CRystal gazing into Student Government

Officers plan to tackle issues affecting students

(See editorial page 2)

Freedom of expression, a student work-study program, curriculum evaluation and rule revisions in several areas will be some of the issues student government will tackle this year, according to Student Legislative Coordinating Council (SLCC) President Erwin Chemerinsky.

His overall concern is that student government stick to issues which affect students directly rather than devote time on questions of structure.

"In the past, student government has been almost totally involved with structural concerns," Erwin explained. "This year we plan to emphasize specific issues."

The work-study program would allow seniors with free time to take a part-time job and possibly receive credit for their work experience. A standing committee will study the curriculum and attempt to evaluate it. Students may volunteer to be part of the committee.

Areas in which student government will attempt rule changes include discipline.

One structural task which it may undertake is the formation of an Arbitration Board/Board of Appeals (ABBA) for which plans were made last year.

ABBA would include students and faculty members and exercise an appellate function in matters of unresolved disciplinary or jurisdictional disputes among individuals and groups in the high school.

All-school forums at which students may air their views on school issues will enable student government to be more representative of student opinion, according to Erwin.

SLCC and Student Board Adviser Earl Bell Jr. is enthusiastic about the all-school forums and believes that in addition to channelling student opinion they will give students a positive attitude toward student government.

"In the past," Mr. Bell recalled, "SLCC would initiate and carry out plans that the rest of the students never even knew about. This year's government is a student government that is not going to deal without the student body."

Board President Helene Colvin, who will chair the forums, also plans to maximize government responsiveness to student wishes. Although Board will still have a judicial role in part, she said that, in general, "We will play the role that the student body makes us."

One role Board should not have to play, Principal Margaret Faller believes, is that of enforcing rules it didn't make. Such tasks as patrolling the halls, for example, can be carried out by administrators, she feels.

Miss Faller also believes that the all-school forums would be an excellent mechanism for channeling student opinion to the faculty and administrators.

She said she welcomes the more content-oriented approach of student government.

"I think it's more important that we think of substantive things to do than we worry about the mechanics of the organization," she explained.

Mr. Faller feels students can and should take part in planning a wide range of programs, from school parties to curriculum changes.

"I see no limit to what student government could suggest and cause to be carried out provided the ideas are carefully thought out and carefully presented," she said.

Lab Schools Director Phillip Jackson agrees that the channelling of student opinion through student forums is necessary to keep administrators informed of student opinion so that students and administrators can make "collaborative decisions" regarding school matters.

Dean of Students Standrod Carmichael believes, however, that an obstacle in the way of communication between administrators and students is the "ambiguous and confusing language" of the student government constitution which, he feels, "assumes an adversary posture" to administrators.

He suggests a revision of the document.

Student Union leaders are planning a wide range of activities.

Social Union President Carolyn Thomas hopes that as many as possible of the 11 planned school parties can take place outside school.

Other Social Union plans include giving a more social atmosphere to the Senior class-planned College Conference at which juniors and seniors can talk to U-High alumni about the colleges they attend; and opening up the entire school for the annual Arts Week party in February.

Cultural Union President Alex Vesselinovitch is planning a lecture series which will "probably be predominantly political" although speakers from other fields are also planned. He hopes to have the first lecture ready for November.

Arts Week will be only one week this year because it lost its momentum in the second week last year, according to Alex.

Among other Cultural Union plans are one-day exchanges with inter-city and suburban high schools, a film festival November 18-20, and the Spring Festival.

In The Wind

Today — Soccer, North Shore, 4 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 22 — Soccer, Evanston, 4 p.m., here
Friday, Oct. 23 — Field Hockey, Fairmount, 3:15 p.m., here
Friday, Oct. 23 — Sunday, Oct. 25 — Senior camping trip
Sunday, Oct. 26 — High School Open House, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 27 — Field Hockey, North Shore, 3:30 p.m., here; soccer, Illiana, 4 p.m., here.
Thursday, Oct. 29 — Senior, Independent School League Tournament, 1 p.m., here; Field Hockey, 9:00 p.m., here.
Friday, Oct. 30 — Soccer, Independent School League Tournament, 4 p.m., here; Junior class party, 8-11 p.m., cafeteria.
Tuesday Nov. 3 — Midway out after school.
As the Midway sees it

Options and U-High’s future

Friday was a sad day for U-High. By a 3-2 vote, the Azuret Fallsers told members of student government that their idea of off-campus open period privileges for all students with parental permission had not been realized this year. Administrators would approve eligibility only for juniors and seniors, except for freshmen and sophomores whose parents requested use of open periods for specifically-needed off-campus resources.

Although the student government constitution states that the Student Legislative Coordinating Council (SLCC), a body made up of student representatives, has control over noncurricular areas of the school, with its regulations subject to the school’s approval, Ms. Fallers confirmed that SLCC will go through the motions of passing its Option plan and submitting it for approval with the board.

The option controversy which arose last month— with its aura of confusion and frustration and raised voices— cannot be detailed in the brief space available here. Much will be said and written about it in coming weeks. What perhaps is more important to record now is that this Option controversy is the latest in a series in the past several years.

Begun in the early 60’s, the Option program was instituted by Former Principal Willard Congreve to give capable students the opportunity to work on community resources such as libraries and museums during periods in which they were not scheduled for classes. At first Option was available only to seniors, then juniors too. It was a privilege for students who presented evidence of satisfactory academic achievement, personal character and the ability toSUPERVISION—PERMIT SHOE作ったトウの2 ×Ο ％ 芑 of stafmng, drinking and generally goofing off.”

Several times from 1966-1969 the Midway reported that, while many students were using off-campus privileges as it was intended, others— in violation of the rules— were driving off-campus for lunch, to drag or just to drive. Neighborhood businessmen, University employees and residents complained about the noisy, sleepy, distractful conduct of U-Highers off campus.

They’re over the responsibilities of the Option program and decided to open it to all students of all grade levels with parental permission and the approval of a review board of classroom advisors acting on the recommendations of teachers, counselors and administrators, and disciplinary and academic records.

At year’s end, however, SLCC officers and administrators agreed that students who were going off campus as easily as students with it, alike the school’s building, and the teachers didn’t know what to instruct them to. I don’t know which.”

The film, which displays elaborate sets, costumes and photographia, exhibits all the ingredients of a traditional “cast of thousands.” Here the singer is the focal point.

Barbara Streisand has the enviable ability of controlling her age. In her third film, “On a Clear Day You Can See Forever” at the Michael Todd Theatre, Dearborn at Randolph Streets, she portrays with equal conviction characters who range in age from eight to 28.

The fact is, Option has been unpopular among students. Some students asked how they could use our newly-acquired knowledge. We counted

Garmisa’s Column

Students, teachers join fire safety hazards here

By Steve Garmsa

As wailing fire engines pulled up to the Lab Schools of which U-High is a part during the fire drill of September 2, a U-Higher stood in 10th Street traffic, two feet from the flames. The kids teachers stood halfway down the block, chatting. The shape of the drill, the lab alarm system, because of a malfunction, summoned firemen to a station on 38th Street and Kenwood Avenue.

When the fire, Steve McGraw and removed their equipment from the trucks they were surrounded by congregations of unsupervised High School students and a group of Lower School students.

Meanwhile, most of the rest of the students and faculty, who— according to the Lab School building rules— should have moved away from the buildings, stood unmoving on the main floor or in classrooms.

A few teachers moved a group away from the school east on 10th Street, as they were supposed to. Most of the others offered little or no supervision.

It was, one can safely say, not what an ideal building evacuation should be. One reason why students did not move far from the buildings, as they should have, according to the lab school building rules, was cited. Michael Garmisa, that is, “Teachers did not follow the instructions that gave the students.”

It was a sad day for U-High. Principal Margaret Fallers told members of student government that their idea of off-campus open period privileges for all students with parental permission had not been realized this year. Administrators would approve eligibility only for juniors and seniors, except for freshmen and sophomores whose parents requested use of open periods for specifically-needed off-campus resources.

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When Teacher Herbert Pearson, then Dean of Students, recalls that, in some cases, “The privilege was grossly abused. Kids were smoking, drinking and generally goofing off.”

Several times from 1966-1969 the Midway reported that, while many students were using off-campus privileges as it was intended, others— in violation of the rules— were driving off-campus for lunch, to drag or just to drive. Neighborhood businessmen, University employees and residents complained about the noisy, sleepy, distractful conduct of U-Highers off campus.

Serendipity

Streisand’s originality brightens “Clear Day”

By Liz Greenberg

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U-High's soccer, field hockey and cross country coaches hold uncertain, optimistic and non-existent outlooks — in that order — toward the remainder of their seasons.

Coach Sandy Patlak said that the soccer team must be "inspired by a couple of wins under its belt" in order to defeat Evanston, 4:15 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 22, here.

The Wildkits are not as strong as last year, when they were unde­feated state champions, according to Coach Patlak.

By defeating U-High last year, Illini got its only win of the season. 

"We expect to beat them this year," Mr. Patlak said of the match, 3:30 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 27, here.

The Maroons received their first soccer defeat in more than two years of Independent School League (ISL) competition from soccer league newcomer St. Mich­aels, 2-0, October 2, here. Junior Jimmy Solomon and Neil Bader scored Maroon goals.

Mr. Patlak believes that St. Michaels will be U-High's biggest obstacle in the way of the ISL championship. Three Maroon losses were dealt by St. Mel, 2-1, September 30, here.

In lieu of a cross country team — for which an insufficient num­ber of boys turned out — Mr. Ed Banns may sponsor a fall track program at Stagg Field, depending on student interest.

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Black studies to get further discussion

Further meetings are planned for students, teachers and administrators to discuss more extensive incorporation of black history and culture into the Lab Schools curriculum.

Lab Schools Director Philip Jackson agreed with the meeting's theme at a joint meeting of the Curriculum Committee of the Council on Race and Black Students Association (BSA) October 7 here.

Mr. Jackson promised that he would share ideas expressed there with other administrators, then notify the groups of the final decisions which had taken place.

Dr. Philip Jackson, who chairs the committee, agreed that the group felt the discussion should take place.

Dr. Jackson was here to attend the meeting at the Lab Schools, which is divided into four committees, concerned with the following areas: Curriculum, re-creation of black students, recruitment of black teachers and community relations.

Council membership is open to Lab Schools students, parents and faculty, but most of the membership at present consists of black parents.

BSA also was begun in 1960. Members of an interracial organization concerned with race relations among teachers and students (CRS) felt the need for an all-black group to be specific in dealing with the feelings of blacks in a primarily white school.

Attention by about 30 people, the meeting October 7 resulted from a group of black students and parents September 27 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Linzey Jones.

At that meeting Mrs. Claude Dickson, a Curriculum Committee member and mother of Junior Yvette, pointed out similarities between the goals of BSA and BSA.

At the October 7 meeting, Mrs. Norma Poinsett, mother of Freshman Mimi and chairman of the Curriculum Committee, spoke on the need for better incorporating into the curriculum, as early as first grade, the experiences of black Americans.

An elective three-quarters history course taught by Miss June Patron and spring quarter Afro-American music course now being planned with a group of U-High by Music Teacher Roberta Newman are the only black study courses at U-High at present.

"Black studies should be required, not elective," Mrs. Poinsett said, "since the contribution of blacks is just as much a part of history as what is being taught now in high school social studies courses."

She feels all teachers can incorporate a black point of view into their curricula, especially in the areas of social studies, literature, home economics, art and music.

Part of the October 7 meeting was devoted to last minute logistics and plans of the Council on Race and BSA.

Linsey announced the following programs, part of BSA’s goal of promoting black awareness and self-education, which will feature speeches and art exhibits to which all students are invited:

Black Panther Day, December 4, Mrs. Alice Christmas, Aft-Arts Week.

A letter from Foster Parents dated May 8 said that unless it was received by June 11 the needed $200 to cover the child’s account through September 11, U-High would be dropped from the program.

Because Student Council left incomplete and out-of-order records when the Student Legislative Coordinating Council (SLCC) replaced it in 1967, no one knows for sure when the program began, how much money was raised, how much was paid out and when payments stopped.

A Foster Child Committee is mentioned in 1960-61 Student Council record. an “old business.”

Foster child forgotten

By Betsy Munger

Sieu A-Tim, a 15-year-old Vietnamese boy whose support U-High’s contributed last year and perhaps before, has been put up for reauction because the school did not fulfill its financial obligations as a foster parent.

Foster Parents Plan Inc., an international organization through which groups and individuals can support needy children throughout the world, arranged for U-High to provide funds for the child.

Under the Foster Parents program, in return for child support, a caseworker informs the foster parent of the child’s needs; sends progress reports on the child’s school work and improvements in living standards; and translates letters written by the child.

A report to Student Council on the Foster Child was devoted to explaining the purposes and plans of the Council on Race and BSA.

Lab Schools students, parents and teachers to discuss more extensive incorporation of black history and culture into the Lab Schools curriculum.

GREEN LIGHT—Student-Teacher Coalition (STC) received approval in early October from Principal Margaret Fallers to draw a proposal for a pilot project of their suggestions for alternatives to present U-High curriculum.

Mr. Peter Cobb, administrative assistant to the principal and a member of STC, said the project will be based on the group’s educational philosophy that “each student is unique and, therefore, deserves an opportunity to discover and responsibly explore his unique capacities.”

TEXTBOOK CITES PAPER

A new textbook, “Journalism and Mass Media” by Renee White, includes a description of how the 1967-68 Media staff improved reader interest and emphasized importance of covering social events to in-depth examination of issues about which students were most concerned.

WE GOOFED — Everyone the Midwest staff misprints a name, gets a quote wrong or makes an error of fact, the adviser tears his hair. He is almost bald from last