

From Maine To Milton, Kelp Is Coming To The Menu



By **LEO WALDBAUM**

Chef Andrew Wilkinson of Boston-based company North Coast Seafoods visited Milton High School to offer students samples of his kelp meatballs.

At first, many students were wary of the idea of eating kelp. However, those who pushed past their fears and tried it, like junior Zee Athavale-Fitton, were very impressed. Athavale-Fitton said, “They were really good, and lowkey tasted like meatballs which was wild.”

But this isn’t the end of kelp at Milton High School. Director of Food Services, Natalia Perez, decided that North Coast Seafoods’ kelp burgers are going to replace the veggie burgers at the Grab-And-Go in the cafeteria.

Perez described this decision as a “welcomed change,” adding that she “did not like the previous veggie burgers.”

In addition, starting October 30, once a month the cafeteria will serve the famous kelp meatballs on top of pasta with marinara sauce. Perez said, “If they turn out to be really popular we will move to serving them twice a month. Milton is now one of many high schools to add kelp meatballs to their menu joining the likes of Needham, Brookline, Chelsea, Somerville, Andover and Chicopee.”

Wilkinson believes that “kelp is not only a healthy and delicious item, it is also a sustainable alternative that could help fight climate change.”

Wilkinson first started experimenting with kelp while developing new seafood products. He explained, “At my job, sustainability has become big as people are asking for cleaner items,” adding that he has “always been amazed at kelp as it needs no food, no freshland and no pesticides or herbicides.”

Being from Maine, Wilkinson decided to partner with Atlantic Sea

Graphic by **THOMAS HAYDEN**

Farms, a Maine-based seaweed farming company. “The Gulf of Maine is the fastest warming body of water in the world,” Wilkinson said. “Maine needs to pivot from lobster,” as “it is expected that within ten years 60% of lobsters will move out of the Gulf of Maine to survive.”

Wilkinson said his philosophy is that “good food should do good.” He has succeeded in this by working with Atlantic Sea Farms; they have been able to remove over 150,000 pounds of carbon from the Gulf of Maine.

Wilkinson explained that instead of creating a kelp salad, he wanted to “make kelp the center plate item,” and that he wanted to be able to use a fork and a knife when eating it.

Wilkinson initially struggled trying to cook with kelp. He said, “I had no idea what I was doing because I have been cooking meat my whole life.”

“I am not a food scientist, I am a chef,” Wilkinson said. “I was trying to make something taste good and not a mishmash puree of just texture.”

Through trial and error, Wilkinson created his famous kelp meatballs along with burgers, melt aways, risotto and jalapeno poppers.

His kelp products are so popular that he has expanded to Yale, Umass Boston, and Northeastern University. He is also going to visit Notre Dame to give a presentation on kelp and to help add it to their menu.

Wilkinson said he is focused on expanding kelp meals in New England as he “wants it to grow organically.” He is also working on expanding to Alaska in order to “grow Alaskan kelp with Alaskans.”

With the addition of kelp meals to Milton High School’s menu, students and teachers now have a more healthy and sustainable option for lunch.

Dress Delivery Disaster

By **LAWSON BEAUDOIN**

Saturday October 21 marked a night many upperclassmen had been anticipating for months: Homecoming. This iconic high school dance consists of taking photos with friends, making lifelong memories, and most importantly, picking out an outfit.

Some take a casual approach to the matter: guys might wear a simple button-up shirt with sneakers, and girls a short dress. Some, however, take a more sophisticated approach, sporting a full suit or long dress.

Either way, the excitement that comes with picking out an outfit for Homecoming is something everyone looks forward to.

However, with a large shift towards ordering Homecoming dresses online rather than in-person, a pattern of delayed arrival times has emerged.

Whereas the typical Amazon package arrives within a few days of ordering, Homecoming dresses can take up to three months to arrive at one’s doorstep.

Familiar with this problem, Junior Alyson Truong explained, “I pre-ordered a dress from Lucy in the Sky and it took about a month to ship. The estimated time got delayed a few days but the dress showed up in a week once it shipped.”

Similarly, Junior Maddie Mercier said, “I ordered from Shopinwell and it took about three weeks to come in. Thankfully, I ordered it in early September so I got the dress about a week ago, but I can imagine people are frustrated that it’s taking so long to ship and Homecoming is this Saturday.”

Junior Caelin Howley expressed a similar sentiment saying, “I ordered two dresses from two different places pretty early in September just because I knew it would take about five to seven business days. I know a lot of people who still haven’t even ordered one yet and probably aren’t going to find one on time.”

Some have recognized these shipping issues, and have turned to the old-school version of shopping in-person. Junior Leyla Ghazian explained, “I personally bought mine in person because I knew it would be so much faster. But from my experience last year of buying a dress online it was just very stressful being unsure if it would come on time and also if it would fit the way I wanted it to.”

This recurring issue of delayed dress deliveries leads to the question of why does it take so long for a dress to arrive in time for the event it’s ordered for?

Some argue it’s because all school dances occur around the same time. As Junior Alana Cheairs explained, “Big dress brands like Lucy in the Sky or Isabelle’s Cabinet are only really used for school dances, like Hoco.”

Others argue it’s because the majority of dresses are being shipped from outside the United States. Junior Mae Anthony expressed, “My dress probably would have taken a quarter of the time to arrive if it was shipped from the US.”


One should never feel the need to purchase a new outfit for every event they attend. Before ordering dresses online was a thing, many would reuse older siblings’ past dresses, or even a parents’ dress.

Yet, with the ability of finding the perfect dress online (and quickly), it is no wonder why so many people ordered Homecoming dresses online.


Due to the skyrocketing trend of online dress-purchasing, many popular dress bands need months to ship their orders: leading to the back-up most students complain about. At the same time, this has only added to the Fast Fashion epidemic occurring all over the world.

Despite the delivery delays, the joy of getting a new outfit is an irreplaceable feeling. However, But before hitting the order button, think twice and wonder if that “new dress” is entirely worth it.

**EITR STAFF CANDY
BRACKET!**



(1) Reese's	(1) Reese's	(1) Starburst	(1) Starburst
(8) Butter Fingers	(8) Butter Fingers	(8) Twizzlers	(8) Twizzlers
(3) Kit-Kats	(3) Kit-Kats	(3) Sour Patch Kids	(3) Sour Patch Kids
(6) Milky Way	(6) Milky Way	(6) Nerds	(6) Nerds
(4) M&Ms	(4) M&Ms	(4) Candy Corn	(4) Candy Corn
(5) Hershey's	(5) Hershey's	(5) Airheads	(5) Airheads
(2) Twix	(2) Twix	(2) Skittles	(2) Skittles
(7) Snickers	(7) Snickers	(7) Smarties	(7) Smarties

Winner:

Graphic By GRIFFIN ANGUS

OPINION

School Costume Party Would Promise a Ghoulishly Good Time

By WINSTON CATHCART

A great frightful night is coming to the tiny town of Milton. The moon's lunar light won't be lackluster, it will pierce the sky with its bright glory as werewolves come out to howl for their pack. Witches will laugh maniacally while breezing through the sky on their broom, and hoards of mummies and zombies will break free from the ground to feast on the living. Dracula will exit his home of Wallachia to roam the streets for fresh blood, and Frankenstein's monster will be seen mindlessly wandering the streets, looking to fill his void of sadness. Halloween brings out these great scares.

But these great frights are not the greatest! Oh no, they are not! I will tell you the real fright. But I must warn you, these frights will be the greatest frights of them all! The true frights to be seen are moody teenagers and grumpy parents!

While the youngsters of Milton will enjoy the great night of Halloween, the same cannot be said for the students of Milton High School. With projects, assignments, tests, and in-class essays, we will not enjoy the wonderful night of Halloween as we once did.

The same goes for the faculty. Not only will they be over-



Graphic by THOMAS HAYDEN

whelmed with preparing their own children for Halloween night, but they will need to grade assessments by the end of the month, as the second term is coming.

They will need to stay up the whole night to gather sugary sweets for their children, and resist the urge to take it all for themselves. How can we sit by and let such a wonderful day of joy be ripped from our hands?

How can we get that joy back? Well, the answer is simple: one massive costume party!

On October 31, Milton High School should host the greatest costume party ever to be seen. From freshmen to seniors, substitutes to counselors, all would participate—if they wanted to, of course—in a great remembrance of their childhood. Every possible (appropriate) costume

that students and staff could think of would come to life during one great day. And we will not need to worry about any lack of academic engagement, the day would proceed as any regular school day, but with ghosts, ghouls, creatures, and monsters wandering the hallways.

Imagine, for a moment. Students watching as grizzly bears teach them cellular respiration, or while a wizard tells them the secrets of Pythagorean's theorem.

I understand the concerns teachers might have. What about student productivity? Student focusing? What if we want to assign homework? A project? A test? Really? On Halloween night? You can still assign all of these things a day later. I mean, come on, it cannot be that difficult to grade hundreds of students. Teenagers have to scroll thousands of times per day, I can't imagine how much more difficult that could be.

I think we have all looked at this with the best ideas in mind, and with kindness to our teachers as well.

Let's do it! A great costume party, where monsters, the supernatural, and comedy all come into life at Milton High School.

Tell me. Are you ready to be scared (and entertained)?

SPORTS

MHS' Own Cinderella Story: Girls Varsity Soccer

By RORY MARTIN

In 2022, the MHS girls soccer team just couldn't seem to catch a break. The losses kept on rolling in and team morale was low, but this season is a new story. Nearly tripling their win rate, the team is on a fast track to the state tournament.

Captain Sadie Ruth says it's all thanks to their newest addition, Coach Gorham. Ruth attributed him to their new sense of sisterhood, their discipline and their expectations of themselves. She reflected, "He focuses heavily on creating a bonded team and he looks out for every girl. He gives his all and expects the same out of us," something that every MHS athlete has taken note of.

Currently, only football passes GV soccer's 13th statewide ranking for MHS teams and many have expressed shock at the quick turnaround in performance. MHS Varsity Field Hockey Starter, Maggie Carr, said. "They went from 48th place to 13th in one season, that just doesn't happen."

Although there has been an influx of talented underclassman goal scorers like Sahana Zauls and Noelle Gorham, similar to Ruth, every player only had one name to thank, Coach

Gorham.

Such an amazing transformation is guaranteed to make Milton High history, but Ruth says they're pushing further than just recognition, they want victory. "With our determination, a state championship is definitely possible," she remarked, hopeful for this season and the seasons to come.

As the regular season comes to a close this week, the Wildcats have an extremely positive record and look to host a tournament game



Graphic by ISABELLE GOBBI

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Sincerely,
The Elephant in the Room staff



Sports Themed Crossword

Crossword by GRIFFIN ANGUS



Down

- 1. Short-distance Golf Club
- 2. Number of Fall Sports Offered at MHS
- 5. MHS Football Stadium
- 7. Mass. Sports Governing Body

Across

- 3. Fastest Swim Stroke
- 4. Milton Football Coach (Short)
- 6. Milton Rival Mascot (Short)

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