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Andover students who played for the Blue Storm Merrimack Valley Junior Midget football team are Chase Keyser, Caleb Chevarie, Dillian Reed, Ezra Jenifer, and DJ Rankins. Photo: Katie Keyser

Andover Well Represented In Blue Storm Football

By Katie Keyser
 For the Beacon

Andover is well represented this year in Blue Storm Football, the Merrimack Valley Football League for grades three through six. Blue Storm has two teams: the Midgets and the Junior Midgets.

Playing for the Midget team are sixth graders Noah Newton and Alan Thompson and fifth grader Jared Frost. Playing for both teams are fifth graders Ezra Jenifer and DJ Rankins. The Junior Midgets have fourth graders Caleb Chevarie, Chase Keyser, and Dillian Reed.

The teams practice together two to four times a week at Penacook Elementary School and have games on Saturdays. Both teams have struggled this year and are still looking for that first win. They have been practicing very hard the past few weeks and have made tremendous improvements. They are learning a lot and are having a great time in the process.

Blue Storm Sports also offers Lacrosse, Indoor Soccer, and Cheerleading. E-mail BlueStormSports@yahoo.com or find them on Facebook for more information.

NECAP Shows Science Gains Continue At AE/MS

By Jane Slayton
 AE/MS Principal

Results of the New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP) science test, administered to students in grades four and eight in May of 2011, were just released. The science assessment is designed to measure what students know and are able to do in the areas of earth and space science, physical science, life science, and inquiry.

NECAP is a collaborative partnership involving three states: New Hampshire, Vermont, and Rhode Island. This

partnership was established in response to the federal No Child Left Behind Act, which requires that states annually measure the achievement of all students in grades three through eight and grade 11. Reading and mathematics assessments have been required since 2005. Science assessment was required to start in 2008.

Fifty-five percent of New Hampshire students tested scored Proficient or better in science at grade four. At AE/MS, 60% of the fourth grade students scored

See NECAP on page 45



MVHS varsity field hockey started the season 3-2, but turned things around with a 12-game undefeated streak through the end of their 14-2-1 season. In post-season play, the girls defeated Goffstown 1-0 in overtime on October 23 and Souhegan 1-0 in the semi-finals on the 27th. The October 30 NHIAA Division II Field Hockey Championship game had to be postponed to November 2 (past this issue's press time) due to the snow.

Andover seniors Ashley Fife (center, above, as MV scores the winning goal in the quarter-final overtime) and India Thompson have been outstanding contributors on the field this year. Chantal Caron (above, wearing mittens) has supported the team as one of its managers. Andover junior Melissa Laro also played on the varsity squad; Erin Frost contributed to both JV and varsity; Haley Adams and Rebekah Stearns played for JV, and Jessica Heath played on the freshman team. Photo: Katherine Stearns

Merrimack Valley High Receives Positive Report

By Mike Jette
 MVHS Principal

Merrimack Valley High School is pleased to announce that the report of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) accreditation team is now available to the entire Merrimack Valley School Community MVHS.MVSD. K12.nh.us/NEASC.pdf.

MVHS has been a voluntary member of NEASC since our school was founded in 1967. Through this mem-

bership, we agree to adhere to 54 standards, and those standards represent the driving force behind the report from the Association.

The report contains an "overview of findings" on pages 3-5. While this is not intended to be a summary of the report, it does provide a brief synopsis of a very comprehensive 65-page report.

As you review the report, please note that it is divided into seven standards. See NEASC on page 47



A proud Michael Miller snagged the perfect apple when first graders visited Peter Zak's Highland Lake Apple Farm. Photo: Jennifer Bent

Proctor Stages *The Diary of Anne Frank*

By Chuck Will
 Proctor Academy

The public is invited to Proctor Drama's production of *The Diary of Anne Frank* on Friday and Saturday, November 4 and 5, at the Norris Family Theater in the Wilkins Meeting House at Proctor. The shows begin at 7 PM.

Adapted from the Dutch language

diary of a Jewish girl hiding during the Nazi occupation in 1942 through 1944, the play is a testament to the power of an individual in the face of institutionalized bigotry and hatred.

Please join us for this inspirational dramatic work! Admission is free, but donations are gratefully accepted.