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A high school tradition for years.

Volume 94, Number 3

Salem Senior High School

December 2006

New men on the court

By: Adam Swiger

The boys' and girls' basketball teams both have a share of new faces on the sidelines. Two of the faces are not so new to coaching but are new to the positions they have. Coach Klucinec is the new boys' head basketball coach after serving a few years under former coach, Coach Brink. When I asked Coach Klucinec what his feelings were about becoming head coach, he responded, "It is an extremely exciting time. I have been fortunate to work with some tremendous head coaches, such as Coach Brink."

With two new teams in the Conference this year, every coach has to prepare for the games. Coach Kulcinec's feelings toward the matter, "The more teams we can get into the MAC, to make it more competitive, the better.'

With only three games under their belt at this time, I asked for an early season outlook. Coach Klucinec replied by saying, "We are very inexperienced; we need to make sure we play, compete, and give a winning effort on a daily basis.'

As many people have noticed, only one person on this year's boys' squad had a large amount of varsity playing time, that being Austen Hutton. When I asked about any worries about the lack of experience Coach replied, "We have players that have played at the varsity level, so I hope those guys can give leadership and stability to the rest of the team'

Coach Klucinec did ask for one thing in return from the students though, "We would love to have a lot of support and enthusiasm from the student body. Be the

best in the MAC. BRING ON THE CRAZIES!"

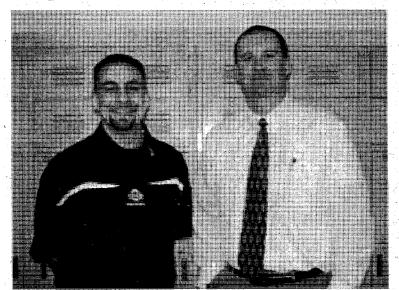
The new face on the girls' sideline has been around the boys' and girls' teams at different levels for many years. Coach Andres is the head coach for the Lady Quakers. When I asked his feeling about becoming head coach, he responded, "I am very excited to become a head coach at the varsity level for the first

In the MAC, girls' basketball is usually pretty good. When asked about the schedule, Coach Andres replied, "The MAC is loaded and our non-conference schedule is very challenging. I say, bring 'em all on! It should prepare us for the tournament.

East Liverpool and Campbell are new to the MAC this year. Coach Andres thoughts on them joining the conference are, 'Campbell and Liverpool joining the league doesn't bother me that much. In boys' sports they both should be pretty competitive, but it does present four games that I feel we should win.

With only a few games played, I asked Coach Andres how the girls look this year. Coach Andres responded, "So far we are 4-0* and working hard. We will have to have a few players step up to make for the loss of Kelly Roelen, but so far I am seeing that we have good senior leadership and athletes that are willing to do what is necessary to be successful."

*girls' record as the paper went to



New head basketball coaches Coach Andres- (left) Girls' Basketball Coach Klucinec- (right) Boys' Basketball

Oh, SNAP!

By: Will Fithian

How often have you ever had your lunch money stolen by a bully in the cafeteria at lunch time? If you've been subject to that sort of ridicule, the Food Service Management Company has come up with a solution. As of November 15 of this school year, our cafeteria began a new system called the Student Nutrition Accountability Program, or SNAP. It works very simple and eliminates the need to bring lunch money to school everyday.



A student tests the new Snap! technology

The way it works is easy. Every student was given an account and personal identification number to access their account. Students make deposits into their account by bringing checks made out to the Salem City School Cafeteria Fund. You may prepay with cash, but a check is preferred. Be sure to include your student PIN on the check. After students have been through the line and picked out something to eat, they enter their PIN on the keypad. The amount due will then be withdrawn from the students' account. If there is not sufficient funding already in the account, students may use cash on a day to day basis, but each student is expected to have his or her PIN.

If a student is qualified for free lunch, the computer will act as if there is money in the account, and the correct charge will be withdrawn. If the student is eligible for reduced lunch, the computers will withdraw the correct amount. The cashiers may not know if you're eligible for free or reduced lunch, so be sure to make it clear to them.

There are many benefits to this system. Parents know where their money is going, and they don't have to deal with giving their children three bucks everyday. Also, it keeps track of everything the student has eaten. If you have any questions on SNAP, contact Mike Stein, the Food Service Director for Salem City School District at (330) 332-8910.

Make it a time for sharing

By: Kathy Ellis

During this time of year, everyone is in a giving mood because of Christmas. It is a time when we appreciate the things that we have and give to those who aren't as fortunate. In our school and community, we are working together to provide the less fortunate with food. There are activities and also food drives going on. The clubs that are involved with activities and donations are Interact Club and also T.A.C.T. Mr.Ken Peters is also sponsoring a food drive.

Interact was involved with wrapping presents for the less fortunate. Mrs. Waterbeck purchased gifts, and the students in Interact wrapped them. The gifts will then be given to children who are in need these belongings. Heineman is the advisor for T.A.C.T. Club members are baking cookies for nursing homes and also playing bingo with the residents there.

The food drive that Mr. Ken Peters is in charge of is being held until the end of February. The donations will be handed out to local families that are in need of the collected food. This drive is aiming to reach 17,049 items of food by the end of the drive. The reason that this unusual number was picked was due to the population of Salem and Perry Township being about 17,049. The theme for this drive is called "Cruisin for Hunger." Senior Tom Yuhaniak played a big part in arranging this drive and making everything come together, assisted by Mr. Ken Peters, adult advisor. The items of food collected will be sent to surrounding charities and also food banks. The woods class is building

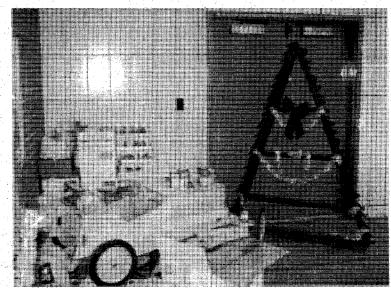


Adam Jones taking the woodshop car for a test drive!

miniature cars and also boats to hold the food cans that are collected. The students in machine trades are also involved with parts for the cars that are being built. They are also collecting clothing such as socks, mittens and scarves for the less fortunate.

Many donations are needed to make this large goal of 17,049 possible. If every person in Salem and Perry Township donated one item of food, this goal would be reached. Unfortunately, not everyone can donate, so those who can donate unquestionably should. Every donation adds up and help is needed from all of Salem and Perry Township to meet this goal.

"Happiness is not so much in having or sharing. We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."



Pictured is the collection area for the food drive with the car made in Mr. Ken Peter's woodshop. The Giving Tree is the collection area for mittens and gloves.

Opinion

War of the words

By Kaitlyn Fedyna and Anna Zimmerman

Q: What is your New Year's resolution?



Senior Ryan Newell "Pass high school and get into college.'



Junior Travis Wisler "Do better in sports."



Sophomore Tyler Dankovich "To improve in football this season.'



Freshman Theressa leropoli "To study hard and bring those B's up to the A's!"



Teacher Ms. Piero "To continue my summer exercise routine throughout the entire year, not just in the summer."

Point - Counterpoint: Smartfilter, Bess Edition

By Victor Dufresne

Smartfilter, Bess Edition, is the choice of most schools across America. While protecting students from inappropriate content on the web it allows access to the sites students really need. Bess will intercept any sites that will allow students to receive essays, research papers, and any other cheating materials on the World Wide Web. Although Bess and any other Internet filtering programs cannot block every site that is inappropriate, Bess does have options for the administrator to view sites that have been visited by the students. If an administrator has found a website that has been accessed by a student that is not appropriate, they may add it to a block list so that no one may access it in the future. Some examples of sites that are blocked are as follows: sites labeled as Adults Only, Hate/Discrimination, Illegal, Pornography, Violence, Alcohol, Drugs, Tasteless/Gross, Profanity, Murder/Suicide, Free E-Mail, School Cheating Information, Tobacco, Loophole, and Anonymizers.

Bess does not filter a site for the use of words. Any website that has been blocked by Bess has been visited by someone who has determined if the site is appropriate or not. Other filtering programs do filter sites due to the usage of phraseology.

If someone feels that a site should not be blocked by Bess they may request for the administrator to review the site and redetermine that the site may be unblocked or remain filtered. Bess will remain to keep students safe and focused on their work at school.



Winter = S A D

By Bridget Szabat

"Have a holly jolly Christmas" and in case you didn't hear...winter is not fun! Have you ever noticed that as winter seems to burrow its way in, people tend to get sick? Not only does the flu, along with other viruses, seem to approach but so does depression. It's true! Did you know that according to some experts, one out of

every six people suffer from some type of winter depression?

If you have ever taken time and looked around, it seems that people tend to be less active and social as the winter weather kicks in. Some may say that it is just a mental idea you have locked inside our brain, but, in some cases, it's not. Iviany ne could nav is known as Seasonal Affective Disorder or SAD. Seasonal Affective Disorder is just simply a type of depression that follows seasons. Many times it starts in September and lasts until spring arrives. In some few cases it may occur during summer. According to research, seventy to eighty percent of people who may have symptoms or think they have SAD are female. Believe it or not SAD affects women four times more often than it does men. You do not have much to worry about though. According to experts SAD normally doesn't occur within individuals under the age of twenty. Though there is such a disease as SAD, you would not want to mistake this with just the typical winter time blues. Many times the lack of sunlight entering your body determines why you may feel down when winter arrives. The cold air and the gray skies plot out saddened

Since students must attend school during this period of time, many of them find it hard to concentrate. The most common time to slack off on your work is the month right before Christmas break arrives. It seems as if all you think about is getting vacation time and letting your brain breathe a little. Many times this is when students decide to stop showing up for school because they find it harder to drag themselves out of bed. Classes always seem to be longer and harder once the days get shorter. You can find ways to help these problems, though. Try eating breakfast and going to sleep earlier. Instead of waiting until the last minute to cram together papers, start ahead of time. This tends to create less stress on the brain. So all you fans of heat from the sun, get ready because here comes winter By Alyssa Nelson

There's nothing wrong with having rules. Without them the world would be thrown into a state of unfathomable chaosblack would be white, up would be down, and Jeff Foxworthy would still be funny. The little restrictions we encounter each day keep us safe and keep people from doing things they probably shouldn't. However, it is important to remember that rules should be made for only specific purposes, and their criteria should be strict and exclusive. Rules which restrict and punish indiscriminately are both annoying and a flagrant misuse of executive

power. But it's mostly just annoying.

Take Bess, for example. This stalwart old beast is the infamous protection program found on our school computers – that little picture of a brown Labrador dog with all that text telling you why you're not allowed access to a certain site. Day and night she blocks our access to those websites deemed "inappropriate," thereby preventing us from stumbling upon a cache of mind-meltingly obscene materials which the web has to offer. Smart Filter: Bess Edition is our resident web watchdog.

Well, it seems that lately the old girl's gone AWOL. Please understand I have nothing against this program blocking sites that obviously contain items unsuitable for school - pornography, crime scene pictures, obscene humor, or any number of stupid computer games – but really! Exactly what qualifies something as block-worthy material? As of late even the most basic of sites have been closed off to us. For instance, there is a site known as IGN.com, famous for providing facts and reviews concerning new and upcoming videogames (a little bland, I know, but bear with us here). There are no actual games found on this site, as it is purely used for information purposes. But dear old Bess, bless her senile binary heart, steadfastly locks it up as a "game site." It seems a tad silly to me and begs the question of whether or not only basic criteria is considered when choosing blocked sites.

Other occurrences of Bess's arbitrary use of power include blocking zoological sites under "nudity," a weather site under "personals," and an art site under "gross." The filter seems to have very, very broad stipulations as to what is acceptable and what isn't, and it's really more of a hindrance than a helper. To put it bluntly, it's about time Bess was put down. All classes that use the computers are supervised anyway, and the school computers themselves aren't really game-compatible. Bess is unnecessary, outdated, and (nowadays) out-of-control.

Bad rule of the month

Junior high and high school stairways

By Erik Cibula

We were told on the

first day of school that we would have to adapt to some new changes here at the high school this year with the addition of the

ming three lunch periods into two, staying out of the up-High") hallway, and forcing stu dents to adapt to more congested

hallways. But the most ridiculous one of all is the rule that we as high school students are only allowed to use the

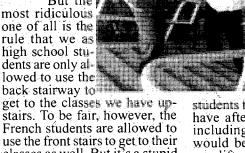
get to the classes we have upstairs. To be fair, however, the French students are allowed to use the front stairs to get to their classes as well. But it's a stupid rule that we are being forced to abide by because it's inconvenient to have to walk to the back

stairs then go back down the hallway to get to where you're going. Though most of us only have one class a day upstairs, it's just a hassle to have to go all the way around if you don't have to. For junior high students. Some of those changes included craming three three

auditorium, they rould have to walk round to the back tairs, instead of just oing up the middle er front stairs.

Another probem that this causes s when the bell rings, there are five, math classes that are all trying to get down the stairs at once. That's not including the junior high students that use that stairway as well, making some

students turdy to the classes they have after that. Many students, including this writer, think we would be better off if this rule was lifted, and we were allowed to use the other two stairways in addition to the one we already



Entertainment

Candlelight Chaos

By Jessi Howells

Nine years ago, two little first grade boys dreamed of being in a band. About a year ago, that wish came true when Candlelight Chaos was born. A local band of all high school boys, Candlelight Chaos has recently graduated up from small cafe shows to playing larger venues such as Peabody's Battle of the Bands, making dreams happen for the guys in the band. One of those little boys those nine years ago was Josh Blair, now a fifteen-year-old Salem sophomore.

Josh loves being in the band and can't imagine doing anything else with his life. "We do what we do because we love doing it, but what could be better than doing what we love more than anything for a living?" he says. Influenced by rock bands from all generations, everything from Pink Floyd and Queen to AFI, My Chemical Romance, and Metallica, all the songs the band performs are written by band members. Josh has a fair hand in that, even working on his favorite of their songs entitled, "The Forgotten Never Forget." Of all the artists Josh looks up to, his biggest influence, not only with the writing but also vocally, has been AFI's Davey Havok.

With all the gigs, practices, and heading into the studio this winter in hopes of a mid-summer release of their first album, Josh's family has been very supportive. But the one thing that gets the guys going more than anything is their fans. Albeit small, their fan base is incredibly loyal to their guys. "The fans we have are amazing," says Josh. They never fail to make an appearance at the shows to support the band. Some of them even drive as far as Cleveland to watch the band's dream of playing at Peabody's Battle of the Bands come true. As great as the smaller café and hall shows are, the guys love playing for larger audiences. "It's great playing for bigger crowds so they get to hear our music and appreciate it."

This fall the band made some changes including a new drummer and the addition of two new guitar players. This will undoubtedly change their sound, but they'll still be the same band with the same dreams, just a few new faces.



Candlelight Chaos member Josh Blair

Battle of the Bands Otep Brand New

By Sarah Humphrey

When people hear

words like rock and roll, heavy metal, Ozzfest, and moshpits they often will think of all guy bands. What female can produce the type of music to fit all of these words? There are a few females that can. One is getting increasingly popular amongst rock and metal lovers alike. Her name is Otep Shamaya, the lead female vocalist for an amazing band called Otep. Along with Lee Rios on guitar, Doug Pellerin on drums, and Evil J on bass, Otep has given a new meaning to the term "play like a girl." Otep considers herself an artist and a poet. She enjoys breaking rules, breaking new ground, and breaking sound barriers. Her aggressive songs are often about fighting, abuse, politics, and fighting back. She uses the lyrics in her songs to get her frustrations and problems out for everyone to hear. Her fans love her music and enjoy her amazing live performances.

Otep started their career in the abyss of the West Coast in 2000. The fans loved them. Otep played new gigs almost every night drawing an army of loval fans wholoved the powerful lyrics and crazy shows, not to mention the very beautiful lead singer. All of this coming from a girl! Otep became increasingly popular. Within eight months, Sharon Osbourne came to see them. Amazed with the energy and heart this band put into their music, she offered Otep their own slot on a very big tour. That year Otep appeared on the third stage at Ozzfest 2001. That was the concert that every rocker and metal head looked forward to during the summer. Otep played the third stage without having any demo songs, record deals, or merchandise. The crowed loved them because of the power of their live performance.

After Ozzfest, Otep came out with their debut album entitled Sevas Tra. The album did very well, mainly because Otep already had a large fallowing of fans. For their next album Otep wanted to hire a producer who shared their views on creativity, love of music, and the power of expression. They hired Greg Wells, he was recently a producer for the Deftones. Their next album was House of Secrets. This album had all of the same roots as Sevas Tra, but it went even deeper into the mind and creativity of Otep. The album was full of personal lyrics, deep madness, and personal vulnerability. Otep will continue to make amazingly personal music, fans will continue to attend their powerful live performances, and Otep Shamaya will continue to live by what she considers life: "Music is holy, art is sacred, and creativity is power."

Brand New Sin
By Katy Birtalan

Brand New Sin is an up-and-coming band from Syracuse, New York. I saw them opening for Mushroomhead, and they put on an amazing show. The sound is heavy rock with influences from Pantera, Black Sabbath, and Metallica. One thing to note is the lead singer's involvement with the crowd. After songs he would stop, and since the show was the day before Thanksgiving, he would talk about eating turkey, among other things.

The first album was written and recorded within four months of the band really coming together. After a year of touring and piecing together their next album, the members came together as a family, enabling them to figure out what their sound should be on the album Recipe for Disaster. They had over a year to work on their latest album, Tequila. The band cranked out seventy songs trying to portray all sides of the group. When the time came to record the album, the band narrowed down the tracks to only fifteen. All fifteen were recorded in the studio, but only twelve were recorded on the album. To all WWE fans out there, you might have already heard this band, and you didn't even know it. Brand New Sin recorded the theme song for the famous wrestler Big Show called "Crank It Up."

needed to change in the future for Brand New Sin, the lead singer, Joe Altier, had this to say, "We just need to be in front of people, in every way shape and form. That includes playing live, doing interviews for magazines, television, websites and also getting our songs played on the radio. If all of those come together perfectly this will be one @*## of a ride." Give this band a look or listen, and decide for yourself whether or not you enjoy them.

The film reviews

By Ryan Newell

Bobby – BWith a cast of over a dozen A-list actors including, Laurence Fishburne, Anthony Hopkins, Christian Slater, Demi Moore, and William H. Macy, the movie Bobby appears as a glowing light after the months of below average films. Director/writer Emilio Estevez brings to the screen a power look at the lives of more than twenty fictional people in the hours leading up to presidential candidate Robert F. Kennedy's assassination. In addition to serving as the film's writer and director, Emilio Estevez adds a small charm to the film playing the burnt-out husband to Demi Moore's aging singer.

Two of the films most stand out performances come from William H. Macy and Christian Slater. Macy plays Paul, the manager of the Ambassador Hotel who is having an affair with a hotel switchboard operator played by failed actress Heather Graham. At about the same time Paul fires Timmons, the kitchen manager (Slater) who is a racist. On top of all of this, Paul's marriage with Miriam (Sharon Stone) is falling apart. This and the storyline of Anthony Hopkins' aging doorman and an old friend (Tony winner Harry

Belafonte) are among the higher points of the film.

Completing the cast are Martin Sheen and Helen Hunt as a married couple who have come to L.A. to see the man they believe to be the next president. All and all, the film Bobby is a great take on the effect RFK's assassination had on the country following the death of his brother. If Emilio Estevez never wants to act again that would be great; he is far superior as a director.

The Queen - A

It certainly has been a royally good year for Helen Mirren. Mirren dazzled television viewers as Queen Elizabeth I of England in the HBO miniseries Elizabeth I and won an Emmy Award for Outstanding Lead Actress in a Miniseries. Now she portrays a more modern queen, Queen Elizabeth II, in The Queen. With her second performance as a queen, Mirren is looking to be the leading contender in the Oscar race for Best Actress.

Stephen Frears, who directed Judi Dench's Oscar nominated role in Mrs. Henderson Presents, helms Peter Morgan's masterfully written script with impeccable grace. In addition to Mirren's Oscar worthy performance, another standout was that of actor Michael Sheen as the newly elected Prime Minister Tony Blair. The film follows the lives of the Queen and the Royal Family and the Prime Minister at the time of Princess Diana's death in Paris. We see a conflict between the Queen and the Prime Minister as he fears her people are growing against her decision not to comment on the death of Diana, as well as not give her a royal funeral.

The Queen is an unmistakable masterpiece, and it will be a criminal act if Mirren doesn't hear her name on the ballot for Best Actress at the Oscars. Mirren has the astonishing ability to have a comedic appeal in one scene and an intensely dramatic in the next. Without a doubt, *The Queen* is far and away one of the best pictures of the year and Mirren's Queen Elizabeth is undoubtedly the best performance of the year. *The Queen* is this year's royal masterpiece.

Top five Christmas classics

By Erin Griehs

Christmas is a time for family, cookies, and, of course, presents. Along with the snow and the delicious food, you can't forget great holiday movies. Every year there is a slew of new films produced. However, you can't forget all the classic movies from years passed. Here's my list of the top five best classic Christmas movies.

Number Five: The Polar Express. Who can forget the story of the little boy who starts to loose his belief in Santa Clause and gets on the Polar Express, only to receive the first present from Santa? Granted, the movie is pretty recent, but it's still a great example of the magic of Christmas and whot can be prepared by the lives.

what can happen if you only believe.

Number Four: White Christmas. Okay, so the movie is from the 1950's, but it's still a fantastic film with lots of catchy song-and-dance numbers. In case you're unfamiliar with this movie, Bing Crosby and Danny Kaye meet up with Rosemary Clooney and Vera-Ellen in Florida and take a train to Vermont. They stay at an inn owned by a friend of Bing and Danny's. It is having financial problems. Since Bing and Danny are famous for their nightclub routines around America, they decide to bring their show to Vermont in hopes of making money for the inn. If you're a fan of old movies plus the nightlife scene of the '50st this movie is definitely for you

nightlife scene of the '50s, this movie is definitely for you.

Number Three: A Christmas Story. Personally I've never been a huge fan of this movie, but it is a holiday classic. It just wouldn't be Christmas without hearing all of Ralphie Parker's family saying, "You'll shoot your eye out!" Plus you can't forget poor Flick sticking his tongue to that metal pole and screaming like mad.

Number Three Santa Clause. I know the second and third Santa Clause movies are just

Number Two: The Santa Clause. I know the second and third Santa Clause movies are just overkill, but the original Santa Clause is a classic holiday movie. Don't even say you never liked it because as a little kid you know it was entertaining to watch the original Santa Clause fall off a roof and to see Tim Allen turn into Santa Clause.

and to see Tim Allen turn into Santa Clause.

Number One: National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation. Christmas would not be Christmas without watching Clark Griswold staple a million lights to his house and Uncle Louie burning down Clark's precious Christmas tree. Remember also Clark's temper tantrum when he finds out his boss didn't give him his Christmas bonus, and he receives a Jelly of the Month Club membership instead. If you haven eating Christmas cookies and wrapping presents, you should watch a good holiday.

Between eating Christmas cookies and wrapping presents, you should watch a good holiday movie. The holidays just wouldn't be the same without them!

The Quaker

Dear Santa,

I simply wish to begin by telling you I have been as good as I possibly could this year. I haven't once disobeyed my parents or stolen a car. I have tried my hardest to be the epitome of a fine young adult. For these reasons I wish that this year you would be particularly gracious. Even though during the past years I have enjoyed the many gifts, this year please take those resources and use them for better purposes.

year please take those resources and use them for better purposes.

Instead of a new train set, please put food on a needy family's table. Rather than an iPod, help a family having to sleep on the streets to get a decent shelter over their heads. It would be better to provide much needed medical care, than to give me that amazing Alienware computer. Those who are in need can pop up in the most unlikely of places including small towns and suburbia. In these places the need is the worst, as the town tends to ignore or simply forgets them.

Santa, have you ever considered giving blood? Not only is it virtually painless, but it also can help save up to three lives. You can volunteer at your local hospital or the Salvation Army. The possibilities

But Santa, what I want most of all is for other people to want the same that I do, and who will do something about it. Please take this into consideration for we are in a time of great need.

> Sincerely, Robert Hergenroder II

How to find the perfect Christmas gift

By Caitlin Costal

With a little bit of work, you can find the right gift

With Christmas quickly approaching, many of us find ourselves struggling with the challenging and seemingly impossible task of finding the perfect gift. Whether you are the last-minute shopper, the schemer whose plans always seem to backfire, or simply the drained and weary shopper, there is hope. The perfect gift is only a single thought away—oh, and a few hard earned greenbacks.

The need to find the perfect gift has been instilled in us ever since we were young, as we recall the exultation we felt in opening that special something on

Christmas Day. Not only do we reminisce over the joy we experienced, but we also long to provide a nuie taste of that same exuberance to others. With this being said, our re-maining pre-dicament is the all-consuming task of finding the perfect Christmas gift.

So, in theory, one would hope and assume that there would be some universal

present that would satisfy every person, including the pickiest of recipients. Sadly, harsh reality begs to differ, leading into my first point. The same gift won't always work on everyone. When choosing the perfect gift, you should look to the interests and hobbies of the beneficiary. Try to pick a present that matches their personality and a gift that they will enjoy for the years to come.

My second point seems easy enough, yet many of us seem to struggle

with this one. Don't assume that someone will like a gift just because you do. Sometimes we think that in order to please our recipients, we should get them something that we would like. This may work if you and your recipient have incredibly similar personalities. But if you are in search of the perfect gift, I would suggest buying or making something that is completely exclusive to their personality. My third and final point is in ac-

My third and final point is in accordance with the old cliché, "<u>It's the thought that counts.</u>" Although this phrase seems to be overused, it really is

a truthful statement when looking to find the perfect gift. Don't succumb to unnecessary stress when deciding on a gift. When it boils down to it, your recipient isn't going to remember you for the gift you gave them; they're going to remember you for the thought that you put into it.

In conclusion, I would like to first of all wish you luck in finding "the per-

finding "the perfect gift," and second of all, reflect on the true meaning of Christmas. Remember that the true reason didn't come wrapped up in a box or covered in bright tissue paper. Instead, this precious gift came wrapped in swaddling cloths and was placed in a lowly manger. I hope that you will remember the ultimate gift this holiday season and all the years to come. With this being said, have a very merry Christmas, and have a wonderful New Year!

"Rudolph with your nose..."

By FI Kataro

When Robert May sat down to tell his daughter Barbra a bed time story to comfort her due to the loss of her cancer stricken mother, he probably never thought his story would come to be a major part of Christmas tradition and a Christmas pop culture icon.

He turned his story into a home-made book and gave it to his daughter as a Christmas present back in 1938. He later read the story to his co-workers at a Montgomery-Ward New Year's Eve party. It was so popular with his co-workers that the CEO bought the rights and gave it to the children who visited the store to see Santa. The rights were eventually sold back to May, and he became a "rags to riches" story because of his bedtime story that exploded into a mainstream child's book. May's brother-in-law, Johnny Marks, is responsible for the musical adaptation of the story into a song.

Rudolph's first cartoon was produced in 1944 by Max Fliescher for the Jam Handy Corporation, which was more faithful to May's original story than Mark's eventual song. The reindeer then debuted on NBC in 1964 when Rankin/Bass produced a stop motion animated TV special of Rudolph and the Red-Nosed Reindeer. This version was rebroadcast many times over the years, even after it was finally released on video. CBS now airs it each year making it the longest running TV special.

In 1976, a sequel to the Ranki/Bass original was produced, titled Rudolph's Shiny New Year and a third sequel in 1979 titled Rudolph and Frosty's Christmas in July. Then in 2001, a fourth sequel was released and titled Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer and The Island of Misfit Toys. It was produced entirely with computer animation, in opposition to traditional stop-motion animation. Immense care was taken to make the computer generated characters resemble their stop-motion counterparts from the original as much as possible.



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Thoughtful Christmas gift ideas

By David Price

If you're like me, you wait until the last minute to go Christmas shopping. Finding things for all my friends and family takes a lot of time out of my day. I use a well thought out plan on what I could get them that will truly make them smile with ela-

When I go shopping I think of that person's personality and try to judge what they would like the best. If I had a friend who likes sports, I wouldn't buy him a set of encyclopedias. I would most likely buy him a football or something that would keep him active. There are also certain categories of people: fashion friendly, sporty, book worm, gamer geek, musi-cally inclined, or the movie goers. Here are some awesome ideas that will get you in and out of the store as swiftly and easily as possible

If you have the musical buddy you could get them downloads for their mp3 player or a sweet CD. On the other hand, if you have a gamer friend who comes over to your house just to play your Xbox 360, give them a game that will keep them so busy that they won't bother you while you are trying to do your home-work (wink, wink). Another idea for that movie person is to try and find out what their favorite TV shows and movies are and try to get them a seasons worth of episodes or a trilogy in a boxed set of DVD's. If you have friends that are fashion friendly, buy them clothing from Hollister or American Eagle. Be warned you might spend more on a shirt than you would spend on ten movies with that option.

If all else fails you could go with the gift card idea. This is the simplest and easiest way to get out of thinking about presents for Christmas because the gift card gives the person the freedom to choose whatever they want. This could also be good because you can't get them something that they've already received. In that case the person would just end up taking it back to the store and get quick cash anyway. Personally, I don't like giving gift cards unless I am using them to trick people because you don't put much, if any, thought into what you could get the person.

I sometimes use gift cards as gags; sometimes I will buy a gift card for a family member that says \$50.00 on it, but really I pull the old gag of the \$1.00 on the card. You really shouldn't do this if you are looking to impress. Well, whatever you plan on spending this season, your friends and family should really enjoy because it's not about giving it's about spending time with your loved ones.

Christmas Break:

What does your family do?

Dec. 22-Jan 2

By Courtney Mercer

It is time to set up the lights, decorate the tree, and make some beautiful ornaments. It's that tradition that leaves you all warm and fuzzy inside with joy. You've done the same traditional routine for so many years; you might have forgotten that not everyone celebrates their holiday the same way. Have you ever thought about how other people celebrate their Christmas? Have you thought about how different the Christmas traditions that your family carries on each year might be from another families? In order to explore the possibilities, the question was asked, "Is there anything that your family does for Christmas?" Some families go about their traditions in a very humble,

joyful way such as junior Caitlin Costal's family, which gathers around their Christmas tree drinking hot chocolate and singing Christmas carols. "My mom always makes homemade cinnamon rolls for Christmas morning", said senior Jessi Howells. Other families have Christmas traditions based upon ethnic backgrounds like senior Katy Birtalan whose family has a Hungarian tradition of eating pigs in a blanket. Other families go about their tradition in a very conventional way. "I go to my Grandparent's house", senior Brandon Yarwood stated, while senior Sarah Humphrey's family watches The Christmas Story together.

Whether your tradition is conventional, humble, or religious the best part isn't what you're doing. It's that you're doing it together as a family. There is something about the Christmas lights, presents, and hot cocoa that just seem to make everything all right. So enjoy your tradition, and maybe take into consideration trying something else new while you're at it...and have a very special

oliday. ecemeber 2006

The Myspace effect

By Brandon Yarwood

The original reason for the now very controversial Myspace.com was an online storage and file sharing firm. The first Myspace shut down in 2001 because of slow service and low revenue. The domain name was then bought for social networking in July of 2003 when Tom Anderson and Chris DeWolfe stepped in to make it one of the most visited sites on the web. With more than a hundred million users and more than two hundred thousand users joining everyday, the Myspace universe continues to grow.

The reason Myspace was created was to give friends a way to talk on the Internet. It

was supposed to provide a way by which individuals could express themselves so everyone could see what they were like. Most teens have a Myspace, and most of them spend hours every night trying to outdo their friends. They attempt to see who has the most profile views and the most friends. They all try to outdo each other and make their page look better than their friends. Not to mention, now people have a way to harass others, and they don't even have to be in the same

Most parents are upset with Myspace because of the manner by which it shares personal information with anyone

that can type the word Myspace into the address bar. Myspace is trying to keep out sexual predators by making anyone age four-teen and fifteen automatically private, not to mention each person has a chance to make their page private at any time. What parents don't understand is that if they don't want their children using Myspace then they should block it. There are plenty of free programs out there that block websites; usually every computer is equipped with one when it is bought. Most students are on about one hour every night. In the words of some students, 'Myspace is mind controlling.'

Food for your inner nerd

Wii By Wesley Lindberg

Video games may or may not be nerdy depending on who you talk to, but playing Nintendo games more often than not gets you labeled as a nerd. Nintendo's looking to shake off some of that stigma with their newest console, Wii (pronounced "we"). While that name may not sound like an earth shattering name (in fact, the name has gotten plenty of Wii puns about its name), it has really gone off with a bang in the market place.

Wii is Nintendo's fifth home console, and for once in video game history it is something different. While Microsoft and

Sony have focused solely on graphics and processing prowess, Nintendo has gone a different direction. Wii's graphics are only a little bit better than those on the Gamecube. Compared to the high def, high polygon graphics of the PS3 and Xbox 360, the graphics on the Wii are dated.

But that's not where the Wii's strength lies. Wii's strength lies in its radical new Senior Wesley Lindberg enjoys a game of Wii controller, the Wii remote. As the name suggests, the Wii remote is shaped like a television remote. The first impression of the Wii remote is, "How do I use that to play video games?" and when it was revealed in September 2005, most people wondered the same thing.

However, the Wii remote is simple for anyone to use. Want to play a game of baseball? Swing the bat. Want to play a first person shooter? You just point and shoot. Want to play a medieval sword fighting game? You got the idea. However, just because it's easy to pick up and use, don't think that all the games will be simple and easy. The Wii remote doesn't just pick up a basic motion and translate it on screen, but it can actually pick up all the subtle movements as

well. This means that if you throw a ball in a game of bowling and without thinking about it twist your wrist halfway through, you better be ready for one heck of a curve.

Speaking of bowling, the Wii is the only next generation game system to come with a game. Wii Sports comes packed in with the Wii, and while being an incredibly simple game, is much more than meets the eye.

There are five different sports featured in Wii sports (tennis, baseball, bowling, golf, and boxing), and each uses the Wii



Sports bowling. Photo by William Lindberg.

soon as you start a game in Wii sports, you will instantly realize that realistic graphics were not the goal; however, within a few minutes the graphics will mean nothing because of all the fun you'll have. It's a simple game, but it's surprisingly deeper than it looks.

Wii Sports bowling, although lacking the photo realistic details of the Xbox 360 or PS3. is actually one of the most realistic bowling video games ever made because of the controller. It truly is pick up and play because almost everyone knows how to bowl.

However, that's a simple title. My guess is that most high school students aren't interested in playing a bowling video game.

No, you want something with just a bit more meat on the bones This writer, due to lack of funds only has one other game, but a the time of this writing there are already a myriad of deeper titles such as "Red Steel," "Call of Duty 3," and "The Legend of Zelda: Twilight Princess" alongside shorter casual titles including "Rayman Raving Rappids,"
"Super Monkey Ball Banana Blitz," and "Excite Truck."

Of course, if you're not

looking for a ton of new experiences, the Wii does lend itself to the games of old. It is fully back wards compatible with the

Gamecube, and there's a service called the Virtual Con-sole. The Wii can wirelessly connect to the Internet, and for a small fee download games from the original Nintendo, Super Nintendo, N64, Sega Genesis, and Turbografx-16. Currentl the list of downloadable games is small, but it's expected to grow quickly. With Nintendo's huge back cata log of games, even if drought of new games were to occur there will always be

something to play on the Wii.
While Microsoft and Sony continue to battle on about their system having the superior graphics, Nintendo has taken a different route. It is because they are different that nerds get picked on, and it's why there has been a ton of snickering about the Wii. However, it is this difference that will allow Nintendo to succeed. You may be laughing at that statement, but it's hard to argue with the success of the extremely different Nintendo DS compared to the graphically su-perior Sony PSP. The nerd may be beaten, pummeled, and ridiculed by the jocks, but more of ten than not the nerd becomes the boss of the jock.



Emily Yoder Cheerleading How long have you been cheering?

I've been cheering for

five years.

while cheering? - Winning the banana at ing basketball? What is y cheerleading camp for Going to regionals last year memorable most spirited my sophomore in Canton. While being w

that I get the same respect

from the underclassmen.

Senior Spotlight

By Chelsy Kaley



Greg Woolman

Basketball

Wrestling What influenced you to been become a cheerleader?

In 8th grade I wanted to because of the way they promoted school spirit, and I wanted to be a part of it. What is your most memorable moment while cheering?

BasketDall

Wicsting

Wiestling

Wrestling:

I've wrestled for eight wrestling?

I've wrestled for eight or eight of the squad what influenced you to years.

What influenced you to years.

What influenced you to years.

What influenced you to promoted school spirit, and and I always wanted. When I was little I saw a what is your most memo-went to practice, loved it, rable moment while play- and wrestled ever since.

Wes Bryan

rable moment while play- and wrestled ever since. What is your most memorable moment

while being wrestling? Do you want to continue -Going to districts.

Do you want to continue playing after high school? Do you want to continue cheer after high school? - If the offer is there I would wrestle after high

-Yes, I want to continue to love to play.

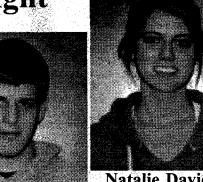
cheer.

How does it feel to be a -Yes.

How does it feel to be a senior leader?

How does it feel to be a senior leader?

senior leader?
-It feels amazing knowing senior leader?
-It feels good. I've waited that all of the underclassmen -It feels good to be a senior four years, and it's worth it. are looking up to me. It is a leader and to have the unlive respected the seniors feeling of accomplishment. derclassmen look up to you. that I get the same respect.



Basketball

How long have you played basketball?

- Nine years. What influenced you to

start playing?
- I really don't remember. It looked like a fun sport, so I tried it and liked it.

What is your most memorable moment while playing basket- Boys' Soccer:

I have many. One would have to be freshman year being 19-9 and winning the MAC with only seven girls. Another is our varsity going to state and beating Canfield at their place last

year.

Do you want to continue playing school? after high

I am not sure. senior leader?

- It feels great. I really enjoy the team and that it is finally my turn to set a good example.



Natalie Davidson

Lauren Shivers Alexis Thorne Sarah Yerkey

Runner of the Year- Erin Murphy Liz Shivers

By Sarah Conrad

Football:

MAC-Honorable Mention- Ben Hendershott Sean McKee 2nd team- Austen Hutton Justin Johnson Cory Rickman Greg Woolman

County- Honorable Mention- Phil Bennett

1st team-Jon Lee
Diego de la Rivera

MAC- Honorable Mention-Ryan Crowell

2nd team- Seth Harding
Dan Kish
1st team- Phil Bennett
Diego de la Rivera

Diego de la Rivera

District- 2nd team- Seth Harding
1st team- Diego de la Rivera

Girls' Soccer:

How does it feel to be a County- Honorable Mention- Jessica Matthews senior leader?

It feels great I really en-

MAC- Honorable Mention- Sarah Conrad 2nd team- Jessica Boothe Jessica Matthews Lizzi Patore

Dana Webb
1st team- Zahra Scullion
District- 2nd team- Zahra Scullion
1st team- Dana Webb

Girls Tennis:

NET- 2nd team- Caitlin Costal Chelsy Kaley Abby Schuster 1st team- Meg Maroscher Lauren Stone MAC- Honorable Mention- Lauren Stone

Volleyball:

County- Honorable Mention- Paige Kenreigh

2nd team- Katie Scullion Taylor Toothman 1" team- Sarah brobeck Brittany Gregory

MAC- Honorable Mention- Leah Perry

2nd team- Katie Scullion
Taylor Toothman

1st team- Sarah Brobeck
Brittany Gregory
Amy Scullion

District-Honorable Mention- Taylor Toothman 2nd team- Katie Scullion 1st team- Sarah Brobeck

Brittany Gregory Amy Scullion State- Honorable Mention- Sarah Brobeck Amy Scullion

2nd team- Brittany Gregory

Alive with spirit

By Jenni Frederick

Salem sports - some are phenomenal and some are in the works. No matter the outcome of the games that are played, SAlem has great student fans. Despite some of the unfortunate records, the students are there in full body paint to cheer on the athletes. The teams have great heart and that needs to be reflected and what better way than the support of the student body.

Salem has a very supportive group of students and alumni. The support that is given to the Quaker teams is phenomenal with the student body always on the sidelines screaming and cheering for

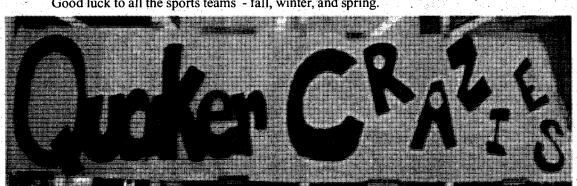
better or worse. The students keep up the spirit of the players. Whether they are just showing up to cheer or painting Salem across their chests, fellow students are always willing to give their support.

The students come alive when good things happen. When any team does well, it is always good for the students. A good example of this is the past volleyball season. The girls really got the

crowd going. Students were supportive of the girls in their quest for State in a very positive manner. Everyone loves a team on top.

The test of a true student body being a good cheering section is who they support. However, there needs to be support for more than just the winning teams. When a school has a large cheering section which is really into the games despite the performance, that is the sign of a truly supportive student body. Support is the best way to tell the players of a team that it doesn't matter whether they win or lose, the student body will be there for them either way. That's how Salem is supportive to the end and proud of whatever teams may come out of the Quaker locker rooms.

Good luck to all the sports teams - fall, winter, and spring.



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The Quaker

The Quaker Board

Behind the scenes of A Wedding in Pittsburgh:

A day in the life of a thespian

By Jessi Howells

All those stressful nights of hard work paid off on opening night of A Wedding in Pittsburgh. Hopefully we gave a good show. Of course, by the time this gets out the play will have been long over, however, I thought a little look into what went on behind the scenes might be entertaining as well as informative

The night of Thursday, November 30 was the final rehearsal, and things were pretty insane. We had rehearsals from 4 PM to 8 PM all week, and we were all just exhausted and delirious. I kept sort of a journal telling about some of the crazy stuff that went on. It follows here:



Brett Lee in full makeup.

Hi everyone! I'm reporting live from the final rehearsal of A Wedding in Pittsburgh. Well, by the time you, my loyal readers, see this, the play will have been long over, but I'm actually sitting at practice. We've just finished placing people for the performance, and now we're waiting for the sound guys to get here with the microphones so we can begin, but apparently we're starting without. And the insanity

At the "bridal table" I'm



Sir demonstrates the YMCA.

seated between an empty chair which should contain J.P. Guiler (John Baranski, father of the groom) and Mike Gibson (Rueben Steinberg, friend of the family) This should make for an interesting evening.

I have some lines and stuff coming up so hold on... okay now I'm done until the dance, and I'm free to comment on what's going on. I honestly think the best part of this play is when people forget their lines and just adlib stuff. Those tend to be the best.

To tell the truth, some of these people are starting to grow on me. I've made so many friends in this play. There are people I know whom I've gotten to know better, some I didn't know I'm now friends with, and still others like Ryan Newell (Joey Baranksi, brother of the groom,) I've known since childhood but I've become close with over the month or so of the play. Theatre people are amaz-

ing, and we rock.

I'm surprised no one left for Burger King tonight... their lives were probably threatened.

We've now started Act 2, and Andy Loudon (Mark-Andler, father of the bride) has treated us to his rendition of "I Walk the Line."

Now Cassie Utt (Peg Andler, step-mother of the bride) and Chelsee (Sydney Campbell Andler, the bride) are singing "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" for us. The dinner break of the actual show will be filled with songs, and they picked some lovely voices for them. Dan Huston (Steve Baranski, brother of the groom) and Max While (Wally Hornick, cousin of the groom) are playing Hang-

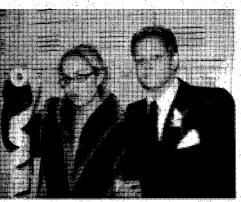
we're pretty bored. So now that I've pretty much talked about nothing, let's talk about the show. I play Mary Baranski, the mother of the groom. Pete (Luis Labra.) My husband, John, and I have three sons, Pete, Joey (Ryan Newell,) and Steve. All in all, an interesting make up of a family. Pete is supposed to be marrying Sydney, but he disappears and sends her a note on a Wendy's napkin calling off the wedding. Sydney still wants to have the reception, so the party commences with a few curveballs and a couple surprises along the way. If everyone can remember their lines and characters, it should make for a fairly interesting show. (Libbi and I were just serenading each other with "Wind Beneath My Wings" while Chelsee was singing. We were getting laughed at but it was fun.) My personal favorite characters are



of this play is when people Jessi Howells and J.P. Guiler smile for the forget their lines and just ad-

Michelle Andler Papinzak, the loud and obnoxious cousin from Staten Island and Snooky Haywood, the Australian hotshot wannabe because Snooky brought sexy back. I have to leave in a few minutes to go to Alliance for the other play I'm in, so it's been real and it's been fun. Heck, it's been real fun. Peace!

Looking back now, it was an interesting performance. The best parts were still when people forgot their lines and just made stuff up. But I suppose now that the play is over I can give the breakdown of the show. We left off with Pete leaving Sydney at the altar and still having the party. While waiting for Sydney to finish changing, there's a fire in the kitchen. Joey wants to have some music and dance while the crowd is waiting for dinner and



man down the table. Yeah, Libbi Williams and Stephen Durham advertise we're pretty bored.

for Sydney to show up, but the DJ is lost. So to keep the crowd occupied, people come up and talk. At the end of the play, Pete finally shows up to apologize. Well, with his big brother out of the picture Joey finally has the chance to say something he has always wanted to say: "Sydney, will you marry me?" After a few speechless seconds, she (in a nutshell) says yes. Pete is the best man and Joey marries the girl he's always been in love with. All in all it is a happy ending.

Hindsight can be such a wonderful thing. Being able to look back and see what the performances were like, I would probably do it again if given the chance. I'm not going to lie, I'm glad it's over. Plays certainly aren't easy. They can be stressful and time-consuming, but they really can be a lot of fun.

Teen pregnancy What we should know By Jessica Watson

Almost every day a student walks into this school and tells us they're pregnant or that they think they're pregnant. Are we really ready to have kids of our own? We are still just kids ourselves. For those girls in this school who think they are pregnant, here are some facts.

• Statistics show that most teenage mothers end up becoming single teenage mothers. Many of the fathers run out on the mothers because the fathers are not ready. Therefore, the girl is by herself raising a small baby. Teenage girls have a lot of stress on their hands normally; then add a baby. Imagine the stress on a young mother because she just had a baby, and she has to take care of it alone because the father decided to leave.

Most women want to have a great career right? One third of teens who start their families before they're eighteen don't receive a high school diploma. Also, only 1.5% earns a college degree before they're thirty years old. Thirty-one percent of girls get pregnant at least once before they are twenty. You can go to many websites and the statistics show that 750,000 teen girls get pregnant every year.

Some people will not take this article seriously. In fact, I know they will not because 77% of girls between the age of twelve and seventeen that have gotten pregnant said that it was a planned pregnancy. Really now, as twelve-year-olds are we ready for children? I really don't think

You have a lifetime to grow up, but you only have a short time to be young. Treasure that time and wait for your family to grow later on in life. Wait until you are ready to grow up first.

XP is no more By Ryan Bell

Welcome to the next generation of all computer software. We are looking at the biggest thing since the Ohio State vs. Michigan football game. This is the new window's that will be overtaking XP. This new operating system is called Vista.

What is so special about this new operating system is that it is supposed to be so much better than the one that everyone likes and is using now - XP. Microsoft has said that Vista is going to have a more advanced looking screen that will be very animated. They have put in a new multimedia tool called windows DVD maker.

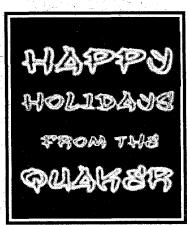
Microsoft is going all out with this new style of window blind. A window blind is the menu at the bottom of the screen. It is where the start button is located. This new window blind is going to be completely different from the XP window blind. The Vista window blind has completely gotten rid of the start button and just put the Microsoft logo as the start button itself. They have made room for a better way of organizing favorite things. They have made it so easy to go and search for things with a search bar right after the first click. They have also improved on the navigation methods. They have made it so simple and colorful. Also they have added a sidebar on the right side of the screen that has some pretty cool features that enable users to deck out their main pages. One of the features that is on the main window is an active calendar that can set up a "to do" list. These are just some of the things that Vista is capable of doing at its default structure.

We all like to play some games on our computers. We all have those default games like solitaire, minesweeper, pinball, free cell, and maybe hearts. Well, out with the old and in with the new. They have added chess, mahjong and purple place to the default games that can be found on computers. It is always nice to receive new things.

There are four different packages that anyone can choose. For the most part all of the packages are very well done. Three of the packages system requirements would be that users need an 800 MHz processor, 512 MB RAM, and a graphic card capable of DirectX 9. There is also the top of the line package Windows Aero. The requirements for Windows Aero are very much different. They are 1.0 GHz processor, 1GB main memory, and a graphic card that has at least 128 MB graphics. Now say that you want to

put Vista on your laptop. If you plan on doing so you will need to have these set requirements. You will need an Intel Core 2 Duo T5500 or above and 1 GB memory.

As we have known regarding the past windows, they are not cheap at all. To let you know, the price is still not cheap. The basic Vista is going to cost \$199.00, the Premium Vista is \$239.00, and the Business Vista is \$299.00. Then there is the Ultimate Vista which is \$399.00. These prices will all depend on the store in which they are purchased, but all in all they should be around these price ranges.



Quaker Clips

