



Jamestownner plays high school polo

By Eileen M. Daly

Island teen Read van der Wal, 17, has an interesting way of spending her free time: she is an interscholastic polo player.

Van der wal began playing competitive polo three years ago and she says the sport is challenging.

"Hitting the ball, aiming the ball, everything about it is really difficult. It is definitely the most challenging sport I've ever played," she said.

She started riding horses as a young girl and originally competed in equestrian events. She

began her riding career at Glen Farm where she continues to ride. Her first mentor and trainer, Ted Torrey, was also a polo player and it was Torrey who started the Westchester Polo Club, a high

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Read van der Wal is in her third season playing interscholastic polo for the Westchester Polo Club. Above, her polo pony gets a little nosy with the camera.
Photos by Onne van der Wal

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