

The Quaker

A high school tradition for years.

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Salem Senior High School

November 2008

Bleed, everyone's doing it

By Tyler Metts

Every year National Honor Society, along with Mr. Viencsek, sponsor two blood drives at Salem High School. This year's drive was headed by senior student chairpersons Dan Kish and Alexis Thorne.

The drive supervisor was Penny Graft. The drives are held in the back of John A. Cabas Gymnasium in the wrestling room. Over the years that very room has accumulated a massive amount of blood, sweat, tears, and even a little vomit. Though most would assume that the wrestlers are the contributors to these bodily excretions; that is very far from the truth. Those who have donated in previous blood drives have left their fair share of fluids in the room as well, be it because of the pain (though very little), the nerves, or simply because of not eating right. These types of reactions are very common in blood drives.

Most students that do not give blood are turned off to it basically because they are not well-informed on the happenings of the drive. Stories are told of donors who pass out or take merry little trips to the hospital. I'm not going to lie and say they are false; in fact, I have seen my share of cases where these became a reality. Most have reactions like these simply due to the fact that they didn't prepare themselves. Advice that should be followed if you are thinking of donating is as follows:

1. Donors must be 17 years-old and weigh 110 pounds.
2. They must be in good health at time of donation.
3. They should eat a well-rounded breakfast that morning.
4. They should drink lots of fluids (preferably water) both the day of and the day before.
5. And finally, they must relax. It's really not that bad; most of the unfortunate events are caused by

people psyching themselves out.

The area American Red Cross, the organization responsible for the drives, never gets a day off. They hold a blood drive nearly every day, morning to night. The area Red Cross nurses come from over nineteen counties in the state of Ohio and love to prick people for a living. They drain the body of one pint of blood. There are six quarts of blood in the human body and two pints in a quart. That miniscule amount of liquid life can save three lives. The blood is sent to Cleveland where it is broken down into platelets, plasma, and red blood cells. Each of those can be used to save a life the very moment they are taken from that pint of freshly donated blood. The nurses love visiting high schools to see all the young adults willing to donate. Most donations take anywhere from five to twenty minutes. Once a person donates their first time, they are usually willing to donate the next chance they get.

Seniors Dan Yanek and Zach Carlisle, both multiple time donors, gave a few of their thoughts about giving blood. Dan says the process is "the most painful experience of my life," yet he refuses to let it show through his donor-hardened visage. He also states that his fastest time is 4:21 and has been training for months to beat it (Note: "Racing" to get your blood done fast is not recommended). Mr. Carlisle holds views that are quite the opposite of Sir Yanek's. Zach says the process is "very relaxing and quite wonderful." He has donated five times in his life and would twice a day if he could. Junior newcomer Christopher Szabat was not phased by the painful needle, but more so the pain of the finger prick, which to many is the worst part. His thoughts were simple, "It was good, I guess," spo-

ken like a true blood-giver. He also would be more than happy to donate the next drive slightly because blood makes him smile.

The drive, as usual, was a decently successful one. There were ninety-five pints of blood donated and 108 donors signed up. This drive actually almost doubled last year's drive, which is quite impressive since we always have a good turnout of donors at Salem High School. There were many first time donors this time, almost more than returning donors. This was also the best year for the amount of casualties. Only two people fainted this year, which if compared to the past is quite exceptional. On a quick side note, Dan Kish and Alexis Thorne would like to thank all NHS members, all donors, the respective companies who donated food and drinks, Mr. Hayes for doing a great job of preparing the wrestling room (as always), and a thank you from the nurses to J.R. (cafeteria manager) for the coffee to keep them going all day long. The next drive will be in the spring, around April or May, so keep your eyes open and blood pumping to save a life.



Dan Kish and Alexis Thorne, coordinators of the NHS Blood Drive, are happy that the blood drive was successful this year.



Junior Hallie Hank eagerly awaits her turn to give blood.

Blood drive commentary

By Jay Bates

The blood drive can be a scary environment with the thought of needles and people passing out or fainting over the past couple of years. But there are positives in giving blood. Blood is in high demand, and some people need it for blood transfusions occasionally. Every two seconds someone in the United States needs blood. Only five percent of those people in the whole world who are eligible give it.

At the high school blood drive, you get free food and juices, which might encourage some to give. You also lose about one pound after a blood donation.

I ask a few people how they felt about giving blood or why they were doing it. Olivia Maenz replied, "My mom has had blood transfusions and this has inspired me to donate." Tim Eddinger responded, "Ladies dig guys that give blood." Vince Rosati said, "It is my life long dream to donate blood!"

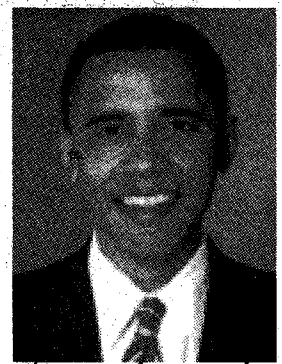
Thanks to all who donated and helped to create another successful SHS blood drive!

Obama wins!

By Tim Howard

This year's presidential election was possibly the most influential and exciting election in history. The two candidates were Democrat Barack Obama and his vice president, Joe Biden, up against John McCain and his vice president, Sarah Palin. Debates were heated and discussed everything that this country is going through right now including the current failing economy/stock market and the insane increase in price, especially in gas; the need for a reusable energy source besides fuel to power homes/cars etc. when oil/gas runs out; and the problem of children not receiving education because of availability or school costs.

Both presidential candidates have their own views for solutions, and both have an appeal to individual people. This was not only the most pivotal election in a long time, it was also the worst as far as the competitors bashing each other in their own respected television ads. This problem has been



growing over the years, but this year it reached an all-time high. The first word out of each candidate's ad was usually his competitor's name followed by thirty seconds of why his competitor was the wrong choice, and then ending with about three seconds of "My name is and I approve this message."

Overall, the election went well. Barack Obama won the election with 349 electoral votes and 64,030,409 popular votes. John McCain lost with 162 electoral votes and 56,494,802 popular votes. Barack Obama's inauguration will be held January 20, 2009.

Read between the lines

By Tyler Hlavack

Many of your fellow students are ignorant of the school paper. They will either just not get one, or they will just look at the "Quaker Clips" and then throw them away. Then those students who read an article won't read the whole newspaper. They will only read those written by their friends. In order to try to get more readers, the students involved in mass media have come up with an idea - Read Between The Lines.

Read Between the Lines is a competition-based search which will encourage the student body to actually read the entire issue of *The Quaker*. A word or phrase will be randomly selected from one article in each issue. The word or phrase will then be posted on the front page. When a student finds this word or phrase, they will take their paper, having circled the phrase, to Mrs. Dye in room 179 of the English wing after school (do not interrupt during a class period as it will automatically eliminate you). The first one to bring this to Mrs. Dye will receive a prize. The prizes will consist of a variety of things. The only way to find out is to win!

The phrase for this month is "It's like the ancient Greeks ate plump pigs as their main dish." Now remember the only way to win is to be the first one to find Mrs. Dye after school on the day of publication.

Opinion

Point Counter Point

None for under 21

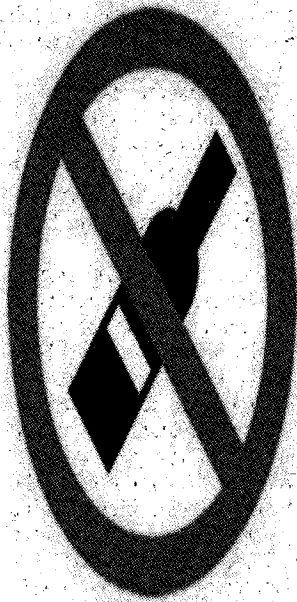
By Colton Jones

As of late there has been a big discussion on lowering the drinking age from twenty-one back to eighteen. Sure teenagers across the country love the sound of this, but would it really work? Is eighteen really a responsible enough age to allow the consumption of alcohol? I personally don't think seniors in high school are ready for something like that.

People are always saying eighteen's the golden age. You can vote, you can buy tobacco products, you can even fight for your own country. So why shouldn't you be allowed to drink? Well, believe it or not, alcohol is a little more dangerous than voting and fighting for your country. Tobacco products may be the leading cause of death, but with alcohol you also put others in danger. There are over 75,000 alcohol related deaths every year in the United States, 13,000 of which involve people who are under the age of twenty-one.

Alcohol can lead to many harmful diseases and impaired judgment. Impaired judgment is also what leads to drunk driving among underage drivers. A statistic from the Highway Patrol says for every 100,000 licensed drivers, young drinking drivers are twice as likely to be involved in a fatal accident to people over the age of twenty-one. Alcohol can also lead to liver damage or even failure of the liver, which would require a transplant. It can even lead to an enlarged heart which in turn can lead to heart failure. Over 13% of adults in the United States will suffer from alcoholism at some point in their life, so why should we lower the legal drinking age and take the chances of raising that already high statistic?

Whether the drinking age is lowered or not, there will always be underage consumption. It's something our country can't seem to control and will always be there. All I'd like to say is if you drink, please drink responsibly and know your limit. Underage drinking isn't worth all the risks, so my best advice would be to simply not do it.



NO DRINKING ZONE

Give me that drank

By Andrew Jones

More and more an underground movement with legislative propositions to lower the drinking age to eighteen has started to arise.

The current United States legal drinking age is twenty-one. Many United States citizens disagree with this age. Many believe that the age to legally be able to purchase, consume or possess alcohol should be eighteen. A United States citizen is allowed to vote when they are eighteen years of age. Eighteen-year-old males are forced to join the Selective Service for possible drafting. This means that eighteen-year-old males can go to war. At age eighteen, a citizen is also eligible to participate in jury duty. So, an eighteen-year-old is given the responsibilities of voting, being selected for jury duty, and possibly being drafted for war. If an eighteen-year-old citizen is to be given these responsibilities, why is the legal drinking age twenty-one? Does the U.S. government not trust those of us under twenty-one? They trust us with their votes, yet they cannot treat us like full adults for another three years!

There have been many colleges and universities that disagree with the legal drinking age. These schools believe that by outlawing alcohol consumption with those students under twenty-one it is only making the problem worse. If the drinking age were changed to eighteen, colleges would be able to regulate alcohol use, so students would not become overly intoxicated. This would probably cut down on the number of college campus alcohol-related deaths, since campus officials would be able to better monitor alcohol use.

When was the last time you heard a kid turn down a drink saying not "I don't drink, thank you," but instead saying "I better not, I'm not twenty-one yet"? In other words, a kid is going to drink at eighteen if he/she wants to, regardless of whether the law says eighteen or twenty-one. The juvenile courts are jammed with "minor in possession" cases. If they weren't, they might have more time and funds to deal with the kids with more serious issues.

Ten questions that need an answer

By Ali Thompson

This month I was asked to present some random questions for consideration (and fun). The questions are not serious, so don't be all mad. These ten questions are from TV shows, holidays, or things that you probably were curious about but you didn't know the real truth. So, keeping all of this in mind, please take some time to think about these questions. Perhaps you will have an answer to any one of the following:

1. Will Stewie ever kill Lois?
2. Do vampires exist?
3. Why are the ladies cleaning the dishes on Thanksgiving Day while men are sleeping or watching football?
4. What ever happened to Steve on *Blue Chues*??!!
5. Is Bart ever going to die from Homer choking him?
6. Are we ever going to stop complaining about school rules?
7. What is the most stolen book in the public library?
8. Why is there an age limit for trick-or-treating?
9. If the number two pencil is very popular, then why is it number two?
10. Is it possible to lick your elbow?

Make-up and why women wear it

By Olivia Maenz

Finally, I can sit back and write and talk about what I like best—makeup!

Make-up started way back with Cleopatra. Articles show that she wore hers for religious beliefs. Ever since then it's been a fad. First it started out as just oil paint, now it's a world-wide extravaganza. I asked some girls here in the mass media lab why or why not they wear make-up and this is what they said.

"I don't look as bad as when I looked in the mirror when I woke up this morning" - **Rachel Fritzman**

"Personally, to me I don't wear make-up. No eyeliner, no powder, no mascara. I feel comfortable in my own skin. I also take care of my skin by using proactive solution." - **Ali Thompson**

"Make-up makes you look and feel better. If I didn't get a chance to put any on, I am not having a good day." - **Julie Ridgley**

"Um... I wear make-up because it brings out my eyes." - **Dezaray Philabaum**

"Make-up is just another form of expression. A girl might wear bright colors to express herself much like she would wear her favorite pair of stilettos. Because make-up can cover up a blemish, a flaw, many girls wear it for a little boost of confidence, as well as expression. Why do I wear



Olivia uses sequin dust and all over shimmer to enhance the look of her eyes.

makeup? Well, I usually only wear eye makeup just because most products are bad for skin. I'm not trying to look like anyone except myself, if that makes sense." - **Amanda Croley**.

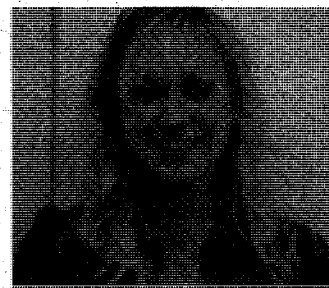
I wear make-up because it makes me feel better about myself because of today. People are cruel about how we look. Nobody wants to see what we naturally have. People want to see fake, baby doll faces. There are a lot of women out there whose life only involves wearing and putting on make-up. I think we shouldn't be afraid anymore. I think we need to show the world our inner beauty. Say what you want about me. I know I'm not alone on this. If you have the courage, don't wear make-up for a day and find out what people really think of you.

November war of words

By Patrick Simpson

Question

What is your favorite Thanksgiving activity?



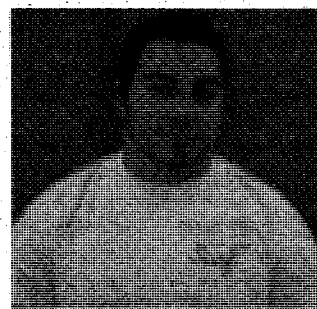
Senior
Ashley Boyle

"Getting together with my family and hanging out with my cousins"



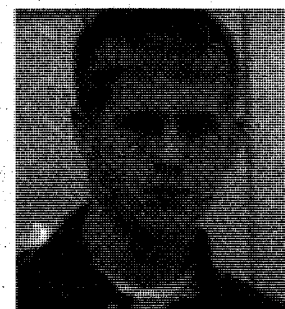
Sophomore
Lisa Franklin

"Watching Detroit play and eating"



Junior
Jon Meissner

"The beginning of wrestling season"



Freshman
Ryan Eisel

"Eating"

Listen Up!

If you like this, you'll love that.

Famous: Nirvana

By Julie Ridgley



Every child of the nineties is bound to have heard of Nirvana, the band which changed the face of rock in the beginning of that decade. The band went through many lineup changes, but the Nirvana most known to the public was made up of Kurt Cobain on lead vocals and guitar, Krist Novoselic on bass, and Dave Grohl on drums. They hailed from Aberdeen, a small logging community near Seattle, Washington.

Their first record *Bleach* sold 35,000 copies, and the underground band caught the attention of college kids and major labels nationwide. Nirvana was afraid to sign to a major label for fear that their original fan base would see the move as "selling out." However, Nirvana decided to sign with Geffen records in 1990. Their major label debut, *Nevermind*, became a classic. The first single "Smells like Teen Spirit" made it to the Billboard Top 10, and led *Nevermind* to triple platinum success. Other songs like "In Bloom" and "Come as You Are" followed. Young people felt that there was finally a band who understood the "teen angst" they'd been feeling. A term was even coined for the blend of hardcore punk and catchy melody the band had made mainstream: grunge.

Nirvana's success was overwhelming especially to Kurt Cobain, who was called "The Voice of a Generation." "We're so trendy, we can't even escape ourselves," the singer once remarked. The popularity led to an excess of negative media attention, but the band still released *In Utero*, an edgier follow-up album in 1993.

Tragically, Kurt Cobain was found dead of a self-inflicted gunshot wound in his home in April of that same year. The reluctant idol of so many troubled youths expressed his dissatisfaction with fame in a suicide note. "The worst crime I can think of would be to rip people off by faking it and pretending as if I'm having 100% fun," the note stated.

Almost fifteen years after the end of Nirvana, the legacy of the band who changed music remains. Many in the industry still talk of "pre and post-Nirvana" music. Their songs are still frequent on the airwaves and tributes fill the internet world. Drummer Dave Grohl, now front man of the Foo Fighters, once said, "Kurt would have been shocked by the lasting impact he's made." Keep Nirvana and Kurt Cobain's memory alive by buying an album today.



Unknown: Pagoda

By Rachel Fritzman

Pagoda was formed in Brooklyn, New York, by Michael Pitt, who sings vocals and plays guitar in the four person band in 2001. The band is a throw back to the early 90's rock much like the band we all know and love, Nirvana.

In their seven years of existence, the band has grown a rapid fan base thanks to being named in *Spin Magazine* as "one of the hottest New York bands to watch" and getting signed with Thurston Moore's label, Ecstatic Peace.

Another thing that helped get Pagoda out there was the film *The Dreamers*. Not only did Michael play the lead role of Matthew in this film, he also has a song on the soundtrack. However, this wasn't the only film he has been in. In 2005, the film *Last Days* came out, which is a fictionalized account of the last days of Nirvana's lead singer Kurt Cobain. Michael plays the lead role as Blake who is based on Kurt Cobain in this movie. There were two original compositions by Pagoda on this film, one of which being their best known song "Death to Birth." However, music is his first passion as he tells *Blender Magazine*: "This is where my head's at right now, most likely it's going to stay in that direction for awhile."

You can pick up Pagoda's self titled album in stores now. The album has ten tracks on it, one of which being "Death to Birth." Any fan of "grunge rock" or Nirvana should definitely check them out.

ANASTASIA

By Will Beagle

This fall Mr. Viencek is directing another of the school's fall plays. This year the selected play is *Anastasia*. When Mr. Viencek was asked why he picked the play he stated, "It has always been a favorite of mine. I first saw the motion picture *ANASTASIA* with Ingrid Bergman in the title role and also featuring Yul Brynner and Helen Hayes."

Here is a brief background of the play's origin. It is the story of the assassination of the Romanov family which was the last royal family of Russia. One of the guards saw that when they dropped off the bodies, one of the daughters was still alive which was Anastasia. She was later married to Thaikowski, the guard that saved her. Then after his murder she threw herself into Berlin's Landwehr Canal. After being hospitalized in the Dalldorf Asylum for two and a half years, she still said she had no clue who she was or from where she came. Eventually cousins and friends of the family stated that she was the Grand Duchess Anastasia.

Something most students might not know about the school play is how much work actually is put into it. But it's not just the cast that works hard memorizing their lines and actions. There is also the crew that takes on the tasks of building and painting the set from scratch and also making sure that the cast is readily prepared for outfit changes and set changes. Some of the main characters in the play are the following: Anna (the lead role) is played by Suzanne Waterbeck, Prince Paul is played by Randy Baker, Prince Boumine is played by Max While, and Charwoman is played by Kate Tressler. There are many others that are participating and helping with the play's production.

All members of the play, both cast members and set crew, hope to see many attend on opening night at 8:00 Thursday, November 20 and also on Saturday, November 22. The price of the tickets will be the following: adults, \$5.00; students, \$3.00. Everyone should come out for a great night of entertainment.



Album of the month

By Dan Drotleff

The album of the month is *Thirteenth Step* by *A Perfect Circle*. It was released in 2003 under Virgin Records. It hit second place on the billboard top 200 and the Top Internet Albums. The longest track on the album is "The Package" at 7:40 and is the first song on the album. The singles include "Weak and Powerless," "The Outsider," and "Blue." If you have never seen or heard of this album, then you are missing out. This was *A Perfect Circle's* second studio album of three. The band has been on hiatus since 2004. However, there have been reports that the band may come back together soon. The album sold over 231,000 copies in its first week.

A Perfect Circle was started by Maynard J. Keenan (Tool) and Billy Howerdel (Guitar tech for



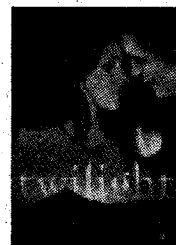
Tool). They recruited Josh Freese (Nine Inch Nails, Devo, and The Offspring) as the drummer. They also included James Iha (Smashing Pumpkins) as backup guitar and Jeordie White (Nine Inch Nails, Marilyn Manson) plays bass.

Many of the tracks on this album have been featured on different movie soundtracks. "Weak and Powerless" was featured on *Underworld* and *The Invisible*. "The Outsider" was featured on *Resident Evil: Apocalypse*. Also on this album *A Perfect Circle* has a cover of "The Nurse Who Loved Me" made famous by the band Failure on their album *Fantastic Planet*.

Twilight:

from the bookshelf to the big screen

By Julie Ridgley



We've all seen the Hollywood stereotype of what the "undead" should be. They have long fangs, sleep the day away in coffins, and have a distaste of all things garlic. Now movie theaters everywhere are getting a glimpse at a new kind of vampire: the "Edward Cullen" kind.

The story behind *Twilight* didn't start as a screenplay. The movie was adapted from the best-selling book series that has created a devoted international fan base. The number one bestselling books have received numerous awards including the New York Times Editor's Choice, Amazon's "Best Book of the Decade... So Far," Publisher's Weekly Best Book of the Year, Teen People's "Hot List" Pick, and the American Library Association's "Top Ten Best Books for Young Adults" and "Top Ten Books for Reluctant Readers." It's a favorite among Salem students as well. Junior Cory Campbell said, "It was the best romance-thriller I've ever read."

The movie features Kristen Stewart as the everyday, average girl Bella Swan, who moves to the rainy little town of Forks, Washington, to live with her father. It is here she meets the handsome and mysterious Edward Cullen (Robert Pattinson) who just happens to be a vampire. The couple must face many difficulties together including Edward's overwhelming desire to kill the girl he loves and the arrival of a trio of vampires who also feel the same urge to end Bella's life.

This modern day *Romeo and Juliet* tale of forbidden love is being brought to life by director Catherine Hardwicke, who made her debut with the indie flick *Thirteen*. She is very excited to have the opportunity to direct a film with such dedicated fans but feels tremendous pressure to make the movie as spectacular as the book. Some, including sophomore Megan Evans, don't believe that to be possible. "Nothing can beat the book," she says.

There have been many different opinions on the casting choices, both positive and negative. After all, it is hard to cast a character like Edward Cullen, who is described as being "devastatingly, inhumanely beautiful." However, fans are hopeful that the movie will be just as captivating as the books. Make sure to check out *Twilight*, in theatres November 21st.

Feature

School calendar

By Lauri Dotson

November 20th and 22nd – school play *Anastasia*.
 November 26th – 28th – Thanksgiving break.
 November 27th – Thanksgiving
 December 1st – classes resume.
 December 22nd – January 2nd – Christmas Break.
 January 5th – classes resume.



Fly like an Eagle Scout

By Brooke Skiba

Recently three senior students, Will Beagle, Brandon Floor, and Jason Floor, each earned the rank of Eagle Scout. Although most students are unaware of the significance, the status of Eagle Scout is an honorable achievement that many carry with them through different aspects of their lifetime.

To reach this position is not an easy task, which is why only about five percent of all Boy Scouts ever do. To be named an Eagle Scout, an individual must first meet several requirements geared toward citizenship training, character development, and personal fitness. Some of the requirements include earning twenty-one merit badges, serving at least six months in a position of responsibility, planning and completing a service project, and taking part in several hours of community service. However, being a part of Boy Scouts involves much more than just meeting these requirements.

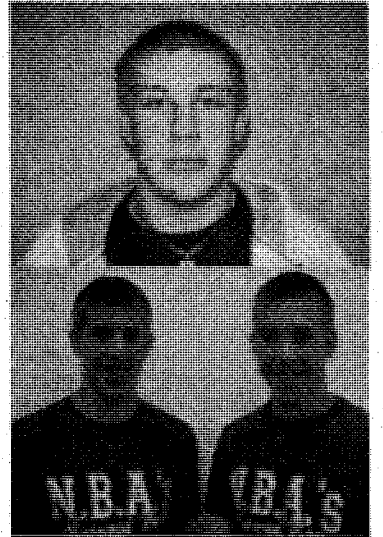
Junior Derek Erskine, a Life Scout, is currently working toward rising one rank to become an Eagle Scout. He respects the Scouts program and enjoys the different activities in which his troop participates. Some include camping every month and taking part in a week long summer camp that includes swimming, shooting, hiking and hanging out. "It's a really good time," he claims. He also states how Boy Scouts is a great, very prestigious program that strives to turn youth into respect-

able young adults. Derek hopes to achieve the title of Eagle Scout by this summer.

The three new Eagle Scouts hold the Boy Scout program in high regard as well. "You are able to give back to the community and still have fun doing it," Brandon Floor states. Although it is difficult to reach this rank, all three Eagle Scouts have positive words of advice to the lower levels. To Boy Scouts working to become Eagle Scouts, Will Beagle says, "Work hard and make sure you make not just life lessons, but lifelong friendships in the process." This program does more than just teach useful information. Jason Floor claims, "It teaches useful wilderness skills and first aid, but it is also important because it is known to produce honorable and committed individuals." Eagle Scouts can play a large role in the future as well. Brandon plans to use the status for college, Will for everyday situations and to lead him on the right path to happiness and prosperity, and Jason to help him become a hard and dedicated worker.

Salem High School also holds four employees who are veteran Eagle Scouts: Dr. Shivers, Mr. Matt Peters, Mr. Steffey, and Mr. Hayes. "I am struck by the bond between Eagle Scouts," Dr. Shivers says. "There is a sense of affiliation that exists over time and geography." Dr. Shivers became an Eagle Scout in August 1961. At this time, there had only been two previous scouts from his troop to become Eagles, so it was quite the accomplishment for him, along with school board president Dr. Joe Rottenborn, to achieve this rank.

A large part of becoming an Eagle Scout is the service project that the scout must direct. Dr. Shiv-

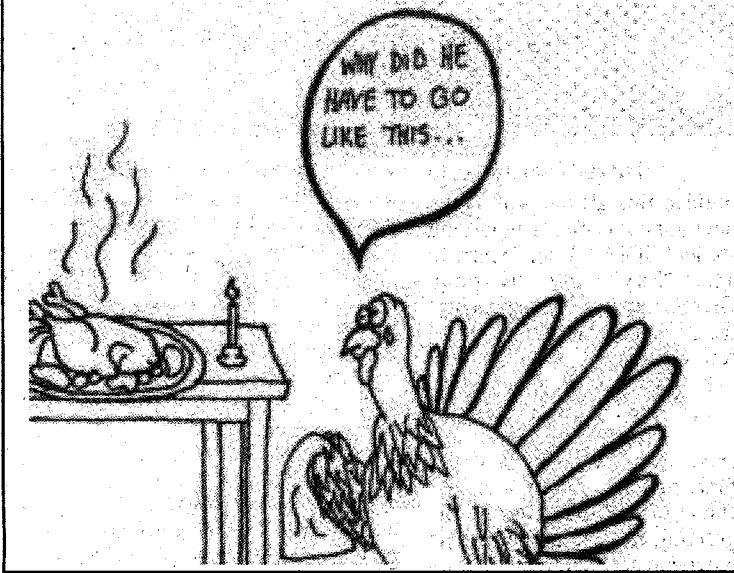


ers and Mr. Hayes both did not have to complete this project, as the service project requirement was added just twenty years ago. This change was discovered when Mr. Hayes was unable to recall ever directing a project. Mr. Steffey and Mr. Peters completed large tasks for their personal service projects. For his project, Mr. Steffey completely redid the football stadium at Malvern High School. "I repainted the press box, bleachers, and concession stand," he states. Mr. M. Peters constructed a caboose playhouse for the First Methodist Church Daycare. It was in continuous use for more than fifteen years until the daycare remodeled its playground.

Hopefully, students at Salem High School are able to fully appreciate the accomplishment of becoming an Eagle Scout, and they realize that this is not a program to be taken lightly. "Contrary to popular belief," Erskine states, "Boy Scouts is not [stupid]. It's a great program, and people should think before they are judgmental towards it."

Cartoon Delight

By Dacia Louk



Bargains and November's Black Friday

By Tim Eddinger

Black Friday, the Friday after Thanksgiving, is the day that kicks off the Christmas shopping season. Since Thanksgiving falls on the fourth Thursday in November, Black Friday may be as early as the 22nd and as late as the 29th of November. Black Friday is not technically an official holiday, but many people get the day off from work to increase the number of potential shoppers. Many stores will open very early, typically 5:00 A.M. or even earlier and offer doorbuster deals to draw people to their stores. Black Friday, as the first shopping day after Thanksgiving, has served as the unofficial beginning of the Christmas season. The term "Black Friday" originated in Philadelphia in reference to the heavy traffic on that day. Although more recently, merchants and the media have used it instead to refer to the beginning of the period in which retailers are in the black (turning a profit).

In many of the larger cities, it is not uncommon to see shoppers lined up hours before stores open to try and get products at sharply discounted prices. Once in-

side, the shoppers often rush to grab whatever they want, as many stores have only a few of the big sale items. Electronics and popular toys are often the most sought-after items and may be sharply discounted. Because of the shoulder-to-shoulder crowds, many choose to stay home and avoid the hectic shopping experience. The local media often will cover the event, mentioning how early the shoppers began lining up at various stores and providing video of the shoppers standing in line and later leaving with their purchased items. Traditionally, Black Friday sales were intended for those shopping for Christmas gifts. However, some people shop at these sales in order to get deep discounts on items so they can then resell them, typically online.

The news media frequently refer to Black Friday as the busiest retail shopping day of the year, but this is not always the case. The busiest retail shopping day of the year in the United States (in terms of both sales and customer traffic) usually has been the Satur-

day before Christmas. Black Friday has been one of the busiest days in terms of customer traffic. In terms of actual sales volume, from 1993 through 2001, Black Friday was usually the fifth to tenth busiest day. In 2002 and 2004, however, Black Friday made it all the way to second place, and in 2003 and 2005, Black Friday actually did reach first place.

Black Friday provides a great chance to acquire that certain electronic device that you have been wanting without having to pay for all of that price mark-up that stores usually charge you... if you are willing to wake up and fight for your prize. Even if you are not a morning person, some stores even allow you to order products off of their website, although a coupon code is sometimes needed to get the full discount. Overall most of the discounts and savings that you will find during the Black Friday sale are well worth the hassle of getting up as early as 5:00 A.M., so get out there the morning after turkey day and save some cash.



Happy Thanksgiving, Mates!

Poet's Corner

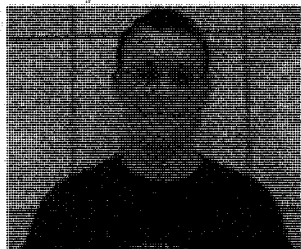
Hospital

By Amanda Croley

The glares of light
 On tiles of the floor
 Resemble aluminum foil.
 A dead fly in the window pane plays dust collector.
 Nurses in their units
 gossip
 like they are the only people in the building.
 An old man coughs up a lung.
 The mess that was made.
 Scented cleaner fools no one.
 Pennies in my mouth.
 I eat the stale chocolate bar from the vending machine
 and the advertising on the wrapper screams at me.
 Grandmother's hand.
 A blue vein protruding,
 like a cable
 underneath her paper skin.
 Helpless.
 A fish head flip-flopping.
 Out of place and in this place.
 Five feet down,
 a tear will plummet.
 Its collision magnifying the glare from the light,
 still shining on the aluminum floor.
 A child handcuffed to bad news.
 Like the ripples in the puddle once the drop collides,
 the process repeats itself.

Nick Reed: Kickin' cancer to the curb

By Dacia Leuk



As you may have heard, our very own Nick Reed has overcome his cancer. Although he is not "cancer free" he is N.E.D (no evidence of disease). Nick will be titled "cancer free" once five years has passed without any evidence of his cancer returning.

Through his struggle, he has had numerous supporters helping him along his journey including his family, his church family and his friends at Salem High School. They never let him down and were always there for him.

In my interview with Nick, I asked him what the hardest part of overcoming cancer was, and he responded: "The hardest part was the thought that life for me was hopeless. I was beginning to turn away from God who was in all sense, supposed to be the focal point during this time. Even after the possibility of turning away from faith, I was fully embracing death itself."

Throughout this time of going through treatments, Nick met a lot of new people. He met many doctors and nurses and a lot of patients his own age going through the same thing. He also met new teachers through the school that helped tutor him. Two more people Nick met were Roxanne Bowers from East Palestine and Courtney Powers who happens to be Nick's own cousin. They were going through the same ordeal as Nick, and they were diagnosed with the same exact cancer as him. All three have beaten the odds and now are doing great.

When asked if he had learned anything from his experiences, he simply said, "Yes, that at one point of our lives a climatic event takes place that overthrows all pre-conceived ideas. But the only answer to all our problems is that the love of Jesus may take away pain anytime, anywhere."

All in all, Nick says he's doing wonderful since he's been diagnosed N.E.D. "God has made a tremendous impact on my life, and now I know the truth. I know that God has taken away my cancer but more importantly, showing me that I do indeed have every right and freedom to enjoy life!"

Despite his tough struggle Nick still has time for sarcasm. He says the one thing he loves just as much as being N.E.D is band! He says, "Even though the band gets criticism, I have much enjoyment when I march onto that field. It gives me a source to express myself and plus, I think it's great." Nick's last wish to end this article was to give a shout out to the SHS band and give them a special message...Nick: "YOU GUYS ROCK!!!!!"

Senior Spotlight: The Arts

By Jessica Schmidt

Jimmy Knezetic has been playing the piano for more than half of his life – about ten years now. It would be safe to say it's one of his favorite things to do. When asked if he would continue to play/study after high school he said, "Yes, even if I don't do it as a profession. I like to sit down and just play it to relax."

Jimmy is also thinking about pursuing a career in music. He says that he may audition for piano at some college or university. His other possible college plans include majoring in architecture at Kent State University. When I asked him what his favorite song to play is, it kind of stumped him at first, having too many to choose from.

He then answered, "...something from of Vince Guaraldi's from Charlie Brown."

Eventually he decided on the song The Great Pumpkin Waltz, although he played many others for me including Tivoli and In the Beginning. He then started another song, which sounded fine to me, but a few seconds into it he stopped and said, "Wait, let me start over; that was all wrong."

I believe one of the reasons Jimmy has gotten so good at what he does is because he pays such close attention to his work and has a strong self-discipline when it comes to perfecting a song. This combined with a gift and love for music has made him into an admirable pianist.

In the mood for Thanksgiving food

By Richard Myers

What do you eat for Thanksgiving... turkey, ham, or lasagna? Well, people eat all kinds of things. Some eat turkey or the traditional Thanksgiving meal. Some, who like ham, eat the ham. Some of us can't get over the fact that other people eat different things on Thanksgiving. It's like the ancient Greeks ate plump pigs as their main dish. Not many cultures celebrate Thanksgiving but celebrate holidays to the same extent. Turkey and ham aren't the only things that are eaten on Thanksgiving Day; there are side dishes. Some of us eat mashed potatoes, rolls, and corn. We just think of turkey first. I asked some of the students of the high school what they eat for Thanksgiving, and this is what they had to say.

Thomas Adams, a junior, said, "We have some turkey and some mashed potatoes. We also have some gravy. Then we have some other stuff too. I just don't feel like listing all of it."

Tim FATHERLY, a senior, replied, "Mashed taters, pie, and apple cider."

Chad Anderson, a senior, said, "Taters and pie."

Freshman Zack Myers

commented, "My family has turkey, ham, mashed potatoes, noodles, gravy, rolls, all kinds of pie, and some times some fun."

No matter what we eat we can say that it is a very full day. Some people eat everything in sight and in moderation. That is the best way to not be full when dinner comes around. Eat little bits all day. Many hours of preparation go into the food, and most of the time it is good. You can't help that some of the food is good and some of it isn't that good. I would just eat what I like and try to make everybody happy. Have a nice Thanksgiving!



Thankful for what?

By Vince Rosati

The first Thanksgiving took place in autumn 1621 and lasted three days. It wasn't celebrated as a national holiday until 1863 when President Lincoln proclaimed Thanksgiving Day as a national holiday. It has been celebrated the fourth Thursday of November ever since.

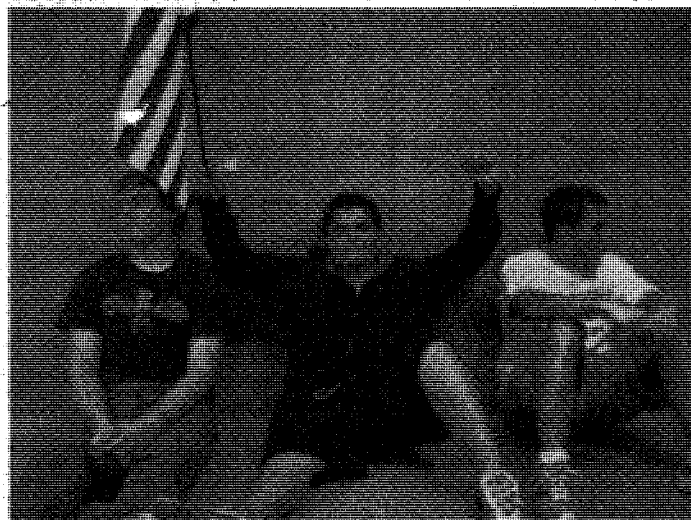
I asked some people what they are thankful for and the following are the responses:

- Rachel Fritzman, junior:** "Friends, family and food"
- Colton Jones, senior:** "Pilgrims, Native Americans, and I'm really, really partial to... deep fried turkey."
- Drew Jones, senior:** "Yard signs"
- William Beagle, senior:** "Family, food, and the life I have"
- Johnny Patrick, sophomore:** "Friends and good times"
- Amanda Kessel, junior:** "Friends and family and fancy clothing"
- Mr. Spack:** "The freedoms we enjoy in this country"

So, this Thanksgiving remember all the good times you've had and the good times still to come with the people you love. Be thankful for what you have. Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

November Student of the Month

By Max While



Ted and I would like to preface this article with some new announcements regarding student SOM. Also, "Spirit In The Sky" by Norman Greenbaum has been chosen as the official SOM anthem, and all future contestants are expected to be able to sing it at the beginning of the luncheon.

Speaking of luncheons, on October 3, the year's first student of the month luncheon kicked off. Despite the grueling test we prepared, the luncheon seemed to be a disaster. Only five of the seventeen luncheonees invited arrived, we were unable to have it in the IDL lab, and my lunch was not very good that day. We were just about to never have an SOM luncheon ever again.

However, as we looked over Jimmy Kearns' test, all our fears were laid to rest. Jimmy Kearns cut a swath of destruction through the competition and restored our faith in the power of the luncheon in one fell swoop. His masterful knowledge of Metro Station lyrics and horse-drawing abilities are beacons of hope among this school of no-shows.

Young master Jimmy "Blue" Kearns is a pretty cool dude. At the start of our interview, he revealed to me that he likes to rock n' roll quite a bit and has a beautiful singing voice. If he sang in a band, it would likely be the best band ever. It also wouldn't be a ska band because Blue Kearns has never listened to ska.

Jimmy Kearns lives

with his agreeable parents, siblings, and a virtual cornucopia of pets. He doesn't own a tiger, which is unfortunate, considering that they are his favorite animal. "My favorite part of the tiger is the eyes," he confided to me while grinning from ear to ear. His love of animals is also shown in his preference of iguanas over buses.

An average weekend for him consists of staying up late playing Xbox 360 with his friends. Jimmy Kearns is allergic to poison ivy and hates it when he falls asleep with gum in his mouth and wakes up with it all dried up and stuck to his tongue. When asked his opinion on Carden Cats, he said that he disliked them, and that the Pro-Carden/Carden Cats conflict reminded him of politics too much. Despite being a Student of the Month, Jimmy feels election fatigue just like everyone else.

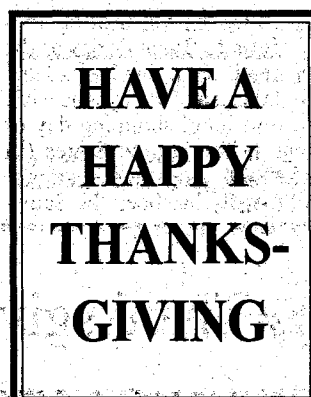
Jimmy Kearns has told people to get a room, but he has never been told to get a room, a strong indicator of his mastery of romance. I'm sure most of the people who skipped out of the luncheon were afraid that being in the same room as the King of Cool himself would be too distracting for them to even attempt the test. Don't forget ladies, JBK is comfortable with hugs on the first date.

When asked to give a statement to his fans, Jimmy said he'd like to say: "Thank you to all my friends who have helped me get to the top." He also confessed that his greatest fear is that the world will end before he gets to experience it.

My greatest fear is that the world will end before it gets to experience Jimmy Kearns.



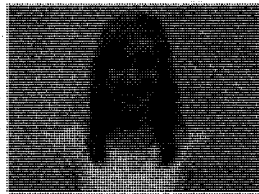
JBK, a cornucopia of awesomeness.



Sports

Senior Spotlight

Bri Wagner - Volleyball



How long have you been playing this sport?

Six years

Is this your favorite sport?

Yes

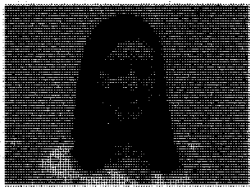
What is your favorite memory?

Being in the State Final 4 last year and going to Dayton.

What position did you play?

Libero

Cassie Utt - Golf



How long have you been playing this sport?

Four years

What is your favorite memory?

Van rides and Howland's chicken dinners

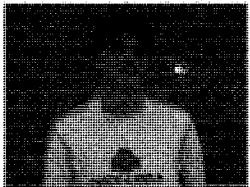
How did you become interested in this sport?

My dad always loved golfing, and I like the people on the team. It is a lot of fun.

What is your goal for this season?

My goal was to beat my personal best score.

Rick Samu - Soccer



How long have you been playing this sport?

Fourteen years

What is your favorite memory?

Capital University senior year, minus the four hour practices in 120° weather

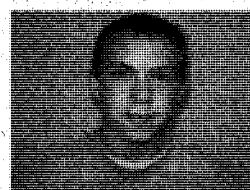
What is your favorite warm up song?

"30/30-150"- Stone Sour

What position did you play?

Goalkeeper

Ted Yuhaniak - Cross country



How long have you been playing this sport?

Six years

Is this your favorite sport?

No, ping-pong is.

Who are your favorite athletes?

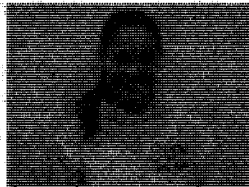
Takeru Kobayashi and Brian Urlacher

What is your goal for this season?

Lead team to Regionals

By Rosalyn Washam

Mellay Gardner - Tennis



How long have you been playing this sport?

Four years

Is this your favorite sport?

Yes, tennis definitely is my favorite sport.

Who is your team's biggest rival?

Howland - the nasties

What position did you play?

Second Singles

Christina Pietrzak - Tennis



How long have you been playing this sport?

Three years

What is your favorite memory?

After a match, we had a tennis - dodge ball fight. That was great.

What is your favorite warm up song?

"Shut Up and Let Me Go"- The Ting Tings

What position did you play?

Third singles

Ryan O'Donnell - Golf



How long have you been playing this sport?

Four years

Is this your favorite sport?

Yes

Who is your favorite athlete?

Tiger Woods

Do you continue playing in the off season?

No, it's kind of hard

Sara Lemon - Golf



Is this your favorite sport?

Yes, I love golf.

What is your favorite memory?

Winning the chicken for having the least amount of putts in a match.

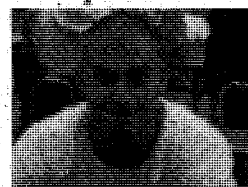
Who is your team's biggest rival?

Poland

What is your goal for this season?

To break the fifties

Geno Pasquinelli - Football



How long have you been playing this sport?

I've been playing since I was a freshman.

What is your favorite memory?

Off-season strength workouts

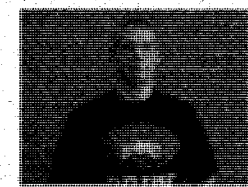
How did you become interested in this sport?

My brother played in high school.

Who is your favorite athlete?

Sean Lee

Zach Grimm - Football



How long have you been playing this sport?

Eleven years

What is your favorite memory?

Junior season

Who is your favorite athlete?

David Mainwaring

What is your favorite warm up song?

"Something in the Air Tonight"- Phil Collins

World Series 2008- What a Philling

By Ted Yuhaniak

At the beginning of October, every year the Major League Baseball (MLB) Playoffs take place. Viewers this season saw the new look of the playoffs and witnessed many different surprises. Baseball fans have seen the New York Yankees and Boston Red Sox dominating the AL East year after year. In 2008 fans witnessed a "Rayvolution," as the Tampa Rays won the division. Also from the same division, last season World Series Champions, the Boston Red Sox made it into the playoffs as the wild card team. All of this ended the Yankees streak of thirteen straight playoff appearances. The rest of the American League (AL) was represented by AL West winner, who are also AL's best record holder, the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim. Playing 162 games was not enough to determine the final playoff spot out of the AL Central, as the Minnesota Twins were defeated by the Chicago White Sox in a one game playoff, giving Chicago the final playoff spot.

The National League (NL) also had a few surprise teams representing it. The best record in the NL belonged to NL Central division champion Chicago Cubs. The wild card spot also came from the NL Central as the Milwaukee Brewers made their first playoff appearance since 1982, after a huge trade to get pitching ace C.C. Sabathia. The Philadelphia Phillies made their second straight trip to the postseason after defending their NL East title. After hiring new manager Joe Torre and making

the biggest trades during the regular season to get Manny Ramirez and others, the Los Angeles Dodgers were able to come back and take the NL West by storm, defeating the Arizona Diamondbacks.

The ALDS started the playoffs as one of the series featured the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim against the Boston Red Sox. The Red Sox would win the series easily 3-1. In the other ALDS match-up (the best story in baseball), the Tampa Bay Rays would defeat the Chicago White Sox 3-1. As the NLDS started up, the Chicago Cubs were looking for their first World Series title since 1908. Those hopes ended quickly as they lost in three straight games to the big bat of Manny Ramirez and the Los Angeles Dodgers. The Philadelphia Phillies entered the playoffs on a tear and kept on rolling right through the Milwaukee Brewers for a 3-1 series victory in the other NLDS match-up.

The ALCS features one of the best series in past postseason memories. Behind their great starting pitching and bullpen to finish up games, along with a flurry of home run balls, the Tampa Bay Rays took a 3-1 series lead over the Boston Red Sox. Just like the Red Sox do seemingly every year now, they battled back in the best of seven series to tie it up at 3-3. The Rays would manage to defeat the Red Sox in game seven to head to their first World Series in franchise history, and there

would be no repeat championship for Boston.

The Philadelphia Phillies took on the Los Angeles Dodgers in the NLCS and rolled on right pass them to a 4-1 series win. Behind their starting pitching ace Cole Hamels and high powered line-up, the Phillies were back in the World Series for the first time since 1983 and searching for their first World Series title since 1980. On the other side of things, the Dodgers were sent home looking forward to the 2009 season.

The 2008 World Series would see if the young Tampa Bay Rays, behind their cool cat of a manager Joe Maddon could stop the red hot Philadelphia Phillies. The series started off with two games in Tampa Bay, where the Phillies were able to pull off a win in game one and had the series tied at 1-1 heading home to Philadelphia. Behind their great fans, some questionable calls, and two days of rain the Phillies finally won the first Philadelphia major sports title since 1983 in a 4-1 World Series victory. The final game of the series saw starting pitching ace Cole Hamels dominate another game and closing pitcher Brad Lidge save another game. Lidge ended the 2008 season and postseason a perfect 48 for 48 in save opportunities, and the 24 year-old Cole Hamels won the World Series MVP. Now, fans of all teams look ahead to the 2009 season.

Fall sports wrap-up

By Ryan O'Donnell

The fall sports season was a successful one at Salem High School as there were nine teams competing this fall.

These teams include football, volleyball, boys' and girls' golf, boys' and girls' soccer, girls' tennis, and boys' and girls' cross country. There were also a few records that were achieved by some teams.

These records includes the boys' golf team as they advanced to the district tournament for the first time in school history. Another record achieved was by the girls' soccer team as they had double-digit wins for the first time in school history. The following list provides records for the fall Quaker teams.

Football: 0-10
Boys' golf: 8-12
Girls' golf: 5-16, District runner-ups and first place in the white tier
Boys' soccer: 3-8-3
Girls' soccer: 11-2-3, won the white tier
Girls' tennis: 14-6
Boys' CC: placed second in white tier
Girls' CC: won the white tier
Volleyball: 20-2, District Champions

Foundation basketball game

By Ryan O'Donnell and Brandon Simmons

Salem High School is hosting a foundation game this winter against United Local High School.

The game will be played on Tuesday, December 2; the JV game will begin at 6:00 PM. Ticket prices are \$4.00 for adults and \$2.00 for students. If you bring two canned goods to the game the adult ticket gets bumped down to \$2.00, and if the students bring in canned goods the price will be \$1.00. The first \$250.00 from each team at the gate will go to the OHSAA scholarship fund. Also, t-shirts for the foundation game will be sold at school, and proceeds will be given to families in need. Cost will be adults \$8.00 and students \$5.00.

So come out and support the Salem Quakers against the United Eagles. We hope to see everyone there with canned food.

Quaker Board

SHS Poets Society

By Matt Faulkner

Salem High School has acquired a new club this year. The Poets Society is a club which got its beginnings last spring when then junior Libbi Williams approached Mrs. Dye with the idea. Both Libbi and Monica Metts worked together on the club's constitution. This constitution was presented to interim superintendent Mr. Ramunno who then presented it to the Board of Education this fall.

The first meeting was held on September 30, 2008. Club officers were selected and are the following: President, Libbi Williams; Vice-president, Monica Metts; Secretary, Sarah Crabtree; Treasurer, Mellay Gardner; Activity coordinator, Carly Ellis; and historian, Jes-

sica Schmidt. The advisor for this club is Mrs. Dye.

The club meets each week and rotates its meeting days after school. No meetings are held on Fridays. Club members share favorite poems, share their own writings, and discuss the genre of poetry in general. The Poets Society held its first annual Halloween party on Oct 30. Members are considering going to the open mic night at the Friends Roastery on State Street. Mrs. Dye states, "I'm really excited about the Poets Society. Our members are really enthusiastic about what we discuss and do at meetings. If anyone is interested in becoming a member, I hope they will join us."



Newly elected officers of the Poets Society pose for a picture

A look into the past

By Nathan Gilbert

Have you ever wondered what your teachers were up to in high school? Maybe you both played the same sports or maybe they played a sport you were interested in getting into. I recently asked teachers to participate in a survey and found out several things which really surprised me while reading their surveys.

For many teachers, several sports weren't available at the time in their high schools, and it was rare for schools to have sports for women. Four of the female teachers at Salem High School didn't have any sports available to them, and several others said very few sports were available at all. One teacher wrote, however, that in her high school in Meadville, Pennsylvania, she had swimming, diving, and hockey teams. The school also offered archery, ice skating, and bowling through their P.E. classes. That high school even had a smoking lounge for the students. Many of the female teachers who had sports available to them played volleyball, which, of course, came as no surprise having the great volleyball team Salem has.

The majority of the teachers here at Salem High School have come from local schools or Salem. However, Mrs. Seevers came from an out of state high school in Meadville, Pennsylvania, as well as Mrs. Dye who also attended high school in Industry, Pennsylvania. Six out of the ten responding teachers said that yes, they would go back to high school and try to get better grades. It was also popular amongst the teachers to state that they wish they would have gotten into a better college.

We also have many more advantages than our predecessors had available to them. One teacher commented, "We did not have the great Alumni Association we have now. Therefore, the students now have much more grant and scholarship money available to them than students did back when we were in high school."

In conclusion, the surveys revealed that most of our teachers here at Salem High School participated in several sports and clubs. Maybe it is time for more of our students to find a way to become active here at Salem High School.

Quaker Crazies

By Brandon Simmons

This year has been a great year for the Quaker Crazies. So far the student section has been an awesome section. The members of the Quaker Crazies get comments from random people saying that they love the pride and school spirit that the Crazies show.

The year started off with crazies up in Girard. The student section was a decent size for the first football game of the year and being an away game. Then they went to United the next week, and all the students looked great. They were all painted, and they were all there to cheer on their Quakers. Since that game the Crazies have just gotten better. The Crazies have been great for all sports as well, not just football.

I approached some of the Quaker Crazies and asked them how they like being a part of the Quaker Crazies. Myself, I like being a fan up in the student section going crazy. It's a blast being up there because everyone is having fun and cheering on the Quakers. I approached Ryan O'Donnell and he went on to say, "I look forward to football games every Friday. It's a great time being a part of the Quaker Crazies because everyone is excited, jumping around and having fun." Austin Mitchley said, "I enjoy it, and I look forward to cheering on the Quakers every Friday." Finally, I talked to Mike Boggs and he had this to say, "It's one of the best feelings of my life."

We hope to see everyone when the beginning of the winter sports season comes around. Come out and cheer loud for all those Quaker teams. The senior class will be selling a new Quaker Crazies shirt in early December for the winter sports season. So, be sure to buy one and come out and join the fun with all of the other Quaker Crazies!

Out but wishing you were in

By Lauri Dotson

Skipping school for three weeks sounds like a fun idea when you hear it, but when you are out for a sickness or injury, it's a whole new story.

The first few days are nice to miss, even if you are in pain and discomfort because you aren't sitting in class. But as the first week comes to an end, you are ready to come back. I missed my friends, and I had a ton of make-up work I had to do between my doctor appointments, x-rays, and pain.

After being out almost three weeks, I've returned anxious to see my friends and ready to get back to work. Even after my mother came in each week and got my assignments from my teachers, I've missed an enormous amount of tests and lectures. As I attempt to make up this time lost in class, I'm swamped with every teacher giving me assignments left and right.

I suggest to anyone that has an injury or sickness, which forces you to miss school for a long period of time, that they send someone into the school to retrieve their assignments for them.

Where I come from

By Amanda Croley

Being a new student, I was very surprised at the difference in school rules here at Salem High compared to the ones at my former school, South Caldwell High.

Some of the rules at South Caldwell are shared here. Rules regarding holes in jeans are as follows: no holes showing skin above the knees, and holes above the knees are permitted as long as they are frayed or patched so that skin is not showing. Skirts are to be finger-tip length as well as shorts. These rules are very much enforced. Cell phones, by School Board policy, are not allowed to be turned on until 3:00 P.M. This rule, however, was not enforced. While calls and texting are not allowed, and phones can be confiscated, many teachers permit students to take pictures of classroom events or to record a presentation, which explains the video on my phone of friend Neil Barrett in women's clothing while speaking Spanish!

There are no vouchers at South Caldwell, but there is an exam exemption policy. If a student receives an A for a semester and has only missed three days or less, the student is exempt. With a B, a student can only be exempt if they have missed two days or less. Students with a C for the semester can miss only one day and still be exempt. Even students with a barely passing grade of a D can be exempt if they have not missed any days in that classroom. However, because South Caldwell is a participant of No Child Left Behind, many classes require EOCs (End of Course Exams) from which no student can be exempt. Moreover, this exam, along with any required exam, counts as 25% of the students' final grade.

The final morning bell rings at 7:53, but class does not begin until 8:00 A.M. School ends at 3:00 P.M. Students are allowed six minutes between classes, of which there are only four periods per semester that last an hour and a half each. On block schedule, credit is awarded after one semester of any passed class unless a student takes an A.P. course that requires a prep-class. Honors classes are more rigorous than general classes and are weighted one point more (A=5.0, B=4.0, C=3.0, D=2.0, F=0.0). A.P. classes are weighted two points more (A=6.0, B=5.0, C=4.0, D=3.0, F=0.0). The school also pays for the A.P. exam for all students. South Caldwell's grading scale is very different and is as follows: A=93-100, B=85-92, C=77-84, D=70-76, F=Below 70.

So, that is how South Caldwell operates overall. Some aspects are the same as Salem while many others are different. Moving to Salem made me appreciate some facets of South Caldwell while also celebrating not having some of the same policies as my previous school.

Video game junkie

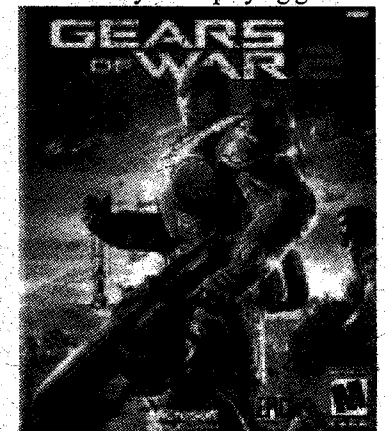
By Chris Szabat

Playing video games isn't as bad as some adults may think. Some games might be violent, but it doesn't mean the game will turn the kid into a violent, psychotic kid. Parents also think children waste their time playing video games.

I would have to say that my favorite game is "Halo." The reason it is my favorite is because there are a lot of online players, and the game itself is sweet. It is a fun game to play when you are gaming with other friends. Playing video games helps your hand-eye coordination, so it makes you react faster. Vince Rosati, a video game junkie, remarked that, "I don't own an Xbox 360. I call it my Halo machine because that is the only game I play." Some adults think kids should spend less time in the house and more time outside getting exercise or getting into some type of sport. Well, I think they're wrong. I would consider myself a video game junkie, and I am healthy and still go outside and

play sports.

There are also people who are "the best gamers" who compete in competition. If there is a competition, the winner usually wins a lot of money, which you consider your career as being a gamer. So, if your parents think you are wasting your time and you are good at playing games, you might actually make some money off of playing games.



Quaker Clips

