

VF  
Ohio  
Quakers  
178

# the Quaker

## student newspaper

VOL. 66 — No. 4

SALEM SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

SALEM, OHIO

FRI., DEC. 21, 1979

## Mr. Viencek's Play A Success

### Connecticut Theatre To Produce Story

"Of Quiet Desperation," a play written by Mr. Robert Viencek, has been chosen from a field of more than 300 entries for performance at the Hartman Theatre in Stamford, Connecticut.

The play, which is scheduled to premier January 30, 1980, tells of conflicts between the members of a small-town family gathered together on Christmas Eve. "The illness and lingering death of another family member serves as a catalyst for bitter feelings and old resentments to surface," Mr. Viencek says. "Unlike traditional American celebrations centering on the birth of Christ, this family is at war with itself. Each character is searching, reaching out. Each in his own way is leading a life 'of quiet desperation'."

The setting of the play is a fictitious town in Pennsylvania on the Monongahela River near Pittsburgh.

About the title of his play, Mr. Viencek said: "One of my favorite writers has always been Henry David Thoreau. I remember the first time I read 'Walden,' I was impressed by the line, 'the mass of men lead lives of quiet desperation'."

The phrase haunted me for years." Mr. Viencek explained that the quote "haunted" him because he found it shockingly true that so many people are frustrated and lead unhappy lives. The quote, he said, "finally served as the basis, inspiration, and title for the play, 'Of Quiet Desperation'."

Mr. Viencek was excited that his play had won, and he had this to say: "The important thing is that you do something with your life. Anytime an individual competes in something, whether sports, politics or in this instance, theatre, if you consider the possibility of winning, you must also look logically at the possibility of losing."

The Hartman Theatre, just 45 minutes from Broadway, was opened in 1975 and has been given the New York Drama Desk Award for outstanding contributions to American theatre. Other plays it will present this season include Anton Chekov's "Uncle Vanya," Agatha Christie's "The Unexpected Guest," Noel Coward's "Private Lives," and Arthur Miller's "A View from the Bridge."

## Food, Book Drive Great Success

by Sean Hart

"As Americans living in a prosperous nation, it is often difficult to imagine that over half the world goes to bed hungry each night. It is very commendable that the students, faculty, and staff of SHS contributed so much to this vital cause."

Those words by SHS English teacher, Robert Viencek, sum up the generosity of the people here at the school. The food and book drive held in celebration of the International Year of the Child by the English department a few weeks ago was very successful. Mr. Viencek and Mrs. Esposito were co-chairpersons of the drive. When asked what she thought of the drive, Mrs. Esposito said that she thought it went well and hoped that the drive could be continued on a yearly basis.

Over 700 items of food were collected and given to the Salvation Army and the Red Cross for distribution in this area during the Christmas season. The books that were collected, totaling nearly 1000 are to be possibly given to veterans hospitals.

The art department helped the drive by making posters to promote "Feed a Mind, Feed a Body," the catchphrase of the drive.

Other departments also found unique ways to celebrate the Year of the Child. Physical Education classes were given the Marine Physical Fitness test which consisted of push-ups, sit-ups, standing broad jump, pull-ups, and the 300 yard shuttle run. It was scored by the Marine national standard and was given to hopefully bring out some individual standard of excellence from students who cannot participate in team sports. The science department will be collecting coupons to send to the underprivileged children in southern Ohio. In other departments, Miss Hasson's classes are writing to overseas pen pals and other history classes will be learning child labor laws. The math classes are learning the metric system, how to count in foreign languages, and Mr. Bevington is teaching the use of the abacus.



What is he thinking of now?



## Editorial Petty Theft

Are you sick and tired of having your things ripped off? Well, I am and so are the majority of the people in this school. Things like coats, calculators, lunches, books and gym clothes are being stolen.

Our school is one of the few that doesn't have mandatory locks on the lockers. This is supposed to tell people that the Salem Senior High School students are mature and that there isn't petty theft going on. But for the people that get their things ripped off they are aware of this problem. Most of these people can't afford this problem, with inflation and other expenses of today's world.

Some of the things a student can do to protect himself, doublecheck his gym lock. If his lunch keeps on getting ripped off, one day just add some Exlax to your sandwich and etc. I'll bet that the thief doesn't rip that same lunch off again.

The school could help out by making sure people don't walk around and get into students' lockers while the student is in class. So it is the minority that is out there ripping our things off. To all you thieves, don't you think enough is enough? Next time you think about ripping something off, think of this: Maybe someday you'll find a perturbed person after revenge. Then where will you be?



THE QUAKER, published by the Journalism Classes of Salem High School

EDITORS  
This Issue

Page 1 — Becky Grimm  
Page 2 — Bonnie Bowker

EDITORS

From Nov. 30 Issue  
Page 1 — Todd Olson  
Page 2 — Kim Mango  
Page 3 — Bud Wood  
Page 4 — Mark Willis

## Days until Christmas

4

## Basketball Queen Crowned

by Jim Mowery

Tears filled the eyes of Wendy Ellis when she was named the 1979-80 Basketball Queen at half-time of the Salem-Woodrow Wilson game. When asked how she felt, Wendy replied, "very excited and very, very shocked!" She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Ellis of 1980 Oak Street. Wendy has been active in many activities in high school. She has led cheers for the past four years, she has been active in Pep Club, she has been a class officer for 3 years, a member of Student Council, and she has been on the Kent State "Teenager of the Month" board. Her hobbies include tennis, swimming, cheerleading and working. Wendy's plans after high school are indefinite, but she is possibly planning to go to college to

study speech pathology. When asked about what year of high school she liked the best, she replied, "All four, because there were a lot of memorable times here and I'm glad I attended Salem Senior High."

"The teachers that have influenced me the most are Mr. Viencek, for his helping me prepare for college, Miss Rafferty, for telling how different people think, Mrs. Cozza, who has helped me understand the problems that we encounter; and Mrs. Miles, for helping me in speech."

"The whole night was very special and I would like to thank John Armeni for escorting me. It was a very meaningful moment in my life and I would like to thank the Pep club for the bracelet!"

## White Christmas Dance Looks Promising

by Mark Willis

Alot of guys and girls are pretty excited about tonight's White Christmas dance at Timberlanes. Most of the guys will be taking their dates someplace to eat before the dance. For those of you attending the dinner at 7:00-8:30, at Timberlanes, here's what's in store for you.

The menu, a hot buffet, will include: salad, mostaccoli, roast beef, roast chicken, green beans mariane, sliced tomatoes, meatballs, fruit and jello. That's not all! There will be a beverage bar, where one can purchase a wide selection of drinks (no liquor or alcoholic drink).

There has been some misconception about the seating for the dinner. Contrary to popular belief, banquet sized tables will not be used. Instead,

4 couples will occupy a much smaller table.

Pictures taken by Crestline Studios, will be available for \$5.00 a couple.

The dance to follow will be furnished with tunes by the musical group, "Joint Effort." The dance will run from 9:00 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Overall, tonight should be a memorable evening for all who attend. Remember guys, road conditions have worsened, so concentrate on your driving and arriving at your destination safely, then plan on having a terrific time.

Alot of thanks should go to the dance committee: Jen Wilhelm, Patty Ward, and Ann Barrette. A MERRY WHITE CHRISTMAS TO ALL!

## TRIVIAL TRIVIA

"I'm dreaming of a white Christmas." Well it snowed and we know all you couples going to the dance tonight will be having an absolutely fantastic time.

There's not much trivia today folks, so we'll try to cheer you up with some of our corny jokes. Here goes!

Woman to toy-department clerk: "It must interest an eight-year-old boy and yet be simple enough for his father to play with."

A thought for all these winter slick roads... Driving is like baseball, in a way: It's the number of times you reach home safely that counts.

A bit of romance... A kiss is a pleasant reminder that two heads are better than one.

Problems teens face... A teenager sent his girl her first orchid with this note: "With all my love, and most of my allowance."

Teen to teen: "I'll never understand men, if I live to be twenty."

Just some thoughts... In most instances, all an argument proves is that two people are present.

The difference between men and boys? Just the cost of their toys.

Here a good idea, guys... Escort to his date studying the restaurant menu: "Filet mignon? It's pickled goat's liver. Why?"

The Bi-weekly staff wishes students and faculty a merry, merry Christmas and of course a Happy New Year.

## Counselors' Corner

1. SENIORS — If you have a 3.5 grade point average or better and good ACT scores, you should apply for the Ohio Academic Scholarship program. The scholarship is for \$1,000 per year, renewable for the remaining 3 years of college. To qualify you must be planning on attending an Ohio college or nursing school. One student per each Ohio high school is guaranteed one scholarship.

2. JUNIORS — If you have not picked up your PSAT-NMSQT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test) scores, please see Mrs. Ward

3. SENIORS — The Air Force ROTC program deadline is Jan. 15

4. FINANCIAL AID — The Financial Aid Form (FAF) and the Family Financial Statement (FFS) are available in the Guidance offices. These forms may be filled out but should not be dated or mailed until after January 1, 1980.

ACT — The next ACT will be given on Feb. 16. The registration deadline is Jan. 18.

SAI — The next SAI will be given on Jan. 26. The registration closes on Dec. 21. Late registration (\$5.00 fee) is up until Jan. 4.

Registration materials for both the SAI and ACT are in the Guidance offices.



Drey Toothman

DADDY I KNOW WHY THE FIREPLACE Ain't WORKIN. THERE'S A SKELETON WITH A RED SUIT STUCK IN THE CHIMNEY.

# What Does It Take To Get A Crowd At A Home Wrestling Match?

by Dennis Twaddle

What does it take to get a crowd at a home wrestling match?

In the past, wrestling has been considered a 3rd rate sport below football and basketball. The wrestlers didn't like it but felt that their hands were tied as far as promoting the sport.

Until now! Coach Kunar and the team were sick of it. Then a Mat Booster Club was organized. Last summer the club had a garage sale, a food bake, and other fund raising programs. (Note: the wrestlers never went out in the streets begging for money.)

The Mat Boosters bought shirts for the members of the team and helped pay for Salem Wrestling sweaters and they repaired the scoreboard so it would work properly for the Christmas Tournament, not to mention the countless other things to try to make Salem's wrestling spirit come alive.

After months of grueling practice and training, time came for the first match.

Coach would like to have seen at least 2,000 fans there for support. So everybody chipped in and promoted to try and get that 2,000 crowd.

The Mat Boosters bought time on the radio to promote the match. All the members of the team were given hand-outs to spread out in his neighborhood or assigned street, not to mention Wendy Stillwell's painstaking efforts in drawing and posting posters throughout the school.

Yet Ravenna had a crowd much the same size as ours, which came to a total of about 500 people.

Just what does it take to get a crowd at a wrestling match? Come support the Wrestlers on December 28th and 29th for the first annual Christmas Tournament.



One of the many trees bringing the Christmas spirit to SHS



Dear Editor:

This letter is concerning the "gang" of guys who consider themselves Seniors. On November 30, the night of the Sweetheart Court, there were intolerable actions displayed by this group of "boys." This was supposed to be a special occasion for the girls and guys on court. It was not understandable for the actions they displayed during the half-time ceremonies. It is either a

## Letter to the Editor

question of jealousy or immaturity. We all hope you're satisfied in ruining her night.

Signed,  
Senior Girls

## A Christmas Carol

by Cindy Roessler

Residents of Salem received a special treat on Sunday, Dec. 16, when the Salem High Concert Choir and the Chamber Choir, directed by Mrs. Carol Jeckavitch, performed its annual Christmas concert.

The program began with the Concert Choir singing three carols, after which the Chamber Choir, made up of 18 students, also sang three songs. The show then concluded after six more songs and a piano solo played by Steve Pridon. Songs performed included, O Come, All Ye Faithful, God Rest You Merry Gentlemen, White Christmas, Silent Night, and other Christmas carols.

Several special effects that were used to highlight the concert included an organ, chimes, and candles held by chorus members during the last number, Silent Night.

The approximately 70 voice strong choir practiced for two and a half months with accompanists Linda Martens, Diane Stoffer, Beth McNicoll and Steve Pridon.

When asked which was the best performed song, Mrs. Jeckavitch commented that all the songs were good, and that the students did "a very nice job." Mrs. "J" also said that the concert went very well and she was pleased with the results.

The choir is planning a Pops Concert in February and a Spring Concert in May.

Congratulations to the Salem High School Choir.

wonder how the real Saint Nicholas would feel to know that he had become more popular than the One he had devoted his life to serving. Though I do think that Santa has a place in Christmas, I also feel that children should learn the true reason for celebrating this holiday. No child is old enough for Santa but too young for Jesus.

Maybe we, ourselves are corrupting Christmas. Though our expectations of what we are going to get for Christmas, we lose fact of the true spirit which makes Christmas special. Though the candles, decorations, and trees are traditions, these shouldn't become so important we have to get the best in order to have a merry Christmas.

Christmas is probably the most joyous celebration of the year. One must remember, however, that there is a reason for this celebration that we must not forget.

If this occurs, we may lose Christmas forever.

## Mystery Of Mistletoe



by Todd Olson

Have you ever been caught standing under a piece of *Phoradendron flavescens* during the Christmas holiday season? Many persons are found standing under the mistletoe every year. The punishment for the "crime" consists of forfeiting a kiss to the witness of the act.

The origin of mistletoe dates back to Northern mythology and the Celts. It is written that Celtic priests or druids would have a clipping of mistletoe to someone for a charm. Only the mistletoe that grew on oak trees was considered precious. Once the round leaved plant touched the ground it lost its power to bring good luck.

Mistletoe takes its place in Roman history also. The Trojan hero Aeneas supposedly used mistletoe to enter Hades to see the future. The good power cast by the strange plant gave Aeneas the power to leave the devil's house.

The white berries that form on this glassy leaved parasite are deadly poisonous if consumed by a human.

In modern times, mistletoe is raised in the New Jersey area for commercial use. Mistletoe most commonly exists on apple trees and evergreen trees. Birds transfer the seeds from tree to tree.

Today, the tradition of lending a kiss brings good luck and happiness upon the receiver of the kiss.

One last note: BEWARE Quaker Sam. Rumor has it that Quaker Lady is trying to catch you under the mistletoe.

## Swimming and Saunas at Christmas

by Kristi Franklin

Santa Claus... snow... pine trees... holly... stockings are all thoughts of Christmas in Salem, Ohio. Who would ever dream of swimming at Christmas? Natalie Meyer certainly does!

In Australia, Christmas happens to fall in one of the hottest months of the year. School students have already been dismissed for summer break. Laborers enjoy a vacation starting on December 20th and ending January 2nd. Everyone begins to celebrate the holiday around December 15th, and they keep up the good cheer through New Year's Day.

Pine trees, holly, and poinsettias are not associated with Christmas because none of them are native plants in the country. Each family owns an artificial tree, and native flowers and plants of Australia symbolize Christmas to the inhabitants.

Santa Claus is known as Father Christmas. Pillow slips at the end of a child's bed take the place of stockings hung on the chimney. Since no snow falls at Christmas-time, Father Christmas travels from house to house in a "magic" sleigh.

Christmas cards consist of nativity scenes and Australian adages. Cards received in an Australian home are strung from the limbs of a gum or eucalyptus tree that have been painted white and decorated with lights and tinsel.

Most teen Christmas celebrations are lively beach and pool parties. On Christmas Day, a family will return home after church to a dinner of turkey, beef, lamb and pork, with cold side dishes and sweets. A lot of times this meal is in the form of an outdoor barbecue, rather than a formal dinner. To conclude Christmas Day, gifts are opened in the early evening.

Henry Koponen, an exchange student from Finland enjoys a Christmas much like ours. There are pine trees, snow and school programs in his country.

Christmas Eve begins with a radio broadcast at noon from a city of 750 years, the oldest city in Finland. Bells are rung in the city's cathedral, and the mayor reads a Christmas-time Declaration. The declaration is read in both Finnish and Swedish, the country's two languages. Each home contains a sauna, and the families go to the sauna at about 4:00. Church is attended at 6:00. Before the evening dinner, of which the main dish is pork, a chapter of the Bible is read concerning the birth of Jesus Christ. The parents ask a neighbor to dress as Santa Claus, and the gifts are distributed personally by him. To end the evening, the presents are opened.

The 26th of December, St. Stephan's Day, is a big day in the lives of the Finland citizens also.

There are sleigh rides, and large dances are held in the evening.

Another unique characteristic of Christmas in Finland is the belief that Santa lives in Korvantunturi, a site in Lapland.

Although customs differ the world over, the birth of the Savior, Jesus Christ, is celebrated everywhere.

## "A Christmas Full Of Wishes"

by Kim and Chris

We roamed the congested halls of Salem High School and asked some students and teachers what they would really like for Christmas. Some responses, as usual, are going to be impossible to deliver. Here are a few wishes some of them are hoping for:

Mr. Tetlow — "For the young people of Salem to continue the trend of fine conduct and good behavior. We hear a great deal these days of how bad our young people are, yet few seem to realize that Salem High has so many fine young people."

Annie Barrette — "I think the best present I could get would be to have the White Christmas dance go O.K. It would be a big relief if it did. I hope everyone who goes has a great time. — Merry Christmas!"

Tom Wright — "Lots of snow and a Zappa T-shirt."

Jack Zocolo — "Susan Anton, an 'A' in chemistry and to all the seniors the best Christmas ever!"

Ken Graff — "A new hulk suit and an eight tpack of Copenhagen. To all of you seniors Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!"

Mr. Morris — "Good health and happiness to us all. A new Honda car and an Ayatollah Khomeini dashboard."

Mr. Birtalan — "Good health for everyone."

Natalie Meyer — "Weather that's 110 degrees Farenheit, but I'll settle for snow."

Mr. Turner — "A longer vacation."

Ken Walters — "A jeep."

Mr. Viencek — "I would like world peace."

Jim Mowery — "Mrs. Claus."

Becky Seaton — "A 'white' White Christmas and to have lots of fun."

Mike Senanefes — "A pin in wrestling and the All-American Model Cheryl Tiegs!"

Mrs. Cozza — "Good health and happiness for my family."

John Armeni — "A new knee."

Mrs. Gbur — "I want all my children home for Christmas."

Mr. Long — "A case of Skoal."

Kelly Kantz — "A day that Harold doesn't yell at me for being so stupid."

Mrs. Esposito — "An electric typewriter and state tournaments for both basketball teams at the high school."

Mr. Esposito — "A return of the glory of the New York Jets and for the Lions to finish in last place again."

Kim Gerber — "My drivers license."

Dant Fitch — "To go to Florida as soon as possible."

Miss Rafferty — "Good health for those who mean a lot to me."

Mr. Delane — "A skiing weekend."

Amy Madison — "A rabbit fur coat."

David Shivers — "A color head for my enlarger."

Well, there you have it, just a few of the things the students and teachers are hoping for this Christmas season. We hope you get everything you're wishing for!!



Giving is Love — Happy Holiday Season