velde, Michael Roche.

— 1972 —

In the preview for the 1972 hockey season the *Record* writer reported that the prospects for the future were bleak, black and ominous for the future. No other report was published. The team, it reported, was lacking in quality hockey players from among the upperclassmen and was made up mainly of sophomores and freshmen. Coach Gaston Rheume announced, however, that he was scheduling a large number of games in order to provide the opportunity for the younger players to gain experience. He also appointed Patrick Kernan, his goalie, to be his assistant, and Leonard Przybylski and Jeffrey Milbert co-captains. As an added attraction he promised six cheerleaders to liven up the spectators.

The attempt to improve the situation failed to improve the team, for the *Sagatagan* reports the season results as follows: overall, two wins and sixteen losses; conference, two wins and eleven losses. The only cheerful report to make of the 1972 season was that Patrick Kernan, goalie, was awarded all-conference honors for his work.

— 1973 —

Rarely has a hockey season begun with higher hopes than did the 1972-73 entry. "Come one, come all and see the all-new St. John's hockey team—new players, new plays, new equipment, and a new coach." And tri-captain Mark Polles crowed, "Last year we were a

pushover, but this season . . . we're going to surprise a lot of people!" (*Record*, November 17, 1962).

John Ludwig, a teacher at Apollo High School in St. Cloud, replaced Gaston Rheume, who had little or no success in his last two years at St. John's. But it was not long before the good spirits of the new Johnnies took a nose dive and the season ended with an overall record of five wins and seventeen defeats and a conference record of two wins and eleven losses.

Reasons for the poor showing of the team were never defined, but, regardless of what the real reasons for the decline may have been, the most obvious was the limitation of practice to one hour a day, from six until seven o'clock in the morning at the new St. Cloud indoor ice arena. It was an unwise arrangement at best. Then began the mutual recriminations. The players complained of the coach, the coach complained of the players. The only commendable records of the season were sixteen goals and four assists by Dave Van De Velde and the five goals and ten assists of freshman Stacy Christensen. Highlight of the season was the 22-14 defeat of Gustavus Adolphus in the last game of the season.

The team roster: Charles Belland, Douglas Beutel, P. Matthew Brenk, James Carlson, James Carr, Stacy Christensen, Antonio De-guisippi, Jerry and Rich Fredella, David Haeg, Richard Harren, Peter Hill, David Van De Velde, John Laudon, John Lucachick, Daniel Moudry, Mark Polles, Leonard Przybylski, Michael Roche, James Rothstein, Richard Sitt, Daniel Sherlock, Timothy Schoenberg.

— 1974 —

The wounds of the past year had not been healed over when 1973-74 rolled around. Nevertheless, the preview for 1974 was forward looking and filled with hopes for a new dawn. "Any team that will practice when it is still dark outside has to have something going for it," wrote a sportswriter (*Record*, November 16, 1973).

Coach Ludwig was greeted by a thin group of twenty-eight hockey players that included three very promising freshmen from Minnetonka: Allen "Buzz" Albee, Tom Stovern and Timothy McHale, all three of whom he placed immediately on the varsity team.

But 1973-74 turned out to be another disaster year with a record of six wins, thirteen losses, and a tie. The record approximates that of the previous year, but it also included two losses of 21-0 to Gustavus and 16-1 to Concordia. It was, in fact, a season of dissension that is best passed over with a minimum of comment. The players were rebellious and some refused to follow orders given during the games.

Coach Ludwig resigned, thoroughly disillusioned by the experience, saying that he had met the players half way but that they on their part had refused to reciprocate. "Ultimately," the *Record* commentator wrote, "the success or failure of the hockey program will depend, not on a part-time versus a full-time coach or the presence or absence of artificial ice, but on the players themselves" (*Record*, March 22, 1974).

Team roster: Charles Belland, Stacy Christensen, James Carr, James Anderson, David Igo, Timothy Krueger, Allen Albee, Thomas Stovern, Timothy McHale, Thomas Kozlak, George Noesen, Michael McCarthy, Gordon and Leonard Przybylski, Dave Van De Velde, James Rothstein, Timothy Schoenberg.

— 1975 —

The appointment of David Igo, a 1974 graduate, as head coach of hockey on a full-time basis, brought about a sudden shift in St. John's fortunes. Probably at the insistence of Dave Igo himself, a new arrangement was made with the St. Cloud Municipal Ice Arena for a three o'clock afternoon practice hour to supplant the utterly ridiculous six-to-seven a.m. hour of the past two years.

David Igo was a hard working coach with definite leadership qualities that enabled him to gain the confidence of the young St. John's skaters. The team had the good fortune to have four young freshmen, Rick Larson, Andy Overman, Kenneth Potts and Joseph McGough to supplement the three 1973-74 prizes, Buzz Albee, Tom Stovern and Timothy McHale.

After a first game loss to River Falls State 3-5, the new Johnnies won the next five games that included double-header wins against Hamline and St. Mary's. The season overall record was ten wins versus fourteen losses, and a conference record of eight wins and eight losses for a fifth place finish in the MIAC, the best record in five dreary years.

According to the *Sagatagan*, the success of the 1975 hockey team was due primarily to Dave Igo's leadership and solid coaching, plus the brilliant skating of Stacy Christensen and Rick Larson. Stacy garnered 46 points for first place among the skaters; Rick Larson took second place with 42 points. Other scorers were Andy Overman, Ken Potts, Joseph McGough, Allen "Buzz" Albee, and James Rothstein.

— 1976 —

There is little to write about the 1976 hockey season for the reason that the *Record* failed to give the team names and scores of half the games scheduled. In addition, the *Sagatagan*, that generally supplied

information not found in the *Record*, was not published in 1976. But Stacy Christensen was still on the hockey team and supplied whatever the season lacked in interest.

Stacy Christensen had an interesting career at St. John's. When John Ludwig complained to the team that they were not playing good hockey, Stacy, a product of West High in Minneapolis, explained that they could not get much done in an hour of practice—that in his high school they practiced as much as three hours at a time. In 1976, as captain of the team, he accumulated a season total of 48 points, garnered from 29 goals and 19 assists. He also established the school record of 142 points for four years of college competition, thereby supplanting Mike Musty's 111 points registered in 1968. He won the All-American hockey award and the all-conference award for the second straight year in 1976.

Coach Igo was pleased with his first line of Christensen, Rick Larson, and Andrew Overman as possibly the best in the conference, as also was Bob Hanson the best goalie (*Record*, February 11, 1976).

— 1977 —

Dave Igo's 1977 team was still striving to overcome its reputation as a loser that had been hanging over it from the early 1970's. But they were a daring outfit and scheduled the best teams of the area that were available—Superior-Wisconsin (national NAIA champions for 1976), the Air Force, and Bemidji with its array of Canadian recruits.

The season opened with a loss to the Air Force by a score of 3-6, followed by a 9-7 victory over Superior. Then followed four straight losses to the Air Force and Bemidji until finally they succeeded in defeating St. Mary's 14-7. Once settled down, the Jays managed to roll up a series of victories and ended in the conference with six games won, seven lost, and one tied. The St. John's team finished in fourth place in the MIAC.

Highlights of the season were such games as the rousing comeback from a possible humiliating defeat by Superior from a score of 5-0. Coach Igo was happy with the courage and persistence of his team and looked forward to a better record in 1978.

Squad roster: Anthony Bauer, Dana Carlson, Daniel Dryer, Frank Fairbanks, Richard Gunderson, Robert Hanson, Robert Johnson, Stuart Lindberg, Rick Larson, Timothy McHale, John Mitchell, Mark Nordberg, Andrew Overman, Kenneth Potts, Thomas Stovern, James Vucinovich, Mark Zallek.

— 1978 —

Jerome "Jerry" Haugen, '78, baseball and football star, succeeded Dave Igo as coach of the 1978 hockey team. His appointment was first received with dismay on the part of some of the players but quickly changed when it became apparent that the new coach knew the fundamentals of the game and, in addition, possessed the ability to get the most out of his men. "There is no fooling around now" was the word that quickly passed around.

Coach Haugen had a superlatively good season, due partly to personal drive and a good coaching job, partly also to the fine quality of the team handed down to him from the Igo regime. The season record was ten wins versus four losses, for third place in the conference. Highlights of the season were the defeats administered to Gustavus and Mankato, both powerhouses in the state and picked to annihilate the daring Johnnies. Another crowd-pleasing victory was the defeat of St. Thomas by a score of 5-3, despite a 3-0 lead hammered out by the Tommies in the first period.

Coach Haugen was proud especially of the All-American award to goalie Bob Hanson and the all-conference awards to Hanson, Andy Overman and Rick Larson. James Vucinovich received honorable mention. 1978 was one of the really good hockey seasons in St. John's athletic history!

Team roster: Anthony Bauer, Todd Brandstetter, John Dalton, Tony Delisi, Rick Deslauriers, Daniel Dryer, Frank Fairbanks, Dick Gunderson, Bob Hanson, Thomas Kedrowski, Rick Larson, Mark McCullen, John Mitchell, Mark Nordberg, Thomas O'Keefe, Kenneth Potts, Andrew Overman, Greg Rancone, Peter Weum, James Vucinovich, Mark Zallek.



CHAPTER X

Golf

The history of golf at St. John's should rightfully have a preliminary section entitled "The Birth and Death of a Golf Course"—a strange title to be sure, for after all a golf course is simply a piece of landscape adjusted to provide pleasure for human beings who tramp across meadows, ford water hazards, get into traps and out of them, all in pursuit of a white pellet that finally drops with a plunk into a hole in a bit of turf called a green. But the St. John's golf course! That's a different story—the only school-owned golf course in the state.

The coming birth of the St. John's golf course was announced more or less as a rumor in the April 2, 1925 issue of the *Record* to the effect that St. John's might be planning to build a golf course: "The little white pellets may often be seen flying around the lower campus pursued by enthusiasts of the great old game. Who knows but that St. John's may put in a golf course in the near future!"

A year later, April 29, 1926, the sportswriter noted that some progress had already been made for a golf course. The site of the new course was the area north of the lower campus. "Every afternoon a cavalcade of students with caddies, bags and camp followers wend their way to the hills. The present course is in an ideal location and with some improvements can easily be the best desired."

A year later, 1927, a writer reports hearing loud detonations of dynamite explosions on the course, blasting out stones and stumps that obstructed the fairways. "The work on the greens will be finished after this dangerous work has been accomplished, and then St. John's will

be one of the very, very few but proud possessors of a school golf course" (*Record*, April 28, 1927).

Progress on the newly created course was leisurely. In the fall of 1927 the tees and greens were plotted out, as suggested by golf pro Archie Houle, brother of Coach Bill Houle, and early in the spring of 1928 the Golf Club began making preparations to schedule matches with the other MIAC colleges. They were certain to make a good showing, they said, because they had in their midst two top-flight golfers: "Prospects were never brighter for a formidable golf team. St. John's is fortunate in having two men who probably have no peer in the conference: Walter Moynihan and Joe Ryan." Moynihan, it continues, was the city champion of Sauk Centre, and for the past two years champion of the Central Minnesota Golf Association. Joe Ryan, Brainerd's contribution to golf at St. John's, was city champion of his home town. Besides these two, there was Fred Warner of Minneapolis (*Record*, May 26, 1928).

It is apparent from the above that the golf enthusiasts were planning to field a team for conference competition as soon as the greens were completed. On May 19, 1928, the *Record* reported that "the fairways are clear of stumps and stones and all that remains to be done is the completion of the greens. When they are finished St. John's will have the most picturesque course in this part of the state" (*Record*, May 19, 1928).

Considering the positive statements of 1928, it seems strange that for the next two years there were no references in the *Record* or the *Sagatagan* to conference competition. There was no lack of activity on the campus, however. In 1931 the Golf Club inserted in the *Record* a list of some forty members on whom was placed the responsibility of keeping the greens in good order and the sand surfaces smooth and firm for putting. The impression is that the Golf Club was a smooth working organization, with golfers competing against one another rather than seeking opponents outside the St. John's circle. We read in the *Record* for May 8, 1930, page 7: "The golf course is constantly being attended by the students. This year, more than ever, it is well patronized—a real jaunt for golfers, up and down hills."

Among the members of the Golf Club mentioned in the *Record* during the years 1925-1931 were the following: George Clifford '28, Walter Moynihan '28, Joe Ryan '29, Ray Hite '31, Myron Wiest '31, Roman Niedzielski '31, Rader Hilbe '33, Othmar Janski '31, Fred Hughes '31, Ira Bradford '31, Edward Hennessy '32, Loren Wolter '34, Urban Frey (later Fr. Frederic, O.S.B.) '33, John Devney '33,

Bob Burkhard '34, Wilson Wright '34, Jerome Kramer '33 and Walter Weisgram '33.

In 1931 the club sponsored an 18-hole intramural tournament in which Lorry Wolter (star center on St. John's first football championship team) won a cup as prize for first place. Other prizes were awarded, among them a golf sweater with matching socks donated by the Town Toggery clothing store of St. Cloud. The prevailing note of the few golf articles in the *Record* of the time is that the students were delighted with the course and intent on making St. John's a sort of golfer's paradise.

But in all this enthusiasm the faculty was left out of the picture entirely. It was known that the college president, Abbot Alcuin Deutsch, O.S.B., who had no objection to golf for the students, was opposed to the sport for members of the community. He considered golf a game played almost exclusively by the wealthy, leisured classes of people and opposed to the vow of poverty. Besides, he thought it a waste of time that could be more profitably spent at almost anything else proper in a monastic environment.

It happened, however, that three of the school administrators of the St. John's educational enterprise, like the students, had caught the golf fever, and during the summer months indulged in their new diversion. It might be added that it was necessary to keep their golf activities safe from the abbot's attention, or from the attention of anyone else, for that matter. However, the young director of athletics, George Durenberger, was a companion with them in some of their golf adventures and still loves to tell about the golfing escapades of the three Benedictine administrators, Frs. Mark Braun (later Abbot Mark), Walter Reger and Theodore Krebsbach, all three deans of the various departments of the college and prep school. He writes:

"The clubhouse for the three monks during these years consisted of a long pile of cordwood stacked close to the first tee. The Reverend Fathers tucked their clubs in the woodpile between the cordwood sticks where they usually escaped the rain. One of Fr. Mark's more serious problems was interference from the porter's office. On many occasions he would have to replace his few clubs in the wood pile and return to his office to convince some parents that they should enroll their boy at St. John's.

"Fr. Mark was also a serious reader of the magazines on golf techniques and would often regale his confreres with 'suggestions' for improving their game. But to no avail! Nor did Fr. Mark improve his own game to any appreciable extent.

"The highlight of the monks' adventures took place one balmy summer evening when they were all gathered on the summer porch with the community and the abbot. That evening, out of the generosity of his heart, Bro. Ambrose, a famous community gagster, approached Fr. Mark and gave him a handful of golf balls he had found on the golf course. I never did find out what happened after that because a few of the monks continued to play."

Fr. Mark later said, "It was an acutely embarrassing moment!" He also had a faint suspicion that the episode was one of Bro. Ambrose's practical jokes, for which he had a unique propensity. Rumor has it that the carefree hours spent on the golf course by Fr. Pat O'Neill, O.S.B., a blithe spirit from St. Bernard's Abbey in Alabama, was the reason for the eventual (and inevitable) ban on faculty golf.

— 1931-1933 —

Around 1931 the Great Depression began to make its effects felt in all colleges in some way or another. At St. John's its effects were especially experienced in a decline of interest in golf. Moreover, drawbacks to the St. John's golf course became more apparent as the golfers became better acquainted with the new courses that were springing up in the smaller towns throughout the state.

George Durenberger has vividly described the drawbacks: the first was the fact that the course had been superimposed on the St. John's cow pasture. When the herd began to be increased in size in the early '30s, a handicap that at first was little more than a bothersome hazard suddenly became a major problem. Big George describes the situation: "One of our first major problems was that the cows somehow developed a liking for standing on the greens; cow droppings, plus hoof marks, made putting somewhat difficult. Someone came up with the idea of installing fence posts around the greens with a single strand of barbed wire. This kept the cows off the greens, but it still posed a new problem for the golfers approaching the green. Special ground rules had to be worked out.

"Another problem was the vast accumulation of leaves from the nearby hardwood trees, especially in spring and fall. As someone said at the time, 'A golfer spent one hour golfing and two hours looking for the ball among the leaves.'"

A third problem, a serious one, was the close proximity of the fairways to one another. On several of them a slice or hook could easily cross an adjoining fairway, thus providing a dangerous physical hazard. Not a few players had been struck with golf balls over a season. Finally, when the Depression had touched bottom in 1933 and student interest

in golf had reached a deep low, the administration decided to abandon the course as a safety measure.

— 1934 —

The loss of the golf course was felt eventually by the St. John's student body, some of whom gave up the sport. There still remained a few enthusiasts in 1934, however, who banded into a team of four to represent St. John's in the conference. St. John's finished in last place, with John Bateman, '34, leading the team as captain. Bateman finished in sixth place. Other members of the team were John Dale ('34), Lane Scofield ('36) and Wilson Wright ('34).

— 1935 —

Things picked up in 1935 under the leadership of George Kuklinski, '38, who was a better than average college golfer. In the conference tournament of 1935 he finished in fifth place with a score of 156 for the eighteen holes. Other point makers were Lane Scofield (173), Joseph Kelso (174) and Robert Phillips (187).

Incidentally, George Kuklinski, an ardent golfer, suffered the loss of an eye in 1934 when hit by a golf ball on the St. Cloud Country Club links—an accident that reconciled the St. John's students for the loss of their much appreciated but hazardous golf course.

Little or no notice was taken of the golf teams of 1936 and 1937 in either the *Record* or the *Sagatan*, though the *Sagatan* ran a feature picture of Kuklinski in the 1936 issue. Teams might have been organized in a loose way, though there is no evidence of their having competed in the MIAC in 1937.

— 1938 —

But golf took a turn for the better in 1938 when William "Bill" Browne made a spirited effort to put St. John's back on "golfdom's map." He organized a ten-man team made up of Robert Burns ('38), Don Hellenhorst ('39), Randall Murphy ('41), Thomas Rabideau ('43), George Wegener ('41), Dewayne Wohlleb ('39) and Charles Maher. No reports of the season were made beyond the statement that the team had practiced hard on the abandoned golf course.

— 1939 —

In his second year Coach Browne had several new names to add to his team roster: Richard Maertz ('42), a well-qualified golfer, Edwin Lamb ('39), Dennis Booker ('40), Dan Hoolihan ('42). The 1940 team apparently made only a mediocre showing, for the *Sagatan*, referring

back to 1939, reported: "The Johnnie diggers didn't do much in the Minnesota conference but dig a lot of divots."

Bill Browne's 1940 golfers did not make a much better showing. Just before the conference meet, sports editor Homer "Rod" Hurd wrote a forecast of Bill's linksters: "Forecast? Johnnies to finish outa the chips. Prospects?—About like the weather, which ain't been so good."

Key members of the 1940 golf squad were Bill Browne '40, George Wegener '41, Dennis Booker '40, Rick Maertz '42, James Lamm '41, Eugene Bolger '41, William Hart '43, Henry "Hank" Strobel '43 and Robert Hughes '43.

— 1941 —

Highlight of the 1941 season was the first victory in golf over St. Cloud T.C. by a score of $7\frac{1}{2}$ - $4\frac{1}{2}$. But it was followed immediately by a 10-2 drubbing at the hands of Gustavus Adolphus. In this meet with Gustavus, held on the St. Cloud Country Club course, Henry "Hank" Strobel scored a hole-in-one on the ninth hole. The feat stirred up memories in the mind of George Wegener of the hole-in-one shot he made on the country club course of his native home town, Portal, North Dakota. "At the tender age of fourteen," he recalled, he made a hole-in-one on the tenth green. It was the first international hole-in-one in history. He explained that Portal is located along the line that separates Canada from the United States. The tenth tee-off of the golf course happens to be on the Canada side of the line and the green on the United States side. Therefore, his hole-in-one was the first international hole-in-one and made on the only international golf course in the world.

Actually, the feat was published in Ripley's "Believe It or Not" column, and Wegener was the recipient of several trophies and citations. Incidentally, George was one of the top golfers in St. John's early golf history.

— 1942-'43-'47-'51 —

There are no records of golfing activities at St. John's for the years 1942-43, just after the opening of World War II. Following the war, in 1947, a feeble attempt was made to revive the sport at St. John's with the announcement of a projected match with St. Cloud T.C. that apparently was never played; however, in 1951, five years later, the *Record* announced the resumption of golf in a way that would seem to indicate a real attempt had been made in 1947: "It has been five years since a golf team has teed off in collegiate circles, and although

there are no satisfactory local facilities, the students have expressed a desire to take to the links again" (*Record*, April 12, 1951). The '51 team was granted a \$100 allowance by the athletic department. Team members were Larry Chouinard '51, Jerry Engleson '52, James Van Hercke '51, John "Jack" Litchy '52, James Lilly '53 and Paul Vogel '51.

The luck of the 1951 team varied. St. John's took first place in a triangular meet with St. Cloud and Mankato, but shortly afterwards they were swamped by Gustavus. In the conference the team finished in seventh place, with Paul Vogel St. John's highest scorer.

— 1952-1953 —

No scores were reported for the 1952 and 1953 seasons. A team made up of James Lilly, Bob Hintgen, Jerry Engleson and Joseph Welle was organized in 1952 but none for 1953. Though there is no record of a team in 1954, columnist Dom St. Peter in his "Heavenly Daze" column gave expression to a rumor that plans were brewing to build a links on the picnic grounds across the Watab. "Well, it looks like a golf course may be on the way to becoming a reality here at St. John's We've heard a great deal of talk about a Johnny golf course in the past two years and are happy to see it on the way to become a reality" (*Record*, May 7, 1954).

— 1955 —

On April 1, 1955, a long article appeared in the *Record* proclaiming the near advent of a golf course in the picnic area across the Watab. "St. John's will have its first golf course since 1933 within the next year or two, if the present project proves to be popular enough to be carried to completion For the past three months small crews of frustrated lumberjacks, faculty, collegians and a smattering of preps have been seen carrying axes, saws and other paraphernalia to the pasture area west of the Watab."

Among them were Frs. Conrad Diekmann and Dunstan Tucker, George Durenberger and one student in particular, Dean Hall. Prior to the preparations recounted above, consultations had been held with Joe Ryan '31, Dr. George Clifford '28, and the golf pro of the Alexandria golf course for advice in establishing the locations of tees and greens, and all seemed to be progressing regularly. But then suddenly all work stopped. Athletic director George Durenberger has told the story many times in the past:

"Work progressed slowly but surely. The workmen brought along their chain saws and opened up a fairway through the woods, though

much of the area was clear. My son David remembers the Durenberger family out on the course evenings picking up stones, brush, etc.

"Then came the letters. One said that God had been good to St. John's for ninety-nine years and we must not do anything to offend him. Another wrote that golf was a game only for the wealthy people, so we would be doing our students an injustice, since most of them are poor, by creating an interest and skills for a game economically beyond their means. Another objected to the picnic area: 'If we permit this to happen, the grounds will be surrounded by women in short skirts.'

"Some of this rubbed off on Abbot Baldwin, as I was instructed to stop the work on the course for the sake of peace, and we did."

The athletic director's disappointment was softened by the construction of a second course in St. Cloud and new courses in Albany and Cold Spring, so the demand for golf courses was lessened.

It is well to add that times and attitudes inevitably change. Abbot John Eidenschink, Fr. Alfred Deutsch, and Fr. Leroy Kremer of the St. John's Seminary manage a game or so once a week in the summer with Bill Blattner and Al Siebenand on the Albany course.

— 1956-1957 —

The student golfers of 1956-57 seem to have accepted the cancellation of the golf course plans on the principle that the ways of monks are often strange and inscrutable. But finally Jim Cesnik, sports editor of the *Record* for 1956, queried: "While on the subject of spring sports, one might do well to ask whatever became of the nine-hole golf course hailed in the April 1 *Record* last year, heralding a golf comeback after 20 years of decline" (*Record*, April 13, 1956). He received no reply.

An ambitious golfer by the name of William "Bill" Weber in 1957 assembled a team made up of "Mick" Mullen, Thomas Clifford, Paul Brown and freshmen George Peterson, Timothy Ondahl, Donald Carpenter and Stanley Kucera. It was a reasonably good team, for the Jays took sixth place in the conference in a field of fourteen. Freshman George Peterson won sixth place in individual competition.

— 1958 —

Colonel William Lorimer III of the local ROTC military department was appointed golf coach with George Peterson as his team captain for the 1958 season. It was a solid, substantial team made up of Captain Peterson, Bill Weber, Tim Ondahl, Gary Pendency and freshmen Mike Skwira, Richard Wadden and Ben Ori. The team met opponents on a fairly even basis, breaking the season at about a .500 average.

— 1959 —

It was around this time that it became more and more evident that the reason for the lack of student support for the golf team, and especially the mediocre showings of the Jays in conference meets, was due to insufficient training on the golf courses. It was during the coaching years of Colonel Lorimer that the athletic director, George Durenberger, made arrangements for the free admission of the golf team to the St. Cloud Country Club links. Whether this arrangement was directly responsible for the improvement of the Jays is impossible to say, but the fact is that the golfers for the years 1957-60 were considerably improved in their match play. Of the fifteen candidates from whom to make selections for the conference, Colonel Lorimer selected Captain George Peterson '60, Cedric Waggoner '62, Mike Skwira '61, Lyle Banta '62 and Bill Black '61.

— 1960 —

Coach Lorimer's 1960 golf team was one of the strongest in St. John's golf history up to that time. Team captain George Peterson was the top golfer in the conference and the medalist in the 1960 MIAC tourney (see *Sagatagan*, 1961). During the regular season the team came up with a perfect record and defeated every team in the conference at least once. Unfortunately, the conference meet was held too late for the results to be published in the *Record*. It is known from the official list of championships, however, that Duluth won the 1960 golf title.

Members of the team were the following: George Peterson (captain), Michael Skwira, Eugene Schuster, Cedric Waggoner, Donald Charpentier and David Matuska.

— 1961 —

Colonel Lorimer retired from the army in 1960 and was succeeded by Major John Leonard, also a member of the St. John's ROTC staff. Some of the 1960 golf stars were missing, but among those who returned were two strong lettermen, Captain Michael Skwira and Eugene Schuster, the latter a star performer on the 1960 team. Also on the list of candidates were Frank and Thomas Jelinek, John Borgmann and Kenneth Preimesberger. Among an array of freshmen were Denis Duffy and Jay Dunham.

The first meeting of the year was lost to Hamline 12-3, with freshman Duffy starring. In a quadrangular meet held at St. Mary's, St. John's defeated Gustavus 9-6, but lost to the Maryans 6-9. The John-