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Sports: Boys soccer fights off injury bug

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Juniors test their academic knowledge on the NE-CAP.

the Maritimes

Narragansett High School's student newspaper since 2008.

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Page edited by Kyle Doubrava



Do you D.A.R.E. me?

by PAIGE MCKNIGHT
reporter

On October 16, Sara Balestrieri, a Narragansett High School senior, and her mother were both flown into Washington D.C. for the D.A.R.E. America's National Conference. D.A.R.E. stands for Drug Abuse Resistance Education and in middle school, all students were required to take a D.A.R.E. class on it led by Officer Shields, mainly dealing with the topics of drugs, alcohol, gangs, violence and bullying. D.A.R.E. was

founded in 1983 and is now part of 75 percent of our nation's school districts and in more than 43 countries around the world.

Balestrieri explained that Officer Shields approached her at the high school and told her she should apply for the spot to be Rhode Island's representative for D.A.R.E. for her junior and senior year. She applied and got the position, which qualifies her for a \$20,000 scholarship.

After they were flown into Washington D.C they were shuttled to the D.E.A.'s headquarters in Quantico,

PA where they stayed in the D.E.A. training academy.

"Half of the trip consisted of seminars and meetings relating to drugs and alcohol, the other half was applying our knowledge in stimulated situations like firing live firearms at the F.B.I. shooting range and a stimulated drug raid," Balestrieri said. "We also had to practice public speaking, in front of the whole group, it was random like an improvisation, it was challenging but fun."

see DARE, p3

Mr. Zabel: the man behind the teacher

by LAUREN WADE
reporter

Students and faculty know Mr. Zabel as the dedicated science teacher. Outside of school, however, he is a devoted family man and has a few interesting hobbies.

Zabel is entering his fifteenth year of teaching. He started teaching at Narragansett High School in September 1996 and in Greenwich, CT in 1995 before that. He teaches ecology, environmental



science, biology I and II, and he used to teach earth and physical science.

see ZABEL, p3

The future of ESD

by EMMA BUSH
reporter

Extended School Day, commonly known as ESD, has begun for Algebra I students.

After school Mondays through Thursdays, from 2:00 to 2:50, all Algebra I students with below a 65 average are required to attend a seventh period school program. This period is taught just like any other class with tests, quizzes, lessons, and sometimes common tasks.

"We don't want kids to get frustrated and drop out," Mrs. Lundin, math

"Kids have to realize that it is mandatory extra help that will benefit them."
— Mrs. Lundin, math chair

chair said. "If they stay on top of things at the beginning of the year, we can save them before they fail."

At this point in time, there is enough room for every student with a 70 average or below to enroll. It is advised by the math teachers that everyone with a 70 average or un-

see ESD, p3

New look for social studies

by ABBY SOSCIA
reporter

New this school year, Narragansett High School administrators have decided to make a curriculum change in the social studies department.

This change takes place for the freshmen and sophomores. Starting as a normal discussion of curriculum, this long two-year process was first talked about five years ago.

Last year, freshmen were advised to take a government and economy class where they learned about the organization of the government, while the sophomores took world history. This year, the roles have been switched with freshmen taking world history and sophomores taking government. This is the first time that NHS freshmen have taken world history.

"The work is about the same, not more or less difficult," Ms. Giramma, social studies teacher, said. This proves not to be the reason for the recent changes.

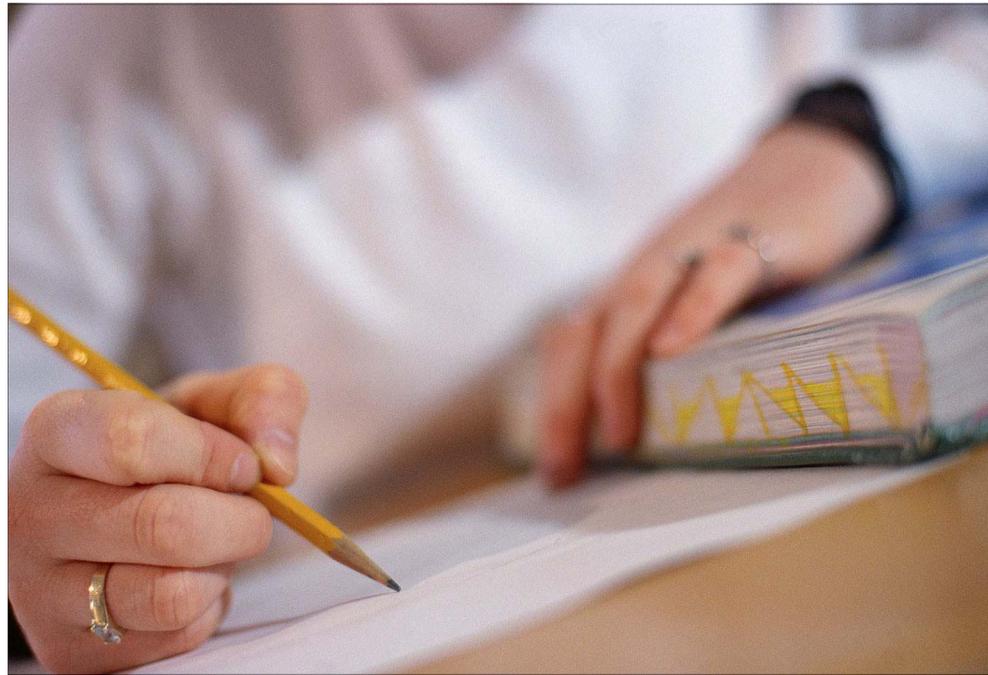
Assistant Superintendent Judy Palucci approved the curriculum change because a law was passed stating that the school system had to expose students to specific tasks in order to benefit them. Thus, a new change in academic scenery is in place.

"I think that if it puts the kids in a better place, it's a good change", Ms. Patterson, social studies chair, said. Patterson feels that anything that is good for her students will set them in the right direction.

In some world history classes the students are mixed with freshmen and sophomores. This is only a problem for some sophomores because they don't know as many people, but it also has its positive side.

Sarah Cannon, sophomore, is in a social studies class with many freshmen

see CHANGE, p3



Underclassmen prepare for their future

by **GIANA PELLA**
reporter

What is one of the most important things that a college looks for on a student's transcript? An applicant's SAT scores.

The PSAT's are a standardized practice test to help prepare students for their actual SATs. The PSAT's are held every year at high schools around the country for any volunteering sophomore or junior. PSAT's can be taken more than once.

"This test is more useful to learn time management than it is the actual content. It helps the students because there is only a certain amount of time allot-

ted for each section, and the students that take the PSAT's are used to it by the time that they need to take the real test," Sara Balestrieri, senior, said.

The PSAT's are not a required test for all high school students, but highly recommended. The test was \$18 at NHS. Each applicant received a study test booklet three weeks prior to the test with practice questions to help them better understand the content of the exam.

Although PSAT scores are put on a student's transcript, it will not affect a college's decision about whether or not to admit that person. More than 3.5 million students each year

take the test to help them get into better colleges and work towards their life goals.

"I would recommend the PSAT's to any student because it will prepare them for the SAT's and show the structure of the test," Balestrieri said.

The test takes a total of three hours with one five minute break after section two. The question's difficulty levels ranged from moderate to difficult.

"I felt that the test was hard but definitely worth it. It's helped me by showing me how the SAT's will be set up, and it made me feel better prepared for next year's exam," Gianna Tucker, sophomore, said.

The content of the test is believed by administration to be too challenging for freshmen with the exception of several students. The three sections on the test are math, reading, and writing with multiple choice questions and short answers.

The PSAT's are held every year for grades ten and eleven in all high schools. Each student is given a pre-test booklet to study.

PSAT's are not counted towards college acceptance, but helps prepare for the SAT's which are a vital part of the college path, and they are recommended to all students. PSAT's are offered in the fall.

The float fate debate has been decided

by **GABRIELLE RISICA**
reporter

Many issues arose in class councils, but, in the end, the homecoming floats are still going to be presented, except with an added twist.

Although all classes are not participating, the floats will be presented to the faculty and students, during school hours.

Mr. Schroeter, social studies, is the class council advisor and is responsible for organizing the floats.

"The floats have been a part of Narragansett High School since I got here," he said.

Schroeter said the administration knew it was

Lost of student dressed up for the various costume days. Lost of school spirit. It was a lot of fun.

Mr. Schroeter, social studies

going to rain on Saturday and the plan was to hold the floats if the game was not postponed.

The game was not postponed, but the environment did not permit the floats to take place due to the possible safety issues with the float performers.

The rules are pretty simple, Schroeter said, high winds along with thunder and lightning will cancel the these activities.

As a last resort, the fresh-

men, sophomores and juniors filmed their float routines and the videos made be shown during advisory.

To vote for the best float, ballots will be given to faculty and administration. The videos will also be uploaded onto the school website, so parents can view the performances.

"I was relieved when I found out the floats would be postponed," Evan Carvalho, freshmen said. "I knew it would be a mess in

the rain."

Carvalho said they had a lot of help on the float, but the rain was a definite drawback.

To avoid have these issues again, Carvalho said they would start earlier and continue meetings like they had this year.

"I think homecoming is a live and learn opportunity," he said. "I felt it was a pretty big success."

Homecoming seemed to go off with a few minor issues, but overall the week was well done.

"It was a very competitive year," Schroeter said. "Lots of students dressed up for the various costume days. Lots of school spirit. It was a lot of fun."



Honor Society flooded with record number

by **JENNY FERGUSON**
reporter

With applications for The National Honors Society being accepted, more than 80 students answered the call.

The National Honors Society (NHS) is an organization of students that have cumulative grade point average of 85 or above. Students also have to have leadership qualities, and be service oriented to join this group.

Ms. Good, librarian, is the adviser of NHS. "The students of NHS must maintain an academic average grade of 85 or better and be considered a good role model for their fellow students," she said.

In addition to more students this year there is a new co-adviser for NHS. Mrs. Gongoleski, English, is taking the place of the retired, Mrs. O'Brien

In order to join NHS students must be invited by the organization board, attend an informational assembly and fill out the application.

When students join NHS they are not officially a member until the end of the year, when they are inducted during the spring induction ceremony.

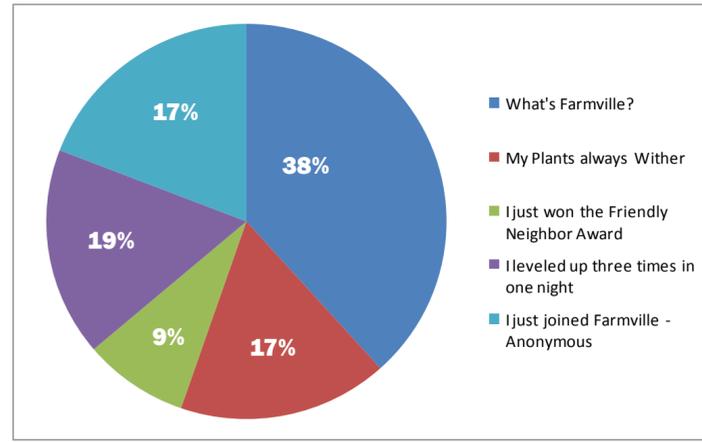
Ashley Luddy, senior, said she was hesitant to join at first. "I was unsure about joining NHS when I received the application, but knew it would look good for my college applications," she said.

The association meets once a month to discuss service projects, college for seniors and there community service hours.

Last year NHS held several service projects, which included a can drive, fashion show and a clothing drive.

Luddy said her favorite service project was the fashion. "My favorite service project was the fashion show because it was a lot of fun even though it was a lot of work at the same time," she said.

Monthly Survey: Farmville Exposure



DARE

The D.A.R.E. members were also allowed to visit the monuments in Washington and took an external tour of the White House.

The National Conference had a representative from almost every state; ap-

proximately 45 students anywhere from freshman to seniors with a parent or chaperone accompanied them.

"All of us at the conference get along well because we all have a common goal," Balestrieri said. "The trip was much more than just drug awareness,

it was more about keeping our kids safe in general," Mrs. Chapin, Balestrieri's mother, said.

Balestrieri continues to represent what it means to be on the D.A.R.E. America Youth Advisory board as our peer and a member of the Narragansett community.

ZABEL

"I love teaching. It's my favorite thing in the world," Zabel said. "Science is another really cool thing. It's a way of thinking. It's never done and there is always something new."

The reason he became a science teacher was because it was the one thing in high school that had interested him. Zabel has also always been interested in the marine environment.

Zabel has two daughters, Aliana, 8, and Kyra, 10. Some of his hobbies are

hanging out with his kids, canoeing, woodworking, and raising rabbits.

The reason he raises rabbits is because he does not eat processed meat. Instead, he gets all of his meat, except rabbits and cow, and most of his other foods from a locally grown food market. He raises his own rabbits and still gets his cow from the market.

Zabel also has a garden that consists of blackberries, raspberries, grapes, blueberries, and other fruits and vegetables.

His daughter, Aliana, is the "vet" when it comes to the rabbits health. "My

daughter loves to take care of the rabbits when they get sick," Zabel said.

The family has pet cats, but they don't ever go inside. They live in the barn and catch mice.

The Zabel family does not, however, have any pet rabbits. "We don't have any rabbits as pets. They are either breeders or they are on the dinner table," Zabel said.

McGovern is also aware of Zabel's eating habits. "Every Sunday he kills the rabbits, skins them, and then eats them. He also loves Oreos and keeps them in his desk drawer."

ESD

under comes while there is still enough room.

The math teachers are hoping that ESD will last the whole year. "Most kids (who fail) will end up failing towards the middle or end of the year," Lundin said.

As long as there are enough teachers throughout the year, the plan is to keep ESD alive for as long as possible.

The goal of ESD is to raise students' grades so that more students are

more likely to graduate.

Right now the only ESD class that is available for math is Algebra I. This is because more teachers are needed to teach the other classes but the faculty is hoping more teachers can help.

However, ESD is a great chance for upperclassmen to make up credits from second semester of last year. Students should not wait to take advantage of this opportunity.

The teachers said many students do not appreciate ESD simply because it in-

volves extra work.

"Kids have to realize that it is mandatory extra help that will benefit them," Lundin said.

ESD gives students more opportunities to pass classes that they might not normally be able to pass. Having a second math class is an advantage over other students who may need extra help and can't get it.

The ESD math teachers are Mrs. Manchette and Special Education teacher Mrs. Anderson assists in the program.

Art clear favorite among NHS electives

by ELIZABETH FERGUSON
reporter

The Art department is at its highest enrollment. Students are realizing how much fun art is and now wants to take art classes.

Ms. Gabrilowitz, Art/Ceramics teacher, said "All arts classes are full."

Millie Ferguson, sophomore, is taking Ceramics 1. This is her first semester of taking Ceramics 1, but it is not her first time taking art classes.

She has taken 2 years of art in middle school and one year in high school. She enjoys art because it gives her a break from academics.

In Ceramics class the students make coil pots, pinch pots, slab boxes, and a free

choice.

If you aren't interested in Ceramics then there are different art classes you could take; there is Art 1, 2, & 3, Ceramics 1 & 2, and Digital Photography 1 & 2.

Ms. Gabrilowitz teaches Art 1 & 2 and Ceramics 1, she enjoys teaching art here at Narragansett High School (NHS). The Art department is holding an art show in the spring to show the students work throughout the year.

As of now the Art department has no fundraisers.

The high enrollment of the Art department helps it become a better known department to the school. It shows how much the Art department is needed here at NHS.

Friday popcorn sales popping with success

by SAMANTHA LEIGHTON
reporter

The Narragansett High School band is continuing to offer popcorn every Friday sold for \$1.00 each.

The music program and the color guard are selling popcorn to raise money for trips and new uniforms. The music booster organization for charity.

Mr. Healey, music, said the idea came from a music booster club meeting. "The idea was brought up at a music booster's parent group meeting," Healey said. "Joyce Huntley said she had a popcorn machine."

The program has been successful for almost a year. Dan LaBove, junior, is a member of the band. He said that this fundraiser has been a success.

"I think it's successful because we made a lot of money and it helps the music program," LaBove said. Popcorn is only sold on

Fridays. The parents are nice enough to dedicate their time once a week to help out. "Joyce is nice enough to spend her time once a week," Healey said.

It also interferes with the Chartwell's food sale so it can only be sold once a week.

Since this fundraiser has been a success, Healey said he hopes for this to continue for numerous years. "Joyce has a sophomore and an 8th grader so hopefully we will continue this for the next five years," Healey said.

Samantha Hicks, junior, said she likes the popcorn sales, but also thinks that the music program should have a new fundraiser to support the program.

"I enjoy the popcorn although I think that the music program should open up the school store instead," Hicks said. "They have been selling it for almost a year now and I think it's time for a change."

CHANGE

but she seems to enjoy the new company.

"I like to have different kids in my class, you get to make new friends," Cannon said.

But Narragansett is not the only school around making the same social studies curriculum change.

In fact, most other schools that planned on changing already have and

are all set in their new sequence of classes.

A downside to the formation of this new curriculum is the loss of the humanities class which combines sophomore English and social studies.

The core of the humanities class was to demonstrate how certain topics and decades could be studied across different subjects and provide a fuller and more engaging setting.

Bring on the Friday night lights

For the first ever night game held in the history of the Narragansett High School, as the common saying goes, "You'd have to see it to believe it."

Hundreds of community members gathered on the cool, brisk eve of Halloween to watch the local football team play an exhibition matchup with Classical High School. What they didn't expect to see was the show that came along with it.

Fireworks.
Festivities.

An appearance by the Mariner mascot.
A Halloween-themed "Thriller" halftime show performed by the Narragansett cheerleading squad.

With the announcement of the starting Mariner offense line-up, a barrage of fireworks were shot off in a 4-minute fireworks display.

The way things were run at the first ever home night game, people seemed to ask themselves if this really was a "first."

As smoothly as things were held, fans and students thought to themselves why Narragansett High School had not thought of putting lights onto the football field in the first place?

The community has had this argument for some time now, and it all comes down to one little fact: expense. In the long run, they would have to extend the field, add fencing around the new field, and place a cement base for the lights that would be placed in the wooded area behind the field.

But if so many people are behind this festive activity, and are willing to pay for it, why should the town keep them from doing so?

The "Friday Night Lights" event brought with it a big crowd, a large profit, and an atmosphere people in Narragansett have long waited for to be a reality. Who's to say that there won't be permanent lights and many more home night games in the near future.

The Facebook Addiction

by **KELSEY MCDONALD**
reporter

In today's society is there anyone out there who does not have a Facebook?

A Twitter account?
A Myspace?

A Friends' list of a thousand people you don't even know?

So many people have started to use social networking sites.

Someone can ask a twelve-year-old or a fifty-year-old and odds are that they will tell you that they have a Facebook account.

These days technology is a highly addictive resource.

It is growing more addictive as it improves with each new gadget.

The question that it is important to ask is:

Is this high school so addicted that it's worth the risk of losing computer privileges to use Facebook?

Last week there was a list passed out to all of the teachers.

It had the names of the students that had accessed Facebook using a downloaded program.

This program bypassed the security measures put in place by the administration.

The Facebook addiction

has definitely gotten out of hand and it needs to be controlled.

People are willing to risk their computer privileges for two weeks.

This could definitely affect their grades.

The time wasted on Facebook was probably so they could play Farmville (one of the games offered on the site) or update their status.

Both activities which seem less important than completing Mr. Reis' Bio project or other homework.

Many students think that it was wrong of the administration to lock them out of their accounts.

They are completely and utterly mistaken in saying so.

All students have been told these rules over and over again.

All students signed an acceptable use policy when they were freshmen (or in the case of new students, when they entered the school).

This policy specifically outlined what sites a student could not access and specific punishments were laid out for such an offense.

These rules are not new and students should not be so shocked when they get locked out of their account.

However, students remain shocked that they lost computer rights.

They broke the rules and downloaded a proxy program to get onto Facebook.

They could have given the school a computer virus in the process.

These students may have believed that they are right and the administration is wrong, but that is clearly not the case.

As previously stated, this is not a new rule.

There should not be a grace period where you can switch to a new way of doing things on the computer.

There is no new way of delegating one's internet allowance:

This is the way things have been since the distraction of the internet developed into what it is today.

Overall, the addiction to social networking sites is getting out of hand.

People need to focus less on Facebook and more on school.

The administration is 100% correct in canceling people's computer privileges because the rules say so.

If people can't take the punishment then they should not break the rules in the first place.

the Maritimes

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WORD ON THE STREET

What's your favorite Halloween treat? Why?



"I like Reese's because Chocolate + Peanut Butter = Love"
- Cassie Couture, Junior

"Anything chocolate because chocolate is the gift from the gods"
- Mrs. Agnes Pelopida, Faculty



"Kit Kat's because I like to get a piece of that Kit Kat bar"
- Kiani Carroll, Junior

VOICE YOUR OPINION

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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.



It's a El Fuego

by NAOMI DECKER
reporter

If you haven't already experienced the appealing carte du jour and laid-back, affable ambiance presented at El Fuegos Mexican Grill, you're missing out.

The restaurant itself adds a fun and fresh aspect to Wakefield's otherwise quaint Main Street, with its Mexican flavor and hand-me-down surf motif, left behind from its predecessor, Surfin Tacos.

The atmosphere is light and fun, always filled with faithful customers laughing and having a good time, eating, watching surf movies shown on a mounted flat-screen. The small, but spacey, open-seated eatery or allows patrons to enjoy the live, acoustic music of local performers who come by to play occasionally.

Also on occasion, events are held at the restaurant. Coming up next month, Narragansett's Warm Winds Surf Shop is hosting a premiere for "Modern Collective", a newly released surf movie, on November 8th.

The staff is pleasant and sociable, service is quick and the food is prepared correctly with quality ingredients in a clean environment which is always satisfying. The portions are generous, so be sure to come with an appetite.

The plausibly priced menu is complete

with various, authentic, Mexican-style meals, including an array of tacos, burritos, quesadillas, nachos, salads, and sides. They also serve Jarritos, an imported soda from Mexico.

Among the quesadilla selection, is the coveted "Ranchero" quesadilla, an arrangement of tender, evenly-cooked chicken, warm, melty, cheddar and jack cheese, tangy, ranch dressing, and savory barbecue sauce, grilled between two thin slices of soft, crunchy flatbread, offered for \$6.75. The serving consists of three quesadilla slices, of generous proportion, and a side of different, complimentary dipping sauces.

Along with El Fuegos' reasonable prices, they offer a handful of monthly specials, including for this October, "Taco Tuesday", where all tacos are offered for \$1.25, rather than their regular price range of \$2.50-\$3.75, on Wednesday's the ranchero burrito is \$5.55, rather than the usual \$6.95, on Thursdays, Jarritos are free with any purchase of \$5.99 or more, and on Fridays, take \$3.00 off of all purchases of \$25.00, so go with your friends!

Aside from the flagship Wakefield location, there is a new Narragansett opening, located on 120 Knowlesway Ext, Narragansett. The Wakefield venue can be contacted at 401-284-3353, and call 410-788-0099 for the Narragansett location, for orders or directions.

Rule #1: See Zombieland

by Andy Slick Sheldonson
teen movie critic

Zombieland takes place where the entire world is inhabited with zombies due to a form of mad cow disease. A college student named Columbus travels to Ohio to find if his family survived or not. On his way he meets a Twinkie-obsessed man named Talla-

hassee. They decide to travel together. In a store they are conned by sisters Wichita and Little Rock who take their car and weapons. Columbus and Tallahassee find a Hummer with weapons and decide to take it. They decide to stick together until they reach Pacific Playland, an amusement park which is zombie free. This horror comedy

film will have you die from laughing. There are rules to surviving Zombieland, such as: cardio, double tap, beware of bathrooms, and many more. To find out more, see it for yourself. I would recommend this film for teenagers and adults who like a good horror/comedy film every once in a while.

Rating—●●●●●



Wild Things packs wild fun

by PAIGE FRANKOVICH
reporter

Inside everyone there is hope, fear, adventure. Inside everyone there is a wild thing.

Many people would think that an illustrated children's book, one with 9 sentences and 20 pages would be turned into a Feature Film. Well Spike Jonze, The director and producer of "Where the Wild Things are" thought differently.

"I thought "Where the Wild Things are", was insightful and imaginative for kids," Kelsey Galipeau said. "Out of five stars I would give it a, four and a half."

Where the wild things are came out to theaters on October 16th. Many people from the age of five and up all wanted to go see it.

Where the Wild Things are was a book written by Maurice Sedaks in 1963. The book was read and loved by millions of people.

"This movie is good for all ages, except a few parts in the movie where The Wild things were fighting with each other." Greg Hamilton, sophomore said.

"Where the Wild Things are" was rated PG, for

violence and brief language. All the Wild Things in this movie were huggable and funny. Only a few parts would they get scary for younger kids. So parents don't let this effect your decision to let your children see this movie.

What this movie is about for people that don't know is that a young kid starts doing mischief around the house. The mother gets mad and yells at him. the boy runs away and finds this new land. Max (the boy) gets crowned king of this land. While he loves it there he misses home too, so he sets sail back home.

"This movie was fun filled for family; children will love this movie along with parents. Or any other breathing person out there." Kelsey Galipeau said "I loved the movie and everyone else will too."

This movie was really good; everyone is excited that their favorite children's book is being made into a movie. Some people are scared that this movie will ruin the book but it really didn't. It made everything that was imagined in the story come to life on the big screen. Oh, and hint, don't watch it in the front row.

Baby brings Izzi into a new life

by **MADLINE GODFREY**
reporter

On Friday, October 23, Mrs. Izzi, world language teacher, will be leaving NHS to start a new, exciting journey; motherhood.

Mrs. Izzi is expecting her first child, a baby boy. The doctor said she needs to be off her feet and resting before the baby comes, thus the reason for her early departure from school.

Izzi said, "My husband says, 'When the baby comes, the party is over.' But I think we are just

When the baby comes, the party is over.

leaving one party and going to another one". She is very excited about being a mother.

Since Mrs. Izzi will be gone, a substitute will be teaching for her. Currently, the sub is Señor Valdivia. He lives in Charlestown, Rhode Island and has taught at Chariho High School.

Students are eager to

learn from Señor Valdivia. Hadley Albanese, freshman, said, "I'm very excited about being taught by the new sub, it will be an adventure."

Señor Valdivia is originally from Bolivia and moved here 15 years ago. He speaks fluent Spanish and has been sitting in on all Mrs. Izzi's Spanish classes for the past week.

Mrs. Izzi is teaching her Spanish I class the basic principles of Spanish. She is also collecting all the work that has been done this year to help prepare for the sub.

"I've done a lot of work so the sub and my students have nothing to worry about," Izzi said. She has made a binder of where her Spanish classes have been, and where they need to go.

Many students are sad to see Mrs. Izzi leave. Albanese said, "I'm sad she is leaving because she makes my day so much better."

As for the Foreign Language Club, meetings will continue while Mrs. Izzi is gone. Ms. Latimer, co-advisor of the Foreign Language Club, will be in charge.

At the end of the first quarter, February 1, Mrs. Izzi will return to NHS. "Just in time for the carnation sale, my favorite," Izzi said.

Mrs. Izzi feels comfortable leaving her students with Señor Valdivia. She said she thinks it will be a great experience for all the students in her classes.

VASSA: brings positive influence

by **MEGAN MYCROFT**
reporter

To curb the trend of teenage substance abuse Narragansett High school Athletes have taken stand and formed an organization. Varsity Athletes Against Substance Abuse (VAASA) is the new club on the scene. Encouraging an "above the influence" lifestyle for students. Mrs. Laidler, guidance, said the idea of a club came from word of mouth. "I heard about the idea and liked how there were using the influence of athletes for a good cause," Laidler said. VAASA is new to Narragansett High, but is not an unheard of program of Rhode Island. All though VAASA stands for varsity players, any athlete can be a member. To be a member, students must submit an application, pledge to be drug free, and even have a parent signature saying that they are. Though VAASA is new, Mrs. Laidler has high hopes for the club and its influence on the community. "It's good for the elementary kids to have a good influence, they would rather



here from them then from me," she said. Not only did Mrs. Laidler say that VAASA would be good for the younger kids Amanda McGovern, junior and softball player also agrees. "Most definitely I would recommend it; because it's fun and makes you feel better that you are helping other kids." Laidler said VAASA is a great program for athletes to be in, and so does Amanda. "I joined VAASA, because I wanted to help and make a difference for our future athletics and generations," Amanda said. Narragansett High has forty students in its VAASA program this year. Since the members are athletes and are committed to their teams meetings aren't weekly but usually monthly. VAASA is a new and growing club and Narragansett will be hearing a lot more from this positive influence organization.



Changes in P.E. department on the forefront at NHS

by **SAMANTHA COMPARONE**
reporter

Many students know Mrs. Grennan, the former physical education and health teacher, left the Narragansett High School, but only few know the full story and how fellow peers feel about her absence so far. Mrs. Jennalee Lopes, one of the physical education and health teachers, and Amanda McGovern, a junior, are with us now. Mrs. Grennan has been working at this school for about six years and many people said that she put a lot of effort and enthusiasm in what she did, co-working with Mrs. Jennalee Lopes and Elizabeth Palmer, who both teach gym and health.

Mrs. Grennan retired and moved to the Elementary school where she will be the other gym teacher there because the gym and health teacher at Narragansett Elementary School retired as well.

This school has been working hard over the summer and the beginning of the school year to find a new gym teacher and the school's administration is close to finding that person. What happens is that the people who qualify come in for an interview, and if they got the job they can choose whether to accept it or not, which is where the school is at now. "As a teacher I cannot give out any information regarding who may be hired," Mrs. Lopes said.

The new teacher will have to teach 3 quarters of health and physical education. Mrs. Lopes said that there are many pre-requisites that the new teacher will need to have.

The essential requirements include an American Red Cross CPR certificate because the new teacher will need to instruct CPR, and he or she will need to be certified to teach physical education and health.

Amanda McGovern, a junior, was interviewed during her lunch period. "Everyone loved her. She was so nice," McGovern said. "I feel upset that she is gone. I think she taught class very well. She knew all of her students on a personal level."

NHS completes first round of NECAP testing

by **ASHLYNNE MESSIER**
reporter

Participating in NECAP testing seems very overwhelming for several juniors attending Narragansett High School.

Once students reach their junior year in high school, the state requires all public schools to take NECAP testing. Mr. Smith, vice principal, says the math section was much harder than the English section. "I think NECAP is completely unnecessary and I despised every second taking the test." Rachel Gouveia, a junior, said. In her opinion she thinks it is unnecessary because of all the other tests students



have to take throughout the school year.

The test contains six sessions of math and reading. The math portion includes algebra and geometry, whereas the English portion includes two writing prompts and writing responses.

Smith said he felt all the sessions went well. "All six sessions kids took it seri-

ously and gave it their best effort," he said.

While taking NECAP, each session one is allowed 90 undisturbed minutes. All six sessions must be completed within three weeks; in order to get test results back in January.

The scores students receive does not effect their grade point average, however it does go on their



One short from the big shot

by DANIELLE SILVA
reporter

All over Narragansett High School, students and teachers are curious about what's really going on with the Lady Mariner tennis team.

Paige Therian, senior, was the captain of the Lady Mariner tennis team. Therian said that though the season ended shortly, she didn't mind it because it was a lot of fun.

Kaitlyn Hagan, senior, had her own thoughts about the season and what could have been a possible playoff run.

"We're upset that we didn't make the playoffs," Hagan said. "It was our last chance as seniors in our high school career to go out with a bang, but the season itself was a lot of fun and was very enjoyable."

The Lady Mariners were one game short of making the play-offs. Therian explains that the team did not make the playoffs because it seemed as though not everyone on the team was serious enough and everyone just wanted to have fun. She didn't mind though because when it came down to it, the fun of tennis was the best part.

Therian was a devoted tennis player for all four years in Narragansett High School. "The team did well, but I didn't do as well this year," she said. Unfortunately, Therian did not win a match this year, but she did try her hardest to help the team.

Therian says she favors playing singles. This season, she started out playing doubles and progressively moved her way to

playing her last three matches as a single player.

"I like singles better because if you mess up, you don't have to worry about if it affects your doubles partner. When playing doubles, you have to remember a lot more because there is more strategy to it," Therian said.

This season for the Lady Mariners, they had a few teams that were tough to handle. "Moses Brown and Cranston West were the most difficult teams to beat in our division," Therian said.

Therian said she realized that it was complicated for Narragansett to compete with teams like Moses Brown because the mariners were so young. This season, the tennis team gained a lot of new freshman who knew the game to replace last year's seniors.

However, Therian said it is difficult when you have a lot of new freshman because they have not been through it before like other senior have, being the oldest and being on the tennis team for four years.

Therian is confident however that the tennis team will progress and get better and better as she leaves them behind. She plans on continuing to play tennis next year on a noncollegiate level as she enters college.

"I don't plan on playing on the tennis team at college because it is a lot more intense," she says.

She will play club tennis though, so she can continue to have fun and play the sport that she loves.



High expectations shattered by injuries

by SEAN DONOGHUE
reporter

The Narragansett Boys' soccer team was poised for a great season, until they were plagued by the injury bug.

Loaded with weapons like seniors Jake Auslander, captain, Ryan Kluk, captain, Dan McSally, Justin Cesino, Denny Tierney, and Gernot Kraft, junior, just to name a few.

All was going well, starting the season with a 2-0 record; things seemed to be going the right way for once.

The team had received the bad news that a leg injury to Tierney in the 3rd game @ Westerly, would sideline him for the rest of the season, but he should be back in time for the playoffs.

Adam Reis, assistant coach, had some worries of the team's effectiveness without Tierney.

"The first injury was a big blow," Reis said. "We don't have much depth at his position."

Despite this loss, the team held it together and continued to play great soccer, posting a record of 4-1.

But then when all seemed to be getting back on track the injury bug came back and bit them again when Kraft fractured his arm in the game at East Greenwich.

He would have a similar time table, if at all, as Denny which would be at the beginning of the playoffs.

Just when one thought things couldn't get any worse a few games later, the Mariners' Auslander would miss the remainder of the regular season due to a leg injury he suffered against Westerly at home.

This all contributed to a slump that they are now in and are fighting just to keep their heads above water.

This is a team that had possible state championship talks circling them and now they are in a fight just to make it to the playoffs thanks to the almost unbelievable bad streak of luck caused by injuries.

Just ask Senior Dan McSally who said, "If we had the same team we started with healthy for a whole season and played the whole season together without a doubt we would be contenders for states."

This is unfortunate because as the senior players count the days until the end of their high school soccer careers they can only think: What if?

Hit it: Volleyball team wrapping season up



The Maritimes

**YOU PLAY BALL LIKE A GIRL!
WELL, YOU ARE A GIRL... HMMM...**



Ms. Jill Gunning

1. Janis Joplin
2. Michael Jackson
3. The Who
4. The Rolling Stones
5. Peter Frampton



by VICTORIA SAURO
reporter

Imagine, you are waiting in line, heart-throbbing, palms sweating, not quite knowing what to expect when the cart pulls up and it's your turn to go through the thrilling ride of Trails of Terror.

The first group of people comes off with an interesting look in their face. You don't know whether to be excited or nervous. Well, whatever you feel, it doesn't matter, because it's your turn to hop on the haunted hayride, and there is no turning back now.

As you sit there with your friends, clutching their hands in fear, the hayride slowly rides down into the eerie, dark, night, and you hear the menacing music drowning in the background of the creaking cart, and there you go, helpless, off into the shadowy night.

You come to the first stop, and the voice in the background is talking, but you can't really make out the words. You just sit in the silence not quite knowing what to expect, or when a mysterious creature is going to jump out at you.

This is a brief description of what it may feel like to go on the haunted hayride. The rest of the feelings I can't explain, for it can only be felt, if you experience it yourself. So buckle up, and go on the ride, because if you don't, you are going to be missing out on something you ate going to wish you didn't.

Trails to Terror is something that only comes once a year during the month of October. This year, it opened on Friday, October 2nd at 6:30 p.m. And if you are thinking about going on it, it is suggestive you get there at 6:30 because since this ride is such an adventure, it's always so crowded. The last ticket is always sold at 10:00, and the days you can go there are Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, and also Thursday the 22, and the 29th.

Trails to Terror is a big event at Highland Farms. It takes a lot of hard work and effort for the cast, and the workers to put together. They not only have to plan out what they are going to do for it, but they have to build the scene set.

After they build the scene and set, they have to get actors who are willing to be involved with it. The whole event is also a lot of money for Highland Farms because they have to buy all the costumes and set up. Luckily for them all their hard work pays off because they get a lot of customers, and it is a really great occasion.

So far this year a lot of teens have already gone on the Haunted Hayride, and the Haunted walk. According to Sara Ryan, a freshman, it was a very enjoyable experience. "I enjoyed it so much!" Sara said, "It was a blast!"

One of the most exciting effects of this hayride is the suspense according to Sara. "I loved the suspense," Sara said. A haunted hayride isn't complete without suspense! "I am definitely going on it next year!" Every year the haunted hayride and walk gets better, and better, so if it was this exciting this year, it should be awesome next year!

The cost for the hayride and the walk this year was 12 \$ each. However if you got the package deal for both, it was 18 dollars. Although this may seem pretty expensive, 18 dollars is a better deal than paying for each separately which would be 24 dollars, and considering that both are a half-hour of full of excitement, that is a pretty good deal!

If you haven't gotten the opportunity to go on this haunted hayride, then I strongly suggest you do. "I really want to go on it," Gabby Smith, a freshman that hasn't gone on it, said. "From what I hear it sounds like fun!"

Another reason why it is strongly suggested that you go on Trails to Terror, is that the themes are always different, and they are always appealing. This year's hayride started out with a war theme, which was very effective. Unfortunately some people didn't really feel the war theme because it wasn't necessarily scary. "I would change the war theme," Sara said "I didn't really like it that much." Fortunately the hayride must have been fun because this was the only thing that Sara would have changed about the hayride if she got the opportunity to.

The walk didn't necessarily have one theme, but it had many. This also was really effective

because you never really know what to expect. When you have one theme, you kind of know what may come next, or at least have an idea. But when you have many themes, it's always a surprise and a shock as to what may be coming next.

Something that is always an excitement to the visitors of the walk is the maze. This is a pitch black maze that is in the dark night, making it so your trapped in a maze, and don't know where to go. As nerve-racking as this is, it is always exciting as you and your friends try and feel your way out of the maze, when everywhere you turn is a dead end. This excitement is only something that can be felt if you go on the walk.

If you are one of those people that don't like scary things, no worries here, because this haunted venture isn't necessarily scary, that is if you don't want it to be. "I found it to be more scary than fun," Said Sara Ryan. However, if you want it to be scary, it is fun to go along with.

The haunted hayride is a great idea for many reasons. "It's a great idea because it gives kids something to do around the area during this time of the year," Smith, said.

Once you have finished the walk, and the ride, don't worry, because the adventure isn't over yet. The reason why its not over yet, is that you can still purchased, hot apple cider, or hot chocolate. What is better than finishing off your festive evening with cider or hot chocolate!

This haunted hayride has been going on for a while, and each year is different and has something unique about it. If you go on it one year, it becomes an instant tradition, and you aren't going to want to miss out on it the next year, and the next.

So, if you aren't planning on going on the haunted hayride, because you are scared, I suggest that you get your act together, face your fears, and go on it! If you don't you are missing out on a great time with friends and or family. Trails to Terror only comes once a year, and the season comes so quickly so it is easy to miss out on if you procrastinate your visit. SO hurry up, it's almost over!