

# The Quaker

A high school tradition for years.

Volume 93, Number 6

Salem Senior High School

February 2006

## And the Queen is...

By Nikki Jackson

Basketball homecoming was held on Friday, February 10. The pep club sponsored a post game dance from 9:30-11:30 P.M. The cost was \$3 per person or \$5 at the door. Refreshments were available in the form of tacos from Taco Bell, and the students danced the night away to Mrs. Leguard as the D.J. The Quakers were victorious in their game against Struthers. During halftime the girls on court were honored. Senior Veronica Waite was crowned the 2006 Basketball Homecoming Queen.



**Kimberly D Kenst**

Kimberly is the daughter of Ken and Cindy Kenst. Her high school activities include cross country, track, cheerleading, National Honor Society, Big Brother/Big Sister, chamber choir, school musicals, TACT, Interact, and Spanish club. Her future plans are to attend the Akron Honors College to major in business and pursue a career in law. Kimberly's escort is Jordan Timothy Nannah, son of Tom and Wendy Nannah.



**Deirdre Joanne Clary**

Deirdre is the daughter of Steve and Barbara Clary. Her high school activities include varsity cross country, varsity track, student council, National Honor Society, Big Brother/Big Sister, and Spanish club. Her future plans are to attend The Ohio State University to major in psychology, specializing in neuroscience and psychobiology with a minor in nutrition. Deirdre's escort is Mark Alan Jeckavitch, son of Jeff and Carol Jeckavitch.



### 2006 Basketball Homecoming Queen

**Veronica Justine Waite**

Veronica is the daughter of Ron and Debbie Waite. Her high school activities include TACT, AFS, student council, spring musicals, varsity track, school newspaper - The Quaker, Buckeye Girls State, varsity cross country, and choir. Her future plans are to attend Ohio University and major in photojournalism. Veronica's escort is Brandon Ray Benson, son of Jeff and Robin Benson.



**Susan Anne Mainwaring**

Susan is the daughter of Bill and Sally Mainwaring. Her high school activities include National Honor Society, Buckeye Girls State, Project Support (president), Interact (secretary), Starfish, Spanish club, TACT, and Young Republicans. Her future plans are to attend The Ohio State University to major in business and to pursue a career in law. Susan's escort is Bryan Robert Wright, son of Bob and Jody Wright.



**Carly Rae Duckworth**

Carly is the daughter of Phil and Sue Duckworth. Her high school activities include student council, soccer, National Honor Society, Spanish club, Project Support, and TACT. Her future plans are to attend the University of Akron to major in culinary arts. Carly's escort is Craig Robert McElroy, son of Terry and Christine McElroy.



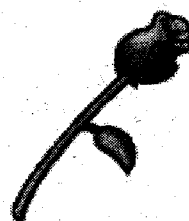
**Lydia Elizabeth Violi**

Lydia is the daughter of Greg and Marie Violi. Her high school activities include TACT, Project Support, and Starfish. Her future plans are to attend Akron University and major in fashion merchandising. Lydia's escort is William Todd Ellis, son of Bill and Cheryl Ellis.



**Nicole Dor-ann Young**

Nicole is the daughter of Dave and Debbie Young. Her high school activities include Spanish club, TACT, and Project Support. Her future plans are to attend Ohio University and major in early childhood education. Nicole's escort is Jacob Robert Pastore, son of Brad and Monica Pastore.



## Harriers: The Making of a Championship Cross-Country Team

By Nikki Jackson

High school students becoming authors? Now that is something you do not hear every day. However, two students here at Salem High School have become young authors of a published book. Salem seniors, Joseph and Paul Shivers have published a book titled *Harriers: The Making of a Championship Cross-Country Team*.

Both Joseph's and Paul's fathers encouraged them to enter a competition called "Fresh Writers." Paul's father learned of this competition from Bill Jelen, a former Salem student, who hosted the competition.

After their book proposal was selected, these young authors spent the summer meeting weekly deadlines. When they finally completed the rough draft of *Harriers*, they began the long process of editing, with the help of Mr. Robert Viencek, English instructor, in an independent study.

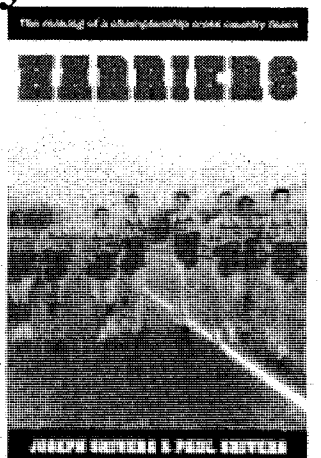
*Harriers* is about both young athletes' experiences on the Salem High School Cross-Country team from 2002 to 2005. However, the book mainly focuses on the 2003-2004 cross-

country season. It also introduces their coaches and teammates, as well as sharing insights that they gained throughout the years on the team.

So what made Joseph and Paul decide to write the book? According to them, "We thought that we had a very compelling story toward the end of our junior cross-country season covering our sophomore and junior years. The story had an original perspective and was a way to explain the court battle from 2003."

The book can be purchased for \$5.95 by visiting [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com). Joseph and Paul will also be having two book signings. One signing will be in March here at Salem High School during all three lunch periods. The other signing will be at a location somewhere in town.

Both young authors finished by saying, "The marketing of this book will probably depend on word-of-mouth. We ask all Salem students to tell their friends and families about *Harriers*."



## Not quite news, but *still* close enough

*Dancing to a different tune*  
By a figment of Josh Bell's imagination

This month's "Not Quite News" will be written by a figment of Josh's imagination because Josh was sacked for January's article on the proverbial car and almost completely pointless... yeah. So I, a figment of Josh's imagination, will be discussing the somewhat hidden controversy of school dances with as little help from Josh as possible (try thinking about how that's possible for awhile). There is one big question of WHY attendance is slipping (oh no).

There seems to be a growing concern about the success or failure of dances. Whether it's the popular fall homecoming or the not so popular winter homecoming, it seems like the school dance is fading into a thing of the past. Any way you turn the jack of hearts you'll always be looking right into its face (think about that one for a minute) so why not just put all your social fears and worries behind you and go? I asked our own pro-dance teacher Mrs. Dye her feelings on the importance of dances. "I think it adds to school spirit - Salem students coming together for some fun at a school dance. I seriously can't understand why dances at SHS are not more successful." Also, when she was asked how poor attendance or dance cancellations might affect future dances, she said, "It seems that what we give

up we never get back. For example, the White Christmas dance, which was once a very special event, was cancelled a few years ago and has never been returned."

After receiving the opinions of our own Mrs. Dye I went to find a few thoughts from students at SHS. Senior Josh Fast commented, "They are a hassle and with the exception of prom, kind of boring." So is this the overall opinion of the SHS student body, that dances are boring? Senior Joe Shivers commented on the dance issue saying, "I think that people of our generation do not have a great capacity for social interaction." I also asked Joe what would sway his decision to go to a dance, and he responded, "Whether I feel obligated to attend. I go to Fall Homecoming because I consider it an important high school event, but I have never attended Winter Homecoming because so few people attend. This year I intend to buy a ticket for Winter Homecoming because I want to save the waning tradition." After talking to Josh and Joe I turned to Senior Jessica Moser for some feelings from her. "I wouldn't attend if it was formal (with the exception of Prom) because things get so expensive, and it isn't as fun and relaxed as a non-formal dance. I also don't enjoy all the rap that

is played; there isn't enough of a variety of music," Jessica said.

So is it the lack of sociability in our generation, or just students being lazy? Last year's Winter Homecoming was completely cancelled because of lack of interest, and that goes for other past dances which have felt the wrath of SHS students. Is it just that students would rather be out with their friends on a Friday or Saturday night in Boardman lost in the mall parking lot? Or are dances just not "hip" (ha! He said hip) like they used to be?

Whatever is behind this mystery, this "dance revolution," could someday come back to haunt the students at SHS and paralyze the social legs of the grooving student body.

Another controversial issue (which we might face in a future point/counterpoint) is whether upperclassmen should be allowed to take freshmen or sophomores as dates to Prom? This raises the brow above the wondering eye.

So clear your calendar, break out your dance shoes and tie, and let all your social worries go. And as a figment of Josh's imagination, I'll be out of his mind (if you haven't noticed already) dancing the night away.

## Headphone hullabaloo

By Wes Lindberg

Headphones have always been disallowed by the rules, but in the past many teachers have ignored them in certain situations. However, this year the staff has placed a full ban on the devices. This is a good thing in most cases, but like all things headphones should have their place.

Headphones should be a privilege. They should be something with a correct place and time of use and should be revoked with abuse. Simply listening to music quietly while working on a computer should not be grounds for a detention.

The most common reason for the ban is that headphones are a distraction, but what isn't? This paper, the bird outside, pencils, markers, paper, the posters on the wall, etc. are all distractions. Let's outlaw drawing while we're at it. How can the school ban one distraction without banning everything else?

The other often-used reason is that the audio players are expensive and that theft is common. Why is this a reason why? The agenda states, "Personal property (camera, lunch, musical instruments, etc.) brought to school is the responsibility of the student. The school district does not carry insurance on student's personal property. Therefore, safe keeping of personal items at school is the responsibility of the student. Lost items will not be replaced by the school." The school is not

liable for stolen property. If a student brings an expensive item to school, it is his or her fault if it is stolen. Many students wear pants more expensive than a CD player, so where's the crime in that?



The author enjoys some tasteful music at a reasonable volume

Let's not forget the many other reasons headphones are not permitted: they can play music that is inappropriate or too loud, and they cause hearing damage. Some of these excuses are completely worthless for high school students. Face it, once you've hit high school you've heard every inappropriate word in the book, and you should be able to make up your mind on controversial issues presented in some music. If someone's music can be heard by everyone else, revoke the privilege for that student. Also, what's to stop hearing damage out of school or at a lengthy athletic event with fans cheering?

As mature young adults we should be allowed the privilege to listen to music responsibly. During study hall, in the library, in the computer lab, and after tests we should have the privilege to enjoy our music quietly without getting yelled at for being less distracting than the giggling chatting couple in the back of the class.

## Indie movies up for Oscars

By Ryan Newell

Once again the focus is on a little movie called *Brokeback Mountain*, maybe you've heard about it. The controversial film walked away with eight Academy Award nominations on January 31, more than any other nominated film.

Including *Brokeback*, the other four films nominated for "Best Picture" are *Capote*, *Crash*, *Good Night, and Good Luck*, and *Munich*. All five of the nominated films were originally released independently and are categorized as independent films, even though *Munich's* \$70 million budget isn't that of an ordinary independent film.

For the first time since 1981, all five of the films nominated for "Best Picture" match up with the director of the film. The nominees for "Best Director" include the following: George Clooney (*Good Night, and Good Luck*), Paul Haggis (*Crash*), Ang Lee (*Brokeback*), Bennett Miller (*Capote*), and Steven Spielberg (*Munich*). On January 28 Ang Lee was awarded the Directors Guild of America Award for *Brokeback*.

The acting nominees were less than surprising. The "Best Actor" nominees are Philip Seymour Hoffman (*Capote*), Terrence Howard (*Hustle & Flow*), Heath Ledger (*Brokeback*), Joaquin Phoenix (*Walk the Line*), and David Strathairn (*Good Night, and Good Luck*). Hoffman won the

Screen Actors Guild Award (SAG) for his performance.

The nominees for "Best Actress" were just as predictable. They are Judi Dench (*Mrs. Henderson Presents*), Felicity Huffman (*Transamerica*), Keira Knightley (*Pride & Prejudice*), Charlize Theron (*North Country*), and Reese Witherspoon (*Walk the Line*). Witherspoon won the SAG Award.

The nominees for "Best Supporting Actor" include four first-time nominees and a previous Oscar-winner from 1985. These nominees are George Clooney (*Syriana*), Matt Dillon (*Crash*), Paul Giamatti (*Cinderella Man*), Jake Gyllenhaal (*Brokeback*), and William Hurt (*A History of Violence*). Hurt won "Best Actor" for the film *Kiss of the Spider Woman*. Giamatti won the SAG Award over critic favorite Clooney.

Nominees for "Best Supporting Actress" mostly came from films with other nominations. They are Amy Adams (*Junebug*), Catherine Keener (*Capote*), Frances McDormand (*North Country*), Rachel Weisz (*The Constant Gardener*), and Michelle Williams (*Brokeback*). Weisz was the winner at the SAG Awards.

## "Did I do that??"

By Brittany Mercer

All eyes are on both the president and the vice president, and so when a freak accident such as a shooting occurs, we all are watching, criticizing, and laughing it up. On Saturday the 11th, a great afternoon for hunting, Vice President Cheney was quail hunting on a friend's ranch when a stray bullet sprayed Harry Whittington who is seventy-eight years old. Whittington was injured in the face, neck, and upper torso and was hospitalized with the injuries. Officers are conducting an investigation, but as of right now, the shooting is considered an accident.

Both people were lucky that the incident was not fatal. This could have been a horrible tragedy. Reality hit Vice President Cheney that even though he's the next step from president, real life can still happen. Accidents can happen. Guns can happen. Even the Vice president is not safe from accidentally shooting some-

one. This is why we all need to take special precaution with weapons. It can happen to anyone. In the US alone in 2001 there were 29,573 deaths from firearms, and the number of non-fatal injuries per year is over 200,000!

Guns are dangerous and people do die. Vice President Cheney was lucky to have shot a seventy-eight year old man and everything turned out okay. Everything did turn out fine, and people are having fun with the idea of the vice president shooting someone. Comedians like Jay Leno and Conan O'Brian had their fun. We all had our own laughs, yet we know if the outcome were dif-

ferent, so would be the reaction. Cheney is just a guy and he makes mistakes too, but I don't think the man needs a body guard. All you have to do is holler quail.



Vice President Cheney in a time of better publicity

## Point/Counterpoint: To AP or not to AP?

By Paul Shivers

Why should you spend around eighty dollars and hours of time for not only taking your respective AP Test(s) but studying for them? You shouldn't take them because your teachers recommend it, or because it's an easy way to get out of class for a day. The reason that you should take the AP Tests is because it will benefit you in the extremely important next four plus years of your life.

At the beginning of the year, the AP Tests were required for any student that took an AP course. But since that time the administration has changed its mind and made them optional. Only AP Art has to take their AP test because it is a Board of Education mandate. Many students are ecstatic about the decision because now they won't have to spend money or time on the test but will still receive AP credit for the course. The test, as aforementioned, is approximately eighty dollars. If you have to take more than one test, the cost can easily add up. The test will also require several hours to take and even more to study.

Despite the steep price of the tests, money should not be an issue for any AP student. I'm not saying every AP student has hundreds of dollars of expendable cash lying around, but when the AP students decided to take AP courses, whether it be one or four, they understood that they'd have to take the AP tests and that those tests cost money. The teachers did not hide these facts from the students; they straightforwardly told the students that they would need a amount of money for the tests

they were required to take at the end of the following year. Therefore, if money was an issue during scheduling, either the course should not have been taken or the student should have found a source of money for the test.

The issue of studying is also a terrible excuse to not take the test. The teachers gear their lesson plans all year for the tests and even take a month before the test to review strategies for their respective tests. The test is a great way to prepare for the rigors of college and should not be difficult if the student has applied him or herself during the year.

If a student does well enough on the test, he or she will receive college credit for the course at most institutions. That can save thousands of dollars because once. And unlike placement tests, you will not be asked to take more advanced courses that aren't necessary for your major. The test can only help you as the scores are only sent to schools if you choose to send them. So for the price of eighty dollars per test, you can save thousands on college courses.

The College Board, who writes the tests, is cracking down on schools whose students don't take the test. They may even implement a quota for each AP class. That means if enough students don't take the course then the College Board can remove the AP status from classes at Salem. So if you take the test, not only do you have the opportunity to make hundreds of dollars for just a few hours of test taking, but you will be saving the AP courses from being eliminated from the curriculum.

## Myspace

By Desiree Wright

Have you checked your Myspace lately? If you're one of the forty-eight million users that have joined the site since it was created in July 2003, then you know exactly what I'm talking about. It's never been easier to upload photos, post blogs, create and edit your very own user profile, join groups that fit your interests, make friends, and browse the music section for both local and mainstream bands. It's also never been easier for internet predators to find out all kinds of personal information about you.

When Tom Anderson first founded Myspace, it was geared mainly towards musicians, but now it's become an internet playground for young teens who may be unknowingly submitting themselves to danger. Though the site is meant for teens sixteen years of age and up, some youngsters choose to lie about their age in order to access each of the features it has to offer. Children provide all kinds of personal information thus submitting themselves to potential interactions with internet predators and pedophiles.

Who's to blame in this situation, the teens who give out their information or Myspace for not doing a better job of filtering those who don't belong? When has it

ever been safe to put your first and last name, phone number, address, or any personal identification onto the web? Parents should monitor what their children are accessing via the internet because social networking sites aren't the worst case scenario when it comes to the broad range of sites one could be viewing.

At SHS a large percentage of students have heard of Myspace; some even have accounts of their own. Freshman Lydia Larson stated: "I like Myspace. It is a fun way to meet new people. If it wasn't for Myspace, I probably wouldn't know as many people from our school and other schools around the area. There are a lot of different types of people who do have a Myspace which is pretty cool." Senior Lynsi Drotleff disagreed saying, "I think Myspace is the biggest joke on the internet. It's all just a stupid attempt to make yourself seem popular, cool or even 'hot' with your quizzes, comments, and strategically taken photos...." Like it or not, Myspace is the seventh most popular English language website, according to Alexa Internet, a California-based subsidiary company of Amazon.com. Sergeant John Less of the Salem Police Department was contacted but not available for legal information.

By Bryan Sebrell

Recently this month, Superintendent Larcomb declared that students who enroll in Advanced Placement classes will not be required to take the AP tests that take place in the first two weeks of May. I'm glad he made this decision for many reasons.

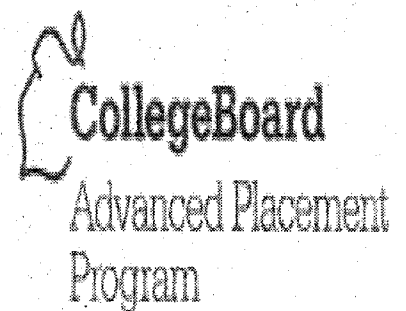
The first and most obvious reason why AP tests should be optional is the price. The tests cost \$82 each to take. Although the school takes \$8 off the price, \$74 is still quite a lot of money, especially for those whose families are not financially well-off. Those who wish to register for the tests need to pay a non-refundable \$13 per test, which is part of the \$74 price. Even the SAT and ACT tests cost less to take, and those are more important. If it is required to take the AP tests when enrolling in AP classes, some students would be unable to take such classes because of their financial status. Although it's clearly not intentional, this seems like discrimination against the poor to me. A student's education should not be limited based on how much money their families make. Making the tests optional would give less fortunate students the same educational opportunity as students who can afford the tests. There are a total of six AP classes offered at SHS this year:

Calculus, English, History, Computer Science, Chemistry, and Art. To take multiple AP classes, which many advanced students choose to do, when it is required to take the AP test would mean having to pay hundreds of dollars in test fees. I'm currently taking three AP classes, making a total of \$222. I doubt anyone would actually put so much stress on themselves by taking all six classes in the same year, but I do know a student who is taking four classes, which would total nearly \$300 in fees.

The other main reason why the tests should not be required is intimidation. If students are told they must take the AP test if they want credit for the class, many will consider not enrolling in any AP classes if they have poor test-taking skills regardless of how well they do in the classroom. Getting a score between three and five usually means you get credit for college courses that would have otherwise cost hundreds, possibly thousands, of dollars. But what if a student only wants to take the class for the challenge, not for college credit? Or what if the student feels he or she is not ready to take the test when the test dates approach and is sure he or she will be unable to score at least a three? It seems rather pointless to pay so much money

and go through the trouble of taking a test you know you'll do badly on and gain no benefits.

These two reasons make up my main argument against required AP tests. Although I won't be here at SHS next year, I hope the tests remain optional to increase the number of students who will enroll in AP classes. If you feel confident you'll get at least a three on your AP test, then by all means, take it! You'll be saving hundreds of dollars if you get that college credit for a good test score. But if a score of three or even two seems hopeless based on how much you've learned in the class, be glad you're not required to take a test you know won't benefit you.



## Bad rule of the month: No games, no way!!

By Josh "The Liberty Protector" Fast

Oh the joys of Text Twist, BMX Back Flips, and Candystand Miniature Golf. Since I started my freshman year here at SHS back in 2002, I have known of the dreaded rule found in all rule books, library cards, and agendas. "No instant messenger or GAMES." Why, if we are finished with all of our work, are we not allowed to occupy ourselves with a round of the vocabulary building Text Twist or enhance our hand-eye coordination with an internet sports or action game? There are even some puzzle games online that are proven to enhance our logical thinking skills. Is this not a better way to pass the time than mindlessly staring into space? In elementary school we played Oregon Trail at least once a week on the old school Apple computers, and that didn't seem to hurt any of our ability to get our work done and become successful

students. I don't mean that we should sit around and play games when there is work to be done, but come on who is a free internet game really hurting? Senior Paul Shivers agrees on

every aspect of my argument when he says, "Educational games only enhance our learning at school and are a much better option than sitting there doing nothing."



Senior Josh Fast is disgusted and shocked as he is scolded by mass media instructor Mrs. Dye. He was caught playing the vocabulary building game "Text Twist" after all his work was completed.

## Feature

### Cancer-a devastating disease that affects us all

Part 2  
By Alyssa Nelson

One of the worst things about cancer is that it is so inconspicuous. If you were to look around, there is a pretty good chance that you wouldn't be able to tell a cancer patient from a regular, healthy person. In fact, until they are diagnosed, most cancer victims are not even aware that they are ill. Many are not even going for an actual diagnostic when they receive the news. But once they find out, it is a shocking announcement for both the patient and their family.

My father died of cancer when I was ten years old. It was strange, almost unbelievable, to know that I was never going to see him again. I had known for quite some time that he was being treated and that the disease was progressing rather rapidly, but the news of his death still struck me as something of an improbability. I couldn't help but wonder why I, of all people, was going to be the one who lost a father to cancer. But that is exactly what makes cancer such a horrible thing: nearly anyone can contract it and at any time. There are multitudes of people each day who either experience cancer themselves or have a close relationship with a cancer patient.

Mrs. McCracken, an English teacher here at SHS, had an experience with Hodgkin's disease, a cancer of the lymph nodes, at age twenty-four. The time spent in the grip of her illness left Mrs. McCracken with two scars on her neck, chemotherapy from November 2000 until March 2001, and radiation therapy from March to July of the same year, finally overcoming her disease. She had only been a teacher for two years and had just celebrated her first wedding anniversary. Though she "felt cheated at first," Mrs. McCracken said that her faith and her belief that "everything happens for a reason" made it easier to accept what was happening. She says that her family was very helpful and took wonderful care of her, and in the end many of her personal relationships were stronger, especially the bond between Mrs. McCracken and her sister (after whom Mrs. McCracken's baby is named).

When asked how her run-in with cancer affected her in her later life, she replied, "I'm a happier person because of it because I appreciate everyday. I think I'm more sensitive with every-

body." Also, due to the fact that her treatment made her lose all of her hair and gain significant weight, Mrs. McCracken describes cancer as "very humbling...I don't make appearance a major issue."

Another local cancer survivor is SHS Junior Garret Hack. At age four, his mother was diagnosed with breast cancer and, after several fruitless searches for help around the country and in Mexico, was told she would not make it. Things became even more complicated when, after his mother passed away at age five, Garret was diagnosed with childhood leukemia. "I just remember a lot of pain and soreness...I felt really achy and sick," Garret recalls. When he was taken to the local hospital in Salem, he was told there was nothing they could do, and he was then sent to Akron Children's Hospital where he was finally diagnosed with cancer. Garret stayed in the Hospital for twelve days, and then had monthly checkups for the following two - three years. His checkups then got progressively less frequent, until he was pronounced cured around age eleven.

"Now I am a camp counselor at a camp for kids with cancer, and I help out every summer," says Garret. Like Mrs. McCracken, Garret believes that "[cancer] gives you a better appreciation for life, and you understand that your life can forever change. It's an all-around experience that helps you appreciate every day more."

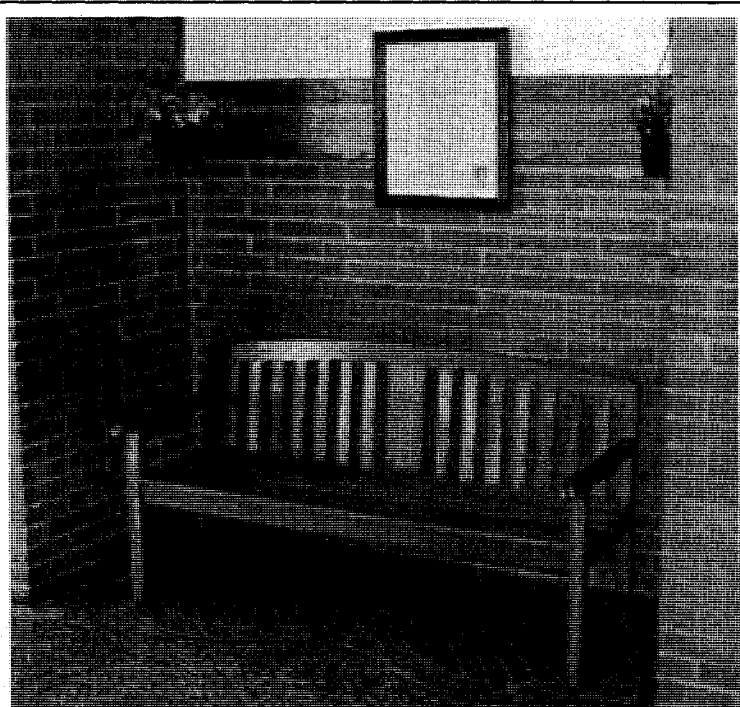
Cancer can take hold of the life of an individual without any warning, and the patient is by no means the only person affected by the disease. Friends and family are pulled in by the emotional ties that are pulled by the patient's physical pain. It can be difficult to cope with the news of cancer, whether you are a patient or know a patient. But there is nothing more comforting than the support of loved ones for either situation. While you can never be prepared for cancer when it strikes, you can at least have the safety net of those you care about to catch you when cancer knocks you off your feet. With help, it is entirely possible to get back on track.

### Buckle Up

By Tiffany Jones

When you get into a car what are you most concerned about - what CD you want to jam to while cruising town or your safety? There have been too many young lives lost in the area these past few months, and most could have probably been prevented by one little contraption that comes equipped in every automobile, the seatbelt.

Two out of five teen deaths occur because of automobile accidents making this the leading cause of death for people between the ages of fifteen and twenty. Over 5,000 teens were killed in 2002 due to injuries caused by motor vehicle accidents, but why? Are people too lazy to take ten seconds to buckle up? Having that little strap on does determine a lot when you are involved in a car accident. Some people say it's uncomfortable, but being a little uncomfortable is better than putting your life on the line. Also, not wearing your seatbelt is against the law and can result in a fine for you or the driver of the vehicle. In the end the seatbelt could potentially hurt you physically or financially. Don't take the risk, buckle up!



Fellow teachers and friends of the late Mrs. Elaine Haddad contributed money to purchase this bench and plaque in memoriam of her life and dedication to the students of the Salem City School District. Her memory will always survive in the hearts of those who knew her, but this bench will serve as a loving reminder of her nearly thirty years of service to our school.

### Spirit rock "Señorita Jilliqua" speaks out

By Doug Mondell

Is there any reason that the Salem High School Spirit Rock should be ignored this year? Normally every year the rock is painted by a group of seniors and shows Salem's school spirit. But for some strange reason, this year it was left abandoned!

While interviewing the Rock, whose name is Señorita Jilliqua, on the subject of her neglected state, she had some very interesting comments for our readers. "I personally feel that I could be dead and Salem High School as a whole would never notice me," she cried. "Does it really take that much time and effort to slap a coat of paint on me?" She also described her childhood for me, "I had to walk to SHS fifteen miles uphill in the snow! That's hard work for a rock!" she shouted, almost foaming at the mouth. Señorita has confided to the Mass Media class that if action is not taken to spruce her up, she will be moving to another school district.

Junior Keri Blackburn has many sentiments for the rock and said, "I love the Rock! Whenever I'm feeling down I just look at it, and it makes my day so much brighter." Junior Kellie Stewart has absolutely neglected and ignored the Rock all three years she has been here at Salem High... where is the love? Senior Veronica Waite said, "If I could marry the Rock I would! She is my best friend."

I certainly hope that more attention will be paid to Señorita Jilliqua in the future. I don't know if SHS would be able to carry on without her. Please everyone show your compassion for her. Think of the rock; what has she ever done to you? The answer is nothing but sit in the front yard of Salem High School and try to look beautiful! She feels so unappreciated and might start crying. Don't make her cry! Help make her beautiful!

### Emo for you and me-mo

By Courtney Mercer

We have all heard the term "emo" before thrown around here and there. "Oh, stop your crying emo kid," is possibly the most common one. We all have seen the so called "emo" or "Scene" kids walking around, the ones with dyed black hair, tight jeans, and t-shirts. Is it just another fad that will slowly disappear along with the decade or is it a subculture? Can anyone truly define "emo" other than just a bunch of typical stereotypes of the people who listen to it?

Emo could just be another trend, but to some people it is a genre of music that started back in the mid 80's. Bands such as Rites of Spring, Gray Matter and Embraced from the DC area termed themselves "emocore." This was short for emotional hardcore for their very emotional performances on stage.

In the mid 1990's the indie scene came about and started using the term "emo" for bands such as Fugazi and Sunny Day Real Estate. Indie emo, as they liked to call it, was more melodic and less chaotic than the emo bands in the 80's. Indie emo lasted only until the end of the 1990's and quickly faded.

Some people believe that there is no such thing as "emo" other than just a silly slang some reporter made up to describe a band. Even so, this slang has become very much a new subculture. There are many different types of fashions that come along with the word emo.

There is the "indie emo,"

those who buy thrift and vintage clothing. They wear t-shirts with graphic designs from the 80's usually worn way too small. Another style is probably the most popular and focuses mainly on dark colors. This includes the following: unnatural dyed hair such as black or tints of red and blonde, hair cut to an angle that goes over one eye, males wearing jeans made for females, both males and females wearing dark eye makeup, and Converse All Stars shoes for both styles of emos.

A typical stereotype that comes along with one who is emo is that they are involved in self harm. The most famous lyric "Cut my wrists and black my eyes" is sung when making fun of emo kids. However, self harm and the music emo has no connection whatsoever. So that is just another made up stereotype that people like to use to make fun of "Emo kids."

The point I am trying to get across is why label someone emotional when we are all emotional? It doesn't matter what type of music you listen to. If you listen to other types of music, it all has some sort of emotion involved. It doesn't matter what type of clothes you wear either. Fads come and go; people dress differently. We are all humans and all humans are emotional, so I guess everyone in some sort of weird way is Emo.

## Where no student dares to go

By Josh, "The Liberty Protector," Fast

With this year shortly coming to a close and the 2006-2007 school year on the horizon, it's time to think about the future of SHS. The school is about to be flooded with young junior high school students and where in the world are we going to put them?!? I, Josh "The Liberty Protector" Fast, went on a school wide expedition to answer this very question! With classrooms scarce, we must look in unorthodox places for space to put these new additions to the SHS population. I searched and searched and after an entire period of exhausting journeys with my trusty sidekick and photographer senior Paul Shivers, I found four places that students and staff alike might not know exist and if they do know have probably never taken the risk to go there.

First, we traveled to the underground! This is a lovely place to hide a few youngsters, if they're small of course. You would have to crawl because the trapdoor in the choir and band storage closet through which you enter the dark underworld of the crawl space is about the highest part. With a nice set of "Clean Cotton" Yankee Candles, it might just be the perfect spot for a seventh grade science class. Next, we headed up the dangerously tall iron ladder to the cat walk above the auditorium. Though a bit cold because we dwellers of the auditorium don't enjoy heat, I feel if we were to give the charming young eighth graders a nice Mag-Lite I'm sure it could be used for the junior high cafeteria! Who wouldn't want to eat a delicious "chik sand" and fries while watching one of our talented musical groups performing on



Josh explores the catwalk above the auditorium.

stage? After we had made it safely back to ground level, we headed back up to the main area of the school and found the infamous "fake wall." We found the door unlocked and entered. What did we find you ask? LOCKERS!!! LOTS AND LOTS OF LOCKERS!!! Actually, there were only as many as are in front of the office, but nonetheless we need to find all the space we can get. Although littered with tools and other things that keep our school running smoothly, it can be cleaned out and used to house the latest additions to SHS.



Josh discovers potential junior high lockers for next years merger of the schools

Now I don't mean the junior high kids themselves, so class of 2007 don't get any big ideas!! Last, but certainly not least, we come to the revered and long hidden elevator! Unless you've ever found yourself injured or helping someone who is incapable of using the stairs, you've never had the pleasure of taking the long voyage to the second floor in the elevator. The junior high choir could possibly be held in this gorgeous wood-paneled piece of technology...after all, haven't you ever heard of elevator music?

Although I was worried about the amount of breathing space the students next year are going to have, my journey reassured me as I am doing for you now. There are PLENTY of fine places not yet even thought of where we can educate the youth of our school district.

## Poets' place

### A Routine Night of Redistribution

A massive mansion stands against the stark, still night  
As a silent prowler stalks its grounds.  
A hapless guard lazily stands at the entrance.  
From out his mouth falls mindless prattle,  
Holding a flagon of ale in one hand,  
A wobbling sword in the other.  
His babbling halts with a groan  
From the strike of the soundless assailant's blackjack.  
Turning the knob of the huge dwelling's door  
Proves fruitless, a complex lock bars him out.  
With a twist of his steel pick, the lock clicks open  
And into the residence he sneaks.  
Quickly gliding from out the shadow  
Into the defying glare of the torches  
Returning to the darkness facing opposite.  
He does this from room to room  
Without causing the slightest of sounds.  
And when he spies a figure, whether servant or resident,  
They suffer the same fall the guard did  
And are stashed in the cover of an obscure corner.  
While these unfortunate folk slumber in the shadows  
The pilferer plunders the palace's wealth  
Leaving them to wake up flustered and fleeced.

Bryan Sebrell

### New Spring Leaves

Unfurling, pale green,  
Spring leaves reach up  
toward the sky.  
New life commences.

### Summer Heat

Sun parched and dusty,  
Trees cry out with drooping  
boughs.  
Summer heat unkind,  
A silent thief of water.  
All wait for rain's renewal.

Kellie Stewart

## Bree competes for crown

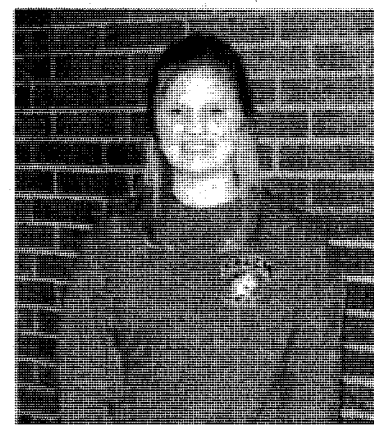
By Veronica Waite

Senior Bree Whinnery has been selected as a finalist for Ohio's 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Homecoming Queen Selection on April 22 and 23 at the Columbus Marriot North in Columbus.

America's Homecoming Queen is a very unique selection, since participation is by invitation only. To qualify, the candidate must be a high school homecoming queen, football or basketball, and have never participated in America's Homecoming Queen selection before. This means that each queen participates only once, and every year there is a different group of girls competing for the state and national title. America's Homecoming Queen selection eliminates all politics, since all of the girls are competing for the first time. Each state winner will receive a trip to the National competition. In order to be eligible, you must submit an official application to the national office. A preliminary judging for each state will be made from the

applications received. Finalists will be selected to compete for their respective state's title. If a girl is selected as a state finalist, she will compete in personal interviews and prom gown competition only. The purpose of the

organization is to promote education and community service for high school homecoming queens in all fifty states. Offering the young women, who have shown outstanding leadership ability, the opportunity to achieve their dreams

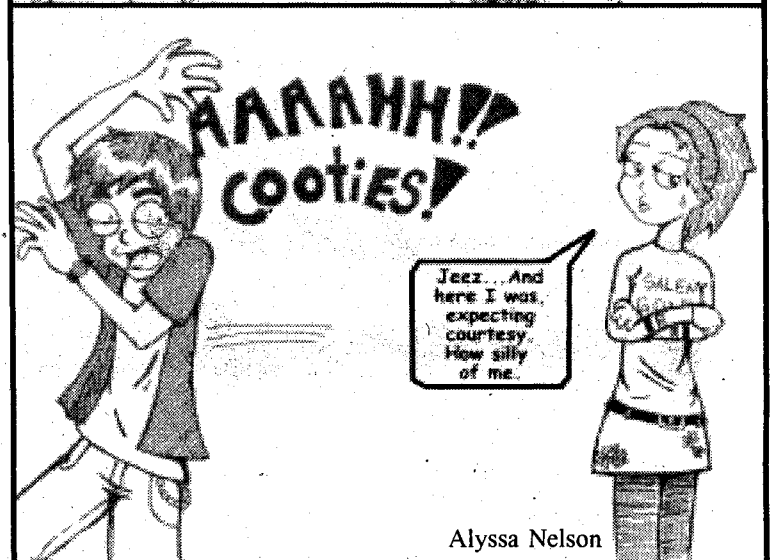
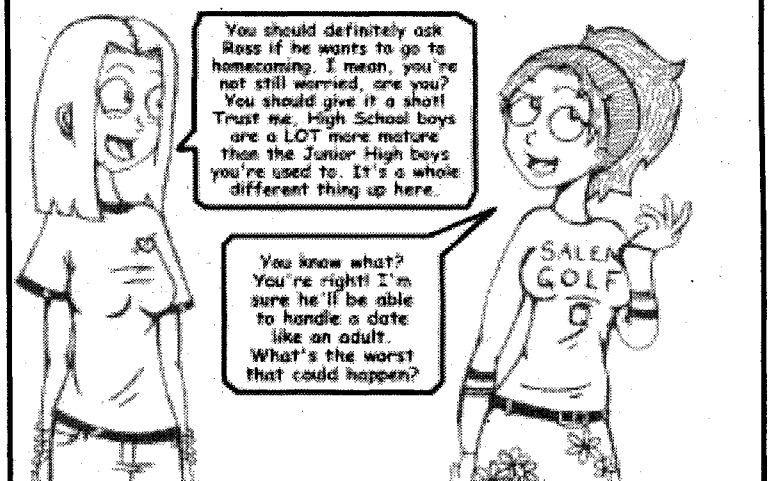


and goals of being our leaders of tomorrow.

"I really appreciate the fact that I have been given the opportunity to be involved in something like this," said Bree. "Being selected as our school's Homecoming Queen was such an honor to me, and now to move onto being Ohio's state finalist is just all the more exciting."

Ohio's 2006 Homecoming Queen will receive a cash scholarship and an expense paid trip to the national finals.

## Cartoon Corner



Alyssa Nelson

# Entertainment

## Point/Counterpoint - *Brokeback Mountain*

Point  
By Josh Bell

The 2005 film *Brokeback Mountain* is only trying to advertise the controversial issue of gay rights across America. In my opinion I see this as a marketing ploy created by the gay communities to show the world what being gay is all about. I do not agree with gay marriage at all, if you haven't guessed by now. Within this movie I see a cry out to the nation to let gays do what they want because they are people too. I won't disagree there; they are people, but I think this movie is only trying to push gay liberties across the board. And it's true that across the country only select theatres accepted the movie while other theatres threw it out. This isn't a surprise at all because the rest of the world just isn't interested in the outcries from the gay communities. There are so many more important issues in the world than worrying whether John and his boyfriend Brian can get married or not. With all that's going down I ask the question: WHAT'S HAPPENING TO SOCIETY?

I did some research and found a couple interesting Bible passages that spoke to me. First I found one from Proverbs that said something to me. "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." (Proverbs 22:6). With such a movie as this, what is the gay community trying to do? Are they trying to fight the laws or the people who oppose them? Creating this film to show people that gay marriage is okay and

that society should allow it?

"If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be put upon them." (Leviticus 20:13).

I don't hate gays or the gay community; I find it a great waste of time and energy to hate something that isn't worth hating. God gave us the gift of freewill and with that I believe we make our own choices in life from the breath of air we take to the life we choose to lead. With that if you want to be gay and it makes you happy then go for it. If you feel you have the right to be gay, then I feel I have the right to protest against it.

As for the movie, I don't think it's right to be showing it; but it is a freedom we have as not only Americans but human beings to say what we want. So let the gay community sing, but I'll be there directing the protest in high chorus.



I really don't understand what all of the uproar about Focus Film's new movie, *Brokeback Mountain*, is all about. With release of the film has come a wave of disagreements over the film's subject: homosexuality. Whether or not you've seen the film, I'm guessing that you know the story is that of two young men, hired to herd sheep on a mountainside, who fall in love. *Brokeback Mountain* is so much more than merely a "gay cowboy movie." It perfectly captures what true, unbridled love is all about - transcending any issues of sexuality or gender. "Love is a force of nature."

Unfortunately, many people have accused the film of being propaganda. They say that the homosexual community is using the film to teach the young and impressionable in America that being a homosexual is OK, when it really isn't. When I read or hear of this kind of view, I get the impression the speaker also believes that

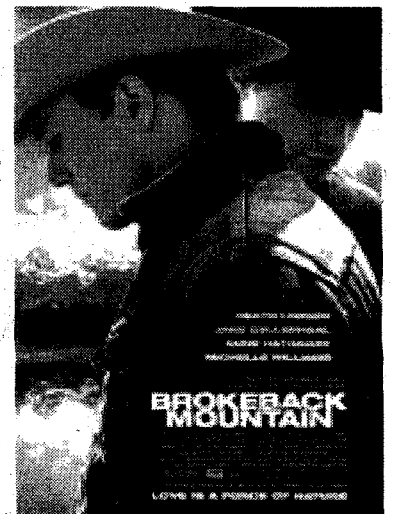
Counterpoint  
By Tracey Milchick

teaching tolerance and self-acceptance is something which must be stopped at all costs. Even worse is the accusation that this movie will "turn" people gay. I don't buy it. No one's wrist is being twisted to see this movie. Besides, almost every homosexual grew up with two straight parents. Why didn't those *heterosexual* tendencies "influence" them the same way a two-hour long movie supposedly will?

Many opponents of homosexuality often look to the Bible for the answers to homosexuality, often citing Leviticus 20:13 (NIV): "If a man lies with a man as one lies with a woman, both of them have done what is detestable. They must be put to death; their blood will be on their own heads." But I always wonder when I read anti-gay remarks from the Christian right: do these same people spend the same amount of time protesting about movies like *Porky's* or *American Pie* which are about fornication between unmarried, heterosexual teens that are only doing so out of lust? Probably not. I think that a Christian should refer to the Bible without picking and choosing which verses work for their agenda and which verses won't. Why don't the Christians who oppose homosexuality also follow other Biblical verses? For example, Matthew 7:1-5 (ESV) says, "Judge not, that you be not judged... How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when there is the log in your own eye? You hypocrite,

first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye."

*Brokeback Mountain* is only a story, one that happened to be written by E. Annie Proulx, a heterosexual. The film's director, lead actors, screenplay writers, and probably most of the producers are heterosexual. Pardon me if this doesn't seem like a conspiracy from the entire gay community. This film was made to tell an interesting story to appeal to its audience. That's what all films are for. True, it has a lesson to be learned, but don't all movies? If you don't think it will entertain you or that it will make you uncomfortable, you don't need to gather an army to protest against it. Just don't watch it.



## SHS Gets Ready for those *Damn Yankees*

"*Damn Yankees* has a superior cast," junior Daniel Huston commented on this year's school musical. "It has the potential to be one of the best musicals we've done in the past five years." The show is being directed by Mrs. Jeckavitch and Ms. Marlene Stollo. Right now practices are in full swing, and SHS students are getting anxious for performances.

*Damn Yankees* begins as Joe Boyd's exasperated wife Meg and several other chorus members sing "Six Months out of Every Year." Baseball season is in full swing, and all the men seem permanently stuck to their television sets. After seeing his beloved Washington Senators lose time after time to the Yankees, Joe proclaims that all the Senators really



need is "one long ball hitter," and that he would sell his soul to the devil for them to get one. Almost instantly, the devil appears in the form of a man named Mr. Applegate. He promises Joe his dream of becoming that long ball hitter himself in exchange for his soul. Before complying, Joe persuades Applegate to agree on an escape clause, giving him one chance to

go back on their deal on the 24th of September at midnight.

Some of the wonderful cast includes Doug Mondell as Joe Hardy, Kasey Wolfgang as Meg, Kimberly Kenst as Lola, Daniel Huston as Mr. Applegate, and Kaitlin Schoch as Gloria Thorpe. A slew of extremely talented smaller roles and chorus members are also included in the show, and everyone has put an enormous amount of time and effort into the production.

The performances will be on March 24 and 25 at 8:00 pm in the SHS auditorium. Tickets will be on sale for \$8.00 and can be bought through Mrs. Heineman in the school office. They will also be sold at the door. Make sure to get out and see this year's musical. You won't want to miss it!

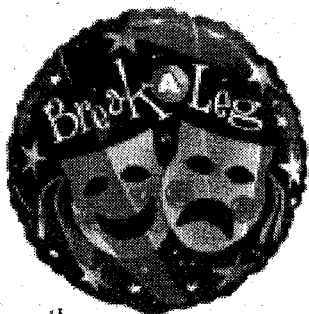
## Battle of the Bands

Paramore  
By Tiffany

Paramore is an alternative rock band hailing from Franklin, Tennessee. Their debut album "All We Know is Falling" was released in the past year through Fueled By Ramen Records, and they have seen much success since. The group consists of five very talented musicians including the vocalist Hayley Williams. Hayley is only sixteen years old but has a very powerful voice. The band began three years ago when Williams moved from Mississippi to Tennessee and started at her new school. The guys showed her the world of classic rock, and she immediately fell in love. A clash of all their favorite bands is what gives Paramore their very distinct sound. The group will be touring this winter with Halifax and then again in the spring with Matchbook Romance and many other bands on the Take Action Tour. For a full list of tour dates visit [www.paramore.net](http://www.paramore.net) or to listen to a few songs from "All We Know is Falling" visit [www.purevolume.com/paramore](http://www.purevolume.com/paramore).

Death from Above 1979  
By Desiree Wright

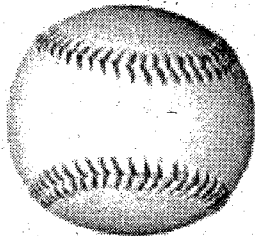
"We wanted our band to be like an elephant in your living room," says Jesse F. Keeler, bassist and synth player for the post hardcore band, Death from Above 1979. Jesse and drummer/vocalist, Sebastian Grainger met in Toronto, Canada back in 2001, and by 2004, their debut album "You're a Woman, I'm a Machine" hit shelves. Other albums released by this band include "Romance Bloody Romance," "Romantic Rights" EP, and "From the Abundance of the Heart, the Mouth Speaks" EP. They have been on tour with several popular bands, some of which include Nine Inch Nails, and Queens of the Stone Age. Rumor has it that the guys met in prison, but no one's sure how that story got started and it has since been denied. For more information, or to download songs that'll make you get up and dance, go to: <http://www.deathfromabove1979.com>, or check them out on Myspace at: <http://www.myspace.com/deathfromabove1979>.



To the cast of *Damn Yankees*:

### Break a Leg!

From the staff of *The Quaker*.



The Quaker

## Sport shorts: A review of winter sports

By Tim Colain

**Boys' Basketball-** The team has captured their first MAC championship in school history with an 9-1 record. They are sitting at 16 overall. Salem had a big win at home against Poland. Tom Jesko had 17 points, Tyler Pierce added 14, and Ryan Benchwick contributed 12 points in the win. Tommy and Ryan both gathered 14 points in a disappointing loss against Canfield. The boys have one game remaining against school rival West Branch.

**Girls' Basketball-** The girls have a 15-5 record overall. They are sitting at 9-2 in the MAC conference. Kasey Wolfgang had a big game against MAC opponent Struthers. The game was becoming a close one in the third quarter, and Kasey came off the bench and hit two clutch three-pointers within a 30 second range that started a 10-2 run which led to a 60-35 win. Zahra Scullion led the team in scoring with 10 points in that game. In their final home game, the senior girls led the attack with an impressive win against East Liverpool. The ladies will now get ready for Tournament play.

**Wrestling-** At the EOWL Tournament, another big event for the Quakers, Salem had four wrestlers place. They were the following: Mike Manypenny placed third, Mason Schmidt placed fourth, Steve Brown placed fifth, and Bunk Mull placed sixth. The mat men also took care of business by beating East Liverpool with a 36-32 score. There were eight wrestlers total that picked up wins. These included Patrick Simpson, Wes Bryan, Mike Manypenny, Will Shutler, Steven Brown, Bunk Mull, Mason Schmidt, and Matt Jenkins. Advancing to Districts will be Mike Manypenny, Mason Schmidt, Matt Jenkins, and Wes Bryan.

## All aboard

By Joe Shivers

If you're like me, you don't have a clear mental image of what a "bandwagon" is. Maybe it has some wheels, some flashy colors, and some musicians. Maybe it's rolling down a street as trumpeters blow a catchy song. As people from all sides are climbing on it.

"Jumping on the bandwagon" can be used to describe any instance of joining a trend, and this herd instinct is especially obvious among sports fans. There seems to be no one more contemptible than a person who switches allegiance from a weak team to a strong one. Freshman Jordon Strabala, a lifelong Steelers fan, insists that "it doesn't mean anything" to begin rooting for a team only after it becomes successful. "You've gotta weather through the bad years."

The world of sports has a bandwagon for every team, and the Quakers are now clambering aboard one in particular. The boys' basketball team is enjoying its most successful season in over a decade, and with that success has come an upswing in attendance. Mr. Greg Steffey, SHS athletic director, estimates that 20% more fans are coming to home games, and most of these are adults. As Salem keeps winning, townspeople who usually don't attend now flock to the Quaker games. But Senior Tommy Jesko doesn't hold past absences against the team's followers. "It's not fun to watch a bad team play," says Jesko, referring to the past seven seasons, during which the Quakers posted losing records. "But it's always fun to see a winning team."

But the Lady Quakers, despite their exciting and successful season, have not been drawing crowds like the one that packed last year's West Branch game. "I think that's because last year the seniors had a lot of school spirit and led the student section," speculates Junior Zahra Scullion. "I think that [people] don't think the games are interesting anymore."

While the girls' basketball team has lost some fans, the wrestling team has maintained its usual low turnout. Senior Bunk Mull says, "It's kind of expected, 'cause we only have two home meets." Mull, like Jesko, also acknowledges that it's not fun to watch an unsuccessful team—and he admits the wrestling team does not regularly win.

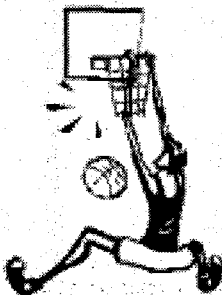
From talking to these SHS athletes, my feelings toward bandwagon-jumpers have changed. Yes, it's frustrating to see someone suddenly start rooting for your favorite team that has only recently gotten good. But sports aren't about the fans; they're about the athletes. And the athletes, at least the ones I asked, are at peace with their fickle fans. The female basketball players and the wrestlers regret it when they don't compete in front of big crowds, but they don't seem to hate the people who leave empty seats. And when the crowds return, they'll welcome them back the way the boys' team is embracing some of its old followers. "[It] feels good because now ... we know that the student body and town is behind us," says Jesko. "We've been having a good season so far."

## Tournament time

By Tim Colian

The boys' basketball team is seeded number one in the Division 2 Tournament in Boardman. They will play on March 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:30. They will take on the winner of the South East and Poland game.

The girls' team plays on February 22 at 6:00. They will be taking on Youngstown Mooney. If the girls win they will play on February 25 at 12:30 against Niles or Streetsboro.



## On top of the MAC

By Tim Colian

The phrase on the back of the Quaker Crazy T-Shirts is reality for both basketball teams this winter, especially for the boys' team.

The boys' basketball team has won their first ever MAC title in the school's history. This is Salem's first MAC title in 21 years. The last time they won was in 1985. When asked about winning the MAC this year, Coach Brink said, "It is very rewarding for the guys."

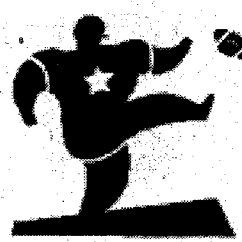
When Coach Brink first appeared on the scene three years ago, the Quakers went 7-13 overall and 5-7 in league play. Last season they improved from the year before by going 10-13 and 6-6. This year they are sitting at 14-2 overall and 8-1 in the MAC as of this point in the season. Brink commented on this situation by stating, "It's something where you knew coming in there was going to be a lot of work that had to be done and you were going to take a lot of hits along the way, so this is something that is very special for the guys."

The atmosphere is different when you walk into John A. Cabas Gymnasium this season on a Tuesday or a Friday night. There is something special about watching these groups of guys perform nightly. They found a way to pull out a win every time they step out onto the court.

Good luck the rest of the way; the school and community will be right here supporting you.

## Heath and Wright make All-Ohio honors

By Andy Thompson

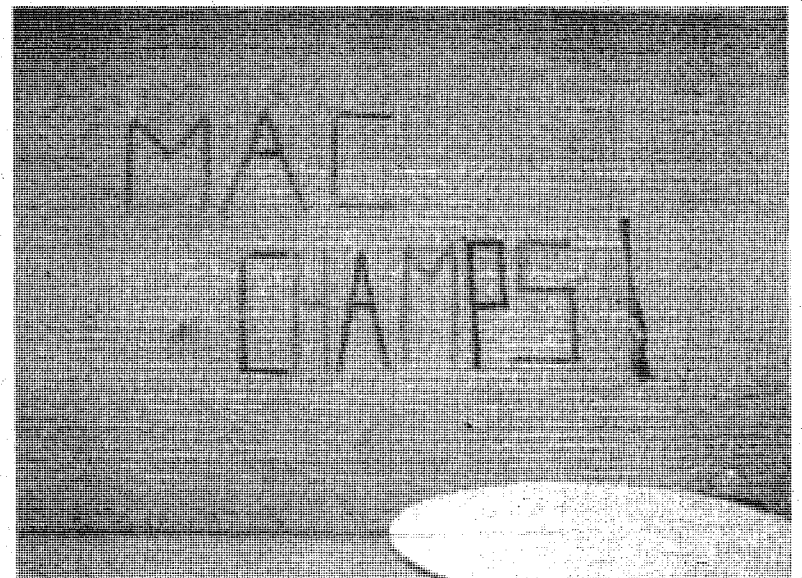


On Tuesday January 31, seniors Jarin Heath and Bryan Wright were honored before the start of the boys' basketball game against Poland. Both received awards for their past season performance in football. Jarin and Bryan received first team All-Ohio honors. This was the first time in school history that two players got first team All-Ohio honors in the same sport. Both players received a plaque in the shape of the state of Ohio. The voting on this kind of award is generally done by the coaches for each division.

Coach Phillips wanted to recognize the players that get this kind of award. There are six divisions in the state of Ohio which means there aren't many first teams, so to get an award for football is pretty amazing. The school will continue this award starting with the football program. By doing this, a plaque will be made and given to former Quaker wide receiver Zac Gray, who graduated in 2004.



Jarin and Brian's All-Ohio plaques have been placed in the trophy case in the lobby of John A. Cabas gymnasium



This MAC CHAMPS! sign can be found in the cafeteria. The MAC win is the first in Salem High School history.

# Quaker Clips

