



## News Recap: October 30, 2023

The staff of the [NHS Chief Advocate](#), which consists of 51 reporters and nine editors, continues to cover all aspects of the Nonnewaug community. Here's a recap of some of our students' best work over the past few weeks. You can also follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) for more regular updates and additional features.

### Top Five Stories

["Woodbury FFA Prepares for the National Stage"](#) by Abegail Diezel '25 – The Woodbury FFA will compete this week at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis. (Alexa Sweenety also reports on [how students plan to catch up on schoolwork](#) they miss while at the convention.)

["Upperclassmen Look Forward to Working on Their Own Tractors"](#) by Noah Zupan '26 – The upperclassman ag mechanics class has packed the garage full of farm tractors for a fall repair project. (Milon Griswold has more about [the value of the tune-up unit](#).)

["Tough Schedule. Fan Support Boosts Nonnewaug Volleyball"](#) by Savannah Czerepacha '25 – A difficult nonconference schedule and two matches against Northwestern have helped the Chiefs gear up for another state tournament run.

["Juniors Win Fall Pep Rally" \(with photos\)](#) by Juliana Bailey '25 – The Class of 2025 earned a close victory in the fall pep rally, edging the sophomore class by one point.

["The Endeavor That is Trick or Treat Street"](#) by Sean Classey '24 – It takes a lot of work to make Trick or Treat Street a success. (Audrey Doran '27 and Morgan Willis '27 also looked at the logistics of [moving the event back indoors](#) for the first time since 2019.)

### News

["So, What's the Squabble Over Superlatives?"](#) by Gianna Lodice '24 – The yearbook staff opened grade-level superlatives to all four classes this year, causing a few seniors to scratch their heads and the yearbook editors to defend their decision.

["Scenes from Fall Spirit Week: Monochromatic and Dynamic Duo Days" \(with photos\)](#) by Juliana Bailey '25 – Groufits and lookalikes roamed Nonnewaug during the first two dress-up days of fall spirit week.

["Haunted Hayride a Chance to 'Scare Your Friends'"](#) by Addison Bushka '27 – About 100 volunteers, including many Nonnewaug students, help make the Woodbury Lions Club's Haunted Hayride an important fundraiser for local scholarships.

[“Yellowjackets Create Swarm of Problems at Nonnewaug”](#) by Devon Zapatka ‘24 – Aggressive yellowjackets at the end of the season annoy students and staff.

## **Sports**

[“Changing Seasons Fails to Slow Nonnewaug-Shepaug Rivalry”](#) by Carter Casbarro ‘24 – The Nonnewaug-Shepaug sports rivalry is hot whether it’s on the soccer field or basketball court, but football is a different story.

[“Nonnewaug Athletes Gearing Up in Pink for October”](#) by Layla Coppola ‘24 – Pink socks, bandanas, and accessories of all kinds are familiar sights at Nonnewaug sporting events during breast cancer awareness month.

[“CIAC Sportsmanship Conference Shines Light on Nonnewaug Athletics”](#) by Juliette Nichols ‘24 – Nonnewaug received a Fred Balsamo Sportsmanship Award at the CIAC Sportsmanship Conference on Oct. 3.

[“Attendance on the Rise at Volleyball Games”](#) by Julianna Bellagamba ‘24 – Nonnewaug volleyball players say that this year’s student sections have been the best they’ve experienced in their careers. (Ava Hustek ‘25 also writes about how [student sections at other fall sports](#), like field hockey, have left some athletes feeling disappointed.)

[“Playmakers Podcast: Sophomore Derek Chung \(Episode 1\)”](#) by Ben Roden ‘24, Brian Mohl ‘24, and R.J. Barksdale ‘25 – The first episode of the Chief Advocate’s sports podcast features sophomore football player Derek Chung, who caught the game-winning touchdown pass in Northwest United’s road win over Stratford on Oct. 6.

[“Frangu, Keane NHS’ September Athletes of the Month”](#) by the Chief Advocate Staff – Senior boys soccer player Azem Frangu and senior volleyball player Maggie Keane were the Chief Advocate’s Athletes of the Month for September.

## **Ag/FFA**

[“Sophomore Block's Peter Pan Theme a Hit at Soggy Trick or Treat Street”](#) by Lana Manganello ‘25 – The Woodbury FFA Sophomore Block team put plenty of preparation into its theme for Trick or Treat Street.

[“Unexpected Weather Leads to Storm Damage at March Farm”](#) by Milon Griswold ‘25 – Frequent rain forced March Farm to pivot several times throughout the fall.

## **Features**

[“The Story of Moll Cramer. ‘The Witch of Woodbury”](#) by Sophia Betkoski ‘24 – Salem is best known for its history with witchcraft, but Woodbury has its own 300-year-old witchcraft mystery.

[“Heavy Rainfall Results in Vibrant Fall Foliage”](#) by Kylie Healey ‘24 – If leaves have looked a little brighter to you this fall, there might be a scientific explanation behind it.

["Land Clearing Rates Hold Strong Amid Start of Building Boom"](#) by Walker Stanton '24 – Nothing seems to slow down work for land clearing companies, including two that employ Nonnewaug students.

["Students Throw Cold Water on Some of NHS' Fountains"](#) by Katie Savulak '26 – If you believe some students, not all water fountains are created equal.

["Local Restaurant Materia Brings Italian Flavors to Litchfield County"](#) by Arabella Rosa '25 – Only two years old, Materia in Bantam is already a destination restaurant for some thanks to its chef top-notch experience.