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# SALEM TIMES-REGISTER

Thursday, December 18, 2025 • (USPS 631-140) • \$1.00

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## Council passes 20-year Comprehensive Plan

**Meg Hibbert**  
Contributing writer

After a two-week delay, Salem City Council unanimously passed a 20-year Comprehensive Plan as a development guideline for the city. “Back to the Future 2025” was developed by staff with input from citizens at several workshops over the last year. A public hearing was held in November and an open house discussion with looks at detail maps the week before the vote. Last week’s meeting was delayed by snow on the regular Monday meeting night.

Since the plan’s public hearing in November, staff made corrections in language and other matters pointed out after review by citizens and Councilmembers. One of those was designating South Broad neighborhood residential.

The plan serves as a long-range planning tool for the city, outlining

the community’s vision, goals and strategies for land use, development and public investment. The last plan was adopted in 2012.

Vice Mayor AnneMarie Green had sent the Community Development staff detailed review notes and concerns regarding clarification of language and other details.

At the Dec. 11 meeting, Councilman Hunter Holiday noted “The Comprehensive Plan is a living document for the future, not just for us but for generations to come.”

Earlier in the meeting during the Citizen Comment portion, North Broad Street resident Stella Reinhard had asked for another 60 days to review the plan’s maps in particular.

Green responded, “Every time we delay adopting the plan, you want us to delay more. The plan has no legal obligation on the future.

It’s not the zoning ordinance.”

Mayor Renee Turk added, “This is a work in progress. Anything that involves zoning will have a public hearing.”

Four of the Council members were at the meeting in person, with Councilman John Saunders participating remotely due to a temporary medical condition, he said.

In other matters, Council:

\* Held a public hearing before approving rezoning and relocation for Mrs. Dorsey’s Clothes Closet in an area where use is not provided. The move is from McClung Lumber’s donated warehouse space off Colorado Avenue to 2121 Apperson Drive, which was larger, spokesman Carey Harvey cutter pointed out, but without reliable heating and air conditioning. The closet provides

See **Council**, page 2



PHOTO BY MEG HIBBERT

**Salem Fire and Emergency Services Chief Steve Simon tells Salem City Council details of the Emergency Operations Plan during the Dec. 11 work session. Behind him are Assistant City Manager Rob Light and Vice Mayor AnneMarie Green.**

## Reedy named Salem’s 2026 Teacher of the Year



COURTESY PHOTO

**Reedy**

While most history teachers regularly reference the likes of Eisenhower, Einstein, Edison, and even Elvis in their lesson plans, Salem’s 2026 Division Teacher of the Year has the unique ability to toss Eminem and his hypnotic beats into that alliteration of notable figures.

Andrew Reedy, or “Rap Teach Reedy” as he is known to his students and the entire Andrew Lewis Middle School community, wholeheartedly embraces his

past to make sure his 6th grade students can successfully navigate their futures.

“I am the weird rapping teacher, but I know if my classroom is a place where students can feel safe and loved, then I know they will learn,” Reedy said. “I became a teacher so kids would know that even if they have no one else in their lives, they always have me and my support in their classroom.”

This burning desire to nurture his students, pay it forward, and

truly live out the division’s motto of “Love, Engage, and Inspire”, developed while growing up off Williamson Road in northwest Roanoke City. Reedy was raised by his loving single mom, but he had few male role models beyond his maternal grandfather.

“If you look at the teachers I had as a child, you could not create a better list,” he said. “Really, John Wright, who was my band

See **Teachers**, page 4



COURTESY IMAGE

## Salem schools earn high marks in new state accountability rankings

**Aila Boyd**  
abyd@mainstreetnewspapers.com

All six schools in the Salem School Division earned top-tier ratings in the Virginia Department of Education’s new school accountability system, according to results released this week.

Salem High School and South Salem Elementary School received the state’s highest designation, “distinguished,” while Andrew Lewis Middle School, West Salem Elementary School, G.W. Carver

Elementary School and East Salem Elementary School were each rated “on track.”

The ratings are part of the Virginia Department of Education’s inaugural School Performance and Support Framework, a new accountability model designed to more clearly communicate school performance to parents and communities.

“The inaugural Student Performance and Support Framework results confirm the great work

See **Rankings**, page 2

## Roanoke College in talks with Appalachian School of Law on possible merger

**Aila Boyd**  
abyd@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Roanoke College has confirmed it is in discussions with the Appalachian School of Law as the Grundy-based institution explores options to address declining enrollment and financial strain.

The potential merger surfaced publicly during an emergency meeting of the Buchanan County Board of Supervisors on Friday, called with roughly a day’s notice. Board Chair Craig Stiltner said the meeting was intended to determine whether the county would allow the private law school to merge with Roanoke College in Salem, as reported by another area news outlet. Any such move would require approval from both the board of supervisors and the Buchanan County Industrial Development Authority, he said.

In a statement provided Monday to the

Salem Times-Register, a Roanoke College communications official said the college has been engaged in confidential conversations with the Appalachian School of Law and expressed interest in what a partnership could bring. The statement emphasized that no formal agreement has been reached and that many details remain under consideration.

Founded in 1994, the Appalachian School of Law was created in part to support economic development in Buchanan County. The meeting resulted in the topic being tabled.

## State of the County Address highlights economic growth, infrastructure investment



PHOTOS BY CHUCK LIONBERGER

**Radford**

**Aila Boyd**  
abyd@mainstreetnewspapers.com

The Roanoke Regional Chamber hosted the 2025 State of the County Address on the morning of Wednesday, Dec. 10 at Green Ridge Recreation Center after the event was postponed due to a winter storm.

The annual Roanoke County address, presented by Appalachian Power, drew a sold-out crowd of about 365 attendees, according to chamber officials. Roanoke County Board of Supervisors Chairman

David Radford outlined recent accomplishments and future priorities, with a focus on economic development, education, housing and infrastructure.

Eric Sichau, president and CEO of the Roanoke Regional Chamber, opened the program by emphasizing the county’s role in regional collaboration and economic momentum. He thanked county staff, partners and sponsors for adjusting plans following the weather-related delay.

Radford highlighted major private-sector investments announced over the past two years, including Elbit America’s more than \$30 million expansion in the Hollins District, which is expected to create nearly 300 jobs. He also noted Wells Fargo’s \$87 million investment nearby, redevelopment at Tanglewood Crossing, the construction of an extended-stay hotel in Vinton and Publix’s new store along Brambleton Avenue.

See **County**, page 5



# Briefly: Salem News In Brief

**The Losers Club:** Held at the Salem Center but not just for seniors. All adults are welcome. Every Tuesday 5 – 6 p.m. No registration fee with \$3/ month dues. Contact: Charlene Lester 540-293-7753.

**Festival Service of Lessons and Carols:** On Sunday, December 21 at 5:00 pm, a Festival Service of Lessons and Carols will be offered at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 42 E. Main Street in Salem. This beloved service of readings and carols ushers in the Christmas Season. In addition to favorite hymns and carols sung by the congregation, the St. Paul's choir, under the direction of Steven R. Lawrence, will sing carol settings by Paul Manz, Andrew Carter, Ralph Vaughan Williams, Camille Saint-Saens and Peter Warlock. The choir will be joined by organist Margaret Johnson, and violinist William Hughes. The Rev. J. Edward Morris, Rector of St. Paul's, will officiate the service. An offering benefitting the Keystone Community Center of Southeast Roanoke will be received. St. Paul's, located in the heart of the City of Salem, is a welcoming parish, seeking to proclaim by word and example the good news of Jesus Christ. We warmly invite everyone to attend this service of Lesson & Carols and hope that you will find it an opportunity for refreshment, renewal and joy. A reception follows

the service in the Parish Hall. For more information, please visit [www.salemstpauls.org](http://www.salemstpauls.org) or call the church office at (540) 389-9307.

**Sam Barber:** Rising country sensation Sam Barber will bring his heartfelt lyrics and soulful sound to the Salem Civic Center on Thursday, Feb. 5, 2026.

**Winterfest Beach Bash:** Salem's annual Winterfest Beach Bash will return in February 2026, featuring the Band of Oz at the Salem Civic Center. The indoor beach party is scheduled for Friday, Feb. 6, at 7 p.m. inside the Salem Civic Center arena. The 2026 event marks the 19th consecutive year the Band of Oz has been selected to headline the popular gathering. This year's concert is sponsored by Renewal by Andersen. Tickets went on sale at 8 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16, at the Salem Parks and Recreation Department, 620 Florida St. Advance tickets are \$10, with tickets priced at \$12 on the day of the show. Tables seating eight are available for \$80. Cash, check and credit cards will be accepted from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays from Dec. 16 through Feb. 5. Organizers note the event typically sells out.

**Black Label Society:** Heavy metal powerhouse Black Label Society will bring its blistering riffs and high-energy performance to the Salem Civic

Center on Tuesday, May 12. The band will be joined by openers Zakk Sabbath and Dark Chapel. Tickets can be found at the Salem Civic Center box office and through Ticketmaster.

**Public meetings:**  
 The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Jan. 12.  
 The Salem City School Board will meet at 7 p.m. on Jan. 13.  
 The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Jan. 26.  
 The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 9.  
 The Salem City School Board will meet at 7 p.m. on Feb. 10.  
 The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 23.  
 The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on March 9.  
 The Salem City School Board will meet at 7 p.m. on March 10.  
 The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on March 23.  
 The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on April 13.

The Salem City School Board will meet at 7 p.m. on April 14.  
 The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on April 27.  
 The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on May 11.  
 The Salem City School Board will meet at 7 p.m. on May 12.  
 The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on May 26.  
 The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on June 8.  
 The Salem City School Board will meet at 7 p.m. on June 9.  
 The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on June 22.  
 The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on July 13.  
 The Salem City School Board will meet at 7 p.m. on July 14.  
 The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on July 27.

## Rep. Cline introduces bill to restore standard rulemaking procedures at federal agencies

WASHINGTON — Rep. Ben Cline, R-Va., introduced legislation last Thursday aimed at restoring traditional rulemaking procedures and increasing transparency in how federal agencies enter into consent decrees and settlement agreements.

The Sunshine for Regulatory Decrees and Settlements Act of 2025 would require federal agencies to provide public notice and an opportunity for comment before finalizing certain consent decrees or settlements that result in regulatory changes. The bill also calls for strengthened judicial review, certification by agency heads and detailed reporting to Congress.

According to Cline's office, the legislation is intended to curb what supporters describe as the use of closed-door lawsuits by activist groups to pressure agencies into making broad

regulatory changes without public input or oversight from Congress.

"The American people deserve a transparent, accountable government, not one where major regulatory decisions are made behind closed doors through backroom legal deals," Cline said in a statement. "For too long, activist-driven lawsuits have been used to force sweeping policy changes without public input or congressional oversight."

Cline said the bill would help ensure that taxpayers, workers, small businesses and affected industries have a voice in the regulatory process and that agency agreements serve the public interest.

The measure was introduced Dec. 11 and will be considered by the appropriate House committees.

-The Salem Times-Register

## Rankings from page 1

happening every day in Salem," Superintendent Curtis Hicks said. "We are extremely proud of the momentum across our entire division, especially when you consider that most of our on track schools have scores approaching distinguished status."

The framework is the culmination of four years of collaboration, research, planning and investment by the state, with the goal of better identifying where schools and students need additional support while encouraging innovation and excellence.

collective desire to be the best," he said. "As with everything we do here, we aim to perform at the highest level, and this new accountability system will serve as a benchmark we will continue to strive toward in the years ahead."

Hicks said the results reflect consistent strengths across the division.

"Countless variables influence student achievement, but three constants in Salem never change: our outstanding staff, our unwavering commitment to our students, and our

The Virginia Department of Education evaluates schools using four primary measures: mastery, growth, readiness and graduation. Schools are scored on a 100-point scale, with the "distinguished" designation indicating performance that exceeds state expectations.



COURTESY IMAGE

coats and small household items at no charge to families and individuals in need, and is a ministry of Salem Area Ecuememical Ministries. It is due to reopen the first week of January;

\* Received the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report from John Aldridge of Brown Edwards and Co. He reported no issues with the audit that includes the

City of Salem Schools, and complimented the city on having a healthy financial reserve of six months;

\* Approved an Emergency Operations Plan presented by Fire and Emergency Services Chief Steve Simon;

\* Adopted a legislative packet to bring up before Salem's representatives in the General Assembly. The mayor encouraged citizens to contact their representatives;

\* Received the abstracts of votes from the city's November general election;

\* Appointed members for vacancies on boards and commissions.

At the end of the regular session, Council voted to go into a closed session with legal counsel to discuss actual or probably legal action. No action was announced when Council returned to open session.

The meeting adjourned into closed session at 7:17 p.m.



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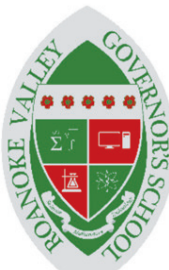
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## INSPIRED LEARNING



**The Roanoke Valley Governor's School for Science and Technology** invites prospective students and parents to attend one of the 2026-2027 school year informational sessions listed below to learn about our school and obtain an application. RVGS is a public regional program serving high school students from Bedford, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin, Floyd, Roanoke City, Roanoke County, and Salem.

Tuesday, January 6, 6:30 pm	Application info meeting at RVGS
Thursday, January 8, 6:30 pm	Application info meeting at Franklin County High School
Tuesday, January 13, 6:30 pm	Application info meeting at RVGS
Thursday, January 15, 6:30 pm	Application info meeting at Staunton River High School
Tuesday, January 20, 6:30 pm	Application info meeting RVGS

**Informational sessions & additional information available at [www.rvgs.k12.va.us](http://www.rvgs.k12.va.us)**

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*Blessings from the John M. Oakey & Son family. We would like to wish our families and friends a "light" of hope, joy, and peace during the Holiday Season and always.*



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# RECIPE OF THE WEEK



**Shelly Koon**

*Contributing Writer*

of the year. Especially if you have a cold.

Another tea mix I like is Chai tea. This sweet and spicy tea feels like a warm hug on a cold day.

The word “chai” simply means “tea” in many parts of the world, but in the West, it comes to refer specifically to “masala chai,” a traditional spiced tea originating from India. Masala chai is more than just tea—it’s a fragrant blend of black tea, cardamom, cinnamon, ginger, cloves, and other spices, simmered with milk and sweetened to taste. Every family in India has its own version of chai, passed down through generations, making each cup a unique experience.

Chai isn’t just a drink; it’s a ritual. It’s the kind of drink that invites you to slow down, to take a break, and to share a moment with someone special. There’s a timeless quality to chai, as its blend of spices has warmed hearts and homes for centuries.

Chai became a symbol of hospitality and friendship in Indian culture. Vendors, or “chaiwalas,” would serve the tea in crowded markets and along busy streets, offering a small moment of connection to everyone who stopped by. Sharing chai with friends remains a cherished part of Indian culture—a pause in the day to enjoy the warmth of the tea and the company of others.

I can’t imagine anyone not having the Christmas Tea mix recipe but you never know. Since I plan on giving this mix out at work this year, I thought I would include it here with a chai tea recipe.

**Christmas Tea**

**Ingredients**

- 1 Cup powdered orange drink mix (Tang)
- 2/3 Cup dry instant tea\* (Lipton)
- 1/2 Cup sugar
- 2 Tablespoons powdered lemonade mix (Country Time)
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon powdered cloves
- Cinnamon red hots

**Directions**

Add all of the ingredients together in a bowl, large container, or gallon-size plastic zipper bag. Mix well.

To serve: Add 1 heaping tablespoon per mug of hot water. Stir and enjoy!

\*The only instant tea I could find had added lemon. I couldn’t tell that it changed the flavor all that much, but you could always use less lemonade or add more cinnamon and cloves.

**Chai Tea Mix**

This instant chai tea mix makes a delicious latte.

**Ingredients**

- 2 1/2 cups white sugar
- 1 1/2 cups unsweetened instant tea
- 1 cup nonfat dry milk powder
- 1 cup powdered non-dairy creamer
- 1 cup French vanilla flavored powdered non-dairy creamer
- 2 teaspoons ground ginger
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon



- 1 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1 teaspoon ground cardamom

**Directions**

Gather the ingredients. Combine sugar, instant tea, milk powder, nondairy creamer, and vanilla-flavored creamer in a large bowl. Stir in ginger, cinnamon, cloves, and cardamom. Blend 1 cup at a time in a food processor or blender until a fine powder. To serve: Stir 2 heaping tablespoons chai tea mix into a mug of hot water for 1 serving.

Recipe Tips: You can use vanilla extract instead of French vanilla creamer by mixing 2 teaspoons of vanilla with the sugar, letting it dry, then breaking the sugar into small lumps. Proceed as



COURTESY PHOTOS

directed above. Spice it up even more by adding 1 teaspoon of nutmeg, 1 teaspoon of allspice, and 1/4 of teaspoon white pepper.



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# Teachers from page 1



**Carver**

instructor at William Fleming, changed my life. He was my main role model, and I took every chance I could to be in his band room at Fleming.”

Wright passed away in 2021, but Reedy is still close to his son and namesake, John Wright, who is Salem High School’s Band Director.

“They both made my life better and because of them, I decided that I wanted to be a father figure for other kids and support them when no one else would,” he said.

Reedy was part of the final class to graduate from the old Fleming High School in 2009. He then earned his bachelor’s degree from Radford University and completed his teaching licensure through Mary Baldwin University. He began his full-time teaching career in 2015 at Roanoke’s James Madison Middle School, and he also taught for a few years in Radford at Belle Heath Elementary before arriving in Salem in 2021.

“Sixth grade is a whirlwind because the kids come in with that deer in the headlights look, but I love it because they are so innocent,” he said. “Plus,



**Gillikin**

the growth you see in 6th grade is unlike any other. But, yes, I am a little crazy to embrace this age.”

Reedy has taught English, civics, and history and always to middle schoolers in grades 6-8. He knows how to make learning fun, and the raps are part of the process.

“I have always been a big hip-hop guy, and I was part of the drum line when I was a student at Fleming,” Reedy said. “When I got into teaching at James Madison, I heard about Mr. Cole Wilder who was known for his history raps. So, we collaborated on a video, and then I started writing my own stuff.”

He has produced several memorable and melodic lessons, including his latest creation about 1900s immigration that is built on the foundation and beat of Eminem’s iconic “Lose Yourself”.

“The vibe of that song is overcoming everything to achieve your goal, and I felt like it was perfect for European immigration in the 1900s,” said Reedy. “We do not rap every day in class, but I really try to take everything we learn,



**Largen**

apply a pop culture reference to it, and make it relatable so we can learn a present-day lesson from the past that is applicable to their lives. It’s just been a cool way to connect with the kids.”

Reedy currently teaches U.S. History II, which covers the Reconstruction period up to the present. During his five years at Lewis, he has also coached baseball and soccer, assisted the choir and the band, and served as a D.J., timekeeper, announcer, and videographer at sporting events.

“Students love being a part of Mr. Reedy’s classes and a part of Mr. Reedy’s team,” said Matt Coe, Andrew Lewis Middle School Principal. “This love comes from the fact that he is always positive, upbeat, and caring. He has an infectious personality, and he is always seeking new avenues, strategies, and plans to reach our students.”

Along with being the ultimate team player for his students and fellow faculty members, Reedy knows a thing or two about teamwork on the ice. He currently serves as the head coach and manager of



**Mutcheson**

the Valley Youth Junior Dawgs Mites Ice Hockey Program for kids 5-8 years old.

Hockey is a sport that Reedy loved growing up, but one that his family did not have the money for him to play competitively. It wasn’t until he was out of college and teaching in Roanoke City that he finally started playing in adult leagues.

“I could skate a little as a kid, but it was difficult to learn the game as an adult,” he admits. “Back then, there were only two adult divisions in Roanoke, so I had to either grasp the game almost immediately or get run over.”

He quickly honed his skills to survive on the ice and now he and his wife Amie enjoy watching their two sons compete in the local youth programs. Both boys are students at West Salem Elementary.

“My family loves the area, we love living in Beverly Heights, and I love Andrew Lewis,” he said. “I want to teach where I live because I believe there is no better way to help your own community than to teach in it.”

Reedy and Salem’s other



**Fischer**

2026 Teachers of the Year will be honored with a reception on Tuesday, Jan. 13, prior to the regularly scheduled School Board Meeting.

“Receiving this honor has been really emotional for me, because it means I have the support and trust of the incredible veteran teachers I work with each day,” he said. “Their confidence in me gives me hope and lets me know that I am doing something right for the kids. This means the world to me.”

Salem’s other 2026 Teachers of the Year:

- Taylor Fischer: Kindergarten at South Salem Elementary
- Emily Gillikin: Reading Specialist at East Salem Elementary
- Erik Largen: Special Education at Salem High School
- Abby Meade: Fourth Grade at G.W. Carver Elementary
- Liz Mutcheson: Third Grade at West Salem Elementary

-The Salem Times-Register

## Salem Times~Register

A newspaper of, by and for the people of the City of Salem and Roanoke County.

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# Winterfest Beach Bash returns in February with Band of Oz

Salem’s annual Winterfest Beach Bash will return in February 2026, featuring the Band of Oz at the Salem Civic Center.

The indoor beach party is scheduled for Friday, Feb. 6, at 7 p.m. inside the Salem Civic Center arena. The 2026 event marks the 19th consecutive year the Band of Oz has been selected to headline the popular gathering. This year’s concert is sponsored by Renewal by Andersen.

Tickets went on sale at 8 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16, at the Salem Parks and Recreation Department, 620 Florida St. Advance tickets are \$10, with tickets priced at \$12 on the day of the show. Tables seating eight are available for \$80. Cash, check and credit cards will be accepted from

8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays from Dec. 16 through Feb. 5. Organizers note the event typically sells out.

Doors will open at 6 p.m., with the band performing from 7 to 10 p.m. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Salem Penguin Club’s community service projects. The event is presented by the City of Salem Parks and Recreation Department.

Coolers and outside food or beverages will not be permitted inside the arena. Concessions will be available, including beverages from P.A. Short.

The Band of Oz is a member of the North Carolina Music Hall of Fame and was inducted in 2016 alongside The Avett Brothers, Kellie Pickler and The Carolina

**WINTERFEST BEACH BASH!**  
February 6, 7:00pm  
Get ticket info at 540-375-3057  
TICKETS: \$10 ADVANCE/\$12 DOOR/\$80 TABLE  
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COURTESY PHOTO

Chocolate Drops. The band has performed beach music for nearly 60 years, dating back to 1967.

For additional ticket information, contact Salem

Parks and Recreation at 540-375-3057.

-The Salem Times-Register

# CROSSWORD

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		27			28		29
	34						35
36						37	
38							39
40							41
42							43

**CLUES ACROSS**

- Baseball stat
- Blaze
- Sea eagles
- Tails in Italian
- Monocot genus
- Mother or father
- The Jungian inner self
- Covered with gold
- Residual oil
- Signs up for school
- Furniture for daily meals
- Extinct flightless bird of New Zealand
- Lower limb
- Guy (slang)
- Get free of
- Snakelike fish
- Adult female bird
- Formal window coverings
- Break into small pieces
- "1836 siege" of U.S.
- Made violet-red
- Food chopper
- Removes writing
- Ethiopian monetary unit
- Wine bottle
- Covers containers
- English prelate Wm. Ralph
- Small storage
- structure
- A jelly-like substance
- A brief comment
- Sultanate of NW Borneo
- Importune
- Forelimb
- Models of ethical behavior
- Harangues
- This (Spanish)
- Springfield Area Mobile Intensive Care
- Sang at Christmas door to door
- Partly or nearly blind
- Posterior pituitary gland hormone
- American Nurses Association (abbr.)
- The 7th Greek letter
- Strives to equal
- Toff
- Coleoptera insects
- The color of blood
- Slipped by
- Of she
- A short musical passage
- CNN's founder Turner
- Radioactivity unit
- Exculpation defense
- Walking back and forth
- Come forth from
- Oxalis
- A soft twilled fabric of silk
- The two large chest muscles

**CLUES DOWN**

1. A brief comment
2. Sultanate of NW Borneo
3. Importune
4. Forelimb
5. Models of ethical behavior
6. Harangues
7. This (Spanish)
9. Springfield Area Mobile Intensive Care
10. Sang at Christmas door to door
12. Partly or nearly blind
14. Posterior pituitary gland hormone
15. American Nurses Association (abbr.)

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The home side at Salem Stadium was packed with Glenvar fans on Saturday.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN



*Coe is 14-1 like Glenvar*

Of all the contestants who entered our contest week only a handful picked Strasburg to beat Glenvar, and two of them came up winners.

Tyler Coe is the winner of our \$50 gift certificate from Mac & Bobs, as he was one of the few who picked Strasburg to win the Class 2 football championship at Salem Stadium last Saturday. In fact, Tyler picked all six high school champs correctly, as well as both Division III playoff games and the Army-Navy game. He went 5-1 on the pros, slipping up by picking the Colts over Seattle, and that went down to a last second field goal by the Seahawks. Tough loss for Philip Rivers, the George Blanda of today's generation. Only you older fans are going to get that one.

For our 19th Hole question I asked you to pick the score of that game. You had to pick Strasburg to win so that eliminated all but a few and the closest to the actual score of 49-27 was Don Fant, who picked the Rams to win 35-28. And, if you were at the game, weren't those purple and silver Rams helmets cool?

Fant, who was the Mac & Bob's winner the week prior, will now get a free round of golf at the Academy Street course in Salem. It seems to be warming up a little this week and hopefully the greens won't be too muddy.

For this week's 19th hole give me your prediction on the big playoff game between James Madison and Oregon. That's quite a big deal for the Dukes as they try to stun the football world and win the national championship. The closest to the actual score will stun me and get a free day of golf.

Also, before I forget, Ron Greer graduated from Salem High School, not Glenvar as I had in the football contest story last week. His older brother went to Glenvar but by the time Ron reached puberty Salem High had opened. My fault. . happy to set the record straight.

**-Brian Hoffman**

## GLENVAR FOOTBALL

continued from page 12

and the ball went back to the Rams on downs. Quarterback Brayden Hough punched one in from two yards out with 3:15 on the clock and that sealed the deal.

"We turned the ball over three times and we weren't good on special teams, and it's tough to beat a good team when you do that," said Clifford. "But it was not from lack of effort."

Statistically, Brody Dawyot was 28 for 43 passing for 253 yards and two touchdowns. He ran 14 times for 90 yards and two scores and finished his career as the all-time leader in VHSL touchdown passes, of any classification, and second all-time in total combined passing and rushing scores.

Tre Dawyot had 13 receptions for 133 yards and a score in his last game playing with his brother. He had to come up big after Jace Forster was injured in the semi-

final win over Union and Mullins was playing on an injured ankle in the championship game, limiting Brody's targets. Mullins did a remarkable job with seven catches for 62 yards before limping off the field in the fourth quarter. Cale Vaughan had five catches for 37 yards and Remington Gordon had two for 16. Swanson rushed eight times for 34 yards.

On defense Vaughan led the team with 14 tackles. Brody Dawyot, Dalton Shoemaker and Wilson had 13 each and Tre Dawyot had seven tackles.

The loss marked the end of the high school football careers for 11 Glenvar seniors. In their four years of high school the team was 45-10, the second best four year record in Glenvar football history. They won two Three Rivers District titles and two Region 2C titles.

"They're good kids, really competitive," said

Clifford. "What's more they cared about each other. It's been a really good group."

While there was lots of sadness among the Green and Gold as the awards ceremony took place, the Highlanders held their heads high. They came a long way since August, when they were somewhat longshots to win the district, much less go 14-1 and play in the state championship game.

"We went into the Byrd scrimmage with five healthy linemen," said Clifford. "I didn't know how we were going to survive the season."

Clifford made some personnel changes, took advantage of the teams' strengths, and the Highlanders not only survived, but prospered. The season came to a disappointing end but, when the players look back years from now, they'll be proud of what they accomplished.

"It's not the end all,

be all, but I wanted it for them," said Clifford. "I've been doing this my whole life and I'll be back next season, but for the seniors it's such an abrupt end. You prepare, you play, and when the last game is over there's no more.

"Our kids gave it all they had but, at the end of the day, Strasburg was the better team."



PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Charlie Davis(left) and Javier Waldron of RC were named to the All-Region 3 team.

## Maroons make All-Region football

Roanoke College sophomores Javier Waldron and Charlie Davis have been honored with the release of the D3football.com All-Region 3 team.

Both Waldron and Davis earned first-team All-Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) accolades at the end of November and each also took home ODAC Defensive Player of the week honors once during the season.

Waldron was named to the all-region second team after leading the ODAC with six interceptions and ranking fourth in the nation with 0.67 a game. The defensive back made 35 tackles, 23 solo, and broke up four passes.

Davis, a third-team all-region selection, led the team and was fourth in the conference with 11.3 tackles per game. The linebacker was third in the ODAC

with 56 solo stops and added 7.5 tackles for loss, two forced fumbles and two fumble recoveries.

Region 3 includes the American Southwest Conference, the Old Dominion Athletic Conference, the Southern Athletic Association, the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference and the USA South Athletic Conference.

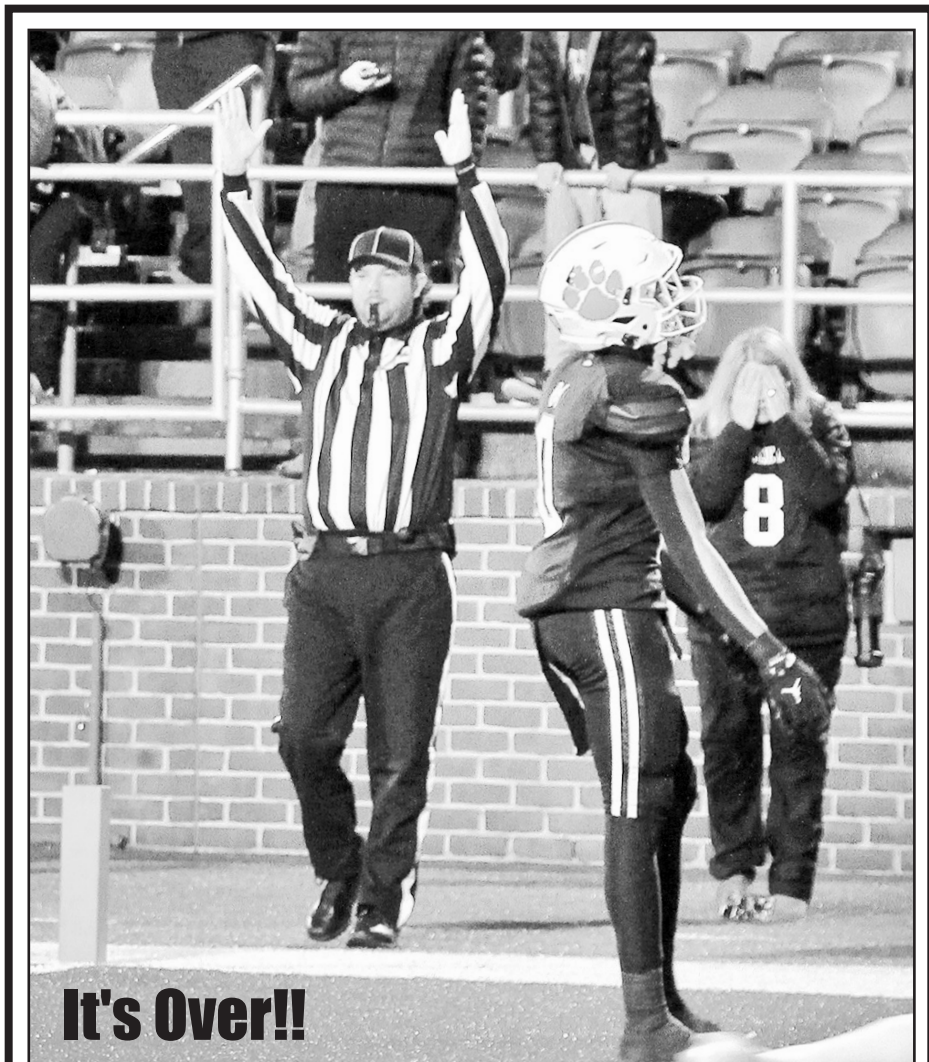
The teams, selected in balloting by Region 3 sports information directors and D3football.com staff, were chosen from 200 nominations by full Division III member schools. A total of 78 players were chosen.

Players nominated for All-Region are eligible to be considered for D3football.com All-America honors, which will be announced Monday, December 22, 2025.



Above, Glenvar's Tre Dawyot keeps his feet inbounds while catching a sideline pass from brother Brody(#15). Left, Brody blocks as Ranger Swanson turns the corner for a nice gain. Below, Glenvar defenders combine to tackle Strasburg's Brady Knight.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN & SCOTT GARDNER

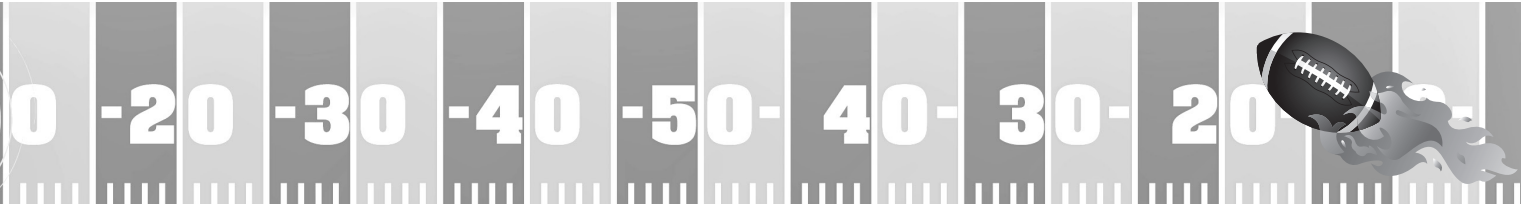
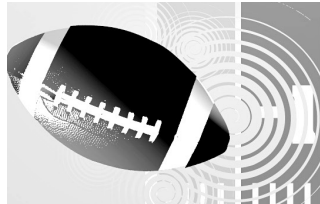


**It's Over!!**

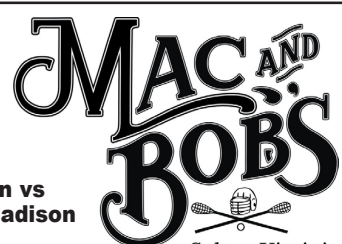
PHOTO BY CHRISTIAN MOODY

Salem's Noah Moody signals a touchdown ending the Class 3 state championship football game at Liberty University. The game between Lake Taylor and Kettle Run went two overtimes before Lake Taylor pulled out a 48-42 win. It was Moody's first time officiating a high school state championship game.

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### CONTEST RULES:

-All entries must be on an official Salem Times-Register entry blank. No duplicates please. No limit on the number of entries as long as the current blank is used.

-Each advertisement on this page includes one football game to be played this week. Find the game in the ad and print your predicted winner on the line corresponding to the advertiser in the list included on this page.

-First prize will be awarded to the person who picks the most games correctly.

-Be sure to include your name, address, and high point total for the week. High point total is decided by the most points scored by ANY ONE TEAM in the games listed for the week. High point total is used to break ties only, and all decisions will be final.

-Clip and mail THE ENTRY PART ONLY to Salem Times-Register, Football Contest, P.O. Box 1125, Salem, VA 24153. Entry must be postmarked by 5 p.m. on the Friday immediately following the date of the paper, or bring your entry by the Salem Times-Register office at 1633 West Main Street in Salem. Your entry must be in the box by 5 p.m. Friday.

-All entries not conforming to the rules may be declared null and void. Decisions are final. For questions call Brian Hoffman @ 389-9355. Winners will be announced in the contest story the following week.

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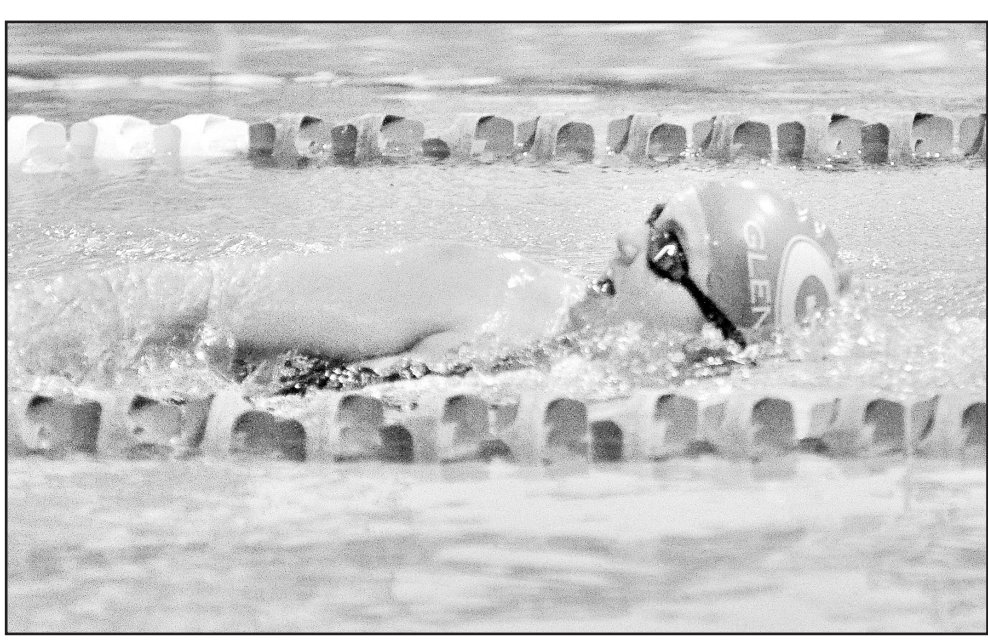
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The 19th Hole (see story)



Left, Riley Handy swims the breaststroke for Salem and, right, Glenvar's Addi Cockram swims the anchor leg of the girls medley relay.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

# Spartans, Highlanders duel in the pool

Salem and Glenvar met in the pool last week and Martinsville and Galax also participated at the Salem YMCA. Salem swept the Highlanders with the boys winning 93-71 and the girls' taking a 70-61 decision.

Salem's men's 200 medley relay consisting of Mike Bateman, Riley Handy, Jack Lawrence and Carter Biscotte placed first as well as the women's relay consisting of Layla Vaught, Keeley Prosser, Aubrey Snead, and Gracie Michael. Bateman won the 200 free with a personal best time while Vaught won the girls' 200 free.

Starke Griffith and Zach Boccock placed first and second in the 50 free. Gracie Michael won the 100 free and Keeley Prosser came in second. Austin Prosser came in second in the 500 and Aubrey Snead won the 500 for the women. The 200 free relays for men and women came in first and second.

Glenvar had five state qualifying times achieved. Landon Cairns punched his ticket to states in the 200 Individual Medley, where he is the reigning state champion. He also was well under the qualifying time in the 100 breaststroke. Aspen Thompson made the cut in the 100 backstroke where he is the defending State Champion. The boys' medley relay and 400 freestyle relay also qualified.

Macy McMahon won the 100 backstroke for the GHS girls and Cairns was again victorious in the 100 breaststroke for the boys. The boys and girls swept the 400 freestyle relay with the boys team of Darren Delby, Aspen Thompson, Avery Thompson and Cairns winning the event and the girls team of Evelyn Gard, Sophie Childers, Chloe Childers and McMahon winning for the girls.

On Friday in Wytheville the Glenvar boys' team led from start to finish, winning the men's competi-

tion with 113 points, well ahead of the field. The girls' team captured the top spot with 85 points, edging out strong competition through consistent scoring and relay strength. When combined, Glenvar finished with 198 total points, earning first place overall by a wide margin.

"The results reflected balanced contributions from veteran swimmers and developing athletes alike, strong relay execution, and consistent scoring across the entire lineup," said coach Shannon Hall. "Our kids are working hard in practice and times are beginning to drop as conditioning and technique improve."

The Highlanders were scheduled to swim at Hargrave Military Academy in their last meet before Christmas on Tuesday of this week. Salem had a Tuesday meet at the Salem YMCA, then the Spartans are also off for the holidays.

## Salem wrestlers 8th on Deep Run mats

The Salem High wrestlers were scheduled to meet William Byrd on the Spartan mats on Wednesday in a rare dual event. It will be the last action before the holidays for the Spartans.

Salem was in a tournament at Deep Run High School near Richmond last weekend and took eighth place out of 30 teams. The Spartans won two weight classes with Sayge Herndon going 4-0 at 106 and Derek Bush also placing first. Also placing were Giuseppe Baudanza and Jake James, who both took thirds.

"Very pleased with our effort and progression," said Salem coach Lawrence Van Liew.

Glenvar was in a tournament at Holston High last weekend but no results were reported. The Highlanders are scheduled to go to Neward, Delaware for a tournament this Saturday.

## Lewis matmen pin Norsemen

The Andrew Lewis Middle School wrestlers hosted Northside last week and took a 71-18 win.

The Wolverines had pin fall wins by Landynn Booth at 112, Ian Rozier at 128 and Boone Connely at 144. Chris Vernor, at 77, and Aiden Williams, at 175, won by Tech falls.

Lewis was scheduled to wrestle at Cave Spring on Wednesday of the week, then take off for the holidays. The Woverines open the new year with a home match against Glenvar on January 7.



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Salem's Austin Prosser(#4) jockeys for position in the 3,200 meter run at Roanoke College Saturday.

## Spartans have good day at "Elite" meet

Roanoke College was the site of the East Coast Elite #1 Indoor Track meet last Saturday and Salem High had some strong performances.

Salem's Audrey Harmon won the 500 dash and Olivia Huff was fifth. DaVon Jones won the 300 dash in the boys' meet with Julian Morton taking fifth and Aedon Wiley seventh.

Second places were earned by Tristen Noel in the boys 500 and the girls' 4x400 relay team of McKenzie Eversole, Addison Hancock, Huff and Audrey Harmon. Eversole was third in the 1,600 and the boys took two thirds, John Stovall in the 1,000

and Austin Prosser in the 3,200.

Finishing fifth were Markiya Webb in the girls' 300 and Morton in the 55 dash. Also taking fifth was the boys' 4x400 relay team of Thomas Scharp, Bryce Crew, Stovall and Grant Horner. Webb also took a seventh in the girls' 55 dash.

The Spartans will be back at Roanoke College this Saturday for the East Coast Elite Meet #2, and Glenvar is also scheduled to run. The Highlanders did not compete last weekend so the students could attend the Class 2 state football game at Salem Stadium.



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Chris Vernor of Lewis gets a win in a recent match.

## Maroon softball team releases '25 schedule

The Roanoke College softball team has released its 2026 schedule, starting off Feb. 14 in Greensboro, N.C.

The Maroons open the 2026 slate with a doubleheader at Greensboro College, followed by a home twinbill at the Moyer Complex Feb. 21 against William Peace University. RC is scheduled to play four games in Washington, D.C. Feb. 28-March 1 against Case Western and Catholic Universities.

Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) play begins on the road at Eastern Mennonite University March 7. The Maroons will welcome conference foes Virginia Wesleyan University, Randolph-Macon College, Averett University, Sweet Briar College and Guilford College to Salem this season. ODAC Tournament play begins May 1 at the Moyer Complex.

"We are excited for the upcoming season because we have a special team that has the potential to do some extraordinary things," said head coach Mike Mitchell. "We need to prepare for the talented ODAC conference with a challenging non-conference schedule. Our schedule is tough but I believe our players will rise to the challenge. It is going to be an exciting year for Roanoke College Softball."



Paige Breuer shoots a jump shot for RC at a recent game.

PHOTO BY JIM DEVINNEY

## Roanoke College basketball teams in road tournaments

The Roanoke College basketball teams are on the road this week for pre-holiday tournaments.

The Maroon men will play in the Hampden-Sydney Tournament at Hampden-Sydney College. RC will play the University of Redlands on Friday at 5 pm and Wilson College on Saturday at 1 pm.

The Maroons are 5-2 and have not played since December 6. Roanoke will be home for the first time since November 15 when they host the Cregger Invitational on December 29 and 30.

The Roanoke women played in the Jamie Lynn Roberts Fairfield Inn DC Holiday Classic, hosted by Catholic University on Monday and Tuesday. The women took an 80-79 loss to Catholic University on Monday but bounced back to beat Principia College on Tuesday, 79-76. to even their record at 4-4.

The RC women are now off until December 29 when the Maroons host the Susan Dunagan Classic at the Cregger Center in Salem..

# Highlanders host Byrd Friday

The Glenvar boys' basketball team is expecting to have some reinforcements this week with the end of the football

season. Glenvar's football team made it all the way to the state final and several players will join the team after taking a short break.

The Highlanders have a light schedule thus far, playing only two games in the first two weeks of the season. After opening with a win over Blacksburg on December 3rd the Highlanders played at Hidden Valley last week and fell 81-43.

"Got blitzed early and often by a well-coached Hidden Valley team," said Glenvar coach Hank Luten. "Important to get back in the gym and work on our deficiencies, both players and coaches. Really excited to see how we respond."

James Housh led Glenvar with 13 points, five rebounds and three steals.

Glenvar was scheduled to return the trip to Blacksburg on Wednesday of this week, then host William Byrd on Friday.



PHOTO BY REGINA DEVINNEY

Glenvar's Nate Hale handles the ball in last week's game with Hidden Valley.

# GHS girls still looking for a win

The Glenvar girls saw their losing streak reach 46 with a home loss to Eastern Montgomery Tuesday. The Highlanders dropped a 55-37 decision to fall to 0-4 on the young season despite 22 points by Audrey Moles.

Glenvar hosted Hidden Valley last week and hung tough with the Class 3 opponent before the Titans pulled away for a 52-35 win. Moles led Glenvar with 15 points and Grace Fiedler had 11.

On Monday the girls were at Craig County and figured to be competitive with the Class 1 Rockets. However, Craig's Emily Smith lit them up for 33 points and the Rockets took a 66-32 win. Moles had 11, Fiedler had eight and Raegan Duncan scored five points.

"We are doing some things right, but turnovers are really hurting us," said Glenvar coach Cheryl Hayes. "We couldn't buy a basket against Craig. That happens some nights."

The girls are back in action Friday at William Byrd for their final game before the holiday break.



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Glenvar's Grace Fiedler is fouled in last week's home game against Hidden Valley.

# Middle School hoops wrapping up season

The end of the middle school basketball season is near with Andrew Lewis and Glenvar Middle teams wrapping up their seasons prior to Christmas.

Lewis was scheduled to end the season Tuesday with games against Ben Franklin. Last week the Wolverines had a doubleheader at Pulaski with the boys and girls both getting wins.

The Lewis boys won 58-45 behind 14 points by Eli Blankenship and 13 by Aaron Brower, who also had eight rebounds and four steals. The girls won 45-26 as Elaina Hairston scored a dozen points and Daviah Goodman had eight.

"The effort and competitiveness the girls played with was absolutely great," said ALMS girls' coach Nat Franklin. "It was a total team effort and I thought it started with the defensive effort and making good passes on offense."

Glenvar is scheduled to wrap up the season today with a home doubleheader against Radford. The boys open the twin bill at 5:30 pm.

On Monday of this week the Highlanders hosted Blacksburg. The boys won 51-38 behind 20 points by Lane Williamson, a dozen by Bryson Kuzmich and 10 for Jaxson Kuzmich.

The GMS girls dropped a 25-13 decision to Blacksburg. Kamy Dawyot had six points and Corra Hayes had five for Glenvar.



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Salem's Braylon Smith goes to the hoop in last Friday's win at Patrick Henry.

# Spartans top PH, LB; stay unbeaten after five

The Salem High boys remained undefeated in basketball with a 71-50 win over Lord Botetourt in Daleville Tuesday. The Spartans will put their undefeated record on the line Friday when they host Cave Spring in Salem.

Cam Boles led Salem in scoring against LB with 25 points. Tanner Overstreet had 17 and Jaydius Hamm had 13 as the Spartans improved to 5-0 on the season.

The Spartans kept their record clean in a thriller at Patrick Henry last Friday, pulling out a 60-58 win in Roanoke. It went down to the wire with Salem leading 50-45 after three quarters and surviving a wild finish.

The Spartans led 58-57 with just over a minute left in regulation after the Patriots were called for a flagrant foul and Boles hit both shots. Salem then tried to kill off some time but the Patriots stole the ball and, after a foul, tied the game at 58-58 with 7.2 seconds on the clock.

After Spartan coach Kevin Garst called a timeout the Spartans rushed the ball up the floor and Hamm took a three as time expired. Hamm missed the shot but PH was called for a foul and Jaydius sank two of three for a 60-58

lead with 0.3 seconds on the clock. At that point the Pats could only score on a tip-in with the entire length of the floor to cover, and Salem escaped with a dramatic win.

"That was a big win for us, especially against a district team," said Garst. "Wins like that help you when it comes down to seeding for the region tournament."

Boles led the Spartans with 26 points. Braylon Smith had 11, Hamm had nine, Elijah Paddyfote had eight and Overstreet had six points and a team-high six rebounds.

The Spartans also played Radford last week at home and won 66-46. Salem led 27-23 at the half and outscored the Bobcats 19-9 in the third quarter to pull away. Boles had 22 and five rebounds and Smith had 18. Overstreet had eight boards. Salem outrebounded Radford 35-25 and outscored the Bobcats in the paint, 38-16.

After Friday's home game with Cave Spring the Spartans will be at Northside Monday for their final game before Christmas. Salem beat the Vikings for the first time in 11 years when the two met in Salem.



PHOTO BY SCOTT GARDNER

Salem's Bailey Rider drives to the bucket against PH.

# Spartans defeat Lord Botetourt to remain unbeaten

The Salem girls have a busy week before the holidays as they try to close out the season undefeated.

Salem defeated Lord Botetourt, 55-26, in Salem on Tuesday to improve to 4-0 on the season. The Spartans were scheduled to play at William Byrd Wednesday, but results were too late for publication, and Friday they go to Cave Spring. Their final game before Christmas is next Monday, December 22nd, at home against Northside.

The Spartans haven't been challenged thus far. The 2025 state Class 4 runners-up hosted Patrick Henry in their River Ridge District opener last Friday and buried the Patriots, 57-15. Kourtney Goens had 18 points and five rebounds, Gabby Crawley had 10 points and six boards and Bailey Rider had eight points, five rebounds and six assists against a traditionally strong rival.

"Good night for the Spartans," said coach Scott Jester. "We've had a lot of battles against PH in the last few years and have a lot of respect for their program, so it always feels good to beat them."

# SPORTS

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Left, Glenvar's Brody Dawyot(left in photo) and Nick Wilson combine for the tackle. Right, Cooper Mullins catches a first quarter touchdown pass. PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

## Highlanders come up one win shy of perfect season

Dreams of an undefeated state football championship came up one win short for Glenvar last Saturday. The Highlanders dropped a 49-27 decision to Strasburg before a big crowd at Salem Stadium.

It was a tough day for a Glenvar defense that had six shutouts this season and six other games where the Highlanders allowed just one score. The Rams hammered the Glenvar defense for over 350 yards rushing with three different players gaining over 100 yards on the ground.

"We ran into a good, well-coached football team," said Glenvar coach Kevin Clifford. "Our kids played hard, but sometimes you just have to give the other team credit. I knew it would be tough. They have 20 seniors and were in the state championship game a year ago. They had the best line we've played in half a dozen years, but we were still in the game in the fourth quarter."

The Highlanders jumped to an early 12-0 lead and the home side was roaring. Strasburg won the coin toss and deferred, putting the Glenvar offense on the field. On the first series GHS quarterback Brody Dawyot threw a rare interception, which was one of three turnovers on the day by the Highlanders.

Glenvar got the ball back when Cooper Mullins

forced a fumble and Nick Wilson recovered. The Highlanders then marched to the end zone and scored on a two yard run up the middle by Dawyot. The extra point was blocked but Glenvar led 6-0 with 3:37 remaining in the first period.

Strasburg fumbled again on the ensuing possession as several Highlanders jarred the ball loose and Tre Dawyot pounced on it. That led to a 23 yard TD pass from Brody Dawyot to Mullins with 28 seconds remaining in the first quarter. Glenvar went for two and failed but led 12-0 after the first quarter.

The Rams answered back with three touchdowns in their next three possessions, ramming the ball down the throats of the defense for a 21-12 lead. Dawyot's second pick, with Glenvar trailing 14-12, was returned to the 15 and set up the third score, a two yard run by Linkyn Bosworth at the 2:52 mark.

Glenvar fired back, cutting the lead to 21-19 on the Highlanders last possession of the half. Dawyot ran one in from four yards out with 29 seconds remaining in the first half, and that's how it stood at intermission.

The Rams got the ball first to start the second half and returned the kickoff 54 yards to set themselves up in Glenvar territory. Brady Knight capped off the

drive with his second touchdown, a five yard run that made it 28-19. Strasburg then increased the lead to 35-19 with 4:30 left in the third quarter and the Highlanders were reeling.

On the next series the Highlanders were faced with a fourth and one in their own territory. With time running thin Clifford decided to go for it and Ranger Swanson picked up the first down to keep the drive alive. However, disaster struck when Dawyot completed a pass to Haden Henderson in the flat. Henderson was drilled as he turned to run, the ball popped free and Strasburg's Quincy Williams picked it up and motored 58 yards in front of the Glenvar bench for a killer score. The Rams now led 42-19 with 2:38 remaining in the quarter.

Glenvar could have packed it in at this point, but the Highlanders came charging back. Dawyot led a drive that resulted in an eight yard TD pass from Brody to Tre Dawyot and it was back to a two score game as the third quarter expired.

That was as close as Glenvar would get. Facing a fourth and 14 on the GHS 42 and eight minutes remaining, Brody launched a bomb that was just out of Tre's reach on the Strasburg five yard line

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**Emotions run high** Above left, Glenvar captains take the field for the coin toss. Left to right are Jackson Hartman(#52), Cale Vaughan(#11), Cooper Mullins(#1) and Brody Dawyot. Above right, Jace Forster accepts his state runnerup medal. Jace was injured in the state semifinal and forced to miss the championship game. Below left, Tre Dawyot holds the ball high among joyful teammates after recovering a fumble in the first quarter. Below right, Coach Kevin Clifford consoles senior Hartman following the season-ending loss. PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

