



SalesTalk

TENUI NEC DIMITTAM

Educating young men in the example of the gentleman saint, Francis de Sales

Vol. 10, No. 4

November 2007

Let us rejoice during this month of Thanksgiving for all the people who continue to touch our lives in a special way each day. At Salesianum we are truly thankful for our faculty, staff, students, parents, alumni, and friends. All of these individuals contribute to making Salesianum more than just a school, we are a community. This is what makes us one of the best schools in the United States.

If you have not already heard, the **2007 Catholic High School Honor Roll announced that Salesianum School is among the Top 50 best Catholic Schools in the nation.** We were previously named to this prestigious list in 2004. The purpose of the Honor Roll is to recognize those schools that excel in three categories: academic excellence,

Catholic Identity, and civic education. Since the success of our school is due to the quality and dedication of our entire community, I offer thanks and congratulations to everyone!

November 1 marked the end of the first marking period.

It is hard to believe that we have completed one quarter of our school year. However, in looking back over the past month, I recall so many wonderful events at Salesianum School.

We celebrated mass with the senior class as they officially accepted their rings as a symbol of their call to leadership in the school. We installed our ministry leaders at the Salesian Spirituality Induction Ceremony. The National Honor Society has completed its approval of new members and they were inducted to the already full ranks of NHS. Student Council elections were held for officers to represent each of the grade levels. The Ten Week Club is in full swing. Our sophomores and juniors have taken the PSAT, and our seniors are visiting colleges. Our sport teams are doing great! All of this, in addition to our students' studies and other activities, has contributed to the passing of another wonderful month at Salesianum School.

As we enter the month of November, our minds and hearts turn to those things for which we are most thankful. First and foremost, we are thankful for the lives of those who have touched us in some way and have gone before us to God. We will celebrate these

special individuals at a memorial mass on November 8 in Centenary Hall. In addition, anyone can provide us the names of deceased friends and loved ones they want remembered at our daily mass celebrated each morning at 7:30 AM in the school chapel. All are welcome. I ask that everyone in the Salesianum Community continue to pray during this month of remembrance for Joseph Boxler '09 and his family.

We also give thanks at Salesianum for the continued success of our teachers and students in the area of Academics. This is where we get to brag a bit! In addition to being named a Top 50 Best Catholic High School in America, we at Salesianum have a lot to be thankful for in terms of academic honors. We have seventeen students who were honored by the **National Merit Scholarship Program** and one student honored by the **National Achievement Scholarship Program**. The Semifinalists for the National Merit Scholarship Program are **Matthew Everett** and **Jason Patterson**. Our National achievement Scholar is **Collace Greene**. The fifteen Commended Students in the National Merit Program are **Jacob Anderson, Eric Austin, Jeffrey Dandoy, Adam Diantonio, Philip Donnelly, Daniel Kowal, Peter Lyons, Christopher Marenco, Alex Osborn, Ryan Patrick, Joseph Savage, Patrick Szurkowski, Steven Vallorani, Ryan Vaughan, and Nathan Volk**. I should also mention that fifty-seven (yes, that's 57!) of our students earned the title of "Scholar" through the **College Board Advanced Placement**. This is a true testament to the care and dedication of our faculty. Thank you and congratulations – these honors earned by our students also honor those who have taught them.

I pray that each of you has a good month full of opportunities to rejoice and celebrate on Thanksgiving Day.

Rev. William McCandless, OSFS
wmccandl@salesianum.org

FROM
THE
DESK
OF THE
PRINCIPAL



Somehow we have come to the end of the first quarter though the summer weather has persisted. At this time, students (and parents) have settled into the daily school routine. As report card time approaches, we

are typically filled with anxiety with what is to come.

Salesian optimism asks us to treat report card time as a chance to

honestly evaluate our efforts

and focus, not a time to get down on ourselves. It is easy to forget that grades are designed as constructive feedback and not as points to be scored in a game. Therefore, following are some ideas to keep in mind as we approach the second quarter:

FROM THE ACADEMIC DEAN



1) Parents should take a few minutes to sit down with their son and review the first quarter report card; have an honest discussion about the effort being put forth, and calmly identify areas where improvement is needed.

2) Remember that GPA is not equal to self-worth; at the same time, we are called to use our God-given talents to their fullest in the classroom.

3) Many students will say that they are studying long hours and not getting the results they want. Study time is precious, and students should really focus on carefully choosing study space with minimal distractions. Human nature tempts us to try to check e-mail, watch TV, and listen to music while studying, but we must be realistic with what we need to really devote full attention to our studies.

4) Parents must be vigilant to make sure students are not attempting to study 24/7. A short break to take a jog or a bike ride can do wonders for studying-efficiency.

Important Dates for November

Wednesday, Nov. 7

Official Grades are posted by the school to NetClassroom; Report cards mailed home

Thursday, Nov. 15

Parent-Teacher Conferences 6:30 to 8:30 PM
No appointments are necessary

Working for hours on end really slows down our ability to absorb and learn material; it can be counterproductive. Help your son learn how to achieve a balance between studying and other activities that is right for him.

Course selection for the 2008-09 school year will be here before we know it. Students should begin considering electives that they are interested in taking next year. This is a good time to talk to teachers about the specifics of the classes they offer and to research electives that may help in the college selection process.

*Jude Szczerba '96
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FROM THE DEAN OF STUDENTS

Structured student activities outside of the formal instructional and curricular classroom have continued to be a hallmark of Salesianum School. Our Activity Directors have reported on the strong participation numbers over the years along with the diverse types of activities being offered. Student activities provide additional opportunities for peer and adult interaction in settings which vary from the traditional lecture, lesson, and formal rigors of the academic core courses.

These activities are often scheduled on our regular G-6 activity period, but go well beyond this time frame. Appropriate use of leisure time, structure, comfort in a group, belonging to a team; all are part and parcel of joining the activities. Some of our various activities are service based, some are educational, others are cultural, and many are multi-faceted. These co-curricular activities are held after school, in the evenings, and sometimes on weekends.

We view these as an integral part of the mission of Salesianum School to educate the whole person.

Intra-mural and interscholastic sports, drama, and music provide additional levels of participation across the student body population. I encourage you to speak with your son about the possibility of joining a club or group. Looking forward to such participation on a weekly basis allows for time management skills, self-discipline to complete club requirements and the keeping of academic focus. All of which are good things.

Our faculty and staff enjoy getting to know the students they do not have the opportunity to teach. Many gifted students discover their talents can be seen, heard, and developed during this time. Careers are launched and nurtured along the way.

Also, students can list such activities in their portfolio of progress for college placement. The quality and longevity of participation are strong valued notations on a transcript. Please let us know if we can help in offering participation to your son. Fr. Vannicola is available to share some thoughts with you as the year continues to unfold.

*Michael Gallagher '69
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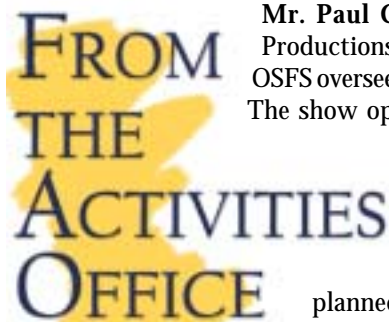
Questions about SalesTalk?

Contact Peter Castagna,

Director of Communications, at (302) 356-2660, or pcastagna@salesianum.org.

*SalesTalk is available exclusively at
www.salesianum.org.*

“Lend Me a Tenor” is Salesianum School Theatre’s 2007 Fall Show. Seniors **Marco Alberti**, **Eric Austin**, and **Joe Marinelli** and sophomore **Ethan Kirk** have the leads in the play. **Mr. Paul Goodman** from New Candlelight Productions is directing and **Fr. Patrick Kifolo**, OSFS oversees the theatre program as Moderator. The show opened **Friday, November 2** at 7:30



PM. Additional performances will be on **Saturday, November 10** at 2:00 and 7:30 PM.

The Student Council has planned **Spirit Week** for November 5-9. The schedule for Spirit Week is as follows. Details regarding these days will be announced in school.

Monday November 5 (B)

Student Dress- “Be Comfortable Day”
Theme: Staff Appreciation Day

Tuesday November 6 (C)

PM Assembly Schedule (Faculty Meeting)
Student Dress- Favorite College Team/Sports Franchise (jerseys or other sports related clothing)

Wednesday November 7 (D)

AM Assembly Schedule
Today, an assembly will be held to honor Salesianum’s recognition as one of the top fifty Catholic High Schools in the United States. There will be a special treat provided to all students at lunch time.
Theme: Teacher Appreciation Day
Student Dress- Regular Student Dress Code
Ten Week Club Drawing #5- Increased Prizes

Thursday November 8 (E)

Student Dress- “Super Hero Day”
Student Dress- Super Hero Costumes

Friday November 9 (F)

PM Assembly Schedule
The Fall Pep Rally will be held today.
Theme: Student Appreciation Day
Student Council will provide a special treat to all students during homeroom.
Student Dress: School Colors- Freshmen and Seniors wear white/ Sophomores and Juniors wear gold (Pre-printed Salesianum T-Shirts/ Jerseys, etc...)

Ten Week Club

Final collections for the Ten Week Club ended on Friday, **October 5**. Any students who have not yet returned their tickets may do so until Wednesday, **November 7** in the Activities Office to allow for participation in the last five weeks of drawings.

Congratulations to the top sellers for 2007:

- 1st Place – **Justin McNamara**
- 2nd Place – **Marco Alberti**
- 3rd Place – **Jarrold Murdock**
- 4th Place – **Kevin Hoelzer**
- 5th Place – **Shawn Stanley**

The winner of the \$2000 cash drawing for selling over 8 tickets was **Brandon Kotowski**.

The **freshman class** won a day off of school by selling 1993 tickets (89% participation). Fr. Bill has granted this holiday for freshmen only on Wednesday, **November 21**.

Weekly winners are posted on the daily announcements on the school webpage.

Athletics

A Winter Sports Parent Meeting is scheduled for **November 29** at 7:00 PM in the Auditorium. A reminder that all students wishing to participate in winter sports must have a physical on file by November 9, the first day of the winter season.

*Rev. Michael Vannicola, OSFS '95
mvannicola@salesianum.org*

November 5-9

SPIRIT WEEK

November 7

Grades posted

November 10

Cross Country State Championship

November 11

Open House

November 12

NO CLASSES

November 15

Parent Teacher Conferences, 6:30 PM

November 17

Soccer State Championship

November 21

PM Assembly Schedule

November 22-26

NO CLASSES: Thanksgiving Holiday

November 27

Intramural Bowling and Flag Football begin

November 29

Winter Sports Parent Meeting, 7:00PM

We begin the month of November with All Saints Day, a time we remember all of the holy men and women of every age both canonized and not canonized, who are

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

before the throne of God in his heavenly kingdom. In a letter St. Francis

de Sales wrote he reminds us of the importance and significance of the saints. He writes: "conduct and hold your spirit fast to the glorious paths of the heavenly Jerusalem, where from every side you hear the praises of God resounding. Look at the variety of saints and find out how they arrived at heaven. You will learn that the that the apostles got there especially through love, the martyrs through their constancy, the doctors through meditation, the confessors through mortification, the virgins through purity of heart, but all of them through humility." As you can see there are many ways that lead to holiness so that no matter what our profession or state in life is when we remain faithful to the gospel it will lead us to our final destination, heaven.

The following day, **November 2** we remember All Souls who have died and await the fullness of the kingdom. A mass will be offered for our deceased alumni and friends who have died in the past year. The mass will be on **Thursday, November 8** at 7 PM in Centenary hall. Please join us if you can.

Of course as we end the month of November we as a nation celebrate Thanksgiving Day. This is a time for us to thank the Lord above for his many blessings that he bestows upon us. It is during the month of November that we here at Salesianum participate in a canned food drive for a local shelter. We ask that you please help us with canned food donations as we help the less fortunate.

Finally, Campus Ministry is preparing for their Encounter Retreat scheduled for **December 13-16**. This retreat is open to juniors and seniors and it is a wonderful opportunity for them to explore their faith on a deeper level. The retreat takes place at the Malvern Retreat Center: St. Joseph's Hall, Malvern, Pennsylvania. Please encourage your son to participate in this life changing experience. They can sign up for the retreat in the Campus Ministry Office.

*May God be Praised,
Rev. Dominic Ciriaco, OSFS
dciriaco@salesianum.org*



Our 2007 -08 Annual Giving Brochure will be arriving at your home in the coming weeks. The theme for this year's campaign is *Tenui Nec Dimittam, Take Hold of Salesianum.*

Salesianum has been educating young men for over 100 years, and that tradition is supported by the generosity of many.

Please remember *The Fund for Salesianum* in your giving this year. [Click here to learn more.](#)

FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE

Senior parents should encourage their sons to check the Naviance website for the list of visiting college representatives and scholarship listings. Please do not add colleges to the pending list unless your son has applied there. Once he requests a transcript we assume he has applied and will mail the transcript to the college listed. Any application that is due the first week of January needs to be submitted to the guidance office by Tuesday, **November 27** to be sure that it is processed before the Christmas break.

PSAT results will be distributed to the students before the Christmas break. If you have any questions about the test please contact your son's counselor.

There will be a meeting for the Sophomore parents on Thursday, **January 10** beginning at 7 PM in Centenary Hall.

*Larry Fletcher
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MRSA has been a huge topic in the media in recent weeks. MRSA is a staph (staphylococcus aureus) infection that is resistant to many antibiotics. "Staph" is a bacteria that is commonly carried on the skin or in the nose of healthy people (25-30% of the population) and is the most common cause of skin infections in this country. Most of these skin infections are minor (pimples and boils) and can be treated without antibiotics, but they can also cause serious infections. Most staph infections are susceptible to antibiotics, some however (MRSA-carried

by about 1% of the population) are more difficult to treat. Factors associated with the spread of MRSA skin infections include: close skin to skin contact, openings in the skin (cuts or abrasions), contaminated items and surfaces and poor hygiene. In schools, this is most frequently seen in

sports where there is close contact with skin and

athletic equipment.

Some ways to prevent these infections are as follows:

1. Wash hands thoroughly before and after events.
2. Shower after all practices and games.
3. Keep cuts and scrapes clean and covered with a bandage until healed.
4. Do not share personal items such as towels, clothing and equipment.
5. Towels and clothing used in practices and games that are brought home should be washed in hot water and detergent and dried on the hottest cycle.

Guidelines for cleaning, care of open wounds, handling of infected wounds and all aspects of prevention have been given to schools by the Delaware Interscholastic Athletic Association (DIAA). The Athletic Trainer, coaching staff, students and cleaning staff have been instructed in these guidelines and monitor all aspects of prevention carefully.

*Jo-Ann West
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FROM THE STUDENT FINANCE OFFICE

Financial Assistance applications for the 2008-2009 school year will be mailed to participating families in November. If you would like an application, please call the Student Finances Office. You may also apply on-line at www.nais.org/financialaid/sss beginning **November 15**. For those families applying for assistance please be reminded that **the filing deadline for applications is DECEMBER 15, 2007**.

PLAN B PAYMENT NOTICE: Statements for the second semester payment (Plan B) will be mailed **November 1, 2007**. Payments are due on or before **December 1, 2007**. Late charges will be applicable to accounts not paid by **December 1**. If you did not receive a statement, please call the Student Finances Office.

*Héloise L. Osborn
hosborn@salesianum.org*



As many of you have noticed, the Salesianum Parents' Association is active, involved and a visible presence at Salesianum. The Senior Ring Mass Social, organized by the Parents' Association on October 18, was lovely affair for our

seniors and their families. Many thanks to **Jennifer Kmiec** and her committee for creating a special evening. Thanks to **Deidre Shinn** and **Joanne Walton** and their committee for a fun-filled Bunco Night. We hope all of you had a great time laughing with other parents and hopefully making a few new friends. Perhaps you have not yet won in the Ten Week Club. There is still plenty of time for your winning ticket to be pulled. Remember that win or lose, all tickets stay in the drawing bin each week. So if you have been lucky enough to already win, you can win again!

Even if you have not yet joined the Parents' Association, it is not too late. Our membership drive is ongoing and dues are given back to the school. Hope to see you soon. New faces are always welcome. We are not a club, but an association. Our purpose is to support Salesianum School as parents. There is always room for you! Do we have your email address? This is a great way for us to communicate with you. Send your address to Jim Custer at jmsr@thecusters.org and remember to put SPA Email in the subject line.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

*Ellen Hamilton & Susan O'Brien
Co-Presidents of SPA
ehamilton@comcast.net or suborien1@hotmail.com*

Upcoming Events:

Wednesday, November 28
Bus Trip to New York City
Friday, December 7
Christmas Party

Salesianum

Open House

Sunday, Nov. 11, 12:30 - 3:30 PM
Word of mouth is the most effective way to spread our message. If you know of a family that would benefit from joining our community, invite them to Open House.

Senior Parents: Just a reminder that updated Senior Class information and dates can be found on the **Senior Class Web Page**, which can be accessed through the school's web site. Click on Activities then Academic and then Senior Class. The **Senior Ring Mass** was held on Thursday, October 18.



Thanks to all who helped make the

*Ring Mass such a wonderful event, especially Father Dominic, Mrs. Kmiec and the Parents' Association! Note: If Seniors have any questions about their rings, they should contact Jostens directly. Congratulations to the new class officers! President: **Brian Walsh**; Vice-President: **Jason Patterson**; Secretary: **Eric Austin**; Treasurer: **Jordan Ottinger***

Also, Thanks to Mrs. Donna Baldino who has kindly offered to chair this year's **Prom Activities Committee (PAC)** formerly called the After-Prom Committee. The help of senior parents will be greatly appreciated. Meetings will not begin until January, however. Please read *SalesTalk* and the Senior Class Web Page for dates and information.

Seniors will have the opportunity to raise money to offset this year's prom tickets. They can sell *Joe Corbi's* pizza and cookies in February

for this year's Senior Class fundraiser. More information on the fundraiser will be in later issues of *Salestalk* and on the Senior Class Web Page.

If you have any questions throughout the year, please call the senior class moderators: Mrs. Stacy Walls Bartkowski at ext 241 or sbartkow@salesianum.org and Ms. **Cindy Pilipczuk** at ext 256 or cpilipcz@salesianum.org; or look on the **Senior Class Web Page** for information.

Thank you for your support of the class!

*Stacy Bartkowski
sbartkow@salesianum.org*

*Cindy Pilipczuk
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