THE SPARTAN CHARIOT

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 2 *"FOR THE STUDENTS, BY THE STUDENTS"* OCTOBER 2025

SPARTANS GATHER FOR A SPOOK-TACULAR HALLOWEEN

Always Creepin' It Real!

GOOD NEWS

- ★ McKenzie Carter has been accepted into University of New Orleans
- ★ Darryiale Bardell has been accepted into Southeastern Louisiana University and Southern University and A&M College
- ★ Jayaide Cosse has been accepted into Jackson State University, University of New Orleans, and Texas A&M University
- ★ Treasure McCall has been accepted into Southeastern Louisiana University
- ★ Erin Roberts has been accepted into Louisiana Tech University
- ★ Aisha Roque has been accepted into the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and University of New Orleans
- ★ Congratulations to the 2025-2026 Homecoming Court:
  - Camron Robinson and Seven Fernandez as Homecoming King & Queen
  - Andray Smith and Caira Favaroth as Mr. & Ms. Senior
  - Mason Blunt and Allure Tumblin as Mr. & Ms. Junior
  - Olen Robinson and Jayla Curley as Mr. & Ms. Sophomore
  - Don Christopher Johnson and Kennady Slaughter as Mr. & Ms. Freshman
- ★ A select group of teachers have signed up for the "Adult Lighthouse Team", shoutout to you all!
- ★ Camilla Veloz led the girls cross-country team with a 6th place finish out of 64! Andray Smith and Adam Juneau led the boys cross-country team with a 14th and 15th place out of 67!
- ★ All EMR students have passed their Basic-Life Saving skills and are all certified BLS providers through Operation LifeSaver!
- ★ Allstate Sugar Bowl announces Manning Award Futures for week 4 – Representing Salmen, Da'John Howard! Howard passed for 172 yards and two touchdowns while also running for 81 yards and a score as the Spartans posted a 38-22 win over Liberty in their home opener.
- ★ Shoutout to our Top 9 Students of the Year Nominees:
  - Andray Smith
  - Genevieve DeBarbieris
  - Madden Bailey
  - Carlin Cursi
  - Ronald Coleman
  - Alecksah Blackwell
  - Zachary Estes
  - Kayla Watson
  - Aabrah Abid

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ★ **October 1:**
  Volleyball vs LCA @LCA 4:30 PM
- ★ **October 2:**
  Fall Break - No School
  Football vs Lakeshore @Salmen 7:00 PM
- ★ **October 3:**
  Parish Fair Day - No School
- ★ **October 6:**
  Volleyball vs Bogolusa @Salmen 4:30/5:30 PM
  Hoco Spirit Week - "Play The Part" ***(Character Day)***
- ★ **October 7:**
  Homecoming Ticket Deadline
  STPPS Career and College Expo @The Harbor Center 5:00 - 7:30PM
  Volleyball vs St. Scholastica @Salmen 4:30/5:30 PM
  Hoco Spirit Week - "Twin To Win" ***(Twin Day)***
- ★ **October 9:**
  Volleyball vs Pine @Salmen 4:30/5:30 PM
  Hoco Spirit Week - "Wickedly Pink & Green" ***(Wear Pink and Green Attire)***
- ★ **October 8:**
  STPPS Career and College Expo @The Harbor Center 5:00 - 7:30 PM
  JV Football vs Northshore @Northshore 7:00 PM
  Hoco Spirit Week - "Snooze & Cruise" ***(Pajama Day)***
- ★ **October 10:**
  Half Day - End of First 9 Weeks
  Hoco Pep Rally
  Hoco Court Tailgate @4:00 - 6:00 PM
  Hoco Football vs. Northshore @Salmen 7:00 PM
  Hoco Spirit Week - "Fade to Black" ***(Black Out/ Glow in the Dark)***
- ★ **October 11:**
  Homecoming Dance @The Harbor Center 7:00 - 10:00 PM
- ★ **October 14:**
  District Volleyball vs Pearl River @PR 4:30/5:30 PM
- ★ **October 15:**
  JV Football vs Fountainbleau @Salmen 6:00 PM
- ★ **October 16:**
  Volleyball vs Eleanor McMain @McMain 5:30/6:30 PM
- ★ **October 17:**
  Picture Day
  Football vs Fountainbleau @Fountainbleau 7:00 PM
- ★ **October 18:**
  ACT Testing @Salmen
- ★ **October 20:**
  Volleyball vs Bogalusa @Bogalusa 4:30/5:30 PM
- ★ **October 21:**
  Volleyball vs Lakeshore @Salmen 4:30/5:30 PM
- ★ **October 22:**
  JV Football vs Slidell @Salmen 6:00 PM

★ **October 23:**
Volleyball vs NOMMA @Salmen 4:30 PM
Volleyball vs Crescent City @Salmen 4:30 PM

★ **October 24:**
Football vs Slidell @Slidell 7:00 PM

★ **October 27:**
Red Ribbon Week - “Color Your Life Drug-Free”

★ **October 28:**
Red Ribbon Week “Be a Smartie Don't Do Drugs!” (Anything but a Bookbag Day)
Volleyball vs Carver @Salmen 4:30 PM

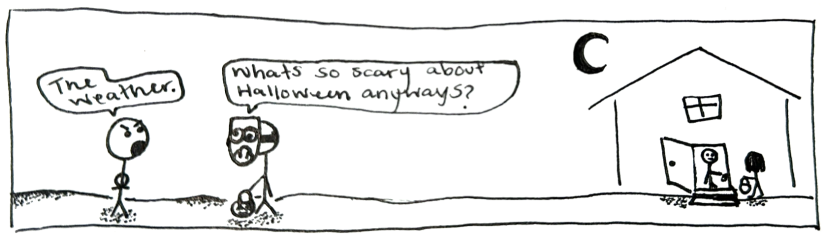
★ **October 29:**
Red Ribbon Week - “My Future is Drug Free”

★ **October 30:**
Red Ribbon Week - “Don’t Get Washed Up by Drugs” ***(Beach Day Accessories with Uniform)***
Volleyball vs St. Thomas Aquinas @St. Thomas 4:30

★ **October 31:**
Chromebook Insurance Deadline
Red Ribbon Week - “Drugs are Scary” ***(Halloween Dress-Up RULES APPLY)***
Football vs Hammond @Hammond 7:00 PM
Halloween

Weather Watch with Robbi: Another Month In-between

BY ROBBI-RENEE’ WILLIAMS



As another month in Slidell passes, citizens are inclined to ask: “What season even is this?” and, “Why is it still kind of warm?” To that I say ladies and gentlemen, welcome to October. This statement, yet slightly dramatic, is pretty representative of our upcoming conditions. As fall arrives and Halloween sneaks up, we find ourselves in another in-between month. Temperatures are in a slow transition from warm to cool, and a spectrum of conditions are to be expected.

We've left scorching climates and landed in moderate territory with highs being in the upper 70’s and lows being in the 50’s; as the month progresses, lows will become more predominant. Another advancement from September rumors: less rainy days. October is a habitually dry month with the average rainfall in previous years being 3.2 - 3.4 inches. As rain decreases and the fall season progresses, declining humidity levels bless Slidell. Though temperatures aren’t considerably cooler, humidity levels will drop about 33% going from 58% to 25% by the end of October. We’ll be left in comfortable conditions compared to the 90% humidity shown in early September. Hurricane season is proving uneventful this year, but it's not over just yet. The official Atlantic storm season spans from early June to late November so keep an eye out for tropical storms until you see turkey, stuffing, and cranberry sauce on your dinner table. Previous named storms like Andrea, Barry, Chantal, Dexter, and Erin have avoided Louisiana's coast either hitting other southern regions or not hitting land at all.

With fall now being in action, Slidell’s in a transitional period. It's not cold enough to call it christmas and barely cold enough to call it halloween, but temperatures are in fact dropping. For the citizens of Slidell, breaking a sweat at the mere mention of going outside isn't a concern anymore. Don't let the weather spook you this October! Be prepared this Halloween season and stay safe.

Breaking News

BY ROBBI-RENEE’ WILLIAMS

Hello students, it's a busy time in the Camellia City! With so much going on, it's difficult to decide what current happenings deserve attention. From community events, to large purchases, to fatal crimes, Slidell has many stories to be told.



Putting good news first, an action plan was made for the Riecke Retention Pond. You may be wondering what that is. Well, it's a stormwater management project in the form of a pond. The pond is meant to alleviate potential damages caused by flood waters following serious storms. Accordingly, the project will be located 1 acre off Pontchartrain Drive. Construction is set to begin this fall and conclude in the spring of 2026. If the Riecke Retention Pond performs as intended, it’ll hold up to 26,000 gallons of misplaced stormwater preventing flooding in the area. In other news, the Amazon delivery station opened after being in development for 4 years. Originally the grand opening was supposed to take place in 2022 but after multiple delays the facility is finally reaching fruition this fall with its 140,000 square foot, $40 million dollar building opening. The facility is expected to provide hundreds of new jobs, faster delivery speeds, as well as boost the local economy. A final talking point for the city of Slidell is the potential mall purchase. The Northshore Square mall, which has been out of business since July of 2019, is being discussed by the Slidell city council. A vote was made about purchasing the old mall and it came out 4-3, with 4 being the supporting votes and 3 being the opposing votes. The vote proved controversial with citizens but will be moving forward if the transaction gets approval from the State Bond Commission.



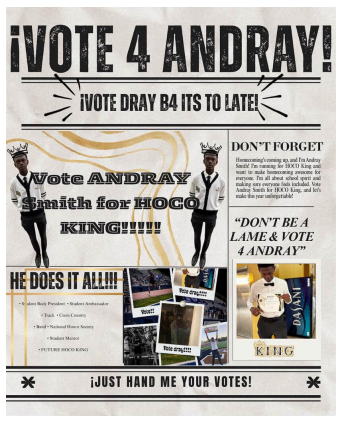
On a bad note, crime is inevitable and perpetual. A recent headline describes a hit and run incident involving a 6 year old boy. On August 13, a 6 year old boy named Jeremiah Ramirez was riding his scooter along his driveway and became the victim of a fatal hit and run. Suspect Cody Beaudette, age 35, was arrested later that day by mistake. Beaudette was seen driving a car matching the description of the one that hit Ramirez and was taken into custody. As it turned out though, Beaudette is innocent and charges were dropped leaving the case open. Still on the topic of vehicular crime, Belinda Skelly, a nurse and mother of three was hit in the parking lot of her job leaving her in critical condition. The story goes, Lilian Sellars, a 67 year old coworker of Skelly, hit Skelly and made an attempt to cover up the crime to no avail. Sellars is now in custody awaiting sentencing. A final case which happened on Cousin Street entails the break in and attempted murder of a woman. Early on the morning of September 9th, Kenneth Lyons broke into a home on Cousin Street where an unnamed woman lay sleeping. The home invasion turned into an attack when Lyons grabbed a knife and started stabbing the woman shortly before fleeing the scene.

It's easy to get bummed out by the news, but that's a small price to pay for staying informed. So as October rolls around, have your listening ears on and your eyes wide open so you don't miss anything.

Fall For You, Homecoming 2025

BY SARA MITCHELL

Get Wicked and fall like the leaves. Homecoming is for thieves to steal your heart on the dance floor. Student voice and leadership demonstrates the pride of the student body and their effort put into planning events, through homecoming interviews. With interviews students express what Homecoming means to them and we get an insight on their experience through the process of running for Homecoming court. Interviews help find students who are good leaders, have strong character, and are involved, not just those who are well-known. Once progress is noticed the campus is buzzed with excitement!



Student Body President, 4 year track star, and 2026 senior, Andray Smith was interviewed. Andray was interested in running for Homecoming court since freshman year but was never fully interested until last year which led him to the bold decision of running for Homecoming King. He thinks he would be a perfect fit for Homecoming court, repping the school he is so heavily involved in. After these 4 long years, what's a better way to get what he deserves than being crowned King or Mr. Senior. As a Homecoming court candidate he will always have a positive attitude in and outside of school. He’s not just a model student, but a model citizen in society who strives to enjoy everyday life and help others.

Next up, Seven Fernandez was interviewed, one of Salmen's beloved cheerleaders, powerlifter, mentor and also a part of *The Spartan Chariot Lighthouse Team*. Seven decided she wanted to run because she wanted to be more involved in school and be a clear example of what it means to have school spirit. She thinks she would be a perfect fit for Homecoming court because no matter what she has a positive attitude. As a candidate Seven is a people person, sweet, and very optimistic. Seven also faced some challenges during campaigning, nonetheless she ended it with a positive and strong mindset.

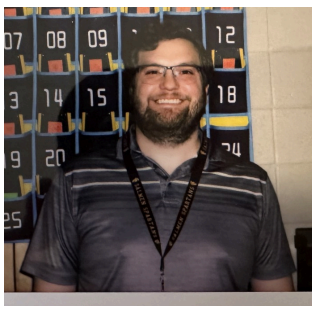


Homecoming doesn't just bring us Friday football games, pep rallies, and dances; the celebratory ball reflects self-expression through attire and themes. Homecoming may be viewed as a display for personal style. From walking on school floors to the shindig runway. This space is for individuals to show off their creativity and personality while catching eyes with fashionable and appropriate theme attire. Being a part of Homecoming is no longer just about attire, it's about being seen and heard; creating a voice for students and an open room for expression. Always strive to be unique and a leader, keep the spark & Spartan spunk alive.

Teacher Spotlight - Mr. Russo

BY JAEDA NEWTON

For many of us, the quadratic formula is just a bunch of letters and numbers. Though for Mr. Russo, it's a language he speaks everyday and dedicates his teaching time. At Salmen we have many great math teachers. For this month's Teacher Spotlight, we are going to focus on one of my personal favorite teachers, which taught me freshman year, Mr. Russo. We aren't just going to dive into how teaching and school life is for Mr. Russo but also after school hobbies.



As many of us seniors, juniors, and sophomores know, Mr. Russo is one of our best Algebra l teachers. While being a dad to three beautiful girls at home, he also teaches here at school away from home. Being a student myself, I know it's extremely hard to have the motivation to do the work. Mr. Russo has a game plan just to solve that though. "Connecting with students on a personal level and gaining trust, if all else fails bonus points and food are a great motivator" he says. Now I don't know about you, but I would love to do math work for food! Motivating students to do their work is only half of the weight. Another big part of that is trying to accomplish teaching every student to strive for success, and the different ways each student learns. Though Mr. Russo still does notes and worksheets, he also lets kids lead the classroom. Group work, asking questions, peer reviews, working on the smart board, or even having a personal whiteboard, are all strategies of Mr. Russo.

When it comes to talking about teachers I feel like just asking them about school life wouldn't do anything really because they do have a life outside of school. Did you know that Mr. Russo actually wanted to become a fighter jet pilot before he went to prelaw then finally landed on his business major? I think that's really cool! Outside of school he likes to cook, spend time with his three daughters, and play video games. I could imagine him being a princess or getting his makeup done. To close the interview off I asked the burning question, 'What made you want to teach math'. Mr. Russo explained that math doesn't come easy for most students so he gets them in a better mood and teaches them the way he likes to teach; "...there is a high sense of pride in seeing their faces light up."



Getting to know one of our many amazing math teachers was interesting. I think us students need to thank math teachers more, really any teacher for that matter. Teachers go through the same learning process as us students just more. As our conversation draws to a close (I'm really going to miss yall) Mr. Russo is more than just a math teacher. Go around and just tell your teachers thank you. See you guys next month. Hey by the way, have you done your math homework?

Voices of Tomorrow

BY PAIGE REINE

Welcome back, Spartans! As the seasons begin to change, so do the opportunities. It's Paige Reine back again to interview your amazing students and bestmates! Do yall feel that breeze coming through? Fall... is that you? The season is rolling in pretty quick and we all know this is the best time of year. The amazing weather, the late night football games, Homecoming week, Halloween, the scary movies, and so much more. I'm just as ecstatic as you are! Many people do different activities for the fall, in this case we're looking at what Nevaeh Ducre is up to.

Nevaeh is a freshman who is part of the flag team here at Salmen. I sat down to talk about how her school year is going so far and what her plans for this upcoming fall are. Nevaeh shared that she's actually enjoying high school more than she would've expected. "I thought it was going to be difficult because it's my first year in a new setting, but I got used to it very fast. It's more open and free than middle school which I enjoy." Freshman year can get really scary, with new teachers and a new environment. However, it's exciting to see someone adjusting to it all. Fall holds many countless memories for all of us and for Nevaeh, like her birthday she's super excited for! Although Halloween plays a big part this month, she's mostly ready for Thanksgiving and the cold weather following behind. Nevaeh states she is looking forward to the festivals and events that are occurring. I recommend checking out the Parish Fair coming soon to you; consider spending a day out with family and friends! As we know, Halloween is on a Friday this year. Perfect time to go all out with your friends, get candy, have fun, and live in the moment! Nevaeh stated Halloween is her favorite holiday. She loves dressing up because it allows her to express herself and her feelings through fictional characters. "You can open up in ways you may not feel comfortable on a regular basis."





Fall isn't all about Halloween and the movies; it's also Homecoming season! As a freshman, you may expect a whole lot from a high school dance. Nevaeh stated, "I'm looking forward to my first high school dance! During middle school, I didn't go to the dances so I hope this year it's worth it. I really hope I have a lot of fun and make memories for my first year." She plans on wearing a purple dress; nothing too much so she can do 10 times better next year. She doesn't have a date or anyone to go with besides a friend, but they might go out to eat in New Orleans right after. Overall, Nevaeh is extremely ready for her first dance this year and has high hopes for the best night!

As we close out, we honor student achievements and golden standards while capturing the festive energy of October. It was a thriller getting to know Nevaeh and talking to her about her overall experience this school year. I hope you all are just as excited as her for this fall! Be sure to enjoy this upcoming season, while also conquering all goals you have set for yourself; every moment matters. Stay inspired, Spartans!

Club Spotlight - *The Spartan Chariot*

BY KIERRA MCCOY

Want to shine the light and lead our school to success? Well, learn about this month's club spotlight…*The Spartan Chariot* Lighthouse Team! The club chosen for this month's club spotlight is the Lighthouse Team! *The Spartan Chariot* Lighthouse Team works to improve our schools involvement in the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People as well as WIGS. WIGS stands for Wildly Important Goals. This is Parker Jackson. Parker has been on the Lighthouse Team for 2 months.



Here's what she had to say about being on the Lighthouse Team. Parker was asked how she would describe her experience on the Lighthouse Team, here's what she said, "Being in Lighthouse really brings me joy to know that I'm helping the school become a better place after I leave as a senior." Parker is an outstanding worker who considered being on the Lighthouse Team

because she has always wanted to write in a newspaper and help keep people informed about activities. Although being in Lighthouse is fun, has Parker ever doubted joining the team? No, Parker has said, “I’ve always wanted to help and be a service to others and this is a great way to start!” Parker also wants to participate in the Interact club; she likes doing charity and helping others as it is a great way to succeed in her personal achievements. Mrs. Yates is the teacher for Lighthouse and she does her absolute best to make it easier and more fun for her students to participate in.

The Lighthouse Team has participated in helping with events such as open house, presenting in faculty meetings, and presenting Mrs. Jacobs and Mrs. Fritscher with ideas on how to better our school. Creating games for each student to play during their lunches every Friday, completing our ‘Leader In Me’ Rubric that shows how far our school has progressed with our activities. In the Lighthouse Team we work to apply the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People. The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People are: Be Proactive, Begin with the end in mind, Put first things first, Think Win-Win, Seek first to understand-then to be understood, Synergize, and Sharpen the Saw. They’ve also created bulletin boards in the halls for WIGS which are characterized by the words crucial importance, limited focus, measurable results, and not ordinary. The Lighthouse Team doesn’t just help with making the school better but also bettering students as well.

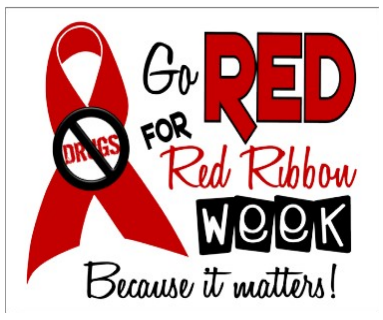


This month's club spotlight was *The Spartan Chariot* Lighthouse Team. Interviewed was senior Parker Jackson about her experience with Lighthouse so far. Consider joining the Team that helps plan the fun events, opportunities, decorate the school, create interesting flex lessons and write the monthly newspaper. If you would like to join *The Spartan Chariot* Lighthouse Team and help lead the way, inform Mrs.Yates in room 207. Want to shine the light, and lead our school to success? Well, make sure to join this month’s club spotlight…*The Spartan Chariot* Lighthouse Team.

Choose Your Future, Stay Drug Free
BY MADISON KNIGHT



Have you ever thought about how the choices you make today might shape and affect your future? Every decision counts, especially when it comes to choosing a drug-free life. This is why schools all across the parish participate in this campaign. Red Ribbon week encourages the youth to make positive choices, withstand peer pressure, and take the initiative to create a safer, drug-free future.



I’m sure you guys are wondering what Red Ribbon Week is exactly. Well, if you didn’t know, Red Ribbon week is a nationwide prevention movement that promotes being drug free. This is celebrated from October 23rd to October 31st. This first began in the year of 1985, in honor of the Drug Enforcement Administration, also known as “DEA”. Furthermore, this campaign was pushed due to the assanation of Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena, who was murdered by drug traffickers. This week isn't only about drug prevention, it's also to pay tribute to a hero.

Red Ribbon Week spans past the school walls, it's a community wide effort. However, in school it’s visible and has high participation. Schools often make it interactive by incorporating different ideas and activities for students and faculty to participate in throughout the week. For example, most schools come up with different themes and allow students and staff to dress accordingly. Another way most students and teachers are able to be a part of this movement is being able to decorate the school and doors as well as engage in creative projects such as skits and or tiktoks demonstrating a drug-free lifestyle.

In conclusion, Red Ribbon Week is more than just a school event. It’s a reminder that the choices we make today shape our tomorrow. By staying drug-free, we not only protect our health but we also protect our goals and future! As one, we can build a powerful, brighter community where everyone has the chance to succeed. It’s never too late to join the movement, don’t hesitate today!

Spooky Spartans
BY AMIYAH SHANNON



It's a spooky season at Salmen! Halloween can be fun for all ages. Join us in seeing what our fellow spartans are doing this Halloween. In this article you’re going to see what our students and teachers have planned for halloween and even their favorite halloween memories!

Starting off we have Essix Chandler! Essix is a junior and also is a part of the *Spartan Chariot.* For Halloween, he plans on trick or treating with his best friend. And if that doesn’t go as planned, he plans on cooking and watching scary movies. He then said his favorite scary movie is The Conjuring. My last question for Essix was “Do you have a favorite Halloween memory?” and he responded with, “My favorite halloween memory would have to be trunk or treating at school in 5th grade.” I couldn’t agree more; trunk or treating has always been so much fun!

Amari Walton is our next spooky spartan and she’s a senior on the volleyball team. She told me she loves Halloween because she loves seeing how everyone expresses themselves. I figured she was the perfect candidate for this interview! I asked her about her Halloween plans and she stated that she is going to a Haunted House with her little cousin. As far as trick or treating, she’s dressing up as Troy Bolton from *Highschool Musical* and is most excited to get pink starbursts. When asked about her favorite Halloween memory she stated, “Last year for Halloween, I went trick or treating with my best friend and killer clowns literally started chasing us, and it was really fun because we almost died.”

And to show Halloween can be fun for all ages, our last spooky spartan is Mr. Heintzman. Mr. Heintzman is a World History teacher located in the 500 hallway. He told me for Halloween he will be participating in a Halloween Parade in Bay St. Louis called the *Boo Bay*. It’ll be his second year in the Parade! Other than that, he will not be dressing up for Halloween but is most excited to eat Twix, Snickers and Kit Kats. I asked him if he has a favorite Halloween memory and he stated, “I don’t really have a favorite one but the most interesting one would be, when I lived in Pennsylvania as a kid, it was so cold all I wore to go trick or treating was a parka and a mask. Most people here probably don’t know what a parka is.” He then stated a parka is a big coat because like he said, I didn’t know.



This includes what some of our Salmen students and teachers will be up to this Halloween! You’re never too old to have fun on Halloween. So don’t be scared to put yourself out there unless you prefer to be inside. Be safe, make good choices and have a good Halloween Spartans!

Senior Spotlight - Victoria Spiers
BY PARKER JACKSON

From student of Salmen to JROTC Executive Officer, Senior spotlight goes to… Victoria Spiers! Senior Spotlight is a title for seniors as they leave their high school years behind. It's important to recognize seniors that will be leaving to show how far they’ve come and the next chapter in life for them. This title is brought to Victoria Spiers who is a JROTC cadet and going into the ROTC Army Military for Sentinel College.

I started with a question for Victoria about her life as a JROTC cadet, “You’re the Executive Officer In JROTC, you've been in this program for all four years of high school. Did you always know that you wanted to get to that rank? How did you push yourself to get there?” At first she didn't want to be an Executive Officer, but her view changed when she got the position and realized that this is what she wanted. She feels as though this position makes her more involved in the JROTC community we have at Salmen, and she is in charge of people now. She pushed herself to get in the Executive Officer position, “I was involved in everything JROTC and I fought for what I wanted. Fighting for what you want is very important because it puts you out there, forcing people to recognize you.” Quote from Victoria Spiers.



As most people who aren't in JROTC probably don't know what her job is as an Executive Officer. Her job requires her to handle staff, which is what runs JROTC, a staff of students with different job positions that deals with the JROTC community. Making sure that events for them run smoothly and is carried out the way it's meant to be. A lot of the events you see whether you go to the JROTC events or they're performing for you during pep rallies, all that are led by the staff. This position is very important but also a stress filled position so I wanted to know how she delegates and manages the stress she's under, she then replies that though her job can be stressful, she enjoys it and enjoys working with the staff. She also says that managing the stress is quite simple to her, which she does by taking some time to herself.

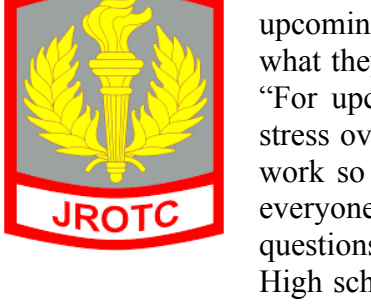
As a senior a big question arises, 'What do you want to do after High School?' This question is asked by everyone whether that be peers, parents, teachers, or just random people. Know that it's okay not to know what you want to do yet. Take your time in this process and don't rush yourself because what you want to do now may not be what you want to do in the future. Although I say this, Victoria actually knows! She plans on going to do ROTC at the Sentinel College which is a military school. From this, the specific job she wants to do there is being a Military Intelligence Officer (they analyze and interpret battlefield information to be able to help their crew protect national security). For her college degree, she wants to get a Security and Intelligence degree and once she completes her military contract, she wants to be an Intelligence Analyst for the CIA!

Lastly, as a Senior you learn many things that prepare you for adulthood, so a question I wanted to end off this interview with is: What is her advice for upcoming seniors or freshman that have no idea what they want to do in life? Her advice for you is, "For upcoming seniors, I would advise you to not stress over everything. Make sure you organize your work so nothing is turned in late. For freshmen and everyone else really, do NOT be afraid to ask questions. Do not be afraid to put yourself out there. High school is the time to grow and figure out what you want to do in the future. Take advantage of your time here, get good grades, study, but also experience. Life is short, enjoy what you can WHILE you can." So take what applies to you and put it into your school life.

This title is brought to Victoria Spiers who is a senior and going into adulthood wanting to be a Military Intelligence Officer. Interviewing Victoria was a fun experience and this article for her was amazing to write so I hope you enjoyed reading it like I enjoyed writing it. This article is dedicated to her school life in JROTC and her future after High School. If you are reading this in any grade and you have no clue what to do in school and after, I hope this gives you some inspiration and an idea of how you want to leave as a senior and what's next for you after. If you have any questions for Victoria about JROTC, or her plans for after High School don't be afraid to ask her!

The Horror You Can't Outrun: Dreams or Reality?
BY ESSIX CHANDLER

What's scarier: a dream-haunting monster born from a community's dark secret, or a demonic force rooted in a 'true' story? We explore the terrifying inspirations behind *A Nightmare on Elm Street* and *The Conjuring* and ask which tale chills us most.



Both films capture fear, but they approach it in completely different ways. A Nightmare on Elm Street dives into the world of nightmares, a place where no one is safe. Freddy Krueger, the film's villain, strikes when characters fall asleep, turning dreams into battlegrounds. This unique concept plays on the idea that sleep, something we all rely on, can become deadly. The mix of psychological tension and supernatural horror makes the film stand out as one of the most creative in the genre.

On the other hand, The conjuring builds its horror on events that are said to be real. The film follows paranormal investigators Ed and Lorraine Warren as they help a family tormented by spirits in their home. The eerie sounds, dark settings, and slow rise of tension make audiences feel the haunting could happen to them, too. The "based on a true story" element adds an extra layer of fear, making it feel more realistic than a dream-world killer.



When comparing the two, the biggest difference is how they make the audience feel unsafe. A Nightmare on Elm Street takes something ordinary-sleep-and turns it into a death trap, while The Conjuring unsettles viewers by suggesting that evil spirits could exist in the real world. One is imaginative and surreal, the other is grounded and chilling.

Both movies succeed in creating unforgettable scares, but in very different styles. Together, they prove that horror has no single formula-whether it's Freddy Krueger stalking dreams or demons invading a family home, the goal is the same: to make sure the audience leaves the theater looking over their shoulder. Now it's your turn: watch both films, compare the nightmares and the hauntings, and decide which one keeps you up at night.

Spooktacular Events
BY ABIGAIL HALEY

I hope you guys are ready to get your scare on because Halloween is right around the corner. Have you all decided what you're going to be for Halloween this year? I know I haven't. Are you going trick or treating with your friends this year? If not, there are a few activities you could be doing instead. For instance, you could carve pumpkins, go to a haunted house, or maybe even throw a Halloween party for you and your friends. Halloween doesn't have to be just about dressing up as your favorite character.



If you happen to decide to dress up with your friends, what could some options be? If you plan to go solo, you could possibly go as a fairy, princess, scream, or a ghost, what would you prefer? There are a lot of different costumes you could choose this year. I'm excited to see what you all dress up as!

Halloween's origins can be traced back to the ancient Celtic festival known as Samhain, which was held on November 1st. The souls of the dead returned to their homes, so people dressed in costumes and lit bonfires to ward off spirits.



Halloween was created for kids to dress up and have fun while being inspired by the characters they choose. This specific holiday is to give the kids a chance to eat all the candy they want and get cavities, if that's what they desire.

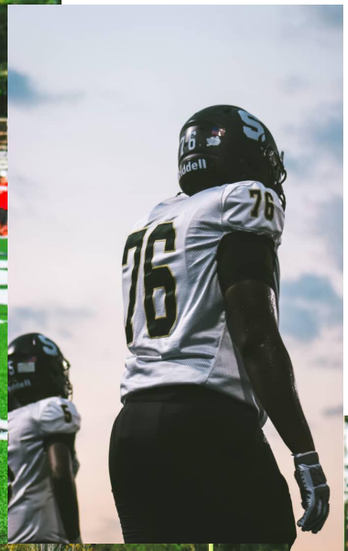
By 1950, trick-or-treating for candy had become one of Halloween's most popular activities. Today, Halloween is one of the biggest holidays for candy sales in the United States, estimated to be more than 3 billion dollars. Trick-or-treaters go from house to house with the threat that they will pull a trick if they do not receive a treat, usually candy. Don't be afraid to get your scare on on October 31st, it's supposed to be the scariest night of the year.

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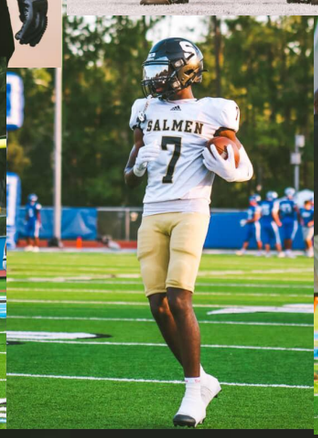
a-MAZE-ing Haunted Search
BY SARA MITCHELL

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Broomstick	Candy	Cat
Fall	Halloween	Lantern
Pumpkin	Salmen	Scare
Spartan	Spooky	Wicked

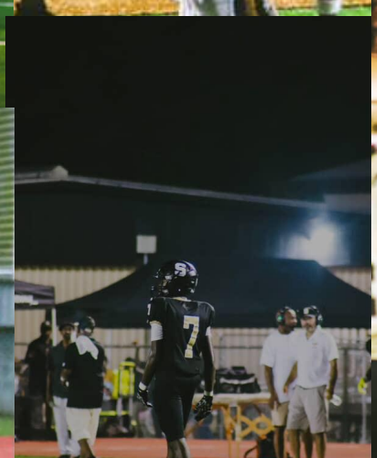




















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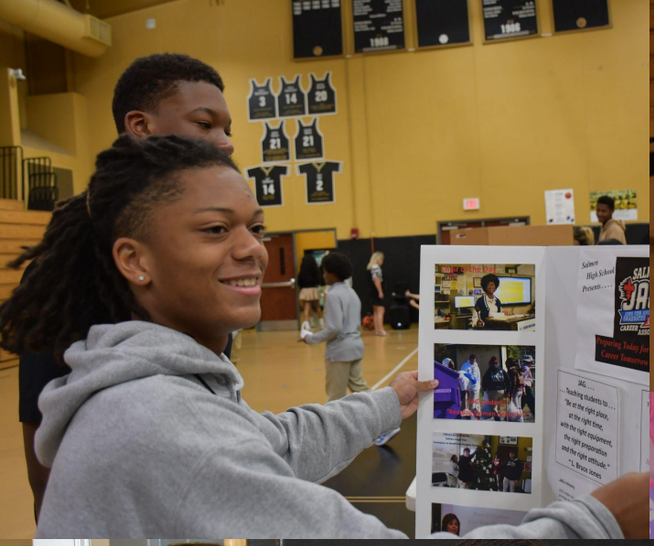















JESSE "JAT" CARLIN III
GYMNASIUM


SALMEN







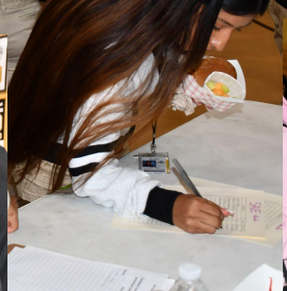



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