New play choice: New attitude?

By Wendy Weinberg

Selection of “The Children’s Hour” to replace “Stage Door” as the winter drama production represents to Mr. Paul Shedd, its director, a change in the attitudes of administrators and parents towards drama here.

“Stage Door” was cancelled after a lead actress broke her leg and three other actors had to drop out because of low grades and personal problems. “The Children’s Hour” is the story of two women, operating a boarding school, whose lives are ruined when a student starts a rumor that they are lesbians.

Mr. Shedd told the Midway in a statement earlier this year that administration, faculty and community attitudes dictated that plays with content dealing with sex not be performed, although they are at other schools.

He cannot account for the change in attitude beyond the production of “The Children’s Hour.”

“We’re a little bit different from other times.”

Exposure on television of subjects such as sex, abortion and homosexuality, and the “information explosion” may be factors contributing to public awareness and openness, he suggested.

After roles for “Stage Door” were cast, students who did not get parts became involved with the Student Experimental Theater, which has since applied for Illinois High School School Drama contest entry, “The Interview.”

Mr. Shedd and the remaining cast decided, instead of recasting the open roles, to perform another play with the remaining actors because it wouldn’t be fair to take away the time of the actors from the other drama.

Mr. Shedd, with the assistance of English Teacher Barbara Conley, Principal Margaret Fallers and Dean of Students Standon Car- mond, prepared and put on a play. Using their suggestions, the students made the final decision.

Why holiday got dropped

Spring holiday was cancelled this year, according to Lab Schools Director Philip Jackson, to increase the school schedule to 170 days, rather than to meet state attendance requirements as recently renewed.

The one-day holiday formerly came at the beginning of May. As in past years, the school year is 170 days short of Illinois school code regulations requiring a “minimum term of at least 185 days to insure 176 days of actual pupil attendance.”

Mr. Jackson says that it is unclear whether the code applies to private schools.

This fall, as in previous years, Mr. Jackson received a letter from the Cook County School Board asking why the Lab School is not meeting the attendance code.

He said that private schools can be exempted from the code because of its ambiguity. Mr. Jackson says that he does not try to make the Lab School schedule match the University schedule as closely as possible because many students come from University families who want to take courses from University students.

Mr. Jackson expects next year’s schedule to be played in April, also total to 170 days.

Faculty evaluates meetings

Four areas of concern about U-High raised in a report of a North Central Association evaluation team which visited the school last year were discussed by the faculty in meetings Jan. 9. The meetings were arranged by the faculty’s NCA evaluation steering committee as its last function.

For the discussions the faculty was divided into four smaller groups, each with a leader and a secretary. The leaders and secretaries later met with Principal Margaret Fallers to prepare a report of the discussions and consider recommendations for followups.

The four areas of discussion and some of the suggestions made concern them as follows:

1. ISOLATION OF TEACHERS AND DEPARTMENTS.

Increasing communication and supplying faculty concern in small cross-departmental groups of teachers, small groups of teachers in related departments, small groups of teachers with similar disciplines, meetings of groups of teachers by grade level or student taught. Improvement of faculty calendar, faculty balance, student involvement.

2. NOT ENOUGH OR NO HOLIDAYS.

Four shorter holidays of one week each were suggested in lieu of the holiday.

3. SENIOR YEAR.

Mr. Shedd said he introduced the motion because teachers have discussed trivial matters more than necessary and have not discussed matters pertinent to the entire school community enough. Another reason for his motion, he said, was that many teachers were not attending meetings regularly.

North Central Association evaluators who visited the school last February reported in faculty meetings an “excess of attention being given to trivial affairs” and a “corresponding lack of attention to the well being of students.” An alternative to the manner in which faculty meetings have been conducted, and that involving Mr. Shedd, would be lectures and panel discussions about matters pertinent to the entire school community.

... and acts on NCA report
Opinion

Issue of the Issue—When disaster strikes

A MIDWAY EDITORIAL:

U-High is poorly prepared for fires, tornadoes and similar disasters, a series of Midway articles has claimed.

Reporter Benji Pollock found that:

• Students have shown little concern during fire drills by straggling out of buildings, laughing, stopping to chat and continuing to read their work in the cafeterias, playing cards and records until told to leave by a teacher.

• Teachers have exhibited a lack of concern by reading student papers. We have twice supervised evacuation drills by classes, not following or not knowing the predetermined evacuation routes, by not knowing the location of extinguishers near their classrooms, and by blocking open fire doors with chairs and boxes, preventing their automatic closing at the onset of a fire.

• A fire marshal found the alarm systems out of order during one inspection last year, although engineers maintain that it has always been in working order except immediately after fire drills.

• Locked and blocked doorways, overcrowding, narrow aisles and a wood and stage wood seating platform continue to invite tragedy in the theater, although the Midway’s series has led administrators to order exit signs and panic push bars. Also, they have agreed to have the seating arrangement in the theater (previously three arrangements were used).

• The school has no drills or procedures for disasters other than fires, such as a tornado.

• On the plus side, administrators for the first time in years are meeting a city code recommendation that the school conduct at least one evacuation drill a month. Principal Margaret Fallers said one reason administration increased the frequency of fire drills was the Midway’s series.

The Midway is campaigning for more adequate disaster safety for more than a decade with few results evident. Perhaps the sorely needed improvements in safety will come only after the U-High community has been shocked awake by fire or other disaster. But U-High needs those improvements before, not after, a disaster.

A MIDWAY EDITORIAL:

"GEE, MAYBE IN A YEAR OR TWO I’LL GET AROUND TO DOING SOMETHING ABOUT THIS."--THE MIDWAY

The Midway has been campaigning for more adequate disaster safety for more than a decade with few results evident. Perhaps the sorely needed improvements in safety will come only after the U-High community has been shocked awake by fire or other disaster. But U-High needs those improvements before, not after, a disaster.

The faculty is now in the process of evaluating its meetings. Many teachers and administrators feel the meetings are excessively devoted to announcements rather than problems of importance. Faculty members should concern themselves with issues which affect students, such as drug use and race relations. Announcements should be passed out before meetings.

Thoughts Ed Pineda

"L.I.K.E. TO DROP your pants?"

Sure, that’s what I wanted to do. It was just so easy: Me, the U.S. customs official and a representative for the FBI. All in a little corner room of Miami International Airport. I had just returned from vacation in Peru and the two men were trying to make... "C’mon kid, drop 'em," the man frowned. I conceded. "C’mon kid, drop 'em," the man frowned. I conceded. "What’s this?" the FBI man said, pointing downwards. I blushed. I regained my composure as soon as I realized he had only just noticed my wallet, lying on the floor. Afterwards, those men and their perceptions still haunted me. But then one day, while mailing a letter at the local Post Office, it all came to... "C’mon kid, drop 'em," the man frowned. I conceded. "C’mon kid, drop 'em," the man frowned. I conceded. "What’s this?" the FBI man said, pointing downwards. I blushed. I regained my composure as soon as I realized he had only just noticed my wallet, lying on the floor.

Mailbox

Artists respond to a response

From Seniors David Weber and Eduardo Pineda:

Recently we blessed this school with the famous Math Day Mural. Unfortunately, it couldn’t be ex posed more than one school day without someone defacing it.

The vandalism read: "No Niggers!" and although we deplore this form of communication we feel the situation posed deserves a response.

Frankly, to us at least, "hookies" are a hell of lot easier to caricature than "niggers." We did paint two blacks because time and again we were advised that if we didn’t, someone might get upset. We played our part, but obviously someone is still upset. We now realize we should have just followed our own instructions and painted the mural as we pleased instead of trying to play the stupid game of tokenism.

Columns

Simeon Alev

Selecting a new principal

IT IS NO MYSTERY to most people at U-High that Principal Margaret Fallers has been here this year. She will be moving to Virginia. But just how the faculty committee responsible for interviewing applicants (students were involved in the search for applicants) will narrow down its list of candidates for her job is not quite as clear.

The interview committee was appointed earlier this year by Lab Schools Director Philip Jackson. According to Mr. Jackson, who will make the final decision on Mrs. Fallers’ successor, "the committee's purpose is to select the best person available for the job.

There are some faculty members presently at U-High who meet that requirement.

One of Students Standrod Carmichael has held his administrative post five years. Shop Teacher Horbert Pearson served as dean of students for two years. Math Chairman Alan Haskell served as a battery commander in the U.S. Army for one year and earlier as a general’s aide.

But only one of these faculty members is a declared candidate for Mrs. Fallers’ position. “I would be leaving my duties to the school,” said Mr. Carmichael. “If I did not offer my candidacy for the job, I’d do it.

Messrs. Pearson and Haskell are not quite as interested. “I’ve received a quick answer,” I could have to say no,” Mr. Pearson reflected. “There are a lot of reason why I couldn’t be principal.” Mr. Haskell said.

Obviously U-High doesn’t have a very big selection, so it’s a good thing the interviewing committee will be examining the cases of can didates from all over the country. But they’re going to need more criteria for judgment than administrative experience.

Considering the fact that U-High is a small school, and any candidate can expect to come in contact with students constantly, the next principal should be able and willing to respect and listen to students. He should be able to be sensitive to the experimental or alternative education. He should be prepared to give the participants in such extracurricular ac tivities as drama, which would change to the school, complete freedom in planning of activities. And, finally, the next principal should be well liked by both faculty and students.

When a new principal comes to U-High next year, it should be no mystery why he was chosen.

Polled faculty back CTU strike motives

By David Weber

Reasons for the recent strike of Chicago public school teachers were valid, 10 U-High teachers randomly interviewed by the Midway agreed. But some of them rejected the strike as a means of pressing teacher demands.

The Jan. 10 walkout began after the Chicago Board of Education failed to meet most of the Chicago Teacher Union’s demands during collective bargaining.

Teachers questioned by the Midway felt the board hadn’t considered all aspects of their demands fairly. According to Librarian Mary Biddle, “The board just doesn’t live up to its commitments.”

Social Studies Teacher Earl Bell felt that the excess of trained teachers was a cause of the problem.

“With a glut of teachers the board doesn’t feel as pressed to give the union’s demands a fair shot,” Mr. Bell said.

Unified Arts Chairman Robert Erickson said he felt that, while many of the Union’s demands are valid, neither the Union or Board could be totally satisfied with any of the actions and, therefore, the teachers should not strike and deprive five and seven of their educations.

Dean of Students Standrod Carmichael said that the teachers’ demands are justifiable but that...
If U-High won the championship, it would be the first time in more than a decade.

In the Maroons' remaining six contests, Mr. Patlak sees North Shore, Jan. 30, as the toughest opponent.

In a Dec. 5 home game, U-High defeated North Shore 53-30 but "They had a couple of guys on the sick list before," Mr. Patlak points out. "I'll be tougher this time."

Frosh-Soph Coach Terry Kneisler sees Morgan Park, Feb. 9, as that squad's biggest remaining threat.

In a Jan. 9 game here Morgan Park defeated U-High 59-51. U-High suffered because its three tallest players had been out with injuries or illness and probably were out of shape, Mr. Kneisler said. The game, he said, may have an easier time in the rematch.

Girl cagers face five more games and Coach Jann Master-

john feels today's match with Morgan Park will be the toughest. The game, here, starts 3:30 p.m. and overall shooting ability are assets U-High will bring to the contest, she said.

Prosper will be the ice hockey club's toughest remaining opponent, according to Coach Louis Cohn, father of Junior Carol and Freshman Brian.

Of the teams in the Lake Meadows league that I've seen

Prosper seems to have the most proficient skaters," he said. Prosper defeated U-High 22-27 Jan. 2 in a nonleague match. The rematch is Sat., Feb. 3.

Swim Coach Larry McFarlane says a Maroon win is unlikely against Mt. Carmel, Jan. 30.

"I scheduled the meet because I thought it would be a good ex-

perience for the boys to swim against a strong team," he said. He does, however, expect a victory over Glenwood, Feb. 2. "We beat Glenwood once, we'll beat them again," he said confidently.

The U-High team has strong freshman talent, with Jeff Fish and Brian Cohn undefeated, he added.

Indoor Track Coach Ronald Drozd says he is happy with the performance of most of the 15 team members at time trials and practices.

St. Pat, Feb. 16, "a large school with a strong track program," will bring the biggest threat in remaining meets, he says.

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Lake Meadows 1, Feb. 16; Lake Forest Academy Jan. 12, 19. The Efendi

**Recent Results**

BOY'S BASKETBALL

Frosh-soph season in parentheses.

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Drug discipline aims at ‘change’

Final article in a series on drug use and education here.

By Simeon Alex

A confirmed student and reported

confirmed using drugs on campus will not be expelled unless his record

indicates the possibility of a

future offense, according to U-High's drug disciplinary policy.

“We’re an educational

institutions, not a jail,” explained

Priscilla Margaret Failers, chairman of the Committee on

Discipline, which handles all cases of drug abuse here.

“Our job is to change students’

patterns of behavior so they’ll

abuse drugs.”

The committee, which consists of present of Faculty Cochairman Earl Bell, Guidance Cochairman Karen Rohr, Dean of Students Stanbridge Carmichael, SLOC President Bob Temple, and SLOC Vice President Dan Kohman, has a standard procedure for review of drug cases.

The student’s parents and the student himself, the committee convenes to discuss “the wide range of resources that might be useful to help the student resolve his problem.”

When the committee ends its investigation, it advises the Director of the Laboratory Schools, who has final decision on the matter, of its conclusions and suggestions for disciplinary action.

The committee’s suggestion, according to Mrs. Carmichael, “constitutes of certain penalty strikes.”

Mrs. Failer’s explanation that “there is no fixed schedule of penalty strikes we have generally used. We either have a warning of expulsion, or a temporary suspension, or expulsion.”

“If we expect someone, it’s only in the last case. Once we learned once—we can’t re-educate him. That’s our job, to re-educate the student. Sometimes we put con-

vinced drug abuser in a situation where he has to get something or something before he comes back.

Drug pushing, Mrs. Failer said, is an offense the committee considers seriously.”

“Pushing is one thing that would most likely end in expulsion,” she said.

The committee has not reviewed any cases involving pushing or drug use this year.

Dr. C. Michael Levi is U-High’s This week’s Bausch and Lomb Award, presented at the 8,000 high schools in the nation, recognizes excellence in science. The Bausch and Lomb Company manufactures scientific equipment. The Science Department makes the choice based on a student’s scholastic standing, and demonstrated interest in science. Winning a high school eligible to compete for four-

year scholarships to Rochester (N.Y.) University.


BETWEEN $1500 and $2000 profit was earned by this year’s annual Gilbert and Sullivan production, "Ruddigore," sponsored by the Adventures in the Arts Committee of the Parents Association. The money will go to the Scholarship Fund and other school programs selected by the Parents Association Governing Board.

A HOME FIREDRILL system has been purchased by the Science Department and is housed in the library by the class of ’72 in honor of retired physics teacher Royal Shaw. Students will be trained to teach electricity, wave propagation and fire drills.

A SERIES of meetings on preventive lost goods sports here is being sponsored by the Whitney Adams Parent’s Association. Raising Group. Times and places will be announced.

School lack’s disaster plans

Final article in a series on school safety here.

By Benji Pedlock

U-High will probably never suffer from a tornado, flood or riot disaster. But if it did, the school would be totally unprepared.

According to Mr. Donald Coral, director of administrative services, U-High does not have drills or procedures for disasters other than fire because the probability that they would occur is small.

Yet a meteorologist at the National Weather Service, Mr. Richard Koeneman, said he felt the comparatively large number of adults at U-High would be able to usher the relatively small number of students to the easily accessible basement in case of impending disaster.

U-High does not conduct disaster drills. Mrs. Fallers explained, because younger children in the Lower School would be frightened by them.

School lacks disaster plans

Belvidere High School, nor-

thwest of Chicago, also has tornado drills. In April, the school was letting out, a tornado tore through the school. It was against the rules to use drugs on campus.

Since then, according to Principals James McMahen, “a weather bureau, a tornado warning, everyone moves to the high school and all district office, which sounds off an office to the school grounds, killing 17 students.

Beviside, who has final decision on drug discipline, or expulsion.

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“Pushing is one thing that would most likely end in expulsion,” she said.

The committee has not reviewed any cases involving pushing or drug use this year.

May Project referrals to get closer screening

Closer screening of agencies which refer students to jobs is one of eight recommendations approved for this year by the faculty. The goal is to reduce the number of referrals directed to unsuccessful projects.

In May, referrals to programs will take place especially if the student is directed to an unsuccessful project.

Other changes are designed to increase the program’s overall efficiency.

Deadlines near

Two May Project deadlines are approaching of which seniors should be aware. This Friday preliminary proposals are due, outlining plans for projects. They will be evaluated by a nine

teacher committee and returned to students for revision. Final plans with teacher signatures, including arrangements that have been made concerning regular classes and credit, will be due Mar. 12. Proposal sheets can be obtained from English Teacher Herbert Pearson, director of the May Project committee, in Belfield 41.

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