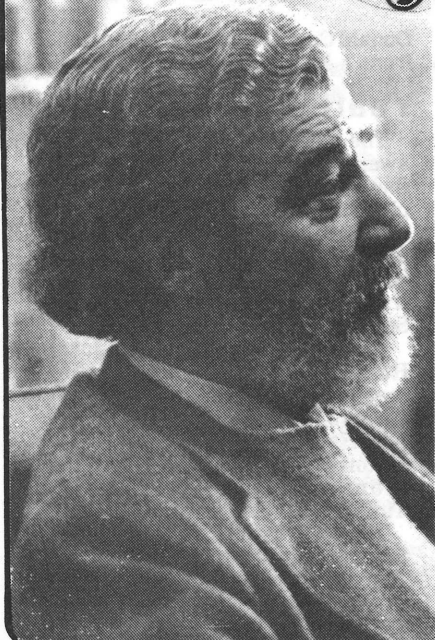


Goodbye dean? : The man's own reactions



THIRD ARTICLE IN A SERIES on removal of the position of dean of students here effective next year.

By Abhijit Chandra

When he learned his position would not exist after this year, Dean of Students Standrod Carmichael recalls, he felt "a great sadness."

His sadness was not only personal; it was a sadness for the "lore and traditions" which he feels make the school unique and are being eradicated.

Mr. Carmichael said he believes that this tradition is one of communication, cooperation and negotiation; that administrators wish to run the school by decree and, therefore, are insensitive and perhaps hostile to this tradition; that he strives to uphold this tradition and administrators are, therefore, in his opinion, eliminating

the position which he holds.

His face red with anger, Mr. Carmichael leaned over his desk and whispered, "I have yet to be convinced that elimination of the position was budgetary."

"I don't think you can run a school by fiat," Mr. Carmichael said. "The evidence in this school comes down to it that it is, and any time it is the school must expect the kind of discords and apprehensions we see presently."

He believes that in trying to so run the school, administrators have been insensitive to its "lore and tradition," and his part in it, "as a place where faculty, students and administrators are constantly talking with each other, bringing things into existence that weren't there before."

Mr. Carmichael said that furthering this tradition has required him "to get out of protective barricades and discuss

possibilities which they (faculty and students) believe would improve the quality of the school, rather than sitting behind a desk and using positional power to hand down decrees."

"I've tried consistently to help faculty and kids to make input into improving the quality of life in the school."

As director of student activities, Mr. Carmichael says he has made "the attempt to support kids as they try to make important investments in the school."

Mr. Carmichael said that his efforts to help faculty and students make input, coupled with administrative attitudes as he sees them, leads him to the conclusion that there were non-budgetary reasons for eliminating the dean's position.

It is his belief that administrators felt "the most effective way to get rid of me was to get rid of the position."

the Midway

Vol. 50, No. 5 • University High School, 1362 E. 59th St., Chicago, Ill. 60637 • Tues., Jan. 28, 1975

Class load gets look

The five-class load and its affect on the school will be examined by the faculty in a regular meeting after school today. Representatives from each department will summarize feelings of its members on the subject, then there will be a general discussion.

Grievance committees get teacher appeals

By Alex Schwartz

Committees established by Director Philip Jackson under the school's grievance procedures are being formed to review the cases of three U-High teachers whose contracts were not renewed.

During the last week of school before Christmas vacation Mr. Jackson informed three High School teachers—Richard Kimmel, science; Evelyn Robar-Dorin, French; and Larry Butcher, music—that he had decided not to renew their contracts. The teachers had taught here between three and seven years. All were on one-year contracts.

Mr. Jackson also did not renew the one-year contracts of a Lower School guidance counselor and teacher. He will decide whether to renew the contract of Middle School Teacher Julia Zacharopoulos at the end of an additional three-month evaluation period.

All the teachers had received their notices of nonrenewal by Thurs., Dec. 12. Almost immediately their situation was common knowledge throughout the school.

In response to student and faculty concern over the matter, Student Legislative Coordinating Council President Robert Needman called a meeting at lunch, Fri., Dec. 13, which about 100 students and a dozen teachers attended. After discussing the nonrenewals, they decided to write a letter to be mailed to all U-High parents stating

their concern that the dismissals' "net effect will be a loss to the school community." The letter was mailed Jan. 4.

The Faculty Association sponsored a discussion for teachers on the nonrenewals Thurs., Jan. 9, at one of four meetings that week for the various Lab Schools faculties.

Among concerns the teachers reportedly expressed at the meeting, and comments administrators made about them later to the Midway, in parenthesis, were the following:

- All the dismissed teachers had positive or innocuous evaluations up to this fall, possibly indicating administrative evaluations this year were directed at providing evidence for nonrenewals.

- Dismissals followed a general pattern of one nonsenior, but experienced and, therefore, relatively well-paid teacher for each department, and two for each school, possibly indicating budgetary motives were behind the nonrenewals. (Administrators told the Midway the dismissals were not budgetary.)

- The dates of some of the evaluations, compared to the dates of Mr. Jackson's letters of dismissal, might indicate that, in some cases, latest departmental evaluations—which the teachers described as strongly positive—were not considered when Mr. Jackson made his decision. (Mr. Jackson told the Midway that his letters were written several days before he told the teachers of his decision, and that he saw the departmental evaluations before making a final decision.)

- The school's evaluation procedure, as explained in its Personnel Policy, of using evaluations supportively to help teachers improve was not followed. In one case, a teacher said, she asked a principal to visit a difficult class to give advice and the principal, to her surprise, filed what she called an "annihilating" evaluation on the visit. (Administrators told the Midway

they felt the Personnel Policy was followed.)

- Principals evidently made no effort to consult department evaluations so they could judge the expertise of teachers in their subject areas. (Administrators said they did talk to department members to discuss expertise.)

- Administrative evaluations, themselves, are of questionable educational value, since they apparently consist of observing a teacher in class one to three times, with no research into prior or later material taught and no investigation into teacher-student relations outside class. (High School Principal Karl Hertz told the Midway that such information is obtained through conversations with the teachers

and their peers.)

The three dismissed teachers told the Midway that their grievances cover many of the points raised in the faculty meeting, plus numerous complaints about their individual cases.

Although Mr. Jackson refused to comment on any of the specific nonrenewals, because he considers them confidential, he did say they were largely based on the accumulated evaluations from the teachers' principals and departments.

At a Jan. 13 meeting, the Parents Association decided to request that the PreCollegiate Board investigate the questions raised concerning the nonrenewals.

Unrenewed teachers feel they got unfair treatment

By Judy Schlessinger

"Numbness and shock" were the first reactions felt by the four Lab Schools teachers presently or formerly related to the High School who received December letters stating their contracts would not be renewed.

"I had no inkling, no idea throughout the four years that I had been here that this was going to happen. My reaction was to be stunned," said Middle School Math Teacher Julia Zacharopoulos.

Ms. Zacharopoulos; Richard Kimmel, science; Evelyn Robar-Dorin, French; and Larry Butcher, music; said they feel that were treated unfairly by school administrators.

Mr. Kimmel does not believe the decisions of dismissal were based on

evaluation of teachers. He thinks that administrators, determined to cut faculty for budgetary reasons, chose a junior member from more or less every department.

He also believes that the firings were "a political maneuver to establish strictly authoritarian strength for the administrators, to establish for themselves the right to hire and fire at will without any regard for what any of the faculty think."

Mr. Butcher feels that "what happened is very unjust and is a result of people looking and judging teachers' work when they don't know anything about what they're judging—in my case, music."

Ms. Robar-Dorin, although sad that she is leaving U-High, where she has made close friends among faculty and students, regards her dismissal "in a way as a blessing in disguise."

"I hadn't considered leaving in the immediate future. I have a daughter to support and this is no time to walk away from a secure job. However, I have felt for some time that I have abilities that I am not using, and that I would like to serve society in a different way. This incident forces me to make a decision which I feel, ultimately, will be for the best."

Ms. Robar-Dorin and Mr. Kimmel planned to challenge what they feel is an "unjust decision," if only, Ms. Robar-Dorin said, "for the sake of principle. I don't think we'll get anywhere, however, it is imperative because of the principle involved. I am challenging the decision in order to establish a precedent that may help to protect faculty in the future."

Ms. Zacharopoulos, offered a chance to prove her ability under a three-month period of observation, intends to "put all I've got into the next three months."

All four of the teachers feel that it is for the best that their situation is known throughout the school, that it is the business of the entire school community.

Concern for students was a feeling all four expressed. "I'm still very committed to the kids, and intend to do the best job possible for their sake," Ms. Robar-Dorin said. "My dedication to the kids isn't shaken at all. I don't work for the administration; I work for my classes."

Director says he must have final say on King recipient

Final decision on who gets the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship Fund will be made by Lab Schools Director Philip Jackson, he has told the Midway.

According to guidelines approved by the Student Legislative Coordinating Council last April, the Scholarship Fund Committee was to have made the decision. Mr. Jackson said, however, that the committee must take an advisory role. The committee learned of Mr. Jackson's position at its first meeting, Fri., Jan. 10.

The committee consists of four students and two faculty members, with Dean of Students Standrod Carmichael an honorary seventh member this year only.

Mr. Jackson explained to the Midway, "In this school all decisions concerning admissions and rejections come to this office. Someone must have the authority to override decisions concerning the admission of candidates based on knowledge of information that wasn't, or can't, be known. That's all I care about."

He pointed out that the Committee will not have access to test results, school

reports from previous schools, personal recommendations or family financial statements.

"These records are given to the school under strict confidentiality, only to be seen by school officials," Mr. Jackson said.

Both Mr. Jackson and Committee Chairperson Karl Lautman said that final determination of the Committee's role in selecting a recipient will depend on the criteria it presents for its choice.

"Most importantly, if everything goes as planned, students will pick the scholar," Karl said.

"Our biggest problem now is drafting an outline of criteria," said Committee Member Peter Sahlins.

Several members of the committee noted that its guidelines already provide for the director to approve the committee's decisions, but stressed that they felt it was essential, since students set up the Fund, that students be given the responsibility for deciding who should receive it.

Also see letter page 4.



Photo by Irving Kaplan

Science winner

JUDGED BY the Science Department as having the highest scholastic standing and demonstrating an interest in science, Kwang Kim has been selected for the annual Bausch and Lomb Science Award. Sponsored by the scientific equipment company, the award goes to one senior in each of 8,500 high schools across the nation and includes a bronze medal and eligibility for a four-year scholarship at the University of Rochester.



THE MAJOR-GENERAL (David Currie, father of Stephen) talks to Mabel (Ellen Harris) in the Parents

Association's annual Gilbert and Sullivan production, "The Pirates of Penzance," to be presented Fri.-Sat., Feb. 7-8.

'Pirates,' scholarship play, to sail on stage Feb. 7-8

"The Pirates of Penzance or The Slave of Duty," this year's Gilbert and Sullivan production sponsored by the Parents Association to benefit the Scholarship Fund, will be presented 8 p.m., Fri.-Sat., Feb. 7-8 at Mandel Hall, 57th St. and University Ave. A matinee will be presented 1:30 p.m., Sat., Feb. 8.

Two U-Highers, Cathy Butler and Evan Canter, and Middle School Teacher Mary Williams will perform in the chorus. Norman Stockwell, Andy Farkas, Paul Sagan and Marc Weinstein are on the technical crews.

Tickets cost \$4 and \$2.50 for evening

performances and \$2.50 for matinees. Tickets can be reserved by telephoning FA. 4-5816 or MU. 4-1555.

Dean organizing performer group

A group of students to entertain hospital patients by singing, playing musical instruments and performing skits is being organized by Dean of Students Standrod Carmichael. He got the idea from a group of U-Highers who performed skits for hospitalized children during Christmas vacation.

Other U-High Christmas performers included German Club Members Ernie Richter and Chris Hawthorne, who Dec. 6 played St. Nicholas to 3rd-graders. The entire German Club produced a play, Rotkappchen (Little Red Riding Hood), for the 4th and 5th grades.

Christmas travelers Leah Taylor and Terri Coble say they enjoyed their two week vacation to France as part of a French student tour group. Other Christmas travelers included Andy and Keith Getz, who visited their family in South Africa.



Photo by Danny Schulman

He likes U-High

STEPHAN SCHULEMBERG, U-High's winter quarter German visitor, feels that the academic system is better here than at his school back home in Falkenberg, Oberfalz, Germany.

"Here," Stephan said, "there are more possibilities in choosing subjects."

Foreign Language Department Head Gregor Heggen and a University teacher arranged for Stephan's 11-week visit, ending Mar. 22. He will stay at several U-High homes.

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Quickies

Actors to compete

Act 3 of "The Crucible" by Arthur Miller and two scene cuttings—one humorous, one serious—will comprise U-High's entry into the Illinois High School Association drama contest Mar. 1, according to Drama Teacher Liucija Ambrosini, its director. "The Crucible" is based on the Salem witch trials.

Earn by eating

Signups are being accepted in U-High 109 for the third annual George Washington Memorial Pie-Eating Contest after school Tues., Feb. 18. The winner gets \$5 and two runnersup \$2.50 each.

Two honored

Seniors Maria Hutalarovitch and Elizabeth Meyer have been honored as Illinois State Scholars. College Counselor Betty Schneider said several other students were qualified for the title but did not enter competition for it.

Murals painted

Two more murals have been completed recently, a modern art piece on the second floor by Rachel Aliber, Karen Hertz, Annette Hanson, Marty Billingsley, Cathy Kohrman and Richard Moss and an abstract picture of a man in the Middle School alcove in Belfield Hall by Alex Miller, Linda Skinner, John Hill, Wayne Braxton and Mark Hornung. Students who wish to paint murals can draw a sketch for presentation to Dean of Students Standrod Carmichael, who directs the proposals to the Student Legislative Coordinating Council, which provides mural funds.

Risers finally here

Delivered once but turned away because of the maintenance staff strike, a new stage with risers and a bandshell are now here to be used by the Music Department. The risers consist of three U-shaped platforms graduated in height.

Lunch prices rise

Because of rising costs, the Chicago Archdiocese, which operates the lunch program here, has increased the cost of a complete meal from 55 to 60 cents. Sales have risen more than 40 per cent since December, said the new manager, Kenny Tularksa.

T.V. set available

A black-and-white television set, financed with \$150 donated by the Parents Association, is now available for school use. Associate Director

Donald Conway constructed the set from a kit.

Yearbook cited

The 1974 U-Highlights has won the top award, Golden Eagle, from the Northern Illinois School Press Association plus blue ribbon certificates for excellence in layout, creativity, newsworthiness and theme. The book, however, failed to receive top ratings from the National and Columbia Scholastic Press Associations.

One of the book's coeditors, Johnny Raineri, '74, received honorable mention for a portfolio of photos in the Illinois Press Photographer Association's 1974 high school contest.

Stories from the Midway are cited in two new journalism texts, "Press Time" and "The (New) Adviser."

The Midway staff wishes to note the following errors which appeared in the Dec. 10 issue:

Stephen Patterson's name was omitted from a cutline on the students performing at area hospitals; Terri Coble's name was misspelled; Kanawha County was located in Virginia rather than West Virginia and Paul Sagan was incorrectly credited with a photo by David Cahnmann which had appeared in the Nov. 12 issue. Apologies to all, including Kanawha County.

In the Wind

- THURS., JAN. 30—Swimming, Quigley North, 4:30 p.m., here.
- FRI., JAN. 31—Track, Lake View and Schurz, 4 p.m., University Fieldhouse, 56th St. and University Ave.
- SAT., FEB. 1—Swimming, Collins Invitational, 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., there.
- MON., FEB. 3—Winter holiday.
- TUES., FEB. 4—Swimming, Kenwood, 3:30 p.m., there; Girls' basketball, Morgan Park Academy, 4 p.m., there.
- THURS., FEB. 6—Girls' basketball, Ferry Hall, 4 p.m., there.
- FRI., FEB. 7—Track, Carver and Kennedy, 4 p.m., University Fieldhouse; Swimming, Lake Forest Academy, 4 p.m., here.
- FRI., SAT., FEB. 7-8—"The Pirates of Penzance," 8 p.m., Mandel Hall, 57th St. and University Ave., also, on Saturday, 1:30 p.m.
- TUES., FEB. 11—Swimming, Quigley South, 4 p.m., here; Girls' basketball, Latin 4 p.m. here; Boys' basketball, Latin, 4 p.m., there, sports committee bus to leave at time to be announced.
- FRI., FEB. 14—Swimming, ISL invitational, 4 p.m., Lake Forest Academy; Boys' basketball, St. Michael's, 4 p.m., there; sports committee bus leaves at time to be announced.

Union appeals rejected labor suit

Rejection of an unfair labor practices suit against the University from the National Labor Relations Board is being appealed by the Faculty Association.

In the suit, filed last fall, the Association accused the University of failing to negotiate in good faith, citing, among other reasons, the school's implementing an increased workload without sufficient prior negotiation or showing financial need. Association attorneys filed the appeal with

the Board's General Council in Washington.

Association members voted Dec. 9 to approve a personnel policy, which covers terms of employment, to which Union negotiators had tentatively agreed. Social Studies Teacher Earl Bell had raised questions, and organized an earlier meeting, about clauses in the policy, particularly one stating that nonsenior teachers not judged consistently superior could be dismissed.

Issues still under negotiation between the union and University include teachers' time and salaries. Faculty negotiators want the contract to state and maximum number of hours a teacher can be required to be in school each week and to include teachers' extracurricular obligations.

University negotiators want teachers to arrange their extracurricular duties with principals, and let disputes be settled by the Lab Schools director.

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Winter teams face tough competition

As they head into a period of tough competition, U-High's winter sports coaches say they are happy with the progress their teams are showing. Leading the Independent School League (ISL) by half-a-game over St. Michael's with a 10-0 record (16-0 overall), the varsity basketball Maroons face the toughest match of the season, in the opinion of Coach Sandy Patlak, Feb. 14 against the Warriors.

"They're the only team that could come in and beat us," Patlak said. "They're going to be tough on their court. The boys are on edge, but they're not letting down."

Frosh-Soph Coach James Montgomery, who feels that his strong freshman, 6-4, team is maturing with each game it plays, thinks that road games against Glenwood, today, and St. Michael's, Feb. 14, will be hard on his players.

Coming Contests

BOYS' BASKETBALL
Glenwood, 4 p.m., today, there.
Morgan Park Academy, 4 p.m., Tues., Feb. 4, here.
Lake Forest Academy, 4 p.m., Thurs., Feb. 6, here.
Latin, 4 p.m., Tues., Feb. 11, there.
St. Michael's, 4 p.m., Fri., Feb. 14, there. Cultural Union's sports committee is sponsoring a fan bus to this game.

GIRLS' BASKETBALL
Morgan Park Academy, 4 p.m., Tues., Feb. 4, there.
Ferry Hall, 4 p.m., Fri., Feb. 7, there.
Latin, 4 p.m., Tues., Feb. 11, here.

SWIMMING
Glenwood, 4 p.m., today, there.
Quigley North, 4:30 p.m., Thurs., Jan. 30, here.
Kenwood, 3:30 p.m., Tues., Feb. 4, there.
Lake Forest Academy, 4 p.m., Fri., Feb. 7, here.
Quigley South, 4 p.m., Tues., Feb. 11, there.
ISL Invitational, 4 p.m., Fri., Feb. 14, Lake Forest Academy. The Maroons will swim against all their ISL opponents in this meet, which replaces the old ISL championship meet.

INDOOR TRACK
All meets at University Fieldhouse, 56th St. and University Ave.
Lake View and Schurz, 4 p.m., Fri., Jan. 31.
Carver and Kennedy, 4 p.m., Fri., Feb. 7.
Senn and Hubbard, 4 p.m., Fri., Feb. 14.

Recent Results

U-High score first, frosh-soph score in parenthesis.
BOYS' BASKETBALL
Harvard-St. George, Dec. 10, there, 90-25 (31-36).
North Shore Christmas Tournament, at North Shore, St. Michael's, Dec. 16, 60-53; Latin, Dec. 18, 71-54; Morgan Park Academy, Dec. 19, 88-39; Glenwood, Dec. 21, 73-43. U-High won the Christmas tournament for the second consecutive year with this win, although most players agree that they did not play their best.
Lake Forest Academy, Jan. 7, there, 80-36 (48-18).
Latin, Jan. 10, here, 84-48 (49-26).
St. Michael's, Jan. 14, here, 61-52 (49-39).
North Shore, Jan. 21, there, 82-50 (62-50).
Francis Parker, Jan. 24, here, 84-64 (53-49).
Morgan Park Academy, Jan. 25, there, 82-53 (33-43).

GIRLS' BASKETBALL
Morgan Park Academy, Dec. 10, here, 36-23 (12-25).
Ferry Hall, Jan. 7, here, 41-22 (9-6).
Latin, Jan. 10, there, 47-33 (16-10).
North Shore, Jan. 17, there, 18-51 (9-35).
North Shore, Jan. 21, here, 12-28 (14-33).
Francis Parker, Jan. 24, there, 29-23 (14-6).

SWIMMING
Quigley North, Dec. 10, there, 46-30 (41-35).
Latin-Francis Parker, Dec. 12, at Latin, 63-17.
Lake Forest Academy, Jan. 7, there, 59-21.
Quigley South, Jan. 14, there, 29-54 (26-54).
Mt. Carmel, Jan. 17, there, 32-50 (38-45).
Latin-Francis Parker, Jan. 24, here, 58-22.

INDOOR TRACK
All meets at the University Fieldhouse, 56th St. and University Ave.
Mt. Carmel, Jan. 24, 79-35.

"They will be playing in new gyms, and they will have to get used to that and to unfriendly fans," Montgomery said. "But they've progressed really well, and I'm satisfied with the way they're playing."

Varsity Girls' Basketball Coach Patricia Seghers feels that her 4-3 team will have smooth sailing for the rest of the season, except for a home finale against Latin, Feb. 11.

"That should be a good game," Seghers said. "The teams have balanced talent and the girls like to play at home in front of a crowd."

With the ISL title firmly in hand, according to Coach Larry McFarlane, the 6-2 swim team is looking towards a Feb. 4 meet at Kenwood and a Feb. 11 match against Quigley South.

"Kenwood is going to be tough," McFarlane said. "I've seen their times and they're as good or better than ours. But this is the strongest team I've had since I've been here."

Indoor Track Coach Ron Drozd feels that his team, with the exception of the hurdlers, is starting off the season on a promising note.

"The runners are doing well," he said. "This is the strongest team I've had with the exception of the hurdlers. Steve Brown is okay on the low hurdles, but I don't know how his knees will hold out on the highs."

Star U-High cager

Fleming looks back...and ahead

By David Gottlieb

After a recent Maroon basketball victory, Senior Captain Jim Fleming sat in front of his locker, putting on a bright lavender shirt. His teammates chided him.

"You want some quotes on Fleming?" asked Guard David Frahm.

"I don't like the way he dresses, and he needs a new hair style," he joked, referring to Jim's frizzy shoulder-length hair and scraggly beard. Other players kidded him, too, but to a visitor they also spoke differently of him.

"I think he's one of the best players in the state," said Forward Mercer Cook. "He's got the best shot on the team, and he knows how to break the zone better, too. I think he could play Big Ten College Ball."

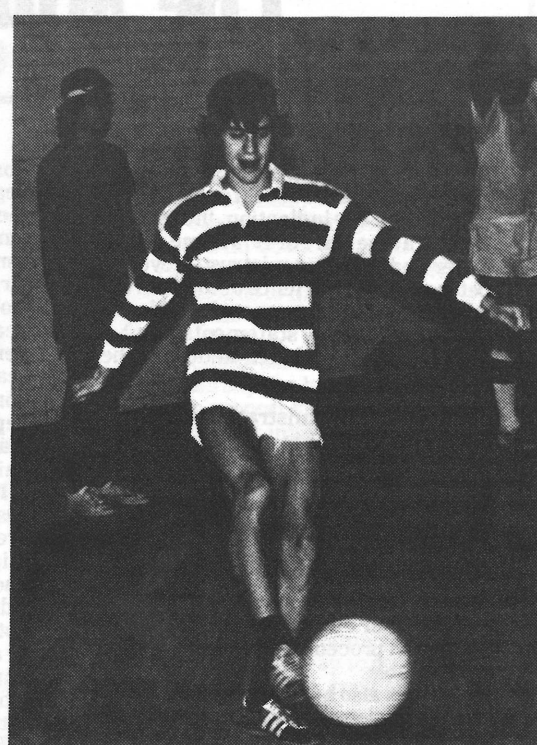
In his two-and-a-half-year career with the varsity Maroons, the 5 foot, 10½ inch guard has won All-Independent School League (ISL) honors twice, All-St. Michael's Christmas Tournament twice and prep all-area honors once.

"Playing varsity as a sophomore definitely gave me some confidence and experience," Jim said casually. He is clearly the most relaxed player on the court. One observer described him as "looking like he's asleep when he takes a shot."

Though Jim is one of the best players in the ISL, he might not rank so high in the Public School League, which has the caliber of player he might be playing against in college ball.



Photo by David Cahnmann



Soccermen playing indoors

MEMBERS of this year's varsity soccer team are playing indoors this winter as part of the Hyde Park Soccer Club. The team, coached by Hank Katz, a former unofficial assistant coach for the U-High

frosh-soph soccer team, played its first game at the Chicago Ave. Armory Jan. 17 against Wisla, which it lost 7-2. In the photos, Jon Jacobs and Tom Wolf practice for the game with dribbling drills.

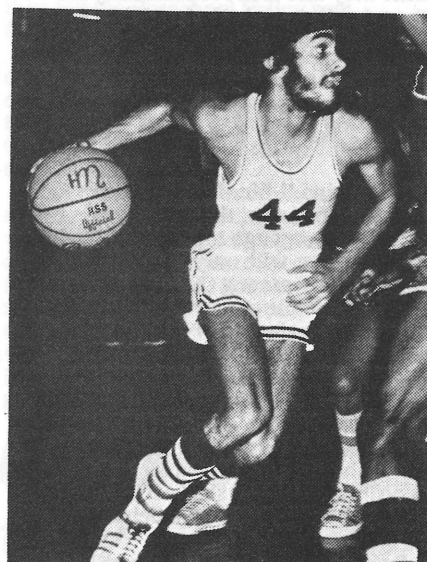


Photo by David Cahnmann

JIM FLEMING

Some say he's one of the best U-High basketball players ever.

"During the summer I play in a Park District league with some group from South Shore," Jim said, "and I do okay. The competition in Public League Schools is 10 times what it is in the ISL. You've just got to be sharper, and put out 110 per cent. You have to do that in this league, too, but it's hard to keep playing your best against someone you're stomping by 20 points."

The Maroons are not getting much competition from other ISL teams this year. Chicago Latin, who along with Lake Forest Academy tied U-High for first last year and beat the Maroons by 18 points, were crushed by U-High this year by 38 points.

"No, we don't have much competition this year," Jim said. "But this is the best of three varsity teams I've played on. We're a running team this year, and a running team is always better."

The team's coach those three years, Sandy Patlak, describes Jim as "an excellent ball player. He's quick, he's perceptive and he's the best shooter we have. But Jimmy doesn't work as hard as he could. His defensive game is a little weak. It needs work. Yet he has promise. He could play great college ball at the right college."

Jim himself isn't sure about what college he wants to attend.

"If I could win all-area again, and if we go Downstate, which we should, I could get some recognition, maybe a scholarship."

Jim is uncertain about basketball as a career. He is uncertain about his future in general.

"I just take things one at a time. I don't know what I'll be doing 10 years from now. No one knows what they'll be doing 10 years from now."

But Jim does have other interests.

"I like to play tennis, baseball, go to parties. I might go into business. I don't know. I don't give it much thought."

Sorter on Sports

It's a real family affair

The godfather takes shooting practice every day in Sunny Gym, while the rest of his family does the same or watches the godfather and learns.

Has the Mafia invaded U-High? No, it's the varsity basketball team, whose players have nicknamed themselves "The Family."

The players thought of the name at the beginning of the season when Coach Sandy Patlak told them that they should follow the same "policy of love" that Patlak

believes sparked the varsity soccer team to a 17-1 season this year. So the players thought, "Families love each other!"

That, and the fact that "The Godfather" was shown on T.V. at the start of the season gave the players the idea.

As a result of the new nickname, the team has chosen "Family Affair" as its theme song, and has an offensive formation called "Family" which, aptly, requires a lot of teamwork.

The players also chose nicknames for themselves,

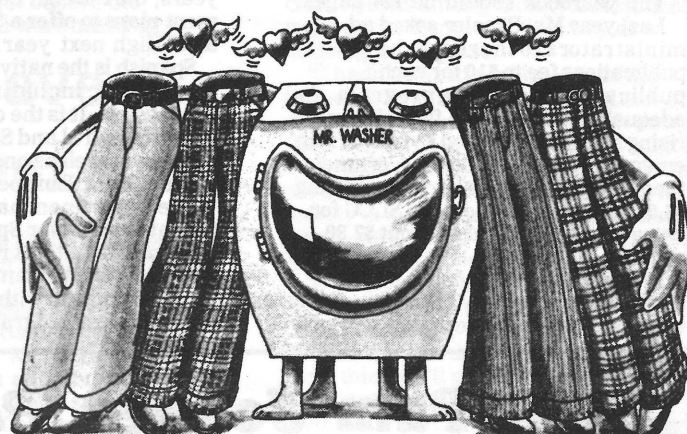
straight from the movie "The Godfather" such as: THE GOD-

THE GODFATHER—Captain Jim Fleming; MICHAEL CORLEONE MAROON—Sophomore Mercer Cook, who is heir to the "godfatherhood" like Michael Corleone in the movie; SONNY CORLEONE MAROON, the eldest son and prime hit man—Jim Bogle; LUCA BRAZE, the gigantic hit man, Martin Travis, because of his good-sized frame; THE CONSIGLIORI, the manager of all family affairs—This columnist, who doubles as team manager.

So it any wonder the family is undefeated? They simply make the opponents an offer they can't refuse.



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The Midway's opinion

Putting U-High back together again

If what Midway reporters have heard as they talked to sources for stories in this issue is any indication, the mood of U-High at the start of 1975 is one of anger and brooding mistrust. Never before in the experience of the staff or adviser have so many people made such bluntly angry statements about administrators and their actions to the Midway.

Among the administrative actions contributing to this mood are elimination of the dean of students' position without first asking for opinions from the school community; the imposition of five classes instead of four on teachers three weeks before school opened, without faculty input into the matter; and the nonrenewal of four teacher contracts under an evaluation procedure many people find questionable.

Students also have expressed anger at an administrative decision to deny the Midway \$600 the Student Legislative Coordinating Council had granted it and Director Philip Jackson's assertion that he, not the King Fund Committee, will make a final decision on who would receive a scholarship.

The question is, why all this dissatisfaction and distrust of administrative decision-making? In any school, administrators make decisions and they are not always popular. But at U-High the problem is not the popularity of the decisions, really, but that no one knows how they were made because they had nothing to do with making them. Administrators not only don't ask anyone's opinion or advice in making their decisions. They don't even explain how they made their decisions themselves.

People also are wondering about the

possibility, mentioned briefly at negotiating sessions and in faculty meetings, of the school pursuing a bimodal faculty, which would include some longterm teachers and some hired with the understanding they would stay here no more than four years. These would be mostly inexperienced teachers low on the salary scale. Some people feel the current nonrenewals are a first step toward replacing experienced, higher-paid teachers, with inexperienced, lower-paid ones.

It's true that all the fears, anger, suspicion and doubts people have expressed about administrative decisions might be resolved if the facts were known. But the facts aren't known. Administrators have made it a practice not to ask for people's opinions before or after making decisions. They also have made it a practice not to explain why they've made their decisions, afterward, at least with specifics.

In some cases there are legal and ethical reasons they can't. But in many cases they can. They've yet to speak specifically, for example, about their intentions for the future of the school—the kind of faculty, program and activities it will offer. Certainly some of the decisions they've made indicates a change, but they've yet to acknowledge it. All they've said is that the changes they have made will not change the quality of education here. But people question if, so removed from the opinions of others, they can even tell if the school is changing.

Since administrators have taken responsibility for decisions relating to almost every facet of school life, it's time they also took responsibility for the school's morale, before it has none, and got to the job of reopening communication and rebuilding trust.



Shrinking publications

Because administrators have decided the Midway was not eligible for, and cannot keep, \$600 the Student Legislative Coordinating Council gave it, this year's paper is faced with a money problem. Unless it can find funds elsewhere, the paper will be a four-rather than eight-pager the rest of the year. (The staff, meanwhile, is going ahead with an eight-page issue for Feb. 18, already underway.)

But the paper's immediate problems are less significant than its longrange ones. Neither the Midway or the yearbook, U-Highlights, is getting enough money to produce adequate publications.

According to Journalism Instructor and Publications Consultant Wayne Brasler, an adequate newspaper is "published frequently enough to be timely, and large enough to preview and cover school events, activities and issues, provide editorial leadership and give both writers and readers experience with specialized content such as depth investigations."

A yearbook, he said, "should be large enough to cover the events, activities and issues of the year and develop an editorial theme."

At U-High, Mr. Brasler said, an adequate paper should be published at least 12 times a year, about every three weeks, with two-thirds, or eight, of the issues eight-pagers.

The yearbook should be 124 pages.

Last year Mr. Brasler asked administrators to increase the publications fee to \$10 for each publication to give the program adequate funding in the face of sharply rising printing costs and to free it from emergency-basis student government funding. Publications had been getting \$6.50 each and then going to SLCC for extra funds for a total of about \$7.80 each.

Administrators agreed to restrict publications to their own fund, but gave them only \$8 each, "not exactly what I

had in mind," Mr. Brasler said.

As it stands now, the Midway is getting only enough money to publish 10 issues a year, with only three of those eight pagers, among the least ambitious schedule of any quality paper in the nation, including at least one at a school smaller than U-High. U-Highlights, without its SLCC grant (which it was allowed to keep since the book was partially completed), would be publishing only 96 pages, 70 pages lower than the national average for schools of U-High's size, according to figures from the National Scholastic Press Association.

It shouldn't be necessary to sell anyone at U-High on the worth of its student publications—the information, means of communication and responsible exchange of opinion they provide.

But these publications will not continue with the scope and quality they have achieved in the past if they are not funded adequately. And it is up to the school and community to insist they are. Right now that would mean only \$4 more for each student. Which makes one wonder why there's a problem in the first place.

Spanish returns

For the first time in more than 20 years, the Foreign Language Department plans to offer a Spanish program at U-High next year.

Spanish is the native tongue of many Americans, including many Chicagoans. It is the official language of most Central and South American nations, as well as one of the major languages of Europe.

The Department has received consistent demand for Spanish, especially from parents. It has responded to that demand, and is commendably trying to provide students with a welcome and much-needed program.

Article on U-High nice but shallow, readers say

By Jonathan Rasmussen, public opinion editor

Complimentary but shallow is how most students and faculty members interviewed by the Midway describe an article about U-High in the January issue of Chicago Magazine.

The author, Lew Koch, who spent a day here, wrote that "The intellectual quality of the courses offered and the teaching staff are unequalled by any other school I visited . . . I would estimate the curriculum to be equal to that offered by any high school in the nation."

He also stated that many students here are emotionally immature, and quoted a teacher as saying that students need order, boundaries and direction.

the Midway

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Social Studies Teacher Earl Bell said, "I think the school appreciated being rated favorably, but it's hard to be serious about the article when it's so superficial." He added that students here do not need more order, commenting, "I think that the exact opposite is true."

John Weinstein found that the article "gave the flavor of the intellectual atmosphere here but was short on what type of school this is socially."

"It was impressive how he complimented the faculty, but I think the school has drawbacks that were not mentioned," said Librarian Mary Biblo.

Mark Cohen felt that Koch should have spent more than one day here and Sharon Zerlin wondered, "How can he get an idea of what the students are like if he only interviewed a few?" She added, "I think we have enough structure."

Principal Karl Hertz said of the article, "It's always nice to have people say good things about the school."

Midway Mailbox

King Fund facts get clarification

From Karl Lautman, chairperson, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund Committee:

I would like to correct two errors that appeared in the Dec. 10 Midway.

First, in Mark Hornung's article on page 3, Mr. Hornung states that "the (King) scholarship will go entirely on the basis of who can contribute to the school community in the highest degree."

While the King Fund Committee's guidelines specify that "the recipient (of the Scholarship) indicate both academic and personal potential for becoming a contributing and well-adjusted member of the U-High community," they also state (as I pointed out) "financial" need as a prerequisite. In fact, the latter criterion takes priority over the former.

Second, in the editorial on page 12, the Midway says that the scholarship will go "to someone who already has applied to U-High." Only those who have been accepted to 9th grade for the following school year are eligible for the Scholarship. I, however, bear responsibility for this error. During an interview, Abhijit Chandra and I discussed applications to the school and applicants for the scholarship, and it occurred to me, later, that my meaning might have been mistaken. Unfortunately, I could not reach Mr. Chandra before the deadline to clarify the point.



Pam Joyner: Positive race-awareness

SECOND of two columns on racial identity at U-High.

Essentially, little progress has been made from 1968 to 1975 among

U-Highers—black or otherwise—in the areas of black awareness and culture. Not ever could those opposed to the Black Students Association (BSA) understand why an organization was needed

specifically to promote blackness. Some suggested that an organization with an integrationist focus would be a more legitimate one than BSA.

These perspectives not only harmed BSA, with blacks and whites openly criticizing it, but ignored some basic facts. There are fundamental cultural, economic and social differences between blacks and whites. In short, blacks are not whites, and to deny it is unrealistic.

There is no way to get around the influences of, or the fact, that this is a race-conscious country. There is, however, a

way to live with it. Race consciousness need not be a negative thing: Acceptance of the idea of racial differences can be meaningfully informative for anyone.

An essential function of any black-consciousness raising organization at U-High (be it BSA or the present-day Umoja) is to make blacks informed about, aware of, and definitely positive towards their blackness.

But, it is equally important for the organization to provide nonblacks with an accurate image of blackness and how blacks view their own.