

RAMPAGE

October 21, 2011

Issue 400

School Starts Off with Kick Off

By: Cindi Pan

This year is kicking off with a spectacular start with the upcoming Homecoming Game and dance. The homecoming game is on October 27th and remember there's a Star Barbecue at 5-6:30 PM that day also (look on page 12 to see more information). The Homecoming dance will be on October 29th and it will start at 8-11 PM.

Not only that, but Spirit Week is full of special events. Monday Oct. 24th is College Day, Tuesday Oct. 25th is Disney Character Day, Wednesday Oct. 26th is Superhero Day, Thursday Oct. 27th is Seniors Wear Togas and everyone else wear the prestigious colors, white and purple, and finally Friday Oct. 28th will be Pajama Day. This is your chance to show your spirit and Ram pride! Cross something off to do before you graduate and come decked out for ALL the Spirit Days!



2011-2012 RamPage Staff Members

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Features Editor: Maggie Angel
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Staff Members: Desarae McLaughlin, Esperanza Rodriguez, Yuki Terada, and Timothy Bailey

Mission Statement

The ambition of the RamPage is to provide the staff and students of North Thurston High School with an unbiased publication with an open outlook and to promote the free-flow of information. We strive to ensure that all students are well represented in our newspaper regardless of race, gender, religion, or class. In our efforts to do so, we agree to accept articles submitted by students and teachers. However, we reserve the right to edit and revise articles as we see fit. We will make a conscious effort to generate interesting and tasteful articles for our readers.

Advertising Policy

The RamPage staff reserves the right to refuse any advertising that we believe to be factually inaccurate, designed to mislead, defraud, or delude, and/or containing detrimental, vengeful, or unsubstantiated attacks. We will not publish any advertisements that sell and/or offer services illegal for all persons under 18 to possess, buy or use. All advertising in the RamPage must be appropriate; we will not accept any advertisements that are derogatory, obscene, that create potential danger, or that creates disruption to the school. Advertisements in the RamPage do not necessarily represent the views or endorsements of the RamPage staff or the North Thurston faculty, administration, or the North Thurston School Board.



How to Get Through School! BY: Kelsey Gonzales

Have you ever wondered how you are going to survive high school? I know I have about a million times. I freak out all the time. Is there going to be enough time to do my homework and still get a good grade? The best way to get through high school is to ask for help from friends, classmates, or teachers when you need it. They will always be there for you whenever you need some help, guidance or just need to ask a question.

Also, another way to survive school is to join a sport such as



When asked: How are you doing so far? Were there any concerns about starting high school? What are the positive things about being in high school? These freshmen answered...

Hunter S. said "The only worry is doing well on classes and acting your best for those who look up to you." He also said, "I am having a good start so far. Getting some work done here and there. You know it's easy to take the time to put down your controller, your cell phone, or remote and get it done and don't be embarrassed to ask for help either."

CJ L. said, "Besides getting lost, no not really. There [are] lots of rooms here so I wasn't sure I would find all my classes. For example, last week I got to my 4th period and realized that I forgot my textbook so I had to run back to my locker and sat down before the bell rang."

Kiefer H. said, "The bell is my enemy." "I also have more choices [in high school]."

baseball, tennis or maybe football if that is your thing. If you're not into sports, join a club like FBLA or maybe Hacky Sack.

Clubs are a lot of fun plus you can meet new people and participate in community service. So don't be in a corner by yourself; get out there, make some new friends and ask for help. Don't be afraid and have a fantastic year at North Thurston. Go Rams!

North Thurston Club List	
Club Names	Club Advisors
American Sign Language	Cathy Miller
Band	Darren Johnson
Bible Club	Bill Broeker
Choir	Rachel Landowski
Chess Club	Jared Boyd
D.E.C.A.	Ronna Reed
Drama Club	Kathrine Deneen
Equestrian Club	Eddie Gentry
F.B.L.A.	Marion Salcedo
F.F.A.	Mark Sloan/Jesse Radcliff
F.C.C.L.A.	Sally Harn
G.S.A. (Gay Straight Alliance)	Sandra Rowell/Karly Nelson
German Club	Vida Long
Hacky Sack	Kevin Rus
Honor Socioty	Nani Duvall/Susan White
Interact Club	Marisa Faatoafe
Asian Cluture Club	Kristen Bennett
Key Club	Carisa Ward
Renaissance Crew	Ryan Aufort/Jackie Meyer
Math Club	David Cheney
Nasain Islanders Club	Bob Wienski
Orchestra	Grant Sears
Science Club	Kevin Hall/Rich Horger
Rams In Action	Joe Pallitto
Student Senate	Ronna Reed
Tri-M Music Honor Society	Darren Johnson
V.I.C.A.	Brian Stretch
Wood Working	Dan McCracken

Winter Sports	
Sport	Coach
Girls' Basketball	Mike Harn
Boys' Basketball	Tim Brown
Wrestling	Dwight Long
Boys' Swimming	Jak Ayres
Bowling	Bob Wienski
Gymnastics	Shannon Brigham

Things I Wish I Knew Freshman Year

By: Kayla Purdue-Mosley

As a sophomore, junior or senior we look at the incoming freshman with sympathy. Looking back now, we all have advice for freshman. When asked what's the one thing you wish you knew your freshman year, junior Racquel M. says, "Be active in school. Have motivation!" While high school is supposed to be fun, think about your academics and be motivated to get them done. Senior Larissa L. said, "don't be so hung up on boys. It's a waste of time. Relationships get in the way." Serena S. a sophomore has a piece of advice for freshman, "stay out of seniors'

"Homework.. [It's] a huge misconception!"

way!" Korder B. a junior says his piece of advice is, "You have to take certain electives to graduate and if you don't take those classes then it becomes difficult to fit them in as the end of your time at high school approaches." Junior Madison P. said, "enjoy not being busy."

I know you may feel like you're drowning in homework, but as you progress in high school you get more and more and more homework. When asked what she would tell the freshman,

Monica R., a sophomore said, "Homework is important, but if you don't get it done it's not that big of a deal. It's a huge misconception". Charles V. also a sophomore said, "If you know you're having a test, study a little each night" finding a way to study that works for you



is important. I asked Chevin L. a senior, looking back what would he tell the freshman to pay attention to he said, "All the opportunities. School activities makes it [high school] more fun." Garret S. has one simple piece of advice that every freshman should pay attention to, "It's important". He's referring to your freshman year. Having fun is important but also getting your stuff done is important. Freshman year counts.

Differences Between America and Japan

By: Yuki Terada

I am an exchange student from Japan. I became an exchange student because I wanted to know different cultures and understand American teenagers, what they are interested in, and differences between America and Japan.

I left Japan about two months ago. I do not miss Japan yet because my host family is very kind to me. They support me. I am really enjoying this life with my host family and friends. I often talk about differences between America and Japan with my host sister. This is very interesting and it makes me surprised.

America is very different from Japan in many ways, and many situations. I would like to introduce a few of my experiences I have had in high school. Today, I would like to talk about class and lunch time.

In American high schools, we have to move to our next class every period in 5 minutes!!! I was surprised by that because in Japan we do not have to move, however we do have a 10 minute break after class is done. On the first day of school I could not find my classroom easily and I

was in a hurry to get to class before the bell rang. I thought "How different American school is!" I was also surprised by lunch time. In Japan we do not have separate lunch times so I did not know about 1st and 2nd lunch. A girl who takes the same class as me asked, "What lunch do you have?" I answered "I have a sandwich." She was like "what?" Another surprise for me was how long lunch time was. In Japan we have an hour long lunch time, so short lunches at American high schools gave me an impression that American high schools are busy!

Coming to America as an exchange student is all about trying new things in a new country. In Japan I had never ridden a school bus. Most Japanese schools do not have school buses; in my high school most students come to school by train so I used the train every day. Since leaving Japan I have not used a train to get anywhere. It makes me feel kind of strange because the train was my part of life. "I go to school by train." It may sound cool, but in fact it isn't. I live in Tokyo so many people use the train, especially in the early morning. I was squished by other people,



therefore the school bus is very comfortable for me. The bus allows for space to get off, I am not rushed or pushed around; this, however, is not the case in Japan. Every time I tried to get off at my stop, I would have to squeeze between people all the while saying "excuse me, excuse me, pardon me, may I get through." Trains are not fun. I hope that my school has a school bus when I get back to Japan.

America and Japan are very different but I have enjoyed my life here so far. I want to have more great experience here.

All We Need is... *Love!*

BY: Maggie Angel & Thalia Duran-Ellis

Webster's dictionary defines love as "strong affection for another arising out of kinship or personal ties." Who has the time or patience to even think about "strong affection" with tests, sports and clubs? Yet anyone can look around and see all of the couples in our school, some of which are long established and seem to be chock full of "strong affection," (some of which we see a bit too much of, according to Victoria J., "the halls aren't a place where people want to see you get down and dirty.") Is teenage love really as sappy and annoying, or adorable and precious as us single bystanders see it as?

Seniors Victoria J. and Jose B. have been together since last January and they enjoy going to school together. "I used to think dating in high school would be weird, but I think it's sweet now," Victoria admitted. Junior Gage B. said that he liked going to school with his girlfriend, Liz M. because they frequently helped one another in class.

Outside of school, the couples of North Thurston like doing basically anything that allows them to spend time with their boy or girlfriend. Sophomores Andrea C. and Hayden M. simply like watching movies, while freshmen Ben W. and Gabi H. spend their time playing with bunnies. Victoria J. explained that just because you are in a relationship, doesn't mean you should stop hanging out with your friends, but "when you guys want your own time, that's what dates are for." Gage also told how much he liked going on dates, "[it] is so fun."

I know I'm in awe of these committed couples we all see walking down the hall together. What's the secret to their desire and care? All four couples that I talked to admitted that while cliché, communication really is vital to a relationship. Simply stated, Gabi H. said, it's important to "talk about everything." Andrea C. and her boyfriend, Hayden M. expressed that if they were both happy, it was easy to be happy together.

But of course there are parts of a relationship that even close friends don't see. It's only human to argue or fight sometimes. Yet, even arguments and bad days seem to be best solved by talking, Victoria J. disclosed, "[if we disagree, then we] say sorry and vent about whatever happened. A lot of inside jokes are created from days like this. Boom." You have to be "understanding and accepting," said Gage B. and Liz M. added, "Enjoying each other's company is key."

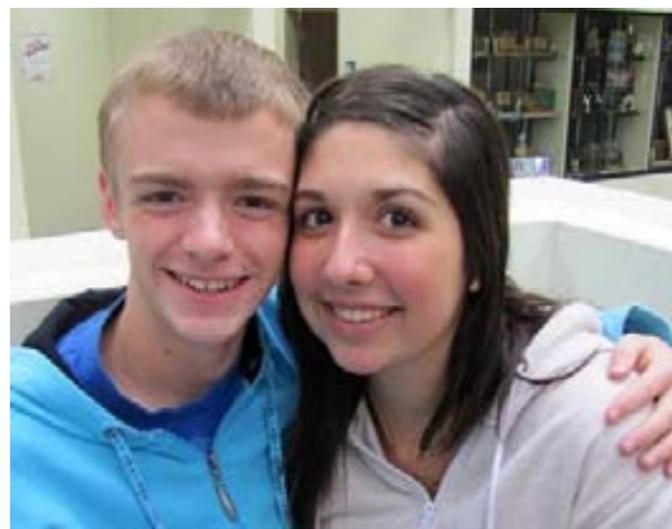
The couples interviewed have been together from anywhere in between seven months and two and a half years, and they each had their own unique definition of love, all more poetic than Mr. Webster's description of "strong affection." According to these teens, love was something that you can't be without after you've had it. Love has to do with beauty, and perhaps dealing with your

girlfriend's "crazy family fearlessly."

Ben W. defined love as "an uncontrollable feeling you have about someone." So if these two freshmen can pull it off, why can't we all?



Above: Sophomores Hayden M. and Andrea C. started dating at the beginning of their freshman year. That's a long time for a high school couple!



Above: When asked about how he and his girlfriend Gabi H. get along, Ben W. laughed, "It's not really fighting if she always wins."

Guide to Spirit Gear at North Thurston High School

By: Cindi Pan



Rams!" on your face! It's only \$1.97 at Walmart in the Halloween Section.

Purple/White Cape

Coming to school in style with a purple cape! It's \$2.39 per yard for a silk purple costume fabric from Walmart. And you can easily get silver/white fabric paint as well for \$2.79. This is a creative way to personalize your spirit gear style.

Purple/White Tutu's



Ever wondered what you could wear to school on a spirit day? Tired of throwing your clothes everywhere trying to find a smidge of purple and white? Well here's your guide on the hottest and in-expensive spirit gear you can find. This article will guide you to places outside and inside of school! Though some of these may be expensive, the list will be recorded by least and most expensive spirit gear there is!

Spirit Beads

You can purchase these at the Ram Buck exchange for three Ram Bucks for one necklace. It's inexpensive and you can get them by doing one of the four things: Respecting others and yourself, acting responsibly, modeling safety, and striving for excellence! For displaying these fabulous acts you have the potential to gain a Ram Buck from a teacher or staff member. Not afraid to spend money? Well the Dollar Store has some beads that are multiple colors for \$1 and you can just use the purple and silver ones.

Tights

For the ladies we have purple tights at Target for \$5! I find that really inexpensive! You can also get them in different colors as well! White wouldn't look that bad if your decked out in purple and need that little bit of white!

Face Paint

Face paint is very popular at North Thurston. You can use it to have "Rams," "North Thurston," or "Go

Ribbon for Hair/Bracelets

You can easily get ribbon from anywhere. Basically at the Dollar Tree they sell ribbon for \$1 which is a steal! Girls you can use this to tie in your hair, attach it to a barrette, or use it as a bracelet. It's easy, doesn't take a lot of work, but it will be another piece to your spirit ensemble.



Purple and White Tutus

This is a bit more expensive, but it's very fun to make. Grab your friends and come together to make these awesome tutus. Looking around the school, they're not only for girls but guys as well! They're easy to make and you won't have to buy more than eight yards at most depending how you make your tutu. Mix and match different colors by using the NTHS trendy colors of black, white, silver, and you can't ever forget purple!

Head/Hippy Head Bands

At Walmart you can buy trim of Sequin Trim used for decorating fabrics that cost only \$2.77 and it's 3 feet long. You can change this into a headband or a hippy headband.



Glitter Spray

At Walmart or Target for Halloween they are selling glitter spray. There are different colors such as gold, silver, or multi-colored. This will give your outfit a finishing touch.

Have fun with your clothes, as long as you are wearing purple/white nothing is wrong!



Gender Perspectives on: Homecoming

Female Perspective

BY: Cindi Pan

Homecoming... The time for the glitz and the glimmer for high school girls. It's the time for students "to get fancy..." and have as much fun as possible. But furthermore it's a time that we spend heaps of money on one night... however it's worth it. Worth the time and effort for just one night of fun because it will be forever ingrained into our minds, the memory of our high school career. It's the time that students get to be free and see each other and their peers at their best or worst.

Homecoming is the time to make memories and allows teenagers to get away from the stress of school and have fun. Junior Ali H. said "I think it's a really fun night to dress up and dance and just have a good time! And I like getting asked. It makes me feel special! ...asked to homecoming that is."

Even though Homecoming might be expensive depending on how dressed up you want to be, it's all about the fun and dancing! Obviously Ali is attending the dance, but why else is homecoming great? Well, Junior Jennifer B. said, "Homecoming is a great way to jump into the new school year. I love getting to dress up fancy, but at the same time being able to dance like crazy with all of my friends."

However, like Ali, Freshman Kyla T. is excited about the prospect of getting asked. "My favorite part about being a girl is that you could get asked to homecoming in the cutest way. Whether getting asked in a small or big way, knowing someone out there who has the guts to ask me is such a happy feeling. I have someone special out there who I can never be anymore thankful but to make me feel this way."

Kyla also gave the inside scoop of how she got asked to homecoming. She wanted this guy to write her a story and after a couple of days she walked around the corner to talk to her friends and the guy that she asked to write the story said, "Remember that story you wanted me to write?" and she said, "yes" and he got down on one knee and proceeded to read her a poem about her and ending it with "Will you go to homecoming with this guy? (with me)" What a perfect start to her freshman year! Anymore reasons to not attend homecoming? Because these girls sure love getting their groove on!

Male Perspective

BY: Kalei Sabas

It's October and getting to be that time of the year for... Homecoming. People say that it is one of the best times of your high school life; that may be true, but some guys just don't seem interested. As a junior I haven't gone to homecoming but I, like others, have my reasons for not wanting to go. I've gotten many people saying "Why aren't you going? It's tons of fun!" and "You should really go!" My main reason for not going is I'm not the kind of person to dress fancy in a tuxedo just to go to a dance. I'm the kind of person to wear jeans pretty much everywhere.

Junior Robby S. says that Homecoming is "overrated and a waste of time" and that the reason he goes is that he's "forced to go." So even though he's going, it doesn't seem like he's going to enjoy it. Another student, Junior Scott H. says that homecoming "doesn't seem fun" and so he "hasn't been to one."

I do think that people should have the best time while in high school; I just don't think a school dance is the way to do it. You're spending all this time and money for one night when it is not even the most important dance of the school year. The only dance I see going to is prom which is mostly for upperclassmen and their dates.

Even though homecoming isn't the most important dance to some guys, I have to say that the way that some guys ask girls can be very creative. It's never just a simple "will you go to homecoming with me?" No, it's a lot more complex and creative. Every guy knows that when a girl gets asked to homecoming by a guy with a bullhorn and a bouquet of flowers there is no way she would say "no." Whether you see it as just a dance or one of the best nights ever, homecoming accommodates students of all classes. Will you be one of them?



Stereotypes: A Stereotypical Story

BY: Jada Cerniwey

Stereotypes: from the moment we are born, they define what we wear, how we act, what music we listen to and how we perceive other people. So what are they? Stereotypes are a set of often inaccurate, sometimes overly simplified, generalizations about a group that defines how we and other people treat them.

Society defines us as what we are, not who we are. But we are in high school, we have more important things to think about, like our topic paragraph for our English essay. So what does this mean to us? Why should it matter?

In middle school, breaking the mold was the exception, not the norm. Cliques formed around similarities: skin color, religion, style preferences, activities, and academic performance. Stereotypes were conceived, often inaccurately. "My experiences with stereotyping before high school were not good," said Senior Quinton B. "Since I was tall and dark-skinned people made assumptions that I was a basketball player and I listened to a certain type of music without getting to know me."

As we grew older still we moved on into high school, the testing ground for real life. You have seen all the movies, you know the types of people "Hollywood" says inhabits the high schools of the present. Stoners, nerds, jocks, preps, punks, emos, hipsters, artists... these are the people we expect to see when we first

walk in the doors freshman year. We start out "chilling" with the same people we've been hanging out with for forever. We start to be defined by who we hang out with, what sports we are in, what clubs we belong to. We wear the same brands as our friends and hate the same stuff. We

"In high school [I was] thinking that as people grew older they would become more mature and open. But in reality they're just as judgment as they were as kids"

make assumptions about other people. But is a first impression really accurate? "No," said Junior Briana P. "One, because people change, sometimes temporarily, but everything is temporary. And two, you have to give people time to become themselves around you." Most people judge others by the group they hang out with and the way they treat others. "I think [they are correct], because first impressions reveal certain characteristics of someone they might not want people to know. But we shouldn't treat people only due to their first impression" added freshman Mandi L. Stereotypes, according to sophomore Serena S., should not be used at all. "... everyone deserves to be treated equally because some stereotypes include derogatory ideas that are very degrading."

"In high school [I was] thinking that as people grew older they would become more mature and open. But in reality they're just as judgmental as they were as kids" stated Quinton. "I try to treat everyone equally because I believe no one is better than anyone else. I will probably say to myself, 'Wow they have a bubbly personality' but never something like, 'They are a stoner'" declared Serena. "I think how high school is now, isn't bad, but it could improve" asserted Briana.

As infants, we wore pink or blue clothes according to gender; as we got older, our parents dressed us in a way that they deemed acceptable or "cute". Our rooms were decorated for us and our friends were pre-screened for "acceptability" before play dates. Around the time we landed in middle school, we began to form our own opinions around the foundation that our parents and friends had set for us. We started to define our own senses of right and wrong, the people we liked, the subjects we did well in. Our friends became the people that we spent the most time with. Suddenly, our parents were not right about everything. Now, in high school, our "formative years", we get to choose whether or not we accept the rules that society hands us. These decisions that we make now will affect us for good. So do we keep judging the books by their covers, or do we look inside? You choose.

Wacky and Bizzare Holidays

BY: Jada Cerniwey

Oct. 21st: Babbling Day
Oct. 25th: Punk For A Day Day
Oct. 28th: Plush Animal Lover's Day and National Chocolate Day
Oct. 30th: National Candy Corn Day
Oct. 31st: National Magic Day and Increase Your Pyschic Powers Day
Nov. 1st: Plan Your Epitaph Day
Nov. 2nd: National Deviled Egg Day
Nov. 4th: Waiting For The Barbarians Day
Nov. 6th: Saxaphone Day and Marooned Without A Compass Day
Nov. 7th: National Bittersweet Chocolate With Almonds Day
Nov. 8th: Duncne Day
Nov. 9th: Chaos Never Dies Day

Nov. 11th: Air Day
Nov. 12th: National Pizza With The Works Except Anchovies Day
Nov. 15th: National Clean Out Your Refrigerator Day
Nov. 19th: Have A Bad Day Day
Nov. 20th: Absurdity Day
Nov. 21st: World Hello Day and False Confessions Day
Nov. 22nd: Start Your Own Country Day
Nov. 23rd: National Cashew Day
Nov. 24th: Use Even If Seal Is Broken Day
Nov. 30th: Stay At Home Because You're Well Day

*All holidays were researched off the internet!"

Features

Student Store and What They're Selling

BY: Desarae Mclaughin & Esperanza Rodriguez

Currently Selling:

Chips, fruit snacks, and nutrigrain bars:
\$.60
Composition notebooks: \$2.75
Juice and vitarain: \$1.00
Sweatshirts: \$30.00
Cup noodle: \$1.00
T-shirts: \$15.00



Upcoming Items:

Stocking Caps, Sweats, new Sweatshirts, and Bandanas
Food and beverage items that will be in first of November – Muffins, Pretzels, Pizza Pockets, Arizona Teas, and many more snacks!
Starting November the Student Store will be purchasing new registers so they will be able to get fully stocked and running at full speed!

Editor's Column

Welcome to the new school year everyone! I'm your new Editor in Chief for this year. I'm happy and excited to be taking on this prestigious title. We're no longer the school newspaper that nobody reads, we're revolutionizing the paper, making it more than what people think it is. With a brand new dedicated Staff behind the *RamPage* it'll be the best and most improved.

We the Staff will work as hard as possible to get the news and updates to the community of North Thurston High School. I'm excited to say we're planning some pretty big ideas and are ready to knock your socks off!

This is no longer the 2010-11 year... It's a new era for fun and exciting new experiences. This is 2011-2012! And we will make it the year, that we the *RamPage*, extensively improve ourselves for the better! I hope you all have a great year!

-Cindi Pan
Editor-in-Chief

EXTRA EXTRA! Read all about it!

The *RamPage* is looking for submissions from the community of North Thurston High School. This is not limited to students. Teachers are more than welcome to submit articles, photos, art, etc. Just bring it over to room 104! Or know a staff member? Just give it to them with instructions and they will get back to you!

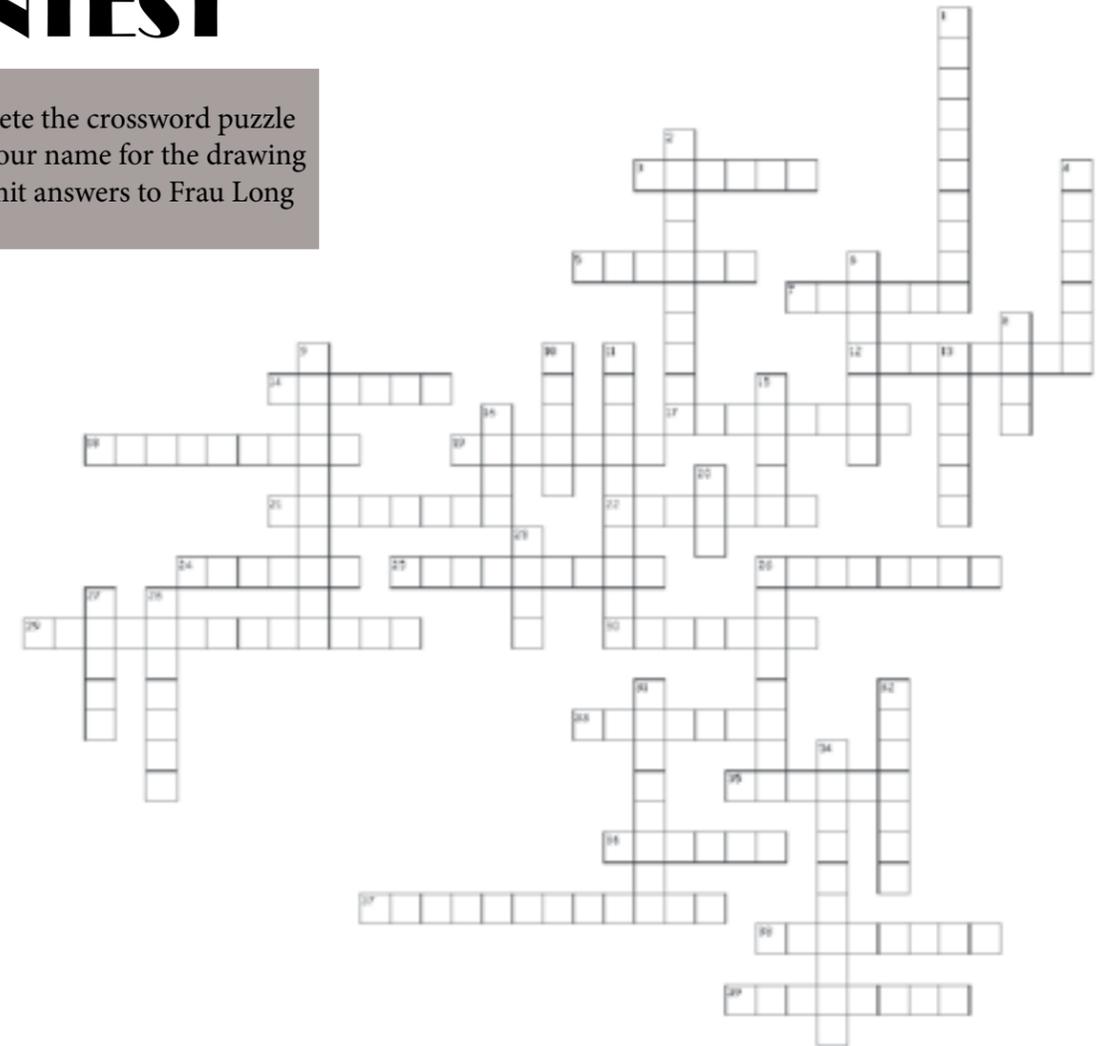


The North Thurston *RamPage* has a new Facebook Page! "Like" our page and we will keep you posted on activities around the school, sports, and much more! Want more information? It's just a few clicks away!

Contest

CONTEST

Correctly complete the crossword puzzle below to enter your name for the drawing for a prize! Submit answers to Frau Long in Portable 9.



Across

- 3. Kanada
- 5. Gitarre
- 7. Karate
- 12. Glossar
- 14. Cowboy
- 17. Kalender
- 18. Skulptur
- 19. Hamster
- 21. Passwort
- 22. Adresse
- 24. Picknick
- 25. Astronaut
- 26. Dezember
- 29. Qualifikation

- 30. Englisch
- 33. Million
- 35. Freund
- 36. Vakuum
- 37. Kindergarten
- 38. Alphabet
- 39. November

Down

- 1. Observanz
- 2. Fantastisch
- 4. Galerie
- 6. Programm
- 8. Baby
- 9. Journalist

- 10. Falsch
- 11. Literatur
- 13. Schule
- 15. Jeans
- 16. Band
- 20. Arm
- 23. cool
- 26. Designer
- 27. Salat
- 28. Liberale
- 31. Elefant
- 32. Hundert
- 34. Helikopter

Did you know...

...that English is a Germanic language? Many words in German are similar or the same as the words we use in English. These similar words are called cognates. To complete the crossword puzzle, write the correct English cognate in the crossword that matches with the German word written as a clue.
Viel Glück! (Good luck!)

What's Better? *Yu-Gi-Oh!* or *Magic The Gathering*?

Yu-Gi-Oh

By: Tim Bailey

Magic the Gathering has spent many years at the pentacle of the trading card game world, being the most played, most well known, and even the most enjoyed, however *Magic the Gathering* has recently been dethroned as the number one ranked trading card game, by none other than the *Yu-Gi-Oh!* trading card game. In recent memory I have met many people that play both games; the opinion on which game is better varies player to player. I have personally played both games, and not to brag, but I'm pretty good. When playing *Magic*, I was not entertained; it took too long; it was annoying. I'd summon a creature who couldn't do anything on the first turn, because it would receive "summoning sickness." How a creature could be sick from going into the "land" I have no clue, but as I played in that tournament winning cards for a friend of mine, I couldn't stand it! Anyways that's beside the point. For those who know both games, *Yu-Gi-Oh!* is a much more universal game. Much more happens in a short period of time, it's more logical, and there is more interfering with your opponents turn, making key plays and pro choices stunning your opponent, and seeing the agonized look on their faces.

In *Magic*, creatures "tap" making them useless to block when the opponent moves in for an attack. In *Yu-Gi-Oh!* they don't become stunted for a turn; they keep at it. I like that a lot better because it makes game play more complex and fun. Another annoyance in the game of *Magic* is the cost to play creatures which you get from the land you play. How irritating! And because of that reason, if you draw a bad hand, you have the option to re-shuffle and draw a new hand at a penalty of one less card. How moronic is that? Re-randomize your hand, just so it would end faster. I would mulligan until left with zero cards, but the game would still probably take about 30-40 minutes. In *Yu-Gi-Oh!* that means you would lose in three turns or less, more than likely. But seriously, the speed and the game-play make *Yu-Gi-Oh!* the Superior game. Just try it yourself and find out, like Skyler F. says "I like *Yu-Gi-Oh!* more, because I like schooling kids with new cards, and I play because it makes me feel like a bad-a**."



Magic The Gathering

By: Robbie Burns

Magic the Gathering is a controversial game that started in 1993, made by a crazy but lovable math professor named Richard Garfield. He was also the creator of the *Star Wars Trading Card Game!* Since then it has reached the charts as the world's most played card game, giving way to *Yu-Gi-Oh!* only recently. And of course not by much. *Magic* has games spanning from 5 minutes to 30, each and every duel a moment to savor, drawing valuable information on ways to better yourself and your deck. After spending countless, intense hours of trading and collecting the cards you now hold dear as your main deck, the deck that can slaughter those who challenge you, and if not, a deck that can help you learn to better yourself. In *Magic*, everything you do can better your skills. Not only will it help you with the game, it also improves your social skills, walking up to random people and challenging them to duels, or walking around Olympic Cards and Comics store, droning like a zombie in a soft voice "tradeeessss" until someone is willing to exchange strong creatures, clever spells, or strange artifacts.

Don't forget the massive amount of strategy involved in trying to outsmart your opponent who is trying to outsmart you! Every little thing helps you out in the end. Until 2007 rolled around, you could even play for scholarships based upon your skill and strategic thinking! In the new-aged *Magic* you draw seven cards. Then you start the game, then your draw phase, main phase, attack phase, 2nd main phase, and end phase. Each allows you plenty of time to think of your game plan and strike with the utmost precision where as *Yu-Gi-Oh!* you do things in a blitz. Both games are equally popular, and equally skilled. As Carlin D. puts it, "after playing both games, I have arrived at the conclusion that both games are equally life destroying, but I'd prefer magic." No matter what game you deem worthy of your strategic brilliance, you can control them all, so which Mantle of Power will you wear?



Girls' Swim Takes On Another Win!

BY: John Corey

The North Thurston girls' swim team finished their last meet the same way they have finished every meet this year; with a win. The team stayed undefeated on the year with another impressive performance this time against Centralia and W.F. West. This may surprise some people, as swimming isn't at the front of the school's athletic mind, but it was no surprise to anyone on the swim team.

"I [thought we'd] do well," said Junior Samantha Miner who swims the 200 IM "we have a lot of really gifted swimmers who'll bring in the points, and all of our relays are very strong as well."

The team has lived up to these expectations as they retain the streak of 3 straight years not losing a single meet. With all this success the let down of a loss could really hurt the confidence of the group right? Not according to Samantha.

"It'd probably be tough for us... but we'd still walk away with smiles on our faces. We're a strong team, and not just in the pool."

This high esteem attitude probably stems from the strong family like bond that they, as a team hold. Some of the girls have been together for three years now, but even those on JV are brought into this family type atmosphere seamlessly. The connection they feel shows itself in the pool.

"We cheer each other on and encourage each other to kick a**" said Arriya Hagen a Junior who swims in the 100 fly, 100 back along with two relays. She emphasized the teamwork mentality stating that "[We know] each other's weaknesses so we can help each other out." Clearly the formula for success resides in constant improvement and "encouraging each other to kick a**."

This collection of girls has been dominate in the pool for the past three years and they don't plan on stopping anytime soon. They take on River Ridge next week bringing themselves one step closer to districts and state competition where, if you ask any one of these athletes, North Thurston will be near the top.



Girls' Swim Team has much to celebrate.

Tim's Sports Column

The world of sports is almost an entire new world from the one that we reside in daily. Very few can understand the complexity of the sporting world that appears so simple to the human eye. Can you really understand the chess match when a basketball coach draws up a new play? It's the fourth quarter with .8 seconds left, just enough for a catch and shoot. Who gets the ball? How is he/she going to get open? Are we going to tie or risk the buzzer beating the three-point shot? Can you imagine, having to calculate for all of those factors, and make all those decisions, during a 30 second time-out?

During this school year, this column will update you, the students of North Thurston High School, of news in the sporting world outside of the walls of this establishment we call "high school." We'll leave the stresses of Mr. Boyd's difficult math tests, and Mrs. Gomez's agonizing timed essays, take three-five minutes once every two weeks, and find out who's the favorite to win the super bowl. Why is so and so ranked number one in college basketball, and why has the NBA season not started yet? This column has answers to those and more, and if YOU have any questions, or want a specific topic to be touched, write your name, and grade on a piece of paper saying what topic you would like to be covered and turn that in to Room 104.

This week we'll talk a little about the NFL: How about the Lions? Sure they took a loss to San Fran, but the Detroit Lions are 5-1! In the same division, the defending Super Bowl champs the Green Bay Packers are 6-0 for the first time since 1966, and the Manning-less colts can hardly cough, being 0-6. Tony Romo has blown two games for Dallas who is 2-3, but could literally have any record from 0-5 to 5-0. The NFL is at just about the craziest start I've ever seen, so stay tuned!

Football

North Thurston won their 3rd straight game last Friday at Tumwater Stadium vs. Black hills behind Ben Broeker's phenomenal performance. Ben was 12-13 for 254 yards and 4 touchdowns, 3 of which ended up in the hands of Senior WR Landon Rushton who finished with 8 catches for 144 yards.

The Rams, now 6-1 (3-1), will take their aerial attack back home to South Sound Stadium for their game against rival River Ridge, 3-4 (1-3) coming off a loss to Tumwater, will seek their first victory against NT since quite some time ago.



Pictures taken by Kalei Sabas

Advertisements



The Second annual homecoming Star Barbecue will be held on Thursday October 27th before the football game from 5PM - 6:30PM. Come dressed in purple and white with your student ID and ready to enjoy good food, fun activities, and great music!

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[Homecoming Week October 24th-27th]

It's that time of year again! Starting the morning of Oct. 24th students will notice purple stars all around the school. It's your **MISSION** to find the star with your name on it and bring it to the Homecoming BBQ located in the back of the school. If on Oct. 27th you arrive showing school spirit and with your star you can be entered to win COOL prizes.

You have until the 27th, so *dont delay!*



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