

The Quaker

A high school tradition for years.

Volume 93, Number 1

Salem Senior High School

September 2005

The 2005 Homecoming Court

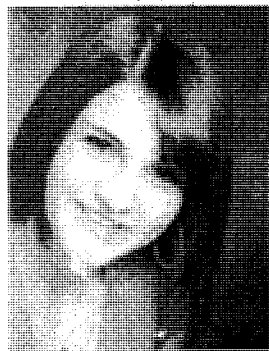
Saturday Night Fever



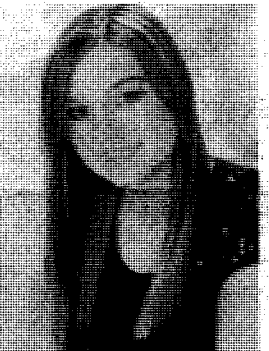
Julie Cappuzzello is the daughter of Joe and Amy Cappuzzello. Her high school activities include Cheerleading (senior captain), Track, Student Council, National Honor Society, and Project Support. Her future plans are to attend college and major in biology.



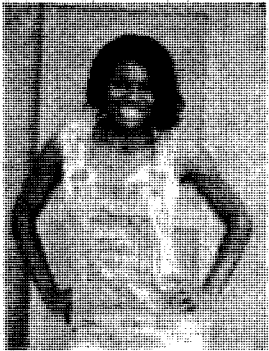
Annie Dombroski is the daughter of Walter and Joanne Dombroski. Her high school activities include National Honor Society (treasurer), Varsity Cheerleading, Academic Challenge, Varsity Tennis, and Chamber Choir. Her future plans are to attend Colorado State University and major in pre-veterinary medicine.



Mallory is the daughter of Mike and Margie Kolich. Her high school activities include Cheerleading, National Honor Society, Pep Club, Track and Spanish Club. Her future plans are to attend college and major in pre-medicine.



Laci Meals is the daughter of Jerry and Robyn Meals. Her high school activities include Soccer (captain), Basketball, Student Council, Spanish Club, and Project Support. Her future plans are to attend college and major in cosmetology.



Charity Montford is the daughter of April and Fredrick Montford. Her high school activities include Student Council, National Honor Society (secretary), Basketball, Track, and Spanish Club. Her future plans are to attend college and major in law and minor in business and management.



Sarah is the daughter of Sid and Marlene Ravelli. Her high school activities include Volleyball (senior captain), Spanish Club, Big Brother Big Sister, and National Honor Society. Sarah's future plans are to attend college and major in medical dietetics.



Bree Whinnery is the daughter of Connie and the late Jeff Whinnery. Her high school activities include National Honor Society, Interact, Project Support, Spanish Club and Volleyball. Her future plans are to attend Ohio University and major in dietetics.



Larcomb takes post as new Salem Superintendent

By Kellie Stewart

As most of us know, Mr. Stephen Larcomb is taking the place of Dr. Brobeck as Salem City School's superintendent starting this 2005-2006 school year. Originally from Ohio, this is his ninth year working in education. Before coming here, he taught for two years and then became a principal at Ridgedale Local Schools in Morral, Ohio. He later served as superintendent at a school located on an Indian reservation in Wyoming.

Many students aren't entirely sure of what the job of a superintendent is. "No two days are the same," he described. He wanted to be sure that students knew, "I surround myself with quality people. It's not a one-man show by any means." Among other things, he is responsible for teachers, cooks, custodians, who is hired, and public relations. He frequently works with the Board of Education by keeping them informed and working on developing policies. He has to keep on his toes, and mentioned that, "Things can explode at any moment."

During high school Mr. Larcomb had wanted to become a lawyer. After high school, however, things turned out a little differently. He first joined the Ohio National Guard after finding out that they would pay 100% tuition

for his college. He then went on to earn a bachelors degree in journalism and later became a military pilot.

Mr. Larcomb recalls his favorite memories from high school as speech classes with his teacher Mr. Griffith. He was also involved in school plays, but he said this was only because his teacher "...had a way of sucking you in to do them."

The issue he believes to have changed the most since the time when he attended high school is the concern for student-to-student violence. "I don't remember ever hearing about school shootings and other things," he recalled. However, he is very pleased with safety issues in Salem schools. He says that one of his most important jobs is to protect student safety.

Mr. Larcomb also had some answers concerning a few rumored future changes for SHS. When asked about the issue of middle school students coming up to the high school, he said, "I think it's probably going to happen." However, he won't know anything for sure until after the Board of Education's next meeting. He says that although he gives recommendations, the board has the final say.

Mr. Larcomb seems very happy to be a part of Salem City Schools. When asked if he was glad that he has ended up where he is now, he replied, "Oh, absolutely!"

Katrina inspires world-wide support

By Brian Sebrell

On August 29, 2005, the coastal regions of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama were assaulted by one of the most devastating hurricanes ever to hit the U.S. With winds as high as 175 mph, Hurricane Katrina caused more than \$100 billion in damage and flooded eighty percent of New Orleans. Several hundred deaths have been confirmed, but estimates suggest the death toll reaches tens of thousands.

Like the September 11 attacks and the Indian Ocean tsunami, Katrina has resulted in large support from the rest of the country. The federal government quickly passed a bill allowing \$10.5 billion in aid for the relief. The Red Cross has received well over half a billion dollars in donations. Many businesses, such as Yahoo!, General Electric Foundation, Amazon.com, Honda, and hundreds of others have donated

millions of dollars. Dozens of other counties also have offered aid to the U.S.

Two high school clubs, A.F.S. and Drama Club, have been collecting donations for the cause. "The devastation in the South has been remarkable. This is one of the worst disasters to hit our nation," says Mr. Martinelli, advisor for the A.F.S. Club. "It is good that we are able to relieve some of the suffering." Although the total amount of money collected so far is not known, it is clear that Salem High students have been generous; an entire jar has already been filled with donations. Mr. Viencsek, advisor for the Drama Club, added, "Students at S.H.S. are always there to help out when needed. I'm impressed with their kindness and generosity." The clubs will continue collecting until September 24. They then will send the money to the Red Cross in Washington, D.C.

If you like big, bold, flashy gear or bright colors you should consider coming to this year's homecoming dance. The theme for this year's dance is "Saturday Night Fever." The dance will take place on Saturday, October 1 from 8-11 p.m. in the high school cafeteria. The DJ for the dance will be Mrs. Leguard.

Tonight the football team will be hosting the Niles Dragons. The game starts at 7:30. Before tonight's game there will be a short parade of all the homecoming floats. The floats were constructed by each class and were shown and judged at the bonfire. The homecoming parade will originate at the high school and will travel along Sixth Street to Lincoln and through the downtown area. The homecoming court will be presented during half time of tonight's game. The crowning of the queen will also take place then. Congratulations and good luck to all girls.

News

The enduring spirit of freedom

By Jessica Moser

"To remember those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001, as a tribute to the enduring spirit of freedom July fourth, 2004." These are the powerful words inscribed into the twenty ton slab of granite laid at the corner of the site where the new Freedom Tower will be built. The Freedom Tower will stand in the place that the Twin Towers once stood as a memorial to all those who perished there. The cornerstone was laid on July 4, 2004, and plans have been made to begin construction of the actual tower in the first quarter of 2006.

This new structure will be made of twisted steel and glass standing 1,776 feet high. The height is a reference to the year America gained its independence. The square base will twist upwards at a forty-five degree angle, and the corners will be beveled, thus making eight tall isosceles triangles. There will also be a 276 foot spire resembling the Statue of Liberty's torch. The building's overall design is supposed to "echo" the form of the statue.

The building's space will be utilized for many differ-

ent things. There will be plenty of office space as well as restaurants and broadcast and antennae facilities for the MTVA. There will also be below-grade shopping as well as access to PATH and subway trains. In addition to all of this, the tower will have its own "wind farm," in other words, it will have wind turbines to collect energy.

The footprints of the original Twin Towers will be turned into reflecting pools. In addition to the pools, there will be plenty of open space with trees, water, and rest areas. Plans have also been made to create a cultural space with many small theaters.

The construction of the footing is expected to begin in the first quarter of 2006. By 2007 the steel skeleton should be visible above grade and ready for occupancy by 2010. Many people are looking forward to the completion of this project because they see it as a new beginning.

Trade Center leaseholder, Larry Silverstein has also made plans to build four additional towers on the site between 2009 and 2015.

Making high school count

By Hannah Johnson

Salem High School has scheduled the highly rated assembly "Making High School Count." The presentation will be delivered during third period on Thursday, October 6. It will be presented to members of the freshman class. This is an annual event.

The presentation is to help students understand the importance of making the best of high school and what to do to prepare for after graduation.

"Making High School Count" helps show students how to understand that the choices made now can dramatically impact the number of opportunities available upon graduation, the development of study skills to help meet goals, and test taking strategies to meet your highest standards.

The "Making High School Count" presentation is rated very highly by high school counselors across the US. The presentation has been given to more than 900,000 students in 2005!

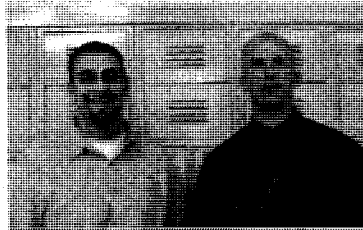
Salem High School's guidance department is under the direction of Ms. Marena Carmello and Mrs. Anita Ward. The guidance secretary is Mrs. Deb Altenhof.

School year brings the return of familiar faces

By Allysa Nelson

Each year at Salem High School brings a fresh batch of students to our classes ready for the challenges of an all-new educational experience. This year is particularly special to our school system since the yearly resurgence not only brought new students to us but also brought us the smiling faces of new teachers as well.

A few of these faces may seem familiar to some teachers and students. For instance,



Mr. Aaron Alejars (math) has rejoined our faculty after doing some teaching at the middle school.

You may recognize Mr. Gary Goddard, who did some long-term substitute work last spring. "I love working here," said Mr. Goddard. It's really nice having my own lesson plans in-



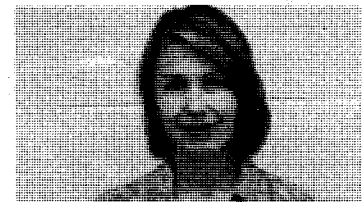
stead of following somebody else's." Mr. Goddard also likes being able to get to know the students and is getting used to coming in for work constantly at seven o'clock a.m. To top it all off, he gets to teach in the same room in which he learned junior history.

Mr. Jeff Andres, at one time in charge of our in-school suspension program, has endured the rigors middle school math classes encompass and returns to show the high school his newly acquired teaching skills. "It's nice to have students I've had before," Mr. Andres states. "It's good to see some have grown up a little."



Miss Marena Carmello, who was once a guidance counselor here at the high school, has also returned to us from the middle school.

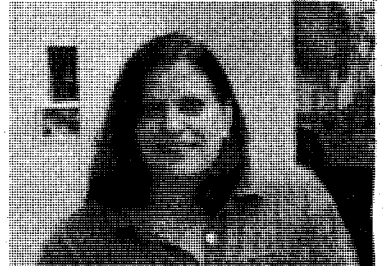
Last but not least, the special education teacher Mrs.



Marsha Bailey comes back after having spent some time teaching at Buckeye Elementary. She is here at the high school through fifth period then travels to the middle school where she finishes her day.



Some of the incoming staff is completely unfamiliar to Salem High School: Mr. Russ Hopple, a former science teacher at the middle school, is now an integrated science teacher for our growing student body. When asked about his feelings on being a new teacher here he replied, "The kids are nice, and the staff is nice. I enjoy teaching here, and I enjoy the subject matter."



Another educator from the middle school, Ms. Patricia Romeo, is a French I and II foreign language instructor here as well as a French and German language teacher at the middle school for part of the day. This has given Mrs. Lockney the chance to focus on French III and IV classes. She is also teaching some English classes.

Not quite news but close enough

By Josh Bell

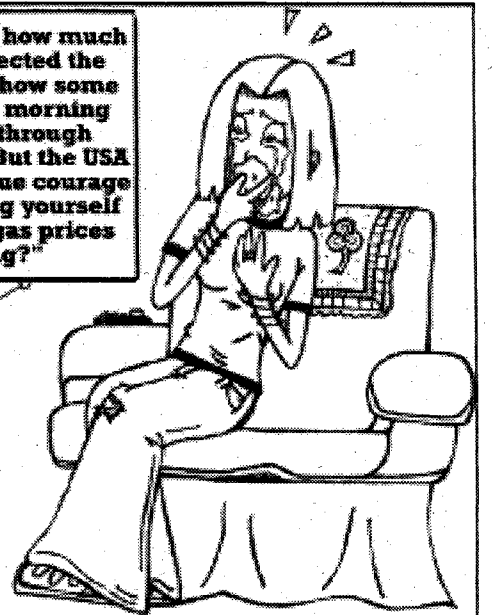
Eight at a lunch table or else

"Eight at a table, and not one more!" Tables across the lunchroom are hearing this all the time. Why the number eight? Mr. Allen, a lunchroom supervisor, explained. "Past history, risk of trouble and disruptions in the lunchroom," he said. "It's an administrative call." That's all he could reveal, so Mr. Kirkland was asked the same. "Past practice, it's been eight for a long time," Mr. Kirkland explained. "If we have more than eight at a table you can't see what's going on as well, and the table is more prone for problems." Mr. Kirkland went on to explain it does make it easier on the janitors for cleaning, and eight seems to be the right amount of people for a table.

Eight at a table is not a system-wide policy but only a building policy. So don't expect to see a change any time soon in the number of friends you can have sitting with you at lunch because under school rules and the watchful eye of our faculty, eight will be the magic number.



We here at BSN know how much this tragedy has affected the nation. It's amazing how some people get up in the morning after having been through something like that. But the USA stands tall. It takes true courage to face the day asking yourself the question: "Will gas prices ever stop rising?"



Allysa Nelson

The Quaker

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Allysa Nelson

Ryan Newell

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Andy Thompson

Veronica Waite

Desiree Wright

Point/Counterpoint

By Kerri Blackburn

Why is it when a tragedy happens to the United States the gas prices are the first thing to go up? Katrina hits and BAM! The gas prices are up to \$2.99 a gallon. That's about \$.50 more than our normal gas prices which are still ridiculous. Granted that the gas shouldn't be wasted, but you can't really determine if gas is being wasted. Gas is used in so many aspects of our lives, and the higher the prices go the more our lives are negatively affected.

Doug Mondell, a junior here at Salem, complained about the gas prices by saying, "I paid \$33.00 in gas last week. That is way too expensive." Most teenagers don't even have jobs so how are we expected to pay for a tank of gas? Those students who do work know how ridiculous it is to put half of their paychecks into a car. It's not only teenagers complaining of the recent gas prices, but our teachers also know how absurd the gas prices have become. Mr. Martinelli made a very good point saying, "It's a way for the gas company to take advantage of the American public once again." Our government is destroying its economy, yet it doesn't even seem to realize it or care for that matter.

Due to the high prices of gasoline, car dealerships are affected greatly. Forty percent of car companies have said that gas prices are making the sales of cars drop.

People now are looking at gas mileage compared to the appearance and style of the car. Most sporty cars take more gas than everyday cars, which also brings the total sale prices of vehicles down. Therefore, it's affecting the economy. Truckers are looking at a potential strike due to the high gas prices. This was even a threat before Katrina hit the United States. The more a trucking company pays for gasoline the less they can pay their employees and the lower the number of employees they have. This results in longer and harder hours for less than normal pay. Again it affects our economy.

Farmers are saying that this season's harvest has been the worst ever because of the extreme prices in gasoline. Most farmers are paying \$2.56 for a gallon of diesel fuel as compared to paying \$2.26 a gallon. Some farmers have even gone out of business or considered doing so. These are only three of the examples of the way our economy is affected, but there are so many more. Every one of us is affected by the gas prices whether we drive or not. The higher taxes or tax on food? The government is so worried about how much money they will charge on a gallon of gas that they seem to forget the people who don't even have money to buy essentials. These gas prices are absolutely senseless! Our government does not know what it is doing!

Each year every student at Salem Senior High School is issued an agenda which includes a dozen pages of rules and regulations for everyone to follow. At first glance, most of the rules seem reasonable, but at what point does the pursuit of a distraction free school become an infringement of the students' rights? Maybe the idea of unnatural hair color or facial piercings has never crossed your mind, but for some people these so called distractions are a way of life.

I've been asked on numerous occasions why I chose to go against school policy and pierce my nose. My response? Why did Rosa Parks refuse to give up her seat to a white person despite the fact that racial segregation in 1955 was much a part of her everyday life? She could have easily moved from her seat to the back of the bus, but in doing so we may never have come to the conclusion that everyone should be treated equally regardless of race or creed. Martin Luther King once said, "Men hate each other because they fear each other, and they fear each other because they don't know each other, and they don't know each other because they are often separated from each other." Is our school trying to shelter us from the realities of society, or teach us that it's wrong to be different or to look a certain way?

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By Paul Shivers

After Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf Coast states, gas prices jumped to new highs around the country. With the closure of oil platforms and refineries, nearly 10 percent of the total US refining and crude oil production ability was shut down, resulting in gas prices set at over three dollars a gallon. But even with the recent spike, are the prices for such a commodity that terrible?

Consider everyday necessities that we purchase and use without second thought. While Americans are complaining about gas prices, they fail to realize what rates they are paying for their colas, milks, and other mundane items. A dollar for a twenty ounce soda pop appears harmless to one's wallet, but at the same rate, those delicious sugar-filled drinks are \$6.40 a gallon! Those bottles had better be made of a high quality plastic. As for milk, we are pouring \$3.00 a gallon onto our cereal every morning. Maybe dry Oreos aren't that bad after all. After a costly bowl of Wheaties, many throw a gracious amount of gel into their hair and are off to work or school. But this unnecessary appearance enhancer

is costing us \$32 a gallon, making gas look like a steal, comparatively speaking at least.

If comparing apples and oranges, or orange juice (\$3.80 a gallon) for that matter, isn't convincing enough, take a look across the Atlantic at European gas prices. Our "outrageous" prices that are currently hovering in the \$2.70's are "sale" prices compared to the \$6.48 (in US dollars) Amsterdam residents are paying for a gallon of gas. And The Netherlands isn't the only country being hit with inconceivable prices. There are 24 capital cities across the world that hand over far greater dollars per gallon than Americans do.

Gas prices aren't even that dreadful by American standards. In 1981 prices reached \$1.40, which when adjusted for inflation, cost approximately \$2.90. Basically if the gas prices hadn't changed except for inflation for 24 years, the present prices are what we would be paying. Americans can understand why house prices gradually increase over time due to inflation, but then cannot comprehend an increase in gas prices. That doesn't even in-

clude the fact that miles per gallon efficiency has improved significantly since the late 70's and early 80's. In 1975 the average new car traveled 15.8 mpg, where as in 1999 the average was up to 28.1 mpg. Today we are paying the same for gas as Americans paid a quarter of a century ago, but since we are driving more economical vehicles, the cost per mile is actually less.

Americans up in arms about the gas prices aren't as frugal as they appear to be. While protesting the rise in prices, the average citizen is willing to pay upwards of \$40 a month for cable television. I'm not recommending that we give up TV, internet, and other amenities, but emptying your wallet on luxuries and then whining about the pump is simply hypocritical. Instead, find logical means by which you can save gas. Obeying the speed limit, using cruise control, and removing excess weight are all effective ways of conserving fuel. The best way to avoid the pump is walking or riding a bike to close destinations; all you need is a little extra time and a good sports drink (\$7 a gallon).

Putting holes in the rules about piercings

By Desiree Wright

Each year every student at Salem Senior High School is issued an agenda which includes a dozen pages of rules and regulations for everyone to follow. At first glance, most of the rules seem reasonable, but at what point does the pursuit of a distraction free school become an infringement of the students' rights? Maybe the idea of unnatural hair color or facial piercings has never crossed your mind, but for some people these so called distractions are a way of life.

I've been asked on numerous occasions why I chose to go against school policy and pierce my nose. My response? Why did Rosa Parks refuse to give up her seat to a white person despite the fact that racial segregation in 1955 was much a part of her everyday life? She could have easily moved from her seat to the back of the bus, but in doing so we may never have come to the conclusion that everyone should be treated equally regardless of race or creed. Martin Luther King once said, "Men hate each other because they fear each other, and they fear each other because they don't know each other, and they don't know each other because they are often separated from each other." Is our school trying to shelter us from the realities of society, or teach us that it's wrong to be different or to look a certain way?

In some cultures, such as with the Muslim and Indian reli-

gions, it is mandatory for women to wear a subtle piece of jewelry in their nose. My ancestors were Cherokee Indian; they believed that "One without ornaments is like a field without water." Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits discrimination based on religion. Which is right - a Civil Rights Act supporting someone's beliefs or the 2005-2006 high school agenda?

School board meetings are held the third Monday of every month at 7:00 PM. Anyone can attend but only those who request to be put on the agenda are permitted to speak. Desperate to make a change, I put together a three page

letter to the administration stating my thoughts on the piercing restrictions and presented my speech to the Board on the nineteenth of this month. Mrs. Kathy Gano applauded the fact that I stood up for something I believed in; however, much of the Board's focus was based primarily on budget cuts and other financial issues.

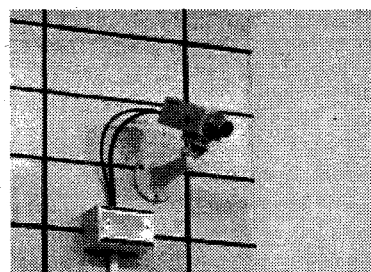
So what's the verdict? Are facial piercings allowed? Well, I'll leave that up to the School Board to decide at next month's meeting, but for all of you individualists out there, please stay true to yourself and keep your fingers crossed.

We're watching you

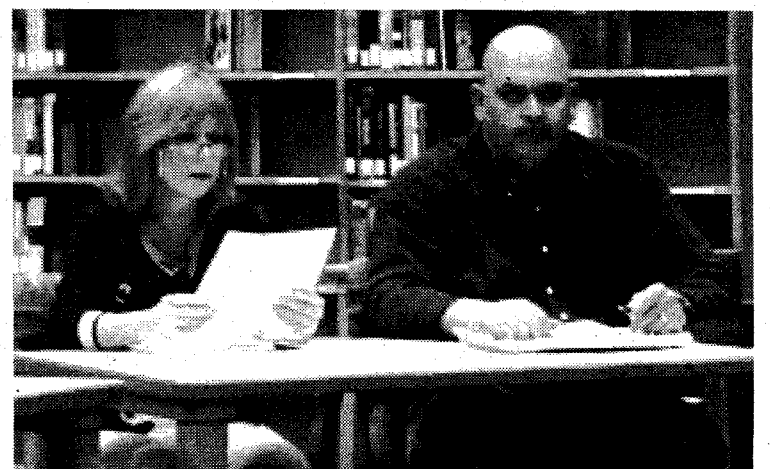
By Josh Fast

Protection of property or invasion of privacy? As we listened to our annual class "briefing" at the beginning of the school year about new policies and rules, we were told that we were being watched. The school is now being monitored by continuously running surveillance cameras. These cameras were installed during this past summer and have been operational since before the first day of school. The reason for the new addition to our school is because there have been many incidents of theft (lockers and cars), throwing of projectiles, etc. "It's to provide protection for the student body." According to Mr. Kirkland, Salem is way behind in the aspect of security systems, and compared to other schools our system is fairly moderate. The tapes recorded by the cameras will be deleted in ten day increments, so if anything is stolen, vandalized, etc the administration will be able to examine these incidents and deal with them accordingly.

The ACLU (American Civil Liberties Union) listed guidelines on their website about this subject. The guidelines are as follows: "Video monitors should not be located in an area



A video camera mounted in the cafeteria keeps watch over student activities at Salem High School.



Mrs. Kathy Gano and Mr. Sean Hart at the Salem School Board meeting on September 19, 2005. The question about "piercings" was brought up by reporter Desiree Wright of *The Quaker*.

Point/Counterpoint

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Putting holes in the rules about piercings

By Desiree Wright

Each year every student at Salem Senior High School is issued an agenda which includes a dozen pages of rules and regulations for everyone to follow. At first glance, most of the rules seem reasonable, but at what point does the pursuit of a distraction free school become an infringement of the students' rights? Maybe the idea of unnatural hair color or facial piercings has never crossed your mind, but for some people these so called distractions are a way of life.

I've been asked on numerous occasions why I chose to go against school policy and pierce my nose. My response? Why did Rosa Parks refuse to give up her seat to a white person despite the fact that racial segregation in 1955 was much a part of her everyday life? She could have easily moved from her seat to the back of the bus, but in doing so we may never have come to the conclusion that everyone should be treated equally regardless of race or creed. Martin Luther King once said, "Men hate each other because they fear each other, and they fear each other because they don't know each other, and they don't know each other because they are often separated from each other." Is our school trying to shelter us from the realities of society, or teach us that it's wrong to be different or to look a certain way?

In some cultures, such as with the Muslim and Indian reli-

gions, it is mandatory for women to wear a subtle piece of jewelry in their nose. My ancestors were Cherokee Indian; they believed that "One without ornaments is like a field without water." Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits discrimination based on religion. Which is right - a Civil Rights Act supporting someone's beliefs or the 2005-2006 high school agenda?

School board meetings are held the third Monday of every month at 7:00 PM. Anyone can attend but only those who request to be put on the agenda are permitted to speak. Desperate to make a change, I put together a three page

letter to the administration stating my thoughts on the piercing restrictions and presented my speech to the Board on the nineteenth of this month. Mrs. Kathy Gano applauded the fact that I stood up for something I believed in; however, much of the Board's focus was based primarily on budget cuts and other financial issues.

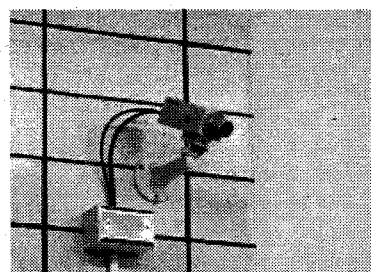
So what's the verdict? Are facial piercings allowed? Well, I'll leave that up to the School Board to decide at next month's meeting, but for all of you individualists out there, please stay true to yourself and keep your fingers crossed.

We're watching you

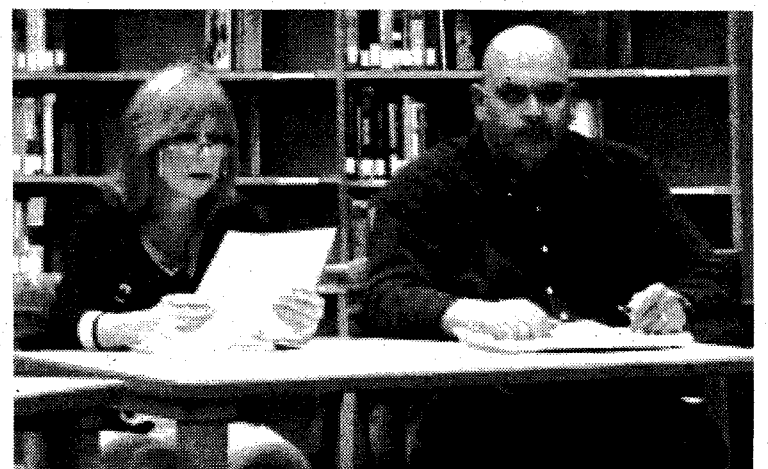
By Josh Fast

Protection of property or invasion of privacy? As we listened to our annual class "briefing" at the beginning of the school year about new policies and rules, we were told that we were being watched. The school is now being monitored by continuously running surveillance cameras. These cameras were installed during this past summer and have been operational since before the first day of school. The reason for the new addition to our school is because there have been many incidents of theft (lockers and cars), throwing of projectiles, etc. "It's to provide protection for the student body." According to Mr. Kirkland, Salem is way behind in the aspect of security systems, and compared to other schools our system is fairly moderate. The tapes recorded by the cameras will be deleted in ten day increments, so if anything is stolen, vandalized, etc the administration will be able to examine these incidents and deal with them accordingly.

The ACLU (American Civil Liberties Union) listed guidelines on their website about this subject. The guidelines are as follows: "Video monitors should not be located in an area



A video camera mounted in the cafeteria keeps watch over student activities at Salem High School.



Mrs. Kathy Gano and Mr. Sean Hart at the Salem School Board meeting on September 19, 2005. The question about "piercings" was brought up by reporter Desiree Wright of *The Quaker*.

Feature

Halfway around the world

By Nikki Jackson

Can you imagine traveling almost halfway across the world to stay one full school year in another country? For one girl, this is not a dream; it's a reality. You may have seen her in one of your classes or walking around in the hallways.

Her name is Silvia Fontana, and she's a spontaneous seventeen-year-old from Italy. The daughter of Luigi and Annalisa Fontana, she was born July 29, 1988, in Cremona, Italy. She has a fifteen-year-old brother Mirko and also a cat with five kittens. She is currently residing with John and

Gina Dermota and Suzanne Waterbeck, a freshman at Salem High School.

Silvia says that she has met a lot of new friends that are "funny and

a little strange." She has met so many friends the short time that she's been in Salem that it is impossible to name them all, but the ones that she really talks to are Suzanne, Ben, David, Hannah, Josh, Ali, and Nick. There's no surprise that Nick and she get along so well; they are both foreign exchange students at Salem High School, and they have both traveled a long way to be here.

Silvia says that coming to Salem was one of the best things to ever happen to her. Although she likes Salem because it is bigger than her village and there is more to do, she misses her family, friends, and the food back home in Italy. She commented that everything is so different in the United States compared to her home in Italy.

Soccer, roller skating and cycling are some of Silvia's favorite activities. She loves to meet new people and "do strange things." There is no surprise that her favorite foods are pizza, spaghetti, and cakes. She stated that pizza and spaghetti are what she misses most because they are nothing like

that found in the United States. She adores the color yellow and the band, Blue. Her favorite all time book is *Il Nome Della Rosa*. She loves to watch the hit TV show, "Grande Fratello" at home, but her favorite movie is *Pearl Harbor*. Silvia adores Ben Affleck, Josh Hartnett, and actress Julia Roberts.

A senior here at Salem, she will be graduating this year with Salem High School's class of 2006. After she graduates she plans to return home for college to possibly become a doctor. She did comment that her role model is "my mum" and that when she

is grown up with a family of her own she wants to be just like her.

Freshman Suzanne Waterbeck is Silvia's host "sister." When asked what life is like now that Silvia is staying with

her, Suzanne replied, "Life for me hasn't changed as much as I thought it would. My family has had to make a few adjustments, but she has fit in well. At first it was awkward the first few weeks, but now she is just another member of the family."

When Suzanne was asked what is different since Silvia came she stated, "Before she came I had my own computer, bathroom, and I was the oldest because my sisters were in college. But when she came to America I had to start sharing everything, and it was weird at first. Silvia does help with cleaning and cooking which is great. Silvia is very nice, and she is a lot of fun. We hang out a lot. Silvia and I get along great, and she can be a lot of fun. We watch movies and play board games. We go to football games and the soccer games. On the weekends I have some friends over, and we hang out too."

Silvia, we are happy that you are at Salem High School, and we all hope you have a great year and wish you the best of luck!



Best wishes for Mrs. Wilms

By Alyssa Nelson



Over the past year we've seen teachers come and go. Some were with us 'til the bittersweet end (namely retirement), and some had the incredibly rotten luck of having their courses cut or simply of being "let go." And it's not just teachers, either. Teacher aides have left us as well, such as the well-known gym aide, Mrs. Virginia Wilms.

Mrs. Wilms was a gym aide for almost two years assisting Mrs. Baille. But Mrs. Wilms had been a helping hand to many others for quite some time before that. She began as a duty aide at Reilly Elementary School and performed the taxing duties of supervising small children during recess for ten years. She then moved up to the high school and worked as a study hall assistant for two years. Afterward she took on the responsibilities of being an office aide, helping with attendance, and helping the assistant principal with disciplining students (This training never quite left her, apparently; she's given me detention at least once). Her following assistance of Mrs. Baille with the gym classes gives her a stunning career of almost twenty-six years. While she is sad to depart from this long-lived livelihood, Mrs. Wilms states, "You go through phases in life, and this is just another phase I'm going through." Her husband has been retired for a year and a half, so the couple thought it was time for Mrs. Wilms to follow suit.

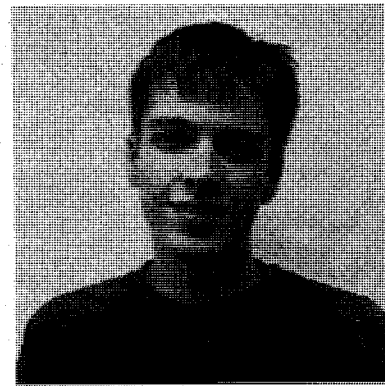
Mrs. Wilms states that she will miss everyone, especially the students who are now juniors and seniors, whom she has known for quite some time. Her favorite part of working here was "all the staff - not just the teachers - and all the students." When asked if she had any advice to give upon departing, she replied, "You should all have a good time in high school, but always think ahead. Everybody should have a plan for the future."

Brazil and back

By Hannah Johnson

You may have seen him roaming the halls on crutches. Just recently Nick Orlandi, one of this year's exchange students, got his cast removed and is on his way to a good American experience at Salem High.

Nick is from Joinville, Santa Catarina, Brazil. It is a long way from Salem, Ohio, and a different culture than we are used to. Nick's hometown Joinville is much larger than Salem with industry taking over. Joinville's population is at about five hundred thousand!



Nick's impression of the US is far from normal compared to his home in Brazil. One of the biggest differences is the food. Nick can not believe how much fast food Americans eat. In Brazil to eat out is considered an indulgence and a little too expensive. Food comes in much bigger servings here, and so do the people!

Before coming to America, Nick was warned by friends that Americans are selfish and cold. But Nick, from experience, now believes differently. He says Americans are very nice and friendly.

Although Nick likes it here, he has found things are very different. There are definitely cliques here, which is nothing

new to us, but in Brazil friends are made very easily. Nick feels Americans have to prove self worth to be liked. He has noticed how soccer players, football players, etc., hang together, not amongst everyone.

Let's consider a topic that everyone has been waiting

for-girls! How do they compare? Nick says girls are "Barbie pretty" here and naturally pretty in Brazil. Commenting on relationships, Nick says that here if you kiss someone, you're dating. While on the other hand, in

Brazil if you kiss you just kiss. Nothing more to it.

One might expect that a person from another country would question American boys wearing pink clothing, and the same goes for Nick. "In Brazil, pink is strictly for the girls," he says, "I can wear the polos and American Eagle, but I won't wear pink."

Nick does miss his friends and family but does not regret visiting the US. He is currently living with Justice Pasch and his family. Nick thinks after going back to Brazil that he will someday return regardless of the boys who wear pink clothes and the girls that look like Barbies.

Memories that stay

By: Courtney Mercer

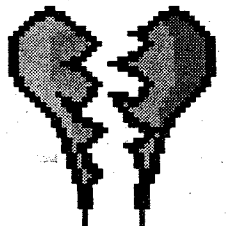
All the memories that we've been through,
How can you throw them all away
Like they meant nothing to you?

Searching for words to say
I'm still feeling the same
Heartache and pain, from you walking away
It's going to be hard to explain
Why I cry at night
Then by day keep it out of sight.
Never again going to look you in the eyes
Too afraid you'd see
The pain you left inside of me.

I know loving you
And holding on is wrong
But still I'm going to ask you

All the memories that we've been through
How can you throw them all away
Like they mean nothing to you?

So now I'm going to walk away
Never again going to look back
On the memories that stay.



The Quaker proposal on student expression

We the staff of *The QUAKER*, hereby acknowledge our responsibility to provide informative and entertaining reading pertaining to the students, staff, and parents of Salem Senior High School.

To make *The QUAKER* a credible newspaper we will aim for accuracy and objectivity, with the truth being our ultimate goal. It is also our duty to make prompt corrections when necessary. However, we must respect the rights of others when we gather and present news.

The QUAKER staff encourages input from our readers in the form of stories, essays, letters, or guest articles.

In Somnium Part one

By Josh Bell

Clear and crystal the stars glittered high above in the black sky and far away below I laid restless in my bed. Insomnia was written all through my mind.

My room was decorated with the light from the moon and stars. My older brother and his wife and three kids slept quietly as I stirred every few seconds from the unavailability of sleep. The window beside my bed looked outward to a long dead end street which led to the wood, the other to the country road. We only had a few neighbors; they were all spread a good distance from our house, but in between each stood a tall gazing streetlight, which shone down on the rough road.

I looked over at my clock, 11:11. What crap I'd been laying in bed staring at my ceiling for almost two hours. I looked out my window, not really sure what I was looking for, but a strange figure caught my eye. Two houses down, at the last house on the street underneath the last streetlight a dark figure stood motionless.

Quickly I sat up shocked to see this figure. For a moment I had myself convinced it was all just my lack of sleep creating illusions. I looked out again and the figure was gone. Relieved I took a deep breath and lay back down.

12:11, still awake. "This is ridiculous," I said to myself, at this point not even caring why I was talking to myself. I sat up again letting my curiosity get the better of me and looked out the window toward the last streetlight. No one. As my eyes made their way back I saw him slowly walking out from a row of trees that lined the street. His walk was slow and cautious yet he moved with the rhythm of the night itself. My heart began to beat faster. A bead of sweat dripped off my forehead and landed with a thud to my ears on the blankets below. Quickly I looked back out; he was out of my sight again.

Determined to get some sleep, I got up and went to the kitchen for a glass of water. There I stood, after drinking my water, looking out the front bay windows to the street. Seeing nothing I turned my head to take a drink and as my eyes returned there he stood. He was staring directly through me; I could feel the coldness coming from his very soul.

My heart pounded with the rhythm of the cricket's song and my breathing became intense like the wind that began to control the trees. In that wind his long black coat and hood blew, and he began to walk closer to the house.

In a panic I drew the curtains and ran back into my room, my heart now leaping into my throat with every pulse.

There alone in the dark I stood in my room, half afraid to even move. The stars and moon were cast away as a cloud drew over them and blocked the light. All light was gone from my room, and I wasn't able to see my hand in front of my face.

Realizing that this had to be my imagination, I walked slowly across my large room and flicked on the light switch. No response on the bulb. Trying not to panic I sat on the edge of my bed. Slowly the light returned as the cloud ceased its covering. And slowly as the moonlight appeared, I felt the presence of a hand on my shoulder and the body of another next to mine.

I had not even a chance to scream. I leaped up and fell out of my bed onto the floor wrapped in my covers. My breathing was out of control, and my pulse could've been mistaken for a marching and tempo.

I sat up and chuckled to myself, but somehow I felt the cold reality coming into my head. The wind blew furiously at the windows, and the trees almost bent now to the winds mighty command. A sudden surge of jealousy ran into my veins, and I lost control of my mind. Chaotic thoughts rushed my hands as I stormed out of my room and out to the tool shed.

Rain began to pound and lightning cracked hard. My hands were sweating as they gripped the axe tightly. My eyes glared red as the thought of jealousy and hate rolled through my head. Slowly I let my head tilt upwards toward the house; lightning whipped intensely across the sky and my eyes caught his son's window. I cracked the axe in my hand, and a smile smeared across my face as I stormed off back to the house with only one single thought in my head.

Beyond DVD

By Wesley Lindberg

The DVD has become a widely used medium for movies over the last few years. The longest lasting medium for movies, VHS will be taken off the biggest retailers (Walmart) shelves next year signaling the death blow to the age old medium developed by JVC. The DVD has been accepted as the medium of choice, but soon the DVD will be going the way of the VHS tape.

Blu Ray discs and HD DVD stand waiting to take its place on the movie medium throne, but neither is winning. It has brought back memories of VHS vs. Betamax in many people, in such a way that it is once more Sony VS someone else on the next gen. medium of movies.

The Blu Ray disc is seen by many on the internet to be the winner of the race; Sony's next gen. medium can hold up to 200 gigabytes of data at its highest, more than four times its competitor, HD DVD. HD Dad's max is only 45 gigabytes.

Blu Ray discs and HD DVD disks are available already but have yet to become the popular medium. The next gen. format war, as many websites such as Engadget (www.engadget.com) have put it, mainly rests on which medium becomes popular. Sony is placing their PS3 to be the big selling point of Blu Ray discs. The next generation of Playstations from Sony uses a combination Blu Ray/DVD drive to store its media, allowing for Blu Ray discs and ordinary DVD's to be played back on the system.

On the other end of the spectrum, Microsoft is supporting HD DVD support with the next Windows OS, Windows Vista. This has been attacked by many in the industry, as Microsoft allows pirates to copy movies with Windows Vista.

The war between HD DVD and Blu Ray, however, is not without compromise. Samsung is in development of a dual format player, allowing both HD DVD and Blu Ray playback along with standard DVD compatibility.

After the lifespan of HD DVD and Blu Ray, the Holographic Versatile Disc or HVD has been proposed. This medium holds eighty times the Blu Ray discs, near four terabytes of storage. The text in all of the books of the Library of Congress amounts to close to twenty terabytes. You could store them all, minus photos, on fewer than six of these discs. They're still in the experimental stages.

Current generation DVD's will play on the next gen players, however, so don't be frustrated thinking you have to buy all of your movies again. The movie industry is always changing, and with the resolution of TV's going up and up, there will always be a need for more storage to accommodate the extra resolution. As long as people keep buying, the industry will keep changing.

Key club member on the move

By Veronica Waite

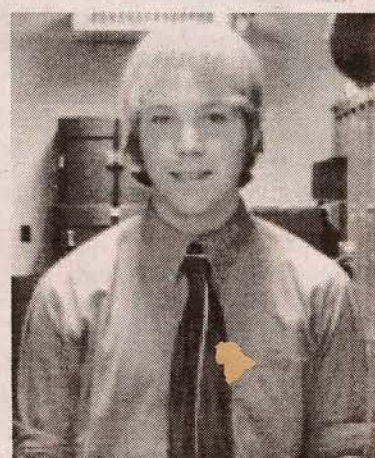
Senior, Jason Stewart, former president of Key Club, was elected Lt. Governor of Division twenty-one in March of 2005.

During Jason's term as Key Club President he was awarded Outstanding Club President by the Ohio District Board. To achieve such an honor, Jason had to complete numerous tasks, such as organize meetings and events, devote hundreds of hours to club services, and increase club membership. He devoted over four hundred hours to services and increased the membership by outstanding numbers. While he was President Jason and the club were awarded Best Club in Ohio by the Ohio District Board. Along with such a remarkable achievement, the club won more awards than any other club in their district.

After a successful presidential career, Jason was motivated to run for Lt. Governor. When asked what inspired him to run for Lt. Governor Jason said, "I feel that my knowledge of the organization makes me a strong asset to the Ohio District Board of Trustees." Once again, Jason was successful. He was installed as Lt. Governor at the 56th Annual Ohio District Convention.

Now as Lt. Governor, Jason is in charge of one of the thirty divisions in Ohio. Within his division he is responsible for the following eight schools: Salem, Canfield, Ursuline, Boardman, Chaney, Jackson-Milton, Austintown-Fitch and South Range.

As Lt. Governor, Jason's responsibilities multiply. He must attend several Ohio District Board meetings throughout the year, mainly in Columbus. Jason must write a divisional newsletter each month explaining divisional, district,



Former Key Club President Jason Stewart, now Lt. Governor of Division twenty-one.

and international events to his officers. Another task Jason must complete is filling out a monthly report giving the monthly status of each club of which he is in charge. Along with the responsibilities of being a Lt. Governor, Jason has been assigned to four District Committees by the District Governor. He was one of two Lt. Governors that was chosen to serve as a member of the Executive Committee. Along with such an honor, Jason is the Administrative Structure Chair, the Elections Chair on the Convention Committee, as well as the Fall Rally Planning Committee. Jason said, "Being a Lt. Governor is an amazing experience."

With such an incredible club career, Jason deserves a round of applause. This Key Club member is on the move, and we can expect more amazing accomplishments from him.


I can't wait for homecoming!
For a fancy dinner,
an expensive dress
and having my hair
and nails done!

I can't wait for help!
For clean, safe
water, a dry place to
sleep, and dry
clothing!




Jessica Moser

A Taste of Pizza
\$5 5 slices and a soft drink



St. Pauls Friday, September 30 3-7PM

Salem hosts first annual Hall of Fame induction

By Andy Thompson

On September 1 an estimated 180 people attended a ceremony for the first annual Salem Athletic Hall of Fame induction held at Amberlanes Restaurant in Salem.

One of Salem's most respected female athletes in the school's history is cross country runner Jenny Brown, who made her appearance at the ceremony. Jenny was the girls' 1992 state cross country champion. She still holds Salem's school record and state record of 15:15, which she set in 1992. During her career she won many other major awards including the following: Lumbiana County Female Cross Country Runner of the Year, Lumbiana County Champion, All-Ohio first Team, High School All-American, District Champion, Regional Champion, State Champion, and First place at the Kinney Mid-State Cross Country Championships. The biggest race of her running career came at Kinney's National Cross Country Meet. She placed fifth out of the entire field making her the fifth fastest female high school runner in the United States in 1992.

The other individual athlete inducted was Kirk Lowdermilk. He was the 1981 state heavyweight wrestling champion which earned him a full ride to The Ohio State University. While at OSU, Kirk played his senior year as the starting guard. As a senior he was the starting center, All Big-Ten selection, and second team All American. In the 1985 NFL draft, the Vikings picked Lowdermilk and he eventually became their starting center. Retiring in 1997, he currently resides in Carrollton, Ohio.

The 1993 cross country season was one of the best the school has ever seen. Coached by Mr. Frank Ks, the team finished with an undefeated season, 20-0. Top runner and record setter Jason Julian led the team to the state championship running a 15:52 and finished sixth at the meet. Dan Nye, Mark Rea, Russ

Zornick, Darrel Walton, George Lutz, Sean Spanbauer, and Carl Sommers finished behind Julian to round out the team.

The 1993-1994 Salem girls' basketball team was a contender for a state title. Salem finished the season with a record of 24-2 as state semi-finalists. The twenty-four wins tied the school's record for most wins. During the season, Salem won their first Mahoning Valley Conference title in fourteen years and finished fifth in the state. In the state semi-finals the Quakers lost to Cincinnati Rogers Bacon 51-41. It was the first Salem basketball appearance at the state tournament since the 1959 boys' team took second. Coach Roger Ziegler was named Co-coach of the Year with senior Valerie Scott setting a record with over 1,700 points.

The final inductees were the members of the 1959 varsity football team. The team, coached by former OSU head coach Earle Bruce, earned a record of 8-1. The team made a record setting seven shutouts in a nine game season. They averaged approximately 36 points per game. Their only loss was to Ambridge (PA) 14-0. The biggest win, however, came against sixth ranked East Liverpool. The Quakers won by a score of 20-0. Co-captain Fred Phillis rushed for over 975 yards

Good Luck
to all
of the fall
athletes

The elite eight

By Veronica Waite

Coach Davis, boy's head soccer coach, considers his eight seniors to be elite. Whether or not you've seen them play, you've had to have seen their trendy "Elite" shirts.

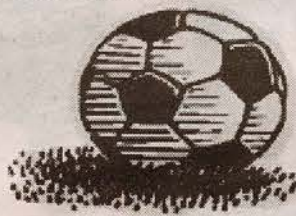
Members of the team were asked, "Why do you consider yourselves elite?" Senior Jordan Nannah replied, "We've played together most of our soccer careers; we mesh well." Senior Drew Matak added, "We are senior leaders of the team and have played soccer at the high school level longer than anyone else."

How do "The Elite Eight" show leadership on the field? Senior Ethan Bostwick said, "I try to show leadership by providing positive comments and support." Also, senior Bobby Rasul said, "Always give one hundred percent."

After eight games the boys are one-seven-one. "We've had some close games and tough losses, but we've come together as a team," stated senior Ethan Bostwick when asked what he thought about the season so far. What is yet to come? "Wins!" stated Brandon Benson without hesitation.

Bunk Mull and Bobby Rasul are new additions to the elite team. Aiman Scullion and Tony Lecocq were originally part of the elite eight and their names appear on the boys' shirts. Although both players are missed, the six remaining seniors agree that Bunk and Bobby are great additions to the team. "I would just like to play my part in order to win games," stated Mull. Senior Justice Pash said, "Those two have really stepped it up." Senior Drew Matak also said, "They fill their [Aiman and Tony] shoes very well."

The boys' soccer team has six games left not including tournaments. The elite eight will be on the prowl for wins along with the rest of the team.



Cross country runners fly down south

By Joe Shivers

Last Friday the Salem boys' and girls' cross country teams pulled out of the Salem High School parking lot, rode to the Pittsburgh airport, and headed to Cary, North Carolina, to race in the Great American Cross Country Festival the next morning. The boys' team, split into two separate squads, finished 14th and 20th in their respective races. The girls took second in theirs.

Coaches Rick and Mary Wilson supervised the journey of the sixteen boys and ten girls who make up the teams. The group flew out of Pittsburgh and made a connection in Charlotte, NC, where they hopped on another plane to Raleigh. The next day they participated in the Festival.

The GAXC Festival drew athletes from over twenty states. The National Scholastic Sports Foundation, which puts on the annual meet, also runs the Nike Team Nationals cross country championship. One of the cross country team's chief goals is to qualify for this competition. "I believe we can," enthused junior Patrick Gorby. The annual NTN meet will be held in Oregon on December 3. The only way for a team to qualify for this national championship is to be ranked by DyeStat, a website that compares runners and teams nationwide. And the only way for a relatively unknown team like Salem to gain the notice of DyeStat is to run in a high-profile meet like the one in Cary.

Only seven boys could run in the Race of Champions (the most competitive race of the day), and the girls' team could not enter the ROC at all because they did not have a good enough 2004 season. Nevertheless, all twenty-six Salem runners made the trip. "We're a team, and a team's made up of many parts," Head Coach Rick Wilson explained. "We rely on each other; we help each other; we bring out the best in each other."

Ohio High School Athletic Association rules forbid student-athletes from missing school in order to participate in an out-of-state competition. So the Quakers departed Friday

afternoon, leaving them too little time to drive the 500-plus miles southeast. The US Airways plane tickets cost over \$200 per person, and all of the twenty-six teenagers had to eat during their trip.

The coaches and parents sought community donations to pay for the team's meals and transportation. One donor specified that a portion of his contribution be used to cover the costs of the runners' entry fees, which exceed \$500 total. The SHS Athletic Department normally pays for race fees, but the earmarked donation money covered them instead. The meet is a departure from normal procedure in other ways, too: in the four years Greg Steffey has been Athletic Director, only one other time (girls' basketball at Hermitage, PA) has a team competed outside Ohio in a regularly-scheduled event. Steffey acknowledged the significance of the situation. "It's going to give all of our cross country runners an opportunity that they probably will never see again," he said, a chance for the Quakers to "showcase [their] talents not just in our local area, but nationally."

Ron Waite, president of the X-tra Mile Club, called the race "a great opportunity for the athletes to showcase themselves against other teams across the country." The X-tra Mile Club is a booster organization dedicated to enriching Salem's cross country and track programs. Besides partially funding the North Carolina trip, the club served as a "conduit" for community donations.

Individual and team performances varied, but the Quakers agreed that the meet and the trip were ultimately good. Senior Aiman Scullion called the North Carolina adventure "a good learning experience." Freshman Alexis Thorne decided she wants to repeat that experience. "I hope to go back again," she said.

Sports Shorts: This month's highlights of Salem fall athletics

By Tim Colian

after their 9 to 0 score. Their offensive was led by Laci Meals with four goals.

Boys' Cross Country: At the Salem Early Bird Invitational, Aiman Scullion set a new school record with a time of 15:37 breaking the old record of 15:52 set back in 1993 by Jason Julian.

Girls' Cross Country: The team scored a 17 which was two points shy of a perfect score of a 15 at the Salem Early Bird Invitational.

Girls' Tennis: The team is very young this season. They are led by seniors Annie Dombroski and Rebekka Hom. Although they are young, they have played well against other good teams. Their record is 8-5 so far this season.

Boys' Golf: The best score this year by the team is 39. This has been accomplished by three players so far. Seniors Matt Hrvatin, Tyler Cool, and sophomore Jim Armeni have reached the 39 mark.

Girls' Golf: The team is led by senior

Von Goll. She is the leader in the MAC conference as well. Her best score so far is a 36 (even par) against MAC opponent Canfield.

*All records/standings are those given at press time.



The Quaker

A high school tradition for years.

Volume 93, Number 2

Salem Senior High School

October 2005

Could l-e-v-y spell disaster for Salem City Schools future

BY DOUG MONDELL

The Salem City School Board has announced that a 4.3 mill levy which would generate 1.3 million dollars will be included on the city's November ballot. This decision was passed by the school board at their meeting in September. As of right now, the Salem City School System's financial situation is considered a fiscal watch. If this levy is not passed the school system will fall into a fiscal emergency. A fiscal emergency occurs when the state government must take over a school system because it is in such financial disaster they can not get out.

If the levy should fail and the state would take over the schools, there would be a lot less to do. Quite a few extra-curricular classes could possibly be cut due to the lack of teachers and the fact that these

classes aren't necessary for graduation. Many teachers or personnel that the state feels could be dismissed to keep more money in the school systems might be gone. Pay-to-play would be instated and cost approximately fifty dollars for each sport in which students want to participate. Full-day kindergarten would revert back to half-day, and the buses would only pick up students outside a two mile radius from the school they are attending.

On a more positive note, if the levy should pass it would generate enough money to get Salem City Schools out of fiscal watch! Some people in the Salem community have no idea there is a levy on the November ballot. The future of Salem City Schools is at stake!

Bird flu a legitimate threat

BY PAUL SHIVERS

The H5N1 virus, commonly known as the "bird flu," has been devastating bird populations in Asia for several years now. But experts believe this virus could mutate and cause a flu pandemic that could rival the outbreak of the Spanish flu in 1918 that killed fifty million worldwide. Fortunately, there have been few cases reported in humans, but the mortality rate in those cases has caused much concern. Of the sixty-five people infected with the disease, 70% have died. That is significantly worse than the 9% death rate of the SARS outbreak in 2003. So far no vaccine has been produced for the Avian Flu, but several companies are hard at work on completing the vaccine in the near future.

According to the World Health Organization, the virus is prone to species jumping and the world must be prepared for the worst. A human contracting the bird flu and another human form of flu could result in gene swapping between the two viruses. Ultimately the new virus would have the deadly characteristics of the bird flu and the ability to be transmitted between humans with relative ease. In order to prevent such a mutation, the WHO is attempting to reduce the opportunities for humans to come into contact with infected birds. As the number of human cases mount, the chance that the virus will mutate greatly in-

creases. There is, however, a medicine effective in fighting the virus. The problem is that the U.S. has only enough Tamiflu to treat 2.3 million people, a fraction of the 90 million that would need the treatment in the event of a worldwide outbreak. To treat 20% of the world population, it would take ten years of drug stockpiling. But this virus could mutate within the next few months and be across the entire world in a matter of weeks. The virus would last about one year and infect nearly 30% of the population, killing millions worldwide.

Top officials agree that the world is not ready for such a pandemic. With the lack of a vaccine, a shortage of medicine, and the strain the virus would put on hospitals, the US and world have a lot of work ahead of them to prepare for the worst case scenario. The Secretary of Health and Human Services will release a detailed plan for dealing with the threat. Although he offered few details, the plan will outline stockpiling medicines, developing a vaccine, sending flu test kits to labs, and strengthening communications with Asia to detect outbreaks of the virus. For now, preventative measures will continue to be taken so the world might have more time to prepare for another flu pandemic.

Hasty hiring in the high court

BY RYAN NEWELL

On July 1, 2005, Associate Justice Sandra Day O'Connor announced her retirement from the Supreme Court of the United States. Three weeks following her announcement President Bush nominated John Roberts to fill the now vacant seat. Roberts who was on the Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia was the first nominee to the Supreme Court since Stephen Breyer in 1994.

Only two months after O'Connor's retirement proclamation, Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist died. Rehnquist was fighting a long battle with thyroid cancer since last October. After Rehnquist's death Bush withdrew Roberts' nomination as O'Connor's replacement and nominated Roberts to Chief Justice on September 6. On September 29 John Roberts was sworn in as Chief Justice by long standing Associate Justice John Paul Stevens.

Following the inaugural ceremony of Chief Justice John Roberts, the seat of Associate Justice still needed to be filled. On October 3, 2005, Harriet

Miers was nominated to the Supreme Court by President Bush. For many years Miers has been a lawyer to the Bush administration and in 2001 she assumed the role as White House Counsel. Miers has long been a close friend of President Bush for many years. Several Republicans and Democrats have criticized Miers for not having enough judicial experience to her career. In the words of SHS social studies

teacher Mr. Brink, "History has shown, though, that not having experience as a jurist can be an advantage." She was appointed to the Texas Lottery Commission in 1995 by then Texas Governor George Bush. Miers resigned in 2000 only one year before her term would have ended.

One topic that is stirring up a great deal of controversy is the idea that the court will attempt to overturn Roe vs. Wade, which is the law that legalized abortion. It's already clear that the court has shifted towards a more pro-life stance. Many have speculated that Chief Justice Roberts has been eyeing the chance to overturn the case that was decided on January 22, 1973. At the time Rehnquist was an Associate Justice and was one of only two justices who dissented.

At the current time it seems uncertain of the approach Roberts will take as Chief Justice. On October 3 Roberts served his first day as Chief Justice during a series of oral arguments. Recently Roberts has presided over a case that is trying to tax all motor fuel sold on Indian reserves in Kansas.



John Roberts being sworn in as Chief Justice

Salem school system braces for change

More changes are in store as the school district continues to face financial troubles

BY KELLIE STEWART

Due to school system financial problems, many changes are in store for the whole of Salem City Schools. From buildings closing to the possible proposal of pay-to-play sports, all students here at SHS will be affected in one way or another.

Currently the school is under fiscal watch, meaning that we've gotten ourselves into some major money trouble. If no moves are made to solve these problems, Salem schools will then fall into fiscal emergency, leading to the state taking over and cutting the school down to the bare minimums. Busing, extra curricular activities, and electives may be among the first things to be cut.

Of course, everyone seems to be trying very

hard to get us out of the hole we're in before we fall lower still. This November a 4.3 mil school levy will be voted on. If the levy does not pass, the school system will most likely drop into fiscal emergency. If this happens, some of the proposed resolutions include the implementation of a \$50.00 pay-to-play fee for extra curricular activities, restriction of bus routes to a two-mile radius, and the reduction of kindergarten programs from a full day to just half a day.

Perhaps the most important issue to students here has been the joining of the middle school to the high school. Although rumors have been floating around for months, our thoughts (or maybe even fears, depending on your mindset) have finally been confirmed. On Monday, September 26 2005, the school board approved the closings of Prospect Elementary School and the Salem Middle School. Starting next year, seventh and eighth graders will be incorporated into the high school. Exactly how this is going to be

made to work is still up in the air.

School secretary Mrs. Heineman recalls attending high school here at Salem with a much larger number of students. There were only four classes (ninth through twelfth), but she says that each of those classes were composed of about 325 students. That's 1,300 total people jammed into this one building, not even including staff! Compare that to the 757 who are enrolled this year. Adding in just two more grades shouldn't pose too much of a problem. Mrs. Heineman also mentioned that the high school wasn't as big then as it is now. The auditorium, band room, bathrooms across from the office, and end of the senior hallway have since been added on.

As of now, nothing is for sure. Where we go with some of these changes seems to be riding on the outcome of the November levy. No one will really know much more until then.