

Controversial Book Comes to Salem

by Julia Carpenter

The Satanic Verses was published last year in an atmosphere of global uproar. Islamic fundamentalists have claimed that book manipulates the holiness of the Quran- the holy book of Islam. Other Moslems state that the book actually uplifts the message of the Prophet. Since its publication, nations have banned the book, death threats are in effect against the author and his publishers, literary figures have come out to support freedom of creative thoughts, and others have debated the literary worth of *The Satanic Verses*.

I was surprised to find this book in our library. This is an excellent comment on the up to date additions to our collection and in particular a book that has created violent emotions and death threats. The premise of the book is based on two individual men who survive the destruction of a jumbo jet explosion over the English Channel. The men was up, alive, on an English beach. However, one man acquires a halo, and the other acquires hooves and horns. These two men, Gibreel and Salaolin have been chosen as opponents in the battle between Good and Evil. Deception, half-truths, and the path to final confrontations are the storline. The problem of *The Satanic Verses* lies in the chapter concerning a prophet who writes a holy text that may contain holy and unholy influences. The book is described as difficult to follow as the book weaves before and after and during the battle between good and evil. However,

reading samples suggest the book is worth the effort. Anyway, if you find that you can't stomach anymore tawdry romances and philosophical tomes by Hegel this summer- consider finding a rare copy of *The Satanic Verses* and make up your own mind about the controversy about connections to the Quran and the Prophet Mohammed, and the literary worth of the writing. When was the last time you read a death-threat inspiring novel? Oh! I forgot about the movie a couple of summers ago....

Incunabula Debuts

by Patricia Earnhardt

Incunabula made its annual debut last month with an all new flair. There were a wide range of entries including poems, short stories, art work, and songs. Both students and faculty submitted articles for others to enjoy.

The majority of praise should go to the staff of *Incunabula* and to all of those who have published articles. This was one of the best issues published within the last few years at Salem.

By the way, maybe one day Salem will be in the national headlines for being able to solve the national deficit.

Movie Review: Say Anything

by Susie Jordan

You'll be able to say something good after you see the new romantic comedy *Say Anything*, starring John Cusack and Ione Skye. Cusack plays Lloyd Dobbler, the unmotivated, fun-loving guy who falls for Diane Court, played by Ione Skye, the beautiful, brilliant and supposedly unattainable valedictorian. Dobbler and Court make an unlikely couple, but as they say, opposites attract, and it has never been more true as it is in *Say Anything*. The movie takes a lighthearted look at first love, and the plot thickens as Diane's overprotective father is pursued by the Internal Revenue Service agents for his past tax evasions. In summary, (after viewing this movie twice) *Say Anything* is a funny, romantic 1980's movie with a good cast, great soundtrack, and a happy ending.

I strongly recommend *Say Anything* for those of you who have the end of the semester, beginning of final exam blues. It is a good romantic comedy that is not too silly and keeps your attention throughout the whole movie. This is one you won't want to miss.

Are the Boys Worth the Wait?!

by April Edmondson

Spring Garden Bar and Grill, located on the corner of First Street and Hawthorne is definately the place to go when you want a cold beer (you name it they have it) or any kind of sandwich. Their menu not only features sandwiches but an array of salads and "Lite Fare", for those of you are on a diet.

They offer burgers, chicken, turkey, ham, and philly steak sandwiches. They also have "southern style dog", chili, buffalo chips (fried potatoes), and mud pie.

The sandwich prices range from a moderate \$4.25 to \$6.25.

The atmosphere of the bar and grill is very relaxed and casual. However, if you are in a hurry you may be in trouble. The service is very quick, however, the others enjoying themselves are slow. I have been several times to eat there, however, the wait has always been so long that I chose not to wait. In the event you are looking for a nice looking "young man" then by all means head for *Spring Garden*. You definately will not be disappointed!!

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