



Inside:

Sports: Thunderbolts sink Mariners playoff Hopes

Inside: Entertainment

the Maritimes

Narragansett High School's student newspaper since 2008.

Summer films certain to cool off the masses and heat up the silver screen.



Volume 101 Number 8

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Page edited by Ashley Carr

Hilary Curley: A step above the rest

by ASHLEY CARR
reporter

Like past years, graduation for the class of 2009 will be held at the Ryan Center, on June 19. Prior to the class receiving their diplomas, the class Valedictorian, who is the student with the highest weighted grade point average, will make a speech to the senior



class, high school administration, parents, and all other visitors.

This year's Valedictorian, Hilary Curley, is currently practicing and preparing for her speech.

"I'm a little nervous, it's a

lot of people and I'm still in the planning stages of the speech," Hilary Curley, class valedictorian, said. "I'm trying to make it unique."

Curley, who focused her studies on both accelerated and AP classes worked tremendously hard to preserve her status as class valedictorian.

"I took as many acceler-

ated/AP classes that I could fit into my schedule," she said.

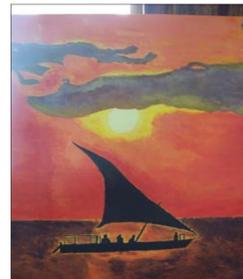
Curley said that though at times completing all of her work was difficult, all of the extra effort was definitely worth it.

"Sometimes I had to sacrifice nights out with my friends, but it was so worth it, I got accepted into a great school and I'm really

excited," she said.

Science teacher, Adam Reis, had Curley as a student for three years in biology, forensics, and earth science. "What always impressed me most was her intellectual maturity," Reis said, "She was fantastic at connecting difficult concepts in creative and logical

See CURLEY (pg 3)



Annual Art Show

by KAITLYN MURRAY
reporter

As most students in either Mrs. Peabody or Mrs. Gabrilowitz art classes know, the annual Art show was held a few weeks ago at the Narragansett Towers. It went on from about 2:30 to 5:30 p.m and had over 150 people in attendance.

"The show was a huge success." Mrs. Peabody, art teacher, said. "For a small town the turnout was pretty impressive."

But the teachers can't take all of the credit. Various NHS artworks were displayed including drawings, sculptures, quilts, chair designs, photographs, and paintings.

"Almost all of my students from our art, ceramics, and photography classes submitted work and took part in the show in some way." Peabody said. "They were also in charge of the preparations, and the mounting of the pieces."

But what about those who didn't take an art

See ART (pg 3)

All hail Mr. Narragansett

by TYLER CASEY & KIANI CARROLL
reporters

The sophomore class, like all other classes, holds an annual fundraiser every year. This year the sophomore class decided to try something that has never been done before in all of Narragansett High School History. The sophomore class hosted the first ever Mr. Narragansett beauty pageant.

The show held high expectations and for the most part fulfilled these expectations. The audience was laughing and enjoying the show. The contestants had no idea what was coming next and this surprise in the events made the show a whole lot funnier.

There were fourteen contestants none of which were freshmen. There were four of the sophomores finest, six of the juniors sexiest, and four of the almost gone seniors. The class council's president of 2011, Ryan Field, was overall impressed of the turn out and how well all the stars of the night performed.

"What shocked me the most was how great all the kids who performed did at improve to keep the show a rolling." Field said

The show only had one rehearsal the night before the show and it lasted four hours. This is surprising because of the success of the show was almost equivalent to the Variety show and the Variety show spent two weeks in preparation.

Throughout the show there were three main cuts. One of the cuts came after the introduction dance, the talent

See PAGEANT (pg 3)



Failure is not an option

By ROSS GORENSKI
reporter

With this school year winding down the school administration has decided to start planning for the next already. One of many things they will be focusing on is improving academics here at NHS. That is why extended school day, more commonly known as "ESD", will be offered for certain underclassmen

classes.

The purpose of ESD this year was mainly to help seniors finish portfolio work and senior project work. The future of ESD will involve helping students make up course work that they have failed in the past.

"Our state says students no longer can just pass with credits alone, they must show proficiency in order to be successful" Mrs.

Nardone, English chair, said.

So far courses will only be offered in English and math courses, since they are most commonly failed. The classes will be taken for one hour after school. Specifically this after school program will target the freshmen. English classes offered will include English 9 and math courses will include Algebra I and Geometry.

"Were starting out small, students that don't have the skill to pass 9th grade English have no chance to pass 10th, 11th or 12th." Nardone said, "The focus of the classes will be on skill emphasis and trying to get to the heart of why a student is failing and work on it with them."

Previously, redoing a class would be done the next

See ESD (pg 3)

Mr. Shuman off to Germany

by JENNA MAIRS
Reporter

Under what he claims as a calling by God, Mr. Shuman, guidance counselor, along with his family, will be leaving the school district as of this year.

Shuman plans on spending a year in Kandern, Germany with his family.

"My wife and family and I are serving as missionaries at the Black Forest Academy," Shuman said.

"I will be doing school counseling and administration there while my wife is going to help our kids transition then eventually volunteer in the school's art program."

The Black Forest Academy in Germany is a school for the children of missionaries, whose parents are all over the world serving in other countries.

The school is for grades 1-12, but the majority of those students are at a high school level, Shuman said.

There, the students receive an English-speaking curriculum that they may not have gotten wherever their parents are located. However, for the Shuman



boys, their parents are serving right in the same town.

Shuman got the idea to serve from Mr. Kraines, Narragansett Pier School teacher, and his wife.

Both families attend the same church, and have had previously talked about the Kraines' service at the school. It was not until then that Shuman had really considered it an option for his own family, he said.

"We [his family] felt it a calling by God to serve," Shuman said.

He and his family decided to spend a year at the Black Forest Academy, then return to the familiarities of Narragansett.

"Excitement was high at the start, but my kids are starting to realize that it's

going to be a big transition," he said.

The transition is just one of the challenges he's going to have to face, he said. He himself is also going to miss life back home, he said.

"I'm going to miss the school and working with the soon-to-be seniors. I'm greatly saddened by the fact that I'm going to miss them going through such a big transition themselves," Shuman said.

"It's not going to be good for the seniors that he's leaving, that's why I'm going to miss him," Tyler Casey, junior, said.

However, Shuman also will be missed by the school as well.

"I've received support from the faculty and staff, and students have mentioned that it was a neat opportunity or that they are disappointed that I'm leaving, and I greatly appreciate that," Shuman said.

As for the new guidance counselor, it has yet to be decided. The new position will not be filled until the job fair in the school system is over on Monday, the 22nd of June.



VAASA: athletes with a mission

by LEXY DAVIS
reporter

VAASA, Varsity Athletes Against Substance Abuse, is a school club with a goal to help teach younger students and kids of the Narragansett community the reality of high school in order to show them that you don't have to drink or do drugs in order to have fun.

VAASA's focus this year was presenting to the middle school, but they have more hope for the future.

"I hope to keep working at the middle school but also expand and reach out to the elementary school,"

Mrs. Laidler, VAASA advisor, said. But VAASA won't stop there; Mrs. Laidler also would like to possibly work with individual middle school advisories as well as present at the eighth grade athletic night and the freshman orientation.

VAASA is not restricting themselves to the Narragansett schools, but also is focusing on the community. In future years they hope to get involved in children activities in the community such as little league and girl scouts.

VAASA is made up of students from all grades. This year, the club has 25 members 18 of which are active. VAASA wants as many members as they can get. It is a club that works around high school student's already busy schedule in hopes of creating the least amount of hassle as possible.

"I know many students are already in a lot of high school clubs and have a lot of afterschool activities so I try not to make VAASA a stressful club to join," Laidler said.

VAASA meets once a month except when they are planning a presentation. But VAASA isn't all work and presentations, a lot of kids enjoy the field

trips and getting to know other members.

"Something I liked about being a member of VAASA was the field trips, they were really fun." Tess McNamara, sophomore, said.

"I'm definitely going to stay a VAASA member next year," Olivia DiPrete, sophomore, said.

As a member of VAASA, students attend field trips in which they are given the chance to get together with VAASA clubs and students from many other Rhode Island high schools. Members love this because it lets them interact and get to know other students who have the same morals and ideas as them.

VAASA isn't only limited to student athletes. In future years, Laidler hopes to expand her member base by including other sports activities.

"I would love to be able to tap into other school clubs such as SADD and work with their members or have students who play non school sports such as karate join. VAASA includes any athletes, not just school sports," she said.

You can become a member of VAASA by speaking to your sports coach or talking to Mrs. Laidler in the guidance department. The most important part of being able to become a member is sustaining from drugs or alcohol. Students who join VAASA are committed to its stance of no substance abuse and when a student becomes a member they must take this chance of being a role model seriously.

It took a long time for VAASA to become a club at Narragansett High School. First Mrs. Laidler was told about it by her agency; she then presented it to the principle as well as the athletic director. Once it was approved she was able to get funding and started to reach out to students.

Summer reading: useful or a waste?

by MATT PISTACCHIO
reporter

Summer is always plagued by the constant reminder that one actually has homework during vacation: summer reading.

The test that takes place in the beginning of school doesn't help, either.

"This ruins our summer," Jeffrey Pistacchio, incoming freshman, said. "Summer is supposed to be a break from work and summer reading is giving us more work to do."

The incoming freshmen have to read either *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and *Life of Pi* or *If You Come Softly* and *Behind You*.

The incoming sophomores will have to read *Man's Search for Reason*, *A Man for All Seasons*,

and *Oedipus Rex* for Level One or *Snow in August* and either *Falling Angels* or *The Hunger Games* for Level Two.

"I don't want to have to read another Greek play," Pat Day, freshman, said.

"If I don't like the books I'm assigned I won't get much out of them. I need a good selection. I know it's a good way to test if someone read the book or not, but having a the summer reading test in the first week of school is really bogus."

The future juniors will have to read *The House of Mirth* and *A Raisin in the Sun* for Level One or *The Great Gatsby* for Level Two.

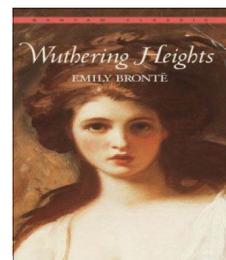
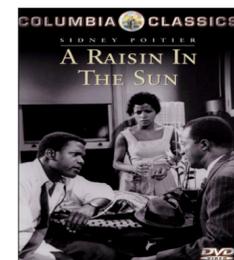
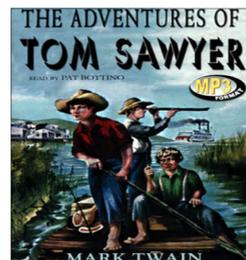
The future seniors will read *Wuthering Heights* and two of a selection of three books including *Song*

of *Solomon* for Level One or *Kite Runner* and one out of a selection of three books including *A Thousand Splendid Suns* for Level Two.

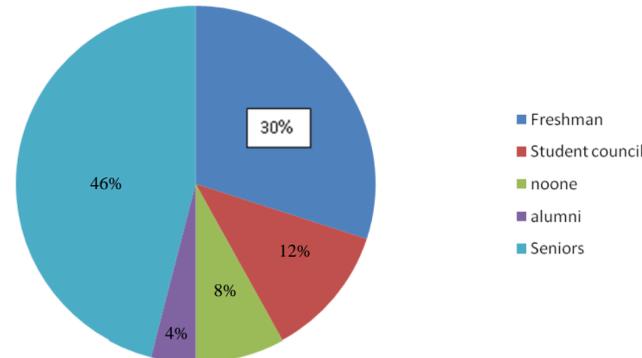
"We choose books that are connected to the teachers' curriculum. We emphasize writing in our school and reading is an essential part of writing. This program keeps the reading aspect of writing active," she said.

Mrs. Nardone is also aware of the negative side to summer reading.

"Kids always say, 'I wanna read what I wanna read.' But the thing is, in summer reading, kids read what they would've never read otherwise. Kids don't read enough, they've become too visual," Nardone said.



Future Dodgeball Tournaments?



Dodgeball: Should the annual tournament be passed down to the underclassmen?



"The seniors should get it because over the years they will have the most experience."

- Steven Mergner, junior



"The seniors should get the dodgeball tournament each year so they have an extra fundraiser and can build up their income for senior year."

-Sean Wright, junior

CURLEY

ways." Curley has been accepted into the University of Southern California and will be majoring in biomedical engineering. This course of study, biomedical engineering, uses the student's knowledge of science and math to help solve health problems. In addition, biomedical engineering helps to develop materials, processes, and devices that help prevent or treat disease or cure patients. "She has an unparalleled depth of thought and vast knowledge base,"

Reis said. Curley said during her time at NHS she gained a great deal of knowledge in the sciences, which will help her succeed in this course of study. Aside from academics, Curley also took part in numerous extracurricular activities. She was involved in the NHS chapter of the National Honor Society, participated in the Foreign Language Honor Society and was a member of the student council. On the athletic side of things, Curley was a member of the girl's tennis and lacrosse teams for the past four years.

ART

class this year? "Anyone can submit work into the art show," Peabody said. "Actually, there were a few seniors who displayed work they had made for their senior projects." Many of the students didn't mind working on the art show. In fact, some even enjoyed it. "I love making things in my art classes and then getting to display them at the towers," Stephanie Paiva, junior, said. "I do it every year." Almost as long as the show has been around, as his year was the fourth annual art show held at the Narragansett Towers. "We're so lucky to be able to go there," Peabody said. "I think the shows used to be held at the high school before the move, but the towers have such a nicer atmosphere." The students seem to agree. "I can't imagine holding the art show anywhere else," Paiva said. Unlike previous shows, this year the pieces weren't for sale, but were out for

display purposes only. "We actually received a few offers for some of the pieces from people who attended the show," Peabody said. "Also, many former art teachers stopped by to admire the work, and many of the guests wrote compliments in a book we placed at the front." The art show was a NHS school event, which means not just the art department was involved. "The school band, The Maritones, provided the music, which was great and made it even more magical," Peabody said. "And the foods classes baked these delicious cookies and supplied punch for the refreshments. The food was really good quality." So will there be any changes next year? "I wish I could make it longer, and try to get more students to come," Peabody said. "We're going to try to hang a banner off the towers to get more attention. Who knows, maybe we'll even get prizes so students will feel more incentive." Regardless of the event's length it was a good event and a great day for NHS.



PAGEANT

section, and the group mystery activities. Six of the schools finest boys got cut in the first round with leaving eight prominent men to entertain the judges. The second cut happened right after the first elimination where it was a question section. Two of the contestants got cut because of answering their questions wrong. Tyler Casey, one of two, claims that he got the hardest question. The question was how many numbered computers are in the library? He answered 26; the actual answer being 25. An example of another question was, what beverage most popular in the summertime is only sold in Rhode Island? The

answer of course being Dels lemonade. The third round was the final six. It was another question round and no one surprisingly got any of the questions correct. This led to the judging going by points at that point. Three were left; Brian McGreen, Jordan Ashton, and Dan Stone. But there was a twist someone could get voted back into the competition by the audience. Stephen Lambert was that lucky contestant that got voted back. For the last round each contestant got a major question just like in any great pageant. After that was crowning of Mr. Narragansett. After a wonderful speech on what it means to him to become Mr. Narragansett, Brian McGreen came on top of

all the rest of the completion. When Brian McGreen grabbed the microphone to give his last words of the night he had all the people laughing by saying "I only have one thing to say, can I put this into my portfolio?" Mr. Narragansett won a wonderfully designed T-Shirt, a rose, and the crown of bragging rights. At the end of the night Field, and Mr. Cannon, the sophomore class advisor, were excited on how well it ran through. The class of 2011 is already making little fixtures to the show next year. Students should expect for next year's pageant excitement, laughs and to sum it up in two small words "Get Ready!!"

ESD

year during traditional school hours in replacement of another class. This complicated things when it came to getting credits. The after school program will allow students to make up classes while still continuing their normal academic year on schedule.

"After the first quarter any student struggling or failing geometry or Algebra will attend academic hours after school until they show improvement and achieve proficiency on the material." Mrs. Lundin, math chair, said. Several teachers have offered up their time in order to achieve this goal.

Worried about the direction of the program, Nardone will be teaching it herself in order to assure its success. In addition, Mrs. Goodburn and Mrs. Manchette will teach Algebra I and geometry. "Failure is no longer an option" commented both Nardone and Lundin confidently.

*The Maritimes
Rocking you like a hurricane*

Summer fun?

Finally, the school year has ended and summer has arrived! No more pencils, no more books, no more teacher's dirty looks.

What the summer does entail, however for this year's juniors, sophomores, and freshmen is the never ending drag that is summer reading and the all-foreboding senior project.

Summertime is meant for fun, not that senior project won't be oh so much fun, but it's meant for cook-outs, parties and daily trips to Narragansett beach.

Juniors should not want to spend their summer vacation, however short it may be, reading books and preparing for tests and projects.

Freshmen and sophomores have to complete their reading as well, but each class at the most has three books over the summer, while the upcoming seniors can have up to four.

In addition, juniors have to read the senior project manual, determine what their project will be, and start looking for a mentor. If a topic is not chosen by the beginning of September, you're automatically behind for the start of the year. Way to go.

What is really hard to understand is how a student can be expected to remember all summer reading books, without cramming all of the reading into the end of the summer. How can students remember the symbolism of Catherine's love for Heathcliff when forced to read about the relentless love of Lin Kong for the nurse from the hospital?

Throughout the journey into the "classics", juniors are expected to determine their project and run around trying to track down their future mentor, never mind thinking about their upcoming research paper.

All the meanwhile, there is a tighter deadline to get it all done. Students have two months to finish their community service, upload common tasks, and summer reading while trying to find time to have any fun whatsoever. So have a great summer everybody.

Live it, learn it, love it?

by SHERRY HANNAN
 columnist



Now that I have successfully completed senior project, I feel so accomplished. Proficient is my new favorite word and I can no longer eat pie without thinking about my senior paper.

At the beginning of senior year, I was told to live, learn, and love senior project. I definitely lived it and learned it, but love it? I'm not so sure.

The whole idea of senior project seems really overwhelming, time consuming, and just a pain. As we fall found out, all of this is true, but it's not as bad as it seems.

It starts out really bad because you are not used to having a deadline every Friday, but once the initial preparations are over, it gets easier. Then you start again when you begin writing your paper.

Eight to Twelve pages seemed like a lot, but it's double spaced and once you learn to write with the PIE

method, it's a breeze.

Once you begin mentoring, you're pretty much halfway done. Before you know it, you've done 15 hours and begin making your product and portfolio. The key to making your portfolio is to save all of the work that you do and put it in a safe place, and once it is graded, be sure to correct it up to proficiency so that you do not have to worry about it at the end.

In addition to this, you cannot forget about your RIEPS portfolio. The best advice would be to make sure every common task you do is proficient and as soon as it's done, write a reflection and upload it.

Many seniors got very behind this year because they did not pay attention to their common tasks when they were underclassmen, and they did not upload tasks right away.

Once this is all done, the only thing left to do is do the big, scary eight to twelve presentation. The anticipation of doing the presentation is a lot worse than actually doing it. For the entire month of May, you spend every civics class

working on practice presentations.

By the time the big day comes, you can recite your presentation, as well as all of your classmates' presentations without even a note card.

The judges are not there to make you fail and they understand you're nervous. All you essentially have to do is say what you did, show that you documented the process and make your learning stretch very clear.

Before you know it, 8 minutes has gone by and as long as you didn't go up there and make a complete idiot of yourself, you've probably passed. Looking back, the presentation was one of the easiest aspects of senior projects.

Once it's all over, it feels like one of the best days of your life. Looking back, senior project wasn't really as bad as I thought it would be.

It adds a little more stress during senior year, but it's manageable as long as you stay on top of things all the way through. I lived it, I learned it, I guess I kind of loved it (not), but now I'm definitely ready to leave it.

the Maritimes

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The Maritimes, Narragansett High school's student newspaper, is published by students bi-monthly during the regular school year. The students are responsible for news and editorial content.

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| Ashley Carr
reporter | Kiani Carroll
reporter |
| Tyler Casey
reporter | Lexy Davis
reporter |
| Kyle Doubrava
reporter | Ross Gorenski
reporter |
| Sherry Hannan
reporter | Jenna Mairs
reporter |
| Kaitlyn Murray
reporter | Cody Oliveira
reporter |
| Matt Pistachio
reporter | Delaney San Martino
reporter |

Mr. Shields
Newspaper Advisor

Room 403
 Narragansett High School
 245 South Pier Road
 Narragansett, RI 02882
 PHONE (401) 792-9400
 Fax (401) 792-9410
 E-Mail
 WEB PAGE ADDRESS
<http://www.narragansett.k12.ri.us>

WORD ON THE STREET

What are your summer plans?



"I want to try and get a job, but I'll definitely end up practicing karate and going to a Jonas Brothers concert."

—Kaylee Bishop, junior



"I'll be taking two classes throughout the summer and also teaching my youngest how to read. Maybe I'll even teach both my kids how to surf and get some relaxing in, too."

—Mrs. Ashworth, faculty



"I'll be at the beach of course."

—Matt Minty, sophomore

VOICE YOUR OPINION

BY MAIL

The Maritimes
 Narragansett High School
 245 South Pier Road
 Narragansett, RI 02882

BY PHONE

Call The Maritimes
 at (401) 794-9400
 fax: (401) 794-9410

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Please keep letters to the editor no longer than 250 words. Longer letters may be used as guest columns at the editor's discretion. All letters must be signed and include an address or phone number for confirmation. Letters may be edited for libelous statements, available space or factual errors.

Movie industry to heat up this summer



by KYLE DOUBRAVA
reporter

Typically around mid July and early August the weather in South County can get to the level of "scorching." What does that mean for those who despise excessive sweating? It's movie time.

This summer should prove to be a terrific marketing success for the film industry, evident in the success of hits such as "Star Trek", which has garnered \$223 million as of June 8. Experts expected "Terminator Salvation" to earn close to \$150 million by now, but it has only

made \$105 million (and with a \$200 million budget it better hope it attracts more people quickly).

John Travolta will make his first film appearance since the tragic death of his son, Jett, when he stars alongside Denzel Washington in "The Taking of Pelham 1 2 3", which opens June 12 nationwide. "Pelham" should be an intense action-hostage movie with plenty of twists and turns to keep the viewers clutching their popcorn to their chests.

It's not summer without (another) Shia LaBeouf movie. LaBeouf stars in his third film over a one-year

span when he reprises his role of Sam Wikwiki in "Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen" (opening June 24). This sequel will look to earn more dough than the first film, which made an astounding \$319 million and over \$700 million worldwide.

Sacha Baron Cohen will be at it again with his crazy antics when he plays the title character "Bruno", opening on July 10. Cohen poses as a homosexual Austrian TV reporter in his 30s who approaches unsuspecting ordinary people and questions them about fashion, homosexuality, and etcetera. This film should

have some success, however it doesn't seem to have the PR to surpass "Borat" (Cohen's cult classic) in terms of revenue.

Daniel Radcliffe, 20, is back to play 16-year old Harry Potter in "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince", opening July 15. The film's release was delayed for nearly a year, which made Potter fans furious. Director David Yates will also be directing the finale of the Potter series. The seventh book will be made into two films; one to be released November 19, 2010 and the other on July 15, 2011, although the dates are just tentative.

Gory, but famed, director Quentin Tarantino teams up with Brad Pitt in "Inglourious Basterds", set for release on August 21. It takes place during World War II in Nazi-occupied France as Pitt plays a leader of eight Jewish-American soldiers as they attempt to slaughter the Nazis, Tarantino style. Receiving rave reviews at the Cannes Film Festival in May, "Basterds" should satisfy any Tarantino fanatic.

This summer should have it all when it comes to movies. So there's only one thing left to say:

Open your wallets.

Obama's popularity status comes to a halt

by CODY OLIVEIRA
reporter

President Barack Obama, remains popular with the nation but his policies are quickly failing. Obama is still loved by the American people, but politics say his "honeymoon" state is coming to an end soon. A new Wall Street Journal/NBC News poll pegged Obama's job approval rating at 56%, a fall from 61% in April.

Obama's approval rating among independents in this poll dropped dramatically,

from nearly a two-to-one approval to closely divide. This poll exposed deep concerns about the administration's approach on the economic crisis.

According to New York Daily News, nearly 7 out of 10 Americans said they had concerns about the federal government's intervention in the economy, including the administration's decision to take an ownership stake in General Motors and the limits set by the White House on executive compensation.

Obama and congress should worry more about keeping the deficit down, 58% of respondents said, to New Your Daily News.

This poll also revealed 60% of Americans think Obama administrations has failed in creating a clear plan to fix the budget deficit. Most Americans think the government needs to stop spending money on simulating the economy and focus on reducing the deficit.

According to the poll, fewer than half of the coun-

try approves of Obama's handling of health care or the crisis facing the nation's auto industry. Obama received positive reviews for his handling of foreign policy and the threat of terrorism.

New York Daily News said The president's job approval rating, according to this poll, was 63%. But the poll showed his approval rating among Republicans plummeted from 44% in February to 23% today, a sharp drop suggesting the partisan divide might be

even tougher to bridge.

They also said, during an interview with The Wall Street Journal, on Tuesday, the hits from critics have taken a toll. "If you have an argument made frequently enough -- whether it's true or not -- it has some impact," Obama said.

Even with the toll from the critics The President said he's committed to plowing forth on his mission for change, especially in the area of health care and energy, said New York Daily News.

POPS concert is a hit

by JENNA MAIRS
reporter

NHS chorus and band was back again for another big concert. It was time for the spring concert, otherwise known as the "POPS" concert.

However, due to bad weather, the concert, which is normally held at the gazebo, was held in the school auditorium on Thursday, June 11.

The concert opened up with Mr. Healey's introductions, followed by the chamber chorus. Their song list included the ever elusive "Draw up the Water from the Well", "Java Jive" and "Stand by Me" Amanda Mallet, senior, said.

Following the chamber chorus was a quartet from the chorus singing "Go to Sleep Little Baby" from the George Clooney movie "O Brother Where Art Thou".

In this quartet were Jenn Castro, junior, Hilary Humulock, junior, Connor Fisher, junior, and Chelsea Dentler, senior.

After an outstanding performance from the chamber chorus quartet, Collin McCarron decided to go solo, singing a song from "Phantom of the Opera".

The next to perform was the concert choir, consisting of the chamber chorus and the chorus classes. The chorus sang a number of songs including "Get Me to the Church on Time" from



the play "My Fair Lady" and a medley of songs from "The Sound of Music".

After a standing ovation from the audience, it was time for the

presenting of plaques to the senior performers from chorus and band. Seniors including Dan Stone, Dale Hoisington, and Catie Alves were called to

the stage to receive a plaque commemorating their hard work in the chorus or band.

"I really liked getting the plaques," Mallet said, "it's a nice way to remember the year".

Then it was time for the Mariner Jazz band. The band began with a medley of well-known Disney songs, which included "The Bare Necessities" from the "Jungle Book" and "Under The Sea" from "The Little Mermaid".

The final performance of the night was a medley of songs from the new "Star Wars" movies, Mr. Healey said. It was a composition of many songs from a few of the newer movies.

Teachers ready to call it a year and pack it in

by KYLE DOUBRAVA
reporter

Every September teachers swagger into NHS usually with mounds of boxes filled with personal belongings and school supplies. Every June they empty out their rooms and they typically don't see it again until they arrive back in the fall.

Normally, all students need to do is empty their backpacks and lockers of their schoolwork in order to begin a clean slate for next year, but the agenda for teachers once the students depart for their beach escapades is daunting and overwhelming.

Mrs. Johnson, foreign language teacher, said she feels the pressure to get her lessons in when March comes around, but she usually has plenty of time on April vacation to organize and plan for the rest of the year. However, Johnson said the final days of school for her and the rest of the teachers aren't necessarily a day at the beach.

"We have a lot to do. We have to clean our rooms and put our books away," Johnson said. "It normally takes a whole day (to clean out and) make sure that everything is in its place."

Mrs. Nardone, English chair, said she spends the make-up exam day grading exams and organizing her belongings for the summer, although this could be difficult at times.



Nardone said it would take her at least a week to clean out her classroom, a marathon compared to Johnson's one-day sweep.

"I am not the most organized person all the time," Nardone said.

When Nardone finishes grading her last final exam she said it lifts a huge weight off her shoulders. "I feel relieved," she said. "But generally at that point in time there is a sense of fatigue that has built up, but it's a quiet relief."

Johnson feels the contrary of Nardone when it comes to that last final exam. "Normally I'm still in school mode and I don't see the light at the end of the tunnel even though it's officially the last day of

school.

Nardone admits that as the end of the school year draws to a close she becomes progressively weary but looks forward for the summer to begin. "This last month the kids are dragging a little bit and I drag along with them. It's hard to maintain that high level of energy," she said.

However, both teachers said that they both are eager for the first day of next school year slated for September 1. That's difficult for most students to agree with.

Regardless of how each teacher wraps up the year, all agree that this will be a welcomed break.

"This year was a long and difficult road, but it's finally come to an end."

Kansas protesters nestle in R.I.

by CODY OLIVEIRA
reporter

On May 29, 2009, protesters from Kansas City arrived at East Providence High School to protest against the Jewish and the gays. Five members of the Westboro Baptist Church Topeka, Kansas were standing across the street of the High School expressing their disapproval for gay and Jew.

When East Providence High School let out, all of the 2,000 students were told, by school officials to walk past the protesters silently. About 300 students stood on the corner of Taunton and Pawtucket Ave. Than another 100 students on another corner, all for support in gay and Jewish students. Some students wore rainbow colors to support their gay friends and classmates.

Some of the students shouted to the protesters "Gay is the way," and "Go Home." One student wore a pink bunny suit and wrote "I Love Boys," on his belly. Many other students had signs stating their love for gays and some wore yarmulkes to support their fellow Jewish classmates.

According to *The Providence Journal*, East Providence School Superintendent Mairo Cirilio said he was proud of his students, "peaceful and responsible response."

Also from *The Providence Journal*, "This is why I spent 42 years in the military, to protect their rights

and the kids' rights to demonstrate," Lonnie Barham, a retired Army colonel and the school district's chief operating officer, said. "I'm very proud of our students."

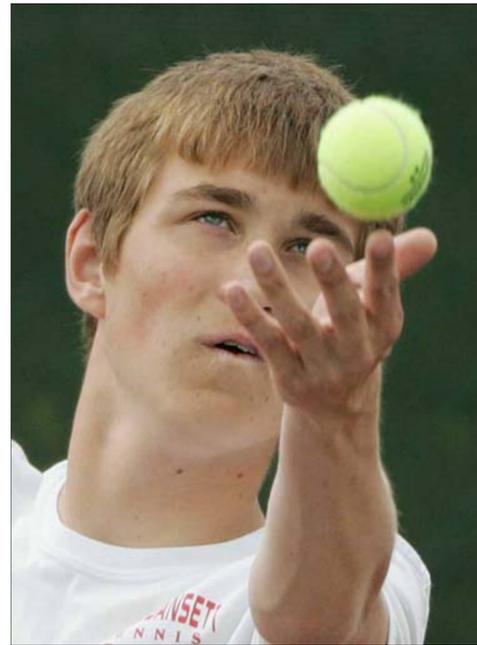
According to PinkNews.com, Jayden DeCosta, freshman at East Providence High School, said, "I know a lot of gay people in my family, it's anybody's right to do what they want."

Sherry Hannan, NHS senior here at Narragansett High, said, "I am proud of the East Providence High School students for what they did. It was very bold and courageous."

According to Providence Journal, The Westboro church received national attention for protesting at the funeral of Matthew Shepard, a gay man from Wyoming who was beaten to death. Many think they protested at East Providence High School and other areas to get more attention.

Also, *The Providence Journal* said, "Where in the Bible does it say that you could come to Providence and hate on us," one young man yelled at them near Temple Emanu-El. "We love you, though."

The Westboro Church came to Rhode Island to spread hate for gay and Jewish people, but it didn't work. The reason it did not work is because the church in Kansas has different views on the matter than that of some Rhode Island churches.



Spring Sports MVP: Johnny Beksha

by MATT PISTACCHIO
reporter

Narragansett boys' tennis would not be the same without John Beksha.

He is an athlete committed to his sport.

This season he had a personal record of 13-1 while leading the Mariners to a team record of 9-6 (he was absent one game).

"He is a great player," Shawn Chang, freshman, said. "He almost won every game, and was also one of the nicest team members to be around."

The team went down to Portsmouth high school in a regular season game.

He was the only player who won a match in that game.

In that match Beksha defeated the number one seed

of last year's Nick Carter.

On the other hand, his consistency also helped his teammates win games.

"John is a motivator," Dan LaBove, sophomore, said. "His success influences everyone. In other words, he leads by example."

In one match, Beksha led his team to a 6-1 victory over Pilgrim High School.

This was led by the utter dominance of Pilgrim's Chan Bennett-Bonn.

This prompted Narragansett to continue to trounce Pilgrim with only one lost match.

Beksha's success is promoted by his constant trial and little error in practices and at home on the weekends.

"On weekends he practices eight hours a day," Chang said.

His success is no surprise to his teammates, considering the time he puts into his tennis skillage.

"He worked really hard to get where he is today. His patience and work ethic are keys to his success," LaBove said.

The aspect that separates Beksha from other high school greats is the fact that he has another year to play.

There is a looming fact that the Brendan Kennys, the Chelsea Dentlers, and the Jay Jeannottes that dominated Mariner sports are leaving this year.

It is up to the seniors and juniors of next year to continue the athletic trend this school has seen in recent years, and Beksha will be the one of many talented athletes to lead the charge for the '09-'10 sport season.

The future of NHS sports

by KIANI CARROLL
& TYLER CASEY
reporter

This past year's athletes at Narragansett high school has been a blast. The sports of the fall, winter and spring have all represented the school very well in their success against the state's top competitors.

In the fall the football, girls and boys soccer and volleyball teams were all a success and gave a run for the state championship.

When the winter sports started it seemed as though NHS was an athletic prep school. This was because of the basketball team making

it all the way to the championship.

The swim team winning one rely event and other events and placing 2nd overall at states.

Also, the wrestling team had one wrestler who won states and placed fourth in New England.

The spring was the year's weakest season with both lacrosse teams not doing as well as expected.

The golf team had one member make it to states long with the tennis team. Track did well for a new program in Narragansett athletics.

As for next year the school should be expecting great

talent coming up from the middle school with their soccer team winning states and the basketball team with great ability to improve.

The boys' football team will be missing a few key starters, but with most of the offensive and defensive line coming back Narragansett should be a successful team once again.

The boys and girls' soccer teams for next year should be just as good or better next year with their young kids rising and the seniors tossing in their towels.

The only thing the soccer teams will be missing next year is experience, but

other than experience they should give the state a run for their money.

In the winter of next year NHS should be expecting the same out of the wrestling team.

They are losing five of their key wrestlers, but when it all comes down to it, the senior wrestlers' work and effort in practice was their future. The future being next year team along with three of last year varsity wrestlers.

In basketball next year its future success is not predictable as of now, but it might not be related to the success of the past season.

Depending on the competi-

tion will reflect if this team will have failure or triumph.

The spring sports will all have more experience with the fact that this past season the teams were all young with very few seniors.

This shall assist the teams with the satisfaction of victory throughout the season.

Overall the future of the athletic program at Narragansett will prosper with the talent coming up from the middle school to the seniority and experience of the varsity players.

All fans of NHS sports should be looking forward to next year with pride.

Thunderbolts sink Lady Mariners

by HOWIE HOLMES
contributing reporter

The Narragansett Lady Mariners lose a big home playoff game to the Cranston East Thunderbolts, eliminating them from the playoff bracket. Numerous seniors were disappointed by the results.

Despite a 2-3 performance by Chelsea Dentler, senior captain, the Narragansett Mariners offense failed to produce runs, falling to Cranston East, 2-1, in a first round playoff loss.

This advanced the Thunderbolts to the next round of the Rhode Island Division II fast pitch softball playoffs.

The lone Mariners' run was scored in the bottom of the third when Kaitlyn Murray, junior, scored on a base hit by Dentler, to put the Mariners on top 1-0.

However, the Mariners' lead was short lived when the Thunderbolts scored on an RBI single by Hayley Patton, tying the score at one apiece.

Patton single plated

Cheyenne Rosi, who lead off the inning with a double and advanced to third on a passed ball, or mishandling of the pitch by the catcher.

One inning later, the Thunderbolts took their first lead of the game on a passed ball.

With two outs in the inning Jesse Handler hit a solid single up the middle. One pitch later Handler took off for second.

Danielle Smerbeck, sophomore, in an attempt to throw the base runner out, over threw the second

baseball. This allowed Handler to advance to third.

"They [Cranston East] scored their first run off of a couple solid hits," Healey said. "But the second run was a steal and a couple of mental errors."

Lindley, who pitched four games the week leading up to the first round match-up with the Thunderbolts, was not very sharp in the first few innings.

"She wasn't as sharp as usual in the early innings, but she pitched terrific and

kept us in the game," Healey said.

Even though, the Mariners loss was disappointing, Dentler's performance was one of the only bright spots.

Regardless, of Dentler's individual statistics she said she was still upset with the Mariners loss.

"I also thought it was really disappointing [the Mariners loss] because it was my last game and my last senior sport, I really wish we could've went further," Dentler said.



SING IT LOUD

Enjoy Life. Enjoy Music. Warped Tour.

by DELANEY SAN MARTINO
reporter

This summer thousands of fans will join together to experience the long touring concert series known as The Warped Tour. The Vans Warped tour started in 1993. It began being sponsored "by skateboarding shoe manufacturer Vans," according to www.suite101.com. The Warped tour is coming to Hartford, Connecticut on July 12, 2009 and to Boston, Massachusetts on July 21, 2009.

Some of the bands playing in Hartford are: 3OH!3, A Skylit Drive, Flogging Molly, Less Than Jake, Madina Lake, Senses Fail, Sing It Loud, and The Maine. Boston and Hartford have some bands that will not be playing at both, for example, All Time Low is playing in Boston, but not in Connecticut.

A little about the bands:

Sing It Loud: "Sing It Loud is a proud pop band with an arena-rock musical background and a punk-rock pedigree," according to the official Warped Tour site.

The Maine: In the band John O'Callaghan does vocals, Kennedy Brock plays guitar and also does vocals, Jared Monaco plays guitar, Garrett Nickelson plays bass, Pat Kirch plays drums. Also according to the official Warped Tour site, "hailing from Tempe, Arizona, *The Maine*

throws their hearts and souls into making genuinely good music, no matter the image. Noted for their fun, fresh rock and their smart mix of originality and polished talent, *The Maine* creates the type of music you want to play with the windows rolled down, the wind through your hair and the warm sun on your face. With down-to-earth lyrics and a bright energy, it's no surprise that success has come quickly for the rock quintet who forged their identity as a band before some members had even finished high school."

3OH!3: "Straight off the streets of Ballerado, 3OH!3 comes outta the gate with high-class rhymes, low-brow beats and more party than the Bolshevik revolution," said www.warpedtour.com.

Laine Wagner, sophomore is attending this year's Warped tour. "Given the choice between Boston or Connecticut I definitely choice Boston," Wagner said. "I choose Massachusetts because it's Boston and Boston rocks."

Along with other attendees Wagner is very excited about the show. "I am most excited for the live experience instead of listening to the music through headphones. Also, I am obviously excited for the good music," Wagner said.

Kiani Carroll said that the line up for this year's show is not as good as one might have hoped. "Although I really wish one of my favor-

ite bands *Never Shout Never* was going I'm really excited to see *All Time Low*, another one of my favorites," Wagner said.

The show is appearing in many different locations so how do fans expect to get there? Most would agree that either by train, plane or car it doesn't matter as long as they get to the music. "I'm driving down with a group of my friends so it should be really fun even though it's somewhat far away," Wagner said.

First time Warped Tour concert goers might not know what to do in preparation. Although all you really need is enough tickets, enough food for the trip and your favorite band T-shirt! "The only thing I'm doing in preparation is getting food for the ride up," Wagner said.

It doesn't matter if this is your first, tenth or hundredth time going you will still make memories and get lost in the lyrics. "I've never been but, I'm really excited!" Wagner said.

"Maybe it's not my weekend but it's gonna be my year and I'm so sick of watching while the minutes pass as I go nowhere and this is my reaction to everything I fear cause I've been going crazy I don't want to waste another minute here. If I could just find the time then I would never let another day go by I'm over, getting old," *The Maine*, "Weightless." Enjoy life. Enjoy music.