

Students draft teacher evaluation plan

By Paul Sagan
and Jon Rasmussen

A committee, formed last year by then-Student Legislative Coordinating Council (SLCC) President Robert Needlman to investigate student evaluations of teachers, has been drafting a plan to institute such evaluation here.

The committee consists of Robert, Aaron Stern, Karie Weisblatt, Seth Mirsky and Danny Lashof.

At a student-teacher meeting in December, 1974, following the nonrenewal of several teachers' contracts, people raised questions about the school considering ad-

ministrative and faculty evaluations of teachers, but not student evaluations, in making such decisions.

When SLCC later decided against pursuing the idea of student evaluations Robert formed the committee on his own. Originally the committee intended to use the information it gathered to be used in the school's evaluation process, Robert said. But, when it received results of experiments conducted at Purdue University showing that students distorted their evaluations when they knew their replies would be considered in hiring and firing, the committee decided the information

would be given only to each teacher evaluated for his or her information.

The committee, which considers itself a club, may request funds from SLCC and



Robert
Needlman

the Parents' Association to finance its project, which could cost more than \$1,000 to produce, Robert said.

The committee wants to institute the evaluations, he explained, because "student opinion of teachers is

valuable because it's based on daily exposure to the teacher. Administrators and other teachers do not have this exposure. I think it's important for teachers to know what their students think of their teaching."

Director Nel Noddings, who has met with several members of the committee, told the Midway that she approved the project in its initial stages of research. She mentioned four guidelines that she felt should be followed in the handling of the evaluations.

First, she said, teacher participation should be voluntary. Secondly, she added, "a great deal of care

should go into the selection of the instrument used" for evaluations.

"The procedure of collecting information should be organized and well thought out, not willy-nilly," she continued, and the results "should only be used as constructive feedback," that is, not distributed among students.

Robert said that, under the committee's plan, evaluations would take place the end of each quarter, with teacher participation voluntary. Teachers would see the results, but students and administrators would be shown the ratings only, without teachers' names.

Several methods of questioning students are being considered, Robert said. All employ a multiple choice questioning method, and some also include space for additional student comments, he added.

Also see editorial page 4.

the Midway

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New advisory group studies curriculum

By David Gottlieb, political editor

Does the present curriculum focus on the "typical Lab School student"? Can the curriculum become more diversified without affecting a teacher's style? These and other questions are the concerns of the new curriculum advisory committee formed by Lab Schools Director Nel Noddings.



Ms. Noddings

The committee, which consists of 12 appointed and elected faculty and administrators, will meet once a month to provide a forum for faculty and administrative concerns.

The committee meets the first Wednesday of every month, with teachers getting substitutes for their classes during meeting times, 1-3:30 p.m. At the first meeting, Oct. 1, the members discussed the need for continuity in content between the schools. They also discussed diversifying the curriculum "without infringing on a teacher's method or style of teaching," Ms. Noddings said. "We (the members of the committee) asked ourselves if we were guilty of teaching to the typical Lab Schools student, and if there is such a thing."

Ms. Noddings said the group hopes to create an in-service program which would include instructional workshops for teachers.

Another committee formed by Ms. Noddings to study administrative structure is almost completed, she said. The purpose of that committee will be to make "an assessment of administrative functions and to make suggestions as to what administrative positions might best fill those functions." Ms. Noddings added that the committee may ask students and teachers for their opinions on administrative needs.

Still another committee, being considered, would deal with interdisciplinary studies. Teachers who would like to construct such courses could work with the committee toward approval of them.

Assembly tomorrow fits principal's idea

Tomorrow's assembly, float and fifth periods in Mandel Hall, falls in with Principal Geoff Jones' idea



Mr.
Jones

that assemblies are effective when they use available outside resources.

U-High squared?

A professional caller will lead dances at a square dance Fri., Nov. 14 in Sunny Gym sponsored by Cultural Union, according to C. U. President Betsy Tarlov. Refreshments will be served. The time will be announced later. "We were looking for some variety in our calendar," Betsy explained, "and decided a

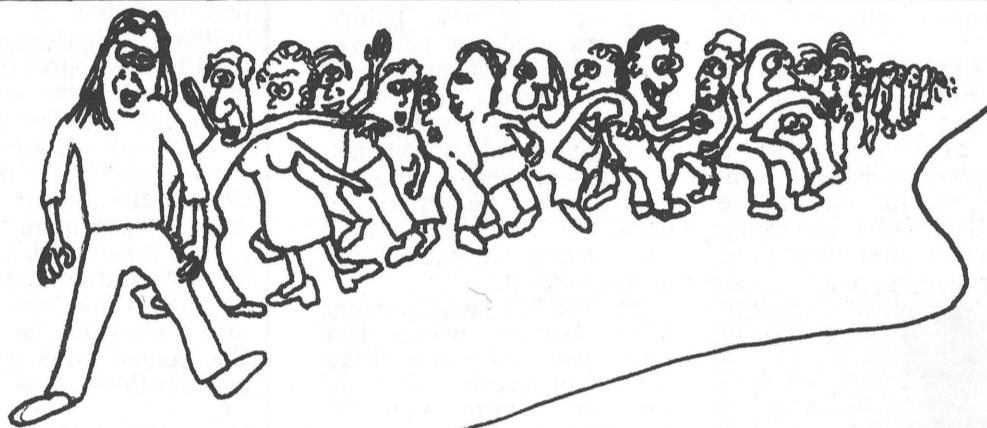
Students will see excerpts from the plays, "Romeo and Juliet," "Othello" and "The Twelfth Night" performed by a New York City acting troupe.

English Department Chairperson Darlene McCampbell arranged for the performance, being financed from an administrative fund.

"If more ideas or opportunities like this occur, by all means they should be discussed," Mr. Jones said.

Attendance at the assembly, which replaces classes, is required. Teachers will take attendance in their classrooms, Mr. Jones said, and then escort their classes to Mandel Hall, 57th St. and University Ave.

After the performance ends about noon, students who wish to talk to members of the troupe will be given the opportunity. Others can leave, with the rest of 5th period



Art by Hal Bernstein

"HEY! LET'S KNOCK 'EM OVER"

A pushy Bicentennial?

By Evan Canter

"Picture everybody in the country lining up front to back, from New York to California, and someone pushing the front man down and watching the whole line fall down like a set of dominoes."

This idea, from Dan Stone, is one of several suggested by U-Highers to the Midway for ways to celebrate the Bicentennial. Dan had heard of a plan to have everyone in the country line up and hold hands. "I felt something more spontaneous would be appropriate," he explained.

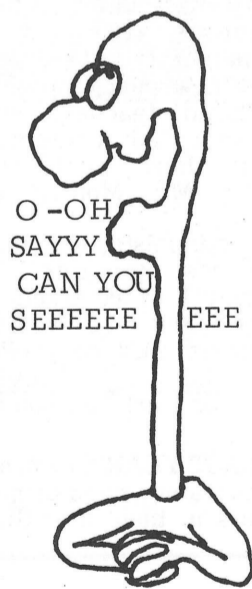
Other ideas included reenacting the Revolution over a period of one year. Karen Baca, who made the suggestion, said that "for the Boston Tea Party, nonpolluting materials could be used."

Another U-Higher, who didn't wish to be identified, suggested that "instead of fireworks, we should burn down the White House." Still another suggested, "everybody should get wasted."

Constructive ideas also were offered. "The Bicentennial celebration should be a time to educate as many people as possible about how our system works, and how it can work better," suggested Jon Weinstein. "Plenty of Americana is fine, but more citizen participation in government and workshops on current issues should be instituted."

A few students questioned the appearance of Bicentennial Minutes on television in 1974 and 1975, saying the Bicentennial really occurs in 1976.

One U-Higher suggest giving the nation a "new life and look" by changing the flag. And Rita Sprudz thought the national anthem should be changed because "no one can sing it."



O-OH
SAYYY
CAN YOU
SEEEEE EEE

"CHANGE THE
NATIONAL ANTHEM?"

Filmstrip shot here

U oughta be in pictures

By Chris Scott, editor-in-chief

"All right, I want you, and you over here, and the rest of you over under the basket shooting," the director orders. Feet shuffle as extras and actors obey each explicit order.

That was the setting in Sunny Gym Sat., Oct. 11 as a scene in a filmstrip on drug use, "Mind Your Own Business" was photographed. Thirty U-Highers played extras in the filmstrip.

The filmstrip was produced by Neil Allen Productions, a Chicago firm which produces "morality filmstrips" shown in classrooms to generate discussion. Mr. Allen, a 1962 U-High graduate, contacted Principal Geoff Jones and asked for permission to film in the High School building and gym. The school received

student participant, with the funds going for theater equipment here. To keep the name of the school anonymous, all identifying signs were removed.

The filmstrip's story deals with two high school students, one of whom is a heroin addict. The other wonders whether to turn his friend in. Only the photos were shot here; the sound was to be recorded elsewhere.

Filming took place in the cafeteria, hallways and classrooms in addition to Sunny Gym. During a lunch break, the actors and extras enjoyed food provided by Kentucky Fried Chicken. The lunch break proved extralong when Mr. Allen found he needed gym clothes for a scene and went to a sporting goods store in the Loop to get them. The U-

Parents find Open House sole-ful

By Evan Canter

"I don't see why our kids have to go to gym with all these steps they have to climb," a parent said as she approached the third floor landing during Open House, Sunday afternoon, Oct. 19.

The three-hour program began with the parents listening to a concert by Vocal 1 and 2 classes and then to a welcome speech by Principal Geoff Jones, both in the Assembly Room.

After the assembly, the parents went to classes, following their children's schedules, with 10 minutes for each class and five minutes between. During the "classes" teachers gave summaries of their plans for the year's requirements and grading criteria and answered questions from parents.

But confusion occurred when parents tried

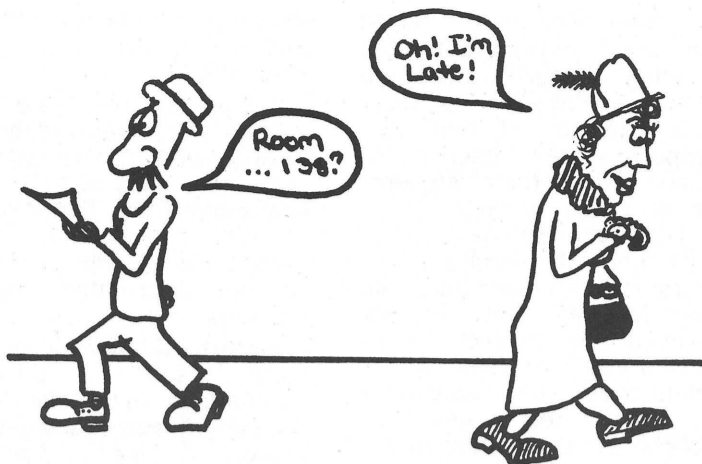
to find the classes. Questions frequently asked of the 14 or so U-Highers who acted as ushers included "Where is Belfield Hall" and "What is Ah 146?" (Editor's note: It is U-High's most frequently seen, and unexplained, graffiti).

Usher Brone Spann observed, "It's fun trying to figure out who the parent's kid is without looking at their name tag."

Another usher said, "I've never seen some of my teachers smiling until now."

Mr. Jones estimated that about one quarter of the student body represented by their parents at Open House. That is a sharp drop from previous years, many people agreed.

But the parents who did show up did so in grand style. As they wandered through the halls in their dressy outfits, many of them exotic, one could only assume they were so intent on looking nice that they had forgotten it was raining as they planned what to wear.



Art by Hal Bernstein

AH, THE UNIVERSAL COMPLICATIONS OF A NEW SCHEDULE.

Bargainers okay 'up or out' policy

By David Gottlieb, political editor

An "up or out" teacher hiring and firing policy may become part of this year's Lab Schools teachers' contract.

Under a tentative agreement reached in bargaining between faculty and administrative negotiators, teachers' contracts would either be renewed or not renewed by the director after their third year here.



Mr. Montag

THE POLICY would have to be ratified by the faculty and University to go into effect.

The new policy would represent a "real plus" for the faculty, according to Social Studies Teacher Philip Montag, president of the Faculty Association, which represents teachers in bargaining.

"The new policy provides nontenured teachers with unprecedented protection during their evaluation period," Mr. Montag explained.

"The administration must state its reasons for nonrenewal of contracts in writing, and the written statements must be explicit and specific," Faculty Negotiator Earl Bell pointed out.

IN LAST YEAR'S contract, administrators could dismiss teachers in their first three

years simply by citing "the absence of consistently superior performance," a provision over which many faculty members had expressed discomfort.

Under the new policy, teachers would be reviewed during their first three years at the Schools for Senior Teacher status, which grants a three-year rolling contract. At present Senior Teacher status cannot be applied for until the fifth year and a teacher can continue to teach here without it.

IN OTHER developments, four teachers whose contracts were not renewed last year will receive financial support from the International Federation of Teachers for a suit against the University.

The suit will allege that the University violated its policy rules, according to a Faculty Association report. It will ask reinstatement and back pay for the teachers.

Association gift to improve archives

By Greg Simmons

Lab Schools archives will be improved with a \$3,000 gift from the Parents' Association to Philip Jackson last spring when he left the position of Lab Schools director after five years. Mr. Jackson, chairperson of the Department of Education and dean of the Graduate School of Education at the University, said the gift was given "with the understanding that it would serve the schools well." He decided to apply it to the archives, a historical collection which presently includes Parents' Newsletters, yearbooks, copies of the Midway, programs, books that teachers wrote, curriculum guides, pictures, slides, films and other magazine and newspaper articles pertaining to the Lab Schools.

Mr. Jackson explained, "The purpose of these archives is three fold: One, to preserve what we've got that is already of historical interest; two, to build on what we already have and to continue to accumulate materials of historical interest; and



Mr. Jackson

three, to preserve some oral record of the school's past, related by persons who have known the school for a long time, such as emeritus teachers."

Mr. Jackson hopes that once the collection is organized, it can be made available to researchers.

Isabel McCaul, head of the Lower-Middle School library, who gathered the existing archives, said that "the material was found scattered in various places throughout the school, particularly on the fourth floor of Blaine. The materials had been tossed carelessly into a cubby hole."

"I collected and tried to arrange the material. The school has a heritage and it seemed too bad that the materials were not preserved for historical record."

Quickies

Grads tour school

Seventy people, including members of the class of 1950, their wives and husbands and guests, toured U-High with Guidance Department Chairperson Karen Robb, Oct. 11. The tour included the U-High building, which was not built until 10 years after the class graduated. Later the group dined at the Quad Club. Physical Education Teachers William and Chrysanthé Zarvis, Unified Arts Department Chairperson Robert Erickson and his wife, Cathy, and former Science Teacher Bryan Swan attended as guests. The reunion was arranged by Alice Connor, '50.

New clubs started

Six new clubs have been started so far this year. The clubs and their founders are as follows: Rook Club (Rook is a card game), Peter Sprudz and Steve Vita;

Bridge Club, Peter Fozzard and Charles Roothaan; Creative Writing Club, English Teachers Darlene McCampbell and Sophie Ravin; "The Ministry of Silly Walks," patterned after a Monty Python show joke, Richard Muelder and Michael Northcott; Physics-Alternate Energy Club, Physics Teacher Paul Collard and Jeff Sachs; and Ski Club, Michael Shapiro and David Shaw.

Yearbook staff named

After an all-day training seminar Oct. 4, which included a fried chicken lunch, the 1976 U-Highlights staff has been selected by its Editor-in-Chief Suzanne Harrison. By sections, coeditors are as follows:

ORGANIZATIONS — Chrissy D'Andrea, Ellis Reid, Bernadette Williams; **SPORTS** — Leslie Matlaw, Susan Mitchell, Pierre Poinsett, Chris Scott; **LEARNING** — Nancy Armand, Susan Kennedy, Jim Reginato, Lynn Scott; **STORY**

OF THE YEAR — Susan Fletcher, Gwen Harrison, Mark Hornung, Giselle Simmons.

Other editor positions include David Cahnmann, photo editor; Gwen Harrison, copy editor; and Pierre Poinsett, layout editor.

Better late . . .

Although this issue of the Midway is appearing a week later than planned, the next issue, an eight-page edition, will be published Nov. 18 as scheduled.

In The Wind

- **WED., NOV. —** Assembly, 10:45 p.m. - noon, Mandel Hall, 57th St. and University Ave.
- **MON., NOV. 10 —** Parents' Association meeting, "Single parents" series, 8 p.m., Assembly Room.
- **FRI., NOV. 14 —** Square dance, time to be announced, Sunny Gym.
- **TUES., NOV. 18 —** Midway out after school. "In the Wind" is accurate when the Midway goes to press but is subject to changes that occur later.

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Photo by Paul Sagan

DETERMINED TO BEAT his man (photos from left) to the ball, Varsity Soccer Forward Andy Getz leaps forward in the Maroons' 5-1 subsectional victory over Argo Oct. 28.

DESIRING to pass the ball



Photo by Paul Sagan

to the goal area, frosh-soph soccer right winger Bob Solomon sets himself up to boot the moving ball in the Maroons' 2-2 tie versus Francis Parker Oct. 21.

WITH AN INTENSE look, Varsity Field Hockey For-



Photo by David Cahnmann

ward Lisa Biblo races for the loose ball in U-High's 2-0 victory over Lake Forest Oct. 21.

AS SARAH NEWCOMB reaches her hockey stick towards the moving ball,



Photo by David Cahnmann

fellow frosh-soph field hockey team member Sandra Altamero cheers her on. That 1-0 victory versus Latin, Oct. 23, hiked the all-freshman team's record to 3 wins and 1 loss, giving it the Independent School League (ISL)

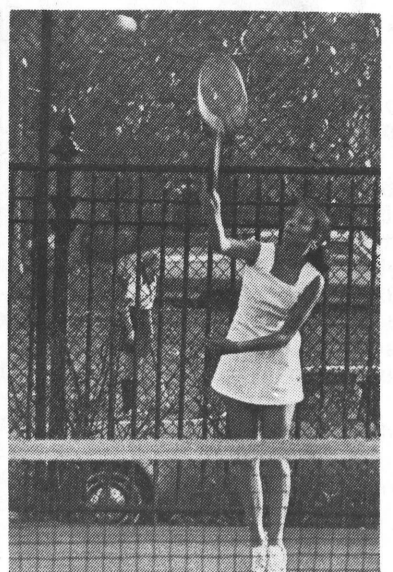


Photo by David Cahnmann

Championship. **CONTRIBUTING** to the first ISL championship ever in girls' tennis at U-High, Kevann Cooke softly hits in her second service against Francis Parker Oct. 28. The Maroons won that meet 4-1.

Sad end dampens championship fall

By Mark Hornung,
Sports Editor

VARSITY SOCCER Fullback John Hill sprawled on the ground, face buried, in the middle of the soccer field at Morton West High Friday afternoon.

A Morton West forward had just scored the winning goal in a state subsectional final to defeat the Maroons 2-1, eliminating them from further competition. The goal came with 48 seconds remaining in the first overtime period.

It was a bitter ending for the 14-2 Independent School League (ISL) champs because in the third quarter, with the score tied 0-0, after making a save, a Morton West player kicked goalie Ken Newman in the head.

With a bleeding head, Ken, who had not allowed one goal against ISL opponents all season, was unable to continue. Fullback John Baca, who had played only one game in goal this year, played the rest of the game.

WHEN THE frosh-soph soccer team walked off the field after its Oct. 9 2-1 loss to Oak Park, an undefeated streak by frosh-soph teams of 37 games over three years came to an end.

Despite being disappointed by the loss, Coach Larry McFarlane was impressed with his team's performances.

"We had a real good passing game, and unlike past teams I've coached, this team never let anyone ever physically push them around," he said.

The ISL champion Maroons finished with a record of 6 wins, 1 loss and 1 tie. The tie came in their second meeting against Francis Parker.

UTILIZING A NEW offense which Coach Patricia Seghers called "the system," the varisty field hockey team

finished the year with a 6-7 won-loss record.

The "system" put an extra person on the offensive attack. Instead of having the normal eight attackers, the team had nine on the offense. The girls failed to score more goals than last year, but according to Ms. Seghers this year's team did a much better job of controlling the ball than those of past years.

The squad was the victim of overtime losses three times. A rule instituted this season by ISL coaches calls for tie games to be decided by each team taking five penalty shots.

Ms. Seghers expressed strong feelings against the ruling. "It's not indicative of hockey to decide a game one on one, goalie versus shooter," she said.

Each league in the state was given the choice by state officials of instituting or not instituting the rule.

BEFORE THE school year began it appeared uncertain whether U-High would field a frosh-soph field hockey squad.

But once the school year began many enthusiastic freshmen joined the team.

Not only did they make it possible for a team to be fielded, but they also won the ISL championship with a 3-1 league record (3-2 overall).

According to Coach Mary Busch, "having an all-freshman team put us all in same boat. We either floated or sank together."

PERHAPS THE greatest turnaround any U-High squad has made in recent memory has been that of the girls' tennis team.

'76 Cheerleaders

VARSITY — Gwen Harrison, Carolyn Epps, Doris Williams, Pat Scott, Maxine McKenzie, Anne Ashman, Lisa Farkas and Lori Neighbors.

FROSH-SOPH — Carmen Baptiste, Jeanne Russell, Caren Pollack, Gina Benson, Lynn Scott and Edwidge Raoul.

After finishing last, three years straight, in the ISL (3 wins, 19 losses in that period), the U-High girls finished on top of the league, posting a 7

Recent Results

U-High score first; frosh-soph scores in parenthesis.

SOCCER

North Shore, Oct. 7, there, 1-0 (4-1).

Oak Park, Oct. 9, here, 2-4 (1-2).

The varsity loss was the first home defeat the Maroons suffered since 1972; the frosh-soph setback ended a 3½ year, 37-game undefeated streak.

St. Michael, Oct. 19, here, 6-0.

Lake Forest, Oct. 17, there, 1-0, forfeit (5-0).

Francis Parker, Oct. 21, there, 2-0 (2-2).

Latin, Oct. 24, there, 9-0.

Holy Trinity, Oct. 25, here, 9-0.

Argo, Oct. 28, Morton West, 5-1.

Morton East, Oct. 30, at Morton West, 2-1.

Morton West, Oct. 31, there, 1-2.

CROSS COUNTRY

Because of two injuries, one player who lost interest and another who preferred to run on his own rather than with the team, the U-High squad did not have the five runners necessary to score team points in any of its meets. Peter Lortie and Dan Rochman were U-High's only representatives.

GIRLS' TENNIS

North Shore, Oct. 7, here, 4-1.

North Shore, Oct. 10, there, 5-0.

Lake Forest, Oct. 17, there, 3-2.

Latin, Oct. 23, here, 4-1.

Francis Parker, Oct. 28, here, 4-1.

FIELD HOCKEY

North Shore, Oct. 7, here, 0-2 (0-2).

North Shore, Oct. 10, there, 0-2 (1-0).

Homewood-Flossmoor, Oct. 13, here, 2-1.

Morgan Park, Oct. 24, there, 0-1.

Homewood-Flossmoor, Oct. 28, there, 0-1.

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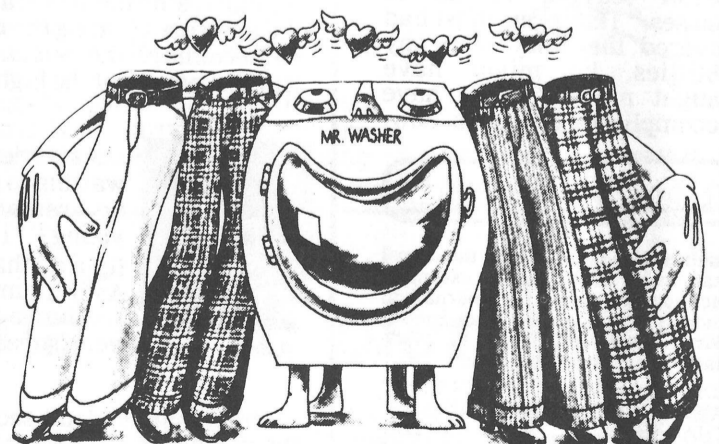
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THE MIDWAY'S OPINION Project benefits, needs everyone

Students drafting plans to institute student evaluations of teachers have spent more than five months working on their project so far. But for the evaluations to work, teachers must volunteer to use them, and U-Highers must help make them constructive and useful.

After exploring several ways of conducting the evaluations, the planning committee has decided to institute them on a voluntary basis, by teacher, and then give results only to the individual teachers. The planners hope to start the evaluations later this quarter.

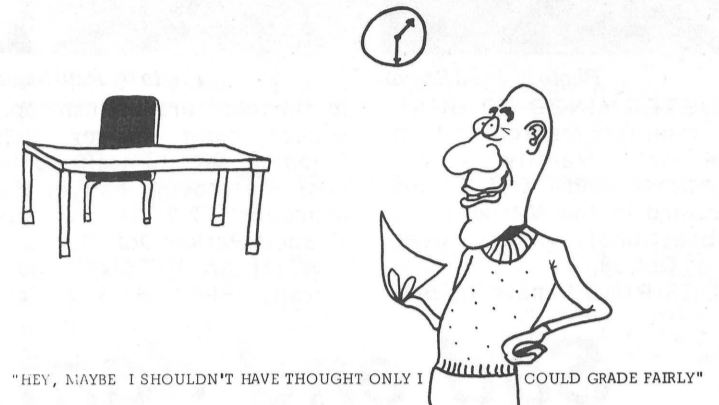
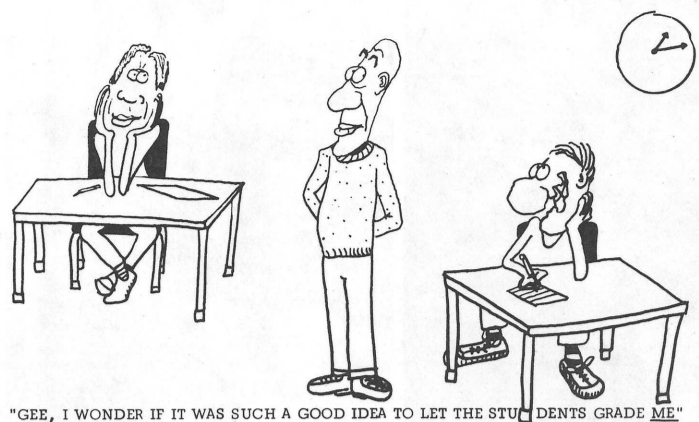
For teachers, the evaluations offer a rare chance to get honest feedback from their students. Because only individual teachers will see the results of their evaluations, neither teachers nor students can be embarrassed by opinions expressed through them.

For students, the evaluations offer an opportunity to voice opinions about teachers and help improve classes. U-Highers often complain that they have no input with teachers; this project represents an opportunity for U-Highers to evaluate their teachers in an organized and useful manner.

Teachers should take advantage of this opportunity to get feedback from students by offering to participate in the program and then by cooperating with the students running it. Accepting negative judgments may not prove easy for some teachers, but such judgments have the positive effect of providing teachers with insights into their teaching, insights they might never get otherwise.

Students must give the most honest and fair reactions possible, not use evaluations as a way to insult or get back at teachers they don't like, as some will be tempted to do. If U-Highers want teachers to take the evaluations seriously, they must give them the validity of fairness.

The evaluations represent an opportunity for both teachers and students to add a new dimension to their relationship, one that most high schools do not have. But for the evaluations to work, everyone must be willing to cooperate openly and honestly.



Art by Hal Bernstein

MIDWAY MAILBOX

Yearbook gets its own protest



Ric Cohen

From Ric Cohen, sophomore:
After eagerly awaiting the arrival of the yearbook, I was frightfully caught off-guard by the unexpected final product.

As a politically-minded student, I was unable to believe the plagiarism, and inaccuracy of the story concerning the protest staged April 30, 1975, of which I was one of seven leaders.

The title head reads: Signs of Spring at U-High: Fun, games and a protest. This presents the view you have of our frustrating attempts for explanation of administrative actions. It tries to insinuate that the protest was (1) only to enjoy the newly arrived spring weather, and (2) our efforts were to provide a "fun game" for the students to play.

The reader is presented with inconsistent and misleading propaganda when he (the reader) sees, and I quote, "The rally was discontinued when students began leaving to go to classes." If the journalist had covered the story with any abilities, he might have caught me say, "We have accomplished our goals, now,

back to classes, we have succeeded in step one."

This confession of inability of your staff, you call an article, portrays the journalists unawareness to fact, and inability to conceive what has happened.

By using the yearbook as your medium, you attain an unfair advantage over me, that is reaching students. Therefore, in order to "counter-attack" to your slanderous statements, I request you publish this letter, unabridged and unedited, in the school newspaper, the Midway.

PHOTO OPINIONS

Students like two 'new' languages

By Greg Simmons,
public opinion editor

Students enrolled in the new Spanish and Latin classes say they took the courses because they were looking for a



Katie Browning

Sean Sleeper

change of pace, something different in a language course.

Latin is being offered here after a two-year absence and Spanish for the first time in at

least a decade, both because of requests from parents. Latin had been dropped because of low enrollment.

Katie Browning, one of 11 students enrolled in the Latin course, said, "I took the course because it's so much like the other languages. It's fun to look at a Latin word and see the English word that came from it and compare the difference in meaning. I also think it's a beautiful sounding language."

Another Latin student, Sean Sleeper, took the course "because I thought I might need it in the fields of law or medicine. It's a good course, I feel I'm learning something and I'm enjoying it, too."

Karen Baca, one of 16

students enrolled in the Spanish course, commented, "It's an interesting course, because we're covering a lot, and the teacher is willing to help students individually."

Another Spanish student,



Karen Baca

Don Hannah

Don Hannah explains that he took the course, "because I'm interested in the language. It's a phonetic language and I find it is easy to learn."

TUESDAY'S STORY

Former freshie views new crop

By Loren Taylor, opinion page columnist

Fresh from a summer shedding their 8th grade faces, the freshmen converged on U-High, eager to soak up more treasures of the academic world. They were ready for all the pleasures (riding the bus to a soccer game, the basketball homecoming, the Snack Bar), and the pains (their first English paper) of the high school experience.



Loren Taylor

As a friend of mine and I passed by the lines waiting to get into a freshman class assembly, he remarked, "Don't the freshies look young?" I thought about it for a minute, and figured that all freshmen must look "young." As I thumbed through past yearbooks, the freshmen there didn't look as "young" as this year's freshmen.

The freshmen don't seem to have been able to incorporate themselves into the High School scheme. The girls, however, have fared better than the boys. A fellow female classmate of mine explained, "That's because the girls are trying to impress you older guys."

I sit on my demipious throne of almost-upperclassman and snicker at the lowly masses of freshies. All the while, they scream up at me, "You were a freshie once," to which I reply, "That's right; was, past tense, completed action, over and done with." But somehow, I can't help thinking that is what the upperclassmen thought of me when I was a freshie and it's what the freshies will probably say about the class of '81.



Art by Hal Bernstein

"I CAN'T BELIEVE I REALLY LOOKED LIKE THAT WHEN I WAS A FRESHMAN."

the Midway

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