

# Seminars to promote discussion on problems

U-Highers and their parents will have an opportunity to discuss student pressures at four seminars this quarter sponsored by the Parents Association.

They and students and parents of the 6th, 7th and 8th grades in the Middle Schools will receive by the end of January from the Parents Association a letter of explanation and a registration card. The seminars are scheduled for 7:30-10 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 16 and 23 and March 1 and 8.

The seminars are being planned by a joint committee led by Social Climate Committee Chairman Geraldine Macsai, parent of Senior Aaron and Freshman Marian, and Community Relations Committee Vice President Florence Field, parent of Junior Andrew.

Students on the committee include, among others, Student Legislative Coordinating Council President Jay Golter and Juniors Lisa Richter and Gretchen Bogue.

The committee was formed at Jay's request. He felt that "parents should inform themselves of the atmosphere their child is being brought up in."

The committee originally planned to center discussion around drugs, but later decided to include any student problem because "drugs are just a symptom of other problems," according to Mrs. Macsai.

The seminars will consist of small discussion groups, eight to 15 people each, led by trained social workers who specialize in leading small group discussions.

Participants will be assigned to groups and will remain in those groups for all four sessions. Parents will be assigned to different groups than their children, according to Mrs. Field.

The groups will meet for an hour to an hour-and-a-half to discuss topics "somewhere between student's problems at random and the problem of drugs," explained Mrs. Macsai.

Then the groups will break up and over coffee all the participants will discuss questions that arose in the various groups, if they wish.

Ground rules for the seminars, such as keeping everything said confidential, will be decided by the planning committee, according to Mrs. Macsai.

She explained that the purpose of the seminars is to "provide an opportunity for parents to try to begin to understand the complex problems in an adolescent's life which often result in drug usage."

Jay hopes that if students will tell how they feel burdened socially or academically "we will be able to find what the problem areas are and work in them because chances are, some students are using hard drugs to escape from them."

The seminars will, Mrs. Macsai hopes, "provide an area of communication between students and adults." The purpose of having four seminars instead of only one is "to provide time for people to confront the problems and reflect on them," she added.



Photo by Mark Gurvey

**HORRIFIED** by a noseless monk begging for bread (Senior Robert Cohen), a tourist in Italy (Sophomore Jessie Allen) grabs her husband (Junior Joel Banks) in the SET Arts Week production of "Collision Course."

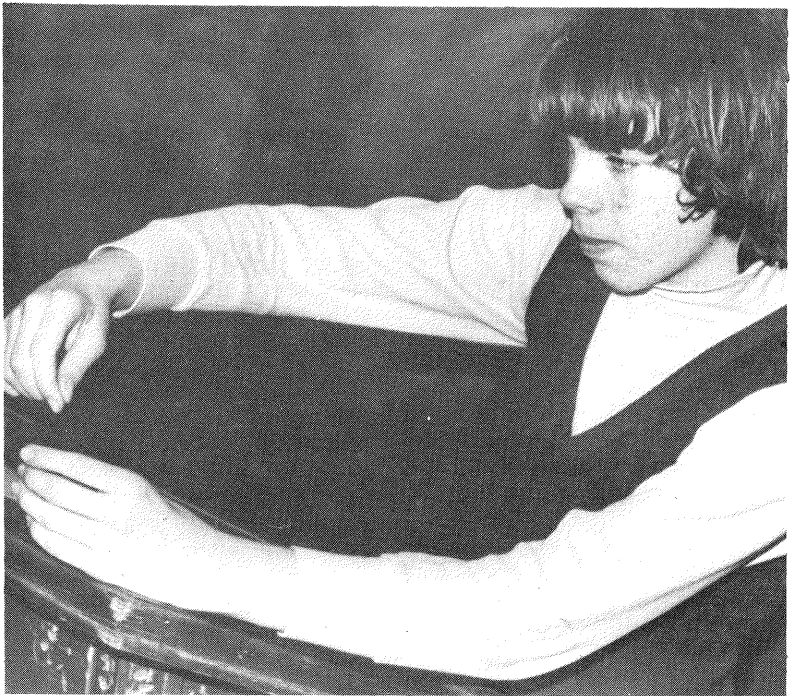


Photo by Mark Gurvey

**NOW DEAD**, Dippold the Optician (Sophomore Jim Grant) enacts his life as part of a series of character sketches in "Spoon River Anthology."



Photo by Mark Gurvey

**WITH A SMIRK** on her face, a promiscuous 13-year-old (Junior Judy Becker) leans toward her newly-found friend (Junior Jedd Roberts) in "This Property is Condemned."

## The U-HIGH MIDWAY

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Photo by Mark Gurvey

**UNABLE** to see the ghost of her husband's former wife (Junior Karen Maddi), the second wife (Freshman Susan Seidenberg) thinks her

husband (Senior Lee Handler), who can see the ghost, is drunk in the Arts Week production of "Blythe Spirit."

## Plays, presentations, exhibits to highlight 6th Arts Week

Five student-directed plays are among more than three-dozen programs being prepared for U-High's sixth annual Arts Week, Feb. 14-18.

Arts Week was begun in 1967 by David Boorstin, '67, who as student government president wanted to "involve as many U-Highers as possible in a weeklong festival devoted to the muses."

Student Union took over sponsorship of the program in 1969.

**IN ADDITION** to the plays, Arts Week this year will include music and dance recitals, slide presentations, movies, 500 pieces of student and faculty art.

Students will be allowed to miss one period of each course to attend activities, according to Principal Margaret Fallers. She cautioned, however, that most teachers will require a prearranged absence note.

The plays will be presented 7:30 p.m., in the drama room, Belfield 138, as follows: "Blythe Spirit," Thursday, Feb. 17; "Spoon River," Friday, Feb. 18; and "This Property is Condemned," "Still Alarm" and "Collision Course," Saturday, Feb. 19.

**A STUDENT-COMPOSED** dance will precede "Spoon River" Friday evening.

Tickets for each evening are 50 cents. They will go on sale outside the drama room before the production.

"Blythe Spirit" is a light social comedy about a man whose dead wife comes back to seduce him. It will be directed by Junior Gretchen Bogue. Junior Karen Maddi will portray the seductive ghost, Senior Lee Handler her bewildered hus-

band, Freshman Susan Seidenberg his present wife and Junior Carol Lashof an eccentric medium.

**IN "SPOON RIVER"** 30 dead characters, portrayed by eight student actors, discuss their past lives. The play, according to its director, Junior Julie Needelman, "depicts the baseness of humanity."

The dance, directed by Seniors Daphne Davis and Jenny Bedno, consists of 12 sections. Backgrounds will vary from silence to poetry readings to jazz and classical music.

"This Property is Condemned" is a character sketch of a 13-year-old girl who lives alone in a condemned house in Mississippi. Junior Judy Becker will portray the promiscuous girl and Junior Jed Roberts her newly-found friend. Senior Todd Brower will direct.

"**THE STILL Alarm**," directed by Senior David Meles, is a satirical comedy about a group of people in a burning hotel who calmly sit and discuss the circumstances while they burn to death.

(Editor's note: As this issue went to press, "Still Alarm" was cancelled.)

"Collision Course" is an anthology of 10-minute plays of which its director, Senior Robert Cohen, has selected eight. They deal with various aspects of the breakdown of communication between people.

Robert is one of the major contributors to Arts Week. In addition to acting in and directing "Collision Course," he will perform twice as a piano accompanist, in a piano-flute duet with Todd Brower, and in his own piano recital of Bach works.

"I need the experience of performing in public," Robert says of

his heavy schedule.

**OTHER MUSICAL** performances

(Continued page 6, col. 1)

## In The Wind

Tuesday, Jan. 25 — Girls basketball, Francis Parker, 3:30 p.m., home; Boys Basketball, Francis Parker, 4 p.m., away; Swimming, South Shore, 4:15 p.m., home.

Friday, Jan. 28 — Boys basketball, Latin, 4 p.m., home; Swimming, Latin, 4:15 p.m., home.

Monday, Jan. 31 — Friday, Feb. 4 — Senior parents visiting week.

Tuesday, Feb. 1 — Girls basketball, North Shore, 3:45 p.m., away.

Thursday, Feb. 3 — Swimming, Mt. Carmel, 4 p.m., away.

Friday, Feb. 4 — Boys Basketball, Harvard-St. George, 4 p.m., home; Track, Schurz, 4 p.m., home.

Monday, Feb. 7 — Winter holiday.

Tuesday, Feb. 8 — Boys Basketball, Wheaton, 4 p.m., home; Swimming, Glenwood, 4:15 p.m., home.

Friday, Feb. 11 — Boys basketball, St. Michael's, 4 p.m., away; Track, Lake View, 4 p.m., home; Swimming, Lake Forest Academy, 4:15 p.m., home.

Saturday, Feb. 12 — University Track Club Open Meet, 4:30 p.m., Field House, 56th St. and University Ave.

Monday, Feb. 14 — Friday, Feb. 18 — Arts Week.

Tuesday, Feb. 15 — Midway out after school.



## As cafeteria workers

# Four go behind the lines

By Judy Schlessinger

"Gimme a plate lunch."  
"Okay. Would you rather have soup or a vegetable with it?"

"Neither."  
"But you have to have one or the other."

"I said NEITHER."  
"But it's included in the price."

"I don't care. I don't like soup or vegetables."  
"All right, but you still have to pay the same price."  
"NO."

"Sorry, but that's the way it is. Now, would you rather have soup or a vegetable?"  
"Oh, all right! Vegetable."  
"Just a minute."

Four students hired to work parttime in the cafeteria are finding out what it's like to serve instead of be served.

The four workers are Seniors Joan Lipkin, Isaac Riley and Margot Miller and Junior Joey Notkin.

Joan and Isaac are working on the student line, Joan during 4th period and Isaac during lunch. Margot works on the faculty line 4th period and lunch.

Joey comes in at 7 a.m. and works till 8 wiping tables. All four students are paid \$1.65 an hour.

The four were hired to replace a full-time employee when the cafeteria added a plate lunch to its menu at the beginning of this quarter.

It is less expensive for the school to pay them parttime than pay one adult full time, according to Home Economics Teacher Dorothy Szymkowicz, chairman of a student-faculty committee seeking ways to improve the cafeteria.

"When I come in I have to punch a time clock, like in a factory, then change into a white uniform and put a net over my hair," Joan said, describing her job as server.

"When I'm ready, I go out and wait for customers. The job really isn't difficult and I enjoy it. I've worked in a cafeteria before, so I didn't have much trouble getting the hang of it."

Margot also wears the required uniform and hair net. "When I put my hair up I look different so some of the faculty have a hard time recognizing me and they seem shocked to see me behind the counter."

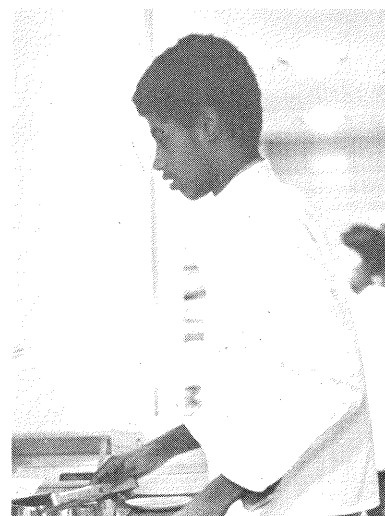
"I might be bored if I weren't so busy. The faculty is buying the plate lunches, so I'm always working. The other people working are nice to me. When I made mistakes the first few days, they didn't yell at me."

Joey said of his job, "Wiping off tables isn't exactly thrilling, but you get used to it after a few days. I saw my first mouse in the cafeteria through my job. That was about the most exciting thing that has happened."

All four students say they took the jobs mainly for money.

The plate lunches introduced at the time the students were hired consists of a main dish, choice of vegetable or soup, salad with choice of dressing and choice of dessert. The cost ranges from about 65 to 85 cents depending on what is served. Ten menus are rotated on a two-week cycle. Main dishes include Salisbury steak, baked spaghetti, Monaco sandwich, fish sandwich and baked beans and franks.

The committee chose the menus from a list of 20 according to price and popularity. It hopes the plate lunches will attract more people to the cafeteria.



Isaac Riley



Joan Lipkin



Joey Notkin



Margot Miller

Photos by Colin Smith

## Quickies

### New course in black lit

• **BLACK AUTHORS** and their literature will be studied in an elective course being planned for the spring quarter by the English Department. A graduate student at the University probably will teach the course.

English Chairman Eunice McGuire said interested students should contact her concerning the proposed course. An 8 a.m., three-days-a-week schedule is anticipated.

• **U-HIGHERS** collected 60 pounds of clothing and shoes for the lady whose request for help was erroneously delivered to Principal Margaret Fallers and printed in the Dec. 7 issue of the Midway.

The lady, Mrs. Lucy North of Hyden, Ky., wrote the letter to a Mrs. Mary McKeown. Midway Reporter Marc Miller later located Mrs. McKeown as head of the American Correspondence School here.

Mrs. McKeown expressed gratitude to U-Highers for their generosity in helping Mrs. North.

• **U-HIGH'S** Science Department has chosen Kurt Wagner as the 1972 Bausch and Lomb Award recipient for outstanding work in science (see photo). The award makes Kurt eligible for a scholarship to Rochester (N.Y.) University.

• **MISS MARIAN** Owens, secretary to three Lab Schools directors over the past 17 years, retired Dec. 17 to live in DeLand, Fla. The faculty and staff said farewell at a party the day before.

• **SENIOR** Janet Goldberg is the first U-Higher to participate in the school's new work-study program. She has rescheduled her classes to the morning and in the afternoon works developing curriculum for a Jewish educational summer camp, an early start on her May Project.

• **TEACHERS** have received the pay they lost because of the wage-price freeze earlier this year. The University is covering the restitution, approved by the Pay Board in Washington.

• **SCOTT GURVEY**, '69, has been appointed station manager of WPRB, radio station of Princeton (N.J.) University.



Photo by Simeon Alev

**SENIOR KURT WAGNER**  
Science award recipient

• **THE** Computer Club is offering three no-credit (but recorded on college transcript) courses taught by its members.

Senior Juan Pineda is teaching a course on the PL/1 computer and Senior Craig Douglass, club president, is teaching compiler writing and Fortran. Interested students should contact Craig.

• **A DAY AT** The Playboy Club in Lake Geneva is planned for Feb. 7, a school holiday. Class funds will pay for a chartered bus. Available activities will include skiing, ice skating, tobogganing and snow-mobiling.

### 'Mikado' earns \$3200

At least \$3200 was earned for the Lab Schools Scholarship Fund by the Parents Association-sponsored production of "The Mikado," Dec. 10 and 11.

According to Mrs. Marjorie Trosman, cochairman of the Adventures in the Arts Committee in charge of the annual production, the exact amount of profit will be known after costs of the production have been met. The show is performed by a community Gilbert and Sullivan company.

The Scholarship Fund extends financial aid to students who otherwise might not be able to attend U-High.

All current Scholarship Fund money is being used to fulfill previous commitments. "Mikado" profits will be used next year to continue present commitments or finance new scholarships.

Part of a gift given last year to the school of 2,500 shares of Popeil Brothers stock by Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Popeil, parents of Soph-

# SLCC considers reducing; might replace Student Board

by Doug Patinkin,  
political editor

Student Legislative Coordinating Council (SLCC) is considering reducing its own size and replacing its disciplinary branch, Student Board.

According to its president, Junior Jay Golter, SLCC would reduce its membership from 28 to 16.

"Twenty-eight members can be very cumbersome," he explained, "because each member has a different idea to air which takes up too much of SLCC's time."

**MEMBERSHIP** would be limited to three officers, four class presidents, one representative from each class and five other members from student government divisions.

Student Board may eventually be replaced by the U-High Arbitration Board / Board of Appeals (ABBA), first considered by student government in 1970.

ABBA would provide a court of appeal regarding disciplinary actions taken by the Dean of Students and Student Board, with the student government constitution eventually being changed to drop the Board.

**THE BOARD** of Appeals would also act as an arbitration committee for disputes between students and

teachers, administrators and staff members.

The ABBA constitution was drafted by Student Board President Michael Letchinger. After being revised and accepted by SLCC, the constitution would be submitted to the faculty and Council on Procedures and Rules.

If accepted by the Council, the constitution would go to Lab Schools Director Philip Jackson and, if he approved it, take effect at the end of this quarter or beginning of next.

**ABBA WOULD** consist of two students, two faculty members and the principal.

In addition to reducing its size, SLCC may also change its jurisdiction. Jay explained that with the institution of the Council on Rules, SLCC has not had the opportunity to legislate on many matters.

He said that he has been considering "taking away SLCC's legislative role and changing it into a policy and program-making committee, since there presently is no such committee in the school."

**OTHER POSSIBLE** changes in student government under consideration by SLCC are abolition of Social Union and reduction in the

number of representatives to Cultural Union.

If these changes are accepted by SLCC, they must first be approved by the student body before taking effect at the beginning of next year.

In other government developments, the Council on Rules has presented a proposal on driving privileges to Mr. Jackson for approval.

The proposal was drafted by Dean of Students Standrod Carmichael, Principal Margaret Fallers and Junior David Wilkins.

**ACCORDING TO** Mr. Carmichael, the proposal represents "a radical revision of the original policy which states that students are not encouraged to drive to school, that they must register the car with the Dean and that they may not enter the car between the time school starts and ends."

The new policy simply states that students are not encouraged to drive to school because of parking problems and possible law suits, should a student be involved in an accident.

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# Videotapes to link Alaskans, U-High

U-Highers will soon learn about Eskimo culture through a series of videotape exchanges with Alaskan high school students.

The audio-visual correspondence was proposed by a Nome, Alaska, school teacher in a letter to Drama Teacher Paul Shedd.

Mr. Shedd, who does not know how the man got his name or what prompted him to write, brought the proposal to the attention of Lab Schools Director Philip Jackson. Since he owns his own video equipment, Mr. Shedd was able to request

that only the tapes be provided by the school.

**PURPOSE** of the exchange, the teacher explained in his letter, is to promote pride among Eskimo children in their culture.

"Most Eskimo students are trying so desperately to be big city, they miss most of the beauty which is all around them," the letter explained.

"They do not want to be country and they generally do not feel it's worth showing others what they do and where they live . . . so much can be learned here. I know the Eskimo students would love teaching someone else about their lives and I know it would be good for those receiving the tapes."

**MR. SHEDD** will know what is to be presented on the tapes when he receives a sample from Nome. He would like, however, to record students discussing their lives, as well as show their daily activities in school and at home.

He will select U-Highers with different ethnic and cultural backgrounds.

"I want the tapes to show them that America is made up of many different cultures," he said.

"Also," he added, "our students will get a much more real understanding about the Eskimo culture than they would from textbooks and educational films."

If the exchange proves successful, Mr. Shedd says he will approach a local educational station with the tapes for a possible program using them.

## Library use problems told

University library facilities should be used only by U-Highers who specifically know what they are seeking, cautions U-High Head Librarian Blanche Janecek.

University librarians have expressed concern about high school student use of the libraries, and U-Highers are the only high school students allowed to use the facilities.

Miss Janecek gives permits to students whom she feels are responsible enough for "an adult type study."

But even some of these students are not wisely using the libraries, which include recently-opened Regenstein, according to U-High Librarian Winfred Poole.

Some students get their cards and feel they can "just run over there," he explained. "This sort of facility is geared primarily to the needs and abilities of graduate students and faculty members and is an extremely complicated instrument to use. A student has to know what he's doing. The people there don't usually have time to help."

Miss Janecek added that students must decide "if they are capable of handling such a complex facility" before going to a University library.

## STC considers a 'task force'

Student-Teacher Coalition may develop a task force to solve credits problems of participants in its self-directed learning project.

Some of the participants have encountered trouble getting departments to agree to give them credit for their STC projects, according to STC Adviser Peter Cobb.

The task force, according to Mr. Cobb, would consist of students and teachers.

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## Ever notice? Secretaries are people

Although most U-Highers see secretaries almost every day they seem to know little about them as people.

Most students, for example, do not know that Mrs. Emma Hays, secretary to Principal Margaret Fallers, has been studying classical guitar for two years (see photo). Or that she is a member of the U-High choir.

Other secretaries hold college degrees, are raising families, crochet and embroider, ski, play bridge and are avid readers.



Unfortunately, many students don't know them beyond their role as secretaries. Most of the secretaries agree they'd like to be known as people, too.

## Tomorrow's schools today

# Education the yearround

Second article of five on ideas in education in Chicago-area schools that could be adapted to U-High.

By Karen Uhlenhuth

In July, 1970, the Valley View Elementary School in Romeoville, 32 miles southwest of the Loop, implemented a yearround school system. Valley View calls its plan the 45-15 system.

Every student attends school 45 school days, followed by 15 of vacation.

According to Mr. David Pauley, Valley View's principal, the yearround system was developed several years ago by Mr. Patrick

Page, a math teacher at Westview Junior High in Romeoville. Severe overcrowding requiring optimum use of available classrooms, he explains, made the yearround system necessary.

**VALLEY VIEW'S** 1200 students in grades 1-6 constitute four attendance groups of approximately 300 students each.

Children, by grades, are grouped with others from the same family and neighborhood to permit entire families simultaneous vacations. Three groups are in school at any one time, while the other is on vacation.

Every 15 days, Mr. Pauley says, the groups rotate.

Mr. Pauley considers the yearround school advantageous over one which operates nine months because, through constant use of facilities, "the tax dollar is used better."

**THE 45-15** system, however, doesn't reduce expenditures, he says.

Money that would have gone to pay for additional buildings to accommodate new students — 50 to 60 each week — instead pays additional teacher salaries and maintenance, Mr. Pauley says.

The 45-15 system uses not only money but time more efficiently than a three-quarter system, he feels.

A long summer vacation, Mr. Pauley explains, results in a memory relapse for many students, necessitating a month or two of review in the fall.

Because 45-15 avoids any extended vacation, that kind of review doesn't consume class time.

**THE 45-15** system has also improved classroom efficiency through a decrease in class size.

According to Mr. Pauley, the yearround school "forces the traditional teacher to open his door."

The 45-15 system results in problems as well as advantages. Many teachers, some of whom teach 240 days annually, complain of fatigue.

**BECAUSE** Valley View is the only school in its area using the 45-15 system, student changing to or from it sometime find themselves on a different academic level than other of their own age.

Nevertheless, the Romeoville community has enthusiastically accepted the yearround plan and next year it will be extended to the high school.

The U-High community probably wouldn't accept the 45-15 calendar, in the opinion of Principal Margaret Fallers.

**MANY U-HIGH** parents work at the University, she notes. To put U-High on a yearround system would place many U-Highers and their parents on different yearly schedules, making family vacations difficult.

A long summer vacation, she added, is desirable for high school students because they need to get away from school and do "something different."

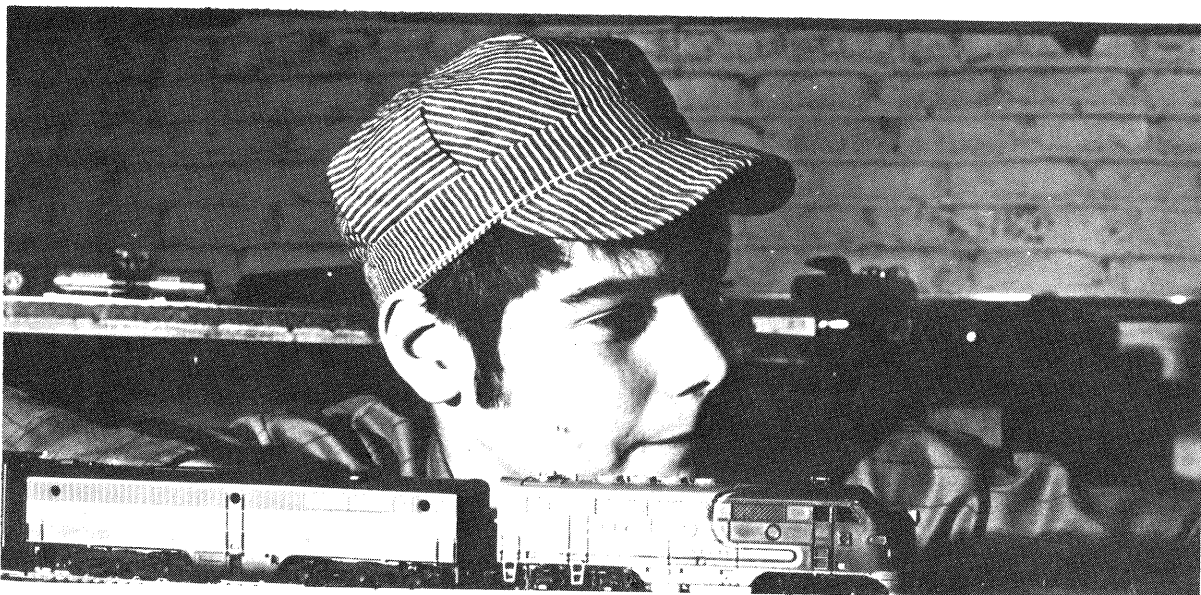


Photo by Greg Schroff

SAFE in the Belfield room from which it Club's choo choo is still chugging along, here might have had to be moved, the Model Railroad engineered by Junior Alan Bormuth.

## Small clubs pluckily survive

By Alex Schwartz

Despite lack of money, lack of space, lack of members and lack of advisers, U-High's small clubs somehow have managed to survive.

The clubs include Model Railroad, Electronics, French, Latin, German, Russian, Debate and Feature Film.

One club, Slot Car Racing, and one publication, Concept (a literary magazine), did not survive the summer.

Of Concept, English Chairman Eunice McGuire said, "There was not enough student interest." That is the same reason for the disappearance of the Slot Car Club, according to Shop Teacher Herbert Pearson, its adviser.

Other clubs such as Debate, Russian and Model Railroad have had or are having problems. But their existence is not threatened.

The Debate Club received only \$400 of the \$700 it requested from student government. As a result, according to Junior Guyora Binder, a member, the club can't

send as many people to tournaments as it did last year.

Because no faculty member was interested in advising the club, Mr. Bill Dietch, a University law student, took the position. Mr. Dietch, however, can counsel the club only after school, according to Junior Benji Pollock, another member.

The Model Railroad had a problem which could have been fatal but it has been solved. Administrators were considering taking the club out of its room in the basement of Belfield Hall so the Drama Department could have more space for props. Club members, however, persuaded the school to let them keep the room for their track layout, space for which would be difficult to find elsewhere.

Why the small clubs survive despite such problems no one seems to know.

But Senior Colin Smith, a member of the Latin Club, pointed to one self-evidence; "They survive because members participate and are interested."



# How about a Parent-Teacher-Student Assn.?

By Scott Harris

At a recent Parents Association meeting, someone suggested that the Association join in the spirit of the coming North Central Evaluation, and evaluate itself.

If the Association were to follow that suggestion, it probably would find much of which to be proud. Each year it sponsors a Gilbert and Sullivan production which earns \$2500-\$3500 for the Scholarship Fund, which extends aid to Lab School students. It operates a resale shop, the Scholarship which also contributes earnings to the fund (this year it's already collected \$900).

Its Parents Newsletter provides valuable information about the Association and the school to the community. The Association sponsors Open House, where parents attend their children's classes and meet their teachers each October.

The Association's Social Climate and Community Relations committees are presently organizing student seminars on problems and pressures that confront high school students (see story page one).

And the Association, without being asked,

often insures continuation of needy school programs such as the Midway. It has given the paper \$550 to publish larger issues the rest of the year.

But, as successful as the Association might find itself, it almost certainly would find room for improvement.

One question that comes to mind is whether the Association should involve more parents, and would greater attendance help to involve the Association more closely in solving school problems.

At one recent Parents Association Governing Board meeting (they take place the first Monday of every month), 20 parents — only two of them males — showed up. The meeting consisted of 22 reports given by parents, principals and two student representatives.

Teachers and all parents — 670 families have paid dues — are welcomed to attend the meetings. But, in fact, only 20-30 parents, usually governing board members, show up.

At one such meeting, Student Legislative

Coordinating Council President Jay Golter reported that 16 SLCC proposals had been turned down by the administration. Jay did not ask the Association for help or guidance with his problem but just stated the statistics with the rest of his report.

He later told the Midway he has never asked the Association for assistance because "they generally have avoided any involvement in matters such as rules or procedures which directly concern the school. I think that before we can ask them for help they should be more informed and concerned with what goes on in the high school."

According to Mr. Charles Schwartz, Association president and father of Freshman Alex, through the Association parents have an opportunity to learn about and discuss problems of the school.

But, he noted, "lots of parents would like to let the school take care of all the problems."

Dr. George Pollock, president of the Association from 1966 to 1970, and father of

Junior Benji, agrees that the Association provides an opportunity for communication. But if the Association wants to become involved, or even form opinions, he said, it must be informed.

In evaluating itself, the Association might come up with a few suggestions for improvement.

A carefully thought out and structured program could be planned for each publicized Monday night meeting, attracting as many people as possible with appealing and relevant topics, a congenial atmosphere (with refreshments at the end of the program) and an opportunity to exchange ideas.

Seminars and just rap sessions could help improve communication between students, parents and teachers. Maybe eventually parents could gain representation on the Council on Rules and Procedures.

At many schools, parent-teacher groups have become parent-teacher-student groups. The P-TA has become the PSTA.

Maybe the P.A. should become a PSTA, also. If it tried it, it might like it.

## As the Midway sees it

# Solving the lunchTIME problem

U-High has a lunchtime problem. No, not the lunchroom problem we've heard about before, but a lunchtime problem. Students are bored during lunch. But that's nothing new.

Bored students of past years, seeking to find a way to make lunchtime more interesting, secured off-campus privileges and requested that the library be kept open during lunch.

Some of the results were a messy neighborhood, a noisy library, and invitations from several neighborhood cafeterias and restaurants to stay away.

THE LIBRARY was opened again during lunch last year in answer to student requests. It was closed again this year because students were disruptive.

Last quarter, Cultural Student Union began plans to present movies in the Little Theatre during lunchtime. Twelve students volunteered to be projectionists, but the shows have yet to get underway.

This fall the Student Legislative Coordinating Council (SLCC) sponsored several Firing Lines, student-faculty-administrator question-and-answer periods. Attendance at them decreased from 20 people at the first to zero at the third, and consequently final, Firing Line.

And so we're back where we were. There's nothing to do during lunchtime except eat lunch.

WITH WINTER weather and a new, and in some ways less expensive, lunch menu



Art by Eduardo Pineda

**WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU'RE CLOSING THE LIBRARY DURING LUNCH? WE NEED A QUIET PLACE TO STUDY!**

being served in the cafeteria many more students seem to be staying at school for lunch. The more students in school, the larger the problem.

Not that the school doesn't offer plenty of possibilities for lunchroom programs. But

the library is closed because of student abuse, the movies have yet to get underway, the Firing Lines failed for lack of interest.

If U-Highers are sick of wasted lunchtimes they must support such programs, not ignore or abuse them.

That seems reasonable enough, doesn't it?

## THOUGHTS

... about a bus ride

Editor's note: During the Christmas recess, Senior Naomi Janowitz went to Israel to visit friends.

Brakes screeching, the bus driver skillfully pulled up to the bus stop. Joining the crowd shoving into the bus, I held my breath and squeezed aboard beside a man carrying a live chicken which eyed me menacingly.

As the door closed on some unfortunate person, I felt the triumph of an Israeli commuter. The bus started with a jerk as the driver swung it around a corner, one hand on the steering wheel, the other reaching for my agorot (Israeli coin). I struggled to keep from crashing into the old lady behind me, who seemed to be greatly enjoying the swerving.

AT THE NEXT stop I grabbed a seat beside a typical Israeli housewife. She was trying to argue with the lady in the seat behind, but her great bulk and the green shopping bag on her lap prevented her from turning around. As a result, I got an earful of hot Hebrew.

On the seat opposite me sat an ancient Arab wearing a red Kafia and carrying a huge branch. His neighbor, a black-suited man with a briefcase, sat reading a newspaper, oblivious of his surroundings.

Standing beside me with his gun hanging over his shoulder, a few inches from my face, an Israeli soldier munched on the ever-present Garineem (sunflower seeds), strewing the shells around him.

ON JAFFA STREET, in the hectic downtown section, the doors opened and, unbelievably, more people climbed aboard.

"Beep, beep, beep," the bus radio blasted. In one simultaneous movement everyone checked his watches as the hourly news broadcast began. In that second the chattering, singing, laughing Israelis became absolutely silent. My Hebrew failed me but I did understand "... Richard Nixon ..."

I looked out the window and, of course, I had missed my stop.

— Naomi Janowitz, senior

## Midway Mailbox

# What SLCC has chosen to deal with

From Junior Jay Golter, SLCC president:

I wish to take issue with the editorial in the Dec. 7 issue of the Midway. The editorial claims SLCC has not dealt with major issues this year and suggests three areas (grading, curriculum and race relations) with which we can start.

First, I feel that SLCC is dealing with many important programs (more of that later) but I also disagree with the notion that we should deal with grading and curriculum.

MY FIRM belief is that grading policies should be established by each teacher individually. For a student government to create standards and systems from which teachers would grade pupils is ridiculous. As for curriculum, I feel STC offers an acceptable alternative for those students who are discontented with their current fare. It would be foolish for SLCC to in anyway interfere with what STC is doing and unnecessarily to try and copy it.

Improving race relations is something totally different. The SLCC Steering Committee has spent many hours trying to develop a program which could lead to an easing of tensions. We failed. Should any group approach us, asking SLCC to help them with a program which would bring black and white students together, we would assist them in every way possible.

Also, if any students, faculty members, strangers or even school newspapers come up with ideas we will give them full consideration.

HOWEVER, this is not to say we are

ducking the major issues. At this time a special committee of SLCC is starting a drug information center. The committee also assisted the Parents Association in planning the student-parent discussion groups which will talk about drug-related problems.

While these are only a start, they are necessary first steps toward planning any effective programs in the future. There are no easy answers, no amount of legislation that can ease this problem.

HOWEVER, some problems can be eliminated through legislation. One such problem which we are working on is the absence of an appellate body. Currently a constitution for such a board is being written. And we are reorganizing government by rewriting the student government constitution.

Should anybody come up to a member of the SLCC Steering Committee with ideas for further programs we will give them our full attention. But just because there is no immediate and direct impact from SLCC work does not mean we are doing nothing.

Editor's note: The Midway did not intend to suggest SLCC create standards for grading or create new curriculum. It did mean to suggest SLCC could investigate grading throughout the school to determine if inconsistencies result in injustices (same work for different

teachers resulting in radically different grades) and evaluate courses from the student viewpoint.

## PhotoPinions:



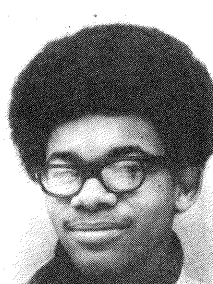
Diane



Rene



Susan



Martin

DIANE ERICKSON, junior: "If SLCC disbands it will make little difference in school because Student Board carries on most of the activity. Student Board is more helpful to the school than is SLCC. If SLCC is headed toward disbanding, it would do better to merge with one of the other student organizations."

RENE ARCILLA, junior: "SLCC shouldn't disband. The student body needs a say in school policies. Perhaps SLCC does lack power. Giving up won't resolve the problem."

SUSAN YERKES, sophomore: "Since Mrs.

Fallers has recently been overruling SLCC measures, it hasn't had any opportunity to serve the school. SLCC used to vote on issues, but since Mrs. Fallers became principal, they haven't done much. I think SLCC should disband because it's no longer serving its purpose."

MARTIN BOOKER, senior: "Unless something better comes along, SLCC should remain intact. Any form of student government is essential in a school. SLCC is suffering from lack of power. Whether that's the fault of SLCC or the administration I don't know."

THE MIDWAY

Published 10 times during the school year by journalism students of University High School, 1362 East Fifty-ninth Street, Chicago, Illinois 60637.

*People say schools are ineffective,  
people say schools are outdated,  
but do people really know...*

# What it really takes to get a public school moving

By Benji Pollock  
and Bruce Mosbacher

When people outside the Chicago public schools call for their improvement they often don't realize that, inside the schools, there are people trying to make just those improvements.

But it isn't always easy to effect change in the schools.

At Kenwood High, U-High's neighbor to the north at Fifty-First Street and Lake Park Avenue, teachers and administrators have learned to live with this problem, according to Principal Elizabeth T. Mollahan.

MISS MOLLAHAN described the hierarchy of the Department of Education which handles educational and procedural changes in the public schools.

"The principal is the top administrator of the high school. Next on the ladder are the district and area superintendents, followed by the general superintendent, who oversees the entire city."

This complex system, she explained, can hamper educational progress.

"WE'RE impatient and want change now. Yet things don't happen overnight. What we asked for two years ago is happening now."

"The Chicago school system is huge. Although it has been decentralized, the problem still exists."

Miss Mollahan feels, nevertheless, that Kenwood can operate adequately if the school realizes it will encounter delays in some areas.

As an example, she pointed out that stolen or lost materials are usually promptly replaced.

But when major problems arise, such as the need for building improvements, there is little the school can do but wait.

MISS MOLLAHAN recalled that when Kenwood was moved into its present buildings in 1969, only a fourth of the complex was finished. She complained to the Board of Education but her complaints did not speed construction.

Kenwood lived through the year of construction because, Miss Mollahan said, nothing else could be done.

One area in which change can be effected easily at Kenwood is curriculum, Miss Mollahan and many of her teachers agree.

Mrs. Arlene Link, chairman of the foreign languages department at Kenwood, finds new programs are adequately implemented.

"NO PROGRAM," she said, "has been turned down by the Board of Education, except for way-out proposals, such as teaching math in a foreign language class."

Sometime approval of curriculum proposals is delayed, Mrs. Link confirmed, but these delays do not impede progress because curriculum plans are submitted to the Department of Education a year in advance.

As a result, the Board of Education has a year to consider the proposals.

MRS. DOROTHY Lavington, chairman of the math department at Kenwood, also feels curriculum changes are smoothly executed, but for a different reason.

Teachers, according to Mrs. Lavington, usually don't follow bureau-

cratic channels when they want something accomplished.

The reason, she explained, is that "teachers are autonomous. No one really knows what they do anyway."

"For example, lesson plans — the teacher's description of a class's progress — are regularly turned into the principal's office and, I imagine, they put them into a file and never look at them. The teacher is pretty free to do what he wants."

INABILITY to get things done tremendously frustrates students, teachers and staff members at Hyde Park High, U-High's neighbor to the south at Sixty-Second Street and Stony Island Avenue, according to Principal Anna Kolheim.

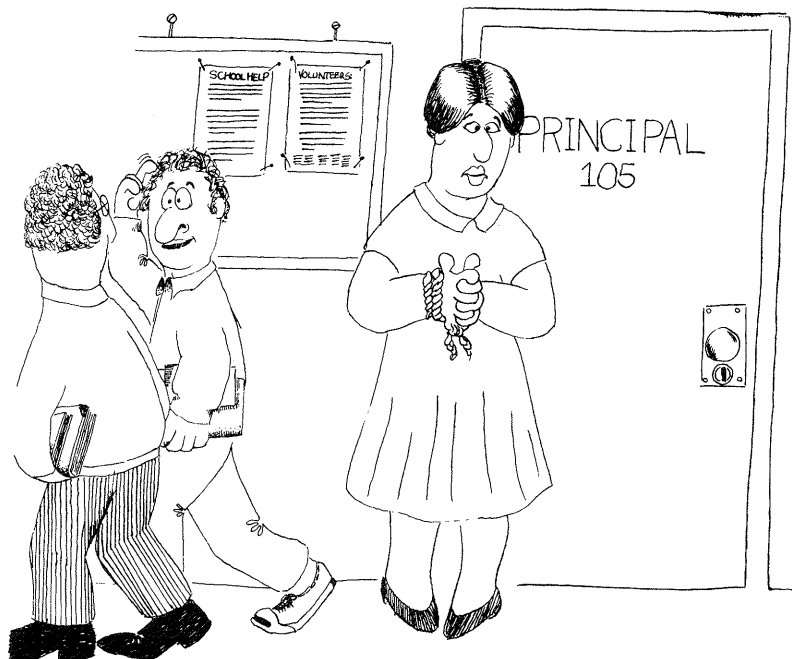
Mrs. Kolheim, who has been an employee of the Chicago public schools since 1938, has "seen the system grow to where it is now."

Since 1966 she has been involved in a major physical rehabilitation of her school.

"South Shore's addition and Kenwood have been built since we've started this rehabilitation but we still do not have a swimming pool, an adequate library or science labs," she said.

AN EXAMPLE of the bureaucratic muddle Mrs. Kolheim must go through to get something done can be seen in a recent incident involving 600 lunchroom chairs.

The morning of Jan. 5 Mrs. Kolheim's lunchrooms manager reported that a truck had arrived to deliver



Art by Eduardo Pineda

"I WONDER WHY THE PRINCIPAL ALWAYS LOOKS SO FRUSTRATED?"

chairs for a new lunchroom. But the chairs were not the color or size ordered and many were badly damaged.

"I immediately told her not to accept the chairs," Mrs. Kolheim said. "I spent the day trying to find the people responsible for this. The Department of Services put a man on it but when I left school the chairs were being loaded into the lunchroom."

Mrs. Kolheim finds that there never seems to be anyone in charge when such a problem arises.

"YOU JUST can't point your finger at any one person," she explained. "There is a department for every area but nobody seems to know who is in charge."

Mrs. Kolheim is attempting to solve several other ongoing problems involved in the rehabilitation.

The fire alarm system does not always work properly, the bell system does not work at all and the heating system cannot be regulated correctly.

"IT'S DIFFICULT to run a school when each teacher lets his class out at a different time and it's 85 degrees in the classrooms," she observed.

She blames the problem of bureaucracy in the public schools on the fact that many "good paying jobs of the school system were originally filled using the political patronage system."

The public school jobs above that of principal have no requirements or tests, she said.

"SEVERAL TOP administrators," she added, "send their kids to private schools."

Mrs. Kolheim feels that "the worst result of the bureaucratic mess is the demoralization that takes place at all levels in the school."

Earlier on the day she was interviewed she had found two administrators reading newspapers in the lunchroom.

"If my administrators act like that," she reflected, "how can I expect the students to act properly?"

## Meanwhile, how are things here?

By Cathy Cronin

Inefficiency and frustration may not be a way of life at U-High but they are not nonexistent.

Teachers sometime do encounter frustration in getting the school to act on a request for curriculum, materials or improvements.

According to Principal Margaret Fallers, sometime the school can't act even if wants to because a department may not have enough money in its budget for a request.

In such cases, she said, Director of Administrative Services Donald Conway considers the possibility of using other sources of funds, such as gifts to the school, to fulfil a request.

Because building improvements for the Lab Schools are handled by the University Plant Department, the school sometime finds it difficult to get quick action on a problem in that area.

"It's hard getting hold of them," Mrs. Fallers explained, "because they handle the whole University."

One example of the frustrations teachers sometime face in trying to obtain school services is the experience Crafts Teacher Nella Weiner relates. At the beginning of the year Mrs. Weiner, moving into a new room,

needed to have furniture moved. After repeated attempts to get help, she finally gave up and moved the furniture herself. She began the school year lacking a sink, a kiln and shelves, despite repeated requests for them.

In attempt to increase efficiency in fulfilling requests for materials and improvements, Lab Schools Director Philip Jackson this fall developed a system of procedures. Previously no such system existed.

Under the new plan, department chairmen fill out a form stating what repairs are needed. The form is submitted to Mr. Conway, who either handles the request or sends explanations as to why a request cannot be fulfilled.

When she became principal, Mrs. Fallers said, she began to see the need for keeping the school free of bureaucracy. Particularly she was concerned with "running it efficiently without getting in the way of teaching."

But, in the opinion of Dean of Students Standrod Carmichael, bureaucracy is unavoidable whenever a group of people convene to do something.

"Different groups have different interests," he pointed out. "So frustrations occur in attempting to iron out or combine differences into a compromise."



Photo by Doug Patinkin

PRINCIPAL KOLHEIM

"Demoralization takes place."



Photo by Doug Patinkin

PRINCIPAL MOLLAHAN

"Things don't happen overnight"

### HANGOUT

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# Cagers battle Parker today

## Boys there, girls here; Swimmers vs. South Shore

By Miles Madorin and George David

"We take them one at a time," explained Varsity Basketball Coach Sandy Patlak when it was suggested that the basketball team is looking ahead to its rematch with league-leading Morgan Park, Feb. 15.

The Maroons face Francis Parker 4 p.m. today, away. Coach Patlak believes that the Colonels "will give us little trouble."

**HE LIKES HAVING** games every Tuesday and Friday to keep the team sharp. The cagers played last Friday and will play Latin 4 p.m. next Friday in Upper Sunny. After a week's respite, which Mr. Patlak feels hurts the team, the pattern resumes against Harvard-St. George, 4 p.m., Friday, Feb. 4 at home.

"They didn't impress me very much," Mr. Patlak said of the Hurricanes.

Wheaton, a nonleague school, will follow, 4 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 8 in U-High's third home game in succession. The Maroons lost at Wheaton 73-50.

**ST. MICHAEL'S** will be U-High's final test before Morgan Park, 4 p.m., Friday, Feb. 11 at St. Michael's.

In the most important game so far this year, Morgan Park's Warriors beat the Maroons 73-58. Both teams entered the game with a 4 win, no loss record.

The game was postponed from Friday, Jan. 7, to the following Tuesday, Jan. 11, because only one referee showed up. The athletic directors of both schools decided to postpone the game.

**THE MAROONS** were losing by only seven points at halftime, about the margin Mr. Patlak expected. In the third quarter, Forwards John and Joe Keane of Morgan Park keyed the Warriors to a lead they never lost.

"We played a bad game" was how Mr. Patlak summed it up. Although forward David Cockrell led all scorers with 33 points no other Maroon scored in double figures.

League standings as of January 22 were as follows: Morgan Park Academy, 7 wins, no losses; University High, 5 wins, 2 losses; St. Michael's, 4 wins, 2 losses; Glenwood, 4 wins, 3 losses; Elgin Academy, 4 wins, 3 losses.

Harvard-St. George, 4 wins, 4 losses; Francis Parker, 3 wins, 4 losses; Lake Forest Academy, 2 wins, 5 losses; North Shore, 1 win, 6 losses; Latin, 1 win, 6 losses.

The frosh-soph team figures to win all its games except for Wheaton and possibly Latin. Most other teams have no one to compare to the Maroons' 6 foot, 5 inches center, Brent Cawelti.

Brent, a sophomore, is scoring more than 20 points and pulling down more than 20 rebounds each game. To inspire the team, Coach Terry Kneisler placed cards in each player's locker offering playing tips and optimistic statements.

Weak because of a small turnout the swim team doesn't have much of a chance against bigger Mt. Carmel and Lake Forest.

**SWIM COACH** Larry McFarlane explains that the Maroons are strong in the stroke events (butterfly, backstroke and breaststroke) and weak in the freestyle events.

The team has no divers and loses eight points each meet because of it. Mr. McFarlane knows the swim team would be stronger if "individuals that are good swimmers would come out for the team."

U-High should defeat South Shore and Latin in 4:15 p.m. home meets today and Friday, respectively.

**MT. CARMEL** always has a lot of swimmers and is especially strong in its pool, where the Maroons travel Thursday, Feb. 3, for a 4 p.m. meet.

Glenwood is the next opponent, 4:15 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 8, home. Then Lake Forest, which has beaten U-High the past five dual meets, all close, comes here 4:15 p.m., Friday, Feb. 11.

## Alumni cagers top varsity again

The grads beat the varsity 52-40 in the annual alumni basketball game Dec. 16.

Senior David Cockrell was the leading scorer for the varsity team with 22 points. U-High grad ('66) and frosh-soph coach Terry Kneisler was expected to lead the alumni but didn't score any points.

He attributed his lack of scoring to ineptness, explaining that he had dinner with Phys Ed Chairman and alumni coach William Zarvis before the game.

According to Mr. Kneisler, "Mr. Zarvis makes the best lamb this side of anywhere and I ate twice as much as I should have."

He added, "All that good lamb caused my ineptness."

It was the ninth alumni game and ninth time the alumni had won.

The swim team has won 2 and lost 2. In a meet between the top two Independent League teams, Lake Forest swamped U-High 65 to 29. Lake Forest scored most of their points in diving and freestyle events.

**LACK OF** Maroon depth enabled Lake Forest to finish 2nd and 3rd in events won by U-High.

Other scores: U-High, 58, Quigley North, 37, Dec. 13, home; U-High, 55, Glenwood, 19, Dec. 18, away; Quigley South, 55, U-High 38, Dec. 20, home.

A young, small girls basketball team faces three Independent School League opponents.

The team starts only one senior but, says Coach Janis Masterjohn, plays good defense and isn't hampered by lack of height.

**THE CAGERETTES** face Francis Parker, 3:30 p.m. today in Upper Sunny; North Shore 3:15 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 1, away; and Latin, 3:45 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 15, home.

Scheduling games is the girls' main problem.

"We have to play when the boys aren't," explains Miss Masterjohn.

The indoor track team meets Schurz, 4 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 4 at the Fieldhouse, 56th Street and University Avenue. The Schurz team is strong in the mile and 2-mile events.

A weak Lake View team meets the Maroons 4 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 11 at the Fieldhouse. The Lake View squad lost 10 seniors to graduation last year and is rebuilding.



Photo by Michael Letchinger

IN AN ATTEMPT to lead his competitors, Junior Tom Griffith stretches out on his start in a swimming meet against Quigley South Jan. 20 here.

## ARTS WEEK

(Continued from page 1)

will include Math Teacher Zalman Usiskin's annual recital of love songs, death songs, and songs containing female names. It will take place Wednesday, Feb. 16, during lunch in Judd 126.

"Students think that people in math don't have other interests," Mr. Usiskin commented. "I like to disprove that."

Among several other vocal recitals, piano recitals, folk singing and jazz performances, will be a country music concert by Senior Jon Rosenberg.

"I don't sing folk music. Folk music can be sung by anybody. I sing country music, sung by folks from the country," Jon said. "I'm playing in Arts Week because I've done it for three years and somebody asked me to do it again."

Films or live entertainment will be scheduled every period during the week.

**BULLETIN BOARDS** will display photography, paintings, drawings and collage exhibits. Sculpture, ceramics, Batik, jewelry and architecture, will fill showcases around U-High.

Biology Teacher Richard Boyajian will show slides and artifacts from a more than five month stay in India 2nd period Thursday, Feb. 17

in the Little Theatre.

A slide presentation on methods and techniques of jewelry making will be given by Mr. Richard Souligny, Middle School art teacher, 5th period that day.

Poetry, music and theater will be combined in one act by Senior Paul Mendelsohn and two out-of-school friends 1st period Thursday in U-High 103.

**"TAPPING ZAPPERS,"** the tap-dancing team of Juniors Eduardo Pineda and David Weber, who haven't the vaguest idea how to tap dance, will debut Wednesday, Feb. 16, during lunch in the Little Theatre.

A complete schedule of Arts Week events will be posted on bulletin boards and flyers will be distributed daily, according to Senior Margot Miller, chairman.

An Arts Week party is being planned, according to Social Union President Eric Singer, but an assembly will not be scheduled, according to Margot.

"Assemblies are usually very boring," she explained, "and since we don't have the money to do something spectacular we decided to chuck it."

Editor's note: Arts Week events, their times and places as reported in this story, are subject to change.

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