

A 'pilgrimage' to land of the Pilgrims

Editor's Note: The Dallas Post asked Dallas High School principal Frank Galicki to find students on the "New England Pilgrimage" who would write an article and take photos for publication. We are grateful for his cooperation, and to

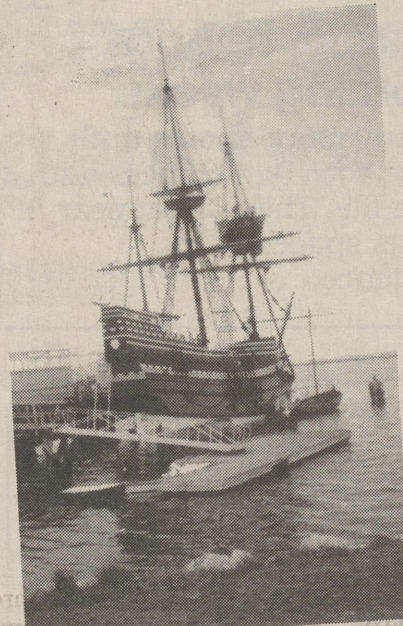
the students who agreed to produce the material on this page. Thirty-one junior and senior year students took part in the trip May 2-6. They were accompanied by teachers Mrs. Buda, Mr. Judge, Mrs. Storz and Mrs. Bren.

By LAURA UZDILLA and KERI BACHMAN Student Correspondents

The American Literature Field Studies Association (ALFS) left Dallas High School May 2 for their annual pilgrimage to New England. The students helped raise money for this trip by selling poinsettias and candy. Before they left for the pilgrimage the students were expected to learn about New England.

The day of the trip finally came and as the excitement built the students boarded the bus hoping to learn about New England and have a great time while doing so. The 8 hour trip on the bus was filled with games and prizes for whoever knew the most facts about New England, although many slept on the bus not knowing what was going on.

We arrived at the first hotel about 12:30 a.m. and were instructed not to set up housekeeping because we were only staying that night.

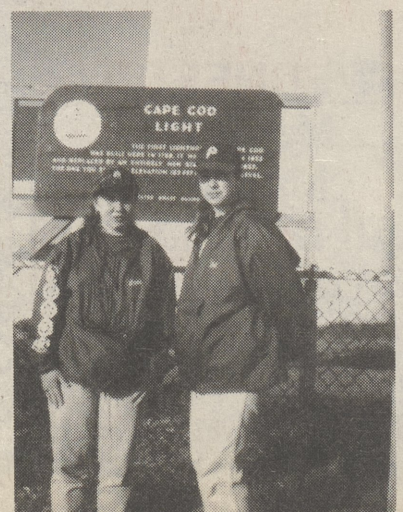


Replica of the Mayflower Plymouth, MA
Photo by Laura Uzdilla

We awoke the next morning to the expectations of whale watching and visiting Provincetown. While we were in Provincetown we toured the Pilgrim's Monument and Museum. The monument was so tall some of us had to take a break now and then, wondering if we would ever make it to the top. On top of the monument we could see the entire cape in all its glory.

After our climb down, which was more enjoyable than up, we had time to spare before we saw the "giants of the sea." Some of us went shopping while others went around town trying to discover new places, people and things. Later that afternoon we boarded the whale watching boat hoping it would be a great day to see the dolphins and whales, but as it turned out it wasn't such a great day. ALFS students only got a chance to see a glimpse of a mink whale and a fin whale, but we got to see a school of dolphins up close (that was exciting).

That night we had a New England lobster feast which was a new experience for some of us. We sat around the pool reading our placemats, trying to figure out how to open our lobsters. Once we figured it out the fun part began, trying to crack the shell of a whole New England lobster. Some of us were successful, others were not, but by the time we were finished all of us were wearing lobster juice on our clothing. We left the feast with plans of having fun which included swimming, playing cards or just hanging out with our friends.



Laura Uzdilla, left, and Gail Culver at the Cape Cod Light

Many students woke up the next morning with one thing on their mind - "Plymouth." Before we reached Plymouth we had a stop to make. It was the National Marine Fisheries Research Facility which gave us a behind-the-scenes tour of an aquarium; also they had "touch tanks" in which most of us picked up a starfish or two. Then we continued on to Plymouth where we visited Cranberry World, where we learned how cranberries were grown and how they were picked.

After that we continued on our busy day by stopping at the Pilgrim Hall Museum. There, we watched a short film and looked at artifacts from around that time period. Now was our chance to go back in time. We boarded the Mayflower II and acted like it was 1620 all over again. We asked many questions of the sailors and William Bradford (captain) to picture what it was really like.

Down the road from the Mayflower II laid the boulder on which the pilgrims first set foot in the new world, Plymouth Rock. Across the street we visited the Plymouth National Wax Museum. Inside some of us got a scare because some of the wax figures which were outside of the exhibits looked very real.

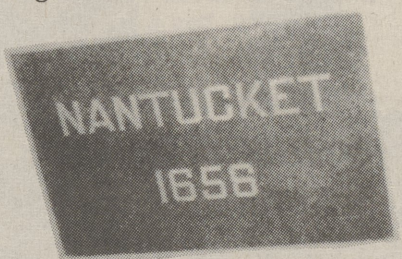
Finally it was time to head to Plimouth Plantation. There we were allowed to roam around freely and visit all the people who lived in the village. The people in the village were very helpful. They told us why they came, where they came from and how their life is now.

We then headed over to the Indian village where we watched them hollow out a canoe and build a teepee. They also told us what the Indians ate in the 17th century. Finally, as the day was winding down we returned to the visitor's center where we had a traditional Thanksgiving Day dinner. As we all hungrily ate we talked about the day's events and what we would do when we returned to the hotel.

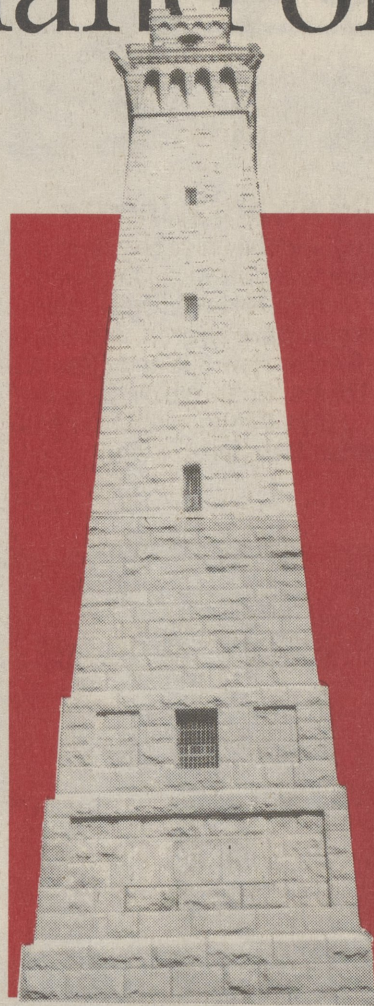
Friday morning was the most difficult to get up on. Our wake-up call was for 5 a.m. As we groggily went down to breakfast we talked about riding the ferry to Nantucket Island. Once we

reached the island we were allowed to roam freely. Most of us shopped while others rented bikes for the day and toured the island. After lunch all of us were to report to the Nantucket Whaling Museum where we learned about whaling and how the whales were used after they were caught. (This part was the most boring part of the whole trip.) The rest of the afternoon was left to browsing and for shopping along the cobblestone streets of Nantucket.

After we returned on the ferry we stopped for dinner and then returned to the hotel to enjoy our last night away from school, our parents and our jobs. Most of us spent the night swimming, playing cards, or just calling home to say how much fun we were having.



Stones Inside the Pilgrim Monument chronicle the advance into the New World



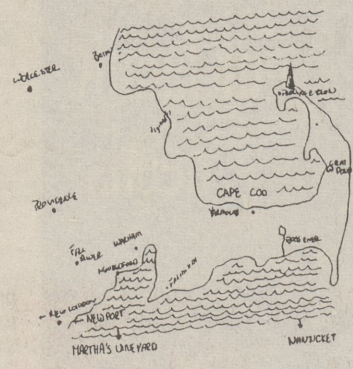
The Pilgrim Monument Provincetown, MA

Photos by Gail Culver



On the way to watch whales, Jessica Husband, left, and Erica Lamoreaux.

Milestones



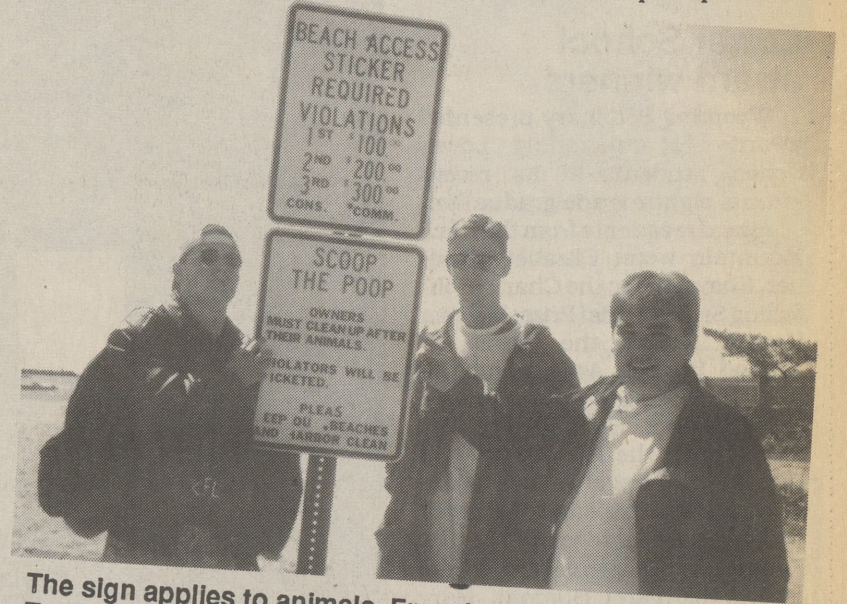
New England Academic Pilgrimage May 2-3-4-5-6, 1995



Ready to roll, the American Literature Field Studies Association of Dallas High School.

Our final day began with a great breakfast and a surprise birthday cake for Tim Reich who celebrated a birthday on the trip. Then we boarded the bus and said one last good-bye to Cape Cod. Our next stop on the way home was Mystic Aquarium in Connecticut. The students and teachers seemed to have a great time there. We watched a dolphin show, saw sharks, penguins, seals, ducks,

turtles and an octopus. It was really interesting to sit and see how the dolphins could be trained to perform for the people that were watching the show. Then we boarded the bus for the last time. Most of us were excited to go home, some still wanted to stay but all in all it was a wonderful trip filled with a lot of memories and a lot of good times that none of us will ever forget. Thanks to all the teachers who put up with us.



The sign applies to animals. From left, Kyle Baker, Mike Trosan, Jeremy Bealla
Photo by Gail Culver



Anchored in Provincetown, from left, Nicole Mazurak, Laura Uzdilla, Melissa Hettes.
Photo by Gail Culver

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